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SIDEWALK ORDINANCE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AGAIN AT PEMBROKE COUNCIL MEETING

Curt Locklear & Merchants Attend

PEMBROKE--The recently reaffirmed ordinance (Ordinance 6-2003) which bans placing merchandise of any kind upon the sidewalks of Pembroke was a topic of discussion again Monday night at the Pembroke Council meeting.

Curt Locklear, owner of Pembroke Hardware, who recently was cited to Pembroke District Court for refusing to abide by the ordinance was in attendance as were Lee Neville, former councilman and proprietor of Western Auto and Nathan Stricklin, manager of Pembroke Furniture.

All three businesses, in the past, have placed merchandise out upon the streets of Pembroke for display. Locklear, who was found guilty by Judge Sam Britt, won a moral victory when Britt said, in essence, "I am finding you guilty but I am remitting any fine or court costs. This is the only way to say that you are not guilty..."

The item read on the agenda... "Consideration of amendments to Ordinance 6-2003. The ordinance reads, "No person shall place for display or sale any goods, wares or merchandise upon any of the sidewalks of said town which shall extend out upon the sidewalk..." Locklear was cited to district court for displaying 11 bicycles and 5 tin wagons in front of his business.

Councilman Larry T. Brooks noted,

when the item came up for discussion, "No one has ever appeared before this council to ask that this ordinance be amended or changed...the only people we have heard from are those who wish to see it (the ordinance) enforced..."

Councilman Sam Dial again noted his opposition to the ordinance and Councilman Bob Brewington, who perpetrated the furor over the matter by asking that the council enforce it, said, "My position is that we either take it off, amend it, or enforce it...if a citizen were injured, as I understand it, the town would be liable..."

Neville, after a hasty caucus, was chosen to speak for the merchants, after Mayor Strickland suggested that the merchants appoint one person to address the council in the interest of time and in order to "save repetition..."

Neville noted the history of the activity of displaying merchandise upon the street, noting that it had always been done in Pembroke. He noted also that surrounding towns still practice displaying merchandise upon the streets, especially during buying seasons.

After further discussion Councilman Larry T. Brooks turned to the merchants in attendance and said, "If you would serve I would be in favor of appointing a committee to study this ordinance and come back to us with recommendations." After an affirmation by the merchants in attendance that they would serve Brooks made a motion that

a committee be appointed to study Ordinance 6-2003 and report back to the council with recommendations. The motion passed unanimously and Mayor Reggie Strickland noted that "we hope to settle this once and for all at the meeting on the 17th..."

Curt Locklear was appointed chairman. Appointed by Mayor Strickland to serve with him are Mrs. Alice Borland, Mr. Fred Hardin, Mr. Nathan Strickland, Mr. Lee Neville and Arlie Jacobs, a member of the law firm representing the town in legal matters, who will serve as an ex-officio member to advise on legal aspects of the matter.

IN OTHER MATTERS...

In other matters, the council decided to go ahead with condemnation proceedings concerning the Lowry Park acreage being pursued for parking. At one time the Marvin Lowry Estate had agreed to sell the town the 2 acre tract adjoining the recreation field but recently changed their minds.

The council also gave Town Manager, McDuffie Cummings, authority to begin negotiations for purchasing a site for a proposed maintenance building.

The council, in response to a citizen complaint at an earlier meeting, agreed to enforce an already existing state ordinance against burning refuse, etc. within the corporate limits of the town.

POLICEMAN ADVISED TO STAY WITHIN CITY LIMITS

In response to a couple of accidents involving Pembroke policemen outside the corporate limits of the town, the council considered a policy concerning police patrols outside the towns limits.

McDuffie Cummings, noting the seriousness of the matter said, "We don't want our young people especially to get the idea that they can come to Pembroke, challenge the law and get away with it but we do need to do something about this problem of our policemen chasing traffic violators, etc. outside the town limits..."

Councilman Milton Hunt said, "I am against policing the world, county...just running after someone who is speeding and endangering everybody's lives..."

Councilman Brewington said, "We pay enough taxes for patrolmen to patrol outside the town limits...the town doesn't need to do this...if we'll just take care of our own everything'll be all right...and we can call in outside help if we need it..."

The council informally decided to instruct the police department that they would focus upon town engaging in "chasing speeders, etc. outside city limits." But, as Hunt noted, "a distress call from another officer should be responded to inside Town limits or out..."

Mayor Reggie Strickland asked that recent appointments to the Pembroke Housing Authority and Redevelopment Commission be inserted in the

official minutes.

Those appointments are Ms. Maggie Johnson Oxendine, Mr. Larry Roberts and Mr. Clarence Locklear, who was reappointed. All appointments are for a period of five years.

AND A FINAL NOTE

Mrs. Gerald Borland, Pembroke representative for girl scouts, appeared before the council and presented Mayor Strickland with a couple of Dogwood trees as part of the girl scout's campaign to plant Dogwood trees as part of their beautification campaign for the Town of Pembroke.

Mrs. Borland also asked that the girl scouts be allowed to place plaques, etc. in town hall "since we do not really have a home base." The council readily agreed.

But Mrs. Borland noted, "My real reason for coming here is to thank you for your support in our campaign to plant Dogwoods and in general." Mrs. Borland noted that there are 120 girl scouts in Pembroke. She also observed that the girl scouts sold \$7,000 worth of cookies during the last season.

COUNCIL ENDS SESSION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

The council ended the evening in executive session. Although no action was taken, the council reportedly went into executive session to consider "the Maybelle Elk case." Also, reportedly, a regular personnel matter was discussed although the council ventured "nothing for publication."

PEMBROKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO MEET APRIL 13

There will be a meeting of the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce Thursday night, April 13, 1978. All members and prospective members are urged to attend.

The chamber is planning a concerted

membership drive and invites everyone interested in the well being of Pembroke to attend.

Membership dues are \$5.00.

PEMBROKE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE HELPS TOWN & 'STRIKE AT THE WIND!'

The contributions will be used to enhance the Pembroke community, one of the objectives of the Pembroke Bicentennial Committee.

A gift of \$206.00 to the town of Pembroke will be used to pay for two Welcome signs for the town of Pembroke. The signs will read: "Welcome to the town of Pembroke, the home of Pembroke State University and Strike at the Wind." Town Manager McDuffie Cummings accepted the donation on behalf of Pembroke and her citizens.

A gift of \$100 was made to Strike at the Wind. General Manager Lane Hudson gratefully accepted the monetary gift. Hudson also used the occasion to note that April has been designated Membership Drive Month for Strike at the Wind.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, the Governor of North Carolina, the Honorable Jim Hunt, has proclaimed April as Membership Drive Month for the entire state. The designation was facilitated in part by the efforts of Dr. James B.

Chavis, now serving as Ombudsman for the State of North Carolina.

The Pembroke Bicentennial Committee also donated the remainder of the Bicentennial coins sold by the committee in honor of the Nations bicentennial celebration in 1976.

One side of the coin features an imprint of Henry Berry Lowry and the other side is a design of Old Main, the first brick structure on the PSU campus. Strike at the Wind will sell the coins as part of its fund raising drive.



Jim Paul and Katie Simpson, representing the Pembroke Bicentennial Committee, are

shown presenting contributions to Pembroke Town Manager McDuffie Cummings

second from left, and Scribe at the Wind General Manager Lane Hudson, right.

people
and places
and things

Five Generations of 'Habla Espanol'

by Gene Warren

It could be described as "five generations of Spanish instruction." The age differences aren't that great, but there is no denying the uniqueness of the chain of Spanish teachers and pupils.

Mrs. Reba Lowry, who taught foreign language for 40 years at Pembroke State University before retiring as professor emerita in 1976, started the chain.

Mrs. Lowry taught Mrs. Lola Blanks, who taught Mrs. Dolores Jones, who taught Mrs. Sandra Sanderson Graham, who taught Brenda Dial.

The instruction involving Mrs. Lowry and Mrs. Blanks took place in 1952-53. Mrs. Blanks, now Spanish teacher at Magnolia School near Lumberton, taught Mrs. Jones at Pembroke High School in 1960-61. Mrs. Jones now Spanish teacher at Pembroke Senior High, instructed Sandra Graham when Graham was at Prospect in 1965-66. Mrs. Graham, who recently was married and has moved to Missouri, taught Brenda Dial when Brenda was at Pembroke Gaded School from 1973-74.

Brenda, now a high school junior, plans to study Spanish under Mrs. Jones next year at Pembroke High School. She also plans to attend Pembroke State University. Thus the chain continues.

The five members of this unique circle of Spanish met recently for a steak dinner and social hour. You can be sure that much of the chatting was in Spanish because being able to converse in the language has always been stresses in their classrooms.

"We have been like stepping stones," said Mrs. Lowry, who has made a remarkable recovery from two operations and a stroke in 1975. "We wanted to get together before Sandra left for Missouri. We thought this provided an interesting history."

Mrs. Lowry admits she misses teaching. "I think learning a foreign language helps each person understand himself better. It's an important part of the total education process to think and speak in another language besides your own. It broadens a person. I truly believe that unless a person can speak in another language, he misses something," she said.

While she was actively teaching, Mrs. Lowry kept in contact with all her Spanish students in the teaching field. "We went to conventions together and always spoke in the language at the conventions," she smiled.

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In a White House photo, Gene Locklear, Ted Marrs, former President Ford's Special Assistant on Indian Affairs; and Dr. Bobby Brayboy, chief of the physician recruitment section of the Indian Health Service, are shown enjoying a light moment. One of Gene's paintings hung in Dr. Marrs' office during his tenure in the White House, and the above photo was made in 1976 during Gene's visit to the White House to present the painting to Dr. Marrs. He was accompanied by Native Robesonian, Dr. Bobby Brayboy.

Gene Locklear: Artist ... And Baseball Player

BY BILL HASS
Staff Sports Writer

PEMBROKE -- Gene Locklear opens the door of the "gallery room" in his home and it's overwhelming.

There are paintings hung on just about every square inch of the walls--baseball scene, Indian scenes, landscapes--all of which he painted. One entire wall is painted with a Biblical scene that he did in high school.

Squeezed in among the paintings are mementos of his baseball career--awards, trophies, bats, balls.

They would be incongruous if it were not for the baseball paintings in the room.

The "gallery room" summarizes the two lives of Gene Locklear--artist and baseball player. Together, they form a complex, but immensely talented, man.

The immediate thing you notice about Locklear's paintings is his use of dark colors.

"Some people say that's a reflection of my outlook on life," he said. "Not very optimistic."

Locklear doesn't say whether or

not that assessment is accurate. He does offer another explanation, however.

"A lot of the old masters used dark colors," he said. "If you study their work, you don't see too much brightness. I studied and learned about the old masters on my own."

Locklear doesn't smile much. There are things that have happened in his baseball career that he resents. He has only partially come to terms with his background as a Lumbee in-

(See Locklear: Page 5)