



# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## MRS. MORTON NAMED AS SUPERVISOR OF ROBESON COUNTY'S BOARD OF ELECTIONS

BY A 2-1 MARGIN OVER MRS. PEARLINE REVELS

by Bruce Barton

Lumberton—It's official except for reading the letter. Mrs. Elizabeth Morton, who resides in the Proctorville area, has been named supervisor of elections of the Robeson County Board of Elections.

Mrs. Morton was formerly employed as a secretary by the Lumberton law firm of McLean, Stacy, Henry and McLean for five years. She is the wife of Edgar Morton, Jr.

Mrs. Morton was named on a 2-1 vote over Mrs. Pearlline Revels, an Indian from the Saddlecreek Community, who has reportedly fallen into disfavor with the faction of the Democratic Party led by Ben Floyd, Robeson County's clerk of Superior Court. Floyd's only comment was "many people talk to me in confidence about things. But I do not name the executive secretary of the elections board-the board does that..." Floyd is considered a close political ally of Carmel Locklear, an Indian from the Prospect Community, who is on the board of elections.

The other minority on the board of elections is the chairman, Rev. Charles McDowell, a black minister from Fairmont.

Both Locklear and McDowell voted for Mrs. Morton over Mrs. Revels. Neither has given a reason for doing so. Many political observers in Robeson County suspect politics.

Irony reigns supreme in the matter. That is all the people seemingly are left with—irony and sundry rumors.

The irony is that Ray Revels, the only white member of the Robeson County Board of Elections reportedly voted for Mrs. Pearlline Revels for the job of Supervisor of Elections. Ray Revels and Mrs. Pearlline Revels are not related. AS noted elsewhere, Ray Revels is a white, Mrs. Revels is an Indian.

Ray Revels freely admits that he is a Republican. One rumor has it that Mrs. Revels is also registered as a Republican. She denies it saying, "I was registered as a Republican for a couple of months in 1972...ever since I have been registered as a democrat like most of the other folk in Robeson County."

Animosity also admittedly exists between McDowell, the Black chairman of the board, and Ray Revels, the Republican white, who was supplanted by McDowell. They simply, according to their own admissions, do not like or trust one another. The same situation, to a lesser degree, seems to exist between Revels and Locklear, the Indian member of the three man board made up of two Democrats, McDowell and Locklear, and 1 Republican, Ray Revels.

Seemingly McDowell and Locklear see Ray Revels' vote for Mrs. Pearlline Revels as an admission of friendship, as an expression of "their working against

us..."

Both Ray Revels and Mrs. Revels deny any ties of friendship or working arrangements. Revels noted, "I think Mrs. Pearlline Revels is the most qualified—after all, she has had more than six years of experience on the board."

Others say that Ray Revels simply took advantage of the situation to make political hay since he does not seem to respect or especially like McDowell or Locklear.

The irony is that Ray Revels himself caused the current turn of events to occur. He insisted that the board open the job up to applicants when Mrs. Joyce Locklear, the previous executive director, resigned to accept a better position with the Welcome Center near Rowland. Reportedly, at that time, both McDowell and Locklear wanted to name Mrs. Revels to the position. At that time, Ray Revels was reportedly working for Mrs. Sarah Britt (widow of the late Senator Luther Britt) who was interested in the job. She reportedly was one of some fifteen applicants.

Alex Brock says...

In a telephone conversation Wednesday morning, Alex Brock, executive director of the North Carolina Board of Elections, said, "We did receive the board's nomination of Morton. And

we have confirmed it. She meets the two criteria: She received a majority vote of the local board and she meets the standards set by the state personnel board. Of course, Mrs. Revels meets these same standards."

Brock noted that he said, in his return letter to the Robeson County Board of Elections, "We suggest that you arrive at some appropriate accommodation with Mrs. Revels." Brock also said, concerning Mrs. Revels, who has worked in the number two slot at the local elections board for some six years that "our experience with her was very satisfactory."

McDowell reportedly is jockeying for naming three permanent positions to the elections board, one a black, another an Indian and, of course, Mrs. Morton, just named as the white Supervisor of Elections.

The board, according to a reliable source, met last week and named Mrs. Morton to the position in executive session. If so, the board seemingly has broken the Open Meeting Laws of the North Carolina General Assembly.

Brock said, "They also sent Mrs. Revels' name to me saying that it was the choice of one of the board."

Said one political wag, "The new strategy is to name Indians and Blacks to all the boards and name whites to all the jobs."

## Fund Raising Dinner For Memorial Cottage Set at PSU

Pembroke—A fund raising dinner aimed at raising \$20,000 to complete construction of the Indian Memorial Cottage at Odum Baptist Children's Home located adjacent to Pembroke State University will be held in the PSU Cafeteria Saturday, November 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. English E. Jones, chancellor of Pembroke State University, is chairman of the steering committee which is soliciting funds and secured free labor for construction of the cottage. The cottage is being used to house 12 needy children.

"Through the generous gifts from people of all religious faiths, we have received \$100,000 for the cottage plus \$50,000 in free labor," said Dr. Jones. "In order to complete construction and equip the facility, we need an additional \$20,000."

Dr. Jones thus invites participants in the fund-raising dinner. Tickets to it are \$100 and will admit two persons. Tickets are available in the Chancellor's Office at Pembroke State University.

Contributions are tax deductible, said Dr. Jones. Checks may be made payable to Baptist Children's Home of North Carolina designed for: "Indian Memorial Cottage."

Odum Home serves the needy children of all races and religious faiths.

## Braves Club 'Pig-Picking' To Take Place Saturday

Pembroke—An Indian-style "pig-picking" will be sponsored by the "Braves Club" of Pembroke State University here Saturday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. in the Pembroke Town Park across from PSU.

"If you've never eaten barbeque cooked Indian style, don't miss it," says James F. (Buddy) Bell, president of the Braves Club. Cost will be \$2.50 for everyone, including Brave Club members.

PSU basketball fans who wish to have an early bird look at the Braves' team may attend a scrimmage Saturday morning from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Jones Physical Education Center. The PSU opponent will be King's College of Raleigh. "Fans can come and watch our team—then go and eat barbeque," suggests Billy Lee, the new PSU basketball coach.

Entertainment and beautiful girls will also be at the pig-picking. Carnell Locklear and his six-man group "Tribe," will provide music. Also in attendance will be "Miss Lumbee," Maxine Bullard, and a former "Miss Lumbee," Brenda Hunt.

Bell also says the Braves Club plans to sponsor a High School Junior Varsity Basketball Tournament December 28-29 in the Jones Physical Education Center. The six area teams participating are expected to be Lumberton, Scotland of Laurinburg, Pembroke, Prospect, Fairgrove and Rowland.

"We are also now offering Braves Club memberships to commercial firms for \$50 each. This means industries or firms can buy a membership—and pass it around to recent members of their organization to use to attend our..." said Bell.

## A Recognition Day For G. Ernest Sampson



DEEP BRANCH—It was a very special day: it was a recognition day for the late G. Ernest Sampson. He was honored during special ceremonies at Deep Branch Elementary School last Saturday evening.

A highlight of the program was an unveiling of a Doris Nance painting of Sampson which will hang in his honor at Deep Branch Elementary School where one of his nephews, John Norman Sampson, is principal.

He was the brother of Tracy Sampson, Robeson County's first Indian county commissioner. He taught for a few years in Robeson County but left in pursuit of a better life out west. He eventually settled in the Dakotas and later in Texas. He was honored as a teacher. When he passed away recently he was a representative for one of the larger book publishing firms in Texas.

A special guest was his wife. She is shown (left) at the unveiling with Sampson and Mrs. Doris Nance.

Erlie Ransom, a teacher at Deep Branch, was m.c. Invocation was by Rev. Charles Oxendine with special music by the McNeill Trio, Miss Kimberly Oxendine (a student at Deep Branch Elementary School), and Maricela Lowry, Jr. (an eighth grader at Piney Grove).

A playmate from their childhood, Mr. Benny Sampson, recounted the early life of Ernest Sampson. His great nephew, Woody Sampson (himself a teacher at Piney Grove), gave his educational history.

Remarks of acceptance were given by Mrs. Ernest Sampson and John Norman Sampson recalled the tremendous influence his uncle had on his life, especially as he recalled going to live with him to finish high school away from home for the very first time.

Special remarks were given by Rev. Bobby Stans, student coordinator at Deep Branch. Benediction was by Rev. Chesley McNeill, pastor of Deep Branch Baptist Church.

## GOSPEL SING NOVEMBER 19

The Pembroke Jaycee's 5th Annual Gospel Sing, featuring the Kingsmen, The Scott Sisters and The Pioneers will be held Sunday, November 19, 1978 at PSU's Performing Arts Center. Admission is \$4.50 at the door and \$3.50 in

advance.

The Gospel Sing, co-sponsored by PSU's Endowment and Foundation Board, will begin at 2:30 p.m.

## State Officials Receive A Guided Tour of Indian Country



PEMBROKE—A Bruce Jones, executive director of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs (at the podium), introduced the audience to (left to right) at the head table, Jane Patterson, deputy director of the North Carolina Department of Administration; Jim Lowry, chairman of the board of commissioners of the Indian Commission; and Joe Grimsley, director of the North Carolina Department of Administration.

Lumbee Regional Development Association (LRDA), University Sports-wear, and visited other places of interest in Robeson County.

They were special guests at a luncheon hosted by PSU, LRDA and the Indian Commission. Lowry also presented a slide presentation of the Indian Commission.

Indian leaders from every walk of life joined with the state officials in a sharing of ideas and notions. It was mostly a get acquainted session although the officials were looking at possible sites for a future culture and crafts development envisioned by state leaders and Indian Commission and LRDA officials.

The Indian Commission is now under the honoraristic umbrella of the department of administration.

Ms. Patterson and Grimsley were in Pembroke as recipients of a guided tour through Indian Country. They toured Pembroke State University (PSU).

## people and places and things

### SCHOOL DINNER SALE

Pembroke Elementary School will sponsor a chicken and barbeque plate sale Friday, November 17, 1978 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

The dinner will serve as a fund raising project, but it is one of a series of projects sponsored by the school to encourage community involvement in the total school program. The real reward of this project is the opportunity for parents and patrons to visit the school and meet the school staff. The teachers and staff will be serving the plates.

Patrons may eat on the premises or the plates may be taken out. The school children will encourage parents, students, and patrons to purchase a ticket for the event.

All proceeds from the project will be used in the various school needs.

### PLATE SALE

Oxendine Elementary School will have a plate sale November 17, 1978 from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. Chicken and Bar-B-Que plates will be sold. The proceeds from the plate sale will be used to buy supplies and materials for the children at school. The public is invited to attend.

### ADULT BASKETBALL ORGANIZATION MEETING PLANNED

Robeson County Recreation Department will hold its Pembroke Adult Basketball Organization Meeting, Monday, November 20, 1978, at 7:00 p.m., at Pembroke Town Hall.

All persons interested in entering a team in the League are urged to attend.

### OPEN HOUSE PLANNED FOR REX RENNERT SCHOOL

Rex Rennert School will have an open house on Monday, November 20 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. All parents and patrons of the school are invited to attend. Teachers will be in their classrooms so that parents can discuss their child's progress with them. Refreshments will be served in the school cafeteria.

### Groundbreaking This Saturday For New Pembroke Resque Squad

Ceremonies Begin at 10 A.M.

### PEMBROKE—Mayor Reggle Strickland and other dignitaries are expected to turn out en masse for groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Pembroke Resque Squad building.

The new facility will be located on approximately an acre of land between Whiz's Used Car Lot and First Baptist Church on Union Chapel Road.

Ceremonies will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday (November 18, 1978). The Pembroke Resque Squad's purpose is to help the citizenry of Pembroke and surrounding areas. Chief J.W. Oxendine cordially invites the public to attend the groundbreaking ceremonies for the new organization.

### SHERIFF MALCOLM C. MCLEOD "APPRECIATION DAY" PLANNED NOVEMBER 19, 1978

Lumberton—The citizenry of Robeson County are planning an "Appreciation Day" for retiring Sheriff Malcolm McLeod. The day will be held at the Lumberton Armory November 19 from 2 until 4 p.m. The event is free and the public is invited.

McLeod is retiring after 28 years on the job. His is the longest tenure in the history of Robeson County.

Ms. Joyce Alford is serving as chairman of the special day for Sheriff McLeod. She said, "I just thought it would be appropriate to set aside a little bit of time to express our appreciation to Sheriff McLeod for his many years of service to Robeson County."

### CHICKEN AND BARBECUE PLATE SALE

Riverside Memorial Church is having a chicken and barbeque plate sale Friday and Saturday, November 17th and 18th. Proceeds will be used for the building fund. The church is located on Highway 74 east of Pembroke. Your support is appreciated.

### PEMBROKE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following students have made the honor roll for the first nine weeks grading period at Pembroke Senior High School according to Dr. V.R. Thompson the principal.

Students with all A's: 12th Grade—Belinda Brewington, Karen Deese, Steve Hard, Velinda Locklear, Jayne Patricia Mynor, Debra Oxendine, Joseph Roberts; 11th Grade—Donna Cummings, Wanda Oxendine; 10th Grade—Gregory Brayboy, Kimberly Locklear, Rodrick G. Locklear, Sherri L. Roberts.

Students with all B's or better: 12th Grade—Donna Baker, Deanna Bullard, Myra Bullard, Susan Dent, Nanette D. Jones, Tanuel L. Kerns, Deanna Locklear, Nan Locklear, Rhonda Locklear, Terry Locklear, Cynthia Kay Lowry, Jackie L. Lucas, Susan Mangum, Dwain McDougald, Anita J. Oxendine, Clara D. Oxendine, Helen O'Donnell, Cindy Revels, Kelvin Sampson, Susan Snipes, Donna Wilkins, Bobbie Jacobs; 11th Grade—Wanda K. Bullard, Fredrick Cummings, Dallas B. Locklear, Lisa M. Locklear, Bobby Maynor, Jr., Pamphylia Odom, Allen W. Oxendine, Gen W. Oxendine, Verl Thompson, Wanda L. Wilkins; 10th Grade—Ronney Bell, Laverne Blue, Myra J. Deese, William K. Hunt, Jennifer K. Locklear, Ronnie Locklear, Belinda Lowry, Lottie C. Lowry, Judy Lowry, Wynne F. Maynor, Kimberly Oxendine, Stephen Prevatte, Dwight Revels, Robert W. Revels, Constance S. Roberts, Belinda K. Sampson, Ronnie Sampson, Belinda Smith.