

# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## Strickland, Roberts & Thomas Receive Housing Honors



Clinton Thomas, Jr.



Reggie Strickland



Larry Roberts

PEMBROKE, N.C.—Pembroke Housing Authority and Redevelopment Commission Board Members at their November 30, 1978 meeting decided to honor three town officials for their dedication and service to that agency and the Town of Pembroke. In a motion by Commissioner Maggie J. Oxendine and seconded by Commissioner Clarence F. Locklear, the board decided to name its newest public housing development in honor of current Mayor, Reggie Strickland to be known as "Strickland Heights." In that same action, the board decided to name its newest facility, a 10,500 sq. ft. Day-Care Community Building in honor of its Executive Director, Clinton L. Thomas, Jr. and moved that the street within the new housing development be named in honor of Housing Commissioner, Larry T. Roberts.

"I think it only fitting that the Day-Care be named after Clint, after all it was his idea, and to me it shows his deep commitment to service beyond his normally required line of work. How many housing authorities as small as ours do you know of that can boast of extra services beyond housing, like day-care and social services? These services haven't been natural occurrences, they've only come about out of hard work and good management led by our Director." Housing Authority Attorney, Ertle Knox Chavis, spoke favorably of the Board and Thomas when he said "I think this is a very nice gesture. I've been associated closely with this project, and without Clint I don't think our town would have this fine facility."

Oxendine in her presentation stated that it was traditional to honor one of the housing commissioners by dedicating a street to their name. "I think this honor should go to Commissioner Larry Roberts, he's worked hard and has proven his interest in helping those less fortunate than others in his work with the Pembroke Jaycees as well as housing commissioner. Housing Commissioners receive no pay for their service and this is a nice way to show our appreciation for his service."

Chairman, Andrew Carl Lowry beamed his approval of the board's decision. "I agree, I think the decision to honor these people was the right one. I too would like to commend our Mayor for bringing about a resolution to the many severe problems our town experiencing before he took office. He's created an atmosphere of trust and openness that's like a new breath of fresh spring air for our town. With the new personnel he's brought with him, the

administration of Town affairs has taken on a more personable and responsible attitude, and the improvement of services we are continually witnessing without an increase to our taxes is solid proof that our Town is in good financial standing. I would also like to congratulate Mr. Thomas and Mr. Roberts."

When contacted about the Board's decision Mayor Strickland, Commissioner Roberts, and Director Thomas had the following comments respectively. (Mayor Strickland): "I'm pleasantly surprised and most appreciative of our housing board's decision to name our newest public housing development in my honor as 'Strickland Heights.' I'm very proud of the work they are doing to provide sound housing and a better living environment for the people of our community. I feel that we have made significant strides in bringing you better government during the past three years here in Pembroke. Of course this has only been accomplished through your support and prayers. We must continue to work together collectively to promote the progressive political, social and economic talents our town possesses to its fullest potential."

(Commissioner Roberts): "I'm very grateful to my fellow commissioners for the honor they have bestowed upon me. I'm just glad to have a part in an agency that I feel is doing so much good for so many people."

(Director Thomas): "I'm obviously elated by the board's decision to name our new day-care in my honor. There's simply no way to express the appreciation I feel for their actions. I will be forever thankful for such a tremendous honor."

The Day-Care-Community Center will be known as the Clinton L. Thomas, Jr. Day-Care-Community Building and the street will be named Roberts Avenue. Commissioner Mag Oxendine showed her sincerity behind her motion as she became emotional while making her presentation. Ms. Oxendine said "I've prayed about this matter and I think this is the proper thing to do." Commissioner Clarence F. Locklear lauded Mayor Reggie Strickland's administration as being responsible for bringing the Town of Pembroke out of the deepest financial trouble it had probably ever been in when he took office in 1975. Locklear said "It's no secret, any citizen in this town who cares enough to stay informed knows that Mayor Strickland has brought this town out of difficult times, and carried its operations forward to a state that we can all speak proudly of."

In speaking of Thomas, Ms. Oxendine

## Major Changes In Food Stamp Effective January 1, 1979

Thousands of North Carolinians who have been participating in the Food Stamp Program will see a major change take place in the program in January 1, 1979.

"Food stamp participants in Robeson County along with those in other counties across the state will no longer have to buy food stamps as they have in the past, they will be free," Mr. Russell Sessoms, Robeson county director of social services said.

Congress this past year made several major revisions in the Food Stamp Program to make sure food stamps get to the people who need them the most—elderly people living off fixed incomes, and other families and individuals with very low incomes. The two major changes were the elimination of purchase requirement which becomes effective on January 1, and lowering the income eligibility levels that will become effective on March 1, 1979. As a result, after March, people with lower incomes will be getting additional benefits, while people with higher income will either lose some benefits or

no longer be eligible for the program.

"Since the Food Stamp Program began, most people have had to use some of their own money to get food stamps. Each month, they would pay a certain amount, depending on their income and other considerations. In return, they would get back food stamps worth more than they had paid. These were called 'bonus stamps'."

"Under the new procedure that goes into effect the first of the year, they will no longer purchase the stamps. They will simply get roughly what used to be their 'bonus'. A family which used to pay \$50.00 for \$150.00 in food stamps, for example, will pay nothing and get \$100.00 in food stamps," Mr. Sessoms said.

He said that under the old program, many welfare recipients and other people in Robeson County with very low incomes did not participate in the Food Stamp Program. He feels that even though they needed the additional food in order to have a nutritional diet, they just didn't feel like paying the purchase

price. He gave as example a mother with three children receiving a maximum of \$200 per month welfare payment under the Aid to Families With Dependent Children program or an elderly person living alone receiving the \$122 a month minimum Social Security check.

"We urge anyone who is not currently participating in the Food Stamp Program to contact our Department to find out more about the free food stamps and to see if they are eligible," he said. Interested persons from anywhere in the state may also call the Department of Human Resources toll-free CARELINE 1-800-662-7030 for further information.

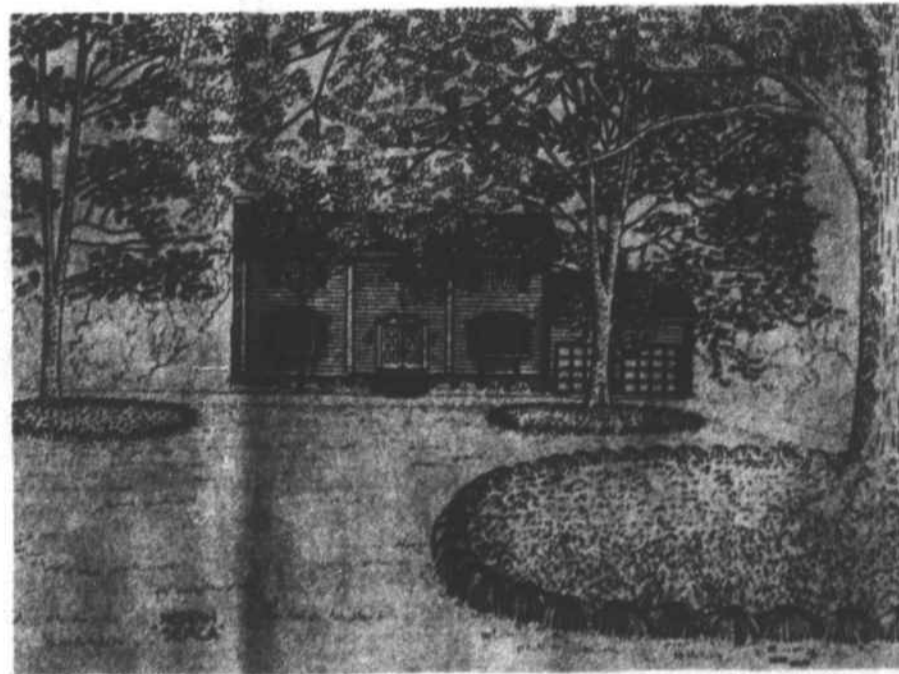
Mr. Sessoms said he had no idea of how many more people in Robeson County will participate in the program since the food stamps will be free or how many will no longer be eligible after March 1 because their income will be too high. He indicated that further changes in the Food Stamp Program will be forthcoming on March 1, 1979 in addition to the lower income eligibility level.

## Santa Appears in Christmas Parade



Santa appeared at the Christmas parade in Pembroke last Saturday. The parade is sponsored annually by the Pembroke Jaycees. Santa has appeared every year—so far! Sundry beauty queens, floats, marching bands, etc. appeared. A large crowd turned out to watch the parade.

## "Holiday House" at NEDDIH SERCA



Lumberton—Robeson County Extension Homemaker Clubs are busy with nimble hands creating decorations and foods for the upcoming "Holiday House" at NEDDIH SERCA. The homemakers selected as their annual December project the residence of North Carolina Representative and Mrs. Horace Locklear.

Approximately fifteen Homemakers Clubs, under the direction of Robeson County's Home Economics Agents, are preparing handmade Christmas items to be used in decorating the two story residence.

The public is invited to view the Locklear residence during "Christmas at NEDDIH SERCA" on the following days: Saturday, December 16, 4:00-7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 17, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

NEDDIH SERCA is located north on Barker Ten Mile Road, in the Powersville area. Representative and Mrs. Locklear extend an invitation to the public and their friends to come and visit during the hours of "Open House."

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the requirements of the Community Development Act of 1974, that the Town Council of Pembroke, N.C. will hold public hearings on the community development grant application on January 2nd and January 10th, 1979 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

To be published Dec. 14th and 21st, 1978.

## PEOPLE AND L AND THINGS... C E S

### CLASS REUNION PLANNED

The Pembroke High School Class of 1968 is planning their 10th class reunion to be held at the Pembroke Jaycee Hut at 7:30 p.m. December 22, 1978.

For further information contact Robert Chavis at 521-3737 or James Maynor at 738-2593.

### SPECIAL WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

A Special Watch Night Service will be held at Elrod Baptist Church December 31, 1978 the 5th Sunday night. Singing will begin at 7 p.m. Fellowship breakfast will be after 12 p.m. Message will be at 3 a.m. Rev. Tommy Hagans, pastor, extends a cordial welcome to the public.

### CLASS OF 1974 MAKES PLANS FOR REUNION

A meeting of all and any classmates interested in planning the first fifth (1st 5th) year reunion for the Class of 1974 Pembroke Senior High School is scheduled for December 24, 1978 at 3:00 p.m. in the home of Robin Cummings.

If conflicts of "holiday interests" arise, please call Robin at 521-8252 and favorable arrangements will be made.

### YARD SALE PLANNED

Rez. Rennett Day Care Center, sponsored by LRDA is planning a yard sale on Saturday, Dec. 16, 1978 at the center. The purpose is to raise monies for Christmas gifts for the children. Everyone is urged to attend.

### COUNTY TITLE IV, PART A PARENT COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED

The Title IV, Part A Parent Committee of the Robeson County Compensatory Indian Education Project will meet at a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 18, 1978 at 7:30 p.m. at the O.P. Owens Auditorium in Lumberton.

The Committee will review needs assessment and prioritization processes for incorporation into program planning and development for submitting a project application for next year. Other business will include the review of proposed amendments to the organization's by-laws.

All meetings of the Title IV, Part A Parent Committee are open public meetings and interested Indian parents, teachers and secondary students are encouraged to attend.

### OXENDINE TRIAL UNDERWAY

The trial of James Hammonds began this week. He is accused of murdering Anthony Ray Oxendine outside the Saddletree Jaycee Club House on the night of April 11.

Hammonds who was president of the Saddletree Jaycees at the time, and Oxendine, reportedly argued over a \$1.00 admission charge to a dance at the clubhouse that night.

## Deep Branch Church plans Christmas Play

Deep Branch Baptist Church is earnestly at work getting ready for its annual Christmas program.

This year Deep Branch Baptist Church with Mrs. Joyce Sampson as director, is planning a play with the title "The Message of the Bells".

Rehearsals are under way. Many of the boys and girls and adults of the church are active participants in the play.

The play - The Message of the Bells is scheduled for December 17 at 7 p.m., immediately following training union.

Pastor is Rev. Chesley McNeill. The public is cordially invited to attend.

## Dial Family Reunion Set for Dec. 30

The Marcus and Elizabeth Dial Family Reunion will be held at Prospect United Methodist Church December 30, 1978 at 4 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. Too, family members are urged to bring a picture of their parents.

Mark it down on the calendar for Saturday after Christmas the Dial Family Reunion. Their mother, Polly, was his daughter.

### EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL TO MEET

The Employment and Training Advisory Council will meet Thursday, December 14th, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the conference room of the Robeson County Department of Human Resources, at the corner of 8th and Elm Streets (formerly the agriculture building) in Lumberton. For Thursday's meeting, the agenda includes program allocations for fiscal year '79, selection process for CETA programs, and an update on CETA II (reauthorization). The public is welcome to attend.

### OXENDINE SCHOOL PLANS PTA MEETING

Oxendine School will hold a P.T.A. meeting on December 18, 1978 at 7 p.m.

A special Christmas program entitled "What, No Santa Clause?" will be presented by members of various classes. There will also be Christmas cheer and a melody of songs.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

### A CLARIFYING NOTE

Pembroke—A number of readers called and questioned us because we recently said, in an article heralding Mrs. Nancy Lowry Revel's 100th birthday that she was the last surviving direct descendant of Henry Berry Lowry.

Not so. There are more including sisters Mrs. Reedy Chavis, Mrs. Leola Lowry and Mrs. Willie Locklear, all of Robeson County.

They are granddaughters of the legendary Henry Berry Lowry. Their mother, Polly, was his daughter.