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Best Wishes for Christmas

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THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

by Bruce Barton

Christmas seems to bring out the best in folks. Many people have responded to the dilemma of Ms. Shirlene Chavis and her children who were thrown out of their home by the Farmers Home Administration a few days ago. A number of people have called offering Ms. Chavis and her children a place to stay.

A number of her neighbors have organized a Christmas Party for Ms. Chavis and her two children. The party will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jacobs, neighbors of Ms. Chavis before she was evicted from her home. The party begins at 6 p.m. Friday.

Said Mrs. Jacobs, "We just want to make sure that Shirlene and her children have a nice Christmas. Christmas is a time to reach out and love one another. We just want Shirlene to know that there are Christians in Robeson County, people who care about what happens to her and her children."

Some of the guys at Lumberton

Correctional Center also contacted me and announced that they would like to help. They decided to take up a collection for Ms. Chavis and her children. At last report, they had collected more than \$30.00. They are planning to present the monies at the annual Christmas Program at the prison chapel sponsored by the Prisoner's Friend Society this coming Saturday.

Spokesman Timothy Curum said, "We just want to help. Ms. Chavis' plight touched our hearts. We would like to challenge the jaycees, the Kiwanians, the Lions and other clubs and organizations to match our contribution and let's see what we can do to help Ms. Chavis and these children here at Christmas time..."

Etc. It just seems like everyone is nice and respectful and kind at Christmas time. We wish the Christmas spirit all year long. And we wish each of you a very special and gentle Christmas. May the love of Christ ever abide in your hearts.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Perseverance Pays Off As Mayor Strickland Earns Degree

by Gene Warren



Mayor Reggie Strickland of Pembroke... a 10 year quest to obtain a college degree reaches its fruition at Pembroke State University.

Pembroke Ten years is a long time to pursue a college degree, especially when it means taking usually one course a week at night.

But Reggie Strickland, mayor of Pembroke, is a person with remarkable perseverance and one who was determined to graduate from Pembroke State University. So after holding down a full-time job in the daytime, he went to class at night year-round.

With the end of this semester, he completed all requirements to earn a B.A. degree in Sociology. "I saved the toughest course for the 'until last,'" smiled Strickland, referring to College Algebra.

This mayor of Pembroke since 1975 (he's now in his second term) will have to wait until next May to walk down the aisle for the official commencement exercises because there is only one graduation ceremony a year at PSU. But that's all right with Strickland. He knows the coveted sheepskin is his.

This has been a big year for 41-year-old Strickland, a Lum-

bee Indian, Strickland Heights a 100-unit development by the Pembroke Housing Authority, is being named in his honor. Under his leadership, the Town of Pembroke is in the best financial shape in the town's history.

All of this good fortune at Christmas time seemed to have its beginning when 10 years ago a young man decided he had to have a college degree. He had always wanted one, but being from a family of five brothers and eight sisters, he didn't have the financial resources to go. After finishing Pembroke High School in 1967, he married the former Edith Payne Lowry and took a job with FCX (Farmers Cooperative Exchange), which he held for eight years. During this time he sent his wife to PSU and was kept busy trying to provide financially for their four children who were born during this time.

Dr. James B. Chavis, now vice chancellor for student affairs at PSU but then manager of the PSU Book Store, suggested that Strickland become employed with the University as assistant book store manager. This Strickland did in 1966. When Chavis was promoted to assistant to the president in 1968, Strickland sought the job of book store manager—but was informed that the position demanded a person with a college degree.

"So I embarked, through my wife's encouragement, on a course of obtaining a degree," said Strickland.

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Jones Pleads "No Contest"

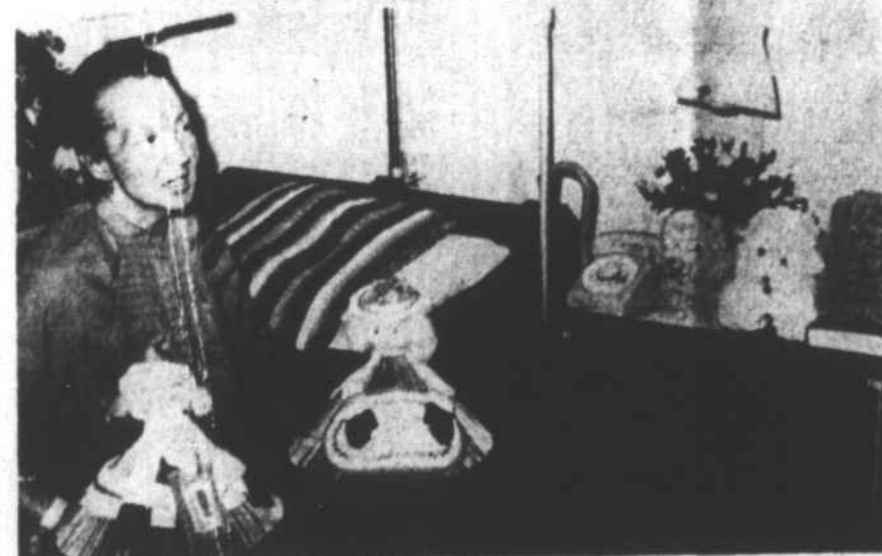
James A. Jones, principal of Prospect School, and his son, Jimmy Jones, pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of simple assault in the District Court in Maxton on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1978. The charges stemmed from an incident involving Ricky Hunt, a 19 year old, who alleged that the two Jones men followed him down a state highway and assaulted him with a gun. According to Webster's Dictionary nolo contendere means "a plea by the defendant in a criminal case declaring that he will not make a defense, but not admitting guilt."

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.

A VISIT WITH MRS. LOUISE BROOKS



Mrs. Louise Brooks

Mrs. Louise Brooks, a resident of the Extended Care Unit of Southeastern General Hospital, is shown with some of her craft creations, including Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus (made from Reader's Digest pages) and stuffed animals (made from yarn).

She also makes poinsettias and "more corsages than I can keep made."

Mrs. Brooks, wife of Dr. Martin L. Brooks, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Carter of Pembroke says, "I use crafts to fight boredom. If I cannot sleep I get up and work on my projects at hand, and when I get tired I just lay it down."

Mrs. Brooks, who professes an abiding faith in Christ, has been battling cancer for a long time. She has been a resident of the Extended Care Unit for more than a year.

She says, "Crafts is a very good therapeutic tool—it keeps my nerves calm and gives me something to do."

She praises Mrs. Jane Maples, who heads the Activities Room at the hospital's Extended Care Unit.

"Mrs. Maples has encouraged me—

and all of us here—to develop our skills in crafts and helps us get the materials we need to work with."

Mrs. Brooks stays busy. When the weather permits, and she feels up to it, she attends First Baptist Church in Pembroke and visits her family.

Remembering Jesus' Biblical admonition to visit the sick, Mrs. Brooks had her kindest words for those who visit and minister to her. She fondly recalled the late Rev. Harvey Lowry, "I could look for him at a certain time. I could depend on him. He was a good and faithful man of God."

One of her favorite lay persons is Mrs. Janice Lowry, many times accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Benford Lowry.

And Rev. Steve Jones and Rev. Chesley Hammonds and Rev. Bob Mangum and many, many others.

"People have been wonderful to me."

She notes, "God is keeping me here for some good purpose." In the mean time, I stay busy with my crafts, my family, my friends, and my God!

Linda Locklear In Top 7 in Miss N.C.-Universe Pageant



Linda Locklear

our culture and heritage, the dark-haired beauty said, "and I like to think that I am contributing to their efforts through my work."

After the pageant was over Linda was contacted by the Triad Public Relations Company. She is scheduled to appear in New York in February for photography sessions and tests for TV commercials and magazine advertising. She has already completed 2 TV commercials for Cato Department stores through Trinton Advertising of New York and models part-time in Raleigh.

Linda graduated from Prospect High School and attended Pembroke State University double majoring in Political Science and Communicative Arts. At PSU, Linda was a member of the American Indian Student Association, Kappa Delta Sorority, Pi Kappa Little Sisters, and the captain of the 1975 cheerleading squad. She also belonged to the journalism club, Spanish club, PSU homecoming court and was a campus newspaper reporter.

She began her career in public relations and information services with Lumbee Regional Development Association (LRDA) and the "Strike At The Wind!" outdoor drama. Linda was sponsored in the 1976/77 Miss N.C. Pageant by the Lumbee Homecoming, Inc. and the Pembroke Jaycees.

During a backstage interview with reporters Linda said that she would like to see more Indians involved in professions within the social, educational, and economic career structures in the country.

Linda's business manager for the Miss Universe-N.C. Pageant was Mr. David Clegg, a law student at the University of South Carolina, and a former "Strike At The Wind!" performer. Mrs. Florence Ransom, the Miss Lumbee chaperone from Pembroke, served as pageant advisor and chaperone.

Linda is the niece of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew B. Chavis of Maston, N.C.

"The American Indians in N.C. have become more dedicated to preserving

PEOPLE AND LAND THINGS... CELES

PROSPECT CLASS OF '58 PLANS CLASS REUNION

Prospect School Class of '58 is planning its class reunion December 29th at the Town and Country restaurant, Pembroke, at 7 p.m. For more information, call Emma Locklear at 521-4464.

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

CLASS OF 1968 PLANS REUNION

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

Contact Robert Chavis at 521-3737, or James Maynor at 738-2593 for further information.

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE AT SANDY PLAINS UNITED METHODIST

Watch Night Service: The Robeson County Cooperative Ministry is sponsoring a Watch Night Service, Sunday, December 31, 1978 at Sandy Plains United Methodist Church, beginning at 8 p.m.-12 midnight.

Sandy Plains and Branch Street United Methodist Churches will join together in celebrating this significant event of the year. A very interesting program is planned for the evening.

The program will consist of special music, choirs, quartets and a Men's Chorus, one of Billy Graham's World Wide pictures, "Heart is a Rebel," a memorial service and Holy Communion. Refreshments will be provided for the Fellowship Hour. A nursery will be available for the children. Special music is under the direction of Mrs. Panthia Locklear, Johnnie Bullard and Harold D. Jacobs.

The program committee is Mrs. Mary F. Reagan, chairperson, Mrs. Peggy Thomas, Jerry Cummings and Herbie Oxendine.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public by the pastor, the Reverend Simeon F. Cummings.

CHRISTMAS PLAY

A Christmas play entitled "Birth of Our Saviour in Words and Songs," will be presented Thursday evening, Dec. 21, at Sandy Plains United Methodist Church. The Christmas play will begin at 7:30 p.m. and conclude with the exchanging of Christmas gifts by members of the Church School.

The Christmas play was written and is directed by Mrs. Delora Cummings and assisted by Mrs. Patty Brayboy, Mrs. Joyce Cummings and Mrs. Betty Roberts. The special music is directed by Johnnie Bullard, Mrs. Panthia Locklear and Harold D. Jacobs.

The congregation extends a cordial invitation to the public. The Rev. Simeon F. Cummings is the pastor.

CHRISTMAS PLAY

The Christmas play, "A Miracle" will be presented Sunday, Christmas Eve, December 24th at the Branch Street United Methodist Church. The Christmas play will begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude with the exchanging of Christmas gifts around the Christmas tree by members of the Church School.

The Christmas play is under the direction of Mrs. James Powell, assisted by Gary Writebol and Herbie Oxendine. The music is directed by Harold D. Jacobs, Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Ky.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public. The Reverend Simeon F. Cummings is the pastor.

BAND BOOSTERS RAFFLE POSTPONED

The Band Booster's Raffle will be postponed until after Christmas. The drawing is rescheduled for January 5, 1979.

SECOND ANNUAL PSU WRESTLING HIGH SCHOOL TOURNEY SET

PEMBROKE—Eight high schools are participating in P.S.U.'s own second annual high school invitational wrestling tournament and clinic today (Thursday, Dec. 21) at Jones Health and Physical Education Center.

High schools participating in the clinic and tournament include Lumberton, Reid Ross of Fayetteville, Terry Sanford of Fayetteville, Randleman, Cape Fear of Fayetteville, Summerville of Charleston, S.C., Laurinburg, and Southern Nash.

Top teams in the tournament are Cape Fear, which has finished in the top 10 in the state tournament for the past three years, as well as Lumberton and Summerville who both have strong wrestling programs.

The match will begin at 10 a.m. with the finals at 6:30 p.m. All matches will have a six-minute time limit. There will be 13 weight divisions ranging from 98 pounds to heavy-weight.

Individual trophies will be awarded for the first four places with team trophies being awarded to the championship team and runner-up. In addition, trophies will be awarded for the most outstanding wrestler, wrestler with the most pins, and wrestler with the quickest pin.

Last year's team champion was Douglas Byrd High School of Fayetteville with Pines Crest High School of Southern Pines as runner-up.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP PLANNED FOR PROSPECT SCHOOL

On Thursday, January 4, 1979, at 7:00 p.m. the Guidance Department of Prospect School will sponsor a financial aid workshop for parents of our juniors and seniors. The purpose of the workshop is to talk with parents about money for their son/daughter in college (technical school also). Each college state and how to apply for money for their son or daughter attend college at individual schools. Mrs. Jane Powell, Prospect School, will be the speaker.