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SBI PROBE ASKED OF PEMBROKE BONDING COMPANY

PEMBROKE—According to local news reports D.A. Joe Freeman Britt has called for a probe of Pembroke Bonding Company.

The activities of the company came under screening due to a news story appearing in yesterday's edition of *The Robesonian* by Harvey Burgess, a Robesonian staff writer.

According to Burgess D.A. Britt has asked the S.B.I. to ascertain whether Pembroke Bonding Company is in violation of bonding regulations; he also affirms that the bonding company has not taken out privilege licenses with the City of Lumberton, where the company is located, and with the County of Robeson.

The S.B.I. probe will also investigate the activities of Pembroke Town Manager McDuffie Cummings and Pembroke Fire Chief, Ray Hunt, the owners of the firm.

The S.B.I. will look into whether Cummings or Hunt

are in violation of state statute 15-A-54

According to the provisions in N.C. General Statute 15A-541, "no sheriff, deputy sheriff, other law enforcement officer, judicial officer, attorney, parole officer, probation officer, jailer, assistant jailer, employee of the General Court of Justice, other public employee assigned to duties relating to administration of criminal justice, or spouse of any such person may in any case become surety on a bail bond for any person other than a member of his immediate family. In addition, no person covered by this section may act as an agent for any bonding company or professional bondsman. No such person may have any interest, directly or indirectly, in the financial affairs of any firm or corporation whose principal business is acting as bondsman."

In a brief interview both Hunt and Cummings denied, to the best of their knowledge, being in violation of the statute.

Cummings noted that the offices of Pembroke Bonding Company are in fact located in the City of Lumberton, next door to the Courthouse in the McLeod Building.

Cummings also said, "If no privilege licenses were purchased it was due to mere oversight."

Records show that the firm has now purchased the necessary privilege licenses to do business in Lumberton and Robeson County.

Cummings said, "I am the Administrative Officer for the Town of Pembroke, including the police department but there is no conflict of interest."

He went on to say, "policy and directives emanate from the Town Council too. And the

council is fully aware of the details of Pembroke Bonding Company."

Hunt said, "Business is handled out of our Lumberton office. I am not allowed to sign bonds during working hours. In fact, we sign very few bonds in Pembroke--most are handled out of the magistrate's office in Lumberton."

Other principles affiliated with the company are representatives Enoch Glover and Ray Cox. Gail Ivey is secretary and keeps the office in Lumberton open during the day."

Cummings also noted that he did not take part in the day to day operations of the company. He said, "It is a simple financial investment - nothing more."

Pembroke Bonding Company is the first and only non-white owned bonding business in Robeson County, according to courthouse sources.

Pro Baseball Behind Him, Gene Locklear Now Concentrates on Being Finest Artist Possible



Gene Locklear, Lumbee Indian artist from Pembroke, puts some touches on this seasore scene. On his right hand is the World Series ring he received for playing with the New York Yankees in 1976. Locklear will have an art exhibit with some 25 pieces for sale at United Carolina Bank [formerly Waccamaw Bank and Trust Co.] in Lumberton Tuesday, March 4, from 7-10 p.m.

by Gene Warren

Professional baseball is a thing of the past for Gene Locklear, the 30-year-old Lumbee Indian artist-ball player who lives some three miles from Pembroke with his mother, Catherine.

"No, no one has called me about reporting to spring training," says Locklear, who has played with such major league clubs as the New York Yankees (he has a huge '76 World Series championship diamond ring to show for that), Cincinnati Redlegs, and San Diego Padres.

This is the second summer he will sit out baseball. He went to spring training last year with Cincinnati, but decided to hang up his spikes after they wanted to send him to a minor league team at what he termed a ridiculously low salary. He has heard from no baseball club since then.

An outfielder who won two minor league batting crowns before reaching the major leagues, Gene kept running into roadblock after roadblock to the majors. Some reports said his fielding had a lot to be desired. So he played winter ball in Venezuela to improve it. Another report was that he was difficult to get along with. Yet, when "Gene

Locklear Day" was held here in January 31, 1975, athletes like David Winfield, Gene's teammate with the Padres, flew across the country to be with him as did Anthony Davis, football star of the University of Southern California. Over 700 people attended the banquet.

Locklear feels professional baseball dealt him a bad hand. He figures with the right opportunity he could be like Winfield, who will earn some \$2 million over a 10-year period. Because of his attitude, or attempting to stand up for his rights, or something, he feels "that baseball black-balled me."

In '75 he led San Diego in hitting with a .320 average and in '77 hammered four home runs in one game with the Yankees' Syracuse Class 3-A farm club. He has been interviewed on such television programs as "60 Minutes," "Wide World of Sports," and by Joe Garagiola prior to a 1976 World Series. He has been to the mountain top. He has played baseball all over the nation, in Hawaii, and in '78 played in Japan which proved a frustrating experience.

"The Japanese were paying me \$100,000 and wanted me to be a pull hitter so I'd hit home runs. I wound up

PRISON UNIT RESPONDS... See more on Page 6 Pembroke State University by Gene Warren



Inmate Harry Locklear (center), who heads a jaycee chapter in the Robeson County Prison Unit, presents a check for \$50 which he and other chapter members raised to help in the Bell Tower Fund Drive at Pembroke State

University. Receiving it is Chancellor R. Given (left) of PSU as Walter Ozendine, director of development at PSU, looks on. Ozendine holds a framed drawing of Old Main which was given to the jaycee chapter in appreciation.

PEOPLE AND LAND THINGS... C E S

REVIVAL PLANNED AT ASHPOLE

pulling my rib cage muscles trying to do that and was out for 1 1/2 months. I wound up hitting .250 with 15 home runs. It was a different world over there--with Americans receiving some raw treatment at the plate. For Americans only, the strike zone was from the top of your head to your heels--and the plate was three feet wide," he shook his head in dismay.

Now art is his entire life--instead of his off-season hobby. He is pursuing excellence in art as diligently as he did a career in the major leagues.

He built a few years ago a studio to the top of the wooden frame house on which he was raised. One climbs outside steps to get to his perch--and inside is a prodigious collection of paintings. They reflect his amazing range of imagination. The former Pembroke Senior High graduate who never went to college has broadened his art work in amazing fashion.

He was already extremely talented as is exemplified by the fact he has art work in Old Main at Pembroke State University, the Lumbee Bank, and has sold several pieces for \$1,000 each. His most recent exhibits were in Indiana in beginning Sunday, March 2, at the 11 a.m. worship service. Services will be held Sunday evening at 7 p.m., Monday through Friday at 7:30 p.m.

To help Pembroke State University celebrate its "Open House" at the Old Main building, which was rededicated Feb. 16, Locklear loaned several paintings to the school. All received rave notices from visitors.

"I am studying with such artists as John Dugan (a graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago) and Dr. Robert Bellamy (who has studied in Paris)," said Locklear. I go up to Cincinnati to work with Dugan. I spent one or two weeks working with Bellamy who is a native of New York but lives now in Asheville." Gene met Bellamy while doing some art work on the Cherokee Indian Reservation.

Locklear says these artists are like a battery-charge to him. "I'm working on anatomy in my art work now," the Pembroke native said. "I am now trying to be a real professional. My goal is to be among the best in the painting field...and I believe I have the God-given ability. I think the Lord wanted me to get out of baseball to concentrate fully on my art work. To me, it is fate."

Here is a young man who never took a formal art lesson. He learned how to draw and paint by taking correspondence courses, and visiting art galleries and museums wherever his travels took him in baseball. "When many of the baseball guys were sleeping late in the mornings, I would be up and going to art galleries," he smiled. "I wanted to prepare myself to go into art as my full career after my baseball playing days ended."

Incidentally, Gene lacks only 50 days to draw a professional baseball pension, he says. "You need five years in the majors; I had four years and some 120 days," he noted.

His plans for the future include opening a studio in what he terms one of the vital cultural centers--like New York, Chicago, California, etc. "I want to be able to commute home, however, because you can't forget where you came from. I want the local people to see what I'm doing. But I feel places like the ones I mentioned will keep me recharged, keep me in the midst of the finest artists, will stimulate my talents to their fullest," he said with resolve.

Revival services will be held at Ashpole United Methodist Church, Rowland beginning Sunday, March 2 at the 11 a.m. worship service. Service will be held at 7 p.m. on Sunday evening, Monday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The guest speaker will be the Rev. Ray Leon Sparrow, pastor of the Pembroke First and Calvary United Methodist Churches. Rev. Sparrow is a member of the NC Conference. His former pastorate prior to coming to Pembroke was the Aberdeen United Church. He has served several appointments in the NC Conference.

In charge of the special music is Mrs. Louise Mitchell who is music director of the church music. Special music will be rendered each evening.

The pastor and congregation extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend these special services.

REVIVAL PLANNED AT SANDY PLAINS CHURCH

Revival services will be held at Sandy Plains United Methodist Church beginning Sunday, March 2, at the 11 a.m. worship service. Services will be held Sunday evening at 7 p.m., Monday through Friday at 7:30 p.m.

The guest speaker will be the Rev. Bobby P. Tyson, pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church, Maxton. He is a member of the NC Conference. In 1977 he was appointed approved Evangelist 1979, pastor of the Trinity Church in Maxton, additionally he has several appointments in the NC Conference. He received his AB degree from Pembroke State University and completed his pastoral studies at Duke Divinity School. He is married to the former Mrs. Jetta Godfrey. They have four children.

In charge of the special music will be the music director, Bruce Jacobs, of Sandy Plains church.

The pastor, Rev. Simeon F. Cummings and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend these special services.

REVIVAL PLANNED AT PHILADELPHUS CHURCH

Revival services will be held at the Philadelphus United Methodist Church beginning March 2-9. Service will be held at 7 p.m. on Sunday evening. Services throughout the week will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The speaker will be the Rev. Ted Brooks, Associate Pastor for Philadelphus-Collins Chapel United Methodist Churches. Rev. Brooks formerly served the Mount Moriah Baptist Church.

In charge of the special music will be Mrs. Annie Neal Locklear. Special music will be rendered each evening.

The pastor and congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend these special services.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Family Medicine Clinic will be closed from March 8, 1980 until March 16, 1980.

PTA TO MEET

The Pembroke Elementary PTA will meet on Thursday night, March 6, 1980 at 7:30 p.m. Please attend this important meeting. A program is planned and refreshments will be served.

He is a young man, still single, who is developing to the fullest the raw gift of art that was bestowed upon him. He played for the best baseball team in the world as a New York Yankee. He is working the rough in the

HIDEAWAY VALLEY a handbook to Lumbee History

BY LEW BARTON
Knight of Mark Twain

PREFACE

Long has there been a need for such a book as this -- a reference book in alphabetical order containing all known subjects pertaining to Lumbee Indian history. Also a book which may be read continuously from cover to cover without losing the thread of our story. But producing such a work is not easy, nor has producing this one been.

I began assembling it seriously in 1976 while working as a Third Century Artist for the North Carolina Arts Council of Raleigh. Having expended my residency with that organization, I was afforded the opportunity to continue working in that vein by such sponsors as the Robeson County Board of Commissioners, the Robeson County Public Library, the Robeson County Department of Human Resources and the Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. The work is now near enough to completion to begin publication immediately.

That is why the first installment of the work is being published today in the columns of *The Carolina Indian Voice*. Anyone wishing to acquire a complete book before publication in book form is invited to paste clippings therefrom in a loose-leaf notebook. Publication in book form, hopefully, will be announced later.

ABORIGINAL POPULATION. The aboriginal population of a given geographic area refers to those people who were already there at the time that particular regions was invaded or colonized. Thus the Lumbee Indians of North Carolina and

elsewhere may be properly referred to as a part of America's aboriginal population, any possible biological considerations notwithstanding. Travel with me, then, down the fascinating trail to Lumbee Indian identification.

I call this book, *Hideaway Valley, A Handbook To Lumbee History*, because for many years the Lumbee River Valley was just that -- a refuge from the onslaught of advancing Western civilization. Completely surrounded by almost impenetrable swamplands, here we lived, moved and had our being from approximately 1650 to the present. As the hills of western North Carolina provided a refuge for fugitive Cherokees of western North Carolina, so our pocosin valley provided a refuge for us until and even after the coming of the White Man.

ABORIGINES COPPER, ABORIGINES BRIGHT. What most Americans do not realize about their country and its aborigines, or native population, is that there have always been two distinctively different physical types of the American aborigine ever since the dawn of American history (as we have come to know it). Columbus himself reporting the sighting of such a typical Native American. 32 years later, in 1524, John de Verrazano, sailing a French expedition, encountered light-skinned natives north of the Cape Fear Rivers mouth in North Carolina. In 1584, in the vicinity of Roanoke Island, then in Virginia but now in North Carolina, Amadas and Barlowe, sailing for Sir Walter Raleigh, encountered the Hatteras (also called Croatan) Indians, and later reported hazel eyes and Auburn hair among them. From Fort Royal, South Carolina, in 1660, Rev.

Morgan Jones reached the area now Robeson County, North Carolina, or counties adjacent, and found the Lumbee Indians already speaking English. There is extant no record of any Englishmen other than Sir Walter Raleigh's colonists of the 1580's who could have taught the Lumbee Indians to speak English at so early a date. Remnants of the Algonquian language were still doubtless in use among them then, as they still are today. SEE ALGONQUIAN INDIAN LANGUAGE.

The oft-repeated mis-statement that there are no Indian words remaining among the Lumbee Indians has puzzled scholars for at least a century. The mere fact that all Native Americans do not fit the popular stereotype of the American Indian in no way alters the fact that the atypical type forms as much a part of our Native American population as the other type. Any differences are biological, not geographical.

There are many other infallible historical proofs to show that prehistorical inhabitants of the New World included two distinctively-different physical types, rather than one: although, of course, the bronze-complexion-straight-black-hair type was certainly in the majority. What matters is if part of America's original inhabitants came originally from Asia while others came from somewhere else?

BOOK TO BE CONTINUED.