



# CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

"Building Communicative Bridges  
In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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## BEER AND WINE SUNDAY SALES NOT ALLOWED IN PEMBROKE

### Council says "no" Quickly

Pembroke-An over flow crowd, many of them from the newly annexed West End, found a willing ear with the Pembroke Town Council Monday night when the question of whether or not the sale of beer or wine would be allowed in Pembroke's package and convenience stores on Sundays.

Acting quickly following a public hearing in which the majority of those present spoke sharply against the issue, the town council voted unanimously to deny the request to sell beer and wine on Sundays in Pembroke.

Only Allen Dial, a convenience store owner, and Bruce Barton, the editor of The Carolina Indian Voice, spoke in favor of the measure.

Dial noted, "The sale of beer and wine is already allowed on Sundays in Pembroke; the restaurant owners can sell it Sundays...and as far as being controlled, it cannot. To do that it would have to be voted out..."

Presently only those grade A restaurants which seat 36 people or more are

allowed to sell beer; however, the town allows only off premise drinking on Sunday.

Barton also spoke concerning the measure noting publicly that "I probably ought not to say anything... I more than likely will be misunderstood." But Barton went on to say that he was an admitted alcoholic and that the burden of whether to drink or not to drink really was an individual decision each person had to answer for himself and to God.

Barton said, "I hate to judge what others can or can't do...especially if it's within the law. It is not the merchant who sells the beer...but the person who drinks it that has to deal with the morality of it."

Barton also noted that he had not had a drink of alcohol for more than ten years and also publicly professed to be a "follower of Christ."

Former Maynor Earlie Maynor, a member of the congregation, presented a petition from Mt. Olive Pentecostal Holiness Church against the measure. Rev. Lawrence Hardy, pastor of Berea Baptist Church, also spoke sharply against the measure.

Rev. Hardy said, "I guess you could say I am an apostle to children...and I believe the sale of beer and wine on Sundays would endanger our precious children..."

### IN OTHER MATTERS...

The council also considered an amendment to allow multiple family dwellings within the corporate limits of town "at the request of a citizen who is

considering renovating a building which would have more than one unit," according to Mayor Pete Jacobs.

After considerable debate the matter was referred to the planning board for study. But not before a number of citizens in attendance aired rumors they had heard of a construction company that was planning to build some apartments in the West End of Pembroke, according to Bill Oxendine, Henry Smith and a number of others who agreed out loud.

According to Smith he heard about a possible option which had been taken on a ten acre tract of land by a Weaver Construction Company from Greensboro who have, according to Smith, a thousand or so units of section 8 subsidized housing in other parts of the country.

According to contentions aired by the citizenry Monday night the housing being considered is apartments for middle income residents.

Councilman Larry T. Brooks expressed surprise at Smith's contention that "an official of Pembroke is the one who told us about it..." Brooks said, "Well, you've said it out loud...who is this official?"

Smith and others affirmed that "it was the town manager (McDuffie Cummings). Cummings seemed surprised too and said, "We did discuss it...but it's just street talk...noone has officially approached this board about asking for any zoning changes."

An onlooker agreed with Cummings that it was common gossip saying, "that kind of talk has been going on for years..." Cummings also noted, "but I have not discussed this matter with my board at all."

The matter had inadvertently been overlooked when the option to allow multi housing units was left out of zoning ordinances which were adopted a few years ago.

If allowed, the amendment would allow multi family dwellings in R-A and R-2 zones.

And...

The council also let bids for the work to be done in rebuilding and shoring up the canal in the general vicinity of Strickland Heights where the town is outsy carrying out its community development grant project. The contract was awarded to the Frank Horne Company for \$80,790.88.

### Rescue Squad request for help "taken under advisement"

The town fathers also seemed favorably impressed by a request from Pembroke Rescue Squad member Charlie Revels for more help for the financially strapped rescue squad, a completely volunteer organization.

Revels noted that the inflationary economy was making it difficult for the rescue squad to survive on its yearly allotment of \$1,000 each from the town of Pembroke and Robeson County.

The rescue squad is asking for an increase from the town of \$3,000 a year plus payment of its insurance and gas until their building is paid for.

The payment on the squad building runs \$4,000 a year with 6 years left to pay on it. The organization raises monies through fund raising activities like plate sales and etc. to make up its deficit since Revels estimated that the squad's budget was at least \$9,000 a year.

The council seemed very sympathetic and promised "to look hard" to see if any monies could be found. The council and Mayor Jacobs unanimously praised the rescue squad for its spirit of volunteerism and for the positive contribution it makes to the greater Pembroke community.

Belton McMillian is chief of the 25 man

## PEMBROKE OFFICIALS CALL FOR ANOTHER VOTE ON WATER, SEWER BOND REFERENDUM

Pembroke-Following an executive session Monday night, Pembroke officials called for another vote on the controversial water and sewer bond referendum which was narrowly defeated January 26, 1981.

Town Manager McDuffie Cummings said, "We just don't have any choice... we have to try again. Maybe this time we will do a better job informing our citizens of our dire needs." According to Cummings, the town's present sewer system does not meet environmental protection agency standards.

Voters defeated the measure by slightly more than 20 votes in a referendum which attracted over a third of the town's registered voters on January 26.

The failure of the referendum cost the town some \$1 million in state and federal aid for improvements to the

water and sewer systems.

The town is asking for \$725,000 in the water and sewer referendum.

Mayor Pete Jacobs expressed surprise when the referendum was narrowly defeated. 170 votes against and 144 were in favor of the \$550,000 sewer bond; 166 votes against and 142 votes were in favor of the \$175,000 water bond measure.

In calling for a new referendum the legal process must begin over again; the first step is to petition the local government commission in Raleigh for its approval.

The state approval is expected without a hitch; following this legal move a date will be set for a referendum in which the citizens will decide the issue again.

## Mercer, Brooks Appeal Guilty Verdicts

by Bruce Barton

Lumberton-In a celebrated court case which attracted a lot of attention, Judge Donald Smith sentenced Johnny Mercer and Craig Brooks Tuesday after a spirited trial which lasted four days.

The jury was made up of three Blacks and nine whites. No Indians were allowed to serve; a mere six were examined in the jury pool from which the jury was selected.

Mercer and Brooks were accused of assaulting Ty Moore on the PSU campus on Oct. 1, 1980.

Both Mercer and Brooks pled not guilty in the case; both presented witnesses who vouched for their whereabouts on the day in question. Mercer's girl friend testified that she was with Mercer in his mother's home on the morning in question; Brooks mother testified that she left her son in bed at home while keeping an appointment with her doctor.

But the jury chose not to believe that testimony; finding instead, that the two youthful defendants were guilty of misdemeanor assault with a deadly weapon.

Attorneys Arnold Locklear and Arie Jacobs gave notice of appeal immediately following the sentencing by Judge Smith. Mercer, 19, and Brooks, 18, were released on \$3,000 bond. The case is being appealed to the N.C. Court of Appeals.

Smith sentenced the two youths to two year terms, ordering that Mercer serve four months and Brooks six months of actual jail time. After the actual time served Smith decreed that the terms be suspended for 4 1/2 years probation.

Terms of the probation also called for Mercer and Brooks to each pay \$500 fines and court related costs and pay \$550 restitution to Moore. Smith further ordered that both men should stay away from Moore and his family and stay off the PSU campus; he also ordered that completely volunteer organization.

### Town engineer and town planner affirm "CD Project on schedule..."

Town engineer, Don Jacobs, and planner, Mike Avery, appeared before the council and gave an update on the community development project presently underway in the general vicinity of Strickland Heights.

Both noted "the community development project is on schedule and progressing nicely." McDuffie Cummings, town manager, also read a letter to the mayor and council designating Pembroke as a Community Employment Center.

they stay away from contact with Alicia Baker, a prosecuting witness in the case who later wavered in her identification of the two men.

Mercer was also ordered to give up his driving license for 10 months, and they were instructed not to communicate with one another during the probation period.

The youths were originally charged with a 20 year felony-felonious assault, inflicting serious injury, with the intent to kill.

Said one of the observers at the trial, "The lack of their peers on the jury (both Mercer and Brooks are Indians) shows the need for jury reform in Robeson County- especially the way jurors are summoned and selected to serve."

## County Briefs

### BUDGET CUTS TO INCLUDE SCHOOLS TOO...

Lumberton-The Robeson County Board of Commissioners decided Monday at their monthly meeting to hold to their hard line of demanding that all county agencies cut their spending by five percent. The commissioners asked all departments and agencies that receive county funds to make the spending cuts on December 15.

The commissioners responded to a request from Fumell Sweet, Superintendent of the Robeson County Schools, to exempt the county schools from the ruling.

Jack Morgan, the new commissioner from the Red Springs District, who is also an educator, asked to board to reconsider but he did not receive a second to his request. Herman Dial, the chairman, reminded Morgan that "we took a solid vote on December 15 to cut all departments."

The board did not respond to further requests for exemptions from the Red Springs and Fairmont School Districts.

### RE-DISTRICTING PLANNED IN THE NEAR FUTURE

The commissioners also approved a resolution of intent in which the commissioners affirm intentions to "realign" the seven commissioner districts which have ballooned out of proportion because of the 1980 census

## PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

### Brrrrrrrr! Phil Sees His Shadow



PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. (UPI) — Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow Feb. 2, and legend says that means we're in for six more weeks of winter. But, he's hedging a bit. The groundhog climbed out of his hole at Gobblers Knob in Punxsutawney at 7:28 a.m., an appearance delayed somewhat by rain and snow. Phil, wearing a yellow ribbon in honor of the freed American hostages, hedged his forecast a bit, predicting

the rest of winter would be mild. "That was because Phil couldn't quite make up his mind," Punxsutawney Groundhog Club president Charles Erhard said.

### Cardinal Health Agency recently honored

The Cardinal Health Agency recently received an award of merit from the North Carolina Hospital Association and the American Hospital Association for distributing a public service announcement entitled "To Your Health." Gary Jennings, Executive Director of Cardinal, accepted the award from Don Hiscott, President of Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton and President of the North Carolina Hospital Association.

Cardinal has made these "To Your Health" tapes available to radio stations throughout the fifteen county service area since January 1978 on a monthly basis. The tapes contain 10 timely spot announcements on health related topics.

Cardinal is a non profit health planning and review agency for fifteen counties in southeastern North Carolina. Individuals or groups interested in information about area health issues should write the Cardinal Health Agency at 401 East 11th Street, Lumberton, NC or call 919-738-9316.

### Mormon Missionaries in the Area

Have you ever wondered who the Mormons are? there are over 4.6 million members living in the world today. The name of the church is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, in which there are 30,000 missionaries.

Two of the Latter-Day Saint missionaries are Elder David J. Brown from Murray, Utah and Elder Daniel J. Rodriguez from Whittier, California. They are living in Pembroke at the time, but move around North Carolina every 4-6 months. This is all part of their two year missions which they serve the Church without salary or pay of any kind. "That's why you see us riding bikes," said Elder Brown.

"The Pembroke area is a special place because of its Indian ancestry," says Rodriguez. The Indians play a major role in the Mormon religion because they believe Jesus Christ visited the forefathers long ago, according to the two missionaries. "We as missionaries, they said, "share special programs to groups and organizations at no cost."

They encourage interested persons to call 521-9862 before 9:30 a.m. or after 9:30 p.m.

## Charge Against Rose Aide Dropped

A Washington, D.C., judge has dismissed charges of assault with intent to kill filed in December against Andrea L. Scott, a Lumberton native and an aide to U.S. Rep. Charles G. Rose III, D-N.C.

Mrs. Scott, 27, was charged Dec. 10 following the shooting of her husband, Gerald Scott, in the couple's downtown Washington home.

Scott was admitted in critical condition to a Washington hospital, but was released several days later.

Mrs. Scott was charged with assault with intent to kill while armed, assault with intent to kill, and possession of a prohibited weapon.

All three charges were dismissed Jan. 7 by Superior Court Judge Nicholas Nunzio, according to a court clerk.

A spokesman for Rose's office said that Mrs. Scott and her husband "have reconciled." He said that Mrs. Scott is currently on a leave of absence from her job to have a baby.

Mrs. Scott is the daughter of the Rev. E. J. Turner, a Lumberton city councilman and a member of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.

According to Washington police, Mrs. Scott shot her husband with a .22-caliber revolver. Rose, who lives in Fayetteville, is the state's 7th District representative.

## Fund Raising Effort

Robeson Historical Drama Association's producer of "Strike at the Wind!" is sponsoring a fund raising effort. The members of the Board of Directors and Carnell Locklear, General Manager of the local outdoor drama, are selling champagne for \$500 cash. Tickets are available for \$25 each.

Miss Lumberton Brigette Brayboy, will draw the winning ticket on February 1981 at the offices of the Robeson Indian Volo. The drawing will be held at 11 o'clock and will be three winners. The first place winner will receive \$500. The second place winner will receive \$250 and the third place winner will receive \$100.

## Henry Berry Band Appearing at PSU

The Henry Berry Band will appear at the Pembroke State University Student Center on Thursday, Feb. 5 between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 a.m. The admission will be \$1.00 with PSU I.D. and \$2.00 for guests. The fund raising event is being sponsored by the American Indian Student Association.

## EAGLE DISTRIBUTING CO. SUPPORTS 'STRIKE AT THE WIND!'



Shown left to right are Carnell Locklear, general manager of Strike at the Wind!; Robert Caton of Eagle Distributing Company; Kenneth Maynor, Chairman of the Board of Robeson Historical Association.

ton, producers of Strike at the Wind; and Dosay Chavis, member of the Board of Directors of Robeson Historical Association. [A Connie Brayboy photo]

Eagle Distributing Company of Lumberton made a contribution to "Strike at the Wind!" on Tuesday. The presentation was made to Carnell Locklear, General Manager of the drama, by Robert Caton of Eagle Distributing Company.

In making the presentation, Mr. Caton said, "I believe a company such as ours should be a part of the community. Contributions to such a historical and cultural drama is our way of becoming more a part of the community."

Accepting the check for \$300, Locklear said, "We appreciate your support so much. It is

people like you who will make our drama a success. Strike at the Wind belongs to all of us."

Strike at the Wind is an outdoor drama, written by Randolph UMBERGER. The drama centers around the era of Henry Berry Lowrie, hero of the Robeson County Indians.

Caton also announced at this time that the well-known Budweiser Clydesdale Horses will be appearing in Robeson County. They will be on the campus of Pembroke State University on Sunday, Feb. 21 and at Biggs Park Shopping Center in Lumberton on Saturday, Feb. 22.