

EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

"We cannot know where we are going if we do not know where we have been."



Europeans.

The Library seemingly has learned a good lesson from the Indians. The directors decided to give the fire station back... But the Lumberton City Council refuses to take back the fire station... "for the time being." Tom Long, the chairman, appeared before them Monday night and gave them their building back. The Library, in an article in their newsletter, *The Info-Maniac*, explained their position on the fire station.

Who owns the fire station any way?

"Good question! We're not sure we know right now! Actually, the procedure is under way to return the old fire station building to the City of Lumberton. There just doesn't seem to be any way to get enough money to fix the place up so the library can use it. And besides, it will cost money to run the place once it is fixed! And since we have had some difficulties in the past couple of years getting money to run the building we already have, the Board of Trustees decided to postpone plans for expansion.

"Do we need to expand? You bet we do! Have you been in the library lately when 65 junior high students are simultaneously working on term papers? Or in the work room when we've just had 20 boxes of books donated? Or looked at the amount of stuff we have stored in the fire station right now? (And that includes a lot of stuff that we need to keep, but don't use frequently.)

"Those of you who haven't been in the old fire station for years and years would have trouble recognizing it now. It has deteriorated badly for a long time. When the library received the deed, there was no electricity, plumbing or heat working, and the roof leaks. And cosmetically, it is a disaster area. It would require a large investment to make the building usable.

"So, in reply to your questions, YES, we do need the space; and NO, we don't have enough money to fix it up right now, even though we need it!"

The council tabled the matter Monday night. In other words, for the time being, they have decided not to let the Library be an Indian giver. It's also like another game we used to play as children. It was called "Hay stack, Haystack...No Trading Back."

I like the idea of being a good Indian giver. If you give someone something and the receiver of the gift finds out later on that the gift is not a gift at all but a burden then it is all right to give it back.

A Moot Court will be held Wednesday, April 15, 1981, at 7 p.m., at the Auditorium (225) North Building at Pembroke State University with the Honorable Judge Herbert

Unon Elementary Spring Fund Drive set

Friday, April 10, the Spring Fund Drive will be held at Unon Elementary School. Chicken and Bar-beque plates will be served during the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. All parents, patrons, and interested persons are cordially invited to come and eat with them.

W.M.U. Burnt Swamp Association Annual Meeting

Burnt Swamp Association W.M.U. Annual Meeting will be held at Galilee Baptist Church April 11, 1981, at 10 a.m.

Guest speaker will be Rev. Wendell C. Parker, the Southern Baptist Missionary to Guatemala. The public is invited to attend. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

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Richardson presiding.

District Court Judge Herbert L. Richardson believes that as a judge he is the "public's servant" and in accordance with that belief he does a great deal of community work. He addresses elementary and high school classes on such topics as explaining law to kids and kids and the law. Among other activities, he recently participated in a fund raising basketball game for the Robeson County Youth Services Bureau, but his next activity will take place at Pembroke State University.

On April 15, he will preside over a Moot Court in room 225 of the North Classroom Building at Pembroke, at 7 p.m. The remainder of the cast is composed of students and the jury will be selected from the audience.

Judge Richardson, 28, is a Nash County native. He grew up on a tobacco farm, but he always wanted to be a judge. His role model was his uncle, the first minority judge in Rocky Mount.

He attended North Carolina Central University from 1970-1976, and practiced law in Durham until 1978, when he became an assistant district attorney in Lumberton. He was appointed to the bench in September 1979.

He likes to keep his court "short and sweet, but enjoyable." He feels that people should understand what is happening in the courts.

Judge Richardson will participate in a special directed research class.

Pharmacist
Howard Brooks
Pembroke Drug Center
Utson and W. 3rd, Pembroke, NC

Alcoholic teen generation

Experts agree that the main cause of teenage alcohol abuse is a teen's overwhelming need to be loved and accepted. Teens cannot escape this drive. As a result nearly 19 million kids under 14 drink enough to be considered "moderate" drinkers, while nearly 3 million high schoolers (9 percent) are known to drink heavily every day.

If you have youngsters beginning to be affected by peer pressures and a need to be accepted, better evaluate your own attitudes toward alcoholic beverages. Such values greatly influence teens about drinking.

That 801-4909
Your Pharmacy

Pembroke Eye Clinic
College Plaza (across from P.S.U.)
Tuesdays and Fridays only (8:30 - 5:30)
Dr. John Adams, Optometrist
Mrs. Helen Lowry, Receptionist
Tel. 521-9744 Office

Dr. Harold Herring
Fairmont Optometric Clinic
Tel. 628-8316
for Emergency and Other Days
or
Tel. 521-9931 - Mrs. Helen Lowry

an Editorial Expression of the CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

PASSAGE OF WATER AND SEWER BOND REFERENDUM IN PEMBROKE IS A REASONABLE PROPOSITION

At it's April 6 meeting the Pembroke Town Council adopted and presented a cogent and well articulated position paper on the upcoming April 27 Water and Sewer Bond Referendum.

As a public service, this newspaper is publishing that statement in its entirety. (See front page).

The town fathers have decided, and rightfully so, that the water and sewer rates need not be increased in order to retire the bonds if the referendum is successful. Instead, the burden--or a more equitable share--will be borne on the shoulders of those who can and should, in all fairness, help pay for it--the Pembroke Housing Authority, Pembroke State University and other users outside the city limits who do not pay taxes but use a disproportionate amount of water and over load the sewage system.

Many of the taxpaying citizens of Pembroke have complained -- and rightfully so -- of the inequities of a system that rewarded large volume users like Pembroke State University whose water and sewer rates decreased proportionately as the amount of water they used increased.

Pembroke officials solved the problem in a simple but brilliant fashion: they decided to treat all water users the same by charging every user an equitable share of the water and sewer bill. Hooray! The favored user status of Pembroke State University and others has been stopped.

Pembroke has always been a bit of the liberal duck in an otherwise sea of Robeson County conservatism. Many progressive movements have been spawned in Pembroke, including the wildly successful movement to 'Save Old Main' and 'Break Double Voting,' and others.

But Pembroke is mostly proud of its history of surviving the bad racial elements of the past. Many people--except those Pembroke citizens who lived through it--are surprised to find that the governor appointed the town officials (mostly all white) until the late 40s. The town, although predominately Indian, was run by white merchantile interests until they took their future into their own hands by agitating successfully for the right to vote.

And the prejudice continues. Is it any surprise that the District comprised of Pembroke, Maxton and Prospect is named "Maxton"? Or that the road leading west out of Lumberton is named the "Maxton Highway" instead of the Pembroke Highway? Or that Pembroke was the last town of any reasonable size to have its own district court? Further, is it any surprise that more than 90% of Pembroke State University's faculty and administrators live in Lumberton and elsewhere? And we could continue to list similar interesting facts of life but...

Still, the town has continued to grow and prosper since the 1940s when Rev. C.E. Locklear and other stalwarts wrested leadership of the town from others.

In order to continue the recent progress and growth, the town's water and sewer facilities must be expanded. We editorially exhort our Pembroke readers to support this measure on April 27 when Pembroke receives a second chance for survival after a narrow defeat of the same measure January 26.

Some opponents of the measure have used their displeasure as a vehicle to express their disapproval of public housing within the town.

To disparage those who live in public housing does a disservice to those who might have legitimate questions about the upcoming measure. The questions need to be answered; not side tracked with charts of 'No more public housing in Pembroke.'

Economics, more than anything else, dictates "No more public housing in Pembroke." But there is nothing wrong, as we see it, in having decent and warm housing for citizens who need it. But we applaud the town fathers for treating the Pembroke Housing Authority --and PSU--like all other residential users by charging them the same rate.

Passage of the upcoming Water and Sewage Bond Referendum in Pembroke is a reasonable proposition. A vote for the measure on April 27 will be a vote for a better Pembroke.

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PEMBROKE DRUG CENTER, INC.
Thursday, March 5, '81
11 a.m. til 5:30 p.m.

EYE OPENERS

Question: Is a cataract a growth in the eye?
Answer: No. Behind the pupil of our eye is a clear lens. When that lens becomes cloudy, we call it a cataract.

Cataracts are usually caused by age, but occur at different ages. Also, some are present at birth, inherited or caused by injury, disease or exposure to toxic materials or radiation.

A cataract usually starts small. Your doctor of optometry can spot it during a thorough vision examination and monitor it. If it progresses changes in your glasses may be necessary.

Undetected cataracts can blur your vision; or, oddly, suddenly improve your vision for reading.

If a cataract interferes with your daily living, it can be removed surgically. Lens implants are frequently used in recent years; but glasses or contacts will be prescribed to restore your vision if lens implants are not advisable.

Eye Openers were prepared by The American Optometric Association. Dr. John Adams and Dr. Harold Herring of Pembroke Optometric Clinic have edited and submitted these columns as a service to the citizens of the Pembroke area. The Carolina Indian Voice is pleased to print this column as a public service.

Illiteracy

To Concerned Members of Robeson County:
In Robeson County there are approximately 39,710 persons above age 25 who are unable to read and write. We, at Robeson County Church and Community Center in the Literacy Department, are trying to lessen this enormous figure with cooperation from people like you, agencies, and components who serve people daily.

Let's paint a brighter world for those whom share life along with us. Let us wipe out illiteracy.

Thank you, Judith Taylor Literacy Department

We at this time, ask you to refer to us all persons whom you are in contact with who may not be able to read and write. We would appreciate your kind services to help us

Miriam Oxendine Benefit set for April 23

by Debra Maynor (521-4214, Ext. 384)

Each week we have tried to enlighten everyone to the duties, responsibilities, capabilities, talents, and whereabouts of Miriam Oxendine. This week we are reminiscing back to her childhood. In order to do that we had to ask someone who would really know--and who would know better than her mother, Mrs. Deborah Oxendine Sampson? I asked Mrs. Sampson exactly what was Miriam's interests in her childhood. Mrs. Sampson replied, "Miriam's interest in music started at the early age of six. She would take my old hat boxes and a knife and drum away. She also loved to bang on the piano." When Mrs. Pearson, a friend of the family, would be around and Miriam finished her grand finale, she would innocently ask, "How do you like my song?" And of course, Mrs. Pearson told her how great she was.

she would rather be doing something pertaining to music, unlike her brothers and sisters." Last, but not least, Mrs. Sampson said that, "Miriam's father (Dr. Herbert Oxendine) purchased a set of drums for her when she was in the 9th grade." Mrs. Sampson said that, "That set of drums was not an expensive set -- but was more than just a toy. Miriam has kept those drums all these years and they are still in my attic."

We, the Community Supporters Organization, feel that with a childhood interest of this sort and the abilities developed through training and natural feel -- that we really have a winner here. Let's see a natural talent through. Give your support on April 23rd at Pembroke Senior High School!

On Thursday, April 23, at 7 p.m., she will perform, along with other artists in an evening of entertainment.

Tickets are \$3 for adults, \$1.00 for students. Tickets, can be obtained from LRDA, the Carolina Indian Voice, Debra Maynor in the Title III office in PSU's Old Main or from a number of other supporters.

Raffle winners announced by Mt. Airy Jaycees



The Mt. Airy Jaycees held their annual spring raffle Wed. night, April 1st. Pictured here are the winners: First place-Terra Tyner. Second place-Timmie Sampson. Third place-Mrs. Mattie N. Oxendine.

Prizes raffled were a 30 cc motor cycle, a hot wheel cycle and a 11 piece set of combination wrenches. The Jaycees would like to thank everyone who bought a ticket.

"Often, the surest way to convey misinformation is to tell the strict truth." Mark Twain