



"Building Communicative Bridges
In A Tri-Racial Setting"

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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HENRY BERRY LOWRY WOULD BE PROUD OF 'STRIKE AT THE WIND!'



Melton Lowry

During the 1800's, the Lumbee Indians of Robeson County were very proud of their outlaw-hero, Henry Berry Lowrie. Their pride centered around Lowrie's own pride in his heritage.

If he could return today, Lowrie would be very proud of the much acclaimed outdoor drama, "Strike At The Wind!"

The production is now in its sixth season at the Lakeside Amphitheatre at the Riverside County Club near Pembroke, North Carolina. Most people view the drama as strictly entertainment, but to those deeply involved, the drama is not just acting; it is business involving advertising, fund raising, theatre tech-

nology and more.

This summer will mark the fourth season in which Melton Lowery of Pembroke has played the leading role of the famous Indian hero, Henry Berry Lowrie, whose grandfather was Melton's great-great-grandfather.

The 30-year-old Lumbee Indian, a professional Chimney Sweep, attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro as a pre-engineering student on scholarship. Each Thursday through Saturday however, he brings to life the saga of Lumbee folk hero, Henry Berry Lowrie. Called outlaw by some and hero by others, the Lumbee Robin Hood figure roamed this large rural county in Southeastern North Carolina from 1864-1874. Seeking revenge for the murders of his father and brother by the Confederacy, Lowrie and his tri-racial band held Robeson County in a grip of terror. Henry Berry Lowrie mysteriously disappeared in 1872, with over \$60,000 worth of rewards unclaimed. His actions however, had a profound effect on state politicians, bringing the vote to all citizens of North Carolina. His story and the story of the Lumbee Indians are told near Pembroke in Randolph Umberger's outdoor drama, "Strike At The Wind!"

Chosen from auditions of local and state talent, Melton even physically resembles his famed ancestor right down to the heavy dark beard. The main difference is that the modern day outlaw does not carry the 100 pounds of weaponry that his predecessor reputedly carried over a century ago.

"Strike At The Wind!" plays Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, July 4 through August 29. Pre-show is at 8 p.m. and showtime is at 8:30 p.m. D.S.T.

MISS LUMBEE GETTING READY FOR 1981 MISS N.C. PAGEANT



Miss Lumbee
Brigitte Brayboy

Miss Lumbee, Brigitte Brayboy, and her chaperone, Florence Ransom, are currently busy making preparations to attend the 1981 Miss North Carolina Pageant to be held June 24-28, 1981 at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh, N.C.

During the past year Miss Lumbee has participated in numerous events. She has traveled the state attending pageants, parades and ribbon cuttings. Brigitte has also performed at various pageants, as well as local functions and rest homes.

Now that the big event is almost here, Brigitte and Mrs. Ransom are working on Miss North Carolina wardrobe, make-up, interview and walk.

The Miss Lumbee Send-Off will be Sunday, June 21, 1981 at 3:30 p.m. in the town park. Sponsors for the Send-Off include the Town of Pembroke, Pem-

broke Jaycees, Pembroke Jayettes, Pembroke Housing Authority, Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Club, Pembroke VFW Post, Pembroke Kiwanis Club, Pembroke Lion's Club, "Strike At The Wind!", Lumbee Homecoming, and other local and civic organizations.

In Raleigh, Miss Lumbee will be staying at Peace College where all 49 Miss N.C. contestants will be housed. Brigitte will compete in the evening gown competition on Wednesday evening, in the swimsuit on Thursday evening, and in talent competition on Friday night at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets for the 1981 Miss North Carolina Pageant may be purchased by writing to the 1981 Miss N.C. Pageant, P.O. Box 17205, Raleigh, N.C.

A limited number of tickets are available at Lumbee Regional Development Association in Pembroke.

Follow the signs to the Lakeside Amphitheatre at the Riverside County Club, 3 miles west of Pembroke, 1/4 mile north of U.S. Highway 74 on state road 1354. Adult tickets are \$4.00, children

under 12 are \$2.00, and Senior citizens are \$3.50. For more information, write or call "SATW!". Box 1059, Pembroke, N.C.; (919) 521-3112.

Little Miss Lumbee Pageant to open Lumbee Homecoming 1981

The contestants and committee of the Little Miss Lumbee Pageant cordially invite you to attend the most heartwarming and fun-filled event of Lumbee Homecoming.

The theme of the pageant this year is "Little Lumbee Beauties." There are 27 contestants vying for the title of Little Miss Lumbee 1981.

The pageant will be held Wednesday,

July 1, at Pembroke State University's Performing Arts Center beginning at 7 p.m. Admission will be \$3.00.

The contestants will perform their array of talents and modeling casual dresses. All areas of Robeson County and parts of Cumberland County are represented this year. The contestants range in age from age 4 to 6 years.

See Contestants Page 9

Retires After 35 Years



Ms. Fannie Belle Locklear Ms. "Fannie Belle," as she is so affectionately referred to, was honored on June 11, 1981 with a special program at Green Grove Elementary School. She has taught at Green Grove for 30 years (1951-1981) and an additional five years at Pembroke Graded School (1941-1946).

A host of associates, friends, family, and former students, attended the auspicious occasion with Howard Davis, Principal of Green Grove, acting as Master of Ceremonies. Life testimonials were given by: Jason Lowry, Former Principal; Robert Hunt, Former Principal; Albert Hammonds, Former Associate; Earl Hughes Oxendine, and James E. Jones, Former Student. Mr. Oxendine was a student of Ms.

Fannie Bell's first class at Pembroke Graded Schools. He fondly remembers her as his very best and most unique teacher because she could fly an airplane. He said he learned to love reading because he loved to please Ms. "Fannie Belle." Mr. Purnell Swett, Superintendent of the Board of Education, and also a former student of Ms. Fannie Belle was the keynote speaker. He expressed gratitude for her sincere dedication to the profession of teaching as well as her spontaneous love for children.

Numerous gifts of love and remembrance were presented to the honoree on behalf of the school, parents, family, and friends. In addition, a beautiful plaque from Green Grove was presented by Mr. David, and also one by Mr. Swett, on behalf of the Board of Education.

A career of education and love for children has enriched the life of Ms. Fannie Belle. Her desire to work is not yet extinguished, for she intends to volunteer her services to Green Grove School. She will continue to be active with her church (Reedy Branch Baptist), travel, and enjoy her grandchildren. She has no desire whatever to resume her airplane escapades as some have suggested.

Ms. Fannie Belle is the mother of three children: M/Sgt. Carson P. Locklear, Jr., U.S.A.F. of Korea; Lynneetah Locklear Jacobs, of Lumberton; Gary Carlson Locklear, of Chicago, Illinois. She is also the grandmother of seven grandchildren.

New Prospect Pastor Honored



Rev. Willie Scott, Jr. was honored at an Appreciation Day Dinner at New Prospect Methodist Church in Pembroke on Sunday, June 14, 1981. Rev. Scott was presented a plaque and a gift of money from his congregation. Several guests and relatives visited for the occasion. Rev.

Scott is married to the former Ethylene Locklear. They have one son, Chris; and one daughter, Donna of Raleigh; and one grandson, Rev. Scott has served New Prospect for 6 years. Palmer R. Bryant (right), Sunday School Superintendent, presented the gift.

PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

PEMBROKE OFFICIALS ATTEND ATLANTA SEMINAR

Pembroke officials returned home after attending a seminar in Atlanta, Georgia Wednesday through Sunday. Attending the HUD sponsored Community Development Seminar were Mayor Pete Jacobs, Town Manager McDuffie Cummings and Councilman Larry T. Brooks.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PURCHASE FORMER INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER BUILDING ON I-95

The county commissioners finally purchased the vacant International Harvester Building on I-95 for \$230,000, subject to approval by the owners. The motion was made by Herman Dial, chairman of the commission. The motion was seconded by Carl Britt. The possible purchase of the building had been considered a number of times only to be withdrawn at the last minute.

Commissioners H.T. Taylor and Bill Herndon vigorously dissented, claiming purchase of the building would facilitate an increase in taxes.

The building, located on a 21 acre tract of land is proposed for use by the water department, the county school bus garage, maintenance and recreation departments.

Dial scoffed at fears of added renovation costs saying, "This building was constructed to house heavy equipment...I wouldn't think it needs any renovation."

LIBRARY STILL IN THE NEWS...

The Lumberton City Council replaced one of the two members of the Robeson County Board of Trustees whose terms came up for appointment at Monday's meeting of the council.

Mrs. O.L. Barnes, Jr. was replaced by Mitchell Carter on a motion by Glenn Maynor, the councilman from the predominantly Indian 7th Precinct.

The other appointment was left to be decided until the next meeting. Seemingly the council demurred because Roger Sessoms, the other member, serves as budget officer for the library, and heads the finance committee.

The library has been subjected to heavy criticism during the budget process, especially in regard to the library director's proposed salary of \$24,735. The library asked for \$173,000 initially but both the county and city who fund the library on a 50/50 basis have offered \$108,000, mostly to save state funding which would have been in jeopardy if the operating budget of the library had been cut below the previous year's funding level.

Maynor, when asked if the two members wished to remain as trustees, said, "I'm not going to ask them if they want to serve."

COUNTY ADOPTS FINAL BUDGET

The Robeson County Commissioners, at Monday's meeting, officially adopted the 1981-1982 budget for Robeson County with a tax rate of 82 cents per \$100 valuation and a general fund of \$17,118,736.

The total budget swells to \$32.7 million which includes monies ticketed for the remainder of the school bond monies and the installation of the county wide water system.

PEMBROKE JAYCEES ATTEND LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

Pembroke Jaycee President Jimmy Goins and three other chapter officers attended the North Carolina Jaycees Local Officers Leadership College June 12th, 13th, and 14th at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The Local Officers Leadership College is held annually to train incoming officers in the management skills and programming responsibilities needed to better serve the community.

Over 500 Jaycees from all across North Carolina attended the three day session according to Reich Welborn, President of the North Carolina Jaycees. The officers received instruction in effective communications, community development programs, public relations, the training of committee chairmen and the running of effective meetings were but a few of the topics covered.

"The Pembroke Jaycee officers and their president, Jimmy Goins, are to be commended," said President Welborn, "for showing the initiative to attend this year's Leadership College. I'm sure the ideas and techniques they learned will prove a real benefit to both the members of their chapter and to the community the Pembroke Jaycees serve."

Other Pembroke Jaycee officers attending the Leadership College were: Larry Jacobs, Internal Vice; President and Bill Oxendine, External Vice President, along with Gerald Strickland, Chairman of the Board.

L. Harbert Moore Named head of Elections Board



LUMBERTON--L. Harbert Moore, an Indian from the Prospect community, was named Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Elections Tuesday at an organizational meeting of the board following swearing in ceremonies at the Robeson County Courthouse.

Also named to the board were Percy Shaw, a black from the Fairmont area; and Ray Revels, a white, and the only incumbent retained.

Mrs. Elizabeth Morton is supervisor of elections.

521-2826

We want your news . . .

The Carolina Indian Voice welcomes personal items and news stories for this newspaper. While personals and short stories may be phoned to 521-2826, longer stories should be mailed or brought to The Indian Voice. All contributions should be in hand by 5 p.m. Tuesday for the current week's issue, except for late-breaking news stories.

An exception is that information for wedding write-ups should be in the office not later than noon Monday for insertion in the current week's issue.