

"Building Communicative Bridges
In A Tri-Racial Setting"



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PEMBROKE AREA PRESBYTERIAN MINISTRY EXPANDS WITH LARGE GRANT FROM WOMEN'S BIRTHDAY OFFERING

The Pembroke Area Presbyterian Ministry announced today that the Women's Birthday Offering of the Presbyterian Church U.S. will fund a major undertaking to dramatically affect the nutritional self-sufficiency of low income persons in the Pembroke area. The amount of the grant will be dependent upon the size of the offering made next spring by the Women of the Church groups throughout the Presbyterian Church U.S. The grant may be as much as \$250,000 based on previous offerings.

The project will encompass expansion and support of the Farmers Market in Pembroke, Nutrition Education tailored to the needs of this Indian community, a Mobile Cannery for community gardens, and Voluntary Home Demonstration Clubs. The project will be funded for five years, and it is hoped that the program will

be carried on by the community after that funded period is over.

The program will be administered by Fayetteville Presbytery through its Pembroke Area Presbyterian Ministry. This grant will be potentially the largest single gift to Native Americans from the Presbyterian Church U.S.

The Reverend John Robinson, Director of the Pembroke Area Presbyterian Ministry, responded to the announcement, "I am very excited about the prospect of this Nutrition Program coming to Pembroke. There are several aspects of the program which are unique not only to community ministry programs but also to nutrition programs in general. First of all we are taking a holistic approach to the problems of nutrition in the county. Rather than teaching nutrition education, while assuming that a

person has sufficient food supply; to eat and feel better but also in obtaining the very whole foods which can make them healthy.

"Another aspect that I like very much is the participation of the community in the whole program. In affect the church's making possible some self-development rather than just giving money away. For the program to succeed, people from the community will have to be involved not only in receiving benefits of the Ministry but also in planning and doing the Ministry. This is the kind of program which makes for lasting change."

The largest single item in the project is the plan to purchase and operate a mobile cannery, which will make it possible for people with gardens to can produce for the winter. Rather than setting up a stationary cannery in one

place in the county, plans call for a mobile cannery which can be moved from place to place within the county to make it more accessible to more persons. At the same time the participants are canning their own vegetables, they will be asked to contribute some of their produce to a community food closet. This will provide a on-going supply of emergency food stuffs for families in need over the winter months.

Another major undertaking of the program will be development of nutrition education materials rewritten specifically for people in Robeson County. Approximately 37% of the adults in Robeson County are functionally illiterate, which means that most of the nutrition education information that is available to them is unusable. By using more illustrations and simpler wording, in

an easy to use format the program will provide nutrition information to new readers.

In order to increase the supply of low cost food to low income families four community gardens will be established in various locations in the county so that participants can grow their own food during the summer. Part of the funds will be used to acquire the necessary equipment, seed, and fertilizer for the gardens.

The funds for the project, which will include support for two additional staff persons, will not actually be received until next summer. Even so a great deal of preparation work needs to be done before the gift is received, according to Robinson. "We hope to be using seminary interns and recent college graduates as the staff for this program. They tend to be more energetic and creative in ac-

complishing goals. Therefore we need to begin this fall interviewing potential interns and seniors in college so that we will have a staff which is ready to operate beginning next summer. Also we can begin doing some of the research which will be necessary to provide the educational resources early on in the program. And of course we have to begin now to build our volunteer network of persons who will be willing to work with us on this project, so that we will be ready to go as soon as funds are received. So we will not be just biding our time waiting for the gift.

"At a time when things seem to be getting harder and harder on low income families, it is gratifying to see the church offering the possibility of developing some resources for self-help," Robinson continued. "I really do believe that this is where God wants

us to be, working along side of those who need help providing them with the opportunity to do things for themselves. God calls us to wholeness, and a part of that wholeness is relating to communities of need. This grant, which we are so excited about, is symbolic of the continuing commitment of the Presbyterian Church to be with and for people."

The Pembroke Area Presbyterian Ministry was initiated by Fayetteville Presbytery six years ago as an experimental Ministry among the Lumbee Indians of Robeson County. The Ministry has worked in Community Development, Campus Ministry and Youth Ministry during those six years. Among other projects of the Ministry have been a Dance Center, a Youth Center and the Pembroke Community Workshop.

Food Co-op Receives \$2,000 Donation from Lutheran Church

The Food Co-op, sponsored by the Community Food and Nutrition Program, a component of Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. recently received a donation of \$2,000. The donation was presented on June 23, 1981, by the Rev. Al Peuster, pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fayetteville, N.C. on behalf of the National Indian Lutheran Board.

According to Shirley Locklear, Director of the Community Food and Nutrition Program, the funds are being used to purchase food products for the Food Co-op. She explained that the food co-op was established in February to assist low-income individuals living on fixed incomes in buying food at reduced prices. The co-op began with 15 families and is now serving 80 families - throughout the county.

Locklear said that co-op food products cost about 20 percent less than the average grocery store prices. She noted that the co-op stocks about 70 different non-perishable items.

The C.F.N.P. Director noted that the co-op has been successful because of great

support from L.R.D.A. and other benefactors and the co-op participants. She explained that the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs provided a grant of \$1,100 to purchase paper products. A donation of \$500 from the Rev. John Robinson, Director of the Pembroke Community Workshop, was used to purchase a refrigerator and build shelves. Hardees of Pembroke and Burger King of Lumberton donated containers to store food in.

Locklear said that the Community Food and Nutrition Program, which is funded through the Community Services Administration, plans to expand the co-op into other areas of Robeson County. Co-op participants must pay a \$5.00 membership fee, work at least 2 hours per month in the co-op, and meet income eligibility requirements for participation in the Food Stamp Program. The co-op does accept food stamps for purchase of foods.

Persons interested in participating in the co-op should contact the C.F.N.P. Staff at (919) 521-8602.



The Community Food and Nutrition Program sponsored by Lumbee Regional Development Association receives a check from Rev. Al Peuster, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fayetteville, N.C. on

behalf of the Lutheran World Relief Fund. Pictured left to right are Kenneth B. Maynor, LEDA Executive Director; Shirley M. Locklear, CFNP Director; Rev. Peuster; Van Locklear, Deputy Director.

A TRUE FRIEND

to 'Strike at the Wind!'

Dora Chavis, a Lumbee Indian from Pembroke, N.C., returns to delight the audience for her sixth season as Aunt Mary in 'Strike at the Wind!' Mother of two, she is a eighth grade teacher at Upchurch Junior High School in Hoke County.

Carnell Locklear, General Manager, had nothing but praise for Dora Chavis, stating, "She has always been devoted in supporting the drama in every aspect, including serving as a Board Member of Robeson Historical Drama Association." Dora Chavis is a hard working individual as a Board member. She has been involved in every fund-raising activity we've had this year. If every Board member was as devoted as Dora is we could function very well."

In the drama Aunt Mary is a person who is very close to the Lowrie Family, always giving advice in affairs, including taking care of Henry's mother, Momma Cumbo, after Henry leaves to go to Georgia.

Dora states that "She loves the

drama very much and encourages everyone to get involved with the theatre and let's do everything we possibly can do to support the arts because it lets our local people show their talents." She further stated, "I would love to see all my friends at 'Strike at the Wind!' this year."

North Carolina Theatre Arts recognizes 'Strike at the Wind!' as a professional theatre and provides grant assistance to this theatre from funds appropriated by the North Carolina General Assembly.

'Strike at the Wind!' plays every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night through August 29, 1981. Preshow is at 8 p.m. and showtime at 8:30 p.m. Follow the signs to the Lakeside Amphitheatre at Riverside Country Club, 3 miles west of Pembroke, 1/2 mile north of U.S. Highway 74 on State Road 1354. Adults are \$4, seniors citizens \$3.50, and children under 12, \$2. For more information one may call 'Strike at the Wind!' at 919 - 521-3112.

PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

TO ATTEND BASKETBALL CAMP

Sheila Regan, a rising junior at Pembroke High School, has been selected to attend the 3rd Annual Bill Botton-Bill Cronaver Basketball Camp in Milledgeville, Georgia. Regan will join 400 other female prep basketball players from across the country at the week-long camp which begins Sunday, Aug. 2.

Attendance is by invitation only and Regan is one of six players chosen from North Carolina.

A special guest at tonight's production [Thursday] will be Dr. William Friday, President of the state-wide University System of which Pembroke State University is a member.

BRUCE BARTON REVIEWS 'STRIKE AT THE WIND!'

Bruce Barton, editor of *The Carolina Indian Voice*, reviews 'Strike at the Wind!' this week. See page 2, in "As I See It." He finds the popular outdoor drama "a lively experience."

OL' REASONABLE'S B.C.K

...WE HOPE

Musing...by Ol' Reasonable Locklear. Bruce Barton, the smart ecky editor of this here Indian paper, has asked me to start writing again. Maybe I will and maybe I won't. A lot depends on my arthritis and other ailments.

We'll see. Starting next week. If they'll let me do my thing like I want to. See you next week... Maybe.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE ANNOUNCES EXAMINATION

The United States Postal Service announces an Examination for Substitute Rural Carrier at the Pembroke, N.C. 28372 Post Office. Examination is to be given at 301 Green Street, Fayetteville, N.C. 28302. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.

LADIES INTERESTED IN PLAYING ORGANIZED SOFTBALL

There will be an organizational meeting at Prospect School Saturday, at 6 p.m. (Aug. 1) for all ladies interested in playing organized softball. Shorty Hammonds and Earl Lowry will serve as coaches. All interested ladies are encouraged to attend.

OUR BLOOD RUNS RED... OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP...

Coming up in serialized form is a new book by Lew Barton, *Who We Are*. It's all about who we are and where we came from.

The blood of Robeson's Indians runs red and their roots run deep, imbedding themselves in the very core of this nation's historical beginnings.

You won't want to miss an issue, not if you're interested in who you are, where you came from and where you're going.

See today's first installment, read and republished on page 2.



Island Grove Baptist Church will hold its annual Founder's Day Sunday, August 1, 1981. The pastor, Rev. C.M.

Cummings gives a cordial invitation. Shown above, left to right, are Willard Strickland, Roy Locklear, Lane Jones

(deceased), Pat Bullard (deceased), Rev. Bobby D. Locklear, Emmell Woods and Zach Chavis at the time this picture was taken May 30, 1965.