



"Building Communicative Bridges
in A Tri-Racial Setting"

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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A CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL

Racism runs rampant as Dial is rumored out as Chairman and Conservatives blast 'Strike at the Wind!' Funding

One dominant theme runs throughout the breadth and length of Ol' Robeson--racism! You see it wherever you go. And it permeates whatever one does in Ol' Robeson. If you don't believe us look around you in church Sunday.

Recent happenings bring this to mind anew as racism rears its ugly head in Ol' Robeson. The outdoor drama "Strike at the Wind!" is a tri-racial happening in Robeson County. All three races are represented on the board of directors of the sponsoring agency--Robeson Historical Drama, Inc. All three races act out the stirring drama each summer in the Red Banks community where the saga is staged. All three races are treated with dignity and good taste. The drama has gone a long ways toward helping us (white, Black and Indian) learn more about ourselves.

Recently an organization billing itself as "Democrats For Less Taxes and Government, Emmett Smith, Jr., chairman, have entered the fray with a blast at State Senator Sam Noble for supposedly introducing a "special favors bill" that gave "Strike at the Wind!" \$40,000 of the taxpayers' monies.

They ran an ad in the Sunday edition of the Robesonian. The ad, as we see it, was in especially bad taste, and misleading besides.

The purveyors of this misleading ad just conveniently neglected to mention that other organizations in the county received special appropriations from the legislation including the Robeson County Carolina Theatre, Civic Center which received \$50,000. Also, receiving funding was the Luther J. Britt, Jr. Greenway Park Project and the Mill Prong Project in Red Springs, as well as Flora MacDonald Academy (a private

which received a \$24,000 grant for renovations. Our question is: why was "Strike at the Wind!" singled out for special treatment by these "Democrats for Less Taxes and Government?" (sic)

Too, it has been brought to our attention that a number of ads run by this questionable organization have been paid by Ed Johnson, who is the chairman of the Robeson County Republican Party. Johnson denies responsibility for the blast at Senator Sam Noble and "Strike at the Wind!" but Al Sharpe, business manager for the Robesonian, confirmed to us that Johnson did in fact pay for the ad personally. If so, some thing is mighty fishy in political circles in Robeson County. If Sharpe is correct then it looks like the Democrats for Less Taxes and Government are, seemingly, a front for the Republican Party and/or the Congressional Club. Two local politicians, Johnson and Tom Gibson, who made an unsuccessful attempt for sheriff in the last election, are closely allied with the Congressional Club and a Committee Against the Gas Tax which made waves in the area a few months ago. Both have also offered themselves as saviours, of a sort, in attempting to resolve the difficulties the Lumberton City Schools is facing in response to violations of the 1965 Voting Rights Act in illegally annexing Barker Ten Mile, Lakewood Estates and Clyburn Pines areas into the school district. Both have attended meetings with justice department and school officials attempting to break the impasse. And why was Senator Sam Noble singled out for rebuttal when, in fact, the whole legislative delegation backed the special appropriations for Robeson County?

Politicians in Robeson County seem to

have a standing rule: when in doubt blast the Indians. That has been a relatively safe route in the past but not any more. Indians have become very sophisticated voters of late, and know when they are being used. In this case, it looks like the first blast in the senate race that seems to be shaping up between incumbent Sam Noble and Representative David Parnell who is known to be putting out feelers for the seat. And the Indian vote is at stake.

We'll keep a sharp editorial eye out for the rest of the scenario. In the meantime, it seems a terrible thing to us to blast an organization like "Strike at the Wind!" which is committed to positive and ongoing racial relations.

Robeson Historical Drama, Inc., the sponsoring agency of the drama, has been tri-racial in its makeup since its inception. The non-profit organization has been a boon to the local economy and special appropriations from the general assembly affirm that "Strike at the Wind!" is good for all of Robeson County.

And, as a final note on this matter, it is a bad day for all of us when conservatism becomes a mean spirited word and serves as a stalking horse for the Congressional Club and the Republican Party of Robeson County. The blast "Strike at the Wind" and Senator Noble threaten the likelihood of a viable two party system for Robeson County. Racism, whatever its guise, is a threat to all of us. And we ought to turn away from the negative impulse whenever we find it in our midst.

And Herman Dial Rumored Out as Chairman of the Commissioners... The Robeson County Board of Commissioners will meet Monday. And one

of their first orders of business will be to choose the chairman of the sometimes less than august body.

Herman Dial has been Chairman of the Board for the last three years. He has, from most reasonable sources, been a

good chairman. The County has ex-

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A CLOSER LOOK...

Red Springs Neighborhood Service Center



Ms. Madie R. Locklear

by Connee Brayboy

As governmental budget cuts are being discussed, residents who have been served by the Red Springs Neighborhood Service Center reflect on community improvement during 1980-81. The Center is sponsored by Four County Community Services, Inc. It serves a large area which includes Red Springs, Parkton, Lumber Bridge, Renner, Rex Rennett, St. Pauls, Saddletree, Shannon, West Howellsville, Burnt Swamp and Philadelphus. The majority of those served by the center are very grateful for the assistance they've received and consider the Center a vital asset to their community.

Ms. Madie R. Locklear is supervisor of the Center. She expressed pride in the overall accomplishments of the center. She explained that the agency works to assist families who qualify under the

federal poverty guidelines. Said she, "I've been employed with Four County Community Services, Inc. for about 13 years. I've served as supervisor here since the early 1970s. I have seen many positive changes in the areas we service. We have provided some much needed assistance in a wide range of areas."

Ms. Locklear appears especially proud of the Energy Conservation component of the Red Springs Center. This project is composed of the home weatherization program. Under this program approximately 240 low income families received the necessary insulation, storm doors and windows which helped in the attempt to conserve energy. The agency can spend up to \$550.00 per house for materials to weatherize a home and also provides the labor for installation.

Other services provided by the center include Housing Services; Employment Services; Community Projects; Consumer Services; Recreation Services; Independent Living; and Community Food and Nutrition.

In the areas of housing and employment the center serves as a referral

agency. The staff has developed a great rapport with other agencies and has been instrumental in obtaining better housing via local housing authorities, etc. They've also been instrumental in securing employment for many clients who came to them lacking employment. This is achieved through a sound working relationship with local businesses.

The Center has provided both technical and financial assistance to community improvement projects. The formation of communities in each target area, quilt making, ceramic classes, macrame classes etc. were accomplished under this project.

Under Community Services, the Center staff has held workshops in the areas of budgeting and personal finances.

The Independent Living Project is geared toward senior citizens. This program has strived to make it possible for approximately 600 low-income senior citizens to maintain an independent life style. The Center staff has also worked

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Ronald Hilbert Locklear Named Maxton Postmaster

Mr. Ronald Hilbert Locklear is appointed the new Postmaster at Maxton, N.C. effective Saturday, December 5, 1981. Sectional Center Manager/Postmaster Peter A. Bernard, Jr. of Fayetteville, N.C. announced today. Locklear, age 37, a native of Pembroke, N.C., has served as Postal Inspector for the past ten years. He was appointed Postmaster at Maxton, N.C. by the Postmaster General.

Locklear is married to the former Brenda Jacobs of Maxton, N.C. They have three children: a daughter, Mrs. Deneen Williams of Knightdale, N.C.; two sons, Ronald Eric, age 12, and Jamie

Devon, age 10, both of the home. Mr. Locklear was appointed Postal Inspector on December 13, 1971 and has served in this position in Connellsville and Altoona, Pennsylvania, Rocky Mount, N.C. and presently in Raleigh, N.C. He and his family were active members of the Oakdale Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, N.C. prior to their recent move to Raleigh.

Locklear is a graduate of Pembroke State University, Pembroke, N.C. and has done graduate studies at Maryland University, College Park, Maryland and Forstburg State College, Frostburg, Maryland in Elementary Education.

Converse supports 'Strike at the Wind!'

Lumberton--Mr. Larry Lee, plant manager of Converse Rubber Co., recently donated \$500 to "Strike at the Wind!" the local outdoor drama. Upon presenting the check to Mr. Carnell Locklear, general manager of the drama, Mr. Lee said, "This drama is really an asset to all of us here in Robeson County. We should be thankful to have such a tourist attraction among us. We at Converse want to be a part of this great drama because it is so full of our wonderful culture and heritage of this area which is really priceless."

Mr. Lee also said he wishes Mr. Locklear great success in promoting the drama because "Strike at the Wind!" looks good, the county looks good

and believe me we can really use those tourist dollars.

"Strike at the Wind!" receives funds also from North Carolina Theatre Arts, a state organization which coordinates and assists professional theatres in North Carolina. North Carolina Theatre Arts is a section of the Department of Cultural Resources which receives funds from the North Carolina General Assembly.

"Strike at the Wind!" is inspirational entertainment that re-enacts the struggle of the hero Henry Berry Lowrie and the folks around his including Black, white and Indian.

For further information, contact "Strike at the Wind!" P.O. Box 1059, Pembroke, NC 28372 or call 919-521-2489.

Election Results Certified

RALEIGH--The North Carolina State Board of Elections met Monday in Raleigh and certified the municipal election returns which returned incumbent Mayor James A. "Pete" Jacobs and Councilmen Larry T. Brooks and Milton Hunt to office.

But the state board also instructed the local Robeson County Board of Elections to conduct a canvas of all municipalities in Robeson County to affirm the correct registration of voters in municipal elections.

The local board referred the matter to the state board after conducting an internal investigation of registered voters in the Pembroke municipality and conducting a handcount in the mayor race on November 24. The recount showed that incumbent Mayor James A. "Pete" Jacobs was the official winner in the mayor's race with 264 over challengers Sam Dial, 253, and Reggie Strickland with 243.

The furor over the mayor's race raised a tempest when Harbert Moore instructed the local elections board staff to conduct an internal investigation of registered voters in the Pembroke municipality.

Now, according to Ms. Elizabeth Morton, supervisor of elections, all municipalities will be given the same treatment as Pembroke.

Dexter Brooks, an attorney representing Pembroke interests, had questioned the authority of the local board to recount the votes on the evidence that had been presented by defeated majority candidate, Sam Dial, and Rev. Dawley Maynor, chairman of the Citizens for Better Government. Said Brooks, "I believe you are singling out Pembroke for special treatment... and opening a Pandora's Box by setting a precedent."

Seemingly Brooks was right as the local board of elections will now have to certify all registered voters in every municipality in the county, according to the dictate of the state board.

Paul Lowery Wins Suit

Paul Lowery, convicted in 1978 in the slaying death of Evelyn Hamilton Small of Red Springs, and now serving a life sentence in Central Prison, was awarded \$55,000 in damages in a federal suit he had filed against county jailer, A.G. George.

The amount was set by the federal jury which ruled in his favor in Fayetteville's U.S. District Court Tuesday. An additional \$4,500 was awarded in attorney fees in the case to David H. Rogers who represented Lowery in the case.

Lowery filed the suit because he claimed that he did not receive adequate and proper treatment for a leg injury while in the Robeson County jail in 1978. Because of the neglect, Lowery will reportedly have to have part of the damaged leg amputated in the near future. According to the lawsuit Lowery was originally shot in the leg in 1975 and the wound did not heal properly, and he did not receive medical attention required when he was in the county jail in Lumberton.

Lowery had sought \$500,000 originally which was filed against Sheriff Hubert Stone and Jailer George. Magistrate Ken McCotter had removed Stone from the case because he ruled that Stone did not actually take office as sheriff until after the incident.

Lowery had filed numerous complaints about the matter, including letters to the editor in The Carolina Indian Voice.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

One of the many community projects conducted by the Pembroke Jaycettes each year is the donation of a completely cooked Thanksgiving dinner with turkey, dressing, gravy, and lots of can goods to a needy family in the Pembroke

community. The Jaycettes delivered the dinner on Wednesday evening November 25, 1981.

Frances Chavis was chairman and Molly Locklear, co-chairman of this year's Thanksgiving project.



The Pembroke Jaycettes are shown preparing to deliver Thanksgiving dinner to a needy family. Left to right, they are President Elvera

Locklear, Treasurer Frances Chavis, Parliamentarian Molly Locklear, and Vice President Karen Dial. (Editor Hunt photo)



Carnell Locklear, left, general manager, receives check from Mr. Larry Lee, manager

of Converse Rubber Co. of Lumberton.