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"Building Communicative Bridges  
in A Tri-Racial Setting"

# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## -A Front Page Editorial-

### REPS. PARNELL & GAY PROPOSE ONE-SIDED LEGISLATION TO BAIL OUT LUMBERTON SCHOOLS ON ANNEXATION ISSUE WHILE SEN. NOBLE COUNSELS REASON AND COMPROMISE

In the February 7, 1982 edition of the Robesonian, in a prepared statement, Rep. David Parnell was quoted as saying that he wanted to make his position "absolutely clear" on the Lumberton city school annexation issue. According to the article, Rep. Parnell was prepared to "assist the appropriate school officials and will, if they request, introduce or sponsor and support legislation to maintain the quality and integrity of the Lumberton school system."

Incredibly, at no point in the article did Rep. Parnell express any concern whatsoever with the quality or integrity of the Robeson County school system nor did he concern himself with the wishes or desires of the Robeson County Board of Education whose district would, of necessity, be directly affected by Parnell's proposed

legislation to bail out the Lumberton city schools. Need we remind our local legislative delegation and the Lumberton school officials that it was just this sort of one-sided legislation that has embroiled the Lumberton city school system in the present controversy?

Are they so arrogant or naive to

believe that Indian people generally and the county school officials in particular will meekly submit to such discriminatory legislation?

It appears that Rep. Parnell has forgotten, or believes that Indian people have forgotten, his prior efforts in 1979 to dismember the county school district, over the objections of the county board of education, by attempting to annex the Parkton school attendance area to the St. Pauls city school system. Although at that time he was unmindful of the

objections of the county school board and concerned only with the efforts of the whites of the Parkton area to desert the county school system, Rep. Parnell "blew up" when Rep. Horace Locklear proposed to afford the predominately Indian areas of the Red Springs school district around Oxendine, Rennett and Shannon the opportunity to vote to enter the county school system. Parnell coldly stated, according to observers, that he would not agree to such a proposal without the consent of the Red Springs

school board.

Thus, incredibly, Rep. Parnell would have denied Indian communities the right to decide which school system they would be a part of while offering to grant the same right to a white community; he would have followed the wishes of the predominately white Red Springs board of education while ignoring the wishes of the predominately Indian county board of education. Fortunately for Indian people, Rep. Parnell's nefarious Parkton school annexation bill was soundly defeated by the State House after a heated debate.

Immediately after the vote, according to observers, Parnell stormed off the floor slamming the doors behind him.

When one considers Rep. Parnell's actions in 1979 concerning the then proposed Parkton school annexation, it is easy to understand his stance concerning the Lumberton school annexation issue in 1982. Rep. Parnell seemingly proposes to accommodate the desire of the predominately white annexed areas to remain a part of the Lumberton school district by doing whatever the predominately white Lumberton school board

deems necessary without so much as even consulting the predominately Indian school board before proceeding to cut off even more of its territory. Surely Indian people will not allow such a double standard to be applied to them. Surely Rep. Parnell, the Lumberton board of education and their allies realize that such an effort will be met with ferocious resistance by the Indian community and Lumbee River Legal Services.

And, of course, Rep. Bill Gay is a former principal of Lumberton High School. His stance, though we find it abominable, is at least understandable.

Interesting enough, Rep. Horace Locklear has not been polled on the matter. That is understandable, too. Locklear, who has stated his intention not to run for another term, is a staunch supporter of one educational system in Robeson Co. Lumberton folks are not interested in what he has to say about educational matters.

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### McDuffie Cummings Offers for Sheriff



McDuffie Cummings

McDuffie Cummings, who presently serves as Manager for the Town of Pembroke, has filed for the position of Robeson County Sheriff in the upcoming Democratic Primary. Cummings holds a B.S. Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management. He also has further training in governmental administration from the Institute of Government of the University of North Carolina. Cummings has served as Pembroke Town Manager since 1977. Prior to his present position he served as the Assistant Director of Pembroke Housing Authority and was the owner and operator of Home Florist.

Cummings is a member of the International City Management Association and the North Carolina City and County Management Association. He serves as Chairman of the Advisory Board of Pembroke Elementary School and Pembroke Middle School. Cummings is a former vice chairman of the Robeson County Board of Social Services. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of Quick Finance Company headquartered in Pembroke.

HE STOOD UP FOR US WHEN NO ONE ELSE WOULD. YET WE SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN

### The Best Friend the Robeson Indians Ever Had

By Lew Barton

They say a Robeson Indian never forgets a kindness or an unkindness, an enemy or a friend, an insult or an injury. Yet by our lack of a memorial to Hamilton McMillan at PSU, we seem to have forgotten the best friend we ever had. And the insult others heap upon his memory by such neglect.

He first befriended us in 1864, at a time when no other White person would have even dared. Because this was the beginning of the Henry Berry Lowry rebellion.

In 1913, at the age of 80, he was still going to bat for us. He researched our history during all this period, too.

Hamilton McMillan was the father of Pembroke State University, established in 1887.

Hamilton McMillan was the father of Lumbee Indian education, established in 1885. He published his well-known pamphlet on us in 1888.

Hamilton McMillan was our first White champion, and the greatest of them all.

Why is there no memorial to him at Pembroke State University?

Could it be for the specific reason that he was a champion of Indian rights and educational opportunity?

Could it?

Is it?

I contend that it is for this very reason that not even a utility building at Pembroke State University bears his name today.

Is nobody ashamed of this deplorable "oversight"?

I am.

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### A Tribute to Albert C. Hunt

On February 6, Mr. Albert C. Hunt was honored for his leadership and service to public education with the Robeson County School System.

Mr. Hunt retired from the position of Assistant Superintendent, Director of Federal Programs during the month of December. He completed thirty-nine years of affiliation with education. His service included beginning as a principal teacher at Piney Grove School, then moving to Fairmont Indian, Fairgrove School, Oxendine School, Pembroke Graded, Pembroke Senior High School

and Central Administration.

A dinner-program was held at the Ramada Inn, Lumberton for recognition of his retirement. During the reception, Mrs. Vera L. Malcolm entertained with soft music. Mr. Purnell Sweet, Superintendent, Robeson County School System was Master of Ceremonies. Mr. Donald A. Bonner, Assistant Superintendent gave the invocation prior to the buffet dinner.

Several tributes were made to Mr. Hunt after the dinner. Mr. Elmer Hunt, Superintendent of the Robeson County Schools, for his dedicated service to education. (Elmer Hunt photo)

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Albert C. Hunt is shown left receiving a plaque of appreciation from Purnell Sweet, Superintendent of the Robeson County Schools, for his dedicated service to education. (Elmer Hunt photo)

### H. Ronald Revels, Jr.

### Bids for Seat on County Board of Education



H. Ronald Revels, Jr.

H. Ronald Revels, Jr. has announced his intentions to seek a seat on the Robeson County Board of Education, District II (Magnolia High School District). He attended school in the county system, graduating from Magnolia High School and attended Pembroke State University. He is employed with the North Carolina Department of Correction as a Probation/Parole Office in Lumberton with ten years experience.

Revels has been actively involved in civic affairs, having served as a charter member and past president of the Saddletree Jaycees, state vice-president of the North Carolina Jaycees, East Central Region; past state chairman, Minority Affairs, North Carolina Jaycees. He has also served as a member and past chairman of the Robeson County Parks and Recreation Commission. Presently he serves on the Board of Directors for Four County Community Action, Inc., Laurinburg, N.C. He also serves as a member of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, as well as charter member and president of the Saddletree Volunteer Fire Department.

Revels is married to Pearlann H. Revels. They are the parents of one son, H. Ronald Revels III (Ronnie) who is a student at Magnolia High School.

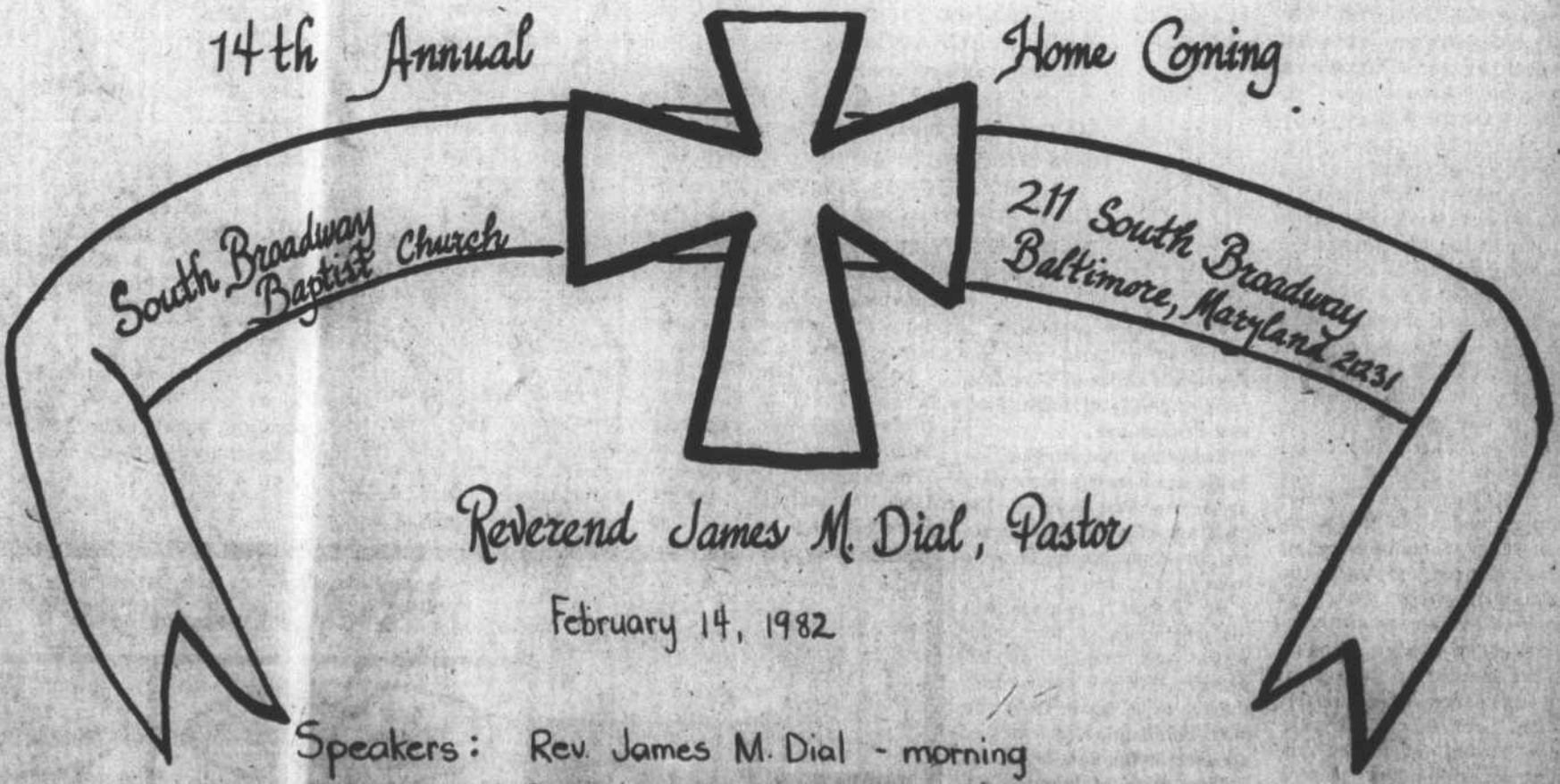
Said he: "I am asking for everyone's vote and support in District II. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve you as a member of the Robeson County Board of Education. Your vote and support will be greatly appreciated."

PEMBROKE SENIOR HIGH  
BOOSTER CLUB TO MEET

The Pembroke Senior High School Booster Club will meet Monday evening, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. at the high school cafeteria. It will be an organizational meeting. Delton Ray Locklear, the president, encourages everyone to attend.

14th Annual

Home Coming



Reverend James M. Dial, Pastor

February 14, 1982

- Speakers: Rev. James M. Dial - morning  
Rev. Tony E. Brewington - afternoon
- Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
- Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
- Lunch: 12:00 noon
- Services: 2:00 p.m.

Ps 95:6

"O come, let us worship and bow down  
Let us kneel before the Lord, our maker."

Please plan to come  
and worship with us.

Guest Singers:  
Jacob's Family of Mt. Etem Baptist Church  
Red Springs, N.C.  
New Psalmist Male Choir of New Psalmist  
Baptist Church - Balto, MD