

"Building Communicative Bridges  
in A Tri-Racial Setting"

# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## DR. BROOKS ANNOUNCES FOR COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION



Dr. Dalton P. Brooks

Dr. Dalton P. Brooks, Director of Institutional Research for PSU, has announced his bid for a seat on the Robeson County Board of Education, District IV. District IV is composed of Pembroke, Union, Raft Swamp and Burnt Swamp precincts.

In making his announcement, Brooks released the following Platform:

In 18 years, the millennium will be upon us and this century will be history. This means that two generations have passed since the turn of the century, and the third generation will assume leadership when the year 2000 arrives. For the people in Robeson County, the Twentieth Century could be classified as an experiment in human relations, the emergence of Civil Liberties, and the struggle for survival. However, for many of us, it could be remembered as an eventful time when opportunities for education became available and our school system (elementary and secondary) became representative of the people it served. Although, as with all social institutions, there are inbuilt forces that have caused literacy to be yet an unmet goal. These factors are economic, racial, social and geographical.

The geographical location (Robeson) presented barriers that stymied intellectual inquiry. Most of our folks lived in rural areas away from the city-urban areas, causing isolation and to somewhat alienation from the mainstream of

information. Our reading material was the Bible and the old faithful "Grit" paper. Most of our news came second hand or was late by a month or so. From the educator's point of view, this is a perfect example of controlled failure. It's indeed surprising that our Dad's done as well as they did. What happened was they became proponents of education, emphasizing the need for education in a changing industrial world.

The factor of race was prevalent and caused undue harm. Four types of schools were available by racial identification and the type of curriculum offered was a function of wealth. The school that had the money had the resources for a superior school structure.

Without doubt, the city schools were far superior with their multi-curriculum, splendid facilities, and well paid, motivated teachers. However, in spite of their superiority, our schools competed by having strong men of vision to stand in the gap. With these men at the helms, they motivated students to become doctors, lawyers, businessmen and educators. Our rural schools met the challenge by using what they had to educate the students for quality and excellence. These men evaluated the student on how well the student knew how to speak and write; how much math students knew, and how well disciplined the students were. School was a place for learning, growing, and becoming a self-disciplined person.

Even though race was paramount, the factor of economics was just as strong to cause further educational inequities. If students were poor and couldn't get food to eat for school, then their readiness to learn was affected. Poverty has a way of destroying the motivation to learn; it relegates students to failure; and causes teachers to develop a morale that's self-defeating. However, help was on the way through government supplements. These government programs have sustained learning for thousands of our children. However, a point of concern is now on the horizon with cuts being made in programs that support and complement poor educational districts.

In reviewing our past with its socio-economic, demographic and racial factors that have schools for the last 75 years; the future will not eliminate these forces, they are here in different forms

and shapes. The racial climate has ameliorated but has become rigid and stiff with the new wave of federalism; the economic picture is bleak and casting clouds that are threatening; our demography has changed drastically, posing unmet problems due to changing housing patterns (influx of students to urban areas), increasing divorce rate, greater consumption of alcohol; and a growing number of families that have no male or female role model for their children's growth and physical development. Our schools have more problems today than at any time in history.

In my candidacy for the School Board,

I would like to:

(1) Bring to you, the public, a review of the on-going problems in education and how they affect the Robeson County System. I propose to do this by radio. I will discuss, explain and report to you the State of the Art of Education as it is in Robeson County.

(2) I will introduce new initiatives to improve the teaching-learning process by developing a testing program at the County level for all grades the purpose of testing is for learning.

(3) I will provide leadership in developing the necessary strategies to improve and strengthen the verbal and quantitative skills of all students by establishing a blue ribbon (parents, teachers, university professors) committees to study and develop an academic-administrative plan for providing new direction.

(4) I will work closely with all educational institutions (PSU, RTC, churches) to wage war on illiteracy.

(5) I will work closely with the Board of Education and the Superintendent in developing a climate of high expectation for student performance.

(6) To meet the demands of our computer society, to stress the importance of Computer Literacy by the year 1986.

(7) To report to the parents on the accomplishment of students each year by inviting all parents to a County meeting, for discussion and review of past year accomplishments.

Together, with existing technology and a concern for human growth and development, Robeson County can be number one in the State of North Carolina.

## Rep. Parnell's complete statement on Lumberton Schools Voting Rights Debacle

EDITOR'S NOTE: A number of David Parnell for the Senate supporters have intimated that our front page article last week was unfair in that his complete statement was not quoted in its entirety.

In fact, the Carolina Indian Voice was not given a copy of the statement until we asked Sandy Barrett, a Southern National Banker, and a member of Parnell Brain Trust, to send us a copy.

He has now done so.

To set the record straight, here's a copy of Parnell's statement. It proves, quite conclusively, that he was not misquoted, mis stated or misinterpreted.

For Further Information Contact:

Representative David Parnell  
858-3521

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY, February 4, 1982

PARKTON -- Representative David Parnell today stated his support for a comprehensive school system for the Lumberton area.

Representative Parnell said, "I would like to make my position absolutely clear. I will assist the appropriate school officials and will if they request, introduce or co-sponsor and support legislation to maintain the quality and integrity of the Lumberton school system."

"It is important that all of the citizens of Lumberton of all races including those living in the disputed annexed areas have a stable educational environment."

Parnell, a Parkton businessman, is an announced candidate for the Robeson-Hoke Senatorial District Seat.

## Redistricting Lawsuit to Continue

GREENSBORO -- A Charlotte attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund says there is no good reason why the Legislature could not have created single-member districts statewide, and the group will continue its suit to obtain them.

The General Assembly's new plans include four House and one Senate district where blacks predominate, making it more likely blacks can win election to public office.

North Carolina, with its single- and multiple-member districts, has just four blacks out of 170 legislators. But states with only single-member districts are much different; for example, there are 17 black legislators in Mississippi, 15 in Alabama and 13 in South Carolina.

"There is no reason they could not have gone to single-member districts statewide," Charlotte attorney James Ferguson told the Greensboro Citizens Forum. "It would have produced more black representatives... our objection is just as strong as when we filed the lawsuit."

The fund's suit against the Legislature was filed on behalf of several North Carolinians who claim blacks cannot fully utilize their voting strength until single-member districts are established.

Last week's redistricting work was forced by the U.S. Justice Department, which said previous reapportionment plans violated the Voting Rights Act of 1975 by diluting minority voting strength. The act is in effect in 46 of North Carolina's 100 counties.

The new plans must now go to the Justice Department for approval. Even if Washington's attorneys approve the new plans, they could be rejected if a federal judge rules against them in the NAACP's court challenge.

Ferguson said he believes the Legislature provided him more ammunition in the recent session when it refused to carve out black majority districts in Wake, Forsyth and Mecklenburg counties.

None of them are covered by the Voting Rights Act, while two urban counties in the act --

Guilford and Cumberland -- were split to create black-majority enclaves.

"The plan is a result of whatever clout any political faction had in the Legislature," he said. "One thing is very clear: Only in those counties where the Voting Rights Act apply did the Legislature attempt to minimize the dilution of black voting strength."

Ferguson also questioned whether the black majority districts will pass the Justice Department's scrutiny. He said the courts have generally favored districts where at least 65 percent of the voters were black.

He said only one of the new districts, with 66 percent, meets that standard. The others "hang from a very thin thread" with percentages from 50.1 percent to 60 percent.

Lawyers for the General Assembly also told legislators that 65 percent was the accepted percentage, but they thought North Carolina's plans might be able to get by with less.

## Town Meeting changed to March 15

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Pembroke scheduled for March 1, 1982 has been cancelled. There will be a special meeting of the Town Council on March 15, 1982 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers.

Bobby N. Smith,  
Town Clerk

## Locks for the House



Sidney A. Locks

Sidney A. Locks of Lumberton announces his intent to file for the N.C. House of Representatives.

He is presently the pastor of Sandy Grove Baptist Church of Lumberton. He serves also as a member elect of the Lumberton Board of Education, Robeson County Jury Selection Commission, Board of Four County Community Action, Inc. the Robeson County Church and Community Center, the Golden Leaf Lodge and the Carpenters Consistory of Maxton. Locks is active with the 4H clubs, Girl Scouting and various church activities.

Locks lists the following reasons for intending to file for a seat in the General Assembly:

1. To further strengthen the legislative delegation for this district.
2. To work on the state level to stabilize the local school systems.
3. To broaden the perspective toward a more inclusive district by promoting more involvement from other counties.
4. To answer a vast number of requests that I seek this week.
5. To promote international business coming to this district.

## PSU Homecoming Queen Crowned



Rita Wemack of Red Springs, is crowned as "1982 Homecoming Queen" of Pembroke State University by Chancellor Paul Givens.

## Luncheon planned for Cong. Charlie Rose

Friends and supporters of Congressman Charlie Rose will host a luncheon for him on Saturday, February 20, 1982 at 1:00 p.m. at the Meeting House Restaurant (formerly Sim-Brooks) in Pembroke. Interested persons are invited to attend. Tickets may be purchased by calling 521-4638 after 5 p.m. Tickets will also be available at the door.

## INDIAN CAUCUS TO MEET

On Tuesday, February 23, 1982 the Robeson County Indian Caucus will hold its regular meeting in the Court Room in Pembroke, NC at 7:30 p.m.

Voting, employment, education and an annual meeting will be discussed. All members and interested Indians are urged to attend.