



"Building Communitive Bridges  
In A Tri-Racial Setting"

# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

POST OFFICE BOX 1075

PUBLISHED EACH THURSDAY

PEMBROKE, N.C. 28372

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 30

25c PER COPY

THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1982

## COMMANDER RONNIE N. SUTTON RETIRES FROM ACTIVE DUTY



Commander Ronnie N. Sutton

The Navy Reserve Officer's Training Corps Unit (NROTC) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana received a new commanding officer on Monday, 26 July 1982. Commander Ronnie N. Sutton of Pembroke, NC was relieved in a formal change of command ceremony and retired from active duty by Commander Donald E. Long of Marion, Ohio.

The NROTC Unit serves the two major universities in Baton Rouge. Southern University has a 9000 enrollment and Louisiana State University has 27,000 on the main Baton Rouge campus. The Unit's Midshipman Battalion consists of 130 midshipmen from both schools.

Commander Ronnie N. Sutton, a Lumbee Indian from Pembroke, North Carolina, joined the Southern University NROTC Unit as executive officer in January 1980. A Naval Flight Officer, Commander Sutton reported from Patrol Squadron Twenty-Four (VP-24) in Jacksonville, Florida.

A 1970 graduate of the University of West Florida in Pensacola, Commander Sutton previously attended Pembroke State University in Pembroke, NC. Enlisting in the Air Force in 1958, he served four years prior to returning to his hometown college. He entered the Navy Flight Program in 1964 and earned his Naval Flight Officer wings in 1966.

Upon completion of flight training, he was assigned to Patrol Squadron Sixteen (VP-16), Jacksonville, Florida, flying the P-3A Orion. During this time, he deployed to Europe and the Western Pacific, where he accumulated more than 600 combat hours in the Viet Nam Conflict. Following this, he taught Airborne Navigation in Training Squadron Ten (VT-10) in Pensacola, Florida from 1969 to 1971. Subsequent to a tour as assistant Flight Deck Officer and later as Hangar Deck Officer on the Aircraft Carrier John F. Kennedy (CV-67), he reported to the Navy Recruiting District, Richmond, Virginia, as enlisted program officer in 1974. During this tour he also served as officer

programs officer and later as programs officer which encompassed both officer and enlisted programs.

Upon completion of recruiting duty in 1976, Commander Sutton reported to graduate school in the Command and Staff Course, Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. His next tour was as the Administrative Department Head, Patrol Squadron Twenty-Four (VP-24), Flying the P-3C Orion, a highly computerized anti-submarine warfare aircraft.

Commander Sutton has earned several awards, including the Air Medal with the numeral "2" indicating a second award.

A graduate of the University of West Florida in Pensacola, Commander Sutton, also has a master of arts degree from Central Michigan University in Personnel Management and has completed doctoral graduate work in business administration at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

Commander Sutton, the fourth commanding officer of the NROTC Unit, is married to the former Genny Chavis, also from Pembroke, NC and they have two daughters, Ronette Alesia (15) and Fonda Lynn (12). The Suttons are in the process of moving into their home in the Philadelphia community north of Pembroke.

Principal speaker at the change of command and retirement ceremony was Dr. Bobby Dean Brayboy of the U.S. Public Health Hospital, Carville, Louisiana. Dr. Brayboy, who is himself a commander in the Public Health Service, is a long time friend of Commander Sutton's and also resides in Baton Rouge.

Following his relief as commanding officer, Commander Sutton retired after 22 years of active military service. He is the son of the late Willie French Sutton and Vergie Mae Oxendine Sutton formerly of Saddletree and Pembroke. Commander Sutton has been accepted as a first year law student at the University of North Carolina School of Law, Chapel Hill, NC.

## 'Strike at the Wind!' proclaimed by County and Lumberton

The Robeson County Board of Commissioners at a special meeting held July 21, 1982, desires to pay tribute to "Strike at the Wind," a story of the life and times of Henry Berry Lowrie:

WHEREAS, "Strike at the Wind" proudly proclaims the tri-racial heritage of Robeson County; and

WHEREAS, "Strike at the Wind" is of cultural, social and economic benefit to Robeson County; and

WHEREAS, the story of "Strike at the Wind" is goodwill representation of Robeson County; and

WHEREAS, upon the motion of Commissioner W. Herman Dial, the Robeson County Board of Commissioners wishes to commend the cast and production crew of "Strike at the Wind" and desires to express its appreciation and pride by proclaiming the week of July 26, 1982 as "Strike at the Wind" Week in Robeson County; and

WHEREAS, the Robeson County Board of Commissioners encourages the citizens of Robeson County to see "Strike at the Wind."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Robeson County Board of Commissioners takes this opportunity to express its sincere pride and appreciation in the production of "Strike at the Wind" and hereby on behalf of the citizens of Robeson County declares the week of July 26, 1982 as "Strike at the Wind" Week in Robeson County.

Robeson County Board of Commissioners  
Linda A. Hedgpeth, Clerk

## WYVIS OXENDINE BESTS DIAL IN PEMBROKE- SMITHS-MAXTON DISTRICT Beats incumbent Herman Dial in all Three Precincts

In one of the most bitter campaigns seen in these parts in years, newcomer Wyvis Oxendine beat long time incumbent Herman Dial in the run off for the right to carry the Democratic banner 1976 to 1982. Oxendine will face Republican Bob Brewington in November in the general election.

Oxendine beat Dial in all three precincts, including Smiths, the home precinct of Dial. Oxendine won in Pembroke 855 to 845; in Maxton 731 to 439; and in Smiths 390 to 358 for Dial.

Oxendine enjoyed the advantage of having the endorsement and support of Larry T. Brooks, a Pembroke councilman who finished a close third in the Commissioner's race in the June 29 primary.

In the final days of the campaign Brooks ran 2 ads in the Robesonian personally endorsing Oxendine and encouraging his supporters to do the same. Also

Brooks and his supporters worked the Pembroke polling place all day in Oxendine's behalf. Many political observers consider Brooks' help the difference in Oxendine's margin of victory.

The campaign was sullied with implied threats of intimidation and more. Clinton L. Thomas, Jr., the head of the Pembroke Housing Authority, worked openly in Oxendine's behalf, incurring complaints of subtle intimidation to residents of the housing authority. The Robesonian, the local daily, made at least two trips to Pembroke Junior High School, Pembroke's polling place in response to inquiries received about Thomas' activity in behalf of Oxendine, according to knowledgeable sources. The board of elections also received a number of complaints about political activity at Pembroke, and elections officials spent a good part of the day at Pembroke looking into the allegations.



Pembroke was a hotbed of activity in Tuesday's election pitting...

## City of Lumberton



POST OFFICE BOX 1388  
Lumberton, North Carolina  
28388

MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
501 EAST 5TH STREET

### PROCLAMATION

"STRIKE AT THE WIND!"

WHEREAS, in July, 1976, Randolph Umberger's "Strike at the Wind!" was declared the most successful new outdoor drama in America due to attendance of over 17,000, seven sellout performances and numerous positive reviews; and,

WHEREAS, "Strike at the Wind!" continues to be a major contributing factor to the rise in tourism and the increase in cultural awareness in the City of Lumberton and Robeson County; and,

WHEREAS, The seventh season of "Strike at the Wind!" started on July 3, 1982, and will end on August 28, 1982, at the Lakeside Amphitheatre, Riverside Country Club near Pembroke N. C.;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Furman K. Biggs, Jr., Mayor of the City of Lumberton, do hereby proclaim Saturday, July 31, 1982, as "STRIKE AT THE WIND!" DAY and urge all citizens of Lumberton to participate in the commemoration of this occasion by attending the July 31, 1982, performance of "Strike at the Wind!"

*Furman K. Biggs, Jr.*  
Furman K. Biggs, Jr., Mayor

Dorothy McG. Biggs, City Clerk

## OXENDINE, LOCKS, DeVANE AND HASTY LEAD BALLOTING

The long electoral season finally ground to a halt Tuesday as the run offs produced some surprising winners.

The biggest surprise, probably, was the relatively easy win Wyvis Oxendine rang up over Herman Dial, the longtime, incumbent Commissioner from the Pembroke-Smiths-Maxton District. Oxendine outpolled Dial in all three precincts. (See story elsewhere).

### LOCKS, DeVANE AND HASTY FOR THE HOUSE

The returns from the House were even more surprising. Leading the ticket was Rev. Sidney Locks, a Black minister

### Lori Ann Locklear In Concert, and 'Strike at the Wind!' August 6

Lori Ann Locklear, the brilliant young country Music star, will be in concert Friday night, August 6 preceding the regular performance of 'Strike at the Wind!' that night.

Said Bruce Barton, who is promoting the event as a way to help 'Strike at the Wind!', "I want everyone to come out and hear this upcoming Country Music star. She's dynamite!"

The box office opens at 6:30 p.m. this night only. The preshow concert by Lori Ann Locklear and the regular performance of 'Strike at the Wind!' is an extra added attraction. Both events are being offered for the price of one. Tickets are \$4.00 for adults, \$3.50 for senior citizens over 65, and \$2.00 for children under 12.

'Strike at the Wind!' is performed each Thursday, Friday and Saturday night through August 28 at the Lakeside Amphitheatre on the grounds of Riverside Country Club three miles west of Pembroke.

from Lumberton, and the only minority candidate left in the race. Locks polled a high of 5,788 in Robeson and added totals of 1,301 in Hoke County and 881 in Scotland for a combined vote total of 7,990. Some talk had swept the County of Robeson that the Indians might abandon Locks but the defections did not take place. Locks polled 749 in the huge Pembroke Precinct, the largest predominate Indian precinct in Robeson County. The surprise was Danny DeVane, the Hoke County Commissioner, who was making his first race for the House. DeVane outpolled the field in Pembroke with 1,025. He also led the balloting in Hoke County with 2,499 and finished third in Scotland County with 751. His combined totals of 7,404 brought him in second in the six man field. John (Pete) Hasty finished a distant third with 6,663. Hasty led the Scotland balloting with 1,235, picked up 1,321 in Hoke County and 4,107 in Robeson.

Finishing out of the money in fourth place was Tommy Wellington, a farmer from the Saddletree area. Wellington finished third in Pembroke with 678. Wellington's combined vote total was 5,856. Finishing fifth was Bill Gay, the only incumbent in the field with 4,934.

V. Louise Sanderson, the lone female in the balloting finished last with 3,578.

### BILL OXENDINE AND RONALD REVELS WIN SEATS ON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Bill Oxendine, a Pembroke businessman, swamped incumbent Lillian Faye Locklear for a seat on the County Board of Education with 1,369 to 911 in the one seat up for grabs in District 4. District 4 encompasses Pembroke, Raft Swamp, Burnt Swamp and Union Precincts.

In District 2, which includes all of Saddletree and parts of W. Howardsville, Lumberton #1 and S. St. Pauls, Ronald Hammonds, the incumbent, was topped by Ronald Revels in a close election. Revels garnered 545 votes to 514 by Hammonds.

It was a bad day generally speaking for incumbents. Incumbents Bill Oxendine and Hammonds lost their seats in a vote which was generally surprising.