



THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting

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INDIAN COMMISSION PLANS HEARING IN ROBESON COUNTY RELATIVE TO TREATMENT OF INDIANS IN LOCAL COURTS

RALEIGH--The North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs, according to regional news reports, is planning a public hearing in Robeson County to investigate findings of a study that concluded Indians received poor treatment from Robeson courts.

Lonnie Revels, vice chairman of the commission, said the commission agreed last week to investigate the findings after being presented with "alarming figures" on high conviction rates of Indians.

The report also indicated a greater amount of jail time doled out to Indians as compared to whites.

Though no date for the hearing has been set, Revels said the commission expects to interview Indians and question county officials during the hearing.

He said the commission is hoping to receive cooperation from county officials but has the authority to subpoenae them to testify if necessary.

"Commission members were alarmed and depressed that our people are receiving this treatment," said Revels, a Lumbee Indian and Pembroke native.

The report on Indians in Robeson County was conducted by Darlene Jacobs, who undertook the project as part of her work toward a master's degree in sociology at the University of Oklahoma. She is also a Lumbee Indian from Pembroke.

The findings of her report were based on statistics compiled from 1980 records at the Robeson County Courthouse and from the county sheriff's department.

The report concluded with nine major findings:

● In Superior Court, Indians had a 54 percent higher conviction rate compared to their per capita population.

● Indians were indicted at a 25 percent higher rate in Superior Court compared to their representative population.

● Indians were indicted in District Court at an eight percent rate higher than their representative population.

● In District Court, Indians had a 53 percent conviction rate higher than their representative population.

● Indians received more active sentences in District Court at a rate of 21 percent, while whites had a four percent rate higher than their representative population.

● In Superior Court, the active prison terms for Indians ran about 52 percent higher than their representative population, compared to a 13 percent rate for whites.

● Case dismissals in District Court for Indians were only seven percent compared to about 34 percent to whites. Case dismissals in Superior Court for Indians were about 11 percent, compared to 30 percent for whites.

● Indians were arrested by the Robeson County Sheriff's Department at an 11 percent rate higher than their population.

● Indians were arrested at a younger age compared to whites.

About one third of Robeson County's population of 105,000 people are Indian. Though the study compared Indians to whites in the tri-racial county, figures showed that blacks were also treated worse than whites, according to the study. For example, 32 percent of those arrested in 1980 were black, 47 percent were Indians and 21 percent were whites.

Bond Votes Considered for 2nd Phase of Water and Robeson Tech

CARL BRITT RE-ELECTED AS CHIRMAN OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lumberton--The Robeson County Commissioners met Monday evening and considered a number of matters, including another bond vote on phase two of the water system and a proposal to take Robeson Technical College's plight "to the people" via a bond vote.

A.D. Lewis, trustee chairman for the school, said only three community colleges received less money from county government than Robeson Technical Institute. He said that the school needed nearly \$7 million for shops, labs, classrooms, a new library, administrative offices, a multi-purpose orientation center and a center for fire and police science training.

Lewis, who said that "there's not a home in Robeson County that's not either directly or indirectly touched by Robeson Technical Institute," asked that the funding request be placed on the same water bond referendum. But that request met with some opposition.

Commissioner H.T. Taylor said, "I don't agree with having it along with the water bond. I don't want the two to be connected."

Commissioners voted to keep the request under advisement.

AND THE PROPOSED WATER BOND

Voters in Robeson County may determine the fate of the second phase of

a countywide water system as early as March.

County Attorney Joe Pete Ward said consulting attorneys from New York approved a plan calling for a referendum March 8 if the Board of Commissioners adopts a special ordinance during its Dec. 20 meeting.

If the referendum is approved by Robeson County voters, the second stage of the water system, estimated at approximately \$7 million, would be financed. The first phase, which serves nearly 3,500 residents, has already been completed at a cost of \$15.5 million.

IN OTHER MATTERS....

Commissioners also approved a resolution retaining Velinda Morgan as an assistant to the executive director of the Robeson County Housing Authority. The Board had been notified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development last month of a possible nepotism violation. She is the wife of commissioner Jack Morgan.

The resolution said that Morgan should not vote in Housing Authority matters involving his wife's position.

In other matters, commissioners approved a \$250 Christmas bonus for all 500 of the county's employees.

Carl Britt was re-appointed chairman of the Board of Commissioners, and Sammy Cox was again appointed vice-chairman.

Hunt's Enterprises holds 'Open House' in South Hoke

By Bruce Barton

South Hoke--James Albert Hunt has big plans, make no mistake about it. And his latest undertaking has a bigness about it. He is in the middle of an extensive development of the South Hoke (formerly Hawk Eye Community) area in Hoke County.

Already a Hoke County Commissioner, and the first state-wide Indian bail bondsman, Hunt proposes to develop a funeral home "within a few weeks", and establish a first rate insurance agency to go along with recently opened Hunt's Auto, Hunt's Grocery, Hunt's Paving and his extensive rental properties and farming interests and more.

Last Sunday afternoon a few hundred friends and dignitaries turned out for the "open house" of the development of what many hope will be known as "Huntsville", if plans for incorporation are successful in the very near future.

The crowd was treated to old fashioned barbeque, sause meat and the trimmings and kind words of encouragement from North Carolina Insurance Commissioner John Ingram, who gave the dedicatory remarks. Others attending included Hoke County Sheriff Dave Barrington;

Hoke County Register of Deeds, Della Maynor; John Barfour, chairman of the Hoke County Commissioners; District Court Judge Joe Dupree; District Attorney Ed Grannis, Jr.; Rev. Elias Rogers, chairman of the board of directors of the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation; Danny De Vane, newly elected to the N.C. House of Representatives; Hoke County Commissioner Wyatt Upchurch; and Reverends Graddy Hunt; Horace Strickland and assorted friends and well wishers.

Commissioner Ingram said, taking note of the overcast skies and intermittent rains, "I just followed the rainbow and here I am." Ingram spoke strongly in favor of free enterprise, as personified by entrepreneurs like Hunt, and noted, "the last four letters in the word American spells I CAN!"

Hunt, noted for his lack of speechmaking in his successful political career, did ask this reporter to express his thanks to Willie R. Jacobs, Betty Rogers, Brenda Jacobs and Robert Taylor who served as coordinating committee for the successful event, and his special friends who prepared the delicious food and all those who contributed to the successful happening.

PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

JAYCEE CHRISTMAS PARADE TO BE HELD DEC. 10

The 1982 Pembroke Jaycees Annual Christmas Parade is scheduled for Dec. 10. Starting time is 10 a.m. Those who would like to be in the parade should contact Gregory Cummings, Box 758, Pembroke, NC 28372. Phone: 521-9761 or 521-2784.

PLATE SALE

The Pembroke Jayceettes will hold a plate sale Dec. 10 from 11:00 a.m. until... at the Pembroke Rescue Squad Building. Chicken and Bar-Be-Que plates will sell for \$3.00 each. Proceeds will go to the Needy Families at Christmas and the Robeson County Junior Miss Pageant.

SPECIAL SINGING

There will be a singing Saturday, December 11, 1982 at the Pembroke Middle School. The purpose of this singing is to help the Rev. Jack Hunt with his medical expenses. Featured singers of the evening will be David Carter and the Sounds of Deliverance, The Graham Family, The Jacobs Family and other groups. Donations are welcome, but there is no admittance fee. Time is 7:00 p.m. and the public is cordially invited to attend.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Reedy Branch Church Choir will present a Christmas Cantata on Sunday December 12th, 1982 at 6:00 p.m. This years Cantata is entitled "The Promise," written by Eugene McCammon. Special guest for the presentation will be Rhonda Flanagan, Miss Lumbee 1982, and Brenda Locklear, Miss Lumbee 1976. Both will do a selection of songs.

The director is Mr. Larry W. Chavis, narrator will be Norman Hammonds, Pianist Ms. Mary F. Chavis.

The children's choir of Reedy Branch will also perform several Christmas Carols. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Because of the program at 6:00 p.m., the second Sunday singing usually held at 2 p.m. will be cancelled.

VFW NEWS

TO ALL MEMBERS: Sunday, Dec. 12 is VFW Sunday and all VFW members and their guests and Ladies Auxiliary of the Pembroke Post are asked to attend worship services at Pleasant View Baptist Church of Fairmont. After services the group will enjoy a meal of fellowship together at the Old Foundry Restaurant in Lumberton, NC.

Monday night is the regular monthly meeting for the Post. 7:00 p.m. and all members are asked to attend, a special program will be rendered by the Lowry Barber Shop Quartet.

All members that have not paid their dues for the coming year are asked to do so now. The Post goal was 100% by December.

Submitted by Post Commander Bobby D. Locklear

LOCAL PERSON GRADUATES FROM AUCTIONEER'S SCHOOL

Allen G. Dial of Pembroke completed over 100 hours of training at the Mendenhall School of Auctioneering, High Point, NC on Nov. 12, 1982. The Mendenhall School of Auctioneering is staffed by fifteen of America's top auctioneers and business leaders as instructors.

We know that this community will be happy to learn of Allen's new venture. With this person's enthusiasm, natural talent and training, we believe a bright future is in store in the auction profession.

Any civic organization desiring to raise money for a worthy cause should contact Allen G. Dial, Route 1 Box 147, Pembroke, NC 28372.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PLANNED

The Saddletree Sanctuary Choir presents "An Old-Fashioned Christmas" on Friday, Dec. 10, 1982 at 7 p.m. at the Saddletree Church of God. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, contact Judy Jacobs at 729-3846.

HUNT NAMES STUDENT MEMBERS TO PARKS & RECREATION COUNCIL

Governor Jim Hunt has named Laurie B. Cowan of Ahsokie and Joseph E. Malcolm of Pembroke to the N.C. Parks and Recreation Council. They will fill two seats created by the 1982 General Assembly.

Cowan is a first year student at Chowan College. As a student at Bertie Senior High School, she was involved in student government and the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America.

Malcolm is a senior at Pembroke Senior High School. He has served on the yearbook staff and is a member of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps.

The 15-member council advises the Secretary of Natural Resources and Community Development on the promotion, development and administration of the state's recreation and parks system.

Cowan and Malcolm are the first youth members to serve on the council. Their terms will expire June 30, 1983.

FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Applications for the Fuel Assistance Program are being accepted at the Robeson County Department of Social Services through December 10. The Program will provide a one time cash payment to help eligible, low-income households in paying their heating bills. The payment will be sent in early February. Last year 5,665 households in the county received a total of \$802,000 from the Fuel Assistance Program. More information can be obtained by contacting the Department of Social Services.

A. DAVID LESTER NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CERT

At the annual meeting of the Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT) in Denver, Nov. 16-19, Wilfred Scott, chairman of the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho was named to succeed Navajo Peter MacDonald as chairman of the organization. Scott, 51, has been vice-chairman of CERT since 1980. MacDonald, who was honored at the meeting as CERT's "founding father," failed recently to win re-election as Navajo chairman. CERT also announced the appointment of A. David Lester as its new executive director. Lester, a Creek Indian, has been commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans in the Department of Health and Human Services. The number of tribes comprising CERT grew to 37 with the admission of three new members--the Chemehuevi of California; Coeur d'Alene of Idaho and the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma. Topics of discussion at the meeting included tribal taxing authorities, proposed BIA guidelines on tribal severance taxes, and impact of the Supreme Court's decision on the Jicarilla severance tax; impact of the proposed Indian Minerals Act of 1982; new royalty management practices and new energy projects being considered by tribes.

CHEESE AND BUTTER DISTRIBUTION

The Robeson County Department of Social Services began distributing cheese and butter at the department on Thursday, Dec. 2 from 8:15 a.m. until 5:15 p.m. The cheese and butter which has been provided by the United States Department of Agriculture is available to households that receive food stamps. Forms to take to pick up the cheese and butter will be sent along with December food stamp allotments. Also, households that do not receive food stamps but meet the program's income and asset guidelines may apply for and receive the commodities. A bag or container should be taken to pick up the butter which will be frozen. More information can be obtained by contacting the agency.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Pembroke Senior High Chorus will present its annual Christmas concert on Monday night, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in Moore Hall Auditorium. Selections include both sacred and secular favorites.

Soloists are Kimberly Ozandine, Yvetra Lowry, Wesley Jacobs, Andrew Hunt, and Michael Parker. Featured on the trumpet will be Tony Hammonds. A special tap dance will be performed by Andrew Hunt. For more information, contact Betty Jacobs at 521-2784.

HOME OF

J.A. HUNT ENTERPRISES

TRUCKING CO. AUTO CO. RESTAURANT
PAVING GAS FUNERAL HOME
BONDING CO. GROCERY REPAIRS

875-2806 875-0555 75-2753



Hoke County Commissioner James Albert Hunt (3rd from left) is shown with his family (left to right) his two daughters, Bobbie Jane and Jacqueline, James A. Hunt, his son, Samuel, and his wife, Maggie O. Hunt. Also shown is Willie R. Jacobs, who

served as master of ceremonies and a member of the coordinating committee that planned the prestigious event. Next to him is Mr. Betty Rogers, a teacher at nearby Hoke High School and also a member of the coordinating committee.

The sign beside some of the businesses either already developed, or being developed by Hunt Enterprises in the South Hoke Community.

James A. Hunt (far right) is shown with long time friend Rev. Elias Rogers (far left), North Carolina Insurance

Commissioner John Ingram is shown with them. He was introduced to the crowd as "an unofficial candidate for governor in 1964" and Ingram, as he glad handed his way through the assemblage, did nothing to discourage that introduction.