

Navajo Comm. Coll. Library
Tsaile Branch Post Office
Chinle, AZ 86583

PUBLISHED EACH THURSDAY



THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

PEMBROKE, N.C.

"Building Communicative Bridges
In A Tri-Racial Setting"

ROBESON COUNTY

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 35

25c PER COPY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1983



PEMBROKE SCHOOL SYSTEM PROPOSED

by Bruce Barton
PEMBROKE--A number of Pembroke area county school patrons are interested in either establishing their own school system or realigning the present county school system of which Pembroke is the major component.

Pembroke, which is predominantly Indian, is the second-largest township in Robeson County.

The town manager, a town council member and the Pembroke Housing Authority director, all of whom are Lumbee Indians, are among about 30

members of the Ad Hoc Committee for a Pembroke School System.

The group was formed about two weeks ago in reaction to the county school board's proposed redistricting, which would split the Pembroke precinct for school board voting purposes and would require one of the precinct's three board members to run for re-election next year.

About 3,000 school children live in the Pembroke precinct, about one-fifth of the county system's approximately 14,700 students.

There are four other school systems in the county--at Lumberton, Fairmont, Red Springs and St. Pauls.

The group will need legislative approval to establish a sixth school system. A petition is being planned to obtain at least 4,000 names requesting enabling legislation when the General Assembly convenes in January.

Said a longtime political activist in the area, "The problem is that our vote (the Indian) has been diluted to such an extent by the present district system of electing board members that we have less power in a sense than when double voting was in place in the county."

Robeson County is famous (or infamous) for having the most -- five -- school systems of any county in N.C.

Before the nefarious system was dismantled in federal court in 1974 voters residing within the city systems could vote on the makeup of their own school boards as well as on the composition of the county schools (where most of the Indians reside) board of education. They "double voted," those voters residing within the confines of the county system (mostly Indian) could only vote in the county election. The federal courts overturned the evil scheme because it diluted the votes of the Indian people.

Most folks contend that the present district system again dilutes the Indian vote.

At the recent public hearing concerning adding a district seat to encompass Clyburn Pines, Bruce Barton, editor of this newspaper, termed the plan "politically motivated, racist and smacking of condescension."

Barton concluded, "We finally got rid of double voting...and now this proposal seems to deprive the voter of equal representation too."

A FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL Hearing on Extra 1/2 Cent Sales Tax Sept. 6

Tuesday, September 6, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's

meeting room (406) in the Robeson County Courthouse in Lumberton

It's unlikely that many people--especially the ones who will be affected the most--will show up for the public hearing which the Robeson County board of commissioners has called for Tuesday, Sept. 6, on the proposed addition of one-half cent to the local sales tax.

The North Carolina General Assembly enacted the law to allow county commissioners to impose the extra half-cent sales tax without holding a public hearing on the bill but, the public should be present and raise questions about why state and local officials are calling upon the people least able to pay to provide the revenue for public services.

So, we should be grateful to our commissioners for giving us an opportunity to be heard.

That's the way the sales tax works.

The poor must pay a greater proportion of their income in the tax when they buy life's necessities. It has been long recognized as a regressive tax, and yet the state and local governments keep going back to it when they need additional revenues.

Should the citizenry reward our public servants for their political short-sightedness, like five school systems? Should we bail them out again?

We should come out to speak and the question of the philosophy which has guided the taxing authorities should be raised. And there should be questions of it is fair, is it equitable.

Indian youth named Congressional Page



Sean Stephen Jones

Congressman Charlie Rose has appointed Sean Stephen Jones of Pembroke as Congressional Page for the coming term, September 6-June 15, 1984. Jones is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Steve Jones and grandson of the late John L. Carter and Mrs. Carter, and the late Dr. English E. Jones and Mrs. Jones, all of Pembroke.

Serving on the floor of the House of Representatives as Rose's first Page appointment, Jones is an eleventh grader at West Robeson High School, Pembroke. During his stay in Washington, he will study under private tutors at the Library of Congress.

Requirements for Congressional Page includes a grade point average of 3.0 and maintaining a 2.75 average while serving in Washington; must be a rising junior between the ages of 16-18.

Jones' candidacy for this position was sponsored by Adolph Dial, Chairman of the American Indian Studies Department at Pembroke State University.

return of "Clyburn Pines- Country Club OK

Lumberton-Superior Court Judge Giles Clark of Elizabethtown ruled Friday that the 1982 removal of the Clyburn Pines-Country Club area of Robeson County from the Lumberton City School District was not unconstitutional.

Clark's ruling in Robeson County Superior Court is the response to a law suit by Don Floyd and Eric Prevatte, representing a group called the Clyburn Pines Citizens Association.

Prevatte said Friday the group will appeal Clark's ruling to the N.C. Court of Appeals.

The lawsuit contended that the N.C. General Assembly had no constitutional powers to alter local school district lines, as it did during the 1982 short session. The lawsuit also said that the Robeson County and Lumberton City Boards of Education acted improperly in assessing a \$35 per student tuition against Clyburn Pines-Country Club students who were allowed to attend the Lumberton City schools in the 1982-83 school year.

High school students from Clyburn Pines-Country Club area will have freedom of choice to attend Lumberton High School this year, but must pay the tuition. Younger students must attend Robeson County Schools.

Lumberton and the county schools in a classic compromise, allowed Barker Ten Mile and Lakewood Estates to remain in the Lumberton system and returned Clyburn Pines, Country Club area to the county system in 1982.

All were illegally taken from the county and the justice department in 1980 found Lumberton guilty of violating the '65 Voting Rights Act.

The compromise was forced by a lawsuit brought by Lumbee River Legal Services in Pembroke on behalf of Indian parents.

PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

West Robeson Senior High School opens

The faculty and staff of West Robeson Senior High reported to work on August 29, 1983. Their first full work week has been exciting and difficult filled with orientation for staff and faculty, many hours in faculty meetings, and the enormous task of getting everything in this new facility ready to receive students on Tuesday, September 6, 1983.

Each grade will have a special day for orientation with Seniors on Tuesday, Juniors on Wednesday, and Sophomores on Thursday. Each student should report to school on one orientation day only, the day his or her grade is to have orientation.

Orientation for students will be as follows:

Tues., Sept. 6, 1983--Seniors Only-- 8:15 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Wed., Sept. 7, 1983 - Juniors Only-- 8:15 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Thurs., Sept. 8, 1983 - Sophomores Only - 8:15 a.m. - 1 p.m.

On Friday, September 9, 1983, all students will report for a full day of school beginning at 8:15 through 3:00. Lunch will be served on this first day for all students. On orientation days, buses should arrive at school by 8:05. Teachers will greet students and direct them to the cafeteria for a general orientation session. Students will then go to homeroom stations where they will get Student Handbooks and class schedules. Handbooks will be reviewed with stu-

dents by the teacher and then the class led by the homeroom teacher will tour the facility and return to homeroom. Students will then walk through their class schedules on an abbreviated basis to locate their classrooms and meet teachers. After reporting to each class station, students will return to homeroom.

During the three orientation days, lunch will not be served, however, snacks will be on sale at the school store and concession stand during a morning break. Students will board buses to go home at 1 p.m.

Students who plan to ride a bus should ride the bus in the morning to know which bus to ride home. All students are encouraged to be present and to arrive at school on time for orientation with the appropriate class. Attendance for these sessions is most important for each student and the total school.

The faculty, staff, and administration are excited about this new school year and look forward to working with West Robeson Students in this huge, new, and beautiful facility. They expect good things to happen.

First Two Football Games

•West Robeson vs. South Robeson at Pembroke Jr. High, Sept. 2, 1983, 8 p.m.
•West Robeson vs. New Hanover at Wilmington, N.C. Kick-off time 9 p.m., Sept. 9, 1983.

Fair Employment project formed

In October 1983, Robeson County will have a new and exciting project--the Robeson County Fair Employment Project. The project is being started by Robeson County Clergy and Laity Concerned in order to build and unite an organization of citizens across race, religious, and economic lines that will work together in determining, promoting, and establishing fair employment practices in the county. The four major areas of concern are employment, underemployment (i.e. low wages), unemployment, and economic development patterns and practices in the county.

During the first year of the project, citizens' councils will be set up to address the major employment issues in the county. These councils will include:

(1) a Citizens' Economic Development Council; (2) an Employees' Council; (3) an Unemployment Council; (4) a Family Farm Council; and (5) a Fair Employment Council. Each of the councils will work with citizens that are concerned about the problems facing those who are employed and those who are unemployed. The Fair Employment Council

will be made up of pastors and lay persons who will receive, investigate, and help resolve cases of alleged mistreatment on the job. The Citizens' Economic Development Council will investigate and determine the present economic situation in the county, make proposals to public and private institutions dealing with employment, and will promote more citizen involvement in making economic development decisions that effect the life of their communities.

The Robeson County Fair Employment Project will be directed by a Board of Directors that will include pastors and lay persons of all three, major races in the county. The Board of Directors is searching for two staff members for the project at the present time.

Funding from the Robeson County Fair Employment Project has been received from two church grants: (1) a \$30,000 grant from the United States Catholic Conference, Campaign for Human Development; and (2) a \$15,000 grant from the United Presbyterian Church Self-Development of People Program.

PEMBROKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On Monday, August 29, the faculty and staff of Pembroke Elementary School met for their first official faculty meeting for the new 1983-84 school year.

All students in grades 1-6 are to report to the school's gym on Tuesday, September 6, for a full day of school. Those students who are entering kindergarten are not to come to school on Tuesday. Parents of Kindergarten students will receive a letter requesting a parent teacher conference on Friday, Sept. 2, or Tuesday, Sept. 6. At this conference parents will be advised of the time to bring their child to school.

Principal James C. Dial requests that all new students who did not attend

Continued on Page 8

Locals tour Europe



Shown above, left to right--Catherine Locklear, April Singletary, Sherry Maynor, Dillard Maynor, Athena Locklear, Chris Locklear, Corri Chavis, Patsy Locklear and Bill Maynor.

Recently a nine day tour of Europe became an American educational adventure for six Pembroke Jr. High students, two patrons of the community and Mrs. Patsy Locklear, Counselor for the group and a member of the Pembroke Jr. High faculty, who saw Euro-

pean history become a reality.

Points of interest included four major European countries. Namely: Germany, Switzerland, France and England. In Germany the group appreciated the Gothic Cathedral of Cologne, the Rhine Falls and a boat ride on the Rhine River.

Switzerland tour highlighted a day in Lucerne where the group visited Lion Monument and Mt. Pilatus in the Swiss Alps. Enchantment in France included Paris, Notre Dame

Cathedral and the Moulin Rouge. The group crossed the English Channel arriving at the White Cliffs of Dover in England.

The final tour highlighted England's Westminster Abbey, St. Pauls Cathedral where the royal wedding took place and the Tower of London.

If you care to have a first hand (instant) visit of Europe ask any of the excited travelers. They are bubbling to share a quick lesson of European history.