

THE CAROLINA INDIAN

VOICE



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In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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ROBESON COUNTY

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1984

PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

TEN INDIANS ATTENDED McKENDREE COLLEGE IN 20S, 30S

CONSIDERED DESCENDANTS OF
LOST COLONY

McKendree College, Illinois—it's one of the most fascinating stories in the annals of American history. Ten Robeson County Indians attended McKendree College in Illinois in the 1920s and 1930s when it was not fashionable for Indians to attend college.

Many of them had been denied permission to attend the state colleges and universities in North Carolina because of the racial biases and prejudices of that day. But they persisted, and many of them returned from McKendree to share what they had learned with the Indian people. It is a wonderful story, and worthy of adoration

and respect from all of us to these stalwart Indian men who overcame the prejudices of their day so that others might share the dreams of America. See Page 7.

One note: Charles S. Lowry should be Carlee Lowry, formerly a principal of Prospect School, and now retired from a career as an administrator with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

He now lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Also still living are: Mr. Clifton Oxendine, professor emeritus and retired from PSU; Dr. Earl C. Lowry, living in Des Moines, Iowa; Elmer T. Lowry, one

of the honorees during the recent Lumbee Homecoming and retired, living in the Hopewell Community; and John Paul Sampson, living in Decatur, Illinois.

Deceased but revered still are: Delton Lowry, Frank Epps, James T. Sampson (who married the president of McKendree's daughter), Dr. Herbert G. Oxendine.

We don't have any information on Raimen. If you do, we would like to hear from you.

These are some of our heroes. We thank Mr. Clifton Oxendine for sharing this wonderful article with us. —THE EDITOR

SEG to present "Super Sitters"

Southeastern General Hospital will present "Super Sitters," a course for all present and future male and female babysitters, ages 12 through 18. The babysitters will be exposed to general care tips, child safety, mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and special problems for babysitters. An attendance certificate will be presented at completion of the course which will be held July 19, from 8:30-12:30 and July 20, from 8:30 until 12:30 at the Maxton Medical Services, Inc. on Florence Street, Maxton, N.C. Cost of the course will be \$15 per person. To register call 738-6441, Extension 777. "We care for life."

ANNIVERSARY SING SATURDAY

The Burnt Swamp Baptist Anniversary Singing will be held at West End Baptist Church in Lumberton, Sunday, beginning at 2 p.m. The public is cordially invited.

ELECTIONS BOARD TO MEET FRIDAY ON J.W. HUNT HEARING

The Robeson County Board of Elections met for more than four hours Monday night but reached no decision on a request from incumbent Commissioner J.W. Hunt to call for another primary election in the commissioners' District 3 race (Rowland).

Hunt lost the race to Henry Douglass by a 33-vote margin, according to elections board officials, who conducted a hand-count of the ballots.

Hunt's attorney, Mitchell Baker III, told the three-member elections board that ineligible voters cast ballots in the June 5 runoff, and the race should be reheld. Baker said some of those ineligible were convicted felons.

Douglass' attorney, Willie Swann, said the primary should not be reheld and argued that the board acted unconstitutionally in conducting a hand recount.

Swann also appealed to the elections officials to deny the request for a new primary because his appeal was not filed "in a timely manner." He also said that Hunt failed to submit his appeal in the proper format.

The elections board, composed of Robert Stevenson, Bo Biggs and chairwoman Emma Locklear will meet Friday and attempt to come up with a recommendation or finding of fact to present to the state board of elections.

Hal Kinlaw, the board's attorney, said he needed more time to research the list of alleged convicted felons that cast ballots in the race.

RIVERSIDE COUNTRY CLUB TO BECOME INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER

According to news reports the General Assembly approved the purchase of Riverside Country Club Saturday, after putting a bit. The bill was part of an appropriations bill that included \$360,000 in funds to complete the state Department of Administration's purchase of Riverside Country Club in the Red Banks Community, near Pembroke.

But, the funding measure includes a provision attached to the bill by House Speaker Liston B. Ramsey that changes state purchasing policies to require all state departments to inform the General Assembly before they make government-involved purchases and sales of property valued at \$25,000 or more.

Following criticism last week of the Department of Administration's action in buying part of the club, Ramsey said he was upset that the General Assembly had not learned of the state's decision to buy the property until 15 months later. He also said 50 other legislators favored introduction of the provision.

The Department of Administration's Commission on Indian Affairs will use the funds to buy the club and its 386 acres for a possible Indian cultural tourist center. Reportedly, the state had taken an option in the property for \$90,000, without advising the General Assembly of the move.

The property includes a nearly 100-acre lake, two tennis courts, an 18-hole golf course, a swimming pool, clubhouse and the amphitheatre where the outdoor drama "Strike At The Wind" is presented every summer.

The appropriations bill also included \$125,000 to buy an additional 99 acres adjacent to the country club to afford better access to the property from U.S. 74, said Kathy Neal of the Department of Administration.

The Commission of Indian Affairs is expected to issue a definite statement in a future issue of *The Carolina Indian Voice* relative to the above, and hopefully clear up some of the inaccuracies reported in the area press.

GOLF LESSONS AT RIVERSIDE COUNTRY CLUB

Robeson County Recreation Dept. is offering golf lessons at Riverside Country Club. Beginning Wednesday, July 18 thru August 8, the lessons will be from 9 until 11 a.m. Instructor will be James Locklear at a price of \$8 for 4 weeks of classes. The Dept. will also sponsor an interior decorating class at Southern Interior located on Union Chapel Road in Pembroke, July 16 thru August 6, from 8 to 9 p.m. The free 4-week classes will be taught by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Maynor.

REV. MILLARD MAYNARD RECEIVES DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE



Rev. Millard Maynard

Covington Theological Seminary of Rossville, Georgia recently awarded 150 degrees to the 1984 graduating class. Included in this class was the Rev. Millard Maynard, pastor of the Saddletree Church of God. Reverend Maynard received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Dr. R.H. Brown, President of Covington.

Rev. Maynard was also recently elected to the State Council of the Churches of God of Eastern North Carolina, by the ministers of this state. This is the highest electoral office in the state.

He has for the past four years been a member of the National Board of Cross-Cultural Ministries and is a member of the N.C. Advisory Committee on religious ministry in prison, appointed by Governor Jim Hunt.

June 10, 1984, Reverend and Mrs. Maynard were honored at the Saddletree Church of God with Pastoral Appreciation Day. Special recognition was given to Reverend Maynard for receiving his Doctorate. He was also given a Bible and a plaque by the church. He has been the pastor of Saddletree for the past three years. He also holds the position of District Overseer for the Indian Churches of God in North Carolina for the past 27 years.

SCHOOL GYMNASIUMS TO OPEN JULY 23 THRU AUGUST 16

The Robeson County Recreation and Park Commission will open school gymnasiums for summer recreation at the following locations for the weeks of July 23 until August 16, 1984. The gyms will be open at Maxton Jr. High, Oxendine Elementary, Piney Grove Elementary, Proctorville Elementary. There will be two programs on two different nights at each location. Program one will consist of youth crafts from 6:30 until 7:30 and free movies from 7:30 until 9:30. This will be for youth ages 5 through 14. That same night ladies aerobics will also be offered. Program 2 will be free play for adults with basketball and other activities offered from 6:30 until 9:30. Program one will be held on Monday at Piney Grove. Tuesday at Oxendine Elementary. Wednesday at Proctorville and Thursday at Maxton Jr. High. Program two will be offered on Monday at Proctorville, Tuesday at Maxton Jr. High, Wednesday at Piney Grove and Thursday at Oxendine.

FUND RAISING PLATE SALES SET FOR LARRY W. CHAVIS, SR.

Supporters of Larry W. Chavis, Sr. are having plate sales Friday and Saturday, July 13 & 14 at Lewis' Quick Stop, near Hilly Branch Vocational Center.

Barbeque and chicken plates are being sold at a cost of \$3.

Chavis is contesting incumbent Pete Clark for a seat on the Robeson County Board of Education in District Six and a special election has been set for July 31.

LUMBEE HOMECOMING 1984

(Cont'd on Page 10)

PEMBROKE—Ken Maynor, Executive Director of Lumbee Regional Development Association, the sponsoring agency, called Lumbee Homecoming, 1984 "the best homecoming ever!" And few would disagree. It was a homecoming to remember!

The theme of Lumbee Homecoming, 1984 was "Today is the time...to ensure tomorrow," in reference to LRDA's federal recognition effort.

Homecoming honored Mr. Clifton Oxendine, now retired from a lifetime of service to Pembroke State University as dean and history professor, as Grand Marshal. And continued the tradition of honoring elders in the Lumbee community as grand marshals each year.

It was a grand time of fellowship and fun, giving an opportunity for Lumbees to gather and remember the best in the Lumbee experience.



Friday night was the time for the exciting and crowd pleasing Miss Lumbee Pageant held in PSU's Performing Arts Center to a capacity audience. Named Miss Lumbee 1984 was Lee Pam Oxendine (center), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard D. Oxendine of Rowland, Pam, a rising junior at Pembroke State, was crowned by the outgoing Miss Lumbee, Sandra Locklear. Her court included 1st runner-up Kim Swett (left), and Shelly Carol Chavis, 2nd runner-up. A coronation ball followed at the Old Foundry Restaurant in Lumberton.

The newly crowned Miss Lumbee received a \$700 scholarship, a wardrobe, and the opportunity to represent the Lumbee people throughout the state and region. She also qualified to participate in next year's Miss North Carolina Pageant.

Perennial favorites Lindy Martin and Ron Andrade shared the dais as masters of ceremony.

Miss Lumbee's father expressed it best when he said, "I feel great...this is what she worked so hard for and she got it."

Penelope Locklear, an obvious crowd favorite, received the non finalist talent award for her rendition of "I Honestly Love You," and Brenda Lowery received the Miss Congeniality Award on a vote by the other contestants.

Mrs. Florence Ransom, pageant director, captured the essence of the evening when she pronounced "all the girls...winners" for participating.

Pembroke passes \$1 Million Budget, No Tax Increase

Contrary to sometimes heated meetings over the last few years, Pembroke's Town Council recently held budget hearings and adopted a \$1 million budget without fanfare and without a tax increase. The town continues to assess a 70 cents tax valuation on property.

The new budget totals \$1,161,384, and includes a 5% cost of living increase for all employees of the town. The budget was adopted without a tax increase by taking into account the growth in the business sector, and a slight increase in institutional rates for water and sewer customers. Water rates increased 38 cents per 1,000 gallons, and the sewer rate increased 51 cents per 1,000 gallons. Residential water and sewer rates stayed the same, and the minimum rate is \$3.90

(water) and \$1.95 (sewer).

The general fund budget for Pembroke increased \$28,380 over 1983-1984 and totals \$599,125 for 1984-85. The water and sewer fund totals \$300,400 and the capital budget (well and treatment facility) was budgeted at \$261,859.

The board also approved Edwards and Lewis to do the 1983-84 audit on the town's books, and voted affirmatively on Rennett's membership in the Lumbee River Council of Governments.

In other matters... the board authorized Town Manager McDuffie Cummings to draw up an amendment for consideration to the town's code of ordinance that would disallow discos in any zone, if passed.

Prospect Honors retiring Principal James A. Jones

PROSPECT—It was mostly a love in as family and friends gathered at Prospect School June 29 to honor long time principal James A. Jones with accolades, friendly barbs and gifts and plaques of appreciation.

Jones, principal at Prospect School since 1971, retired this year after 33 years of service as an educator. He was portrayed as a man who put the children first, and instilled pride in Prospect School.

The theme of the evening was "You Light Up My Life," and a highlight of the evening was a rendition of the song dedicated to Mr. Jones by some of the teachers at Prospect School.

Remarks and accolades were presented by Rev. Bob Mangum, pastor of Prospect Church, who said it best: "Mr. Jones always put the children first." Others who offered remarks were

Superintendent Purnell Swett, Harbert Moore, Gurney Hunt, Mrs. Pandora Strickland, Mrs. Mary E. Chavis, Assistant Principal William Chavis, Mrs. Rosa McDuffie, and an out pouring of love and affection by family members and friends who spoke spontaneously from the audience.

A brother, McKinley Jones, especially honored his brother by saying, "You've been more than a brother... you've been my friend whenever I have needed a friend, or someone to talk to—I'm proud that you're my brother."

Mr. Jones thanked everyone present, especially his wife and family, and spoke with pride of the 7 doctors and three attorneys and other successful students who graduated from Prospect School. That seemed to be the testimony that he was most proud of.



Mr. Jones [3rd. from right] is shown with his wife and children and Supt. Purnell Swett (left) following the tribute June 29, 1984. [Bruce Barton photo]



Retiring Prospect Principal James A. Jones was presented a plaque of appreciation by his assistant, William Chavis, one of many gifts and plaques he received at a dinner in his honor recently.

ARMED SERVICES

Kevin D. Hunt, son of Gurney and Bessie P. Hunt of Rural Route 2, Pembroke, N.C., has been promoted in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of airman first class.

Hunt is an air traffic control specialist at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, with the 2108th Communications Squadron. He is a 1982 graduate of Prospect High School, Pembroke.