

# THE CAROLINA INDIAL VOICE

PEMBROKE, N.C.

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BESON COUNTY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1984



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"Building Communicative Bridges  
in A Tri-Racial Setting"

...Busier  
Times When  
Railroad  
Station was  
In Use.



## EFFORT TO SAVE RAILROAD STATION ENDORSED BY TOWN OF PEMBROKE

Pembroke-Pembroke Chamber of Commerce President, Bruce Barton, appeared before the Pembroke Town Council Monday night and asked their blessings on the chamber's effort to save the railroad station that has been abandoned by the Seaboard System Railroad (formerly the Seaboard and Atlantic-Coastline Railroads).

Barton charged that the railroad's position concerning the railroad station (now in a woeful state of disrepair) is one of "benign neglect." Barton also noted the historical significance of the Pembroke Railroad Station. The Pembroke stop is part of the longest straight stretch of railroad line in America, some 78.86 curveless miles and runs from Hamlet to Wilmington.

Pembroke is also historically significant because the old Atlantic and Coastline Rail lines cross at the apex where the railroad station now sits awaiting its fate.

Pembroke is also historically significant, according to Barton, because Pembroke was named after a Pembroke Jones, a railroad engineer) was settled, laid out and developed by the railroad company. Much of the town was sold or given to settlers to encourage the town's growth since it was such an integral part of the railroad's overall program. The 78.86 mile curveless U.S. line makes up the major portion of the Wilmington subdivision of the railroad's Raleigh division. The entire subdivision (109.1 miles long) runs from Davis Yard in Wilmington to Hamlet's Yard in Hamlet, NC. The line was built between 1856 and 1861 as part of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad.

Reorganized after bankruptcy and named Carolina Central, the line was merged into the Seaboard Air Line in 1900. Its name changed again in 1967 to the Seaboard Coast Line when Seaboard and Atlantic Coastline joined forces. The line is now known as the Seaboard System Railroad.

According to railroad officials automation has made the Pembroke station obsolete, and no long range plans are on

the drawing board.

Barton encouraged the council to endorse the chamber's effort, and told them grant making agencies and foundations would be approached as funding sources.

Barton also informed the council that the chamber is exploring possible uses of the railroad station, including offices for the chamber, possibly Strike at the Wind and other civic organizations. Plans are also being considered for a historical marker, a mini concert hall and a wall of historical documents, memorabilia, pictures, etc.

In communication with railroad officials, Barton has asked for a six month moratorium on tearing down the station and assistance from the railroad itself in preserving the important historical building. The railroad has not officially responded to the chamber's entreaty.

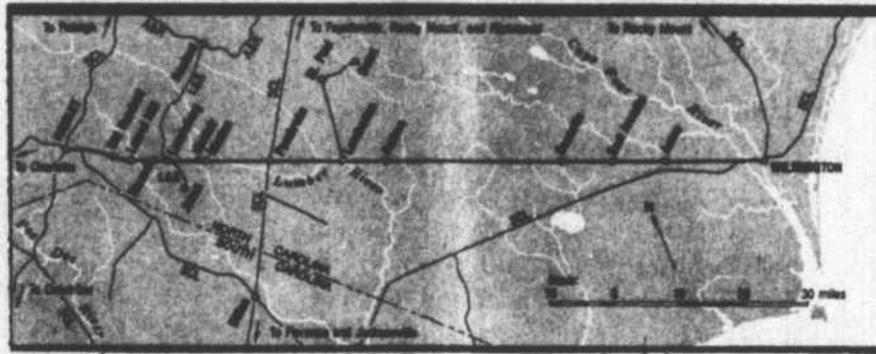
The council enthusiastically endorsed the effort, and join Pembroke State University and other civic organizations and concerned parties in encouraging the effort to save the railroad station.

### IN OTHER ACTION...

The council also set a public hearing for September 4 at 7 p.m. to consider an ordinance to regulate discos in town, as well as regulation of Sunday hours for the same.

And set August 20 at 7 p.m. for public hearings to consider Earl Antone and Associate's request to build a 48 apartment complex on River Road near Pembroke, as well as zoning amendment requests by Mrs. Maggie Mercer and Mrs. Marilyn Rose Carter Roberts. Mrs. Mercer, the sister of Councilman Larry T. Brooks and town attorney Dexter Brooks, presently is seemingly at variance with the town's zoning ordinances concerning multiple dwellings within a residential area, specifically a dwelling being converted to an apartment fronting Highway 711 next door to Pi Kappa Alpha.

The council ended the meeting in executive session to consider personnel matters and "possible litigation," according to Dexter Brooks, town attorney.



## Pembroke Awarded \$669,247 Community Development Grant

PEMBROKE--A major community development need in Pembroke came one step closer to resolution today when Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. announced that the city has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant for 1984.

The award to Pembroke, one of 69 totaling \$31 million announced by the Governor, is for \$669,247 to fund community revitalization activities.

"Local governments will use these funds to revitalize their communities, to rehabilitate houses, improve basic services and to help create jobs from new and expanded businesses and industries," the Governor stated.

"I am particularly pleased that these federal block grant dollars will work to create or save 445 jobs and will be used to rehabilitate more than 1600 substandard houses. Funds for economic development projects will be matched with approximately \$3.2 million in additional public and private dollars," he said.

Grant recipients announced today were determined on a competitive rating system. Rating criteria for funds included the percentage of benefit to low and moderate income people, community needs, a proposed project's design, its consistency with state goals and policies, and the utilization of other public and private funds for project activities.

Pembroke's grant proposal is centered on revitalizing the area known as the Jones St. neighborhood, and includes rehabilitation of 31 existing homes, the complete remodeling of 4 others, and extensive sewer, water and drainage work.

In announcing the award Town Manager McDuffie Cummings said there is "great excitement" in the air. He particularly praised Mayor Milton Hunt and Councilmen Vernon Oxendine, Larry Brooks, J.C. Thomas and Henry Ward Oxendine for proposing the project and

working diligently toward its realization.

Pembroke was one of only 2 towns in Robeson County awarded grants.

Rennert, newly incorporated, received in excess of \$500,000 for revitalization purposes also.

## Canoe Float Planned

The Robeson County Recreation and Park Commission is sponsoring a 2-hour Canoe Float down the scenic Lumber River August 25, 1984. Boarding will be at Hwy. 72 Wildlife Station at 9:30 a.m. and ending at Stevens Park for festivities at 11:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Limited number of canoes will be available on a first come first serve basis. Anyone wishing to use canoes must make reservation prior to the date by contacting the Recreation Dept. at 738-9061 or 738-9595.

## Scott Blue Benefit Breakfast set

Friends of Scott Blue, the 15-year-old Laurinburg youth who was critically injured last August in a freak diving accident, will host a fund raising breakfast for him on Saturday, August 11, '84 at Scotland High School. Norma Forde will cook breakfast for the event.

Scott is the son of Mary and Raybon Oxendine of Laurinburg. He is the grandson of Alice Blue of Pembroke.

Scott returned to his Laurinburg home July 7 after 11 months of treatment at Atlanta's Shepherd Spinal Center. Medical expenses incurred by his illness have totaled more than \$250,000 to date. During the course of 19 operations, Scott has learned to talk again, to move his hands and use a motorized wheelchair, a special typewriter and telephone.

Seven people will be helping Norma Forde prepare eggs, sausage, grits, toast, coffee or juice, all donated by local firms, from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. in the high school cafeteria.

### PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

To all friends, relatives. From Abner Nash Locklear, Rt. 3, 202 A. Maxton, N.C. 28364. You are invited to attend my sixty-fifth birthday celebration August 11, 1984 from 10 a.m. until, at my home.

### FOOD GIVE-AWAY PLANS

The Robeson County Dept. of Social Services will distribute surplus food beginning Tuesday, September 4. Organizations, groups, churches, and various agencies that wish to pick up the food for persons they serve should contact the agency immediately. In order to pick up the food, the organizations will need to provide the Department of Social Services the name, address, and phone number of the person in charge of the food distribution. This requirement is due to new Department of Agriculture regulations for distribution. The organizations will also need to be provided the distribution procedures to be followed during the September distribution. A representative should contact the Department of Social Services during office hours which are Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. until 5:15 p.m.

### PRESTON AND EMILINE LOCKLEAR FAMILY REUNION

The descendants of Preston and Emiline Locklear will hold their Family Reunion August 11 at 12 Noon. Relatives and friends are asked to bring a covered dish. For more information contact John Pat Locklear (919) 521-9024 or Bertha L. Sencenbough (919) 521-2216.

### OAK GROVE HOLINESS CHURCH PROGRAM TO BROADCAST ON WTSB

The Oak Grove Holiness Church Program will begin broadcasting over Radio WTSB on Sunday, July 12 from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. The Rev. Grover Oxendine is pastor of Oak Grove Holiness Church. He invites all his friends to tune in the program on Sunday, WTSB is 580 a.m. on your radio dial (the same as the former WAGR). The Oak Grove Holiness Church will continue to broadcast on WNCN, St. Pauls between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

### RADIO PROGRAM TO FEATURE LOCAL GOSPEL SINGERS

Plans are tentatively being made to begin a radio program over WTSB Radio, Lumberton which will feature Lumbee Indian gospel singers. The Rev. Grover Oxendine, pastor of Oak Grove Holiness Church, is tentatively scheduling this program to highlight Lumbee artists for the first Saturday in September, 1984. Rev. Oxendine is seeking sponsors for this program. He states that a business may sponsor 15 minutes of gospel music for as little as \$20. During this 15-minute period, each sponsor will receive 2 or 3 spots of advertising. Interested sponsors are urged to call Rev. Oxendine at 521-9875.

Rev. Oxendine also encourages Indian performers to contact him at the above number relative to the music for this performance. Albums are preferred, but 8-track and cassette will be accepted. There will be no charge for the performers. Their gospel music will be featured as a promotional effort.

### DR. D.E. BROOKS TO PRESENT SLIDE PRESENTATION ON SCOUTING

Dr. D.E. Brooks, Scoutmaster for Troop 327, will present a slide presentation on scouting on Wednesday night, August 15, at 7 p.m. at the Boy Scout Hut in Pembroke. He invites all parents and interested persons to attend this presentation.

Said Dr. Brooks, "Boy scouting can develop sound men of tomorrow. These are your boys and our community. Let's get concerned and get them interested in scouting." Brooks believes that scouting has many many advantages. Goals are set by the individual scouts, he said. "What we need is people who are interested in supporting this worthwhile organization. We need to encourage these scouts individually to help them develop what ever skills they need. Some of them need self discipline, some the basic skills, some pride and some responsibility."

The film is a means of challenging people to become active volunteers. The scouting program in Pembroke is in need of people to donate man hours to help this program continue to succeed, according to Brooks.

### INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER ONE STEP CLOSER TO REALITY

RALEIGH--According to an Associated Press release circulated Tuesday the state is one step closer to finalizing plans to purchase the Riverside Country Club in the Red Banks community in Robeson County with designs of turning it into an Indian cultural and tourist center.

The 386 acre country club is the home of 'Strike at the Wind', the successful local outdoor drama about Henry Berry Lowrie and the Lumbee Indians. The recreational complex is in the heart of the Lumbee Indian community.

The motion, according to the news release, was made by outgoing Lt. Governor Jimmy Green and referred to the appropriate state agencies for purchase of the complex.

This summer the general assembly appropriated \$360,000 to purchase the remaining interest after the state exercised an option it held. The complex includes a 90 acre lake, 18 hole golf club, tennis courts, baseball fields, swimming pool, and more, as well as the amphitheatre where 'Strike at the Wind' is played each summer.

### KIWANIANS HEAR FROM FORMER PEMBROKE MAYOR

The Pembroke Kiwanians heard from fellow member, Reggle Strickland, who is also the former mayor of Pembroke. Strickland, an employee relations representative with the Department of Transportation, gave the club some facts on the "Good roads state."

Strickland explained the rudiments of his job which deals specifically with equal employment and affirmative action ensuring that transportation department employees are treated fairly in the department, especially minorities. Strickland proudly stated, "We have one of the best affirmative action programs in the state in comparison with other state agencies."

Strickland also noted some local highway projects in the area, including a new bridge near West Robeson High School on State Road 1334, a new bridge over Gum Swamp, new stop lights and controls at Pembroke State University, curbing and guttering at Pembroke Middle School, local paving projects and more.

Bill Oxendine is president of the Pembroke Kiwanis Club, and regular reporter, Dr. Ken Johnson, is enjoying a well deserved vacation.

### DRUG BUST ARRESTS TOTAL "IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF 80..."

But, according to law enforcement officials, all the names of those arrested in the celebrated drug bust last Thursday morning still have not been released because of the number of law enforcement agencies participating.

The undercover operation, which culminated in the mass arrests of local people, began last January and was coordinated by the local Sheriff's Department headed by Sheriff Hubert Stone. Other agencies participating included the Lumberton Police Department, agents from the state alcohol law enforcement unit, ABC and State SBI officers, and other police departments in the county.

Those arrested were charged with sundry charges, including charges of selling and possession of marijuana, cocaine, LSD and alcoholic beverages. At press time most of those arrested had posted bonds ranging from \$500 to \$8,000 with a few warrants still to be served.

Stone claimed that the raid was a success and intimated that it was targeted at the "middle man" in the drug rings in the area. According to Stone the arrests were mostly without resistance and most were caught unaware or in bed. The arrests began at 2 a.m. in the morning last Thursday and the operations continued.

### IN THE ARMED SERVICES

Prutis Locklear, son of James A. Locklear of Rural Route 2, Pembroke, N.C., has been promoted in the U.S. Army to the rank of sergeant first class. Locklear is an armed crew member with the 42nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

His wife, Connie, is the daughter of Joseph Locklear.

## "Church Night" always a highlight of "Strike at the Wind!" Season

by Bruce Barton

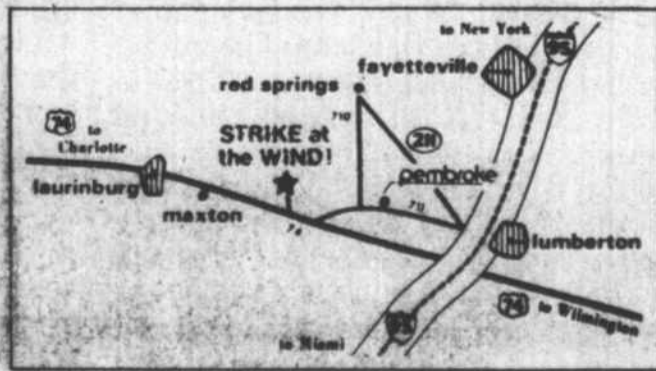
PEMBROKE--Continuing the tradition, August 24 will be "Church Night" at "Strike at the Wind!" this year. All churches especially are encouraged to participate, and bring a crowd. For the third year, the church bringing the largest crowd will receive a trophy denoting the fact. 2nd place and third place plaques go to the churches bringing the 2nd and 3rd highest number.

Betha Baptist Church in Pembroke won the trophy the first year the special night was held in 1982; Lumberton's West End Baptist Church won in 1983. Both hopefully will be vying for top honors again this year.

Tentative plans are being developed to have a pre-show Gospel Sing, with prayer and devotion. It is always wonderful when the Christian community has an opportunity to take part in promoting a clean and wholesome outdoor drama--like "Strike at the Wind!"--that is such an integral part of our history and culture. More definitive plans will be unveiled next week, and in upcoming issues of The Carolina Indian Voice.

"Church Night" is sponsored by The Carolina Indian Voice and participating churches in the area. "Strike at the Wind!" is a clean and wholesome production, and suitable for families to share together.

For more information call 521-3112 or 521-2826.



### TICKETS

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Tickets mailed if time allows - otherwise pick up at gate.  
GENERAL ADMISSION: guaranteed admission to the theatre - unreserved seat.  
\$5.00 - Adults - \$4.00 Senior Citizens over 65  
\$2.50 Children under 12

10% discount for groups of 10 or more persons when purchased by a group representative.  
PREFERRED SEATING: front and center section - guaranteed reserved seats \$6.00 per person over 3 years - no discount - limited number available.

No. Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ General Admission \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Seating \_\_\_\_\_  
For \_\_\_\_\_ performance \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

STRIKE AT THE WIND!  
Box 1059 - BR  
Pembroke, NC 28375



Phone (919) 581-8880 (3:30-5:30)  
(919) 281-3112 after 6:00 p.m. on  
Performance nights.

Tickets may be purchased at the door. The box office opens at 4 p.m. on performance nights. Advance reservations are recommended. Avoid lines - Phone or Mail your order and charge to your MasterCard or VISA.

Interbank No. \_\_\_\_\_  
MasterCard No. \_\_\_\_\_  
VISA No. \_\_\_\_\_