

The Carolina Indian Voice

Dedicated to Service

"Building Communicative Bridges
In A Tri-racial Setting."

The Carolina Indian Voice, a weekly newspaper
published each Thursday in Pembroke, N.C.,
began January 18, 1973

The Carolina Indian Voice wants to serve you by printing your news. However, in order to better serve you, the staff of The Carolina Indian Voice must impose a 5 p.m. Tuesday deadline for news that is to appear in the Thursday edition. Advertisers are asked to please adhere to the same deadline (Tuesday at 5 p.m.). To subscribe to The Carolina Indian Voice, please call (919) 521-2826. Or drop by the office located on High School Street in Pembroke, across from Old Main in College Plaza (we are two doors down from the Pantry).
SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
1 Year (In N.C.).....\$10.00
1 Year (Outside N.C.).....\$13.00

Published each Thursday in Pembroke, N.C.

VOLUME 13 NUMBER 42

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1985

25¢ per copy

Did Virginia Dare Die In Robeson County?

by Lew Barton

Did Virginia Dare die in Robeson County, North Carolina? A feature writer for the U.S. News and World Report would like to know. And so, for that matter, would any other writer, the world over. For she is easily the most famous baby in American history, no further record of her following her birth and christening in 1587 is extant. The daughter of Ananias and Eleanor Dare, and the granddaughter of John White, leader of the 1587 English colony which landed on Roanoke Island, North Carolina under the sponsorship of Sir Walter Raleigh (who in turn was acting under the granted permission of Elizabeth I), the baby was evidently removed with the rest of the colonists "fifty miles into the main(land)" shortly after her birth. (See Footnote 1.)

Whether or not she was "the first child of English parentage born in America," as some historians claim, I know not and doubt much. (See Footnote 2). But that question is of no importance here. What is of significance, is that this was officially the case. And hers was the first birth in English-American history. It was from the Thirteen Original English Colonies of North America that the present United States of America was eventually evolved. I began researching that particular area of English-American history in 1947, have been actively engaged

ever since, and I do have my own opinions, impressions and personal feelings about Virginia Dare, whom I call Nacoochee, the Little White Cub of the White Bear Clan. I didn't just pull that out of a hat, nor did I dream it up. "Little" indicates that she was small in stature, even as an adult. (Which she almost certainly did become, if we are to give any credence to three widely separated Indian traditions). Our people of the Lumbee were once called "The White Bear Clan" because of our association with Virginia Dare, whom we loved and revered and by whom we were led.

Virginia Dare lived to become a mature woman in our midst, then died rather suddenly of a fever which I now suspect of being scarlet fever. There is a story to the effect that her spirit still hovers over us in Robeson, in the form of a white bird of considerable size.

Fred Brown wrote a story before 1951 which spoke of a burial site which was supposedly the grave site of Virginia Dare in Robeson, but was so harassed by fellow news men that he finally retracted the whole thing, calling it a hoax. I personally think he was just taking the easy way out.

I never had the pleasure of meeting Virginia Dare, not in the flesh anyway, naturally. Nor do I know anyone who did. But I must say that all the impressions she left for our people, and others, were all

good and positive ones. May her spirit continue to inspire and uplift us all, Lumbee and non-Lumbee, forever!

In her honor, and as I understand her, I attempted to write several stanzas. She is the one American every American can afford to love completely and completely without reservation. She was the first-born of this present nation.

NACOOCHIEE

Her eyes were blue, and in their depths,
The fires of life burned bright.
The slight of build, she stood erect,
And reached her utmost height.
A queen in home-spun fabric,
She spoke and braves obeyed!

She smiled and lighted up the place,
Her subjects loved displayed.
Her hair, as golden as the moon,
She wore way down her back.
It streamed behind her more than once
As she repelled attack.

The fiercest creatures of the wilds
Were loathe to touch her camp.
They'd slink away when she appeared...

To quarter dark and damp,
Was she enchanted? Who can say?
We bless the paths she took
To bring much richer lives to those
The whole world once forsook.

LREMC HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING: NEW BOARD MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation held its Annual Meeting of Members on Tuesday, October 15, at Pembroke State University's Performing Arts Center.

The Annual Meeting opened with registration of members at 6 p.m. The business session also included reports by the President of the Board of Directors and the General Manager. During the meeting, members voted on candidates for four seats on the board. There was entertainment and a question-and-answer session for members also on the agenda.

Incumbent candidates Lacy Cummings, Alton Dudley and Ronald Hammonds retained their seats on the board while Ward Clark replaced Bill James Brewington as board member.

Cummings, the at-large candidate received 526 votes.

He was opposed by Carl Branch who received 49 votes and Steve Strickland was nominated from the floor. Strickland received 119 votes.

In District 1 Ward Clark, Jr. received 413 votes to incumbent Brewington's 280. In District 5, Ronald Hammonds overcame a challenge by James H. Hammonds, 382 to 309.

In District 6, Alton Dudley received 689 votes. He was unopposed.

The following officers for the year were elected by the board of directors. J.W. Hunt president; Bradford Oxendine, vice president; Timothy Strickland, secretary; and Alton Dudley, treasurer.

Lumbee River EMC is a rural electric cooperative providing electric power to nearly 24,000 homes and businesses in Robeson, Hoke, Scotland, and Cumberland counties.



Shown is Crystal Bowen, daughter of LREMC consumers Rev. and Mrs. Buck Bowen. Crystal was chosen to draw tickets for prizes given away at the end of each annual meeting. (Photo by Jerry Spivey)

Health Career Awareness Project Begins New



TONY JONES, 1985 Pre-Med Graduate of Pembroke State University telling about his experiences as a former

H-CAP AND COLLEGE STUDENT WITH SENIORS AT WEST ROBESON HIGH SCHOOL.

The Health Career Awareness Project (H-CAP) of the Robeson County Board of Education recently began the 1985-86 school year. Six general information sessions were held in the county high schools. These sessions were conducted by Ms. Bonita Bullard, the Counselor/Coordinator for the program in coordination with the high school Guidance Counselors

Debbie Chavis-Registered Physical Therapist, Leslie Sanderson-Registered Pharmacist, Dr. J.C. Locklear-Internal Medicine, Peggy Strickland-Registered Physical Therapist, Tony Jones-1985 PSU Pre-Med Graduate and 1985 Medical Education Developmental Program Participant, UNC-Chapel Hill.

(Ms. Joanne Lowery-Magnolia, Mrs. Harriet M. Jackson-West Robeson, Mrs. Janice Hunt-South Robeson, Mrs. Brenda Larke-Orrum, Mr. Walter Jackson-Parkton and Mr. Roger Herring-Littlefield).

During these sessions students were informed of the many activities and sessions offered by the program. Students heard from their fellow classmates who participated in the summer program. Each summer participant shared with the group how the program benefited them. During each session students were able to meet a health professional who grew up in Robeson County and was educated in the county school system. During the sessions students met and heard from the following professionals:

After each presentation students were given the opportunity to enroll in the Health Career Awareness Project.

The high school seniors are each given the opportunity through the H-CAP program to learn about all the possible health fields available. Through their participation with the program the students will have the opportunity to visit different university campuses such as, East Carolina, Wake Forest and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and learn about the different health career programs available at each that will best meet their needs.

The Health Career Awareness Project will be guiding all county high school seniors toward health professions through the 1985-86 academic year.

Area Comments About Billy Graham's New Film



Larry Sanders (Wes Parker) injured in a kayak accident in the wilds of Alaska recovering in the rustic cabin of a deserted mining camp in a scene from World Wide Pictures' CRY FROM THE MOUNTAIN.

The film has been described by those who saw it at the preview showing as "excellent," "superb," "great," "Beautiful," and with many other superlatives.

The movie's title is "Cry From The Mountain," produced by World Wide Pictures, which is a subsidiary of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Organization.

It opens a week's run Friday, Oct. 18, at Lumberton's Cinema II Theatre with showings on weekdays at 7 and 9:05 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday at 2:30, 4:35, 7, and 9:05 p.m. Tickets are \$4 and \$2 for adults and children, respectively.

World Wide Pictures summarizes the film as follows: "Majestic scenery, a life-threatening accident, an old hermit and encounters with wild animals combine to make this a spell-binding film."

It is a story of an Alaskan family, about to split up,

being brought together through God's ministry.

Almost 400 people saw the special preview showing in Lumberton Sept. 13, and each was asked to write out comments on the movie.

Here are a few of them:

Joyce Vereen, Lumberton--"Excellent! I feel sure this film will help many to find a meaningful relationship with God that they have not known & will lead many persons to Christ! I wish everyone could see it. I should bless our community."

Ron Anderson, Pembroke--"Well done! I really appreciated humor, the refrain from overpreaching--and especially the prayer scene with the boy."

Robert Mangum, Prospect--"Superb! Especially did I appreciate the Billy Graham invitation (on the screen) at the conclusion. It will speak to families."

Gail Hester, Bladenboro--"This was a great film. My

prayers are that more films like this will be made, and the people of Christ will support these films so we can get rid of films that are not fit for people to watch."

Carol Brooks, St. Pauls--"Praise God! It was beautiful. It definitely addresses a needed area. The script, photography, music and actors were super. The love of God and the Spirit of God definitely come through."

Jerry McNeill, Shannon--"I really enjoyed it. I feel that it is really on target concerning the lives of many couples here in Robeson County and the surrounding counties."

Ann Greene, Orrum--"Bravo! A clear, refreshing film. Family oriented. A blessed message from God about love and family, unity and friendship."

Jean Andrews, Fairmont--"The movie points out that when adverse situations arise in our lives we are fortunate to meet and associate with witnessing Christians. When Jesus becomes real to us, we do have hope."

Sonny Rogerson, Rowland--"A very good evangelistic film--great for reconstructing families. I will promote the film in our community."

Vickey Wilkins, Red Springs--"The movie was very good. I would highly recommend it to my fellow church members and to the public. I think it will reach the troubled family."

Cara Lockhart, Conway, S.C.--"I believe that Billy Graham has been a great Christian leader throughout the world, and the film will have a very positive effect in leading a family to Christ."

Rev. Robert Hensley also saw the film before leaving his post as superintendent of missions at the Robeson Baptist Association to take a Foreign Mission Board post in the Republic of Panama. He wrote these comments: "Excellent! I will be glad to promote this film in Panama both in Spanish and in English."

MURDERS IN ROBESON COUNTY

Authorities continue to question a number of people, and pursue leads, as they attempt to solve the triple murder of three Rowland men, according to local news reports and law enforcement sources.

The bodies of Donnie Lee Hunt, 28, Woodrow "Woody" Butler, 39, and Victor Hammonds, 24, all of Route 1, Rowland, were found last Wednesday evening (October 9) in a car that had crashed into an embankment near the Lumber River in the approximate vicinity of the Deep

Branch Community, approximately two miles from Highway 74. All three had been shot to death.

According to Al Parnell, Chief of Detectives with the Robeson County Sheriff's Department, "We've learned a lot but there's still a lot that we don't know. We have no motives or suspects but we haven't eliminated anyone."

The three murders are among a rash of killings reported locally, including the stabbing death of Ozmer Lee Oxendine, 53, Vardell Lock-

lear, 32, has been charged with first degree murder in his death. Oxendine was buried yesterday in funeral services at Harpers Ferry Baptist Church. According to local reports, Oxendine, a teacher for twenty years at Union Chapel Elementary School, was struck in the throat by a knife wielded by Locklear at the residence and business of mechanic Bill Oxendine, one half mile south of Old Baker Road in Maxton. Oxendine died near Pembroke while being transported there seeking medical attention.

Leaf Quotas May Go Up In Smoke

RALEIGH -- In past years, there was no doubt that tobacco farmers and allotment holders would vote to keep the federal tobacco program, but this year, farmers say the program might not get the required two-thirds "yes" vote.

Tobacco farmers and allotment holders in five states will vote in January on whether to retain the federal program of production control and price guarantees.

If the program is voted down, there would be no more limits as to how much tobacco or how much could be planted and no more price supports.

When he receives his ballot, William Powell of Apex says he doesn't know how he'll vote. His first crop was in 1939, the one year when quotas were voted out, and he nearly went broke.

"I guarantee you I said that year that I'll never vote against allot-

ments," Powell said. "That's gonna be a hard question. The farmer himself doesn't know what he's gonna do."

This year, farmers are struggling with lower prices, a dwindling quota and a 25-cent-per-pound assessment that threatens to rise to 40 cents if legislation to reform the program is not in place by New Year's Day.

T. Carlton Blalock, executive vice president of the Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina, spoke for his farmer members when he said of the upcoming vote: "I think it will depend entirely on what happens to the program between now and January."

"As long as they allow the landlord (allotment holder) to vote, it'll be voted in," said Wake County farmer Omer Ferrell. "If they allow the operator, it'll be a different story."

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Grading has begun at the site of the \$3.5 million University Center to be constructed at Pembroke State University. The first building, a multi-story structure, is scheduled to be completed in 1987.