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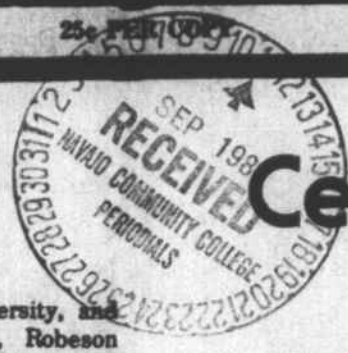
ROBESON COUNTY

THURSDAY, AUGUST

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 35

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

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GSX Opposition Confronts State Board

by Brian Kelly Dial

"I see GSX as a cancer that must be removed," declared West White of Robeson County.

This was just one of the strong statements of protest made by concerned citizens of Robeson County last Thursday, August 21, at the Governor's Waste Management Board meeting in Raleigh. Approximately 51 concerned citizens from Maxton, Rowland, Pembroke, Lumberton and St. Pauls attended the meeting in order to show their opposition to the hazardous waste treatment plant that

the GSX Corporation proposes to construct near the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport. Although it is said to be the largest plant of its kind in the United States, it will employ only thirty some workers, the trip was organized under the leadership of Rev. Mac Legerton, director of the Robeson County Clergy and Laity Concerned.

Several speakers expressed their opposition and concern to the board members.

Among them was Wyvis Oxendine, Robeson County Commissioner. Oxendine stated, "We have enough

technical material to warrant denying the permit." The Robeson group applauded Oxendine murmured words of support.

Rev. Mac Legerton, a resident of Pembroke, said that the Lumber River "is our livelihood, our source of drinking, washing... It is some of the cleanest water in North Carolina... If GSX were permitted to operate, this water would be contaminated to its maximum legal level and become some of the most toxic drinking water in the United States."

Dr. Harold Teague, a chemistry professor at Pem-

broke State University, and Raymond Deese, Robeson County Water Department supervisor, mentioned certain flaws and inconsistencies concerning the proposed GSX plant.

Rev. Oscar Cummings, Brian K. Dial, Mr. John L. Godwin and Mr. Wes White, all of Robeson County, also expressed their opposition to the waste plant.

While the Governor's Waste Management Board does not act directly as the decision-making body for the GSX application, the board members do have considerable influential power on the actual decision makers.

Baby Virginia Dare Turns 399

PYPEGGY HOWE

She's famous, but we know almost nothing about her.

We know her birthday, Aug. 18. We know that she was born and baptized on Roanoke Island, in what is now North Carolina. And we know her name.

She's Virginia Dare, whose birth in 1587 made her the first English child born in the New World.

Virginia's parents, Eleanor and Ananias Dare, arrived in what is now North Carolina July 22, 1587, as part of the second of Sir Walter Raleigh's attempts to colonize the new world. An exploratory expedition had reached the Outer Banks in 1584, and a 1585 colony had failed after a year.

The settlers landed on Roanoke Island in what is now Dare County. Among the colonists were 100 men, 17 women and nine children. Together they were to become the "lost colony."

Several weeks after their arrival, Eleanor gave birth to a daughter who quickly became the object of affection of all the colonists. The few children begged to hold her, neighbors helped care for her and one chronicler wrote that "the maid quieted her with snatches of gay ditties."

Colonists remembered the rituals surrounding the newborn, too. Despite being in the wilderness thousands of miles from home, the colonists clung to their religious beliefs and after several days the new parents made

plans for baptism of their daughter and began to think of a name for her.

When a neighbor suggested naming her for their good queen, Elizabeth was promptly rejected as a name. Some have since written that, although a queen, Elizabeth I was "the veriest shrew" and "a vain and worldly woman."

Finally, John White, governor of the colony and the baby's grandfather, suggested she be named "for this fair land to which she has come, our new home, Virginia."

Meanwhile, the colonists were fast realizing they'd need far more supplies than they had estimated. Governor White, though reluctant to leave his family, including the 10-day-old Virginia, prepared for the long voyage back to England.

Accounts say that the colonists agreed with Governor White that if they should leave the island, they would carve the name of their destination on a tree. If they had to leave in danger, the same signal would have a cross carved above it.

John White sailed away to England leaving the tiny band in the wilderness. Arriving just as England faced the powerful Spanish Armada, White's ship was needed in the war effort. Sir Walter Raleigh could offer no help.

Finally, in the spring of 1590, Governor White was able to outfit a ship and return to "Roanoke" Island. He arrived on a night in mid-August off the coast of the island, almost three years to the day after he'd left. Seeing only a faint light at the north end of the island, he fired off a cannon. After no response, he had the trumpeter play familiar English tunes. Still no answer.

At first light, White searched the island and found it deserted. The houses were dismantled, but the palisades remained. Buried chests had been dug up and rifled. White later wrote, "One of the chief trees or postes at the right side of the entrance had the barks taken off and 5. foote from the ground in fayre Capitall letters was grauen 'Croatan' without any crosses or signs of distress."

Taking heart at "no signs of distress," White urged the ship's captain to take him to the mainland camps of the Croatan Indians where he was sure he would find the colonists, but a raging storm drove the vessel out to sea. No amount of entreaty could lure the captain back once his bow pointed toward England.

And Virginia Dare? Virginia disappeared along with the rest of the colonists.

Many legends have persisted about the lost colony. Some believe the English did indeed go to live with the friendly Croatan Indians. Some believe the colonists were annihilated by the Indians or the hostile Spanish from the south. Others insist the settlers built a crude boat, set sail and were lost at sea.

One legend says Virginia grew into young womanhood and was changed by the sorcery of a rejected lover into a white dove. She roamed the lonely island until true love restored her to her human form, only to be killed by a silver arrow shot by a cruel chieftain.

Through the years, historians and researchers have pored over the meager shreds of evidence left by the colonists to no avail. Theories abound, but after four centuries, the fate of the lost colony is still unknown. Unknown, perhaps, but eternally fascinating. The saga of Virginia Dare and the "lost colony," has been captured in dramatic story and song in Paul Green's symphonic drama, "The Lost Colony," performed every summer on Roanoke Island. And delving into its mysteries is an important part of the celebration of the quadricentennial of the entire era of Sir Walter Raleigh's "Roanoke Voyages."

Celebrations began spectacularly in July, 1984, with the visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Anne to Roanoke Island, and continued in 1985 with the major exhibition of Elizabethan artifacts from the British Library at the N.C. Museum of History as well as world-famous drawings made on the Outer Banks by Virginia's grandfather, John White.

A further 400th Anniversary observance took place in January, 1986, with the opening of the N.C. Museum of History exhibit, "Great American Indian Leaders." Also, on June 10, 1986, at Hatteras, the reenactment of the lighting of a signal fire commemorated a similar event 400 years ago when the weary explorers signalled Sir Francis Drake's ship, seeking passage back to England.

A permanent plaque was unveiled, marking the site of the historic event. Four hundredth anniversary events scheduled for 1987 include the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the birth of Virginia Dare.

For details about plans for the commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary of the "Roanoke Voyages," contact America's Four Hundredth Anniversary Committee, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, 27611; or telephone (919) 735-4788.

Celebrating The Year Of The NATIVE AMERICAN

STRIKE at the WIND!

BY BRUCE BARTON

In this eleventh season of 'Strike at the Wind!', North Carolina is celebrating the year of the Native American throughout 1986. This would be a good time to come out and enjoy the bitter-sweet saga of Henry Berry Lowrie and the Lumbee Indians, and their white and black counterparts. The larger theme is the story of all the people of Robeson County, and how they dealt with the realities of the Civil War era.

You'll meet your friends and neighbors on stage, telling the story of their heroes, their history. People like Zeke and Vonnie Locklear (Allan Lowrie, and a Suffletown citizen respectively), and their precious daughter, Paige. All three are part of the most exciting outdoor drama in America, appearing on stage.

You'll also meet Della Sanderson, emoting in her first season as "Aunt Mary." Della's husband, Floyd "Duck" Sanderson is the armorer for the show. He's the one who makes the guns go "pow!" Kawanna, their 13 year old daughter, is also in the show as a Suffletown citizen. You'll also find Denise, 10, and Tabitha, 8, helping their father back stage. Della says, "It's something we can do together as a family, and we enjoy ourselves every night."

So, celebrate the "Year of the Native American" and

share the joys and travails of "Strike at the Wind!", the most exciting outdoor drama in America. Join the Sanderson and Locklear families. It's fun! And you'll have a good time.

"Strike at the Wind!" is presented Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center (formerly Riverside Country Club), in the heart of the Red Banks Community, approximately 3 miles west of Pembroke.

Show time is 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$5.50 for adults, \$4.50 for senior citizens over 65, and \$3.00 for children under 12. For more information, call 521-3112. Hope to see you there! The show runs through September 6, 1986.

AND WATCH FOR THESE SPECIAL NIGHTS:

"Student Night for all students/all Counties"-August 28, 1986-\$3.00 per student-\$2.00 per student under 12.

"Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Night"-August 29, 1986-\$1.00 off per person.

"Chamber of Commerce Night" for all counties-August 30, 1986-\$1.00 off per person.

"PSU Student/Faculty/Staff Night"-September 4, 1986-\$3.00 per person.

"Church Night"-All churches/all counties/all denominations-\$1.00 off per member September 5, 1986.

"Organization & Industry Night"-September 6, 1986-\$1.00 off per person.



Floyd "Duck" Sanderson
Armorer



Zeke Locklear
as Allen Lowrie, Sr.



Della Rae Sanderson
as Aunt Mary



Vonnie Locklear
as Suffletown Citizen



Kawanna Sanderson
as Suffletown Citizen



Paige Locklear
as Suffletown Citizen

Non-Profit Senior Center Begins Fund Raising Efforts

Thirty Senior Citizens Action Group, Inc. members turned in a very optimistic and gratifying report on August 19, 1986. These are members of the advisory board who are raising funds by selling household and other items to raise funds for the purpose of constructing a Senior Center in Robeson County to serve Senior Citizens in Robeson, Scotland and Hoke Counties.

Senior Citizens Action Group, Inc. filed its Articles of Incorporation with the State of North Carolina on March 26, 1986. The organization was formed by senior citizens, churches and concerned citizens in response to the growing needs of senior citizens in Robeson, Scotland and Hoke Counties.

The Senior Citizens Action Group, Inc. recognizes two very important areas of need (1) maximize and support both independence and community by offering special housing needs and (2) the serious need for socialization and activities among senior citizens which foster personal growth, physical exercise, satisfaction of interpersonal

relationships, skills sharing and development, cultural enrichment and spiritual development. The intent of Senior Citizens Action Group Inc. is to develop, construct and manage a Senior Center that will provide both residential and day services for the senior citizens of southeastern North Carolina, particularly Robeson, Scotland and Hoke counties.

Senior Citizens Action Group, Inc. is a non-profit organization in the State of North Carolina and is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Code.

Senior Citizens Action Group, Inc. is licensed by the State of North Carolina to solicit funds.

Senior Citizens Action Group, Inc. sincerely solicits funds for this very much needed Senior Center thru the efforts of churches, civic organizations, industry and individual contributions. Thank you for your much needed support.

Senior Citizens Action Group
Route 1 Box 296A
Maxton, NC 28364
Telephone (919) 844-5167

Magnolia Teachers Receive GTE Grant

Two instructors at Magnolia School have been named co-recipients of financial grants under the auspices of the "Gift" program which is funded nationally by the GTE corporation.

Mrs. Patricia M. Blue, a high school science instructor, and Mrs. Amelia Clark, an eighth grade math and science instructor, were notified this spring that their proposal had been reviewed and accepted.

The award winning proposal called for the construction of a green house on campus at Magnolia School which would serve as an on-site resource center for the Magnolia science department. By extension, it will also serve as a resource for other schools in the county system.

"GIFT" an acronym for Growth Initiative For Teachers, is a special program of financial grants to selected public school math and science teachers in the amount of \$10,000.00 which are conditioned upon the appropriation of \$5,000 in matching funds by the local school system.

The grants are intended to serve the dual purpose of providing for the professional growth of the teachers involved and the improvement of the science facilities in the particular schools. The ultimate and long-term goal is to provide students with the best possible instruction.

While the bulk of the grant is earmarked for capital outlay expenditures related to the construction and supplying of the greenhouse, a specific amount is allocated to each of the instructors for a program of professional development which they can design for their particular needs and in keeping with their particular interests.

Blue and Clark are the third pair of Robeson County teachers to ever receive this grant in the four years of the program's existence. GTE initiated this program in North Carolina as a way of investing in its own future. The underlying rationale was that the better the facilities, program, and instruction, the higher the quality of future applicants at GTE. The GIFT program has since been expanded from North Carolina to six other states and the District of Columbia.



On August 19, 1986 the Kiwanis Club treated the Phillie Team and Coach Veril Brooks to a banquet at the Town and Country Restaurant. This season was the first time in Little League that four brothers have ever played on the same team together. The four boys are James Stephen Locklear, Aaron Locklear, Mark Locklear, and Everette Locklear. They are the sons of James and Brenda Locklear.

The Phillie Phanatic is sponsored by the Pembroke Kiwanis Club. They have won the area Little League Tournament and the Robeson County Tournament for the past three years. The Robeson County Recreation Department Tournament was played July 30, 1986 at Magnolia School against the Wachovia Team. The Phillie won it 7-4. The team players received trophies at the end of each tournament game.

On August 2, the Pembroke Phillie Phanatic team was treated to a day at Fantasy Labs. The boys' parents and coach accompanied them. The Kiwanis Club covered the expenses for their food. Coach Veril Brooks presented

ed trophies to the outstanding players on the team. Stephen received the #1 Pitcher Trophy and Aaron received the Hustler Trophy. They all had an enjoyable time together.

Shown left to right are: Aaron, 11 years old; Stephen, 12 years old; Mark, 10 years old; and Everette, 9 years old.

The coach was very proud of the four boys and their accomplishments this year. Stephen finished up with a great four years on the Phillie Team. His position for the last two years has been pitcher. He will never forget having almost pitched a no-hitter game-only one hit was made during one of their games played. Coach Veril Brooks depended highly on Stephen's pitching ability. He hopes to continue playing baseball in junior high school and in Junior Turkeel next year. Aaron also made some crucial catches in center field to help win the area Little League Tournament. He still has one more year to play on the team. Although Mark and Everette didn't see much playing time this year, they will see more playing action next season.