

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

PUBLISHED EACH THURSDAY

PEMBROKE, N.C.

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

ROBESON COUNTY

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1987

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS VOTE TO REINSTATE FIRED INDIAN COUNTY WORKERS

Lumberton - Following an impassioned presentation by Rev. Bob Mangum, representing the Concerned Citizens for Better Government, the county commissioners voted Monday night to reinstate two county workers - Grady Chavis and Carol Locklear - fired earlier this month.

The board's action came after they had spent approximately two hours in executive session, and before a turn-away throng of Chavis and Locklear well wishers.

Mangum raised the question of whether the two were fired for political or racial reasons. "We must not let that be said," noted Mangum.

Only Wyvis Oxendine Speaks Up For Total Exoneration - Grady Chavis, \$23,400 a year administrative supervisor of the county water department, and computer technician Carol Locklear, who made \$13,000 a year, were fired 2 weeks ago. Board members refused to say why.

The board Monday night voted at first to hold a public hearing Friday for the two fired employees. Later, after a long closed session, they voted to reinstate them in their jobs with back pay.

Commissioner Jack Morgan said in his motion that if the two do not accept reinstatement by Monday, a new

public hearing would be set. The Friday public hearing was cancelled by the action.

After the vote, Chavis declined to comment. Asked if he would accept reinstatement, he said, "Not until I consult my lawyer."

Locklear also said she would have to talk to her lawyer before making a decision.

Mangum, armed with a copy of the county's personnel policies, asked the commissioners, "What section and what article were the two fired under? We believe you acted in breach of your own policy," he said. "And we believe you should reinstate Mr. Chavis and Mrs. Locklear."

Only Wyvis Oxendine, the Indian Commissioner from Chavis' district, insisted on total exoneration. Although he did not receive a second, Oxendine made a motion to put them back in their previous positions, with Chavis as the administrative supervisor of the water department. Jack Morgan, the Indian commissioner from the Red Springs District, made the motion to reinstate the two workers with the proviso that Henry Harris continue as public works director with Chavis reporting directly to him instead of county manager James Martin.

Morgan's motion passed

with only H.T. Taylor (the Lumberton commissioner who originally made the motion to fire the two workers) dissenting.

Commissioner Wyvis Oxendine, who had voted against the firings, said, "...We were wrong. We didn't give them a chance to view their side."

No commissioners said why the two were fired.

The question of racial bias by the board was raised a second time by Mrs. Mary McGirt when she complained that her section of the county had not yet received service from the county's water system.

McGirt, who lives in the Burnt Swamp section, said water in the area was so bad "I haven't made tea in years" without coming to town and buying a jug of water.

She pointed out that most of the people in the area were black or Indian. She said she was reluctant to bring up the issue of race, "but you can't deny the facts."

Commissioner Morgan explained that an engineering problem was why water had not been expanded into her area.

The board approved a resolution to sell a \$2 million bond anticipation note to pay for construction now going on on the county water system.

Jimmy Hedgpeth to Manage Pembroke Progressive Savings & Loan



Jimmy Hedgpeth

J.P. Powers, Jr., President of Progressive Savings & Loan, LTD announces the appointment of James W. (Jimmy) Hedgpeth as Vice-President and Manager of the Pembroke office of Progressive Savings & Loan LTD., to be located at the Colony Plaza on N.C. Highway 711 in Pembroke.

The opening date is scheduled for October 15, 1987. A mobile unit will be located on the site with a permanent structure to be built on the same site at a future date.

Progressive Savings & Loan LTD is a full service financial institution offering the Pembroke community the following services: Passbook Savings, Certificates of Deposit, Checking Accounts, Interest Bearing Checking Accounts, Mortgage Loans, Construction Loans, Car Loans, Consumer Loans, Cash Reserve on Checking, Loans on Savings Accounts, Master Card,

Mortgage Life Insurance, Credit Life Insurance for Consumer Loans.

A native of Robeson County, Hedgpeth has 37 years of experience in the banking profession, 21 of those years have been in the Pembroke community.

His involvement in the Pembroke community have been the following civic interest and activities: PSU Braves Club, Charter Member; PSU Endowment Fund Director; Pembroke Chamber of Commerce; Pembroke Kiwanis Club (Secretary 1985-86); Pembroke Medical Services, Inc., Director, Secretary and Treasurer; West Robeson Vocational Educational Program Committee; West Robeson High School Booster Club.

He is married to the former Linda Allen, and they are the proud parents of a son, Jason Allen, 11. The Hedgpeths live in Lumberton.

Pembroke LEROY SCOTT SR. SEEKS SEAT ON NC COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

"The ways that criminal matters get into court" was the topic of President Henry Ward Oxendine of the Robeson County District Attorney's Office. The three ways that criminal matters - traffic, misdemeanors and felonies get into court are first of all as in traffic cases a patrolman is waiting and suspects a driver is breaking the speed limit in his calculations and he issues a citation for the driver to appear in court on the day that the officer is in court. He gives you an opportunity to get a lawyer. The clerk's office receives a copy of the citation. The trial is conducted in a district court. The offender has a right of appeal. If it is a simple traffic ticket and if you fail to appear, they can withhold your license. It goes as a conviction and your license is withheld.

A simple misdemeanor is illustrated by the case of your finding your lawn mower missing. A neighbor saw a boy in your yard. The lawn mower was found behind a neighbor's house. The mother said she saw her son bringing it home. The lawn mower owner will go to the magistrate, a warrant or summons will be issued. The suspect is arrested, placed under a bond. The trial date is set on the date the court meets. Instructions are given by the judge. The court then deals with the defendants attorney. There is no jury in district court. The judge decides the case. The defendant always has the right of appeal. The doctrine of "recent possession" is used as strong circumstantial evidence. There can be contempt of court if mother refuses to testify against her son and she could get a thirty day sentence. A felony is handled differently. The district attorney is not involved. He relies on police officers for evidence. The incident occurs, the officers investigate, the subject is taken to the magistrate. The magistrate sets the bond and after four days the defendant makes his first appearance. The district judge makes sure what the attorney wants to do. In three weeks a probable cause is determined. In superior court he is asked if he pleads guilty or not guilty. So trial stages are set. The judge sets the court calendar. 120 days is the usual time of the trial. But that changes with lawyer appeals or puts in a new motion for trial.

Presiding - President Henry Ward Oxendine; Invocation - Ed Teets; Song Leader - Ray Lowry; Reporter - Ken Johnson.

Leroy Scott, Sr. of the Back Swamp area has announced his intention to seek a seat on the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs Board of Directors. Mr. Scott has always been active in civic affairs in his community. He retired several years ago and devotes much of his time rendering service to the elderly and handicapped. He is busy providing transportation to and from appointments for those in need and has done much construction work for the handicapped. He has built several ramps for the handicapped making it easier for them to have easier access to entering and exiting buildings.

Mr. Scott is an active member of the West End Baptist Church, Lumberton. The greatest accomplishment of his life, he said, was his decision to accept Jesus Christ as his personal savior. Mr. Scott made the following statement:

"I have always been greatly concerned with the needs of our people. I've always tried to improve the quality of life of people in general and the elderly and handicapped in particular.

"My commitment to Christ has enhanced my desire to work toward better conditions for all citizens. This is my most important reason for seeking a seat on the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs Board of Directors.

"If elected I promise to be fair and honest in my dealings and render decisions with the best interests of my people in mind. I appreciate your vote & support."

Pembroke Rescue Squad Observes Rescue Squad Week

by Jane O. Chavis

In observance of Pembroke Rescue Squad Week August 31-September 6, Pembroke Rescue Squad will be selling tickets for a meal at Sheff's Seafood Restaurant for a \$25.00 donation. Tickets are valid through August 31st for a steak or seafood meal. Tickets may be purchased from any rescue squad member.

Pembroke Rescue Squad is a non-profit volunteer organization. It is composed of 25 members who donate their time and energies to this worthy cause.

Pembroke Rescue Squad survives through and by dedication of its members, fund raisings and donations. No fees are charged for transportation to any individuals. Transportation is provided to local hospitals as well as hospitals in other counties. Volunteers also render house calls where transportation is not requested. Many hours have been given to searches for missing persons, drownings, traffic control as well as providing a standby team at various sports events. The Rescue Squad member spends in excess of 100 hours of initial instructional time in a classroom in order to meet state requirements for certification. The member also pays membership dues, purchases necessary uniforms, radio/light equipment and gas to and from ambulance calls in their private vehicle. Sad to say with all the other duties of a rescue squad member, too much of their time is spent on fund raisings. This much needed time placed on fund raising should be time spent on training sessions or for other activities to advance the squad. With a conservative budget of \$15,000 yearly and a supplement of only \$4,500 from county and town combined, someone has to have plate sales and car collections or Pembroke Rescue Squad would cease to exist. Our goal for Pembroke Rescue Squad Week is to hit the \$10,000 mark. The ticket sale at Sheff's, our Sept. 4 plate sale & a few more events hopefully will help us obtain our goal. When you are approached by a member during our fund raising, please bear in mind that there is more than one way to be a good "Samaritan" if you can't be the one out on a stormy winter night helping someone injured in an accident, or consoling a parent of a seriously injured child, then please support those who do.

Death, sickness, accidents, touch all our lives in some way or other - It is nice to know that someone cares at times like these. Surely one who volunteers their time care for their fellow man. The cost of equipment, high insurance rates are forcing us to bring before you the public our needs and concerns. When paying your taxes most of you will notice a fire tax, not a rescue tax. So heed our motto: "Help Us To Help You." One dollar for each one of your family members donated to the squad would make a difference.

We are currently seeking new members. Prospective members must be of good character and willing to complete required training in one year. Junior members must be responsible and fourteen years of age with past membership in Girl or Boy Scouts. For additional information call rescue Chief Charlie Revels at 521-2580 or contact any rescue squad member.

IN OBSERVANCE OF PEMBROKE RESCUE SQUAD APPRECIATION WEEK AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 6 WE SALUTE

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Charlie Revels | Stephanie Hunt |
| J.W. Oxendine | Ardell Jacobs |
| Elizabeth Locklear | Lisa Locklear |
| Alonso Oxendine | Belton McMillan |
| Hubert Oxendine | Virl Brooks |
| Donna Oxendine | Doris Locklear |
| Kerry Chavis | Lindburg Locklear |
| Jane O. Chavis | Rodney Dimery |
| Larry Hunt | Clayton Maynor |
| Ricky Locklear | Marvin Carter |
| Robert Chavis | Robert Brayboy |
| Jeff Cummings | Terry Hutchins |

Billy Hammonds
"And the Good Samaritan, Come On..."
In Appreciation
The Mission Church
Rev. Oris Odoms

Commission Of Indian Affairs Board Of Directors Elections To Be Held August 27

Lumbee Regional Development Association will conduct an open election on August 27, 1987 to nominate a member to serve on the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs Board of Directors for a three year term. Mr. James Sampson, Jr., a resident of Fairmont, NC, currently serves in that capacity.

The following election sites have been established and will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.:

1. Evans Crossing Volunteer Fire Department (Union, Alfordsville);
2. Mohr Plaza Lumberton, Precincts 1-8);
3. South Robeson High School (Rowland, Thompson);
4. Hilly Branch Career Center (Back Swamp, Smyrna);
5. Polling site #5 is being selected and will announced at a later date (Fairmont Precincts 1 & 2).

Criteria for voting: 1. must be Indian, must be 18 years or older. 3. must reside in above districts.

The following persons have declared their candidacy: (1) James Sampson Jr., incumbent, (2) Leroy Scott, LRDA board member from District II, (3) Jim Dial, resident of the Evans-Crossing community. The ballots shall be counted after the polls are closed and the winner will be announced. The candidate obtaining the highest number of votes cast shall be declared the winner (plurality). A "write-in" candidate may be elected to the board of directors of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs.

Countdown Continues NCAE District 10 Meeting Planned

- We continue our countdown to 5,000 paid subscribers with the following:
127. Robert McGirt, Lumberton.
 128. Louis O. Locklear, FL.
 129. Jimmy Lowry, Columbia.
 130. Tony Brewington, Pembroke
 131. Helen Campbell, VA.
 132. JA Mitchell, Fairmont
 133. Tessie Lee Hunt, Lumberton
 134. Stacy Brayboy, Pembroke
 135. Vann Gray Jacobs, Fairmont
 136. Charles L. Locklear, Rowland
 137. Oscar Chavis, Seims, NC
 138. Edward Hommel, SC
 139. Tony Hunt, Pembroke
 140. Southeastern Community College, Whiteville
 141. R.B. Jacobs, ILL.

Won't you subscribe today and help us to reach our countdown of 5,000 paid subscribers. We appreciate your help...

The District 10 meeting will be held Friday, August 21, 1987 at 9 and last until 12:30 for members. Seventy-First High School, Fayetteville will be the location with the dynamic speaker Dale Robinson, NCAE specialist. Faculty representatives and officers will be served cold-cuts from 12:30 to 1 p.m. with the training session lasting until 3 p.m.

Members, please for your benefit, plan to attend.

Faculty representatives, if you can not attend make sure there is a person from your school to pick up necessary materials.

by Kathy D. Locklear
Corresponding Secretary



To Subscribe to the Carolina Indian Voice Call 521-2826

Old Main Now Has Its Own Log Cabin

By Gene Warren

Pembroke - There's a log cabin in Old Main, the campus landmark at Pembroke State University.

The cabin was built in PSU's Native American Resource Center as a permanent exhibit for Lumbee Indian historical period artifacts.

"The cabin will be as nearly as possible like an authentic log cabin of approximately 100 years ago and will provide a more realistic means of displaying the artifacts," said Dr. Stanley Knick, who is starting his second year as director of the Center.

"Visitors to the Center will be able to step up on the porch, look through the windows and open the door, as well as be able to look through the 'see through' side wall. The main roof and porch over-hang will be covered in cedar shingles," Knick continued.

Most of the materials for the cabin were donated by Gene Locklear of Rt. 3, Lumberton. "The materials were part of an old log tobacco barn which Locklear owned in the Littlefield area," said Knick. "The materials include rough-hewn pine logs and old fashion two-by-eights, from the time when a two-inch board was really two inches thick."

Several people have been instrumental in making the idea of a cabin into a reality, noted Knick. "Ralph Steeds of PSU's Art Department drew the original sketch. Bill Mason, vice-chancellor of business affairs, helped with the funds and related paperwork. M.C. Ransom of the Maintenance Department is responsible for most of the hands-on work with assistance from Adolph Blue, Earl Lowry and Jack Jones.

"Many visitors to the Center have suggested such an exhibit, and I understand that the former directors of the Center have long planned to build such a display," said Knick.

The members of the Native American Resource Center Advisory and Support Committee, a group of local citizens and university employees, voted in the spring, 1987, meeting to proceed with plans to build the cabin, according to Knick. "Locklear's donation of the materials provided the unique opportunity to get all these folks together and actually build the cabin," said Knick.

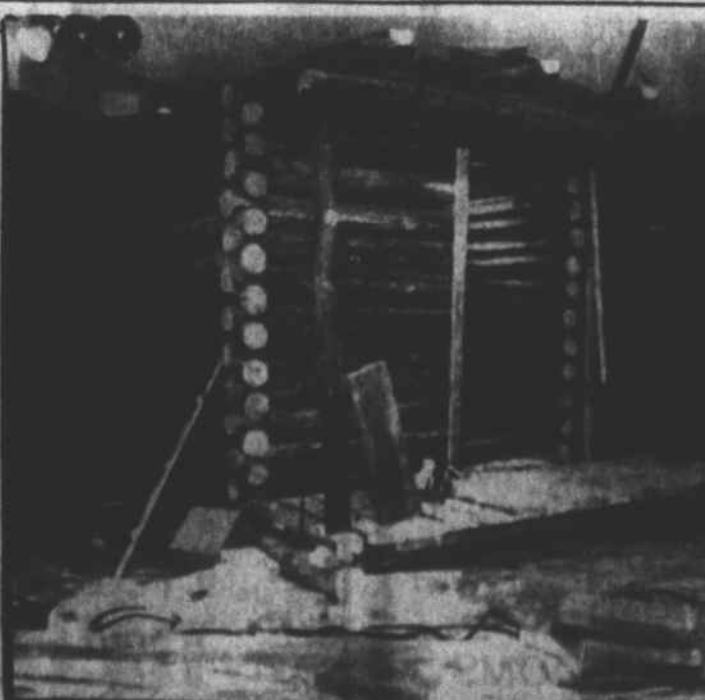
"This authentic log cabin display will provide new excitement and involvement for our visitors, particularly among members of the local community," stated Knick. "The rich heritage of the Indian people of Robeson County and surrounding counties will be brought to life in this exhibit."

bulletin

SINGING PLANNED

Evergreen Holiness Church will hold their fifth Sunday night singing August 30 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Special guests will be the Singing Meares from Fayetteville. The pastor, Rev. Joseph Locklear, invites every one to attend.

Call 521-2826 and
subscribe to The
Carolina Indian Voice.



This is the log cabin that has been built inside Old Main in Pembroke State University's Native American Resource Center.