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# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

PEMBROKE, N.C.

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

ROBESON COUNTY

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## JULIAN PIERCE ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE



JULIAN PIERCE

Julian Pierce, who has served as Executive Director of Lumbee River Legal Services, Pembroke, announces his candidacy for Superior Court Judge of Robeson County. Pierce made his announcement at a press conference on Monday at the Ramada Inn in Lumberton. Pierce released the following statement:

"It's time for a change in Robeson County! It is time for our Court Systems to demonstrate an ability to serve all the people of Robeson County. It is time for us to elect court officials who have proven their willingness to apply the law fairly and objectively. It is time for us to begin to restore trust and pride in our judicial system in Robeson County. Therefore, on Friday, I resigned my position as Executive Director of Lumbee River Legal Services in order to file with the State Board of Elections notice of my candidacy for Superior Court Judge of Robeson County.

"I bring to this position a wealth of education, legal and administrative experience. I am a graduate of Pembroke State University and North Carolina Central University School of Law. I also have a Masters in Law from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., and I have been practicing law for over eleven years. I have practiced law in the United States Supreme Court, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States District Court. On the state level, I have practiced before the North Carolina Supreme

Court, the North Carolina Court of Appeals, the North Carolina Superior Court and the North Carolina District Courts. I have also practiced before both federal and state administrative agencies. I have litigated cases in a broad range of substantive law areas with which a Superior Court Judge must be familiar. My experience has not been limited to one major area; it is broad based. I have experience in interpreting and applying state and federal administrative regulations, experience in state and federal constitutional issues, and experience in civil rights claims, personal injury claims, real and personal property, title disputes, contracts, and many other areas of law.

"I bring to this race diversified legal experience. Furthermore, I possess the judicial temperament, compassion, integrity, dedication and competency to be an excellent Superior Court Judge. I believe in the people's right to open government and their right to be judged fairly, objectively and impartially. If you look at my background you will find that I have dedicated myself to representing all segments of our society. More importantly, I have been willing to represent clients whose interests were apparently adverse to the interests of the majority. I have done this because I know that in the long run, the protection of such interests is vital to our democratic system of government and to the maintenance of the rights given us by our State and Federal Constitutions.

"I also enter this race because of my commitment to the citizens of Robeson County. I am very concerned about our community and have dedicated a substantial amount of my time to serving it. I currently serve as Chairman of two major non-profit corporations in this community. First, I am Chairman of the Board of Directors of Robeson Health Care Corporation. This corporation was formed in 1985 to provide affordable and accessible health care in the rural areas of Robeson County. Robeson Health Care Corporation has a 1.4 million dollar budget, employs a staff of more than 40 people and maintains three fully staffed medical clinics, one located in each of the towns of Pembroke, Maxton and Fairmont. I am proud to serve as Chairman of this Board. Not only are we making medical care more accessible to all the citizens in these areas, we are also providing a means for low income persons to receive affordable medical treatment that they would otherwise not be able to receive. Second, for the past year I have served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Robeson Historical Drama Association which produces this county's outdoor drama "Strike at the Wind." I am proud to service this organization because of the drama's artistic, historical and educational value to this county. I have willingly given the time required to these organizations because I believe they are important to the future growth and prosperity of this county.

"We, as Robesonians, should look to the future and work together to improve the economic, cultural, social and political opportunities for all of this county's citizens. We should work together to elect a Superior Court Judge who has judicial temperament and compassion—one who will judge fairly, objectively and impartially. Therefore I seek the support of the citizens of Robeson County in the primary election on Tuesday, May 3rd, as together, we strive to restore trust and pride in our judicial system in Robeson County."

## WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

### Maudie Chavis Revels



MAUDIE CHAVIS REVELS

By Barbara Brayboy-Locklear  
Special To The Carolina Indian Voice

It's against the nature of Maudie C. Revels to say "no" when it comes to serving others. "I just can't turn people down," says the rural St. Pauls resident. Her husband of 51 years says if she had a billion dollars, she'd have it only two days before giving it away.

The 70-year-old Lumbee Indian says the value of sharing and caring was instilled in her by her late mother. Revels, one of six daughters born to tenant farmers, grew up in the Saddletree Community.

"I've always looked for somebody who needed me, and I helped them," she comments. She says the giving spirit is a carryover from childhood days when her mother sent her to deliver baked goods and other foods to neighbors who were shut in. The goods were delivered by a small wagon, hand-pulled by the youngster. Today, when the retired nutritionist is unable to deliver baked items and gifts to friends and neighbors, one of her five children acts as a carrier.

For more than five decades, Revels has concerned herself with preparing nutritious foods for her family and others. Shortly after marriage, she and her husband, Herdman, built

a restaurant near their home alongside US Highway 301 outside St. Pauls in Robeson County. Working long hours serving tourists didn't bother the young, energetic mother. And the industrial kitchen lent her the opportunity to test an array of recipes she normally wouldn't have done at home.

She began making candies to sell to the travelers dining at the busy restaurant which operated 24 hours during the 40's. Once she had perfected her candy-making, she began making hor d'oeuvres. News of her scrumptious pastries and fancy candies quickly spread throughout the community, and requests came for her to cater social events.

For 20 years, she juggled her time among managing a family, restaurant and cottage rentals. Traffic along Hwy. 301 lessened with the construction of I-95 through Lumberton, and the Revels eventually closed the restaurant which had served thousands of hungry tourists.

Revels took a short sabbatical from the 24-hour business way-of-life. Not having enough to do every day, she thought, "How'd it be to get out and work for somebody else?"

She says the late O. Tom Blanks encouraged her to apply for a position with Robeson County Extension Service. In 1969, she joined the staff as a nutritionist aide. During the ten years with the service, she taught nutrition to various groups, in private homes and to school children throughout Robeson County. She retired in 1979.

Decades of hard work and subsequent poor health have done little to break the spirit of Revels. "I've always looked up in dealing with my illness during recent years," she says. An automobile accident in 1975 left her confined to her bed for weeks. Rather than wallow in pity, she rekindled her interest in crocheting—a needlecraft she'd learned at age 12. Lying flat on her back in bed at home, she created her first afghan. There was to be another automobile accident two years later.

Those who know Revels say she worries about everyone except herself. She says her strong Christian faith leaves no room for self-pity.

In 1985, after undergoing open-heart surgery, she offered consolation to her worried family and pastor. "It's like I'm sitting on a fence. It doesn't matter whether I get better or not. Either way, I'm going to be alright." She says she was spared because she was never afraid to die.

Today, fully recovered from that operation, she busies herself around her home. She enjoys visits from her grandchildren, whom she refers to as her "buddy-buddies." Crocheting consumes much of her time during the day.

And when she gets really bored, she makes candy in her kitchen which has served three generations of candy lovers. She says she has no idea how many different kinds of candies she's prepared over the years, because she experiments right much. "I've never made a bad batch yet," she adds. "I've never gotten tired of cooking after all these years."

Revels says of her life, "I've had a good life. I can't grumble. I've done most of the things I've wanted to do."

The quality of her life is measured in service to her family, community and church. And serving others has never been a bother to Maudie C. Revels. No bother at all.

## N.C. Senior Citizen Queen Pearl Lowery Bell



PEARL LOWERY BELL

By Barbara Brayboy-Locklear  
Special To The Carolina Indian Voice

Pearl Lowery Bell ignored the advice of a local baptist minister and joined a senior citizens club. After all, she is 63 years old and retired.

"The preacher said, 'the worst thing one could do after retirement is to get with senior citizens,'" laughs the great-grandmother.

Two years ago, she retired from her nurse's assistant position at Southeastern General Hospital. She had given 20 years to caring for the ill at the Lumberton medical facility. With more time on her hands than ever before, she joined the Saddletree Senior Citizens Club in rural Lumberton.

Last fall, when time came to select a candidate to enter competition in the annual Miss Indian North Carolina Senior

Citizen Coronation, the Lumbee Indian was drafted by her fellow club members. Her candidacy was further endorsed by Lumbee Regional Development Association, an area American Indian affairs agency based in Pembroke.

The coronation, sponsored by the N.C. Indian Senior Citizens Coalition, was scheduled, and Bell was getting nervous trying to decide what she'd do for the talent division of the competition. Her love for gospel music, & her lifetime practice of singing spirituals helped her to make the decision to sing in the event.

Once her song selection had been made, the Lumberton resident embarked on the task of finding printed music for her choice. After several attempts, she was able to locate a recording of the hymn.

"I met with a local group of gospel singers and listened to them sing the song," she remembers. "I then practiced singing with a pianist a couple of nights." She says she was so determined to get the song perfect that she'd put the recorded cassette in her automobile's tape player and sing along as she rode up and down the highway.

Days leading up to the scheduled event found Bell busy shopping for the "just-right" gown, shoes and accessories to wear in the coronation. A local civic organization rallied financial support for the contestant. The United Saddletree Center—an offspring of the Saddletree Jaycees—made available funds for her hotel lodging. LRDA, her main sponsor, shared in wardrobe costs.

After weeks of preparation, the grandmother arrived at the hotel in Fayetteville to face her competition. She was one of eight Native American senior citizens vying for the title of queen.

On stage, with family, club members and state Indian officials watching, Bell presented her musical rendition of "I Want To Be Together In Heaven."

"Before I finished singing, I felt my legs shaking," she comments. She was able to complete her talent without anyone's recognizing her nervousness. At that point, Bell says there were three contestants left to present their talent.

So as to assess her chances at winning, she thought quietly, "Unless they've got something real good, I stand a chance of winning."

All the weeks of her preparing paid off for Bell when it was announced she was the new queen. Wearing the official cape and handbeaded crown, the proud winner gave an encore of her talent to the insistent audience.

With the title came a trophy, cash prize, roses, gifts and cards from the state's 14 American Indian organizations. Bertha Locklear of the Saddletree Senior Citizens Club

## Southeast Native Americans Honor Chief Junaluska



Rev. Simeon Cummings is shown left receiving a check for \$500.00 from Frank Daughtrey, FUNB Pembroke, for the Native American Project.



A bronze bust of Chief Junaluska will be unveiled at Lake Junaluska Assembly, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina on July 12, 1988, during the 1988 SE Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church states The Reverend Simeon F. Cummings, Coordinator of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Association for Native American Ministries located in Pembroke, North Carolina, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Lake Junaluska Assembly; sponsored by the Lake Junaluska Assembly Trustees.

The life span of the celebrated Cherokee Chieftain, Junaluska, is believed to have covered a full century, beginning in 1758. His life is closely interwoven with this nation's most turbulent, exciting, and radical years, dating back to when his people were the first Americans, before the white settlers came. The courage and heroism that characterized his life has been described as the relationship that in all times unites a great person with other people.

Historians have described him as a man with a powerful mind and body, quick to see, to reason, and to act. Also, as being very friendly and a great lover of nature. Together with

recently presented Bell with an engraved plaque from the club in recognition of her accomplishment.

Bell has been busy since receiving her crown. Her year's reign enables her to officially represent hundreds of Native American Senior Citizens throughout N.C. in public appearances.

The lovely and poised Indian still finds time to be an active retiree. She says she enjoys keeping house.

needlecrafts, traveling and her weekly gathering with her senior citizen club members. The past two years as an official senior citizen have sparked new energy, friends and public recognition for her.

Bell has proven that one cannot argue that being with senior citizens is the worst thing one can do after retirement. For her accomplishments have defied the ill-advice once given.

his warriors, he saved the life of General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, and for bravery and faithfulness, North Carolina made him a citizen and gave him land in Graham County.

Rev. Cummings is requesting Native Americans, especially in the Southeast, to be a part of this special project by giving a contribution honoring Junaluska, a Cherokee Indian Chief.

The life size bronze torso (including arms and hands) of Chief Junaluska will be set on a native stone foundation and placed in front of Stuart Auditorium on the grounds of Lake Junaluska Assembly which is the conference and retreat center of the United Methodist Church of the Southeast Jurisdiction. The Assembly gets its name from the Cherokee Chief. The statue in memory of this outstanding Cherokee leader will represent all the Native American Tribes in the Southeast. A bronze plaque will be placed on the foundation to list (upon request) tribes making a contribution to the project.

The estimated cost of the memorial is \$10,000; funds received above the cost of the memorial will be used for scholarships for Native American students who have financial needs.

A cordial invitation is given to all to attend and be a part of this historical event, the unveiling of the memorial.

More than 50,000 people visit Lake Junaluska Assembly annually. The Assembly is located near Interstate 40 and U.S. Highway 19 at the foot of the Great Smokey Mountains National Park and in view of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Send your gift or contribution (gifts or contributions are tax deductible) listing individual's name, address, city, state and zip. Make check payable to: Native American Ministries Project, and mail to: Rev. Simeon F. Cummings, Southeastern Jurisdiction Association for Native American Ministries, PO Box 725, Pembroke, NC 28572 or Lake Junaluska Assembly, PO Box 67, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745. (Please mail at your earliest convenience.)