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"Building Communicative Bridges
In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1988

Harry Oxendine Appointed To Pembroke Town Council

BY SAM KERNS

Special to The Carolina Indian Voice
Pembroke Town Council met in council chambers September 6 at 7 p.m. for its regular monthly meeting. The council held a public hearing on a request by Mr. Shelly Woodell to convert the old Hotel building on East Third Street to a boarding house with emphasis on trying to provide additional housing for PSU students. There was no opposition from any of the town citizens in attendance. The request for a conditional use permit in order to establish such housing was granted without opposition from any of the council members.

Town manager McDuffie Cummings gave an update on the proposed municipal complex. The town board instructed the town manager to obtain preliminary plans for the municipal complex and bring them back to the board for review.

A public hearing was set for September 10, 1988 in the council chambers for the purpose of recruiting citizens response to a proposed development project by G.W. Warriax in Lumbee Terrace located southeast of Pembroke, off Secondary Road 1339.

The mayor, Mr. Milton Hunt, informed the board of Mr. J.C. Thomas' resignation from the Board by presenting his letter of resignation effective September 1, 1988. The resignation came as a result of Thomas' plea to 106 counts of obtaining property by false pretense. The conviction made him ineligible to continue to serve on the board.

Board member Mr. Henry W. Oxendine moved to accept Thomas' resignation and board member Vernon Oxendine seconded the motion which carried without opposition.

After adding the item to replace Thomas, Councilman Vernon Oxendine nominated Mr. Harry Oxendine as Thomas' replacement. Councilman Henry W. Oxendine seconded the nomination although one was unnecessary according to Councilman Larry Brooks. Mr. Brooks then nominated Mr. Tryon Lowry as Thomas' replacement. Mr. Vernon Oxendine and Mr. Henry W. Oxendine voted for Mr. Harry Oxendine to replace Thomas with Mr. Larry Brooks voting for Mr. Tryon Lowry. The mayor did not vote since there was no tie. As a result Mr. Harry Oxendine will officially become a member of the town board after his swearing in at a later date. The term will last until November, 1989 at which time he would have to stand for election. The citizens gathered gave a round of applause to the newly appointed member.

The mayor welcomed Mr. Oxendine aboard for at least the next 15 months. We have a lot of exciting things to consider during that time and we look forward to working with you as a board member.

Mr. Harry Oxendine responded, "I certainly appreciate the vote of confidence by the board and for the citizens' response. I want the citizens to know that for the next 15 months I will be in there working for you and fighting for you as we seek to become more accountable."

Receives Outstanding Young 4-H Agent Award



CATHY M. LOWERY

A Robeson County 4-H agent has been named one of the state's top 4-H agents.

Cathy M. Lowery, Robeson County associate extension 4-H agent, received a T.C. Blalock Outstanding Young 4-H Agent Award for agents with less than four years of experience. The North Carolina Association of Extension Agents sponsors the award.

Martha Wade, Lenoir County 4-H agent, received a similar award. Lou Woodard, Johnston County extension 4-H agent, received an award for four to seven years of service.

The awards are given in honor of Blalock, a former state 4-H leader who served as director of the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service from 1978 to 1981. The awards were presented Aug. 23 in New Bern during the association's annual meeting.

Lowery was cited for providing commitment and leadership in all areas of 4-H programming. She was specifically recognized for organizing special interest groups for handicapped students in area schools, involving some 1,350 students and 21 volunteers.

Lowery has been an extension agent for three years. She is a former Scotland County school teacher.

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MISS CAROLINA SWEETHEART PAGEANT TO BENEFIT CYSTIC FIBROSIS

The Miss Carolina Sweetheart of Robeson County Pageant will be held Saturday, October 1, 1988 at Moore Hall at Pembroke State University announced Bea Biggs, chairman of the pageant.

The pageant is open to all girls ages 18 and under. Contestants will be divided into 6 age divisions: Tiny Baby Miss-Birth to 1, Baby Miss-2 to 4, Tiny Miss-5 to 7, Little Miss 8 to 11, Jr. Teen Miss-12 to 14 and Teen Miss-15 to 18. Ms. 19 and older. Each girl will be judged on poise, personality, beauty, neatness and overall appearance.

A winner will be crowned and three runners-up will be chosen from each age division. Each girl may also enter the Miss Photogenic and Miss Sponsorship Contests.

The Miss Carolina Sweetheart Pageant will benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Please call Bea Biggs at 1-825-0820 or Suzette Salcido at 521-0156 for details on entry forms and deadlines.

FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP MEETS

The Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Family Support Group will meet on Thursday, September 8, 1988, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Southeastern General Hospital's (SGH) Long Term Care Facility on Pine Run Road in Lumberton. The video "Coping and Home Safety Tips for Caregivers of the Elderly" will be shown, and refreshments will be served.

All interested persons are welcome to attend. For further information, contact Sonya Rozier at 738-8104.

Election To Indian Commission Protested

by WM. RICHARD MATHIS
Special to The Carolina Indian Voice

Three defeated candidates for the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Indian Commission have filed formal protests alleging irregularities and discrepancies with the election held September 1, 1988 for the Maxton, Pembroke and Prospect areas.

Candidates Carolyn Coronado, Hope Sheppard, and Ray Strickland allege that staff of the Lumbee Regional Development Association, which was responsible for the election, attempted to persuade voters to vote for the winner, Paul Brooks of Pembroke. They also allege that a campaign card for Brooks was displayed on the registrar's table at Oxendine School. At Prospect School, Brooks is alleged to have been at the voting area and ballot box.

Georgeanna Davis, poll worker for Ms. Sheppard, alleges overhearing a staff member for LRDA urge six different persons to vote for Brooks. Strickland claims to have seen the card for Brooks on the registrar's table and that registrars tried to hide it when he noticed it. He says one worker hid it between her legs and he had to ask for it 3 times before receiving it.

Ms. Coronado states that the entire method of election is unable to prevent double voting or a person from voting outside their precinct. She claims a poll worker told her the day of the election that she (the poll worker) had stayed awake the night before the election worrying about double voting.

LRDA executive director, James Hardin, states that LRDA uses poll workers who live within a given precinct in order to recognize qualified voters. In regards to preventing double voting or voting by non-qualified individuals, the "...only safeguard is that we hope (our) people will know them." If the registrars do not know a person, they may ask for identification. All voters are required to give their names and addresses. Hardin says the system is not ironclad.

Hardin has asked the elections committee of the Board of Directors of LRDA to respond to the formal protests as soon as possible and hopes they will be able to meet Thursday night, September 8, 1988. At that time, they will review the formal protests, written statements from LRDA poll workers and may review ballots as it is alleged some may have been altered. Hardin stated that the committee will decide if the election stands or if a new election is warranted.

The defeated candidates are considering additional protests to the Indian Commission and to Governor Jim Martin, who ultimately appoints someone to the position. The three candidates are also considering filing an injunction to block the current election and to have a new one, if LRDA allows current election results to stand.

Ms. Coronado also is proposing a class-action law suit challenging the entire procedure for electing board members of the Indian Commission. She feels the current procedure "...leaves it wide open for corrup-

tion." Additionally, she feels the governor having the final decision as to who fills the position is "demeaning" to Indians. She says the process "...treats us like wards who can't make decisions as to what type of leadership we want."

In regards to the class-action law suit, Ms. Sheppard said, "Whatever it takes to clean-up this garbage, I'm all for it."

When contacted by telephone, Brooks stated that he didn't know why the defeated candidates were protesting and that he thought it was a good election. He denied having been in the voting areas during the election. When asked if he would run another campaign for the position if a new election was ordered, he declined comment "at this time."

The unofficial results of the election were released by James Hardin, executive director of LRDA. They are: Paul Brooks-362; Carolyn Coronado-25; James Dial-18; Joseph Epps-54; Wilma Godwin-56; Hope Shepherd-201; Ray Strickland-258; with four write-in votes and 10 spoiled ballots.

Receives Military Achievement Award



SAMMY OXENDINE

Boatswain Mate Second Class Sammy K. Oxendine, of 712 Monroe Ave., Racine, Wis., was among 50 members of Wisconsin National Guard and Reserve units who received Military Achievement Awards at the War Memorial Center in Milwaukee, Saturday.

BM2 Oxendine is assigned to the United States Coast Guard Reserve in Milwaukee. He is employed as a computer operator with S.C. Johnson and Son, Inc., in Racine.

These men and women, assigned to units of the Army and Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, were selected by their unit commanders because of individual excellence as members of the Guard and Reserve.

Guest speaker for the event was John G. McElwee, Chairman of the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense agency based in Washington, DC.

Master of ceremonies for the program was Colonel (Ret.) Russell K. Sesto, Wisconsin state chairman, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Representing the Miller Brewing Company, which sponsored the awards ceremony, was Mr. Clifford R. Williams, who is director of Government Affairs for Miller.

Following the ceremony, the Miller Brewing Company hosted a reception and dinner in the center's Memorial Hall for the awardees and their guests.

Later that evening, the awardees, their families and other ceremony participants were guests of the Miller Brewing Company at the Milwaukee Brewer versus the Detroit Tigers baseball game at Milwaukee County Stadium.



9 Nominated For Election To LREMC Board

The Nominating Committee for Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation has nominated nine persons to include four incumbents to run for Directors' seats at the Annual Meeting of the Members.

Lumbee River EMC, is a rural electric cooperative, provides electricity to over 27,000 members in Robeson, Cumberland, Hoke and Scotland counties. Its annual meeting will be held Oct. 17 at the Givens Performing Arts Center at Pembroke State University.

Four of the co-op's 12 directors' seats will be up for election at the annual meeting. The co-op's directors, elected to three-year terms, determine policies for the non-profit co-op.

In addition to the nine nominees, other qualified members may petition the co-op to become candidates. The deadline for petitions, which must be signed by at least 25 co-op members, is September 22. Candidates may also be nominated from the floor of the annual meeting prior to election.

All candidates must be members of the Lumbee River EMC and must reside in the district represented by a director's seat up for election.

Additional information about petitioning for candidacy can be obtained from the Red Springs office. The

The members nominated by the Nominating Committee are:

From District 1 which contains the townships of Maxton, Alfordville, Thompson, Union and Rowland. Ward Clark, Jr., the incumbent, and James H. Dial of Route 1, Maxton.

From District 5 which contains the townships of Lumber Bridge, Parkton, St. Pauls, East and West Howellsville and Saddletree. Ronald Hammonds, the incumbent, and James H. Hammonds of Route 10, Lumberton.

From District 6 which contains all of Hoke County east of N.C. 211. Alton V. Dudley, the incumbent, and John G. Elebee of 323 Oakdale Gin Road, Raeford.

For the Director-at-Large position. Lacy L. Cummings, the incumbent, Clifton Sampson, Jr., of P.O. Box 762, Pembroke, and Carl D. Stephens of Route 2, Box 573, Lumberton.

To vote for a candidate, a member of Lumbee River EMC must attend the Oct. 17 annual meeting and register for the election.

PROSPECT WELCOMES NEW EDUCATORS



Prospect School welcomes new educators: [L-R] Mr. Walter Jackson, Assistant Principal; Mr. Brian Hanley, Health/Physical Education; Mrs.

Mertis Oxendine, Computer Teacher; Mr. Chip Brand, Elementary Physical Education.

SEARCH FOR HATCHER CONTINUES

The search continues for accused hostage-taker Eddie Hatcher with no clues being discovered. Recently his local attorney, Barry Nakell, released the following statement relative to Hatcher being declared a "fugitive."

"I understand that the government has issued a wanted poster identifying him (Hatcher) as 'white'. That is symbolic of the mistakes the government has made here. The government has historically refused to identify Indians in accordance with their heritage, at one time distinguishing only two racial identities-

white and black. It is time for the government to recognize individual autonomy. Mr. Hatcher's Indian background and identity is not for the government to refuse to recognize--as it refuses wrongly to recognize the Indian status of his tribe (Tuscarora) and of other Indians in Robeson County."

Nakell stated that he was confident that Hatcher would appear for trial later in this month. He stated that his client was eager for trial.

And the search continues...as well as the mystery surrounding Hatcher....