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"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

Robeson County

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Naming of Purnell Swett High School Reaffirmed

On a 8-2 vote Tuesday night, the Board of Education for the Public Schools of Robeson County reaffirmed action by the former Robeson County Board of Education to rename West Robeson High Purnell Swett High School. The consolidated school will remain Purnell Swett High School.

The board also took action to hire two new assistant superintendents and to demote two assistants who had been previously hired. Those two demoted were Arthur Leggett from

assistant to finance officer and Fred McKinnon to instructional supervisor. Leggett is white. McKinnon is Black. Four new assistants were hired: two Blacks, one Indian and one white.

Hired were Jack Morgan, Indian, as assistant superintendent of school food service; Thomas Paquin as assistant superintendent for ombudsman; John Jones, Black, as assistant superintendent for operations; and Rona Leach, Black, as assistant superintendent for pupil personnel.

Electoral Skills Workshop Held at PSU

Tawana Wilson Allen, co-chairman of Carolina Community Project, Charlotte and Ron Charity, executive director of Rural Advancement Fund in Charlotte conducted a 2-day Electoral Skills Training Workshop on July 14-15 at the Pembroke State University Chavis Center. The

was placed on running for city/town council and school board races along with managing or participating in political campaigns.

The event was co sponsored by the Rural Advancement Fund's Justice Project, Lumberton. It was organized by Jennifer Mickles and Mitchell Locklear, staff persons.

There were 20 participants in the workshop, including Mike Wood, investigator for the Public Defender's Office and a potential candidate for Sheriff of Robeson County.

agendas included sessions on Time Management, Publicity, Coalition building, Networking, Voter registration, Issue identification, Print-out analysis, and other items. Focus

Local Members and Leaders attend 4-H Congress

A delegation of ten 4-H members and one adult leader will represent Robeson County at North Carolina 4-H Congress July 17-21 in Raleigh. According to Vernon E. McHam, Extension agent, 4-H, Robeson County delegates will join some 900 4-H members, leaders, and Extension agents from across the state for the annual event.

General Lacy Thornburg, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Bobby Ethridge. The State 4-H Performing Arts Troupe held its premiere during the afternoon. A donor appreciation banquet was held Wednesday night.

The N.C. State University head women's basketball coach Kay Yow spoke at a Thursday morning assembly. Other highlights today include workshops, election and installation of State 4-H Council officers, a delegate banquet and the State 4-H Fashion Revue.

Among the events in which Robeson County 4-H'ers are participating are Shannon Hershberger, Artistic Arrangement; Antonio Floyd electric; Shawn Hershberger, Fish and Seafood Utilization; and Shelly Boxwell and Joan Leggett, Performing Arts Troupe.

Other members of the Robeson County delegation attending are Doug Bernhardt, Bert Bernhardt, Beth Williamson, Alvina McIntyre, and Marcus Leazer. Leading the delegations re Ruth Bernhardt, 4-H leader and Vernon McHam.

The Congress is being held on the N.C. State University campus and at the State Fairgrounds. Delegates are residing in N.C. State University dormitories.

McHam said that Monday's programs included judging in dairy, livestock, and horticulture; contests in hippology and tractor operator; and the annual state 4-H Honor Club tapping. Tuesday's program featured the finals in some 35 contests to pick state winners and special tracks in international intrigue, state government and the arts, and the annual 4-H Entertains show.

A drug abuse rally and workshops were held Wednesday morning. Speakers included Lt. Governor James C. Gardner, State Attorney



Rebekah Revels of Dixie Darlings 4-H Club in St. Pauls presents a demonstration on Peanut Foods at District 4-H Activity Day.

New 4-H Club Organized at Ten Mile

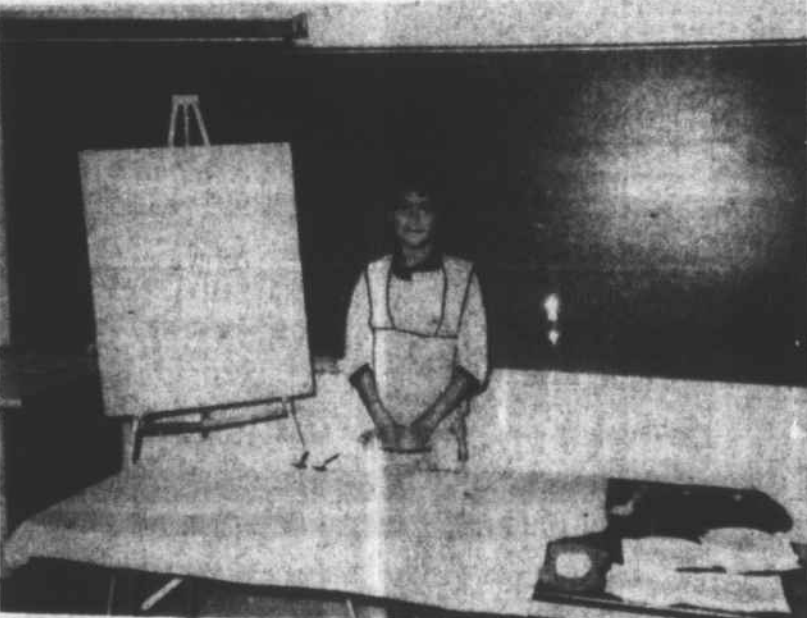
Robeson County 4-H members, leaders, resource people, and agents would like to welcome a new 4-H club. The Dixie Darlings 4-H Club was organized recently in the St. Pauls area at Ten Mile Center Church. "This club has a lot of enthusiastic members with a great deal of potential. It is also encouraging to see enthusiasm and eager support of the volunteers who work with the community club members. I think the combination of the excellent leadership in the club and the excitement of the young people will make this one of the most outstanding clubs in the county," stated Cathy M. Lowery, associate Extension agent, 4-H.

Adults providing leadership for the club are: Deena Revels, Olivia Revels, Mary Sue Locklear, William Revels, and Linda Locklear. Working with the leads is an outstanding slate of officers. Officers are: President-Shavale Godwin; Vice President-Crystal Keeter; Secretary-Mariena Locklear; Treasurer

Penny Revels; and Reporter- Janera Revels. Other members of the club are Manessa Godwin, Rebekah Revels, Amy Jo Revels, Vanessa Bell, and Lenna Locklear.

Four-H members have been trained in parliamentary procedure, duties of officers, 4-H projects and demonstrations, and program planning. The 4-h members have participated in County Activity Day, District Activity Day, and the 4-h Foster Pig Program. Several leaders attended the 4-h Volunteer Retreat.

The Robeson County 4-h Program is an educational program for boys and girls ages 6-19. The program is open to anyone regardless of age, race, creed, national, origin, sex, or handicap. In addition to providing excellent opportunities to young people, the program is also structured to allow adults an opportunity to share leadership skills and learn and develop additional skills. For more information contact the Robeson County Agricultural Extension Service at 671-3276.



Robeson County's newest club: Dixie Darlings 4-H Club has been organized in St. Pauls at Ten Mile Baptist Church. Shown are members and leaders.

Amateur boxers park in 3-door Pasadena gym

By RON DONOHO Sports Editor

Carl Harding came home one day two years ago and discovered that his friend had installed a boxing ring in his spacious, three-door garage behind his Pasadena home.

Rather than complain, Harding simply went out with his buddy and filled the garage-turned-gym with a small stable of fighters, and began holding amateur bouts.

He also got used to parking his car outside in the driveway.

"Larry Lowry and I were at the fights at La Fontaine Bleu one night, and we talked about getting ourselves a fighter," said Harding. "But we couldn't find a place to train. We had talked about using a couple of bays in the garage for training, but I came home one day and there was a ring set up in there. They hauled everything out and just sat it outside the garage, including my antique car."

"I like surprising people," said Lowry.

Thursday, Lowry and Harding hosted their second amateur fight night that came equipped with most of the trimmings, including AAU officials, Amateur Boxing Federation fighters, a ringside doctor and trophies.

About 50 people attended the event, including Baltimore trainer Mack Lewis and some of his amateur fighters and boxers from the Loch Raven Optimist gym, Baltimore Athletic Club and Champs Athletic Club. The vocal crowd, made up of family and friends of the boxers, and a few of Harding's neighbors, stood around the ring as the bouts were waged.

The special guest timekeeper was Chuck "Pit Bull" Sturm, lightweight headliner for Max Kisser's professional boxing shows at La Fontaine Blue in Glen Burnie.

"This is a good idea," said Sturm, who kept time with a hand-held stopwatch and banged on a sheet of metal with a wrench to mark the beginning and end of rounds. "It doesn't matter where you fight, you've got to start somewhere."

Henry "Rico" Tiburzi is getting his professional start thanks to the garage/gym facility and Lowry, who manages the 24-year old middle-weight. Tiburzi, who is from Dundalk and is a graduate of Patapsco High, won his pro debut on June 14 at La Fontaine Bleu after a first round technical knockout of Wilbur Thomas.

Tiburzi is trained by former Naval Academy boxing assistant Charlie Holloway and Dom Baccala. He trains at the garage six days a week, and including morning roadwork, he puts in about five and a half hours per day.

"This is a great place and these guys have been great for me," said Tiburzi. "There's nothing these guys won't do for me. They made it easier for me by paying me to train, and they get me all the sparring I could want."

Tiburzi regularly spars with Victor Davis and Sharmba Mitchell, both of mainstays on the professional shows run by Glen Burnie matchmaker Josh Hall. Both Davis and Mitchell recently fought in Atlantic City in fights shown on cable television on ESPN. Vincent Pettway, who fights

out of the Mack Lewis Gym, was supposed to spar last night with Tiburzi, but was a no-show.

"We've got big plans for Rico," said Lowry. "He trains extremely hard, and he's got that killer instinct. We want to eventually take him to Michael Nunn. The middle weight division is the hottest division right now."

While Tiburzi still has a long way to go before he's ready for Nunn, he is certainly striding in the right direction, as are the amateurs fight-

ers that train in the Pasadena garage, including Southern High grad Phil DiMaggio, who stopped Tony Brooks of Champs in the second round of his third amateur bout. Besides the three sanctioned amateur fights held last night, there were a number of exhibitions staged afterward.

"This was what's called a gym show," said Naval Academy boxing coach Jim McNally, who was on hand last night as an AAU official. "Obviously most occur in gyms, but this is on the same level as most gym shows."

The first show sponsored by Lowry and Harding was on May 15, and according to Lowry, there will be many more to come.

"Things have gone well, and we have some good prospects," Lowry said. "We want a champion to come out of Pasadena. Right now we get notoriety for that stupid song 'Funky Pasadena' (a radio takeoff of the Tone Loc rap song 'Funky Cole Medina' which pokes fun at the community). I hate that song. I think there are much better things Pasadena can be known for, and this is one of them."

Reprinted from the July 1, 1989 Maryland Gazette

FROM BALTIMORE

The Gems in Concert At South Broadway

By Herbert H. Locklear

The Angelic Gems were having a good time singing "Oh, What a Mighty God We Serve." The congregation was clapping their hands and otherwise keeping rhythm in a worshipful attitude. Linda Cox, co-director of the young singing group, sang along joyfully and kept everyone in tune. Meanwhile, John Walker, the director and founder of "The Gems," just picked away on the guitar and cried "crocodile tears" of happiness that "his children" were doing so well.

Mr. Walker, who is Music Director and singing coordinator for the South Broadway Baptist Church, shared how two years ago "...God laid it on my heart to begin a choir group with the young children in the church." The group of about twenty represent an age range of four to 12 years.

According to Mr. Walker, these children represent a cross-section of ethnicity, family interests, and backgrounds. Further, with such a range in age they are at different levels of reading and learning ability. Nevertheless, he adds, "They are all my children and I love working with each one of them."

Mrs. Cox says that she and Mr. Walker feel very strongly that the time and effort spent with these youngsters now will be more than rewarded by way of their becoming better men and women as they grow up. She feels that too often adults do not take the time in the growth and development of the community children. As a result, we reap the "disastrous" results.

I wondered how they were able to teach the youngest children the words of the songs. I found that Mrs. Ramona C. Bentley works much

more intensely with the four and five year olds. By the time the Gems get ready to perform, the youngest are prepared to sing along with the older ones.

To the question, what is it like working with such a group of children, Mrs. Cox responds, "A labor of love." She said the children are very sensitive and seem to realize the special attention they receive.

She shared how they all bring their prayer requests to Mr. Walker; how he listens intently and responds to each request. Then he affectionately refers to them as "my children."

John Walker feels that if he can help at least one of these inner city children avoid the many problems found on the streets of Baltimore, then his effort will not be in vain.



TINA & MIGUEL in a recent photo

By Herbert H. Locklear Tina Locklear died. The family and community mourned. They all mourned together. Tina was only 24 years of age. She was the mother of one child, Miguel, who is seven

and died. According to all who were overheard speaking on the matter of her death, there was general wonderment about the timing and cause.

At first, everyone thought the cause of death was accidental. The doctors at Key Medical Center and the pathologist said the death was caused by "natural causes."

It seems that Tina went to a Little League baseball game to see her son play. Reports are that she was so proud of Miguel's accomplishments. While at the game an errant ball hit Tina on the head. Three days later, she lost consciousness. She was rushed to the hospital and emergency surgery was performed to remove a blood clot. The doctors discovered that the clot was an old one and the impact of the ball led to its discovery.

Tina survived the surgery only to lapse into a coma some days later

and died.

Tina was a beautiful young lady. Her body was laid to rest at the Oaklawn Cemetery in Baltimore, MD. Weeping over her passing were family, friends, and son Miguel.

They say that tragedies do not have happy endings. But this one has a happy sequel. Mary Locklear, Tina's mother; Crystal Locklear, Tina's sister; and Brad Godwin, Tina's friend, were all saved by the Grace of God at church last Sunday.

SAY YOU READ IT IN THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE