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John L. Godwin Leadership Award Program Begins at CCA

by Mac Legerton
Director, Center for Community Action

John Godwin believed that time and truth are on the side of the oppressed. All that was needed was someone to organize them. His greatest love and joy was inspiring others to become more involved in community change efforts: "I think of all people as being first-class citizens until they prove otherwise....I try to motivate people to do what they should do for themselves...I always knew there were injustices and I felt about them how I feel today-You never know what you can do about them. But you don't know if you're going to catch a fish unless you throw out a line." John Godwin was an articulate Lumbee leader of Robeson County's grassroots people. He died on March 22, 1988 as the result of an automobile accident.

John L. Godwin served on the Board of Directors of the Center for Community Action from 1983-87 and became a part time staff member in January 1988. During this time he worked on many CCA campaigns, including efforts to improve the delivery of social services, protect employee rights, and halt the construction of two hazardous waste facilities. Godwin also served as Chairperson of the Pembroke Cluster of CCA and Vice-Chairperson of the Board in 1986 and 1987.

After the shooting death of Jimmy Earl Cummings, Godwin founded the Concerned Citizens for Better Government, a coalition of citizens and organizations which became a powerful force for change in Robeson County. He became a strong spokesperson and advocate for improvements in law enforcement, a fairer judicial system, merger of the county's five school systems, and social change at the ballot box. As a result of these and other activities, Godwin was a 1987 recipient of the Nancy Susan Reynolds Award of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in Winston-Salem, NC. He was also recognized as the 1987 Indian Elder of the Year by the United Tribes of North Carolina and received the Henry Berry Lowrie Award during Lumbee Homecoming, sponsored by Lumbee Regional Development Association.

In honor of John Godwin, the Center for Community Action has established the John L. Godwin Leadership Award. The purpose of the award is to recognize citizens who are working on a neighborhood, town, or county level to obtain a greater degree of equality and justice in Robeson County, North Carolina. In announcing the award program, Rev. Arnold Walker, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of CCA, stated: "There is no better way than this Award Program to recognize effective community leadership and show appreciation for the courage, foresight, and integrity expressed in the life and leadership of John Godwin."

Up to three John L. Godwin Leadership Awards will be presented annually to individuals whose efforts have led to significant change in their community or throughout Robeson County.

The Awards will recognize citizens who are involved in solving community problems and motivating other citizens to become involved in nonviolent efforts of community change. Each award is accompanied by a gift of \$250.00. The monetary gift is an expression of support to community leaders whose work and contributions often go unrecognized. Recipients will be chosen who have exhibited effective leadership and citizenship abilities which provide examples for others to follow.

Nominees must be residents of Robeson County, North Carolina. They may be involved in community change work on a voluntary basis or as a part of their employment. Membership and participation in CCA activities will be considered in the selection process but the awards are limited to CCA members. An independent screening committee will review the nominations and make recommendations to the Board of Directors. A one-page nomination form and instructions are available at the office of the Center for Community Action in Lumberton. Individuals, churches, civic groups, and organizations are invited to nominate persons for the awards. The deadline for nominations to be received is Friday, October 29.

The John L. Godwin Awards will be presented at the Annual Banquet of the Center for Community Action on November 11, 1989. The Banquet will be held at 6 p.m. at the Southern Kitchen Restaurant in Lumberton. Dr. Joseph Oxendine, Chancellor of Pembroke State University, will be the guest speaker. Tickets are on sale at the CCA office for \$10.00.

Dale Godwin, son of John Godwin, was pleased with the announcement of the award program. "Hopefully, the award will be an inspiration to those who receive it and to all of us to pick up the pieces where others leave off and forge forward to restore the dignity of the people of Robeson County. My father knew that we would not end prejudice and bias, but he believed that whether it be man, woman, or child, right, wrong or indifferent, leave people with their dignity because the last thing that people want to lose is their self-respect."

The Center for Community Action is receiving contributions for the John L. Godwin Leadership Award from individuals, churches, organizations, and businesses. Contributions to the Center for Community Action are tax-deductible.



Jamie Bell and Sharon Oxendine

Oxendine and Bell Receive Scholarships

Guilford Native American Association, Inc. is pleased to announce Sharon Oxendine and Jamie Bell as recipients the 1989-90 GNAA Scholarship.

Each \$1,000 award is based on financial need, academic achievement, community and school involvement, letters of recommendation, and leadership abilities.

Sharon, a member of the Lumbee Tribe, is the daughter of Mr. Jessie Oxendine of High Point and Mrs. Gloria Mitchum of Rockingham. A 1987 graduate of High Point Central, Sharon is a rising Junior at Pembroke State University majoring in Elementary Education. During her freshman year, Sharon was a PSU cheerleader and last year she was a member of the PSU Prancers dance team. After completing her degree, Sharon plans to teach in the High Point area.

Jamie Bell, a member of the Lumbee Tribe, is the son of Mr. and

Mrs. Edward Bell of Greensboro. A 1989 graduate of Northeast Senior High, Jamie is a freshman at East Carolina University and received a partial baseball scholarship. During his senior year, he was a pitcher on the baseball team, a male cheerleader for the basketball team, and a member of the football team. Jamie plans to major in Criminal Justice and pursue a career in law enforcement.

Guilford Native American Association, Inc. is a non-profit Urban Indian Center established to promote social and economic self-sufficiency for the Native American community living in the Triad area. The GNAA scholarship was established to provide financial assistance to two qualified Native American students from the Triad area who are enrolled or have been accepted at institutions of higher education.

STATEMENT FROM WILLIAM M. KUNSTLER, ATTORNEY FOR EDDIE HATCHER

This following statement was released September 30 by William M. Kunstler, Vice President and Volunteer Staff Attorney, Center for Constitutional Rights, New York, NY:

"North Carolina is one of the two states which refused to ratify the United States Constitution because it did not contain a Bill of Rights. Now a federal judge in that state, at the urging of local officials, has levied fines of \$120,000 against a University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) law professor and attorneys for two public interest civil rights organizations, the Center for Constitutional Rights and the Chrstic Institute South. This follows an equally vindictive assessment by another North Carolina federal judge of some \$80,000 against Julius Chambers, the Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and

Educational Fund and his colleagues and a million dollar fine against the Chrstic Institute and its lawyers in Florida. These actions, designed to destroy public interest law firms, represent the payoff of the Reagan court-packing plan which has filled the federal bench with ideologues who slavishly follow the desires of a President who, while in office, did everything in his power to destroy legal services for the poor.

"Naturally, I am my colleagues will oppose this fine with all our might and all our resources and we will call upon all attorneys, lawyers' groups, civil rights organizations, and interested lay people to join us in a fight against a conspiracy to destroy the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution and its guarantee of the right to counsel."

County-Wide Celebration of Civil Rights Act To begin Saturday

On Saturday, October 14, there will be a county-wide celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The celebration will be held at 5-7 p.m. at the House of Joy in Fairmont. The guest speaker will be the Honorable Ramsey Clark, the Attorney General of the United States during the Johnson Administration. The celebration will include food, fellowship, and tributes to the changes which occurred in Robeson County and throughout our nation as a result of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Tickets to the celebration are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the door.

Before becoming U.S. Attorney General, Ramsey Clark practiced law privately and worked for the U.S. Department of Justice. He is the son of Supreme Court Justice Tom Campbell Clark, who was a member of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1949-67. When Ramsey Clark became Attorney General, his father resigned from the Supreme Court to avoid a possible conflict of interest. The appointment of Ramsey Clark as U.S. Attorney General was a great honor to him, not only because of the opportunity to serve his country, but also because his father held the same position from 1945-49.

During his years as an attorney with the Department of Justice and as Attorney General, Ramsey Clark became familiar with

Robeson County. Now, once again, he is involved with county concerns. This time he is serving on the defense team of Sandy Chavis. Ramsey Clark is a renowned figure who is known world-wide as a quiet, composed lawyer who believes that justice and truth are qualities of life which must be protected and served.

Because of his personal commitment and professional career, it is appropriate that Ramsey Clark be asked to pay tribute to the 1964 Civil Rights Act which changed the face of Robeson County. The Civil Rights Act made it illegal to arrest people in Robeson County who sat at segregated lunch counters, entered segregated bathrooms, and segregated sections of buses and theaters. The 1964 Civil Rights Act also made it illegal to discriminate in hiring and wage practices for workers. It also made it simpler to vote and people could now register at the post office instead of having to go to their local courthouse.

During the celebration, other persons will be asked to pay tribute to the Civil Rights Act and look back on the changes that it brought and the unfinished work that must be done to obtain the dream of liberty and justice for all.

For more information on the celebration, contact: Ms. Dorothy Lowery at 521-9341 (home) or 521-3826 (work).

PSU Senior Art Show Planned

Three Pembroke State University students will have a senior art show Oct. 15 to Nov. 13 in the lobby of PSU's Performing Arts Center.

A reception opening the show on Oct. 15 will be from 2-5 p.m. with the public invited. Some of the work will be for sale.

The three students are Maria Cohen of Ft. Bragg, Jacqueline Howell of Rockingham, and Wilton King of Bladenboro.

The exhibit will include water colors, acrylic paintings, silk screens, lithographs, pastels, etchings and woodcuts.

Cohen is the wife of Capt. Howard Cohen of the U.S. Army. She has won honors for artistic merit at PSU and plans to use her art degree in the field of advertising. She completed high school at Camp Zama in Japan.

Howell is the wife of Dr. Edgar V. Howell, Jr., of Rockingham and the mother of four children. At PSU, she has been a member of Alpha Chi, the institution's highest scholastic society and received special recognition for scholastic and artistic merit. A graduate of Bacon County High School in Alma, Ga., she earned her R.N. from the Barrett School of Nursing in Augusta, Ga.

King is the son of Wilton King and Deborah Edwards. At PSU, he has been selected to "Who's Who Among American College Students"

and plans to use his art degree to enter the field of graphic arts. A graduate of Clarkton High School, he was chosen there as best all-around and a member of "Who's Who Among American High School Students."



Maria Cohen

Really-looking good maria



Wilton King - you should should



Jacqueline Howell

Women's group wants fair shake from the NEA

By LISA LANDIS
Times-News

North Carolina is a "man's world," but at least one woman in the area has taken action in the past 10 years to change that.

Mozella Locklear of Burlington was appointed this weekend to represent the Mid-Atlantic Region for the National Women's Concern Committee of the National Educational Association. The committee is a steering committee for the National Women's Caucus to see that women's concerns are being met by the NEA.

"Women are not treated equally to men here in the state. I can't go and get

with these same things, and I wanted to pave the way for them - at least a little bit."

Locklear, who is a fifth-grade teacher at Hillcrest Elementary School, was appointed for a two-year position on the NWCC after the fall session of the NWC in Bethesda, Md. this weekend. She has been a member of the NWC for three years and a member of the N.C. Women's Caucus for 10 years.

"If things need to be done on women's issues, we pass it on to the NWCC, which is funded by NEA, to get things done," Locklear said.

Present concerns of the committee include the abortion issue and women in the workplace.

"We don't want (the Roe v Wade) decision to be reversed, and we've worked very hard over the past year to stop changes, holding rallies nationally and community-wide, but we almost lost it," she said.

Locklear said in this area particularly it is difficult to change people's attitudes toward abortion because of religious beliefs.

"I've brought up the issue here with different people I meet, but I never get any answers. It's the way people are raised, being in the Bible Belt. Religious beliefs teach a certain thing. Of course, everyone's entitled to have his or her own beliefs, and that's good," she said.

"And there is still a big discrepancy here with jobs. Women just don't get the same kind of breaks men do in jobs. Take the elderly. Who cares for them? Men don't give them medicine, they don't have to take care of them. Women do," Locklear said.

Goals the committee set for the coming year include the continued production of the woman's magazine from the NWC - WomenSpeak - and more networking among women's groups and

teachers.

"As a member of both the N.C. Teacher's Association and the NWCC, I feel I

can better speak for my group from North Carolina. When people give me problems, I can take them to Washington directly. I'm right here," Locklear said.

"I'm very conscientious about my class and try to reach every one of my children equally. One teacher at a conference pointed out to me that teachers usually give help to questions they ask girls, while they let boys struggle it out. I make sure not to do that now."

Locklear's goals for the next two years in the association are to recruit more native Americans on the 10-member commit-

tee, a group of which she is a part, and to hard-sell pro-choice because "every woman should have the choice of what happens to them."

Mozella O. Locklear is the daughter of the late Willie C. and Jennie Oxendine. She is a graduate of Pembroke State University. She teaches fifth grade at Hill Crest Elementary School in Burlington, North Carolina. She earned her master's degree at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

She was appointed for a two-year term to the Women's Concerns Committee with the National Education Association.

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anything unless my husband signs for it in most places. I should be able to do that myself," Locklear said. "I have two daughters and they're going to be faced