

# Carolina Indian Voice

"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

Robeson County

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## New Western Auto in Pembroke

by Oscar Sellers  
PSU Journalism Student

Tony Brewington has something that few people have in life. A job that includes his family in his business' day to day operation.

Mr. Brewington opened the new Western Auto Store in Pembroke on November 30 to fill the opening left by the closing of the old Western Auto Store.

With his wife, Peggy, and children: Joel, Brian, Shelli, Nanci and Thomas and other family members, Mr. Brewington plans to run a store that emphasizes convenience.

Brewington said that he is pleased with business so far and feels that the quality of his store will add something extra to Pembroke.

"We have a first class building and first class customer service," said Brewington.

The new store has certified

mechanic Jeffery Lowry, who is experienced with foreign cars and Johnny Chavis, manager of parts on call to help provide the best service available.

Brewington said that his business is a family operation that he hopes will teach his children a "sense of responsibility about business" while keeping the family unit together.

"By letting them (his children) work in the store it provides a chance to spend quality time with each other," said Mr. Brewington.

Brewington has a history of family enterprises in Pembroke. On the site that the new Western Auto stands he and his wife operated the largest day care center in Pembroke. The Wonderland Day Care Center was in operation for thirteen years when Brewington and his spouse instigated the new enterprise.

"I've got the perfect job," said Brewington.

## Columbus County Indian Sheriff

On Monday Harold Lee Rains, Coharie Indian, became Sheriff of Columbus County. Sheriff Rains was appointed by a unanimous vote from the Board of Commissioners. He became the third sheriff in three years following the resignation of Henry S. Rowan. Rowan, former county coroner, was appointed 18 months ago to replace Bill Rhodes who was removed as sheriff for "willful misconduct in office" and sexual misconduct.

Rains was sworn into office by Superior Court Judge Dexter Brooks, Lumbee Indian, of Pembroke.

## Lumbee Bank Declares Dividend

Lumbee Bank Board of Directors approved a \$.25 per share dividend for stockholders of record as of December 7, 1989, and payable December 21, 1989. With this payment, total dividends paid for 1989 has been \$.50 per share.

## Citizens Forum Planned December 14

Telamon Corporation will sponsor a citizens forum on Thursday, December 14, 1989. The forum will begin at 3 p.m. in the small auditorium at the Robeson County Public Library in Lumberton.

The purpose of this forum is to provide the public an opportunity to make known problems, concerns, and suggestions regarding farm labor issues, employment, training, and service programs for farmworkers, and other farm related matters

Sheriff Rains becomes the first Indian to our knowledge to serve as sheriff in the state. He is married to the former Lollie Jacobs, a Waccamaw Siouan Indian, and they reside in the Buckhead community. He is a native of Sampson County and, prior to his appointment, served the department in various capacities, including deputy and court bailiff for 12 years.

Rains, 59 is retired from the U.S. Air Force. He has not announced whether he will seek election to the position of sheriff in 1990.

## Judge Brooks to appear "Stateline"

Superior Court Judge Dexter Brooks of Pembroke will appear on the North Carolina Public Television show "Stateline." The 30-minute program will be aired on Thursday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, December 17, at 5:00 p.m.

that individuals deem important. A representative will be elected to present these concerns and issues at the January meeting of Telamon's North Carolina State Council.

Telamon Corporation is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1965 and funded through the Job Training Partnership Act to provide training, employment, and supportive services to low income migrant and seasonal farmworkers in an eight state region.

## LAC Swimmers grabbed gold December 2

Phillip Enevoldsem and Tim Brooks grabbed gold medals for the Lumberton Aquatics Club at the Waves of Wilmington Holiday Invitational Swim Meet Saturday at UNC-Wilmington.

Phillip Enevoldsem, swimming in the 15-18 year old division captured the gold medal in the 100 yard freestyle (55.66), placed second in the 200 yard freestyle (2:05.45), served in the 200 yard individual medley (2:28.92) and seventh in the 100 yard butterfly (1:13.89).

Tim Brooks, swimming in the 11 and 12 year old division captured the gold medal in the 100 yard breast stroke with a new "A" time of 1:19.50. Brooks grabbed the silver medal in the 100 yard freestyle with a new "A" time of 1:01.10. Brooks also collected two bronze medals in the 200 yard freestyle with an "A" time of 2:12.83 and in the 100 yard

butterfly (1:12.83). Brooks grabbed a seventh place finish in the 100 yard backstroke (1:19.67).

Steven Hunt, swimming in the 9 and 10 year old division, placed fifth in the 50 yard breaststroke (41.52). Hunt placed sixth in the 50 yard butterfly with an "A" time of 37.01 and 8th in the 100 yard freestyle (1:16.33).

Other LAC swimmers attending the meet were Eryn Sanderson, Jocelyn Sanderson, Matthew Lowry, Andrew Lowry, Devon Dial, Tamer Lowry, Natula Lowry, Demond Locklear, Brandon Oxendine, Jeremy Brewington, Dawn Lucas, Micah Oxendine, Landa Brooks, and Michael Dimery.

There were 377 swimmers representing 15 clubs in eastern North Carolina participating in the meet at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington December 2.



Acteans from Burnt Swamp Baptist Association of Pembroke were on the campus of Campbell University Saturday, October 28, participating in the school's annual "Acteans See Campbell University Day." The 16 members of the group, under the direction of Patsy Hunt, were one of 48 groups of Acteans from Baptist churches throughout the state. The day's activities included tours of the campus, speakers, presentations, a basketball scrimmage, and a soccer game between Campbell and East Carolina.

## The Optimistic Cynics

BY KAREN CORONADO & WM. RICHARD MATHIS

ARE THE MEDIAS BIASED IN COVERING ROBESON COUNTY?

Reporting, n. giving an account of, giving information about, as something seen or investigated.

rhetoric, n. the art or science of using words effectively in speaking or writing, so as to influence or persuade.

logic, n. the art or science of correct reasoning.

The same principles of logic which apply to scientific observation, debate or judicial proceedings also apply to the reporting of news and its analysis per editorial opinion.

There are also classical pitfalls of logical association with the investigation and interpretation of events. Knowledge of these pitfalls allows the reader or viewer to constructively analyze the medias' presentations and interpretations of the news. This knowledge also applies to the critique of leaders and politicians.

The following pitfalls are not totally inclusive; certainly, there are more. Hopefully, they will stimulate you to become more able to evaluate the logic (or illogic) used by reporters, editorialists and politicians.

1. *Ad Hominem arguments*- In this fallacy, the writer (or speaker, etc.) attacks the person as opposed to the person's arguments or actions. Name calling (i.e., Communist, Liberal Activist), seems to be a particularly popular form of *ad hominem* argument. Perhaps the most blatant form is the attacking or killing of messengers of bad or unpopular news.

The other side of the *ad hominem* fallacy is accepting an argument because one likes the person making the argument. "Why I'd just believe anything Joe Don Ding Dong would tell me. Surely, he won't lead me astray," You bet.

2. *Appeal to authority*-This fallacy is closely associated with the previous. "You've got to believe it's the truth: the news, reporter, doctor, president, governor, etc., said so." Correct facts and reasoning are the only acceptable authority and not somebody's status as an expert.

Likewise, do not trust any rhetorician who does not use facts or disciplined reasoning in attempting to persuade you. Such a person merely wants you to trust them on the basis of their supposed authority.

3. *Attack the motives*-In the same vein as the first two pitfalls, this is another attempt to evade the real issues and put undue attention on one's perceived opponent. "The only reason that you're saying this is because you're a self-proclaimed, do-gooding, liberal, communist trouble-maker trying to stir-up trouble and give us a black eye in the press."

4. *Appeal to emotionalism*-This pitfall is similar to three in that it tries to replace reason with emotions. "You're going to destroy our reputation. You should be ashamed." "They're everywhere. They're going to take over unless we do something right now."

The other side of this one is that you should do something because of its nobility, magnanimity, or decency. Perhaps you should; but only if the facts and correct reasoning support it.

*Appeal to prejudice or bias*- "Outsiders can't possibly understand our situation. Those outside reporters are just a bunch of carpetbaggers trying to make a buck by

stirring-up unrest.

6. *Appeal to tradition*- "Besides, that's the way things have always been here and that's the way they will always be."

7. *Drawing conclusions not based on fact*-We usually don't make the right conclusions from a lack of facts or by committing one of the 6 fallacies listed above.

In our opinion, when the medias have shown bias in covering Robeson County, it has been primarily because of the last three fallacies: appeal to bias or prejudice, appeal to tradition and drawing conclusions not based upon fact.

Most members of the medias are middle-class Anglos who appear to have little awareness or understanding of Native Americans in general and specifically of Indians in Robeson County. From informal interviews conducted with local and outside reporters, we have found few that have researched the history of local Indians.

We must wonder what the same reporters would feel if a foreign reporter came to do a story on the United States with only a minimal awareness of its history. Such a foreign reporter is likely to make decisions on personal bias or feelings regarding America.

Yet reporters come to Robeson County to do a story without having done any significant research on the history of Indians here, stay a couple of days and return home to report on our status. Perhaps such an approach belies a prejudicial attitude that we are a simple people who can be readily understood by any reporter during a short period.

Nor are you likely to find in any of the medias (with the exception of the Carolina Indian Voice), Indians writing or speaking about their experiences, perceptions or beliefs. Mainstream medias are far more likely to cover topics of interest to Anglo readers. Unless, of course, Indians in Robeson County "act-up" enough to arouse the media's interest and thus gain news coverage.

In short, we feel that the medias have not provided sufficient coverage of Indian history, culture or society and that not enough space has been given to Indian writers.

If we are to hold the medias accountable then we must educate ourselves with the rules and pitfalls of the basic logic of reporting and rhetoric. To quote Thomas Jefferson: "Error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it." We must all be eternally vigilant to incorrectly reported or interpreted events whether it's ourselves or others making the mistakes. However, we must even be more wary of those who would assail us for seeking to report or speak the truth.

We also believe that when reporters study the history of Indians in Robeson County that they will find a marked pattern of attempts to limit the free speech of Indians. Once they find this pattern, we feel that it becomes incumbent upon them to ensure the full development of free speech for Indians.

But don't take our word for it; investigate for yourselves. Read Adolph Dial's book or check out the Lumbee petition. If you do, you will probably be far better informed about our community than most reporters. Which is not to say that Anglo or outside reporters can't do a decent job in covering our stories; they can, so long, as we take it upon ourselves to educate them about us.

## Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation Restores Traditional Form of Government

by Mike Dunn

The Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation, located in Robeson County, North Carolina, has done away with the white man's form of government and elections, to return to their own traditional form of government known to them as the "Great Law of Peace."

The "Great Law of Peace" has been in existence for 500 years and was founded by an Iroquois Indian known as Deganawidah or the Peacemaker. The Peacemaker was later joined by an Onondaga Indian known as Hiawatha. Together they promoted the political philosophy of the Great Law of Peace. The Great

Law of Peace became the governing system of what is now known as the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy, consisting of the Mohawk, Onondaga, Seneca, Cayuga, Oneida, and Tuscarora Nations.

Under the Great Law of Peace there are no elections for Clan Chiefs, Clan Mothers or the Chief of

the Nation. All positions are hereditary and are for life. But this does not mean the Nation could be run by someone who does not work for the best interest of the nation. If a chief or clan mother is not working for the best interests of the nation, the clan mothers will give him or her a warning, and if they do not change their ways, they will be given a second warning. If there is a third warning, he or she is removed from their position. A replacement is then chosen from the same clan that the removed person is from.

The Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation is dealing directly with the sovereign government of the Six Nations in restoring this traditional form of government to the segment of Tuscaroras who want to live under the sovereign traditional way of life.

No funds or grants are accepted as certain splinter groups of Tuscaroras in the Robeson County have accepted that include whites and blacks in their programs. These grants come under the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Indians have separate laws from the whites and blacks and are guaranteed this under Public Law 95-341. To accept these grants is to deny one's Indianness and put your people under white and black law and not Indian law. We accept grants that deal only with Indians.

The Eastern Tuscarora Nation is also living under the Clan System. The Tuscaroras have seven clans: Bear, Wolf, Turtle, Beaver, Deer, Snipe and Eel. Each member of the nation is a member of one of these seven clans. The clan is determined by your family lineage through your mother's line. Each clan has a clan mother and a clan chief. Each clan mother and clan chief works for the best interests of their respective clan, as well as for the nation as a whole.

The Nation believes very strongly in self-help programs which are designed to help the people to work for what they want to achieve. Under this program the nation has a five acre landbase which is held in trust in the name of the Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation. It is not under any individual. There are three buildings on the land which were all built by the people. One is a tribal office which is also used for meetings. The second is a Tuscarora-Iroquois Museum that deals with the Tuscarora-Iroquois culture. The third building is not completed yet. It will be used for teaching crafts, language, dancing, etc. There are plans in the future for the building of a Longhouse which will be used for traditional ceremonies, social dancing, and council of chiefs and clan mother meetings.

Recently the All Tuscarora Iroquois Fall Festival was held. This was achieved through self-help with no assistance from grants or other funds.

The Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation feels very strongly about sovereignty, the Great Law of Peace, grants and funds for Indians and Indians only, self help, culture, traditions, ceremonies, language, dance and arts and crafts.

This article is written for those Tuscaroras who are seeking these same things. This is to let them know that there is a place in Robeson County where Tuscarora culture and traditional government is being carried out.

This article is written and supported by the Council of Chiefs and Clan Mothers of the Eastern Carolina Tuscarora Nation.

Niyaw-ueh

## Reception to honor new Mayor of Fairmont

Citizens and friends of Fairmont are invited to a reception in honor of Dr. Joy J. Johnson, mayor-elect of the Town of Fairmont, on Sunday, December 10 from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Fairmont Town Hall Extension.

A worship service sponsored by Nu Kappa Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity will be held at First Baptist Church on North Main Street in Fairmont at 8:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.