

WHAT NEXT???

The United States wants others to help finance the rebuilding of Panama and its economy. Some early estimates suggest at least \$1 billion will be needed and the Bush administration is expected to put the pinch on Japan (Japan is greatly interested in the Panama Canal since much of its exports to Europe go through there), the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund. Of course we feel sure that all "donations" will be accepted.

With approximately 125 American companies operating in Panama and the fact that "we" invaded and many Americans feel we own this country, you, the taxpayer, can rest assured that you will be called upon to foot a great portion of this "year-end invasion" bill. Happy holidays, Mr. and Mrs. Taxpayer!

And for another disappointing by-product of the invasion of Panama let's look even closer to home...N.C. Governor Jim Martin recently made several radio commercials praising Sen. Jesse Helms. Seems Helms had blasted Noriega years ago and Martin's commercials were saying ol' Helms was 'right all along' (no pun intended).

Of course, Jim Martin is not doing this out of the goodness of his heart. He has another reason for courting Jesse Helms. Helms is up for re-election to the U.S. Senate this year (believe us folks, unfortunately he will announce he is going to run) and Martin is looking to challenge U.S. Senator Terry Sanford in 1992. So Martin washes Helms' back now and hopes for a return favor in 1992 (Martin will need the conservatives in '92). Wonder if Jim Martin remembers the businessman in the 1960s by the name of Jesse Helms (yes...our now beloved [sic] Senator) who claimed communists were behind integration?

There is the old saying that 'politics makes strange bedfellows.' In plain words folks, some people will crawl into bed with just about anyone to further their own career! Good luck Jim...we feel you are going to need it!

Few probably recognize the name unless you're from Western North Carolina or work in Raleigh. Former four-term N.C. House speaker Liston Ramsey is running for re-election in 1990 but he says he is not running for the speaker's seat (if you believe that, we have a brand new shiny penny waiting for you. Just stop by and pick it up).

Ramsey is still smarting from his downfall as house speaker and probably hopes the current Speaker, Joe Mavretic will be unsuccessful in his bid to hold on to the position. Reps. Bob Hunter, Jack Hunt, and Joe Hackney hope to unseat Mavretic. "They are three good men, good Democrats, and I'll support the winner of the caucus." Wonder if a "good Democrat" supports Jesse Helms? How about it Ramsey?

A great deal of attention has been focused far away on

the drug dealing of Gen. Noriega. But you need to go no further than right here in Robeson County to find similar happenings. Several individuals have escaped the harsh judgement of the public because, in our opinion, they have been aided and abetted by some of our local officials. On land our sheriff's department did not or would not stake out, over \$1 million of marijuana was found, pulled up and "destroyed." No arrests...no information about the owners of the land...no action from the sheriff of Robeson County, Hubert Stone.

Over the years, in our opinion, Stone's letters, words, actions, and inaction have helped men like Jonathan Lowery, Carson Maynor, and Leroy Locklear, to name a few, evade the harsh punishment they richly deserved. And so while President Bush takes on Noriega and the drug trade, perhaps we should seek similar action against Stone and company. After all, drugs cripple, destroy lives, and kill regardless of who supplies or sells them. Before rejoicing and joining in the battle against Noriega, Robesonians need to clean up their own backyard!

Food for thought...in 1983 and 1984 the United States Central Intelligence Agency was paying General Manuel Noriega \$250,000 a year...that was \$50,000 more than we paid our own President, Ronald Reagan.

George Herbert Walker Bush, you know...our President, signed an executive order carrying out legislation to raise "top government" salaries as much as 35%. U.S. representatives will receive a raise from \$89,500 to \$96,600 in 1990 and more than \$120,000 in 1991, plus a cost of living adjustment. Of course, house members will no longer be allowed to accept money for giving those long boring speeches. The U.S. Senate's salaries will climb to \$98,400 in 1990 but they still retain the right to tax us with speeches and charge us for the privilege of listening to them.

Kind of hard to believe ol' George Herbert would complain and cry so loudly about a small increase in the minimum wage isn't it! Guess it's easier to reward the rich and powerful and let the poor work for their own reward.

Revs. Arnold Walker, chairman of the board of directors of the Center for Community Action, and Mac Legerton, executive director, have still not responded to our legitimate request for the last two audit reports and the current budget for CCA. Perhaps they are heading the advice of writer Aldous Huxley who was born in 1894:

"The silent bear no witness against themselves." In our view the silence of CCA in response to our request for public information speaks volumes. Again we call on Rev. Walker, Director Legerton, and the board of CCA to provide us with this information.

Readers' Forum

Reader Believes We Should Have Minority Sheriff

To the Editor:

In the 1990 election I feel that we should have no more than one minority running for sheriff. With the number of minorities in Robeson County, I feel we should have a minority sheriff and nothing but a minority sheriff. I overheard a Lumberton racist say that he hopes that four Indians will run for sheriff and one white. I believe in human rights for all people and not just for certain ones. I feel that minorities should vote and support each other. If they don't, nobody else will. I feel that jobs should be for more than just one kind of people. I also feel that the sheriff's department should be affirmative action employer. I don't think that it is fair for the sheriff's department to hire more of one kind than another. I feel that everyone should be treated fairly. I recently attended a first degree murder trial at the Robeson County Courthouse. I did not see an Indian or Black dressed in a uniform carrying out the court. It was all white. There are people who don't believe in welfare human rights, they believe in working the poor for nothing, also in lying, stealing and cheating people.

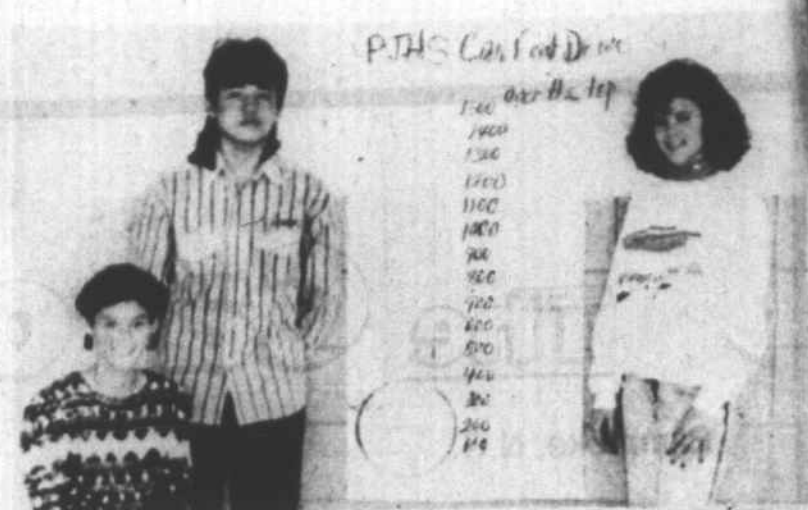
James W. Bell
Lumberton

FEDERAL JUDGES IN EASTERN NC HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR

Dear Editor:

If in fact the killing of federal judge Vance in Alabama was in retaliation to Pro-Civil Rights decisions, the federal judges in Eastern North Carolina can breathe a big sigh of relief as they are well respected by organizations like the Ku Klux Klan. And

Eddie Hatcher
Central Prison
Raleigh, NC



Students of Pembroke Junior High recently participated in a food drive sponsored by the Young Christian Association and the Native American Student Association for needy families.

The student body surpassed its goal of 1500 cans of goods by bringing in 1652 cans.

Sponsors of the YCA are

Thelma Stone and Necia Boykin; sponsors of NASA are Audrey Chavis and Deborah Jones.

Shown about are the 8th grade YCA President and 9th grade YCA President, Traci Locklear and Daniel Topper along with 9th grade NASA President, Crystal Fedor. They are looking at "over the top" goal of 1652 cans.

Christmas In Park Sponsors Thanked

The Pembroke Single Adult Fellowship wishes to thank all who helped with Christmas in the Park: Design and construction of the Nativity Scene-Delora Cummings and art student of Purnell Sweet High; Robert Alley and Industrial Arts students of Purnell Sweet High; Christmas tree-Dallas Jacobs; all who took part in the tree lighting ceremony; churches which took part in Christmas carol singing.

Financial contributions: Town of Pembroke; Pembroke Hardware; NAPA Tire Company; Pates Supply; Lowry's Pharmacy; Oxendine Grocery and Gas; Progressive Savings and Loan; Southern States Coopera-

tive; Dial Insurance; A & A Insurance; Pembroke Auto Parts; Sampson's Seafood; Anonymous Donor; Woodell's Park & Shop; Ransom Insurance; The Weed Shop; Bo's Supermarket; Revels Funeral Home; Locklear & Son Funeral Home; the Golden Comb; Pembroke Lioness Club; Lions Club of Pembroke; Pembroke Electric; Southeastern Veterinary Clinic; Dr. and Mrs. Martin L. Brooks; the Carolina Indian Voice; Fleetwood Homes of North Carolina, Inc.; Dr. Adolph Dial; Judge Dexter Brooks; Pembroke Auto Parts; Cynthia's Balloons; M & L Western Supplies; Rose Carter; Laura's Classic Designs; Single Adult Fellowship.

Reflections By Alta N. Oxendine

1990-A BETTER YEAR?

After dating a couple of checks 1-2-89 I finally got it right 1-2-90.

Not just for you and me, but for the whole world, it is my hope-and my earnest prayer-that 1990 will be a better year than the past few years seem to have been. Perhaps it is unrealistic to wish, for any of us, a "happy" new year (as I have been doing). In fact, we are not in this world for the purpose of attaining a self centered happiness.

Happiness is elusive, short-lived. A genuine inner JOY comes from learning to live in harmony with our Creator, from allowing Him to lead us, step by step, day by day.

It is my prayer that each of us, and the current leaders of this world, will realize the need for divine guidance from the-Great-est Spirit of all time

and all eternity and then turn our lives over to Him for daily direction.

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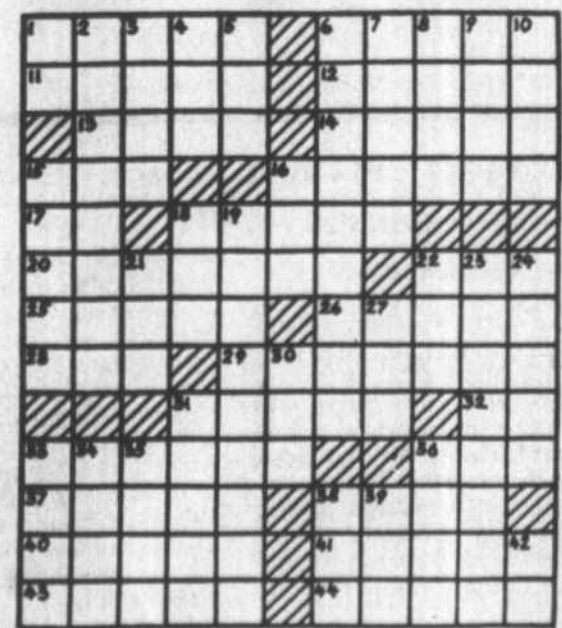
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 - Pronoun
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 - Think
 - Darken
 - People of Britain
- DOWN**
- Thus
 - Hoard
 - Mary Baker
 - Guided
 - Christian
 - Heavy burden
 - Leaves out
 - Keep
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 - Mr. Lincoln
 - Quarrelsome
 - Girl's nickname
 - Become old
 - Lights
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