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Keep hope alive:
Vote for change May 8th

by Christine Griffin

Julian T. Pierce was a great warrior for the cause of justice and equality for all people in our society. He was dedicated to this cause that I believe with all my heart was sanctioned by God. I believe as Julian believed and advocated that we need changes in Robeson County.

I believe that God has heard the prayers and the cries of all our forefathers throughout all of our generations, and I believe that He is calling us to accept the responsibility of leadership that will enable us to gain our rightful place in Robeson County.

I believe that Julian Pierce lost his life in battle but I also believe that Julian's death was part of God's master plan through which we can have victory.

Julian willingly accepted his role in God's plan. He was well aware of the risk. No doubt if some of us had known the cost would be his life, we would have said the cost was too great. But I remember that it is written approximately 2000 years ago God gave His only begotten son to save His people. Should God expect any less from us? Through suffering, pain and death comes new life. I believe that if we fail to take our rightful place and assume responsibility of leadership in our society that we bring shame and dishonor to the memory of our forefathers and to those who have fought and died before us. I also believe that we will leave a legacy of despair and hopelessness to our children and to all of our generations to come.

I am reminded of a passage of scripture that Dr. Martin Luther King made reference to shortly before his death in a speech entitled "I've Been to the Mountain Top." He said in the story of the good Samaritan that the Priest and the Levite that refused to stop to render assistance to the man who have been robbed and severely beaten no doubt had their personal reasons for not helping. He said they might have had an important meeting to attend. They might have been running late for a church service, or they might have been afraid that the man was laying in wait to attack and rob them had they stopped. Regardless of the reasons, no doubt these two men said to themselves "What will happen to me, if I stop to help him?" But the third man known as the Good Samaritan came along and rendered assistance. The Bible says that the Good Samaritan bound up the wounds of the man who was near death. He sat him on his beast and took him to a nearby inn. When the Good Samaritan had to leave the inn to continue his journey, he paid the innkeeper to take care of the wounded man. Now Dr. Martin Luther King said that the third man said to himself "What will happen to him if

I don't help him?" That is the question before us May 8. Many of us are like the Priest and the Levite. We are afraid of what will happen to us, if we become involved in activities to help our people.

But we must change our thinking and begin to think and act like the Good Samaritan and ask ourselves the question, "What will happen to our people, if we don't help?" If we don't help our people will continue to be oppressed. We will continue to suffer injustice, bigotry, poverty and even death.

I employ you May 8th to rise up and be counted. I employ you today to wake up to the realities that surround us. Our people are being consumed by drugs. Men and women are forsaking their children for the illusions of pleasure that drugs give to them. Children are forsaking their parents for the illusions of freedom that drugs gives to them. We must reach out to them and render them assistance. We must strive to eliminate the demand for drugs in Robeson County. I believe when the people of this county join together for the same cause, we cannot fail. This truth was evident in the campaign to elect Julian T. Pierce Superior Court Judge. When Julian announced his intent to seek the Superior Court Judgeship the overwhelming majority of his peers would not support him. Many of the officials of the town of Pembroke, called the home of the Lumbees, would not support him. Some people laughed because they believed the mere ideal that Julian had the audacity to challenge such a powerful opponent was ludicrous.

Julian expressed to me on several occasions his remorse, grief and disappointment that the people he expected to be his strongest supporters turned their backs because they were afraid to buck the system. But Julian was not discouraged. He took his cause to the people and the people gave him overwhelming support.

I say to you today that there are greedy and selfish people who will seek to betray and to destroy us; and if we are not very careful we will remain on the outside looking in at a world of prosperity. Our people will remain in a state of hopelessness and despair.

On May 8th, we must shake the very roots of our people. We must shake the beds they sleep in. We must awaken them to the realization that can affect our very existence. We must awaken them to the point that they can rest content no longer while people suffer and die around us. Under the leadership and as we are directed by God, we must become involved and take control of our own destiny. And we must make the needed changes in our county May 8th.

I have devised an agenda that demands our immediate attention: We must demand support from those whom we support; We must demand to be heard in matters that are crucial to our well being.

We must seek to expose the phantom demons who are supplying drugs to our children and destroying the lives of our people. Likewise we must work to eliminate the demand for drugs in Robeson County.

We must demand equal representation in all areas of our government. We must demand equal representation in businesses, organizations, and institutions that we support.

We must look, listen, and read in order to be informed of events and issues that affect us. In particular, we must monitor the voting records of elected officials. We must forget our petty biases and join hand in hand with our Black and white brothers and sisters who share our concerns in order to bring peace and harmony to Robeson County. We must work together as a united people to find solutions to the problems that have brought shame to Robeson County. We must stand up like men and women and demand accountability from our elected officials. Finally, and most importantly, we must love one another; we must bear each other's burdens. We must allow God to lead and direct us in all matters that we undertake and if we do this we cannot fail. The victory will be ours.

I urge you to go to the polls on May 8th and vote for change...Let's keep the memory of Julian Pierce alive...Let's remember all those who have suffered and died, victims of the present system in Robeson County...Remember Julian Pierce...Vote for change May 8th.

Mother and daughter graduating
at PSU commencement

by Gene Warren

A 45-year-old mother and her 26-year-old daughter will graduate together at Pembroke State University's May 5 commencement, which begins at 2 p.m. in PSU's 1,700-seat Performing Arts Center.

They are Barbara Brayboy-Locklear and her daughter, Millicent Locklear, both of Lumberton.

Both will receive B.A. degrees in Communicative Arts. Barbara has a journalism contract major under that program, while Millicent's emphasis was in public relations.

Both have sparkling personalities which should be tremendous assets in their professions.

The youthful-looking Barbara, who is married to Horace Locklear, is not only the mother of Millicent and two

other children--23-year-old Bryan and 20-year-old Edwin--she has four grandchildren.

Millicent is the mother of a two-year-old son, Franklin Tecumseh.

Barbara resides at Route 4, Lumberton, while Millicent's address is 312 Walter Circle in Lumberton.

Barbara graduated from Pembroke High School in '63, and Millicent graduated from Flora Macdonald Academy in '82.

Both have been Dean's List students, and in their interview they readily admitted they did compete for good grades. "We had three classes together, and it came out a draw between us," said Barbara. Those classes were: (1) News Writing and Reporting; Editing and Typography; and (3) Photography for Public Relations.

Asked how it was to go to college with her mother, Millicent smiled. "It was a situation where your best friend in college happened to be your mother," she replied.

Barbara first started to college in '75, going three semesters before taking what she described as an 11-year "sabbatical" to rear her family. From 1973-79, her husband was a state legislator for three two

year terms, "choosing not to seek re-election thereafter," she said.

"I decided to go back to college in the fall of '87 for personal fulfillment," said Barbara. "The experience has been wonderful. The most lasting impression is my acceptance by the students. I never felt uncomfortable. And I never had a professor I didn't like."

Going to college and continuing her responsibilities as a mother and grandmother have kept Barbara extremely busy. In addition to that,

she worked three days a week as coordinator and curator at the Indian Education Resource Center and wrote feature articles as part of her contracted journalism major for the Carolina Indian Voice of Pembroke. "I arranged to take my classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and it all worked out very well," said Barbara.

Millicent was a charter member and president of the PSU Public Relations Student Society of America organized last year. She was also chosen PSU's Outstanding Public Relations Student in '89. As a high school student, her journalistic talents were demonstrated when she was editor of the yearbook, won the English award, and was a member of the Beta Club. She was also Junior Class president in high school.

When Barbara, the daughter of Eva Harris Brayboy and the late Tecumseh Brayboy, Jr., marches down the aisle May 5 to receive her degree, she will join her four brothers as PSU graduates. They are Bobby Brayboy, Class of '60; Tim and Tecumseh Brayboy, Class of '64; and Ray Brayboy, Class of '69. Her husband, Horace, also graduated from PSU in '64.

For both Barbara Brayboy-Locklear and Millicent Locklear and their families, it should be a proud day indeed as mother and daughter graduate together.



Barbara Brayboy-Locklear [right] and daughter who will graduate together from PSU on May 5.

Miss Lumbee Pageant to
offer \$2,000 Scholarship

The Lumbee Regional Development Association's Board of Directors voted Monday night to increase the Miss Lumbee Scholarship Pageant Winner Award from \$1,000 to \$2,000, effective this year.

This is done to put more emphasis on the educational purpose of the pageant which seeks to foster and promote pageant contestants interested in pursuing their educational goals, beyond high school.

The pageant scholarship has been at \$1,000 for many years, and now will be equal to the amount received by the winner of the Miss North Carolina Pageant. LRDA pulled out of the Miss N.C. Pageant in 1989, due to the increasing cost and the general feeling that a racially

labeled contestant stood a poor chance of getting fair ratings.

The new Miss Lumbee Scholarship will hopefully generate expanded interest in the Pageant and encourage Lumbee girls to start planning in their high school years to be in the pageant and to develop their talent and overall preparation.

The \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded upon proof of enrollment in a college or technical school by the winner. The winner will represent the tribe in a series of events across the state such as parades, ribbon cuttings, cultural festivals, etc. LRDA pays for all expenses of travel, food, and lodging for Miss Lumbee during her reign representing the tribe at these various events.

LUMBEE HOMECOMING AWARDS
BANQUET TO BE HELD DURING
INDIAN HERITAGE WEEK

The LRDA Board of Directors voted recently to move its Annual Lumbee Homecoming Awards Banquet to Indian Heritage Week, during September, instead of during Lumbee Homecoming.

Congressman Charlie Rose confirmed, recently, that his schedule will permit him to be in attendance, at the event, which will be held September 21st. A site for the event will be announced later.

The Awards Banquet Committee of LRDA recommended the action to the LRDA Board for the event to be moved up this year only, and planned for its regular time during Homecoming the following year.

The Committee felt this would give the event its own premier billing and it will fit in nicely with Congressman Rose's commitment to come to speak to the attendants on Federal Acknowledgement.

Congressman Rose committed to come to speak to help raise funds for the tribe's Federal Recognition

efforts in 1991. Any proceeds from the event will go to help with the tribe's lobbying cost.

The Awards Committee and Federal Recognition Committee of the tribe will plan the joint event.

Awards for the Henry Berry Lowery Award, Indian Businessman of the Year, Outstanding Educator Award, and the Distinguished Service Award will be given as in the past. The LRDA Board has also voted to extend the deadlines for nominations until July 30th for these awards.

The Board and Committee may consider adding to the awards this year a Youth and Elder of the Year categories as well. This will be reviewed by the Awards Committee.

If you would like to nominate someone for the Awards you may contact your LRDA Board member in your district for more information, or call 521-0854 for nomination forms and criteria.

The new deadline for nominations is July 30th.



The ribbon cutting ceremony was held recently for Native Herbs and Natural Foods in Pembroke. The new health food store is located on Union Chapel Road and is owned and

operated by Joann Fergame with Gary Sampson serving as consultant. For all your natural foods and native herbs, you are invited to visit the new store.

Shown left to right are Rev. Simeon Cummings; Louise McAllan; Wesley Maynor; Tony Bullard; Alton Maynor; JoAnnne Fergame, manager; Gary Sampson; and the Mayor of Pembroke Milton Hunt.