

# The Carolina Indian Voice

Pembroke, NC

Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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## Indian district approved by N.C. House panel

A bill that creates a majority Black Indian House district in Robeson, Scotland and Hoke counties was expected to be approved on the House Floor Wednesday after approval in committee on Tuesday. The proposed single-member districts cleared the House Legislative and Local Redistricting Committee on Tuesday. The bill also provides for a majority Black and a majority white district. Robeson, Scotland and Hoke are presently represented by a three-member district whereby Representatives are elected at large. Rep. Dan DeVane of Raeford and Rep. Adolph L. Dial of Pembroke, members of the re-districting committee voted for the plan. Rep. Pete Hasty, a Maxton resident with business interests in Scotland County voted against the plan. DeVane will be in the majority white district; Dial in the majority Indian district; and Hasty in the predominately Black

district. Under the new re-districting plan, the three counties will each fall into three districts. Lumberton, Robeson's county seat, will be in all three districts.

The new majority Indian District, District 85 will include these precincts: Back Swamp, Burnt Swamp; Lumberton 1, 2, 7 and 8; North Pembroke; South Pembroke; Philadelphia; Raft Swamp; Rennett; Saddletree; Shannon; Smiths; Thompsons, all in Robeson County and the Hoke County precinct of Antioch.

Rep. Dial stated that he was pleased with the plan which provided for a majority Indian district. "We need it. We deserve it and we've only had three Indian members in the House in the history of this country. We are entitled to have an Indian district. This is the only place we

have where we can create a majority Indian district."

Rep. DeVane also said he was "happy for the Native Americans. They deserve a district that they can get elected from. This is the only place that there are the numbers to do that."

Rep. Hasty was not very happy with the plan. He tried to get the panel to consider an amendment to the plan which would join the proposed districts into a single three-member district. "They knew I had an amendment," he said, "they just didn't recognize it." Rep. Hasty planned to offer the amendment on the house floor but admitted that the chances were slim. "I'd say the courts are the only thing I know that are going to stop the plan," he said. He also indicated that he was "pretty much fed up with the process up here."

## Bill passed to re-construct County Board of Education

### A political analysis

J. RILEY EMANUEL

Robeson County is a changing. This sounds like a line from a Broadway musical but instead it is a line from the daily journal of Robeson County history.

This week the N.C. General Assembly enacted a bill to re-construct the Public Schools of Robeson County Board of Education. Under the new law the Board of Education will consist of eight board members from newly drawn districts and three members at-large or county-wide. The new district lines will be drawn by the present Board of Education.

The bill on its surface is a good bill. But the underlying dangers that lurk within the crevasses and loop-holes of the bill could destroy another decade of possible quality education.

The main danger that we must combat is the danger of the present board playing political greed. By monitoring every move and every decision made by the present Board

of Education, we can ensure that the eight new districts will be fair to all races. History has shown us that the present Board is not concerned with what is right nor education, so we as concerned friends of education, must take the guidance role and lead them beyond their vision.

Rep. Adolph Dial in a very moving speech on the floor of the N.C. House in voicing his concerns stated, "I am very concerned about fair racial representation on the new board."

As a friend of education, I too hope that the present Board of Education will use common sense and lay down their political agendas and for once consider the young minds that are at stake.

Then we will hear the line, *I like calling Robeson County home.*

## PSU student elected to state position

Charlotte Dawn Chavis of Pembroke, a rising social work major at PSU, has been elected in a statewide vote to the Board of Directors of the N.C. Chapter of the National Organization of Social Workers (NASW) effective July.

With her new responsibilities, Miss Chavis will be required to travel throughout the state to attend chapter meetings, representing the interests of student social workers. She will be meeting social work students from a variety of campuses.

Miss Chavis served as treasurer of PSU's Campus Association of Social Workers during the 1990-91 academic year. She has been the recipient of two PSU social work scholarships: the Jetter Bernard Locklear Memorial Endowed Scholarship and the Kayla Leigh Smith Memorial Scholarship. Besides being a good student, Miss Chavis is employed by J.C. Penney's as a

model and sales representative.

Dr. Steve Marson, Director of the PSU Social Work Program, said of her, "Charlotte is one of Pembroke State's best and most enthusiastic social work majors. Besides being an outstanding student, she has demonstrated her commitment to the values of professional social work."

Miss Chavis has completed volunteer work at the Southeastern Family Violence Center in Lumberton. Her senior field placement will take place within the Schools of Robeson County.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Monroe Chavis of Pembroke, she is "Who's Who Among American High Schools Students" 1988 and was named "Outstanding Young Woman of America" for 1991 by the Jaycees. She is a graduate of what was West Robeson High School.

## With 132 members, the PSU Friends of the Library Organization is Thriving

Ten years ago the late Dr. Robert Hersch, then director of Library Services at Mary Livermore Library on campus of PSU, envisioned an organization which would share in the excitement of helping the growth and enrichment of the university library-in addition to enjoying the association with others who would participate in various projects sponsored by such an organization.

Hersch thereafter contacted Walter G. Oxendine, then PSU director of development, in a request for seed money for such an organization. Oxendine's office provided funds to be used in organizing what is now the Friends of the Library of PSU.

In its beginning the organization suffered from low membership and lack of community interest, says Lillian Brewington, the first and current chairperson of the Friends of the Library Committee, and a staunch supporter of the organization since its founding in 1982.

In spring of 1990, the organization revised its constitution and by-laws and is becoming a viable part of PSU and its surrounding community.

"Library friends programs are a means to retain and develop alumni and community interest in and support for the activities of the library and the institution," says Dr. Elinor Bridges, PSU director of Library Services. "The annual dues income from our Friends group is a useful source of funds. With the costs for library services tied to increasing expensive information, it has become essential for our library to look beyond our institution's operating budget for additional funds.

"A strong part of the organization's purpose is to promote cultural advancement and develop resources available for the university, the community surrounding it and the State of North Carolina," says Barbara Brayboy-Locklear, the PSU Friends of the Library's newly-elected president.

"As a young child I loved books, but access to them was limited for me because I lived in a rural area of Robeson County 40 years ago. Today, it's a welcome change to have libraries available which can be meccas of self help, the most open of open universities...where there are no entrance examinations and no diplomas, and where one can enter at any age," Brayboy-Locklear adds.

She says the perception exists that the library is only a place for books-and this narrow perception inhibits participation and support by all segments of our society. This results in the loss of use, access and sharing of different forms of resources, and the loss of opportunities for academic libraries in particular to contribute to growth and change in the community.

"I'd like to see as a goal for the organization the establishment of a folklife center within the library. The center, which would include books, displays and videos established from a historical standpoint, could serve as a consultant to all state folklife programs as well as to individual researchers," Brayboy-Locklear says.

Dr. Bridges says that PSU's library is not a public library in the strictest sense, but it takes its public responsibility seriously. The library is continually collecting special materials on local history for those interested in learning more about Robeson County and its citizens.

The Friends group has a governing board that includes 132 representatives from the college administration, library staff, faculty and community. Membership is open to any person, firm, institution, or civic club interested in supporting the purposes of the organization.

"We feel it very important to focus attention on library needs and enrich the cultural advantages available to university students and to Robeson County citizens in general," says Bridges.

Elizabeth McIntyre, a board member, agrees that developing and maintaining a scholarly library is a long-range enterprise which must have a wide base of support. During the past year the organization's membership contributed a total of over \$3,000. Projects sponsored by the Friends have included a Valentine musical program and a reception for campus authors during National Library Week and framing of donated artwork.



Barbara Brayboy-Locklear...New president of the PSU Friends of the Library.

A fall literary program is scheduled at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13, at Moore Hall, and will include participation from the student population, faculty, staff, administration and community.

"Right now we're calling the event 'Literature in Performance,' and we will work hard to make the mid-morning performance a memorable one for the participants as well as for the audience," comments Brayboy-Locklear. Dr. Ray Rundus, vice-president of the Friends of the Library and a PSU faculty member, is chairperson of the project.

One aim of the Friends group is to lift the level of cultural opportunities available around the PSU campus and, in so doing, enhance multi-cultural awareness. "We want to build an awareness in the community of our organization and its sponsored programs and activities.

"People involvement is very important to the organization," added Brayboy-Locklear.

"We like making new friends" she says of the group, "and invite the community in particular to join our fast-growing circle of very special people who are willing to go the extra mile to become involved in the library and its services."

Persons wishing to join the PSU Friends of the Library, to which gifts are tax deductible, may send them to: Mrs. Lillian Brewington, chairperson, Friends of the Library Committee, Mary Livermore Library, Pembroke State University, Pembroke, N.C. 28372.

Different giving categories are: Corporate life membership \$5,000; corporate membership \$400; life membership \$1,000; patron membership \$100; sponsoring membership \$75; sustaining membership \$50; contributing membership \$25; annual membership \$5; PSU library staff membership \$5; and PSU student membership \$2.

## Deadline for students applying to PSU for fall semester July 15

Students interested in attending PSU for the 1991 fall semester should submit their application by July 15, it has been announced by the Admissions Office.

Application forms can be picked up at the Admissions Office Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The PSU Admissions Office invites calls concerning the admissions process at PSU. It can be contacted by telephoning 919-821-9917 or for North Carolina residents only 1-800-829-2185.

PSU's fall semester begins the week of August 18-23. PSU is a member institution of the University of North Carolina.



Mrs. Essie Sampson recently celebrated her 90th birthday with family and friends at Pembroke Gospel Chapel. It was hosted by Mr. and Mrs. James W. Sampson of Pembroke; Mr. and Mrs. James F. Bell of Pembroke; Mr. and Mrs. James Gregory Bell of Lumberton; Dr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Bell of Ada,

Oklahoma; Mr. and Mrs. Ronny Bell of Greensboro and Ms. Kristy Sampson of Pembroke.

A special program was held before the social hour. She received many lovely gifts.

Shown with Mrs. Sampson are three of her grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

## Pembroke Kiwanis

Program chairman Ray Lowry presented Mrs. Linda Locklear, Supervisor of the Fayetteville Water and Waste Water Laboratory.

Mrs. Locklear, a graduate of PSU showed dramatic slides of the terrible polluted water and environment brought about by government controlled communism that simply was not able to inspect and eliminate its own horrible pollution.

Mrs. Locklear was a member of the technology delegation visiting Russian cities of Moscow, Minsk and Leningrad during November 1990.

The water was impossible to drink in all three cities because of the pollution. There were huge lines waiting to be served at McDonalds restaurant in Moscow with its 3500 employees. And the weather in November was very cold for them to be standing outside. This was true in most shopping areas. The food served to the delegation of 40 did not give decent choice and did not vary for the two weeks visit. The airport

was very out dated.

The hospital in Minsk is lacking in medicines with its 200 patients just waiting to die, as a result of the Chernobyl disaster. "It was just waiting to happen," said Mrs. Locklear.

The cities are just full of 300 foot square apartments housing three families. The living conditions are terrible in these crowded way behind the times places. They reminded Mrs. Locklear of 3rd world countries, lacking sanitary conditions, 75 years behind us.

The USSR trip report by Ms. Linda Locklear and the film clips makes one all the more appreciative of the good of USA. A fine program and one wonders if Russia will ever be able to pull out of its squalor. And Mrs. Locklear said "This was an experience of a life time."

Clayton Maynor won the weed eater at the homecoming celebration.

Presiding-Mitch Lowry; Program Ray Lowry; Invocation-Garth Locklear; Report-Ken Johnson.



Charlotte Chavis

## REFLECTIONS

By Alta Nye Oxendine

We've just celebrated Lumbee Homecoming and the Fourth of July. It hurts me to think of what has happened to the Indian population since the first whites came to this continent looking for religious freedom. But I don't know any other country with a government that has greater potential for "doing the right thing." At this point, it is my hope and prayer that allow us, in Robeson County and in the United States of America will learn how to appreciate one another, the way God has helped me to do, in spite of my early fears.

### PRAYING FOR THOSE AROUND THE WORLD

What would happen, I wonder if we would get in the habit of praying for our friends, for strangers, for enemies, and everyone else in between, just as soon as a particular person crosses our mind. That includes people we meet on the street. This week let's pray for Secretary of State Baker, President Bush, their counterparts in the Soviet Union, other leaders of our two countries, and everyone around the world.

### PRAYING FOR THOSE CLOSER TO HOME

Here at home let's pray for those who are suffering in one way or another, for the family of Tom Russell Goins and others who have left. I am so grateful to everyone in this community for your love, assistance, and prayer support since our tragedy on July 8, 1980. The love in this community is unbelievable.

### NEW LIBRARY

Don't forget to visit the new Pembroke Library open week day afternoons. Monday afternoon is a special time for young children.



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