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# The Carolina Indian Voice

Pe NC

Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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## Tuscarora Tribe of NC receives AIDS grant through insurance industry-funded program

Pembroke, NC--The Tuscarora Tribe of North Carolina was awarded \$25,000 this week for its Minority AIDS Education Program for Native American adolescents and Indian women. The grant was made by INSURE, a national, non-profit foundation funded by the life and health insurance industry.

The award is part of a three-year program totaling \$2 million of community-based AIDS education, prevention or direct services programs. Member companies for the American Council of Life Insurance and the Health Insurance Association of America have contributed funds to INSURE which selects projects on a competitive basis.

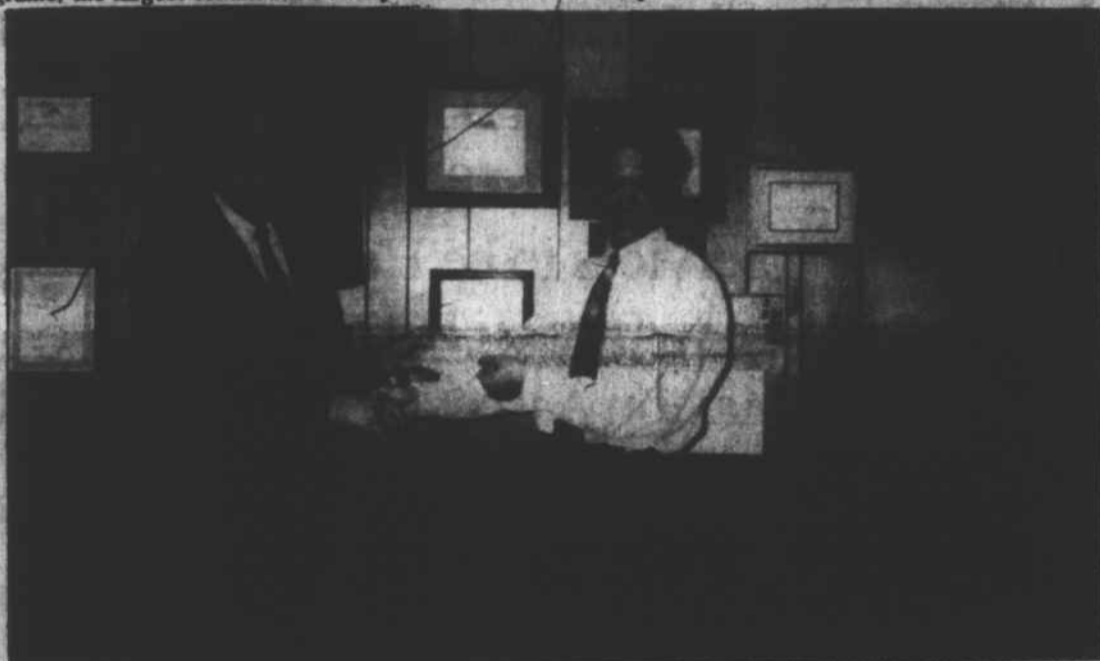
C.L. Morton, chief location officer, Peoples Security Life Insurance Company in Durham, presented the check on behalf of INSURE to Clisby R. Locklear, program director.

The current Insurance Industry AIDS Initiative, including the INSURE grants, totals \$14 million, most of which is given directly by insurance companies in their own communities. Since 1985, the life and health insurance industry has provided \$27 million for AIDS programs, the largest contribution of any U.S. business.

"The focus of INSURE and the Insurance Industry AIDS Initiative is to continue insurance support of community-based AIDS programs, such as the Tuscarora Tribe's Minority AIDS Education Program," said Mr. Morton. He added "America's life and health insurance industry realizes the frightful human and economic impact of AIDS and hopes that other businesses will be much more involved in what remains a critical local and national problem."

In accepting the contribution to the Tuscarora Tribe, Mr. Locklear said, "It is encouraging to know that in corporate America, notably the life and health insurance business, understand the severity of the HIV epidemic and are willing to support community projects such as ours. The need for education and prevention for Native American youth and adults in our area is great. The INSURE grant will be of substantial help to us in providing these necessary services."

This fifth funding cycle of the INSURE grant program is providing a total of \$299,000 to 16 projects across the country.



Clisby R. Locklear, program director, is shown receiving \$25,000 check from C.L. Morton, chief location officer, Peoples Security Life Insurance Company in Durham.

## Radio-a-thon to be held for SATW

Radio Station WYRU in Red Springs is sponsoring a radio-a-thon on Saturday, August 17, from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. to help raise funds for Strike at the Wind, the local outdoor drama.

According to Carnell Locklear, spokesperson for the event, "The drama has experienced four complete rain outs already this season and one rain down. It is almost impossible to make ends meet under those conditions."

"The drama" he said, "is a non profit organization, recognized as such by the internal revenue service and all donations are tax deductible."

"The cast from Strike at the Wind will be on hand for

the event and will host an autograph session. They will also be doing some songs from Strike at the Wind. Other cast members will be doing songs from the 60s and 70s and 80s and also many gospel songs will be performed."

Locklear stated that the event will be good family entertainment and encourages everyone to come and participate in the worthwhile event.

Strike at the Wind is performed every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights through August 24 at the Adolph L. Dial Amphitheater located at the N.C. Indian Cultural Center. For more information call 919-521-3112 or call Locklear at 919-521-0495.

## Lumbee Tribal Rolls open until August 25

The Lumbee tribal rolls will remain open through August 25, according to the Lumbee Enrollment Director, Ruth B. Locklear. She stated that the Lumbee Rolls were opened by the Board of Directors of Lumbee Regional Development Association for a limited period of six months. With the deadline date approaching, a number of children and adults have yet to submit or complete a tribal membership application. Persons interested in applying for tribal membership should bring in their birth certificates to the Lumbee Tribal Enrollment Office. The office is located on the Union Chapel Road in Pembroke. The phone number is 521-2462.

All persons enrolled during this period of time, including others previously enrolled, excluding deceased members, will constitute the tribe for purpose of federal recognition. For that reason, it is extremely important that an application for Lumbee tribal membership be made on or before August 25.

The Lumbee Tribal Enrollment Office is also seeking community volunteers to assist in preparing the rolls for inspection by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. If interested in serving as a tribal volunteer, please contact the Lumbee Tribal Enrollment Office at 521-2462.

## Mayor Hunt addresses Kiwanians

Mayor Milton Hunt was the speaker at the Tuesday evening meeting held at the Town and Country Restaurant. Program chairman Garth Locklear presented Mayor Hunt.

"I must congratulate Harold Collins for winning the National Super Heavyweight Lifting Championship. A great honor, a win over some great competition, a real honor for Pembroke. Ted Parker has two sons lifting with Harold and Harold won a trip to Hawaii this past weekend in Atlanta. We are really proud of his dedication and hard work."

"We have had a real experience with the cut backs in Raleigh, with the 1.3 million indebtedness. There has been a shift from National revenues to the states. And in turn the state shifts it to local governments. Thus we lose \$55,000 in revenues. We had a 5 cent reduction in revenue. Howland lost, Fairmont and Lumberton stayed about the same in State revenues. We lost the most. The

census changes affects us. "On going is an 80 bed nursing facility. The Pembroke place will hire 80-90 people. Much credit should go to Dr. Jeff Collins and Charles Maynor and C.A. Butler for their work on this project."

"We just opened the Pembroke Library. People wanted it. It is a part of the county library system. Bob Fisher and Pates Supply helped to get it."

A better working day with the college, an annual event will be held in October a real "bridging the gap" between the university and the community. PSU fed the people. A real fine thing to do.

"Future plans have a hold on the new city hall, due to tough times. A tax increase is a no no. It is on the back burner for now."

"I am running again. I have completed sixteen years of public service," Mayor Hunt stated. Questions and answers followed.

## Artist Gene Locklear maintains close ties with Robeson County

by Barbara Braveboy-Locklear  
Special to the Carolina Indian Voice

On a recent sultry day Gene Locklear, Mt. Airy Community's favorite son, sat perched on a bar stool in his art studio adjacent to his mother's rural home located on Gene's Road in Robeson County.

The 42-year-old Lumbee Indian had escaped his busy San Diego, California home for the quieter environment afforded him in his native land.

And though the blistering sun coming through a sky light cast a 100-degree temperature against his naked head, Locklear was unmoved by its intrusion. He continued to stroke his artist brush filled with bright acrylic paint into a blue and white basketball.

The masterpiece depicting a famous Duke University basketball player would the next day become a prized possession of one of Locklear's friends.



Gene Locklear at work.

Locklear, whose ten years as a professional baseball player with the Cincinnati Reds; San Diego Padres and New York Yankees, brought him to the attention of millions of American sports fans, is now achieving nationwide recognition in a career as an artist and interpreter of the American scene, and sports world.

Like many in Robeson County, Locklear grew up somewhat short-changed on the creature comforts. Tenacity became his defense. During his years at Pembroke High School he played ball. He knew he was good. Not that too many others shared that belief, but he believed. When high school ended he was not offered the hoped-for scholarship to college and doors did not suddenly open before him.

Locklear said he decided at a young age he wanted to become a professional baseball player and professional artist. He began painting and playing baseball as a child in Pembroke.

He continued studying and perfecting his skills as an artist during his baseball career. His ten-year career began with the Cincinnati Reds in 1969. Four years in the Reds farm system, he was a two-time minor league batting champion, and voted Most Valuable Player twice.

Locklear's first year in the majors was 1973. He signed with the Cincinnati Reds; then was traded to the San Diego Padres. He led the Padres with a .323 batting average. In 1976, he was traded to the New York Yankees. In 1977, while playing for the Yankee farm the Syracuse Chiefs, Locklear hit four homeruns in a single game. He still holds that record.

The last year he played professional ball was in Japan with the Nippon Fighters. Locklear retired from baseball in 1979.

About the time Locklear was first playing ball in high school, he also began taking art courses by mail. "There weren't any art teachers in our school then," he said.

Although baseball dominated, he found it impossible to put down his brushes and palette for very long. Basically self-taught, his formal art education includes studies with Dr. Robert K.M. Bellamy, E. Coull de Beaux Arts, Paris, France (Asheville, NC) and with George Thackery Art Gallery located in San Diego.

His paintings of Carolina farmlife, sports and Indian lore have achieved national acclaim. "The Tobacco Farm," a painting depicting life in his native Robeson County was chosen to hang in the White House in Washington, D.C.

Locklear's limited edition prints and posters include the Sands and Plaza Hotels, Las Vegas, Nevada; Ladies Professional Golf Association; San Diego Clippers National Basketball Association Club and the San Diego-hosted Super Bowl XXII, among many others.

Today Locklear paints as regularly as he sleeps and eats; whether it's in his studio atop his west coast home or in his east coast studio overlooking the farmlands of his beloved boyhood home in Robeson County.

After more than three decades the Native American has developed a style which he feels is easily identifiable his own. He is the possessor of an intelligence and savvy that have little to do with formal education.

He has succeeded as an artist. No blind accident, his is a success resulting from clear thinking, determination and a sense of humor that has finally made him laugh at himself, and enjoy whatever his long years of effort have afforded him.

Toss Gene Locklear a baseball and he'll hit it. Toss him a basketball and he'll probably paint it.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Gene Locklear will be in Raleigh, NC this weekend where he will be guest artist at the Annual Art Auction and Gala sponsored by the Triangle Native American Society.

## West Robeson UMF join annual Rock-a-thon

United Methodist Youth at West Robeson United Methodist Church of Pembroke, North Carolina, joined thousands of other UMYF members across North Carolina on July 5, 1991, in the annual "Rock-A-Thon" for Easter Seals.

The Rock-A-Thon is a special project designed for UMYF's across North Carolina with a fun opportunity for members to help raise money to support Easter Seal services for children and adults with disabilities.

"We're delighted to be a part of this project," said Elizabeth Marshall, Youth Coordinator and Herbert Lowry, Jr., Pastor of the Church. "Our youth group is providing the opportunity for hundreds of persons with disabilities to attend summer camping programs."

Proceeds from the Rock-A-Thon will benefit the Easter Seal Mainstream Camping Program. The Easter Seal Society is special among non-profit organizations in that it provides direct services for persons with any type of disability, whether from a birth defect, accident or aging.

West Robeson United Methodist Church raised \$214 with 123 UMYF members participating in the Rock-A-Thon. Those participating included Shane Marshall, Shannon Marshall, Makes Strickland, Cadice Jones, Harold Deese, Jr., Houston Dial, LaShonna Dial, Nina Dixon, Ray Dixon, Teddy Jacobs, Brock McMillan and Elizabeth Brooks. Information about the Rock-A-Thon and Easter Seal services is available by calling the Easter Seal Society of North Carolina at 1-800-662-7119.

## Our Men In Uniform

JAMIE CHAVIS

Navy Chief Petty Officer Jamie Chavis, son of Clyde A. and Judy L. Chavis of 401 Lane Street, Maxton, NC recently departed for deployment to the Mediterranean Sea while serving aboard the destroyer USS Deigo, homeported in Charleston, SC.

During the deployment Chavis will participate in various training exercises and visit several foreign ports. He is a 1977 graduate of Maxton High School, Maxton, NC.

## Robeson Veterans Memorial planned



James B. Locklear, right, is shown receiving a check from Sen. David Parnell. The donation was for the Robeson Veterans Memorial Fund. The donation was in honor of Sen. Parnell's school mate, George H. Leeper, who gave his life in service to his country during World War II.

Locklear is a member of the Pembroke VFW Post 2843 and serves as chairman of the Robeson Veterans Memorial Fund. The memorial will be erected in honor of all casualties of foreign wars. The memorial is located on Roberts Avenue in Lumberton, between Taco Bell and Lumberton Rescue Squad.

For additional information on the memorial call Mr. Locklear at 521-2888.

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(919)521-2826