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Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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Robert Deese announces his intention to file for Board of Education seat in District 4



Robert Deese

Robert Deese of Route 3, Maxton, has announced his intention to file for the newly created seat on the Board of Education of the Public Schools of Robeson County. The new seat, District 4, includes north and south Smiths, all of Philadelphus, Burnt Swamp, portions of precincts 1 and 2 in Red Springs, and a portion of north Pembroke.

Deese is a native of Robeson County and a graduate of Pembroke State University. He is married to the former Carolyn Bullard of the Prospect community. They have four children. Mrs. Deese is a fourth grade teacher at Peterson Elementary School in Red Springs.

Deese is Director of Industrial, Commercial and Community Development at Lumbee River EMC in Red Springs. He is a member of Prospect United Methodist Church where he serves as chairperson of the Finance Committee and is a former chairperson of the Administrative Board.

He is a past president of the Prospect PTA and an active member of the Prospect Advisory council. He is also a former member of the Robeson County board of Education.

In announcing his intention to file for the board of Education as a candidate for the District 4 seat, Deese said he is concerned about the quality of education throughout the county, the high dropout rate, the high teen pregnancy rate, and adult illiteracy in the county. He is a believer in the community school concept, with local support and involvement of the community in its schools.

Lumbee Industries awarded \$738,000 military defense sub contract

Lumbee Industries, a for profit subsidiary of Lumbee Regional Development Association, has been awarded a \$738,000 contract to produce ammunition boxes for a prime military defense contractor.

The contract is the first initiative in governmental labor contracting to be obtained by Lumbee Industries. To date Lumbee Industries has been involved in land acquisition and improvement for equity development to the Lumbee Tribe.

This contract will allow diversification of Lumbee Industries to build its potential to become a prime minority contractor for federal or state contracting.

This initial boxing project will produce about 15 jobs and generate nearly one million dollars into the local economy.

Lumbee Industries were founded by LRDA in 1986 and 100% of the stock in the company is owned by

LRDA.

Lumbee Industries board has applied for federal 8a certification on behalf of the Lumbee Tribe and is waiting to be designated by the Small Business Administration, in the near future, as a minority contractor, for the purposes of federal access to contracting opportunities established for Indian tribe's participation.

These initiatives by Lumbee Industries are a part of LRDA's mission to expand its economic development activities and to bring new industry and jobs creation to the Indian communities.

Since 1987 LRDA has established two major objectives to expand economic development and seek federal recognition for the Lumbee Tribe. LRDA since 1987 has purchased an AM Commercial Radio Station, established a community swimming pool facility, and established a 20 acre poultry farming project.

LRDA is currently in the planning for development of its own tribal

offices complex and expansion of its AM station to FM and potential expansion of its farming operation.

Lumbee Industries is also currently seeking other bids for labor services contracting for military supply needs.

These initiatives are being implemented through LRDA's JTPA Employment, Training and Economic Development division as a community benefit activity with the support of the tribe's Administration for Native American's Economic Development Grant.

LRDA Chairman Adolph Blue stated that, "LRDA is moving in the right direction as it will seek to serve as an incubator for new economic development ventures that can be farmed out to Lumbee Industries after the feasibility studies have been done."

This project is projected to be a twelve month contract and will be housed in the former Pembroke Machine Shop building in Pembroke.

Bethany Brewington appointed to Air Force Academy

Senator Jesse Helms announced today that one of his nominees, Bethany Delaue Brewington, has received a fully qualified offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy for the class entering July 1992.

Beth is a senior at Purnell Swett High School, and is the daughter of Bill and Doris Brewington of Pembroke. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Pauline Sheppard of Rowland and John David and Carramae Brewington of

Pembroke.

Senator Helms said, "Beth has demonstrated impressive determination and ability in athletic and extra curricular pursuits, and has an outstanding academic record. I know that her family and friends are just as proud of her as I am, and join me in wishing her the very best of success in pursuit of a career of professional military service to our Country."

NAPAC proposes a majority minority Senate district

The Native American Political Action Committee appeared before the N.C. Senate Redistricting Committee on Wednesday in Raleigh. The organization presented a plan whereby a majority minority senate district could be established in parts of Robeson, Scotland and all of Hoke Counties.

Appearing on behalf of NAPAC were Lance Harding, Ralph Hunt, Cliff Sampson, and Albert Lowery. The plan presented includes a total 126,445 persons comprised of all of Hoke County (total population 22,856; with 9,878 Black and 3,176 Indians; the following precincts in Scotland County: Spring Hill (total population 3, 978; 1,947 Blacks and 497 Indian; Laurinburg 1 (total population 5,499 with 3,385 Blacks and 280 Indians; Laurinburg 2, total 3, 373 with 1,890 Blacks and 184 Indians; Laurinburg 5 with 1,682 total population, 285 Blacks and 434 Indians;

Laurinburg 6, total population 1,244 with 229 Blacks and 1 166 Indians. The proposed district includes all Robeson County precincts except for Britts, East Howellsville, West Howellsville, Orrum, Sterlings, North St. Pauls,

South St. Pauls, Wishart. The total population in the remaining Robeson precincts is 87, 813 with 22,498 Blacks

and 38, 088 Indians. Percentage wise the plan proposes 31.72 percent Blacks; 33.87 percent Indians; and 34.41 percent white. The total persons is 126,445 and is within

the deviation required by the Justice Department. This plan does not split any precincts. The combination of Indians and Blacks in the district would create a majority minority district.

Bush designates 1992 "Year of the American Indian"

President Bush has signed into law a bill which designates 1992 as the "Year of the American Indian." native Americans now have national legislation which can help turn the year of Columbus' Quincentenary, viewed by most American Indians as a negative situation, into a special time to highlight their contributions to our way of life.

The American Indian Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C. initiated and sponsored the legislation.

Senator Mark Hatfield (R-OR) agreed to introduce the legislation, which became Senate Joint Resolution 217. The resolution was uncontested as it passed through both chambers of Congress.

The legislation positively confirms and conveys to all Americans that the First Americans have made historical and immeasurable contributions, not just to the United States but to world development as well.

Thomas appointed to House Executive Committee

The Robeson County Democratic Party Executive Committee met at the Pembroke Courthouse on Thursday evening, December 19 and elected James Edward Thomas of the Saddletree community to fill the unexpired term on the State House of Representatives District Executive Committee left vacant upon the resignation of Mitchell "Boscoe" Locklear. Locklear previously resigned

December 5. According to Attorney Ronnie Sutton, county chairman, Thomas of Route 8, Lumberton, will serve until the next Robeson County Democratic Party Convention. Active in the Saddletree precinct, Thomas expressed his desire and willingness to serve the Democratic Party.

Property tax relief for elderly & disabled

North Carolina excludes from property taxes the first twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) in assessed value of certain property owned by North Carolina residents aged 65 or older or totally and permanently disabled who disposable income does not exceed eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000). The exclusion covers real property, or a mobile home, occupied by the owner as his permanent residence. Disposable income includes all moneys received other than gifts or inheritances received from a spouse, lineal ancestors, or

lineal descendants.

If you received this exclusion in 1990, you do not need to apply again unless you have changed your permanent residence. If you received the exclusion in 1990 and your disposable income was above \$11,000, you must notify the assessor. If you received the exclusion in 1990 because you were totally and permanently disabled and you no longer are, you must notify the assessor. If the person receiving the exemption in 1990 has died, the person required by law to list the property must

notify the assessor. Failure to make any of the notices required by this paragraph before April 15 will result in penalties and interest.

If you did not receive the exclusion in 1990 but are now eligible, you may obtain a copy on an application from the assessor. It must be filed by April 15.

The solid waste fee and landfill, which is \$30.00 each is also exempted.

For more information you may contact: Randall Chavis at 671-3054.

Native American Scholarship Fund names new recruits

Albuquerque, NM—The Native American Scholarship Fund (NASF) is happy to announce that two new recruiters have been hired. Thanks to the generous grants that we received to create these positions.

Lyssa Danehy, from Albuquerque, New Mexico began working for NASF in September of 1991. Ms. Danehy is a recent graduate of the University of New Mexico.

Lynette Charlie, a member of the

Navajo Tribe from Tuba City, Arizona began working for NASF in February of 1990.

The recruiters will be responsible for the identification of high potential Native American students. Each recruiter will be visiting high schools, colleges and education departments. They will follow up regularly with students as they are identified. Work will also be done with parents and students to create a team that works

for the student's best interest. The recruiters will discuss with librarians books that are necessary for students to identify scholarships and successfully apply to the scholarships that they are eligible for.

If you have any questions, please contact Lynette or Lyssa at: Native American Scholarship Fund 3620 Wyoming Blvd NE-Suite 206 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111 505/275-9788

Anniversary Sing planned for Pierce Family Singers

The Pierce Family Singers will hold their Anniversary Sing Saturday, January 18 at 7 p.m. at the

Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium. Featured guests will be the Spencers from Shiloh, Ohio and the

Freemans from Nashville, Tennessee.

Benefit singing planned for Alex Burnette

A benefit singing for Alex Burnette will be held January 16, 1992 at 7:30 p.m. at New Bethel Baptist Church in Clinton, NC. Admission is \$2 at the door. Featured singers will be the Greens.

Alexander Storm Burnette was born April 6, 1991. He is the son of Phillip and Angelic Burnette. Alex is in need of a liver transplant. Alex is seven months old and weighs nearly fifteen pounds. He is hospitalized in Nebraska.

The singing is part of the fundraising effort underway to help with the expenses for Alex's transplant. Contributions to the cause may be sent to: The Alex

Burnette Transplant Fund, in care of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1015, Clinton NC. The fund was established to aid Alex's search for a liver and to help defray some of the many medical related expenses not covered by insurance.

Director of the Fund is Rev. Hubbard Lowery. He may be contacted at 919-521-4624. Other persons helping in the fund raising are Johnny Brewington, fund raising chairman. He may be reached at 919-564-6182; Mary Bell who may be contacted at 919-564-4298; and Geraldine Raines, 919-464-4766.



Alex at 6 months



Alex at 7 months