

Published Each Thursday Since January 18, 1973

CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

Pen

C

1
172
MARY LIVERMORE LIBRARY
PEMBROKE STATE UNIV.
PEMBROKE
NC 28372-
1720

YOLU

110

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1992

25 CENTS PER COPY

Vote on Lumbee Bill not over yet

At press time, LRDA spokesperson on Federal Recognition, Ruth B. Locklear, reported that the tribe is now gearing up for another vote to invoke cloture on the Lumbee Bill. According to Ms. Locklear, "On February 27, the Helms-engineered block on the Lumbee Bill succeeded by a margin of two votes." She went on to add "That tells us we are at cloture-level, and that is a significant accomplishment on this first go-round in over riding the legislative holds." She added, "The vote on February 27 was not a vote on passage of the Lumbee Bill, but a parliamentary procedure employed by Senator Helms to block a vote on the Lumbee Bill.

According to the tribe's attorney, Dr. Arlinda Locklear, 13 senators objected to the Lumbee Bill arising on the floor for debate and voting. Senate rules permit an over-ride on the objections, or holds, however, if 60 or more Senators vote affirmatively to invoke cloture. Ms. Locklear stated that this parliamentary procedure is employed when opposing Senators have reason to believe that a Bill will pass, if permitted to arise on the floor. It is to their advantage to place "holds" on a Bill, to block consideration of the Bill for passage.

Dr. Locklear, tribal attorney, advised the tribe in 1990 that it should focus on 1991 as the year to move the Bill on the House side, so that all of 1992 could be devoted toward exhausting the parliamentary procedures that opposing Senators would employ to block passage in the Senate, and marshal support for passage of the bill. She stated, "In 1991 we witnessed the passage this bill in the U.S. House of Representatives. And, just last week, we witnessed the first exercise of parliamentary maneuvers on the Senate side to block the bill. That we fell short by two votes to over-ride the Helms-engineered block indicates to us that it is only a matter of time before the Lumbee Bill arises on the Senate floor where the debate on its merits will be aired in open forum, and the vote taken."

One member of the Lumbee delegation in Washington, D.C. had this to say about Senator Helms: "Senator Helms made this vote on cloture a partisan issue, and that is unfortunate because Lumbees enjoy strong Republican support and strong Democratic support inside and outside North Carolina."

Attorney Locklear stated, "The Lumbee Bill is good legislation. It is fiscally sound as it requires Congressional appropriations before any services or benefits are provide to the Tribe. And it is consistent with previous Congressional action where all other tribes were ineligible for Administrative recognition as is the Lumbee Tribe."

According to the LRDA spokesperson, the tribal attorney stays in constant contact with Senator Terry Sanford's Office, the State of North Carolina, and the

LRDA Board of Directors. "We are definitely on our way back to DC," commented Ms. Locklear. "The Lumbee has gifted political and legal talent, and heritage and faith that sustains us when faced by the opposition."

According to our sources, the Lumbee Bill could come up for another vote on cloture within the next few weeks. If passed in the Senate, the President has up to ten days, after the Bill is delivered to the White House, to sign the bill or return it to the Congress with a veto message. If he does not sign the bill during these ten days, or veto the bill, it automatically passes into law.

The LRDA spokesperson made this statement about Senator Helms' promise to ask President Bush to veto the bill: "We expect Mr. Helms will ask the President to veto this bill, just as we will ask him to sign it. It is too early to predict what the President will do. Right now we are working with our tribal attorney to overcome the parliamentary hurdles and build support for the bill, with an eye always on the White House."

Since the latter 1970s, all other tribes ineligible for Administrative recognition as the Lumbee are, have been recognized by an Act of Congress. Republican Senators who oppose the current bill favor legislation that would force the Lumbee Tribe through the BIA process, despite the 190-year track of the BIA in opposing Lumbee recognition. Since 1899, the Department of the Interior has studied the Lumbee on seven different occasions. In each of these studies, the Department of the Interior has acknowledged the Lumbee as American Indian, but opposed formal recognition of the tribe because of the size. There are presently 40,000 enrolled members of the Lumbee Tribe.

Senator Jesse Helms, the senior Republican Senator from North Carolina, is reported not to have opposed the legislative recognition of any other tribe. He has reportedly informed his colleagues that passage of the Lumbee Bill would cost \$200 million, a figure that is many times over-stated; and would create a large federal Indian reservation in Robeson County, which the bill does not do. One Lumbee Republican who was in Washington, DC last week for the vote, made this comment: "Watching Senator Helms work this bill against the Lumbee was like watching a re-run of the negative ads from his campaign last year. There were definite racial overtones and it is an embarrassment to all North Carolinians whether they are Black, white or Indian, Republican or Democrat, that here in 1992, proclaimed by President Bush as the Year of the Native American, that Senator Helms would oppose the Lumbee in his own home state. These are troubled times for not only Lumbee people, but all North Carolinians."

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

DEMOCRATIC RALLY PLANNED

The Robeson County Democratic Party Chairperson Jo Ann Locklear has announced plans for a Meet the Candidates Democratic Rally to be held on April 10, 1992 from 6 until 9 at the National Guard Armory, Fayetteville Road, Lumberton. Chairperson Locklear stated that each candidate will be allowed two minutes to speak. She invites everyone to come out and have dinner and enjoy meeting the candidates. \$5 tickets are on sale around the county from Democrats or may be obtained by calling 738-5404.

FAMILY VIOLENCE CENTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING

The Southeastern Family Violence Center which services domestic abuse victims in Scotland and Robeson Counties, will be conducting a volunteer training on Saturday, March 21st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Interested individuals should call either 277-7660 or 739-8622 to register.

REVIVAL PLANNED AT NEW BETHEL

Revival services at New Bethel Holiness Methodist Church will be held March 8-13. Sunday services will begin at 7 p.m. Weeknight services at 7:30 p.m. The church is located on Iona Church Road, between Rowland and Fairmont.

Evangelists will be Rev. Michael Cummings, Rev. (Little) Johnny Chavis, and Rev. Hedrick Jones. The public is encouraged to attend. Special music will be provided each night. Rev. James H. Woods is pastor.

LITERACY WORKSHOP PLANNED

The VISTA Volunteers will be sponsoring a Literacy Workshop March 9 at 7 p.m. in the Maxton Public Library. Speakers for this workshop will be Elise Lowery from the Continuing Education Department at Robeson Community College. Also attending the workshop will be someone from the Robeson County Church and Community Center who will do a presentation on the Luabach's Method of Reading. Students and adults who are not participating in any existing educational program are encouraged to attend this workshop. For more information interested persons should contact Debra McMillan or any other VISTA Volunteer worker at 739-0008. VISTA Volunteers is one of the programs of the Tuscarora Tribe of North Carolina, Inc.

COUNTY FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT ATTENDS RALEIGH CONFERENCE

North Carolina County Farm Bureau presidents from the mountain areas, the Atlantic coast and points in between recently met in Raleigh to conduct their annual Presidents Conference.

Representing Robeson County at the meeting was county Farm Bureau President Lycourous Lowry.

The central theme of this year's conference was "Helping each other is what we do best." North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation President Bob Jenkins said, "This theme expresses the heart of Farm Bureau policy and is central to the organization's philosophy."

As a vanguard organization for protecting the rights of rural North Carolina citizens, Farm Bureau works collectively to ensure that farmers make a fair income for their efforts. Likewise, the organization works to discourage legislation that might unfairly impact the farmer's ability to make a living from his land.

The annual meeting provides a forum for the 100 county presidents to discuss Farm Bureau policy, be brought up to date on issues of importance and receive staff reports on goals for the present year.

Issues agreed upon by the county presidents for special emphasis this year included: (a) deductibility of insurance premiums for the self-employed, (b) the impact of wetland regulations on farming, (c) private property rights, and (d) federal/budget/federal deficit issues.



Discussing policy at a recent President's Conference held in Raleigh, is (left) Lycourous Lowry, Robeson County Farm Bureau President and N.C. Farm Bureau Federation President Bob Jenkins.

**SAF YOU READ
IT IN THE
CAROLINA
INDIAN VOICE**

Hunt names Robeson Citizens for Jim Hunt Leadership

Jim Hunt announced the leadership of Robeson County citizens for Jim Hunt this week as part of his announcement of his candidacy for Governor.

County Finance Tri-Chairmen are J. Rodney Bullard, R.W. Wilkins, Jr. and Glenn Maynor, all of Lumberton. County Tri-Chairmen are Major David Green of Parkton; Dr. Ray Pennington of Lumberton; and Mayor Milton Hunt of Pembroke. County Voter Chairmen are Jane Smith, Wyatt Johnson and Adeline Maynor, all of Lumberton.

"I am pleased to have such a strong team in Robeson County," Hunt said. "I feel confident that we have chosen leaders who can effectively organize our campaign

and take our message of changing North Carolina's future to the voters.

"I want our campaign in Robeson County and across the state to be open to people who may never have been involved in political campaigns in the past. Our campaign is open to everyone and we are encouraging their participation," Hunt commented.

"I love this state too much to sit back and watch it fall behind," Hunt said. "It is time we had a Governor who will work just as hard for the people of North Carolina as the people work for their families and their future. State government should work best for those who work hardest."

Young Careerist chosen by Pembroke BPW

by Yvonne Barnes Dial

Delighted and astounded was the response of Young Careerist chosen by the Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Organization.

Darlene Roberts was recently selected by the organization as Young Careerist for 1992-93. She is the executive director of Pembroke Redevelopment Commission whose major duties include the management of the public housing agency.

The Pembroke BPW sponsors the Young Careerist Program as a means of recognizing the accomplishments of successful young women while introducing them to the ideals and standards of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. The criteria to be eligible as Young Careerist include: between the ages of 21 and 25, inclusive by July 31; be or has been employed in business or the professions with at least one year of full time work experience in her career area; be outstanding in scholastic work, community service and/or church work; support the goals and objectives and legislative platform of the National Federation of BPW and must not have been a Young Careerist Program winner in the local, district or state level.

Ms. Roberts attended Pembroke Senior High and has received her B.S. degree in Business Management from Pembroke State University. Upon leaving PSU, she entered into the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant in the Military Police Corp. While in the army, she served in both command and staff positions.

She is an active member of the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce, assigned to the community relations committee. This committee acts as a liaison between the local government, the chamber of commerce and PSU. She also serves on the JOBS Task Force. This program is administered by the Department of Social Services and involves the continued education of single mothers.



Darlene Roberts

Her career goals are to participate in the planning and coordination of goals that will benefit the community economically and socially.

Lowry joins membership of American Angus Association

Tommy Lowry of Pembroke is a new member of the American Angus Association, reports Dick Spader, executive vice president of the national organization with headquarters in St. Joseph, Missouri.

The American Angus Association, with over 24,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef cattle registry association in the world. Its computerized records include detailed information on nearly 11 million registered Angus.

3rd annual Gospel Music Festival to be held April 25 at PSU

The third annual PSU Gospel Music Festival, featuring both national and local singing groups, will be held Saturday, April 25, at PSU's Givens Performing Arts Center.

The pre-concert will start at 6:45 p.m. with the main program beginning at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for everyone and will be available at several sites, including the Givens Performing Arts Center.

The idea of having the festival was initially that of PSU Chancellor Joseph Oxendine, who remains a strong supporter of the event. "I feel we ought to continue having this festival, and I'm sure it will grow. I am convinced it is a good concept—and another good way of promoting our visibility," Oxendine told the planning committee, whose chairman again this year is Harold Jacobs, music director of Prospect United Methodist Church.

The Association records ancestral information and keeps records of production on individual animals for its members. These permanent records help members select and mate the best animals in the animals in their herds to produce high quality, efficient breeding cattle which are then recorded with the American Angus Association. Most of these registered Angus are used by the U.S. farmers and ranchers who raise high quality beef for U.S. consumption.

The national group performing this year will be The McKameys, a quartet hailing from Clinton, Tenn.

According to members of the planning committee, The McKameys "packed" Lumberton Senior High School's auditorium for a performance last year. "It was standing room only," said the members.

Also performing will be the Lumber River Quartet of Robeson County, a men's group which committee members say "ranked first in the state of Texas."

The pre-concert this year will be performed by the Pembroke Ladies Chorus, a senior citizens group from Pembroke.

Committee members planning the event, in addition to Jacobs, have included: Dr. James B. Chavis, Rev. Michael Cummings, Magnolia Griffith, Charlene Locklear, Lucy Locklear, Rev. Jerry Lowry and Gene Warren. For more information, telephone: (919) 521-4214, Ext. 213.

Pembroke Kiwanis Report By Ken Johnson

Superintendent of Schools William Johnson was the speaker at the Tuesday night meeting held at the Town and Country Restaurant. Arnold Locklear, program chairman, presented Mr. Johnson.

"Changing conditions such as 40 years ago, sixty percent of our jobs were unskilled. Today, fifteen percent are done by unskilled people. We also lack behind other countries as our design has not changed in 150 years, as education is slow to change. Declining respect for authority, only four percent of the families have one member at home. This is not what it used to be. Merger created here is big business. Robeson County is the biggest merged system in the state, with its 288 buses, 2 1/2 million miles driven a year, 5 million meals and the largest employer in the county, pooling five school systems has created the 'mother' of all mergers."

"Effective schools is part of the Civil Rights Act. Schools had to overcome low student performance, to meet state accreditation requirements, to overcome race

and economic conditions.

"All can learn, plus technical preparation, requiring math and science courses. All will be required to take algebra for graduation. Cooperative learning rather than competitive learning is the philosophy with the middle school set up. Year round schooling is being thought of due to large enrollments. 20,000 students will be enrolled in the next few years. Central office data banks will help instruction. Alternative schools are being looked into. Corporal punishment is at the discretion of the boards of education. Lots of good things are going on for special gifted children programs. Great effort is made to keep up with changing times. Funding is 70 percent of the state average. Can't go to seventy five percent. 49 cents out of the tax dollar or \$9,811,000 is brought in, the new qualification funding has the state giving \$11 million."

Questions and answers followed. Presiding-Clay Maynor. Song Leader Ed Tsuts. Invocation-Albert Hunt. Reporter- Ken Johnson.