

# CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Pembroke, NC

Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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## Hills Becomes Food Folks Mona Deese returns as cashier

Food Folks Inc. is proud to announce the employment of Mona Lisa Swett Deese as a cashier at their Pembroke location. Mrs. Deese is returning to Food Folks in her previous position after one year's absence. She is returning to the company in conjunction with the Grand Opening of the new Food Folks (formerly Hills) in Pembroke. Mrs. Deese enjoys interacting with people which helps her to be one of the best customer service cashiers in the area. She is a graduate of Pembroke Senior High School. Mrs. Deese is married to Mr. Crawford Deese and they are the parents of one son, Jason. They are members of Tabernacle Baptist Church and reside in Pembroke.

Mr. Thomas G. Walters has also joined the Food Folks family at the Fairmont location. Mr. Walters has seven previous experience with Food Folks (formerly Hills) in the position of Meat Department Manager. Food Folks is proud that Mr. Walters has returned to his previous position with the company. Mr. Walters is one of the best Meat Department Managers in this area. He enjoys

fishing, hunting, and horseback riding when he is not working. Mr. Walters is a graduate of Lumberton Senior High School. He and his wife, Diane, are the parents of two daughters, Paula and April. They reside in Lumberton and attend East Lumberton Baptist Church.

## Lumber River Quartet to sing in 3rd Annual PSU 'Gospel Music Festival'

(This is the third in a series of articles about groups who will be performing in the third annual PSU "Gospel Music Festival" Saturday, April 25, at 7 p.m. in PSU's Performing Arts Center.)

BY GENE WARREN

One of the outstanding newer gospel singing groups in the region is the Lumber River Quartet of Lumberton, who will be performing in the third annual Pembroke State University "Gospel Music Festival" Saturday, April 25, in PSU's Performing Arts Center.

The pre-concert begins at 6:45 p.m. The festival itself starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for everyone and can be ordered by telephoning the PAC box office at 521-0778 (local residents) or 1-800-367-0778 (long distance).

Although organized five years ago, the Lumber River Quartet has been expanding its horizons in the last year. They have performed in the Carolinas, Virginia and Maryland. They will soon audition at Dollywood, the Dolly Parton complex at Pigeon Forge, Tenn. On October 3, they will sing at the National Quartet Convention in Nashville, Tenn.

Jerry Thigpen, the general manager of the group who is president of D&I Trucking, Inc., of Maxton, says the Lumber River Quartet already has one song on the national charts. It is entitled "Rivers of Joy."

"We have also made three tapes for a major recording company, which is going to observe our performance in the PSU 'Gospel Music Festival,'" said Thigpen. "They want to see our stage performance and how the audience responds to us."

Thigpen is proud that the Lumber River Quartet is made up of three races: Caucasian, Native American, and African American.

The four vocalists are Ronald Freeman, tenor; James Stone, bass singer; Steve Surles, lead singer; and Glenn West, baritone. Playing the instruments are Terry Lowry, bass guitarist; and Manuel Wallace on the drums.

Of being part of the festival, Thigpen said enthusiastically: "We are tickled to death. We hope all 1,700 seats are full. We are just thrilled over the way doors have been opened to us."

Describing the Lumber River Quartet as singers of "Southern gospel," Thigpen called it a "tremendous group." He added, "I think it has the potential to be one of the top Southern gospel groups in the country. The talent is there."

Thigpen said the Quartet is booked solidly through July. "We've played mostly at churches, school outing, homecomings and revivals, but we have also performed at the Cumberland Auditorium. We are getting out a new portfolio," he said.

Members of the group work 40-hour weeks at their regular jobs and sing on the weekends, he added.

"Being in the PSU 'Gospel Music Festival' is a golden opportunity for us if we can go there and do well," concluded Thigpen, who can be reached at (919)844-3821 in Maxton.

For more information about the "Gospel Music Festival," telephone (919)521-4214, Ext. 4213.

Tickets are also being sold at the following places: PEMBROKE—Burnt Swamp Baptist Association, Lumber River Christian Supplies; LUMBERTON—Christian Book Store, Merrimac Music; RED SPRINGS—Red Springs Barber Shop; LAURINBURG—The Gospel Music Store; and FAYETTEVILLE—Cumberland County Association for Indian People.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE WORKSHOP PLANNED

A substance abuse workshop sponsored by the Hope House staff and VISTA volunteers will be held at the Hope House from 4 to 5 p.m. The speaker will be Cathy Locklear. For more information call Joyce Chavis at 521-3737 or 739-0003.

VISTA volunteers will sponsor a substance abuse workshop at 6 p.m. at the Old Clinton Thomas Day Care Center. Maxine Locklear will speak and a puppet show will be presented. For more information call Blake Sweat at 739-0003.

A Native American Circle Talk will be held April 9, at 8 p.m. at the LRDA Bookroom, located in Pembroke (old Hills store.) Speaker will be Tony Clark. The public is invited.

### GOSPEL SINGING PLANNED

Coming April 17 will be a gospel singing featuring the New Life Vocal Band and the Bullard Singers. The event will be held at the Carolina Civic Center in Lumberton. There will be no admission fee. A love offering will be lifted. The event begins at 7 p.m. A drawing will be held for prizes. The proceeds from the singing will go to the Church House of Prayer Building Fund.

### A TIME TO COME HOME TO BE PRESENTED

The Tuscarora Tribe of North Carolina is currently producing an original play based on contemporary issues facing the Indian family in Robeson County. "A Time to

Come Home" is a vital drama that explores issues of family, violence, death, drugs and how to find the way back home to the values taught by parents, grandparents and great-grandparents.

The play has a very large cast, and many actors and actresses of all ages are needed.

Anyone interested in playing a part in this important new play, please call Scott Meltner at 521-8596.

### PROM PROMISE DAY IN THE TOWN OF PEMBROKE

Nationwide Insurance Company is sponsoring Prom Promise Day, a campaign aimed at keeping the nation's high school student alcohol and drug free on prom night. Alcohol and drug use is the main killer of teenagers under the age of 19.

The town of Pembroke endorses and encourages Purnell Swett High School students to participate in "Prom Promise Day" and remain alcohol and drug free on prom night, May 1.

Milton R. Hunt, Mayor of the Town of Pembroke, has proclaimed May 1 to be Prom Promise Day in the Town of Pembroke.

### PIERCE FAMILY TO SING AT MT. AIRY

The Pierce Family will be appearing at Mt. Airy Baptist Church on Sunday night, April 12 at 7 p.m. The Pierce Family will be the featured singers on the last night of the revival at Mt. Airy Baptist Church. The public is cordially invited to attend.



Prospect United Methodist Church, Route 3, Maxton, will be the site for the Easter Cantata- HALLELUJAH WHAT A SAVIOR. The Music Ministries of Sandy Plains UMC and Prospect UMC will combine to present the cantata at Prospect UMC on Sunday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. This Easter presentation is under the direction of Harold D. Jacobs. The character of Jesus is performed by Mr. David Oxendine. It is narrated by Mr. Dwight Hunt and Mrs. Maude Cummings and is accompanied by Mr. David

Dwight at the piano. There will be solos, percussion, brass and other added attractions to make this one of the most exciting performances ever.

Both Sandy Plains and Prospect United Methodist Churches invite the public to this great celebration of the Life, Death and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Sunday, April 12, 7:30 p.m. at Prospect UMC located five miles northwest of Pembroke across the road from Prospect school.

## WHAT NEXT???

Recently we read that the Policy Research Center in Raleigh had conducted a survey of the legislators in the N.C. General Assembly. They supposedly questioned lobbyists, reporters and other legislators to determine the effectiveness of lawmakers...They ranked Adolph I. Dial as Number 120...We found that survey to reiterate the reason a majority Indian District was needed...Rep. Dial was only the third Indian to serve in the North Carolina Legislature...He makes no apologies for his record and we certainly do not apologize for him; nor do we put any stock in such surveys...Lobbyists ranking Rep. Dial at the bottom tells us what we knew when we single-shot voted for him in 1990....He has done to what was right, not those things that was politically expedient or popular....His record will stand under scrutiny....A majority Indian House District...A majority Black House District...The expansion of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners to include two Black districts...State recognition for the Meherrin Tribe...Elected members to the board of education for the public schools of Robeson...This survey business leaves more questions...How many Indians were surveyed? (We know that Rep. Dial was the only Indian

in the legislature...How many Blacks were surveyed? (Only 13 of the 120 members of the General Assembly are Black...What did Pete Hasty say? (After all, he worked against the creation of single-member districts and ended up in the majority Black district). We noticed that he did not have anything to say about Rep. Dial...Why? If he'd been smart, he might have gained some Indian support in his district...We are reminded of the words of Richard Nixon who said "They won't have Richard Nixon to pick on any more." There was one Indian in the General Assembly and we believe the survey was no more than an indication of non-Indians expressing their unhappiness because Dial has been an effective legislator for Indian people...he had certainly withstood stronger criticism... We recently took our own tri-racial survey in Robeson...People at home rank Rep. Dial very high in effectiveness and his reputation remains untarnished... He will do what is right...And that is not always popular.... What was Pete Hasty's record during his first term? ...And how about the first term of the ever-popular Danny DeVane?

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This is the Lumber River Quartet of Lumberton, which will be performing April 25 at 7 p.m. in the third annual PSU "Gospel Music Festival." Left to right, they are

Glenn West, Steve Surles, Ronald Freeman, Terry Lowry, James Stone, and Manuel Wallace.

## Celebrates 95th Birthday in PSU's "Pippin"



Mrs. Pearlie Lowry of Pembroke celebrated her 95th birthday on Saturday, April 4, at Riverside Baptist Church on Highway 74, at 2 p.m.

Mrs. Lowry, the wife of the late Willie Lowry was born in the Saddletree community in the Lumberton area on April 4, 1887. She was the mother of four children: Henry Lowry, Tony Lowry, Carr A. Lowry and Louise Lowry.

The invocation was given by Rev. Kenneth Locklear. Rev. Jerry McNeill, pastor of Riverside, sang "Happy Birthday" to Mrs. Lowry and made remarks about her long life that the Lord had given her.

A delicious dinner was served and enjoyed by everyone. The cake was baked by her granddaughter, Mrs. Brenda Thomas of Lumberton.

Mrs. Lowry has a remarkable memory and gets around real well.

She was given a money tree and lots of other gifts. Approximately 100 people were in attendance. [Photo and text by T/Sgt. Wm. P. Revels.]

David Oxendine, the former Artistic Director of SATW is to perform with PSU's University Theatre's last performance of the season in PIPPIN.

Oxendine who has appeared in such films as BIG, WORKING GIRL, JUNGLE FEVER, ARTHUR II such television shows as THE EQUALIZER and KOJAK recently returned from five years studying and acting professionally in New York. He states he has "always wanted to work with the University's theatre program but our schedules never worked out."

His character, the Leading Player, is the leader of a group of traveling players that tell the story of the "first born son of Charlemagne, Pippin." The play incorporates all conventions of theatre, lights, sets, costumes, music, dance, song, and even a little magic.

Oxendine welcomed the chance to work with Dr. Chet Jordan. He has known Dr. Jordan for some time but they have never had the chance to work together. He stated he "wanted to be directed as opposed to directing others." Not that he doesn't enjoy directing, but he welcomed the chance to be responsible for only his role and not the entire production which can be a "huge headache."

He has also met a whole new group of friends. "That is one thing unique about theatre, the relationships and friendships that are built," he said. One such friendship is with Dr. Leonard Holmes and his wife, Carol. He is a chemistry professor at PSU that decided he wanted to try something different. Oxendine thinks that is great and wishes more people would try something like this.

The experience has reminded him of his own college days as a theatre student at Catawba College and how much he truly enjoyed it. The only difference now is, "the other students have to leave rehearsal and rush to study for exams, but I don't."

But that will change. David's future plans are to enter graduate school in the fall at N.C. State to work on a Master's degree and then a doctorate in Professional Counseling.

PIPPIN opens April 9, 10, 11 at 8 p.m. at the Givens Performing Arts Center.