

Published Each Thursday Since January 18, 1973

CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1992

25 CENTS PER COPY

MARY LIVERMORE LIBRARY
 PEMBROKE STATE UNIV.
 NC 28372-27
 1 176
 176

Native American "designing women" remember Robeson County roots,

remember Robeson County roots,

by Barbara Braveboy-Locklear
 Two Robeson County women know well the distance which spans hundreds of miles between Robeson County's Evans Crossroad area and Roswell, Georgia north of Atlanta. Brenda and Gail Locklear remember well the years of growing up surrounded by the rich Robeson County agricultural environment which commanded laborious days in tobacco fields, vegetable gardens, and hours of sipping lemonade under shade trees on sultry days. Today the Native American women are spending their days surrounded by antiques, rugs, collectibles, wallpaper samples and fabric swatches. Four years ago the two sisters established themselves in Atlanta by association with builders who specialized in new homes. From that association was born Locklear Gifts and Interiors. Three decades ear-

lier they'd learned first hand from their father, the late Braddie Locklear, Sr., the importance of producing top quality service goods for valued customers. "We spent many hours in the midst of screaming saws, pounding hammers and spray paint guns learning lessons in the woodwork and cabinet shop our father owned and operated," Brenda Locklear recalls. "Our parents always taught us that anything worth doing was worth doing right." Both women say they adopted their parents' work ethics and implemented them into creating an interior design business which rivals those decades-old in the greater Atlanta area. The women say their business objectives are to tailor their clients' design needs to individual life-styles. They work with clients to provide a forward look to existing homes and new construction and agree that by knowing

the trends projected for the 90's in color, fabric, and design they became a team which provides the look that is as beautifully classic today as it will be in ten years. Clients most often say, "This reminds me of the Designing Women on television," when they enter the 1,600 sq. ft. studio of Locklear Gifts & Interiors located at Willow Springs Shopping Center in Roswell. "Very few days pass when we don't hear that comment," Gail Locklear confirms. "We owe it in part to the warm hospitality they receive in our studio." Accessory design is one of the areas that sets Locklear Interiors apart. Both Locklear sisters share the belief that in incorporating people's cherished items in the updated design that suits their clients' life-styles makes them different from other interior designers.



"It's important to understand our clients' feelings, needs and desires in designing a new look for them," comments Brenda Locklear. She says their studio focuses on nineteenth-century interiors. Their business received national recognition last year when the designers' abilities were displayed at the 1991 Street of Dreams- Anderson Window House

in Atlanta. The designers enriched the unique living areas of the Georgian home with vivid color schemes, sumptuous fabrics, custom-designed window treatments, finely crafted furnishings and tasteful accessories. This year the designers branched out into the commercial market and now have health care facilities and hotels among their clients. Forget their Robeson County roots? "Never," say the sisters. They regularly travel the long distance from Atlanta to visit their family in Robe-

son County. Their most-recent visit was for Lumbie Homecoming during July 4 weekend. On the family-owned farm where they grew up they walked alongside fields ripe with corn and tobacco, and plots crowded with vegetables. They say the visit lent opportunity for them to re-connect with their past. It also afforded them a respite from the hustle and bustle which they both experience in their day-to-day business as "designing women."

Gail Locklear is shown left and Brenda Locklear is shown right inside Locklear Gifts & Interiors

Whatever Happened To... Rev. C.M. Cummings

By Barbara Braveboy-Locklear
 Special to the Carolina Indian Voice

Robeson County. A year later, while a full-time student, he preached sermons at Lyons Avenue Baptist Mission in Louisville in order to support his family.

In 1953, with theology degree earned, he took a pastorate at East Union Baptist Church in Greenville, a Kentucky coal mining community. Two years passed and the arrival of a third child before he accepted a ministerial call to Morton's Gap Second Baptist Church in Morton's Gap, KY. A deep yearning to return to his native land brought forth his resignation from his pastorate at the church. He moved his family to Robeson County in 1956 and took a teaching position in a public school. He also accepted a pastorate at Ten Mile Center Baptist Church in rural Lumberton.

As Rev. Cummings settled into the dual profession he purchased a farm in his home community of Harper's Ferry. "I'd wanted my own farm and home since I was 14 years old and thought we'd just take it easy in Robeson County," he says of the land acquisition.

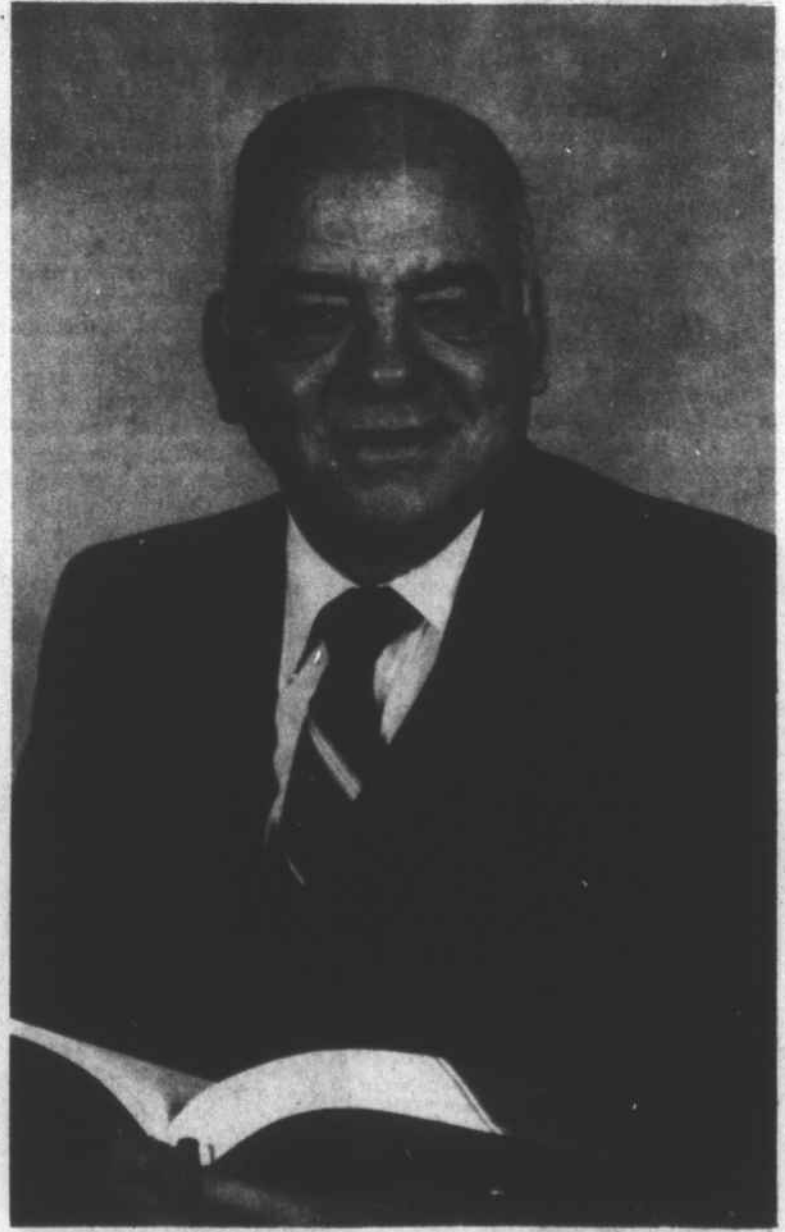
An early morning knock at his home two years later revealed 14 members from Second Baptist Church in Kentucky standing on his front porch. "They'd come to get me to go back and serve as their pastor." He was then serving as pastor to Berea Baptist Church in Pembroke. He says after much prayer and consultation with his family he resigned his position and returned to Kentucky. It was to be several years later and hundreds of sermons preached at the church and at others throughout southwestern Kentucky that the minister returned to Robeson County to stay. After the return to his farm, he took teaching positions at Pembroke Graded and Pembroke High School before resigning to full-time gospel ministry. His longest pastorate was at Island Grove Baptist Church in 1985. Rev. Cummings Friendship Mis-

preach funerals of former church members he served.

Most days Rev. Cummings is actively going about the business of conducting his ministerial duties in church, community and area hospitals. There has been little time over the years to develop hobbies except for fishing. The Lumber River behind his home is his fishing hole. "I do enjoy grabbing my old pole,

gathering worms from my catabwa tree and going to the river to spend some quiet time," he smiles.

Retirement? Not for the man who has preached for more than a half century. He's too busy working on the second half of one hundred years to consider such a plan. "There's too much more to be done in service to God's ministry," he comments.



Rev. Coolidge Mack Cummings

Dr. Robin Cummings joins Pinehurst Surgical Clinic



Cummings was a N.C. Board of Governors' Scholar, served as Vice President on the Davison Council, and

was a member of the Curriculum Committee for the School of Medicine. As a third year student, he conducted research in the alterations involved in cellular death during cardiac injury. This work was published and presented nationally and for his contributions, Dr. Cummings was recognized as a Henry Kaiser Merit Scholar, National Library of Science Scholar and received the Sandoz Award for Basic Science Research.

After obtaining his degree in Medicine, Dr. Cummings remained at Duke and completed an Internship and Residency in General Surgery under Dr. David C. Sabiston, Jr. During this time he received a National Research Service Award and spent two years as a Research Fellow. He is the author or co-author on more than 30 papers and abstracts and has presented work at several national meetings. Dr. Cummings completed his surgical training with a Fellowship in Cardiothoracic Surgery also in the Department of Surgery, Duke Medical Center.

Dr. Cummings graduated as Valedictorian from Pembroke Senior High School in 1974. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a James M. Johnston Scholar, and graduated in 1978 with a major in Zoology. He received his Doctorate of Medicine from Duke University in 1983. During medical school, Dr.

Dr. Robin G. Cummings recently completed his Surgical Fellowship in Cardiothoracic Surgery at Duke University Medical Center. He joins John Krahnert, Pinehurst Surgical Clinic P.A. and Moore Regional Hospital in the practice of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery as of July, 1992.

Dr. Cummings is the son of Reverend Simeon and Mrs. Maude Cummings of Pembroke, N.C. He is married to the former Rebecca Godwin and they have three children, Amy, Mark, and David.

Pembroke student wins honors

Kim Hunt of Pembroke has won third-place honors among 12- and 13-year-old in the Back to School with Cotton Contest held August 11. Kim won the judges' praise with her polished cotton print dress, which featured puffed sleeves and a bow. The daughter of Eric and Karmel Hunt, Rt. 2, Box 87, is a member of the Golden Hearts 4-H Club. This year's competition was held at Peace College. The contest is sponsored by the North Carolina Cotton Wives and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. Kim received a \$25 cash award.



CLASS OF '68 REUNION

Attention: Class of 1968 Pembroke High School. Plans are being made for 25th class reunion of the 1968 graduates of Pembroke High School. A cruise on the "Fantasy" to the Bahamas June 6-11 1993 is being planned. Please contact Robert Chavis at (919) 521-8891 or Gerald Jacobs (919) 422-8819 for more information.

While an undergraduate student Rev. Cummings accepted a pastorate at Burnt Swamp Baptist Church in order to supplement his educational scholarship. He was to hold pastorates at New Bethel Baptist Church in rural Clinton and Cape Fear Baptist Mission in Cumberland County before he was graduated from P.S.C. in 1950. When offered a principalship at his childhood school, he chose instead to enter Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. With \$350 in his pocket he moved his wife, Vanice and infant son, Samuel, into a resident hall on the seminary campus. A work scholarship which paid seventy-five cents an hour was supplemented by gifts of money from an older brother in