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# Carolina Indian Voice

Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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The Pembroke Men's Chorus is (left to right): front row—Mable Oxendine, Wilbert Hunt, Robert Jacobs, Benford Lowery, Vera Doris Malcolm; back row—Bobby Oxendine, Marvin Howington, and Clayton Maynor.

## Pembroke Men's Chorus To Perform at Fourth Annual PSU Gospel Music Festival April 17

by Gene Warren  
(This is the last in a series of articles about persons who will perform in the fourth annual Pembroke State University "Gospel Music Festival" Saturday, April 17, in PSU's Givens Performing Arts Center.)  
The Pembroke Men's Chorus, which had its beginning some 48 years ago has sung in different churches and organizations throughout Robeson County, will perform the pre-concert before Pembroke State University's fourth annual "Gospel Music Festival" Saturday, April 17, in PSU's Givens Performing Arts Center.  
The pre-concert starts at 6:30 p.m. The festival begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for everyone and can be ordered by telephoning the Givens PAC box office at 521-6287 or 1-800-367-0778.  
The chorus is made up of eight men plus two women: Mable Oxendine, pianist for the chorus since its beginning; and Vera Doris Malcolm who sings with the chorus and plays the Piano when Mrs. Oxendine is not available.

Benford Lowery is an original member of the chorus, while Marvin Howington is the oldest member at age 78.  
Other members are Wilbert Hunt, Robert Jacobs, Bobby Locklear, Clayton Maynor, Henry W. Oxendine, and Hank Teets, who is the youngest.  
Lead singers are Hunt, Jacobs and Locklear.  
"The only requirements to be a member of this chorus is that one be affiliated with a church and be dedicated to the group," Howington said, spokesman for the chorus.  
The chorus was started by James Fulton Lowry, who is deceased.  
The Pembroke Men's Chorus has sung at such places as the Durham Civic Center, but sings mostly in the county. They recently performed at Berea Baptist Church and the Pemberton Place Nursing Center in Pembroke.  
As for doing the pre-concert for the Festival, Howington said, "It's going to be wonderful. We can hear professionals and semi-professionals whom we've never heard before. It will make

us want to work harder and be more adept at the performing the music we sing."  
Howington said the Pembroke Men's Chorus had as many as 25 members 35 years ago, but "some died and others just quit."  
The present group practices normally each Friday in a building behind the Town and Country Restaurant in Pembroke. "We usually since in public from one to three times a month," said Howington.  
Some of their favorite songs, all written by others, are "Who?", "It Had To Be Love," and "I Am His Forever."  
Howington says he has been singing with the group for 45 years except for a two-year period during which he was taking care of his ill mother. "I am really looking forward to this. It will give people an opportunity to hear music which they wouldn't hear otherwise," he said.  
For more information about the Festival, telephone (919) 521-6213.

## Major Indian Arts Festival & Pow Wow To Be Held May 21-22

The Lumbee River Arts Festival and Pow Wow will be held May 21-22, 1993 at the Robeson County Fairgrounds in Lumberton. According to James Hardin, Executive Director of Lumbee Regional Development Association which is sponsoring the event the festival will feature outstanding exhibits and demonstrations of Indian arts, crafts, music, and dance in the eastern United States.  
Hardin said "We expect to have some of the best dealers in Indian arts and crafts at this event. Traders will be selling authentic American Indian arts and crafts including Indian silver and turquoise jewelry, pottery, basketry, and paintings representing the arts and traditions of many tribes." He said American Indian artists and craftsmen who produce high quality crafts will be given preference in booth selection. The event will be highlighted by traditional Indian dance and music competitions. "With over \$5,000 in prize money to be

given away, we expect to see the best dancers and most attractive Indian dance regalia at this event," he said. Indian dancers, artists, craftsmen, and traders are expected to come from tribes throughout the United States.  
Hardin explained that the LRDA has sponsored a pow wow near Pembroke in the fall for several years. "By holding the event at the fairgrounds in Lumberton, we can make it accessible to more people and increase attendance of tourists and others who have not attended a pow wow before" he said. "We wish to involve people throughout the region in the cultural programs sponsored by LRDA."  
Artists, craftspeople, or traders who are interested in sales at the event should contact the LRDA at (919) 521-8602 to obtain an application. The general admission for the event will be \$3.00, and \$1.00 for senior citizens and youths under age 13. Contact Bill Jacobson at (919) 521-8602.



## Cherokee Indian In Need Of Bone Marrow Transplant



Johnnie Ice

by Tami Brown  
Johnnie Ice, member of the Cherokee nation tribe, born and raised, graduated high school and currently lives with his wife and one son still at home in Tablequah, Oklahoma, was diagnosed with C.M.L. (Chronic myelogenous leukemia) in September of 1992. In April, Johnnie will be 40 years old.  
Up to that point, Mr. Ice was a long haul truck driver, was very active in everything he did from sports to work and with his children as they grew up. He has four children, two boys and two girls, ages 16, 20, 22 and 24.  
Johnnie says that he has always looked at life with some degree of challenge since he has a slightly lame left leg and by some is considered handicapped. Johnnie never thought of himself that way and never let his "handicap" stand in the way of accomplishing any of his goals.  
Everything was going great, there was one son left at home and life was good for the Ice family when after some extraordinary fatigue, Mr. Ice saw his doctor. The initial diagnosis revealed a small mass in his lower back, which after successful surgery did not heal properly. Unfortunately

the next doctor's visit revealed that Johnnie had Leukemia.  
A initial search of the National Marrow Program registry revealed one preliminary donor, however, confirmatory testing verified the match was not totally compatible. So the Ice family continued to wait and wait for news of that perfect someone out there who could save Johnnie's life.  
Johnnie isn't giving up. He says he'll beat this as he's beat other odds that have confronted him in his life. But without a perfectly matched donor, his chances become slimmer and slimmer.  
On April 12 Johnnie was notified by his transplant doctor that there is a perfect 6 out of 6 match in the English registry. Mr. Ice needs \$1500 to pay for confirmatory tests to validate the compatibility of this new hope.  
Mr. Ice has already gone through the process of verifying through I.H.S. that if they will pay for the marrow transplant; that they have in fact set aside the money for the procedure, however two critical things must happen first: a perfectly matched

donor must be found and in the amount of time that I.H.S. can reserve the funding for a marrow transplant for Johnnie Ice.  
Time is ticking away faster than we can write a ticket to tell everyone how they can help.  
Be tested, be a donor, consider having the simple blood test so that your tissue type can be entered in the National Marrow Donor Program registry and consider sending a small or large donation to help Johnnie pay to confirm the donor found in the English registry.

## Nominations Being Accepted For Annual Lumbee Indian Community Service Awards

The Lumbee Regional Development Association is presently accepting award nominations for the 1993 Lumbee Indian Community Service Awards. The categories are as follows: Henry Berry Lowrie Award, Distinguished Service Award, Businessperson of the Year Award, Advancement of Education Award: (a) Middle School (b) High School (c) Post-Secondary School Lumbee Elder of the Year Award, Hamilton McMillian Award.  
All nominations must be submitted on an official nomination form. Nominations must be made for a specific award and accompanied by a three (3) page statement regarding the nominee and should include appropriate documentation, i.e. (newspaper clippings, citations, letters of support and photos). All documentation should be arranged in an orderly manner.  
Official nomination forms may be obtained by contacting Wanda Locklear at (919) 521-8602, at LRDA.  
The deadline for nominations is May 14, 1993.

## County Democrats To Meet

Jo Ann Locklear, Party Chair announced today that the Democratic Party County Convention will be held on Saturday, April 17, 1993 at 10:00 a.m. The convention will be held in Courtroom #1 in the Robeson County Courthouse in Lumberton. Heading the agenda will be the election of County officers to serve through the 1994 election cycle. The delegates to the convention will also be electing seven (7) members to serve on the State Executive Committee, which is the governing body of the

North Carolina Democratic Party.  
The convention will also elect local Democrats to serve as delegates to the 7th and 8th congressional district conventions. A number of our legislative and local candidates are expected to be in attendance. Chairperson Locklear states that "we are expecting a good turnout of Democrats across the County to be in attendance and look forward to a great year ahead for the Robeson County Democratic Party."



## Free Service

Robert Revels of Breece Street, Pembroke is available for anointing and prayer for those in need. Call 521-9166 to give your prayer request. Mr. Revels will pray for you, anoint with oil and believes that this will bring about great change in a person's life. "Prayer and anointing in faith will cast out demons of alcohol and drugs, it will cause God to bless a business and bring peace and happiness into a home, as well as financial blessings," Mr. Revels said. He looks forward to people calling or coming by his home on Breece Street in Pembroke.

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