

Readers' Forum

Carnell Locklear expresses gratitude for faith shown in him and for support given

To the Editor:
I want to take this opportunity to thank my family, friends and financial supporters in Robeson County who supported me during my recent talent show. I was the winner during the Johnny Eagle Talent Agency from Nashville, Tennessee who also supported me during my recent trip to Knoxville, Tennessee to do a cassette of some of my favorite songs. They know I will always be grateful.

I feel something positive is going to happen, if I continue and by God's help, I will prosper. There is so much talent here in Robeson County. It has got to be discovered by someone who can help.

As everyone knows, our people still have a streak of being jealous. This has to stop. We must learn to help those who are trying to pave the way for others. We have people here who can do anything anybody else can do, if given the chance.

I have been trying for the past 30 years to do something in the entertainment field. I do believe the time has come. I and others have paid our dues. I am so thankful to my God

that things have finally begun happening. Please believe me, they are beginning to happen. I know a lot of people have faith in me and I will always be grateful.

The following is a list of winners of the Raffle which was recently held at the Golden Comb in Pembroke: Annette Locklear of Pembroke won a Gift Certificate valued at \$25.00 from the Golden Comb. Dianne Oxendine of Red Springs won a Gift Certificate from Glen's Cur n Curl valued at \$25. Brenda Fields of the Evans Crossings area won a Gift Certificate valued at \$25 from Robeson Tire in Pembroke. Helen Locklear of the Real Estate Exchange won the handmade quilt valued at \$100 donated by Nancy Jane Locklear Dial, mother of Carnell Locklear.

I want to thank you also Connie for keeping your faith in me and keeping our paper, the Carolina Indian Voice, going through all these difficult times. You are an example of faith we all can respect. Thank you and may God continue to bless.

Sincerely yours,
Carnell "Boss Strong" Locklear

Pembroke Kiwanis Report

by Dr. Ken Johnson

The weekly meeting was held at the Town and Country Restaurant. President Buddy Bell, residing Program Chairman Larry Chavis introduced Dr. Ben Chavis of the PSU Department of Education.

Dr. Chavis grew up in the Magnolia area, received his MA at the University of Arizona, his Doctorate from the University of California and has returned home to teach at Pembroke State.

He has first hand experience dealing with migrant workers, having been in the real estate business in Arizona. Knowing the culture of the Mexican immigrant workers, their Spanish speaking language, Dr. Chavis said the Mexicans have made a great contribution to the economy of the regions where ever they go. There is even a Spanish speaking Mexican group in the Saddle Creek area. Contrary to popular belief, the wages in Mexico are not lower than wages in the United

States, as Ross Perot said in his opposition to the Free Trade Agreement. The free trade agreement is a good one, thus aiding the economy of all countries within the agreement.

Most migrant workers are single male workers. You only hear of them when they get into trouble. They do a real service in the tobacco & cucumber industries and apple picking Virginia. The Hispanics populations are growing. They are very interested in politics. Spanish is the most spoken foreign language. And it is more important to learn Spanish than to learn German or French. The Catholic faith is their more prevalent religion. The Chinese, Jewish and Mexican cultures tend more to being closed cultures, control being with the group unlike the government control so prominent on Indian Reservations.

Song leader-Ray Lowry; Invocation-Vardell Swett; Reporter-Ken Johnson.

The Sunday School Lesson

by John R. Brayboy

Accountable for our actions
Luke 20:1-19

Accountable for the truth
Luke 1-8

Jesus was in the Temple teaching and preaching the Gospel. The Chief Priests and Scribes with the elders approached Jesus to question His authority. The Chief Priests and Scribes were religious leaders who kept the temple and taught the law. Like many religious leaders today they had a form of Godliness but denied the power thereof. Had their hearts been right they would not have had any need to question Jesus' authority.

Verses 3-7 Jesus answers their question with a question. When asked about the baptism of John, whether it was from Heaven or of men, they reasoned that He put them on the spot. They knew that if they said from heaven, Jesus would question them as to why they did not believe John. If they said of men, then they feared the people who believed John. Many people today are like the Scribes and Priests, they have no foundation on which to believe, so they just go with the flow. So their answer to Jesus was that they knew not where John's authority came from.

In verse 8 Jesus answered them accordingly that he would not tell them where His authority came from.

Accountable for Treatment Given God's Servant

In verse 9 Jesus spoke to the people in a parable. A parable is an illustration of a truth. In this verse Jesus starts off telling them about a certain man who planted a vineyard. The vineyard owner let it out to tenants and went into a far country. The vineyard is symbolic of the Nation of Israel, and the husbandmen are symbolic of the Jewish leaders. As this lesson develops Jesus is foretelling of the priests and scribes' plans to kill Him.

Verse 10. At the season (probably the time of harvest) the owner sent his servant to get his share of the harvest. The servant is symbolic of the old testament prophets sent to the Nation Israel by God. As was done to the prophets many times, the servant was beaten and sent away.

Verse 11. Again the owner sent another servant who was also beaten and entreated shamefully.

In verse 12 the owner sent a third servant to collect his rightful share. The tenants' attitude would be established in the mouths of three witnesses (Deut. 19:15). We can see God's long suffering with Israel. They wounded this servant too.

The tenants were unfaithful stewards. God expects Christians to be faithful stewards. We are to be supportive, generous, and loving in our treatment of his ministers and leaders.

Accountable for Responses Made to God's Son

In verse 13 the Lord of the vineyard asked the question "What shall I do?" He decided that he would send his own son and maybe they would reverence him. The servants are symbolic of the prophets sent to Israel; so is the son here symbolic of God's Son, Jesus who was sent to Israel.

Verse 14. In verses 1-8 of this chapter we see that the religious leaders of Israel had rejected Jesus, God's Son. In this verse the husbandmen (tenants) when they saw the owner's son they reasoned among themselves saying this is the heir, come let us kill him and take the inheritance. Even as Jesus was speaking, the Jewish leaders were conspiring to kill him. Jesus was putting their authority and religious status in jeopardy.

Verse 15. They run him out of the vineyard and killed him. Jesus then asked the question "What will the Lord of the vineyard do unto them?" Judgement will come to them that do wrong. Many times people escape judgment at the hand of the law, but God's judgment is certain and just. Pay day will come some day.

Verse 16. John 1:11 says "He came to His own and His own received Him not." Jesus answered the question of verse 15 by saying judgement would come to the unjust tenants, and the vineyard would be given to others. So it would be with religious leaders and the nation Israel. Judgement on Israel would be the nation's privilege of being God's people. God would call out a new people with new leaders.

Consequences of Rejecting God's Son

Verse 18. The nation Israel rejected the stone which is Jesus. Because Israel rejected the son, the same is become the head of the corner. In modern times the cornerstone is largely ceremonial, and is the last stone that the masons put into place. It usually has the names of people who were responsible for it.

In ancient times the cornerstone was the first stone laid and the building to form was laid out from it. Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of the church; the rest of the foundation were the apostles and prophets of the New Testament. All other stones being built into the church get their life from the cornerstone.

Verse 18. Those who stumble or fall on the stone will be injured. Those that a stone fall on will be destroyed. Those in this life who stumble on Jesus or reject Him may face grief and loss in this life in order for them to see the need for Jesus. Those who persist in unbelief beyond the opportunities that grace gives will be crushed by the final judgment of God.

Accountable for a Closed Mind

Verse 19. The priests and scribes realized that Jesus had spoken this parable about them and they got upset and sought to lay hands on him that same hour. Many times people are like these men. They are set in their ways and refuse to do the right thing. They become willfully blind to the truth. The priests and scribes feared the people, of they let Jesus be, I believe that Christians get willfully blind to growth of the church and hinder it from moving forward. Every Christian ought to have uttermost in their hearts and minds the desire to see souls saved and be striving for that.

In closing, those of you who have rejected Christ for whatever lame excuse you may have had to this point, I urge you to look at the options you have; eternity with God in heaven or eternity in hell. Just as the tenants rejected the owner's son and were faced with judgement from the father, so will those who reject Jesus face judgement one day. Jesus is the Savior now. One day He will be the Judge.

Sen. David Parnell Named to Legislative Research Committee

Basnight Names Senator Parnell to Lead Emergency Management Legislative Research Committee

Senate President Pro Tempore Marc Basnight has appointed Senator David Parnell of Parkton to Co-Chair the Emergency Management Legislative Research Committee (LRC). "Senator Parnell's twenty years of legislative experience will serve this committee well. I am confident that under his leadership North Carolina will continue its efforts to become safer and more knowledgeable about the disasters and emergency situations that face us," said Basnight.

Senator Parnell commented, "we have made great strides in recent years in addressing emergency management issues including establishing Hazmat teams around the state in this past session of the General Assembly. But, we can do more."

"We must consider ideas to offer greater protection of volunteers of disaster relief efforts as well as reduce response time of disaster relief professionals. I look forward to exploring ideas that will make our emergency management procedures more efficient, effective and responsive to the needs disaster victims."

Senator Parnell is a Democrat representing the thirtieth district and is currently serving his sixth term in the Senate. He is Chairman of the Insurance Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Public Utilities Committee. Parnell is also a member of the Finance, Judiciary I, Rules and Operation of the Senate, State Personnel and State Government, and Transportation Committees. In addition, Senator Parnell serves as a member of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Study Commission on Aging and the North Carolina Sentencing Commission.

MUTUAL FUNDS A Better Way To Assess Risk

(NU) - When it comes to investing, many people consider only those mutual funds at the top of the performance charts based on their recent returns.

So, what's wrong with that?

"Plenty," says James S. Riepe, managing director of T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc., one of the nation's largest no-load (no sales charge) mutual fund firms.

Riepe says most investors, when considering a fund's "performance," look only at its recent investment return, which "can be a dangerous way to evaluate an investment because it ignores one ever-present factor: risk."

"Factoring risk into your investment decision is important because it can help you avoid unpleasant surprises in the short term, and it will give you some idea of what to expect in the future."

T. Rowe Price offers a free brochure, "Risk-Adjusted Performance - A Better Way to Measure Investment Performance." The brochure discusses the various types of risks, such as market and inflation risks, and how to evaluate and manage risk to achieve your financial goals.

The brochure can be ordered by calling 1-800-541-8341.



Wildlife Art Contest Set

The N.C. Wildlife Federation is excited to announce a new program, our Statewide Conservation Art Contest. The Federation is sponsoring this event to encourage North Carolina's children to increase their awareness of the natural environment around them. This year's theme is "Wildlife in My Life: Wild Places and Wild Things in North Carolina."

Students from 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades will be asked to enter the contest by drawing or painting a picture featuring wild places and/or wild animals found in their area of the state. Each region of North Carolina is blessed with an abundance of diverse habitats and species.

Winners will be picked on district and state levels. Ninety district winners will receive certificates of merit. Nine state winners will receive plaques. In addition, the class of each state winner will receive \$100 to be used for a conservation project or program.

The deadline for entries is March 25. If your 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade class would like more information, contact the NC Wildlife Federation at P.O. Box 10626, Raleigh, NC 27605 or 919-833-1923.

Gonzales to lead Eastern NC County Council

Juanita Gonzalez of Fayetteville, a Cumberland County Commissioner, has been elected to lead her fellow County Commissioners in the 43 Eastern North Carolina Counties in working to bring progress to the region.

Commissioner Gonzalez was elected Chairman of the Eastern North Carolina County Council at a meeting of the Council's Executive Committee. Membership in the council consists of all the County Commissioners and all the County Managers of the 43 eastern counties.

A.H. (Lex) Jones of Elizabethtown, the County Manager in Bladen County, was elected Vice Chairman of the Council.

Other County Commissioners serving on the Council's Executive Committee are Kermit Williamson, Clinton; Sampson County Commissioners, Jimmie Dixon, Jr., Elizabeth City, Pasquotank County; Joseph W. Spruill, Aulander, Bertie County; Noah Woods, Pamlico, Robeson County; Charlie R. Harrell, Tarboro, Edgecombe County; Daniel M. Bowen, Williamston, Martin County; and David L. West, Elm City, Wilson County.

Other County Managers on the Council's Executive Committee are Donald C. Craft, Winton, Hertford County; Jerry Hobbs, Clinton; Sampson County, James E. Martin, Lumberton, Robeson County; Bob Snapp, Kinston, Lenoir County; Neal C. Phillips, Halifax, Halifax County; J. Wayne Deal, Nashville, Nash County; and W. Earl Daniels, Jackson, Northampton County.

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