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N.C. Indian Commission Recognizes Tribal Government as Representatives of Lumbee Tribe

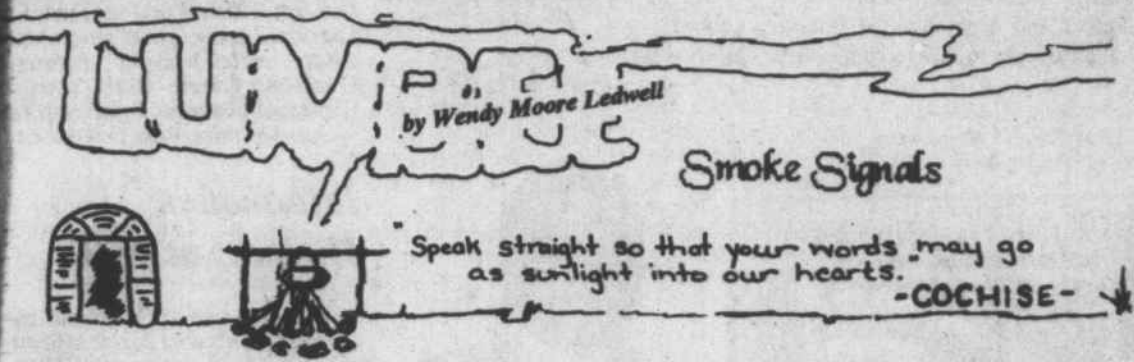
In a recent meeting of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, that board recognized the newly elected tribal council and tribal chairman as the representatives of the Lumbee Tribe. The vote narrowly passed by the vote. The by-laws of the Indian Commission state that Lumbee Regional Development Association, a private, non-profit corporation with 50 members, is the agency which the Commission deals with. The vote on Thursday will require the changing of the by-laws.

Earlier the Recognition Committee of the Commission had agreed to a

resolution that recognized the duly elected government. During the meeting on Thursday, Chief W.R. Richardson, chairman of that committee, voted against the resolution. Richardson is a Haliwa-Saponi, also voting against the measure were Lumbees Earlene Stacks and Patrick Clark of Charlotte and Jim Lowry of Tryon. Lumbees voting for the measure included Chairman Paul Brooks who called the adoption of the Lumbee Constitution and the tribal officials "democracy at its best;" Larry Townsend of Raleigh; and Lonnie Revels of Greensboro.

The resolution was presented to the Lumbee Tribal Council on Monday night at their regular meeting by Lonnie Revels. The resolution, of course, will become official when the minutes of the meeting are adopted in June.

Many Lumbee tribal members attended the meeting in Fayetteville which was held in conjunction with the Indian Unity Conference. It was obvious that there were two distinct sides in the room with the tribal council clearly having the majority present. No public comments were taken on either side.



On March 20th the Lumbee Tribal Council held its regularly scheduled meeting. The meeting was called to order by Speaker Lance Harding. The invocation was given by Rev. Steve Locklear, District #14. There was a unanimous approval given on Feb. 20th and previous meeting minutes. Emma Locklear, District #13, gave a report on the Flower's Bakery Tour by several tribal council members.

A status report on the tribal seal was given by committee chair Gary W. Locklear, District #10. According to seal coordinator, Deloria Cummings, approximately 30 entries have been submitted. Deadline for entries will be the third Monday in April.

Next came committee reports. The first report was by the Elections Committee. Chairman Henry Brewer, District # 6, gave the status on elections board nomination questionnaires. According to Mr. Brewer, all but four nominees have submitted their questionnaire. An elections board slate will be set at the next meeting.

Judiciary committee chairman Gary Locklear submitted copies of the letter had questionnaire for tribal judicial nominees. The material was circulated for council review and was unanimously approved.

A motion made by Sam Wynn and seconded by Robert Locklear was unanimously passed to encourage out of territory committee appointments.

A committee is to be formed to handle the business of pricing and acquiring office equipment. The committee will

research, computer, copier, etc. prices and bring back recommendations to council for approval.

Making another appearance on the agenda was the issue of the Resolution on the Robesonian. Some tribal council members are requesting that the resolution be rescinded. Tribal Chairman Dalton Brooks stood his ground on his position and refused to back down. Dr. Brooks was questioned as to why he would place an editorial in response to the LRDA ad of 3-12-1-95. Dr. Brooks responded saying that he had not placed any such editorial with the Robesonian. Dr. Brooks stated that his response was only given to the Carolina Indian Voice.

Council voted unanimously to send Steve Locklear, Henry Brewer, Jerry McNeill, Emma Locklear and Lance Harding to meet with the editorial staff to make requests that would enable Native American to hold key positions with the Robesonian.

The Tribal Chairman gave his report with regard to the recent North Carolina Indian commission vote to recognize the tribal government as legal representative for the Lumbee tribe. Dr. Brooks stated, "I appreciate you 21 fighting men and women." he expressed his elation at the vote outcome. He gave numerous public comments in regard to the placement of the tribal government as legal representative. He concluded by requesting the council to agree to meet with LRDA to engage in a peace making dialogue. His recommendations ended in applause by council and on-lookers.

Lonnie Revels, member of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs and Guilford Native American, presented the council with a Resolution acknowledging the Lumbee Constitution and the tribal government as the "duly authorized representatives of the Lumbee tribe" as signed by commission chairman, Paul Brooks. Mr. Revels spoke of how he had friends on both sides of the issue. He said that although he opposed friends in this particular instance, he refused to let his opponent become his enemy.

Speaker Lance Harding recognized Lonnie Revels, Sam Wynn and the tribal support committee for all their efforts in the recognition endeavor.

Council member Steve Locklear spoke concerning a situation whereby Councilman Sam Wynn was undergoing scrutiny by some tribal members regarding residency, and also the rumor of council's intent to take over urban Indian centers. A motion was passed to send letters to all concerned urban centers to answer to the rumor. A legal opinion by Arlinda Locklear will

be rendered in regard to Dr. Wynn. The meeting was concluded with public comment and prayer.

Dates to remember:

March 25- Tribal council planning session. Baptist Building, Pembroke, 9 a.m.

August 3 and 17: 7 p.m. Tribal council meeting. Title V Resource Center, Pembroke.

Pembroke Elementary students donate books to Southeastern Regional Medical Center



Carrie Hunt, second grader at Pembroke Elementary, presented one of the books she and classmates made to Anthony Hunt, a 12-year-old student at Fairgrove School in Fairmont, is recuperating at Southeastern Regional Medical Center from a leg fracture.

Second graders at Pembroke Elementary School recently donated a series of and-made books to the patients of Southeastern Regional Medical Center's pediatrics unit. Students in the classes of teachers Kathy Burnette and Linda Bullard completed the project. Students who authored the books were Carrie Hunt, Gearyline Barton, Justin Long, Andrew Locklear, Frederick Blackmon

and Danielle Worriax. Brenda Sealey, nursing manager of the pediatrics unit, accepted the donation of behalf of SRMC. "Our patients will be entertained for hours by these sturdy, attractive books," she said. "We appreciate so much the thoughtfulness of the second graders at Pembroke Elementary."

McDonald's establishes scholarships

by Don Gersh, University Relations

Rust Enterprises, Inc. (McDonald's of Lumberton) recently established scholarships for part-time employees to attend Pembroke State university.

Kenneth P. Rust, owner and operator of the McDonald's on W. 5th Street in Lumberton, said he has a number of part-time employees and felt a desire to help them attend college.

"We're an entry-level position for many," said Rust, "and we want to help our employees reach their full potential."

The scholarships are designed for employees of the McDonald's on W. 5th Street and the Roberts Avenue restaurant, which is owned by James R. Rust.

Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine said Rust Enterprises has been very supportive of PSU students. "This is an opportunity, a secure support system we can count on."

The Rust Scholarships will be awarded to up to ten part-time employees. Each recipient will receive \$500. To be eligible, an employee must work at least 24 hours a week for one year and have a B average rating on performance appraisals. While at Pembroke State University, the scholarship recipients must maintain a 2.225 GPA or better. Financial need is not a consideration for award of the Rust Scholarship.

To apply, Rust Enterprises, Inc./McDonald's employees should apply to PSU's Office of Financial Aid. The Scholarships will be awarded in the fall.



On February 25, 1995 LaTeisha Rogers competed in the North Carolina Elegant Miss of Robeson County Paganant. LaTeisha won the Majestic title and the overall in talent. She is a freshman at Fairmont High School and the daughter of Melvin and Teresa Rogers of Lumberton. She is grateful to her family and friends who supported her.

Pembroke BPW sponsors Shamrock Ball

The Pembroke Business and Professional Women's organization held its Annual Shamrock Ball on Saturday, March 10 at the Pembroke Jaycee Hut.

The annual event is organized with the major purpose of raising money to provide scholarships for women who wish to pursue their education at the college level and meet the criteria of the organization.

Recently selected as the recipient for the scholarship award of \$500 was Lori Cole who also attended the ball. As a gesture of her appreciation, she sang two selections for the group. One of her selections was "Wind Beneath My Wings" which she dedicated to the late Hughes Oxendine, former principal of Hoke County High School.

Other special guests at the Ball included Sheriff Glenn Maynor, Clerk of Superior Court JoAnn Locklear and Representative Ronnie Sutton.



Spring Revival Planned at Cherokee Chapel

Spring Revival will be held March 26 through March 31 at Cherokee Chapel Holiness Methodist Church. Sunday night service begins at 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, services will begin at 7:30 p.m. Guest speakers will be Rev. Mike Cummings and Rev. Steve Jones. Special music will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend. The church is located off Hwy 71, between Maston and Red Springs (in front of Oxendine School).

Haliwa-Saponi Tribe Plans Pow Wow

The Haliwa-Saponi Tribe announces that it's 30th Annual Pow-Wow will be held on April 14-16, 1995 at the Haliwa School in Bethlehem. Participants from several tribes from across the United States will journey to Bethlehem this year to celebrate with the Haliwa. Expected tribes included the Sioux, Cherokee, Oneida, Tuscarora, Navajo, Piscataway, Cheyenne, Lumbee-Cheraw, Meherrin, Coharie, Choctaw, Seminole and others.

This year's theme is "1965-1995-30 Years of Haliwa Cultural Revival." Greg Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi), newly appointed Executive Director of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, will be the guest speaker.

Advance tickets are now on sale at the Tribal Center. For more information contact the Chairman of the Pow Wow Committee, Barry Richardson, at 919-586-4017.

Richardson Named Executive Director of N.C. Indian Commission

Gregory A. Richardson has been named executive director of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs. His appointment was effective Feb. 20.

"Greg has over 20 year of broad experience in Indian affairs and the management of government programs," said Secretary Katie G. Dorsett of the N.C. Department of Administration. "His knowledge and experience will be a great asset not only to the commission, but to the department as well."

Richardson, a member of the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, comes to the Commission from his position as special assistant to the assistant secretary for Urban Development. HE served as executive director of the N.C. Indian Housing Authority from 1989-1994 and was director of the Commission's Section 8 Housing Assistance Program from 1982-1989. He also served as assistant director of the Commission's employment and training program from 1975-82. A native of Halifax County, Richardson succeeds A. Bruce Jones, who served as executive director from 1976 until his retirement in December 1994.

"I look forward to the many challenges and opportunities ahead," Richardson said. "I intend to maintain an open door policy not only with the Commission staff and board, but with the state's Indian people as well."

The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs was established in 1971 to represent the interests and advocate for the rights and needs of the state's Indian population. The Commission is one of five advocacy agencies housed within the N.C. Department of Administration.

Robeson Little Theatre to Hold Auditions

Auditions for Robeson Little Theatre's production of "The Sound of Music" will be held March 26, 27 and March 29, 30 from 7 til 9:30 p.m. at the Budget Inn in Lumberton. This musical classic by Rodgers and Hammerstein will be presented in May. Auditionees should come prepared to sing with their own accompaniment tape. All adults and children roles are needed. For more information, contact David Thaggard at (910) 618-0404.

"Lost in Yonkers" to be Presented

Robeson Little Theatre's production of "Lost in Yonkers" by Neil Simon, will be presented April 6, 7, 8 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 9th at 2:30 p.m. Performances will be at Carolina Civic Center on Chestnut Street in Lumberton. Admission is: Adults-\$6, Seniors-\$5, Students-\$3

Communities in Schools Needs Volunteers

Robeson County Communities in Schools, the nation's largest drop out prevention program, needs volunteers for its SOS (Support Our Students) program at Pembroke Middle School. This after-school program provides at-risk students with academic tutoring as well as various cultural and recreational activities between the hours of 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. If you would like to volunteer your time and energy towards the growth of our children, please contact the Support Our Students office at 521-0071.

Say You Read It
Carolina Indian Voice.