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# T CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## Budget negotiations underway as Pembroke Town Council meets

by Bruce Barton  
Pembroke-Pembroke's Mayor Milton Hunt, and Councilmen Greg Cummings, Larry McNeill, Larry T. Brooks and Harry Oxendine took a look at Pembroke's budgetary prospects Monday night when Town Manager McDuffie Cummings presented them with a tentative budget of \$1,904,900, some 4% more than the previous year.

The town fathers seemed pleased when Cummings said, "We are not recommending any increase in taxes, nor in water and sewer rates."

The budget calls for a 5% cost of living raise for town employees, \$11,000 to purchase a new site for a library, \$15,000 for a new police car, and funds for improvement to the town's computer system and utilities, as well as a shelter for paving equipment etc. to satisfy the Labor Department's OSHA concerns.

Town officials will hold a budget work session on June 12, then a public hearing on June 26. Both

sessions begin at 7 p.m. at town hall, and are open to the public.

**In other matters...**

Pembroke Centennial Co-Chairmen Greg Cummings and Harry Oxendine exulted that the May 26 Art Gala was a great success, and that the special even at which Artist Delora Cummings' Centennial Painting was unveiled was a sell out. The even was held at the Pembroke Jaycee Hut. The next Centennial event will be a gospel sing in the town park on July 1. More about this in future editions of this newspaper.

The town officials also turned down an offer from the Stones (Hubert, Kevin and Keith) of \$11,000 for a proposed site for the library.

The Stones, heirs and administrators of the Ruth McCormick estate, turned their backs on the seeming wishes of Ms. McCormick, a life long resident of Pembroke before she died last year. Ms McCormick was once married to Hubert Stone, the former sheriff of Robeson County. The Stones

inherited the bulk of Ms. McCormick's sizable holdings in Pembroke.

According to town Manager McDuffie Cummings, Ms. McCormick had promised a .25 acre tract for the new library as a gift to the town. The site is adjoining Ruth Dial Street. Ms. McCormick died unexpectedly before a deed could be finalized. After her death, the Stones, ignoring her wishes and agreement, cancelled the transaction and offered the land for \$11,000.

Rebuffing the seeming bad faith offered by the Stones, the town has agreed in principle to buy a one-half acre tract directly across from the McCormick (now stone) site from Dr. Adolph Dial who generously agreed to sell the proposed new library site at half the appraisal rate of \$7,000.

as for the Stone offer, Cummings said "It's a matter of principle. It was given to us and now the family (the Stones) are trying to sell it to us. We should not continue negotiations with them." Council members agreed unanimously.



## Rennert Head Start Graduation

Shown above is the Lumbee Regional Development Association's Rennert Head Start Graduation Class for 1995.

First row, left to right: Alyson Oxendine, Ray Scott Revels, Dwight Locklear, Brandon Locklear, Ronnie Hardin, Quenton Hammonds, Dwight Hall, Kelsey Chavis.

Second row, left to right: Audrianna Oxendine, Christopher Chavis, James Sechler, Wileeta Locklear, Danny Locklear, Wanona Reed.

Third row, left to right: Terry Locklear, Timothy Parnell, Christina Chavis, Johnathan Hammonds, Amanda Sinclair, Fillian O'Grady, Amanda Jacobs, Larmar Williams, Marcel McCoy, Amber Oxendine, Shonta Williams.

Teachers, left to right, are: Mrs. Audrey Oxendine and Mrs. Teresa O. Bell.

"Good Luck Stars of the Future. The Graduation Program will be held Sunday, June 11, 1995 at 5 p.m."

## PSU Scholarship named in honor of long-time supporter, Molon "Big Mo" Strickland



A scholarship has been named in honor of long-time Pembroke State University supporter, William Molon "Big Mo" Strickland. Signing the agreement is PSU Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine (left) and Reggie Strickland (right). Mo's brother.

**PEMBROKE** - A scholarship named in honor of a long-time Pembroke State University supporter and 1952 graduate, William Molon "Big Mo" Strickland, was endowed this week.

Signing the agreement were PSU Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine and Reggie Strickland, Sr., Mo's brother. Mo Strickland died in 1993 at the age of 67.

Reggie Strickland said, "This scholarship was created to remem-

ber "Big Mo" Strickland and to honor his unrelenting efforts and desires as a volunteer to improve the quality of Robeson County's athletic programs through encouragement, advice, and mentorship of student athletes."

The recipient of the scholarship will be an athlete with a major in the Health and Physical Education Department, maintaining a minimum of 2.5 GPA. The PSU student must be a native of Robe-

son County, a graduate of Purnell Swett High School, and qualify under FAFSA guidelines for financial assistance.

Dr. Oxendine remembered his boyhood friend Mo during the signing ceremony. "I am thrilled and excited that my old buddy is being honored this way. He was an old friend, a great and loyal supporter of Pembroke State, and an inspirational leader on athletics at PSU and in the public schools."

Mo Strickland played basketball and baseball, was a legend in PSU football, and later served as the president of the Braves Club. He is known for kicking PSU's first field goal and first extra point in football when the school sponsored the sport that era.

Strickland was inducted into the PSU Braves' Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986.

Chancellor Oxendine asked Mr. Strickland to serve as a member of the PSU athletic logo committee and he was instrumental in the school's adopting a new athletic logo that appropriately symbolized PSU's American Indian heritage. The athletic logo selected was a Native American Brave with a red-tailed hawk.

The official name of the scholarship is the William Molon "Big Mo" Strickland Memorial Endowed Scholarship.

## Dr. Felecia Wilkins-Turner to be part of educational trip to Russia



Dr. Felecia Wilkins-Turner was selected to be part of an Educational trip to Russia. She is one of 35 Educators from around the Nation invited by the National Association of Rural Schools to attend an educational development trip to the Soviet Union. The American delegation leaves New York on June 3 and returns June 17, 1995.

Dr. Turner received this honor due to a three year Summer Teacher Training Project in rural Oklahoma during 1991-1993. She states, "It was a very successful project. We designed and implemented some very good teaching strategies, worked on curriculum, introduced effective teacher skills, taught disruptive student behavior techniques, reviewed and up-

dated their parental involvement procedures. The most incredible element was that within the three years, the summers I traveled there, I did not lose one of the 17 teachers to professional transfer, personal move, accident or natural causes.

The purpose of the Russia trip is to help design a Soviet Union Democratic School System. She states, "I feel very honored to have been selected; however, it is a bit scary. I know I will contribute professionally, and I know I will represent my Native People (Lumbee Indians) well. The realization of actually being a part of History in the Making, is a bit overwhelming. The results of our work will end up in Russian history books. The Soviet Union has just gone through a transfer of power and is now under the Democratic Rule. Whereas the Political structure is developing, there is little known of how to set up, organize, implement, and maintain a Democratic School System". She continues, "This team of Educators will assist in the developmental efforts. We will spend time and work with teachers, administrators, and the Minister of Education of Russia. Our work will be conducted in

student classrooms, administrative offices, and with the Education Department at the University of Moscow. We will actually spend the night with a Russian family and discuss parental involvement skills. Professionally, I am extremely excited to add this opportunity and experience to my career roster; personally, I am pleased to visit yet another part of this world, and look forward to sharing my experience upon my return."

Dr. Turner received her BS degree in Mathematics from Pembroke State University, her master's and doctorate in Public Administration and Educational Administration from The Pennsylvania State University in State College, PA. Presently, she is a policy writer and program coordinator for Governor Hunt's Smart Start Early Childhood Initiative.

Dr. Turner is the mother of three children, Randall Allen, Teresa Lynn and Ginger Lucille. She is the daughter of the late Roscoe Wilkins and Gretchen Oxendine Wilkins, presently of the Saddlecreek community. She now lives in Raleigh, North Carolina.

## Captain Stacy Locklear, Jr. earns Master's Degree



Captain Stacy Locklear Jr. has met all requirements for a masters degree in Chemistry at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Captain Locklear earned his masters degree in Analytical Chemistry while serving as a Fuels Research Officer at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

The Captain graduated from Pembroke Elementary School, West Robeson High School (Purnell Swett High School) and received a B.S. degree in Chemistry at Pembroke State University in 1989, where he also received his Air Force R.O.T.C. program. He entered the Air Force in October 1989.

Captain Locklear is the son of Stacy Sr. and Betty C. Locklear.



## Prospect students participate in Special Olympics

Ms. Bonnie Hunt's 7th and 8th grade students, and Mark Murray of the T.M.H. class of Prospect School participated in Special Olympics softball game on April 28, 1995 at Pembroke State University. The Prospect Wildcats defeated the Townsend Eagles. Congratulations!

The Prospect Wildcat softball team members were:

William Locklear, Brandon Locklear, Kevin Locklear, Jamie Jones, James Burton, Steven Dial, Jeffery Locklear, Mark Murray, Amanda Carter, Tonya McGinnis, Raechel Oxendine, Joseph Locklear, Christopher Locklear, Marvin Revels, Fredrick Locklear, Carl Clark and Ashley Brewer.

## WMU to sponsor gospel sing June 30

The WMU of New Prospect Holiness Methodist Church located on highway 710 west of Pembroke will host a singing on June 30, 1995 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The following groups will be participating: The Blood Bought Quartet, The Felix Deal Family, The Liberty Trio, and The Ronald Strickland Family. The singing is free, however, you will have the opportunity to take part in a love offering to help sponsor needy families in the area. You are cordially invited to come enjoy this evening of fellowship with us.

## Vacation Bible School begins at Cherokee Chapel

WHAT: Vacation Bible School  
WHERE: Cherokee Chapel Methodist Church  
WHEN: June 12th thru 16th  
WHO: Everyone is invited. Bring a friend and your Bible.  
TIME: 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

THEMES: Jesus Kids, Totally U.S., and Heros in Service

The church is located between Maxton and Red Springs on HWY 71 in front of Oxendine Elementary School. The Pastor is Julian Ransom. The congregation welcomes everyone.

For more information contact Debbie Chavis at 843-4831.

## US Dept. of Agriculture Student Career Experience Program provides opportunities

The Tobacco Division of the Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture has a "Student Career Experience Program". This program provides students the opportunity to learn the official U.S. standard grades of tobacco and to acquire the basic skills and experience to be employed as a career tobacco grader without competition with applicants outside the Student Program. Due to recent changes in federal regulations, this is the first time that we have been able to offer a high school training program similar to the college intern program.

The program requires students to be at least 16 years of age and to work 640 hours in the program prior to graduation. Selected students will be paid at the GS-1 level, which is about \$6.03 per hour. These students could work full-time for several weeks at tobacco markets near Pembroke prior to school opening in August, and then work the remaining hours during an agreed upon schedule during school time.

Tobacco Division has about 310 grades mainly throughout the southeast where tobacco is produced and marketed. A set (or team) of 3 to 4 graders is assigned to each market. Applicants for career appointments are recruited at the GS-5 level, which has a starting salary of \$10.46 per hour. After attending classroom and on-

the-job training, graders are required to take a proficiency test for each major tobacco type (flue-cured and burley) and attain a score of at least 70 on the tests. After passing the proficiency tests, graders are eligible for promotion to the GS-7 level (\$12.95 per hour), then to GS-9 (\$14.94 per hour).

Graders need a valid state driver's license, a vehicle to travel to assignments, and a good driving record. Employees assigned to markets near their residences can commute daily. Those with assignments that are further distances from home stay in motels in that area and are reimbursed at the approved Government rate for mileage and per diem. (Students will not be given assignments away from home.)

The grading staff works on a "compressed" schedule. Four 9-hour days with Friday off the first week of a pay period, and four 9-hour days plus one 8-hour day the second week. Graders temporarily stationed away from home have the option of returning home on their long weekend.

The tobacco markets open in late July in the flue-cured area and close in February in the burley area. This means that tobacco graders work about 6 months annually. Although this is not year-round employment, many employees benefit from the opportunity to maintain their home residence, and they often have farm activities or other employment during their off

time. Also, because the Government pays mileage and per diem to travelers, most graders find they have more usable income than paying living expenses from their salary. Currently, this Division is in the process of contacting other USDA agencies to determine if there are functions our graders could perform to supplement the employment of those individuals who are interested. Another benefit to graders is that under federal regulations employees who work 6 months or more in a year receive a full year's credit toward retirement.

The Student Career Experience Program is open to all individuals regardless of gender, race, color, national origin, age, disability, political belief, and marital status. For job information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, call 912-757-3000, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) automated telephone system. Or, with a computer modem dial 912-757-3100 for job information from an OPM electronic bulletin board. You can also reach the board through the Internet (Telnet only) at FJOB.MAIL.OPM.GOV.

APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES: You can find out about alternative formats by calling OPM. Select "Federal Employment Topics" and the "People with Disabilities". Or, dial our electronic bulletin board. If you have a hearing disability, call TDD 912-744-2299.