

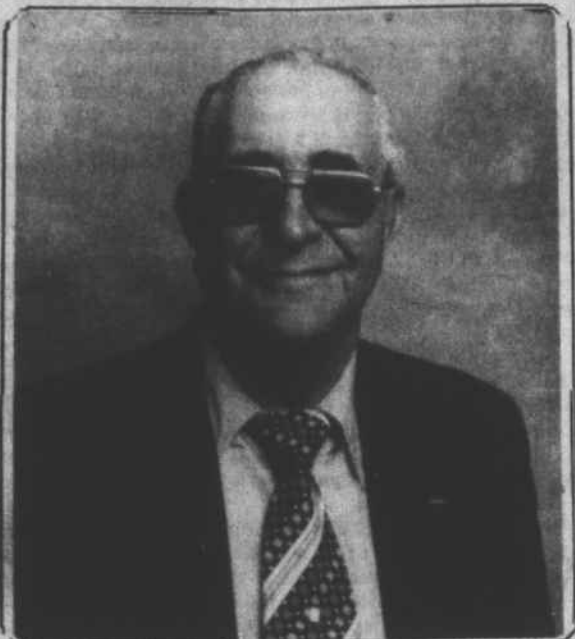
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Timothy Strickland announces re-election bid to LREMC Board



Timothy Strickland, farmer and businessman of Pembroke, has announced his re-election bid to the Board of Directors of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation. He has served eighteen years. In making his announcement, Mr. Strickland released the following statement:

"I am proud of my record as a member of the LREMC Board of Directors. It has not always been an easy task, but I have served faithfully and have made decisions based on what I felt was in the best interests of the cooperative. The EMC is a business, and it must be run as such. We are fortunate to have a good administrator at the helm and his leadership ability coupled with the Board of Directors has resulted in our local cooperative becoming one of the most progressive in the country.

"We have recruited new industry into our service area. We have provided information to our consumers and tried to keep them

informed about our cooperative. We have provided energy saving tips that help consumers keep electric bills within reason. It is unrealistic to think that electric bills will ever come down. Electricity is a necessity and the goal of the EMC is to provide this service to those in the area without undue expense. The local EMC has been extremely successful in the past few years providing service to new industry, houses, churches, farms, and businesses. The stated goal of EMC is to provide affordable, cost-conscious electricity to rural areas. During my tenure on the Board of Directors I am proud of how well we have done our job.

"It is true that we as members of the Board of Directors must safeguard the investment of our consumers, which is the cooperative. Therefore, I have been very conservative in making decisions about how our money is spent. I have tried to make decisions relative to spending cooperative mon-

ies with the same conservative thought that I apply to my own finances. Our cooperative, after all, is no better than we the consumers make it. As member consumers, we all progress together or we all

fail together. I am happy to say that at EMC we are progressing very well and our cooperative is a viable business.

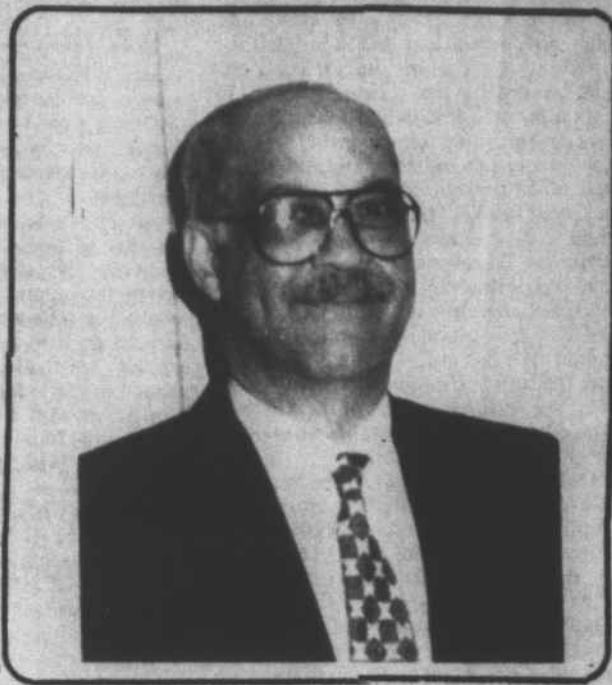
"Our present board of directors work very well together. We go into the board room and discuss issues, and agree on a solution to a problem and come out of the board room, irregardless of the discussion inside, united in our efforts to provide the best possible service to our consumers. We have a general manager who works well with the board and we are happy with the other employees of the co-op. Overall, we have a good staff and they are dedicated to our consumers.

"During my eighteen years as a member of the board of directors, I have dedicated myself to serving the best interests of the total cooperative. I believe that I have performed my duties well. And if I am re-elected as your representative, I commit myself to continuing to operate with the consumers in mind."

The Annual Meeting of the LREMC will be held on Tuesday, October 3 at the PSU Performing Arts Center. Consumers at this time will elect four representatives to the Board of Directors. Registration begins at six o'clock p.m. Mr. Strickland concluded: "In order for your vote to count, you must vote for four. I humbly ask that you make Timothy Strickland one of your four."

Strickland is an active member at New Prospect Holiness Methodist Church where he has held several positions of authority. He and his wife, Ruthie, reside on their farm just outside the Pembroke City Limits, near Harper's Ferry Baptist Church.

Cliff Sampson seeks seat on EMC Board of Directors



Cliff Sampson, Jr., owner and operator of Sampson's Rest Homes is seeking election to the LREMC Board of Directors. In making his announcement, Sampson released the following statement:

"I am a long time businessman in the county. I have operated several successful businesses, among them was Cliff's Package Store in Pembroke. I now own and operate four rest homes in the Philadelphia community. I know what it is to make sound business decisions. I have had business experience and recognize that the LREMC is

a big business and believe that business-minded people should comprise the board of directors. There is no other way for the cooperative to work efficiently and effectively except through sound business practices.

"I am aware also that the business of the cooperative is owned by the members it serves. I believe that the members of our cooperative want representatives who know how to operate a business. They deserve no less. The most effective, cost efficient way to operate a business is to look at an issue,

make decisions based on what works best for the overall cooperative. I am able to do this. I am capable of making business-minded decisions that will result in the most efficient operation of our cooperative.

"I have had formal schooling in our local schools and taken business courses at various colleges and universities. While education is a wonderful commodity, good common sense also plays a major role in the running of any business. To have a successful cooperative, the members of the board of directors must be able to relate to the consumers. They must take action that demonstrates that they are a part of the cooperative. For indeed the board is. We are all a part of the cooperative and our cooperative is no better than we make it.

"I have a desire to serve. I am willing to serve. I am business minded enough to help make sound decisions. I have enough common sense to stay with the issues of the cooperative and not get caught up in personalities or personal agendas. I sincerely seek your vote and support on October 3, 1995. A vote for me is a vote for a business man to represent you on the EMC board."

Sampson and his wife, Madolyn, live near their rest homes in the Philadelphia community. Sampson is the son of the late Clifton Sampson, Sr. and the late Bertha Goins Sampson.

St. Pauls Sailor Makes Rare Visit to Russia



by Jason Chudy

On Board The USS Fife--The Navy offers young men and women a chance to see the world. For Navy Seaman Larry V. Oxendine, the world got a little smaller as he made a rare visit to Vladivostok, Russia, aboard the destroyer USS Fife (DD 991) in July.

During the five-day visit, Oxendine, the 19-year-old son of Betty Oxendine of St. Pauls, had the chance to tour the historic city and Russia's most important Pacific port.

Hundreds of smiling faces greeted Oxendine, a 1994 graduate of St. Pauls High School, and

other Fife Sailors, wherever they went. The city of 700,000 is not used to many visitors -- especially visitors from the US Navy. Vladivostok was closed to both foreigners and non-residents alike from 1956 through 1991. Oxendine is only one of a few hundred Navy personnel to visit the city since the fall of the Soviet Union.

While in Vladivostok, Oxendine celebrated two holidays, the city's 135th anniversary and Independence Day for the United States.

Fife, a Spruance-class destroyer, made the visit to Vladivostok from her homeport of Yokosuka, Japan.

Oxendine and the rest of the 350-man crew on the Fife are an important part of Carrier Group Five, which includes the aircraft carrier USS Independence (CV 62). As part of the Independence Battle Group, the 8,000-ton warship provides anti-submarine, surface and air defense.

Living in Japan and traveling all around Asia is one major benefit of being in the Navy for Oxendine.

"I joined the Navy to see the world and get money for college tuition," said Oxendine, a one-year Navy veteran.

Oxendine is a dock scaman of Fife and performs maintenance on all the ship's surfaces and operates the small auxiliary boats carried on the ship. He finds the job both challenging and professionally rewarding.

"The most rewarding aspect of my job is knowing that my shipmates are counting on me to perform my duties professionally and correctly," said Oxendine.

In August the Fife departed Japan again with the Independence Battle Group for a routine deployment to the Arabian Gulf, where they will participate in Operation Southern Watch. The time at sea will give Oxendine a chance to focus on some of his goals.

"I am looking forward to the adventure of getting familiar with places that other people may not have the opportunity to see," said Oxendine.

After a trip to Vladivostok, it is easy to understand why Oxendine thinks the Navy is a good starting point in life.

"The Navy is a good choice for anyone that wants the satisfaction of being independent and to develop the skills to take charge," said Oxendine.

LRDA designated as entity to receive federal funds on behalf of tribe for 1996

by Connee Brayboy

Lumbee Regional Development Association has been designated as the agency to receive funds on behalf of the Lumbee Tribe. This designation was made in a recent letter to Governor Jim Hunt from the Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. and dated September 13, 1995.

The designation was for receiving the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding for the Lumbee Indians.

The letter says in part: "The issues concerning this funded arise from a question as to which of two entities, the Lumbee Regional Development Association (LRDA) or the Lumbee Cheraw Tribal Government, is the official entity to represent the Lumbee people and receive grants on their behalf. We share your concern that this controversy not stand in the way of providing LIHEAP or CSBG services to the Lumbee people."

"Your letter indicated that you do not have the authority to recognize a tribal government for the tribe. The accompanying advisory opinion from the North Carolina Attorney General's office states that the Commission on Indian Affairs also lacks this authority, and, thus, the resolutions are of no legal effect. You asked that the funds that normally would go to the Lumbee Tribe be held in escrow separately from the State's LIHEAP and CSBG funds until the matter is resolved locally.

"Both the State and Lumbee LIHEAP programs traditionally begin in October. Accordingly, prompt resolution is necessary in order to avoid service disruption. We have an obligation to take timely action on these applications.

"The attorney general's advisory opinion states that the Lumbee Cheraw Tribal Government has not been extended official recognition by the State, and that it has not sought such recognition through the State's established procedures. We, therefore, know of no action by the State or any Federal agency that would suggest the Lumbee Cheraw Tribal Government has status as of this date to receive Federal grants on behalf of the Tribe.

"...In the absence of instructions to the contrary, we plan to rely on the precedent established in prior years to provide funds for FY 1996 to the Lumbee people through LRDA. This action would not be intended in any way to prejudice or influence the ultimate decision on which entity is the legal representative of the Lumbee people. We would expect that matter to be resolved in a permanent fashion before the beginning of the FY 1997 grant cycle."

The issue of tribal government vs LRDA is in litigation at this time. The Tribal Council has filed suit in Robeson County asking a Superior Court Judge to declare that the Constitution of the Lumbee Tribe of Cheraw Indians is the duly adopted organic document of the Lumbee Tribe and the officers elected thereunder are the duly authorized representatives of the Lumbee Tribe, with the exclusive right and responsibility of representing the Lumbee Tribe.

The suit also asks the court to stop LRDA from holding itself out as the Lumbee Tribe, the governing body of the Lumbee Tribe, or the authorized representative of the Lumbee Tribe.

The suit further asks that assets at LRDA be transferred to the tribal council.

Celebration To Hold Downtown Street Festival Sept. 23

The Town of Pembroke will hold a Downtown Street Festival on September 23, 1995 from 6:30 until 9 p.m. as part of its ongoing Centennial Celebration. The Festival will include entertainment, refreshments, and a fireworks display. The "Great DARE Band", sponsored by the Lumberton Police Department, is the featured entertainment.

The event will be held on Main Street in front of the Pembroke Courthouse. The fireworks display will begin at 9:15 p.m. The event will have limited arts and crafts and food vendors. The public is cordially invited to come out and enjoy the evening of festivities. For additional information call Gregory Cummings at (910) 521-8602 or Harry Oxendine at (910) 521-9424.



Hardin Named Teacher of the Year for Deep Branch School

Mr. James Ray Hardin was named the 1995-96 Teacher of the Year for Deep Branch Elementary Montessori School. Mr. Hardin was chosen by his co-workers for his dedication and child centered approach in teaching. He is a fourth grade teacher who is pursuing certification as an elementary Montessori teacher.

Mr. Hardin has been teaching for seven years.

McNeill Joins Interim HealthCare

Timothy L. McNeill has been named Branch Manager and Director of Corporate Development of the Laurinburg office of Interim HealthCare. A native of Robeson County, McNeill holds a Masters degree in Health Policy and Administration from UNC-CH. McNeill's expertise lies in strategic planning, managed care contracting and community health development.

Local realtors to conduct meetings

Want to buy a house but afraid you'll get burned? Attend an informational meeting conducted by local realtors on Thursday, October 26 at Robeson County Library Auditorium, Second Street, Lumberton, NC at 7 p.m. to learn more about pre-home ownership education course soon to be available. To be conducted by local realtors.

A meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 28 at Pembroke Housing Office, Locklear Court, Pembroke, at 7 p.m.

Lumbee Warriors Campaign begins

The Lumbee Warriors Campaign begins tomorrow, Friday, September 22, 1995 with a Fundraising Kickoff Rally. The all day event will be held at Riverside Independent Baptist Church, located four miles West of I-95 on Hwy 74. There will be barbecue and children plates for sale for \$4 or a combination for \$5.

A drawing for a special prize will be held that day. Also a gospel sing and fellowship will be held. While there will attend this rally.