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## Judge Dexter Brooks Announces Candidacy for Re-election as Resident Superior Court Judge



Robeson County Resident Superior Court Judge Dexter Brooks has announced his candidacy for re-election. He was originally appointed by the Governor to the position effective January 1, 1989. In 1990 Judge Brooks was elected without opposition, to the remainder of a full eight-year term. During approximately seven years on the superior court bench, Judge Brooks has presided throughout the state over virtually every type of legal proceeding, including criminal First Degree Murder Death Penalty trials and civil Medical Malpractice actions.

Judge Brooks earned a BS in Electrical Engineering in 1965 and a MS in Mathematics in 1971 from North Carolina State University. He then earned his J.D. or law degree in 1976 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After graduation he was engaged

in the general practice of law in Robeson County for approximately twelve years. In addition to being a member of the North Carolina State Bar he is certified to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Judge Brooks is a member of the American Bar Association, the North Carolina Bar Association and the Robeson County Bar Association. He served as a member of the North Carolina Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, the Board of Directors of the Law Alumni Association of the University of North Carolina and the Selection Committee for the Chancellor's Scholars Program of the School of Law of the University of North Carolina. He was also elected as Vice President of the North Carolina Bar Association. On October 22, 1989, Judge Brooks was honored as "The Tar Heel of the Week" by The News and Observer. Just recently Judge Brooks was featured, along with several other notable alumni, in the Sesquicentennial Edition of the North Carolina Law Review published by the School of Law of the University of North Carolina.

With the retirement of Judge Joe Freeman Britt, if re-elected, Judge Dexter Brooks will become the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Robeson County. The

Senior Resident Judge has significant authority and duties related to the administration of justice. Judge Brooks pledges to cooperate with the District Attorney, Public Defender, Bar Association, Clerk of Court and Sheriff in making the criminal justice system more efficient. With the completion of the renovations to the county courthouse the number of criminal court sessions and the number of judges assigned to the county can be increased. If the length of time criminal defendants spend awaiting trial is shortened, the burden on the taxpayers will be lessened since such defendants will spend less time in jail at public expense. Judge Brooks also pledges to work toward restoring public faith in the criminal justice system by being firm with convicted criminals while keeping an open mind to protect the rights of the innocent. He believes that convicted criminals who are given the benefit of probation should be required to serve the public interest, including cleaning the roadways of unsightly litter through the Adopt-a-Highway Program and participating in the blood and bone marrow donor programs of the American Red Cross. Finally, and most importantly, Judge Brooks supports the proposed amendment to the North Carolina Constitution to protect the rights of victims of crimes. He pledges to seek the implementation of its terms in Robeson whether or not the proposed amendment is ultimately adopted for the state as a whole.



Mr. and Mrs. Benny Sampson

## Mr. Benny Sampson honored for service to Berea Baptist Church

Pembroke—Pembroke resident Benny R. Sampson, has been honored by Berea Baptist Church for his service to the church, school system, and community.

Mr. Sampson who taught in the Pembroke school system for 42 years prior to retiring in 1976, has been a member of the church for 70 years. He served for 36 years as Sunday School Superintendent and was on the Deacon Board for 28 years.

Several of Mr. Sampson's former students presented testimonials at Berea's worship service on November 12. Judge Gary Locklear praised Mr. Sampson as a "giant among men" for his character and dedication and cited Sampson and his wife, Helen, as the two persons who had meant the most to him in his life, other than his own parents.

Dr. James G. Jones of Raleigh, Executive Director of the NC Health Planning Commission and former President of the National Academy of Family Physicians,

thanked Mr. Sampson for helping to prepare him academically and for encouraging him to become a physician. Judge Dexter Brooks and Mrs. Dessie Lowry also praised Mr. Sampson's teaching prowess and thanked him for his influence on their lives.

Other testimonials included ones from Dr. Martin L. Brooks, neighbor of Mr. Sampson, and Mr. James Brewington, a long-time friend, who said that "few have given as much of themselves for as long." Berea Baptist pastor, the Rev. Bruce Swett, noted Mr. Sampson's integrity, dependability and wisdom and narrated a slide presentation on Mr. Sampson's life.

Mr. Sampson was given a commemorative plaque and a luncheon followed in the church fellowship hall. Attendees included the Sampson's daughter, Mrs. Sylvia Sampson Miller of Charlotte, with her husband, Bobby, and son, Todd. The Sampson's also have a son, Selwyn, of St. Pauls, Oregon.

## Financial Aid Workshop planned

A Financial Aid Workshop will be held in the South Robeson Media Center on Monday, January 8, 1996 for parents, junior, and senior students. You are encouraged to attend this informative meeting. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. Financial aid applicants and additional information will be available.

## Donate Your Used or Unwanted Vehicle!

Charlotte—Join the National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina in its drive to save lives. If you have an old or unwanted vehicle, you can donate it to the NKF's Kidney Cars Program. We will tow the vehicle free of charge, and you receive a letter for a tax deduction. The funds raised support programs in research, organ donation, and education programs that can save lives.

Donors must be the owner of the vehicle and the title in their name and it must be clear and free of all liens. Vehicles do not have to be running but must have all parts in tact, and four inflated tires so that it may be towed.

This holiday season, make a donation that will help save lives. Donate your used or unwanted vehicle to the Kidney Cars Program. For more information call 1-800-365-5362.

## Tuscarora Tribal Offices to close for Christmas Holidays

The Tribal Offices of the Tuscarora Tribe of North Carolina, located on the Union Chapel Road, Pembroke, will be closed for the Christmas Holidays. The office will close on Thursday, December 21, 1995 and re-open on Tuesday, January 2, 1996.

The staff and tribal council of the Tuscarora Tribe wish everyone a joyful and peaceful holiday season.

## Pembroke Kiwanis Report

President and Mrs. Bob Lowry hosted the members and their wives and guests with a beautiful "Old fashioned Christmas" Tuesday evening in Rowland. What made it such a fine Christmas party was the newly refurbished fine old home built in 1906 by Mrs. Francis Sue Ward who lived in it for 50 years, taught kindergarten and Sunday School, now residing in Wesley Pines Retirement Home in Lumberton in her 90s. Also co-hosting were Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson, owners of the Rowland Motor Company. We were greeted by a beautiful outstanding Christmas tree in the entrance and soon found out there were six similarly decorated fire places throughout their magnificent high ceilings rooms. And what eats! No liquor. We were served egg nog. And that certainly is the way the man upstairs whose birthday we all are celebrating this time of year wants it.

"Lights in our capitol, our businesses, our homes, and we need to ask ourselves is Christmas in our hearts," so said the Rev. Vardell Swett in his Christmas message. Or is Christmas just another holiday? The roll Christmas plays in our hearts is in joy, in giving presents, in love. So many people do not enjoy all this we see here. Scrooge was not happy until he saw the "light" of the coming of Jesus and indwelling in us.

Another highlight was the singing of Mrs. Ginn Revels, director of the Youth Choir at Berea Baptist Church. Her innovative accompaniment was tapes played by the best in music. She then led group singing by some real good Kiwanians voices many of them are church choir members. The program chairman, Ed Teets with wife Mary Alice, sure can sing. And she plays the piano and is a school principal. She will be back on duty nicely recovering from surgery.

On the way back the Teets dropped me off for Professor Bob Reising and Judy Reising's open house. It was a real nice Christmas get together. Dr. Joe Oxendine and Adrienne, Jim and Elinor Ebert, P. J. Smith and many others were there. I came so late to meet them, regretfully it was just a fine Christmas Tuesday. Thanks to all and to all a good night. The Learning Law of Effect is sure operating at Christmas time again. Great!

## News from Purnell Swett High School

Tim Brooks has been selected as one of the finalists for the Morehead Scholarship Award. He will automatically receive a sum of money to be used at UNC for being chosen as a finalist. Congratulations, Tim.

The Purnell Swett varsity basketball team has regained a top player from last year, Jason Jacobs, who was forced to wait until now to enter the basketball season because of a car accident, has returned to the team. Jason is a bit rusty right now, but everyone is sure that he will regain his skills in time. We are glad to have Jason back and wishing him full recovery soon. Meanwhile the team is 2-3.

Purnell Swett's girls and boys basketball teams are having a good season this year. The ninth grade boys basketball team are 3-0. The girls varsity basketball team are 5-0.

Juniors in Mrs. Yvonne Dial's English class recently completed the novel, *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck. Mrs. Dial arranged for the class to see the production of the novel which was performed at the Cumberland County Regional Theatre. Those students who attended included Phillip Shane Harris, Jackie Hung and Eric Chavis.

Shane Baker, a senior at Purnell Swett high, sang in a talent showcase on television November 4 in Nashville, Tennessee. He sang the original song "Stop Telling Me Lies." The vent was on the Channel American Network E-2, T-D at 7:30 Eastern Standard

Time. The winner of the talent showcase will receive a recording contract.

The SAT can be a very difficult test, but there are several students at Purnell Swett who can high those three zeroes and more.

The students who scored a 1000-plus included the following: Dede Chavis, Jesse Maynor, Nikki Chavis, Shannon Hersberger, Rhiannon Chavis Legerton, Karen Dial, Sarah Locklear, Sabrina Pickens and Adrian Jacobs.

Mrs. Delores Art II and the Art Club celebrated Christmas by decorating the commons area of our school and some teachers' doors. Her Advanced Art II Class made angels, and grape vine wreaths and are selling them.

Senior citizens were honored at Purnell Swett High at a banquet on November 30. The special entertainment was Harper's Ferry Master Quartet Mt. Airy Singing Group, and Mrs. Rosa Pearson, Counselor at Purnell Swett High School. Mr. Bill Brewington, our principal, recognized all local and community seniors and their churches for being present. The banquet was sponsored by Mr. Al Purnell and the Student Government at Purnell Swett High.

Several Purnell Swett associations participated in the Christmas parade on Thursday, December 7. They were the Purnell Swett Band, the ROTC division, the Art Club, Native American Student Association, the JV cheerleaders, Students Against Drunk Driving and the Young Christian Association.



Tim Brooks and Andrea Locklear

## News from Pembroke VFW Post #2843

by Erwin Jacob

On December 11, 1995 the Locklear-Lowry VFW Post #2843 held a ceremony in conjunction with our monthly post meeting. The ceremony was to honor two (2) young men from the two (2) local schools who participated in this year's Voice of Democracy, also to present a life saving award to a gentleman who saved the lives of two (2) local area women in a fatal accident on Memorial weekend near Fairmont, NC on NC 41 and State Road 1101 intersection.

Chaplain Archie Oxendine who has been a spokesperson for the Burnt Swamp Community Voice of Democracy Program introduced the young men to the members and guests present. He also thanked the Post Commander Rev. Hilton Deese for his support of the project. There were 10 high schools where students participated. The two (2) winners names called out were Benjamin Hammonds, a junior at South Robeson High School, Rowland and Howard Cory McGirt, a senior at Purnell Swett High School, Pembroke. He talked briefly about both young men, Benjamin, a South Robeson honor student and NASA club member, plans to enter pre-med at Chapel Hill after graduation. Cory, a senior at Purnell Swett, winner last

year and won again this year. Gold pins were pinned on the two (2) by their mother, Ms. Loreita Lewis and Mrs. Deloris McGirt. Cory's grandmother, Mrs. Katy Collins, was also present. Mr. Hammonds later told me his grandfather, Mr. Stacy Lewis, is a member of the post. The pins read "Voice of Democracy" given by Post #2843.

Cory was judged at a previous date and received the first place winner and Benjamin placed second. The winners were announced after each pinned a gold pin on their mothers. Each was given a check to spend for Christmas in the amount of \$100 each. North Carolina Surgeon Mr. Arthur Schull (past Post Commander) presented a gift from the ladies auxiliary - a school bag with the logo VFW Voice of Democracy. After reading his essay advising young people to turn their lives around and change their styles for the land we love, America, was presented an elaborate trophy with a microphone on top. A pin to both with "Say no to drugs" also was given to each one.

The life saving award was presented to Mr. David Vann. He happened up on the accident and saved the life of two (2) ladies who were pinned in a pickup by a van that crossed in front of them caus-

ing a collision. The van burned and the driver, a passenger escaped but died later in the hospital. One of the ladies was unconscious. Ms. Vickie, and the driver, Mrs. Margaret, had a leg that was pinned and she could not move. After their rescue the truck burned up, also. The accident was an inferno.

The award was awarded by our Post Commander Mr. Deese, directed from the Commander in Chief of North Carolina. Mr. Vann was cited as a hero for his actions. After the presentation, Mr. Vann said he was saved by a young girl's quick thinking several years earlier in an accident on Highway 301 and was passing it on. We are glad that God put him on the scene. The driver, Mrs. Margaret, called him her guardian angel and thanked

the Lord for him being there. Miss Vickie Stone thanked the good lord for seeing another Thanksgiving and being alive. She was in coma for 9 days and is slowly recuperating and able to move with the help of medical aids.

The monthly meeting continued after the guests departed.



Shown left to right: Jackie Hunt, Eric Chavis and Shane Chavis visited Cumberland Regional Theatre to watch the production of "Of Mice and Men."