



Editorial and Opinion Page

Reader believes TV coverage unfair to Farmers in Robeson

Dear Editor:
Thursday night, February 1, 1996, I attended the Robeson County Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet presented by Robeson County Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and Robeson County Crop Promotion Association. Farmers were recognized for their farming and business skills; their devotion to family, community, and church; and their stewardship of the land and environment.

Their pride of accomplishments of family and fellow farmers was felt, if not expressed. It was truly a "Human Relations Celebration," but no TV cameras rolled, they are all at the Courthouse.

Who are these "Media Elite" who determine what is newsworthy? Is it not news that William Dial is Robeson County's Farmer of the Year? That he began his farm career with only a burning desire to succeed; and that he now raises enough chickens to feed 65,000 people (over half of Robeson County)?

Is it not news that the Lawrence and Stefanie Locklear family was selected as our Young Farm Family? That Hayes Brothers Farm and Charles Roberts produced corn in excess of 200 bushels per acre, winning recognition for the county and from the Southeastern Coastal Plains Region? That Gary Powers won one of 5 State Awards from Phillip Morris for tobacco production? And that Charles Jackson, Eddie and Luther Moore, James Brixey, Ricky Rozier

and Talford Dial were recognized by the county and region for high yields per acre for beans and wheat?

Perhaps it isn't newsworthy that Dixon Britt, Jr. was recognized for educational service to agriculture, nor that Larry Chavis was recognized for professional service, nor that Mrs. Ethel Locklear, as President of Extension Homemakers Extension Council, was recognized for her many volunteer activities on behalf of the county.

No, sadly it isn't newsworthy that farmers work long hours, risk financial and physical loss on an annual (sometimes monthly) basis in order for most American families to spend only 11% of their disposable income on food compared to 64% in India.

I feel a little anger at the TV Media for their collective ignorance of the contributions of these farm families, but I feel a greater sadness for them and for people who were denied the opportunity to see and feel Robesonians doing what we do best—working hard, producing much, and giving each other a pat on the back for our accomplishments.

As Dixon Britt, Jr., Agricultural Teacher at Purnell Swett High School said, "Robeson County has a future. I know. I teach our youth." Watching these farmers and emerging young leaders, I wanted to stand and cheer. Yes, Mr. Britt, Robeson County does, indeed, have a future!

Sincerely,

Billie S. Britt,
Lumberton, NC



The Purnell Swett High Booster Club sponsored an appreciation dinner Saturday, January 28 for coaches and supporters of the school's distinct athletics.

Shown left to right are Riley Oxendine, Billy Byrd, Richie McCrimmon, Johnny Hines, Corey Pulley, John Lowery, Harold Locklear, Royce McNeill, Earl Lowry and Hubert Ellis.



Hypnotist Jim Wandm center, visited Purnell Swett High School with his amazing performance January 24. Shown left is Bill James Brewington, Principal. Shown right is Al Parnell, social studies teacher and student council director.



Shown left to right: John Hodges, social studies teacher at Purnell Swett High, and the Living History Club perform "Remembering the 60s" at Carolina Civic Center January 25-28.

"Vote and Elect"
Tuesday, May 5, 1996

Robert C. ANDERSON
US CONGRESS
"God Bless America"
America Needs
Political, Economic, Moral & Ethical
Renewal
America Needs Robert C. Anderson
Education
BA, Political Science
Masters of Public Service
Experience
Vietnam Veteran, Distinguished Combat
Record, Successful Small Business Entrepreneur
A Proven Winner Who Will Fight For The People
Elect Robert C. Anderson AGAIN!

Health Clip Board

by Robert M. Chavis

I Am Itching

Well, we sure are having some good cold and freezing winter weather. This is good to kill back the insect population but it can cause you to have dry, itching skin. The medical term for itching is pruritus. Some of my patients have been reporting that they are itching lately.

Dry skin is one cause for itching. Most of the time there is no rash seem with the dry skin type itch from weather like dry air. If the weather is too humid some people have dry skin. Our elder people are subject to have this problem in the wintertime. Stress and emotional problems can make you have itching of the skin also. People of all ages having to deal with depression, anxiety and other emotional stress issues get itching spells.

Drug reactions also cause itching. This type itching may not start until several days after starting medication. Sometimes your body will react to a medicine you have been taking for a long time. Other allergies like the ones that make your eyes water or make you have a runny nose, produce itching and sometimes a rash.

Eczema is a skin condition that causes you to be itchy and may produce a red rash and blisters on the skin. These blisters can break open and weep fluid. After this a crusted area is formed where the blister formed. Eczema will form after episodes of allergic skin conditions, or after poison ivy. Some people are allergic to different types of metal in the jewelry they wear.

Itching is caused by infections of the skin also. Examples of these are ringworm, a fungal infection, athlete's foot and vaginitis. These are fungal or yeast type infections. Other infections include Chicken Pox and the shingles, that is formally called Herpes Zoster, a viral infection. This is not the sexually transmitted type herpes.

Bug bites and infestations by parasites producing itching of the skin. Insects injection, a type of venom under the skin that causes the itching. Some bugs have saliva that causes the itching. Parasites generally live under the skin and this causes itching. Examples of these bugs and parasites are Scabies, Pubic Lice and head lice are some of these creatures.

Itching sometimes may come from serious internal diseases of the body. Some examples are thyroid problems, leukemia, kidney disease, lymphoma. Bile duct obstruction that causes jaundice (yellow color of the skin). These are just a few of the internal disease that cause itching.

What to do about itching? If you know you have a drug allergy make sure your medical provider knows this information and other medical personnel that may treat you with medicines. When you wash, take a bath instead of a shower. Soaking in the tub in lukewarm water keeps your skin moist. Apply moisturizing cream or lotions on the skin that contain 1-percent urea. When buying cosmetics, make sure they are the moisturizing type. Do not use the

arying or astringent agents on your skin. Do not over heat your skin. People with dry skin should use a moist air vaporizer in the home. Use lotions or ointments that decrease the itching sensation to avoid scratching the skin, which makes it easy for infections to start. Coal tar products help you in this way. If you know you are allergic to something, try to avoid contact with it. You should carry an emergency insect sting kit with you during outdoor activities. Shock and death can occur in minutes if the proper treatment is not given someone allergic to insect bites. People that suffer from allergies can go for allergy testing. This helps identify the agent you are allergic to and then shots can be given for control of the allergies. I hope this article provides information about your itching problem.
God bless you and yours.

Thank You for Caring

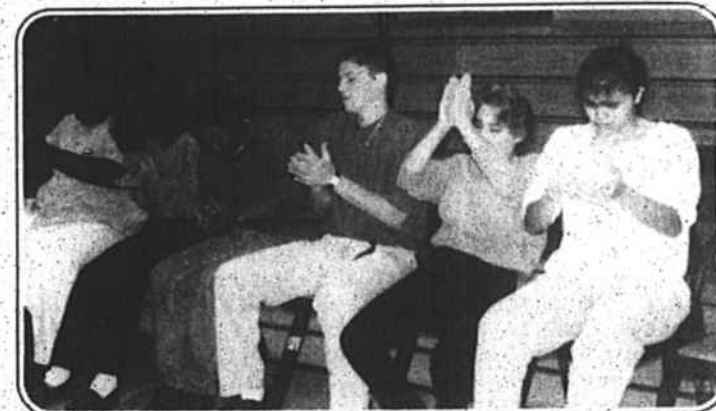


On January 19, 1996, we lost our son, Matthew Jones. No one can know the heartache of losing a son, unless they have lost one. There is nothing to compare to the pain and heartache of losing a child. We are stronger in our faith in our blessed Jesus Christ after going through this tragic loss. We have learned, through you, his instruments, what caring and compassion means. We are grateful to the many people who came over, brought food, condolences, monetary contributions, and the many kindnesses extended to us. We can not express with words how much each deed means to us. We are grateful and pray that God will richly bless each of you. We solicit your continued prayers as we learn to live with our loss.

We are especially thankful for the pastors who assisted with the funeral services. Our sincere appreciation to Rev. James M. Locklear, Rev. John L. Locklear, Jr., Rev. van Jones, and Rev. Michael Cummings. You have truly been a testament to the love demonstrated by Jesus Christ. Thank you and remember us in prayer, nothing other than the grace of God will sustain us in these dark days.

Matthew was born June 7, 1975. He was with us for only a short time. But he was a joy and a light in our lives.

His parents,
Mrs. Donald and Mrs. Hlene Locklear
his sister, Donna Lynn Locklear



Hypnotist Jim Wand has Purnell Swett students under his spell.

Thank you for Caring

We, the children of Lorraine Burnette Brooks, Helen, Bucky and Valina, extend our sincere appreciation for the kindness expressed by family and friends during the loss of our dear mother. Your delicious food, your beautiful flowers, and your loving support will always be cherished. Thank you so much.



Hi, My name is Kevin Campbell. I'm a Senior at South Robeson High School. In November I was diagnosed with a fatal blood Disease. My Doctor has told me my only chance of survival is through a Marrow Transplant. Bio-medical research has determined that a match is more likely to come from your own ethnic background. Because I am a native american I am more apt to match another native american's.

You May Be The One To Save My Life, or Someone Else's.

Tissue typing will be held at the following high schools on these dates:
Feb. 13- South Robeson High
Feb. 14-Purnell Swett High
Feb. 15-Lumberton High
Feb. 16-St. Pauls High
Feb. 20-Fairmont High
Feb. 21-Red Springs High

Hours of testing at each school will be from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. students, parents and community are encouraged to attend and participate.

Kevin's life may depend on it!

WE WOULD LIKE ALL MINORITIES BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 60 TO COME BE TESTED.