

# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Published each Thursday by First American Publications, Pembroke, NC

VOLUME

R 47

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1996

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## Kristi Elena Woods, Lumbee Woman: Medicine Woman



by Barbara Braveboy-Locklear  
Special to Carolina Indian Voice

When Kristi Elena Woods, 24, was in the third grade in elementary school she knew back then she would study medicine as an adult and become a physician. The Lumbee woman says there was no particular event in her early life which influenced her to become a doctor other than the fact her mother, the former Elowyn Brayboy, is a registered nurse. When Woods's parents moved from Oxford in Granville County back to their native Robeson County, she enrolled at Pembroke Elementary School and never lost sight of

her goal of becoming a medical professional. In addition to her parents, she got help from a lot of good teachers. Among them was the late Lynn Johnson Bowen, Woods's fourth and fifth grade teacher at the elementary school.

"She really made us think as students. At the time I hated her academic assignments which required us to compare and contrast," Woods says of her beloved teacher who died in an automobile accident when the student was in Bowen's fifth-grade class. "But today I really appreciate all she made me do and draw on many of the study skills she taught me," Woods continues.

Woods excelled, and honors followed her through junior high school where she was a Beta Club member. At age 14, she was area spelling champion and became one of two North Carolina finalists to participate in the National Spelling Bee Championship held in Washington, D.C. After completing 10th grade at West Robeson Senior High School, she entered the North Carolina School of Science and Math in Durham from where she graduated in 1990.

Woods earned her undergraduate degree from Duke University, her mother's alma mater. There the aspiring physician dove into pre-med studies and says one course in particular caused fleeting thoughts of becoming a high school teacher in-

stead of a doctor. "Organic chemistry was by far the hardest course I took in undergraduate school. It was awful," she comments.

In the summer of her third year at Duke University, Woods participated in the Medical Educational Development Program (MED) wherein she studied medicine over a 9-week period at UNC School of Medicine. The summer before, Woods participated in the Duke In Paris Program which afforded her a 6-weeks stay in Paris, France. The Biology/French major says the experience allowed her an opportunity to study French culture firsthand. A Dean's List student, she was graduated from Duke in 1994.

"I was scared to death before I ever got there," Woods says of entering the School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "I'd heard that the curriculum was so difficult that there would be no time for anything other than academics," she continues. The third year medical student says she spent a lot of time her first semester trying to figure out how things worked...how they go wrong and the second semester forgetting all details and remembering concepts. Holiday visits home to Pembroke provided much-welcomed respites from her demanding schedule during this academic period. The summer following her first year of medical study found Woods

as a medical assistant in the MED program.

She says her second year of medical school was not quite as difficult because she learned new methods of study which enabled her to grasp increasingly difficult scholastic materials.

Now in her third year, she must soon decide an area of specialty. She recently completed a surgery rotation and really likes the area of medicine. "In surgery you can see immediate results. Knowing you can fix something is very gratifying," she comments.

The Lumbee woman says she'd like to return to her ancestral land to practice medicine in a private practice if her specialty is one which Robeson County can support. "If I fall in love with trauma surgery, then I probably would not come back home," she laments.

"When Indian people go away and get special training and don't return to their homeland to give service, then the problem is compounded. If we choose not to help, it becomes a drain on the area," she debates.

Woods spent six weeks this summer in Robeson County where she worked with Dr. Joseph Roberts in his Lumberton family practice.

Woods is the daughter of Murphy and Elowyn Brayboy Woods of Pembroke.



Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Club celebrated BPW Week October 20-26. Several members were honored for their leadership. They included Rose Marie Lowry-Townsend, Co-Principal of Pembroke Middle School and former NCAE President; Vicki Locklear, newly elected Register of Deeds; Glenna Hicks, NACE-RAE president; and Dorothy Blue, former teacher and former BPW president.

Shown left to right: BPW President Yvonne Barnes Dial, Rose Marie Lowry Townsend, Vicki Locklear, and Glenna Hicks.

### Business and Professional Women's Club Celebrate BPW Week

by Yvonne Barnes Dial

The Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Club celebrated BPW week October 20-26 with a special program, providing food for senior citizens and a dance.

Sunday began the week as members attended Prospect United Methodist Church for worship service. Monday, the club held its monthly meeting with District V Director, Charlene Phillips, as guest speaker. Mrs. Phillips shared the philosophies and the many means of reaching out and providing fund to many who are in need.

Several presentations were presented. Dorothy Blue was honored as Woman of the Year. Glenna Hicks, NCAE-RAE president, Vicki Locklear, Register of Deeds, and Rose Marie Lowry Townsend, Co-Principal of Pembroke Middle School, also received awards as outstanding women of the club.

Wednesday, cake and ice cream were served to senior citizens at Maynor Manor. A breakfast and devotion at Linda's Restaurant began the final events for the week on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. a dance was held at the Pembroke Jaycee Hut with Ricky

Lowry serving as D.J. various businesses sponsored one half hour and hour time slots as music was played during these specific time frames.

Scholarships to improve and enhance educational development for women will be provided to selected women from special fund-raisers organized by the Pembroke BPW.

November 4 the Club met again with a special program on self defense for women. Johnnie Woodell, a karate instructor, was the special guest who presented and demonstrated simple and basic steps women may use to defend themselves if they are in danger.

MR. Woodell as assisted by two of his students, Matthew Dial and Blake Bullard who demonstrated various defense techniques.

Some practical and basic defense acts included striking the attacker on their shin, grabbing forcefully in the face with a pointed key, forceful pulls of the thumb, stamp of the foot with heel upon attacker's foot, jab in the ribs, thrust at lower section of attacker's neck with a pointed finger, and pulling of the ear, hitting upon bony portions of hands, and wrists, or a hit between the eyes.

### Gwen Dial Locklear Seeks Seat on LRDA Board



Gwen Dial Locklear of Hoke County has announced her intention to seek a seat on the LRDA Board of Directors, representing the newly created district of Hoke and Scotland Counties. The election will be held Thursday, December 5 and voting will be by enrolled members of the tribe only.

Locklear has a degree as a Paralegal Specialist which she obtained from Horry-Georgetown Technical College in Conway, SC. She has also attended Robeson Technical College where she studied Secretarial Science.

She has served in various capacities, including employment with the North Carolina Indian Housing Authority as a Crime Prevention Secretary. She worked part time for Hudson, Lawson & Gwin PA at Myrtle Beach, SC as a paralegal and has been employed with Hayes/Schmitt and Jordan Court Reporters and Counselors' Chambers in Conway, SC, as well as serving as clerical

assistant at Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Conway, SC.

A native of Hoke County, Locklear has long been active in community and civic affairs there. She serves as Secretary at Mt. Elim Baptist Church and teaches Sunday School there. She also serves there as Education Coordinator.

In addition to her church duties, Locklear serves as Secretary to the Hoke County Native Americans. She has served as a volunteer for all Native Americans in Hoke and Scotland counties, assisting them with any legal matters as much as the state of North Carolina allows under the General Statutes.

She is an Indian Advocate and Activist for Federal recognition, equality for students at the high school level, civil rights of all Lumbees and other Native Americans. She is concerned also about Senior Citizens, assisting them with receiving social service entitlements, housing, medical and physical needs.

In making her announcements, Locklear released the following statement: "I have always been an advocate for Indian people, with special emphasis on Hoke and Scotland counties. Sometimes, it seems, that we are left out of services and other entitlements because we reside outside of Robeson.

"I was happy to see LRDA open their board districts to include Hoke and Scotland counties. If elected to their board, I will represent the district in particular, and Indians in general, to the best of my ability.

### Christmas Musical set at Mt. Olive

Reverend Oris Hubbard and the Interdenominational Mass Choir under the direction of Mrs. Janice L. Bryant, cordially invites you to attend *The Colors of Christmas* by Derric Johnson on Sunday, December 1, 1996 at 6:00 p.m. at Mount Olive Pentecostal Holiness Church located on College Road in Pembroke, NC.

### Public Speaking on Health Issues

Available for public speaking on subjects such as Breast Self-Examination, Hypertension, and management of Diabetic complications to include diabetic foot care. If interested in a presentation, please call 910-609-6827 to schedule (Cape Fear Valley Health Systems, Inc.). Can present at churches, business meetings, schools, senior facilities etc., there is no charge.

### Pembroke First Church Selects Lay Leader

Every church possesses those members who unselfishly give their time and talents with a heart of love and sincerity.

Pembroke First United Methodist Church recently selected Mrs. Dollie Lowry as lay leader.

Mrs. Lowry has served on several committees and is presently serving on the pastor-pastor relations committee, church historian, and on the family ministries council. She is active in United Methodist group, supports the children and youth and provides guidance and support to the younger and newer women of the church.

### Fairgrove classes plan reunion

Fairgrove classes of 1950's thru 1960's are planning a trip to Disney World, in February 1997. For more information call or write to:

Lena H. Oxendine  
205 Sunnyvale Dr.  
Wilmington, N.C. 28412  
(910) 799-1195

### "The Buck Stops Here!" to be Presented

The electrifying, spirit filled, life changing, Gospel play "The Buck Stops Here!" will be in performance at Sandhills Youth Center on Hwy 20 in McCain, NC West of Raeford, NC. This performance will begin at 6:30 pm on Nov. 24 admission is free. For more information or booking call 910-865-5252 or Glenn Sutton 910-424-8713.

Come and you will be blessed.



Tawnda is the daughter of Jane Jones Thompson and Herbert Jr. Thompson of Hubert, NC. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones of Maxton, NC and the late Mary Bell Dial Jones.

She is a junior at Swansboro High School and plans to attend college to pursue a degree in law and psychology.

## Looking Back....



This is the Senior Class of Prospect United Methodist Church taken during the late 1970s. Shown left to right, seated, are: Mr. Rand Bullard, Mr. Mack Bullard, Ms. Rency Barton, Ms. Eunice Bullard Locklear, Ms. Mary Ellen Brayboy; standing left to right: Ms. Magnolia Locklear, Ms. Charlotte Jacobs, Ms. Emma J. Moore Bullard; Ms. Marie Sampson Moore; and Mr. Oakwind Brooks. Mr. Rand Bullard served as teacher of that class.

## Tawnda Thompson Attends National Young Leaders Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Miss Tawnda Thompson of Hubert has been selected to attend "The National Young Leaders Conference" from October 29 to November 3, 1996, in Washington D.C. The National Young Leaders Conference is a unique leadership development program for high school students who have demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic merit. Tawnda, a Junior at Swansboro High School will be among 350 outstanding National Scholars attending the conference from across America.

The theme of the National Young Leaders Conference is "The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today". Throughout the six-day conference, Tawnda will interact with key leaders and news makers from the three branches of government, the media and the diplomatic corps. Highlights of the program include welcoming remarks from the Floor of the United States House of Representatives

and a panel discussion with prominent journalists at the National Press Club. Scholars will visit foreign embassies and receive policy briefings from senior government officials. Tawnda may also meet with her Senators and Representatives or an appointed member of their staff to discuss important issues facing Hubert and the nation.

To complement these special meetings and briefings, Tawnda will participate in a number of leadership skill-building activities. In one activity, "If I Were President", students role-play the President, members of the Cabinet and representatives form Capitol Hill who must respond to an international crisis involving Russia. Culminating the National Young Leaders Conference is the "Model Congress", in which Scholars assume the roles of United States Representatives by debating, amending and voting on proposed legislation for an official language

and immigration reform.

The National Young Leaders Conference is sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization. Founded in 1985, the Council is committed to "fostering and inspiring young people to achieve their full leadership potential." Over 375 Members of the United States Congress join this commitment as members of the Council's Honorary Congressional Board of Advisors. Each year, only 7,000 outstanding youth nationwide may participate in the 20 sessions of the National Young Leaders Conference.

"The conference provides the opportunity for students, like Tawnda, to distinguish themselves as tomorrow's leaders," said John Hines, Council Executive Director. "Scholars not only gain knowledge and experience in the nation's capital, they leave with a sense of accomplishment and as increased ability to face the challenges of the future."