

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Pembroke Businessman Bernard Lowry Dies



Pembroke businessman, Mr. Bernard Franklin Lowry died after an extended illness at the age of 84 on Sunday. Mr. Lowry was born July 21, 1912. He was the son of the late Abner and Rose Lowry. He was the ninth child in a family of 16 children. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lillie Mae Strickland Lowry, two

sons, Gerald and Gary Lowry, a granddaughter, Donnette Rose Lowry and eight brothers and sister.

Mr. Lowry was a retired principal and teacher from the Robeson County School System. He was a former Magistrate for the town of Pembroke, a retired farmer and a businessman. He was also an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Pembroke where he taught Sunday School for many years.

Mr. Lowry was a civic minded citizen. He was very active in the Boy Scouts organization for many years. He was a member of the Pembroke Kiwanis and held the position of president and Lieutenant Governor of that organization.

Among Mr. Lowry's business ventures was owning and operating the College Exxon for many years. He also owned the College Plaza, across from UNCP, and other rental properties.

A grave side service was held at Hopewell Methodist Church at 2 P.M. on Tuesday. He is survived by his son, Bernard F. "Bob" Lowry, Jr. of Rowland; two daughters, Joan Lowry of Pembroke and Lillian R. Strickland of Raleigh; two brothers, Jason Lowry and Theodore Lowry; four sisters, Lula Yearicks, Prebble Oxendine, Eunice Young and Bernice Lowry Webb, 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



Shown above is Little Miss Lumbee Angelica Marie Chavis with Rep. Ronnie Sutton. The queen joined Rep. Sutton at the Open House of his new law office on the Union Chapel Road, Pembroke. She presented him an engraved paper weight for his excellent representation of his constituents and for his support of a traffic light at the intersection near Purnell Swett High School. Angelica wanted to commend Rep. Sutton for his interest in the safety of Robeson County school children. Angelica is a student at Union Chapel School where she is involved in the academically gifted program under Ms. Wanda Acquire's supervision.

Literary Contest to be Part of Indian Unity Conference

In conjunction with the NC Indian Unity Conference, United Tribes of North Carolina, Inc. is sponsoring a literary contest. Essays and poetry pieces before being published, which examine elements of interest to native American culture, specifically those which address the conference theme, "10,000 Years, the Stories Continue in Unity," may be submitted to: United Tribes, Inc. Literary Contest % P O Box 1265, Lumberton, NC 28359.

Contest Guidelines: Open to any Native American living in North Carolina or any member of a North Carolina Indian tribe. Judging will be done in two age groups: 17 and under and 18 and older.

Entries may be made in both categories: Essay (up to 2000 words) and poetry (prose-up to 30 lines)

two copies of the manuscript must be typed (essays) are to be double spaced.

Category, word count (essay) or line count (poetry), name, address, phone number and tribal affiliation must appear on the cover sheet ONLY.

We regret that manuscripts cannot be returned.

A first place prize of 450 and an Honorable Mention will be awarded each age group and each category. Native ribbons, an opportunity and prize winning piece at the conference and publication in the 1998 NC Indian Unity Conference program to the winners.

Winners and awards will be announced at the Saturday Morning General Assembly of the Conference, March 15, in Fayetteville.

Deadline for entries is March 5, 1997.

"Circle of Life" Project

by Elvera Locklear

The purpose of the Circle of Life Project is to honor the Lumbee Indians by making a sneaker with the name "Lumbee" on it and to benefit the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center, while helping everyone in Robeson County.

A community meeting was held January 30, 1997 at the Pembroke Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit feedback from local citizens on this project. The feedback at the meeting was positive.

The Shoe Design was the brain child of Harold Collins, a world-renowned power lifter, Gene Schmitz, a product developer for Converse, Elvera Locklear, teacher and Vice-Chair of the project and Roger Willie, artist.

There will be only 200 pairs of the commemorative "Lumbee Shoe" made. The Commemorative shoe will be auctioned off April 5, 1997 at the "World Record Breaking Events" to be held at the N.C. Indian Cultural Center. This shoe is not to be worn.

Plans are to make a low-cut oxford, leather, white sneaker with an Indian design along with the high top, brown, buck-suede with turquoise trim sneaker with "Lumbee" on the side, which is similar to the commemorative shoe shown at the community meeting. These shoes will be sold to the public for actual wear-

ing. Shoes will be on sale on or before Lumbee Homecoming in July. These sneakers will be produced by Converse, Inc. in their Lumberton plant.

The Converse officials are excited about this project. It gives them a change to give back to the county in which they have operated for the past 31 years.

We think that it is only right that Converse have the opportunity to produce this line of Native American shoes since they were the main industry that paved the way for many Native Americans to leave the cotton and tobacco fields and enter light industry.

We have not held an official press conference yet to unveil the final products. The pair of shoes shown at the community meeting was as a sample made to give a general idea of how the final product would appear. As a result of the input which came from the citizens at the community meeting, there will be several small adjustments made to the shoe.

It was said by some on lookers that "the shoe has the look of a moccasin but it will wear like a sneaker."

For information on how you can place an order to the "Lumbee" sneaker, contact Harold Collins at 910-521-8339, or Elvera Locklear at 910-521-9500. Circle of Life Project, P.O. Box 2520, Pembroke, NC 28372. Fax # 910-521-1562.

Native American Writers Visit UNCP



Shown above are Dr. Stan Knick, Director of the UNCP Native American Resource Center, Dr. Kimberly Blaeser and Dr. Linda Oxendine, Chairman of the UNCP Department of Native American Studies.

Wouaka was a Paiute Medicine Man who was envisioned with a dance, men and women dancing in circle, that would cause the re-establishment of olden Native American culture and life. Relatives, friends and fabled leaders would come back to life and the vanishing buffalo would once again re-appear. The western Native American life style would once again flourish that had been so devastated in the 1800s.

Dr. Kimberly Blaeser in her lecture at the Native American Resource Center recently seemed to draw a likeness between the visions of Wouaka and the efforts of modern day Indian poets and writers to keep Native American culture alive. By keeping the culture alive, these efforts will be keeping a people alive, a people wanting to live and native to this land.

Like Wouaka however the survival of Indian culture is co-dependent on the English language. Wouaka was able to communicate across tribal lines by using a common language that many Indian had learned to speak; English either from their boarding school experiences or other contacts with English speaking people.

Dr. Kimberly Blaeser and other Native American poets and writers are keeping present day Indian culture alive by the retelling of our stories and legends and the expression of our feelings and insights for today as they put pen to paper or key board to printout. She is an excellent reader also and her lecture reading was much enjoyed and well received. We are looking forward to hearing more from her and other contemporary Native American poets and writers.



To celebrate Black History Month Mrs. Frances M. Cummings was invited to Rowland Normant by the Cafeteria staff. She came out and had lunch on Feb. 4. Mrs. Cummings is a former member of the NC House of Representatives and also a former high school teacher of PSRC. She spoke encouraging words to the students. Mrs. Head's fourth grade class sang the song "Following the Drinking Gourd." Alfred Howard introduced the song and sang with the group. Also celebrated in the cafeteria was the 100th Day of School. Students who had been given the number 100 received free gifts. Mrs. Cummings is shown above.



January was National Oatmeal Month and also National Soup Month. A taste test of Peach Cobbler with oats was done in third grade and with staff. A vegetable soup taste test was done in Mrs. Britt's kindergarten class. Both taste tests won the hearts of students. Shown with Mrs. Britt's class is Margaret Stephens, Cafeteria Manager and Miss Gwen Govan, assistant teacher.

Pembroke Kiwanis Report

The weekly meeting was held Tuesday evening at the Town and Country Restaurant with Furnie Lambert presiding.

Program Chairman Vardell Swett presented a folk singer, good joke teller, exceptional professional hill billy character, father of five, excellent salesman in selling his tapes which he describes as full time work for making a living and a truly grass roots entertainer. He has hopes of directing musicals, his style of singing, actin and performing as he did for many years with "Strike at the Wind." Carnell Locklear was the man of the hour. He has exceptional talent for performing. We wish him continued success. We sure enjoyed his singing and performing.

Members of the Clinton Kiwanis were visitors, including Lady Kiwanian Ann Butler. Also Charlie Gainey, Jeff Swartz, Clyde Locklear

and Ken Sutton.

Dr. Rimberg's guests were Elaine Nance of the North Carolina High School Social Studies group and Bernese Branch, both interested in some day seeing in North Carolina school of Social Studies started by Dr. John Rimberg. Also Rex P Altmore formerly of Ohio now residing in Pembroke visited us.

President Lambert gave tribute to Kiwanian Bernard Lowry who passed away this week. Bernard was very active in Kiwanis having served as president and Lt. Governor of the Seventh Carolinas District. President Bob Lowry, Bernard's son and past 1995 Pembroke Kiwanis President, expressed his thanks for the lovely Kiwanis flowers. We all will miss him as we have for several years because of illness.

Invocation-Garth Locklear. Song leader-Ed Teets. Reporter-Ken Johnson.

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Carla and Redemption

The Perry Sisters and Carla and Redemption will join members of New Point Baptist Church on Highway 41, Lumberton on Saturday, March 8, at 7 p.m. for a gospel singing. There will also be a barbecue and chicken plate sale all day that day. Plates will be on sale for \$5.00

Also performing will be Community Quartet, Shannon Assembly Choir and others. The public is cordially invited to come early and eat supper, come expecting a blessing. A love offering will be received to benefit the Jubilee Gospel Auditorium.



The Perry Sisters