



The Word on Washington

Congressman
Mike McIntyre

With the opening today of a new congressional office here in Lumberton, Robeson County has the opportunity to enjoy direct contact with our staff with regard to Social Security, Veteran's benefits, problems with the IRS and other matters related to the federal government.

Robeson County, which has too often gotten the short end of the stick, now has a direct voice to Washington. This office will also serve the more rural areas of our district and becomes the third office we have opened, joining the Fayetteville and Wilmington offices which are on either end of the district. The opening of this office helps us continue the pledge I made to bring Washington to you.

Women's health issues

Did you know that American women in 1900 could expect to live only about 49 years, but today a woman's life expectancy is around 79 years — seven years longer than that of men?

If we look at this statistic little deeper, however, we realize that although women might be living longer, there are still important issues in women's health that we must address as a nation. This month is Women's History Month, and as we consider the contributions of women to our society, we should be mindful of the issues that are critical to women's health.

For example, every three minutes a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer, and every 12 minutes another woman dies from the disease. Alarming, the combination of poor diet and lack of exercise contribute to killing 300,000 women every year. Although fewer minority women get breast cancer, their death rate is higher than white women. In addition to these daunting facts, we now see that better health for women requires more research and medical assistance for women. A recent conference here in Washington called "Healthy Women 2000" underscored this.

Hearing this news made me recall the words of an English writer, who once wrote, "Look to your health, and if you have it, praise God, and value it next to a good conscience."

We must not give up hope that American women can enjoy a better quality of life. There are reasons to be optimistic.

Our local, state, and federal governments must be committed to

making sure that women are included in research studies, that funding for women's health concerns is reinforced, that better education gets to more women, and finally, that women have increased access to health care services. If — as a country — we can accomplish these things, we can help guarantee a healthier future for the women of today as we enter the 21st century.

Here in Washington, the Congress is getting this message loud and clear. In fact, despite the fact that this Congress has been in session for only three months, I have already cosponsored several bills that help accomplish our goals of better health for more women. One of the bills, the Reconstructive Breast Surgery Benefits Act, requires insurance companies that cover mastectomies to cover breast reconstruction after cancer surgery. Another bill, the Medicare Mammography Enhancement Act, allows Medicare to pay for mammograms every year for women over 64. This small change could save literally tens of thousands of lives every year. Lastly, the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act includes a plan to provide a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissection as well as coverage for reconstructive surgery and second medical opinions. These bills are good examples of government doing what it can to protect and serve the public in ways that make common sense.

We must realize, however, that behavior and lifestyle choices cause most deaths. Therefore, I need you to work with me in ensuring that women across Southeastern North Carolina have the opportunity to make the best decisions for their lives and families. I am working in Washington to help lower the death rate by providing women of all ages with the tools and knowledge they need to live long and healthy lives.

If you want to get more involved in women's health issues or want to learn more about the legislation currently being considered, please do not hesitate to contact one of my offices.

Remember, our families and communities will never be strong without improving the health of women. And our commitment to the well-being of the women of our district is unflinching.

Mike McIntyre is the 7th Congressional District's Representative to the United States Congress. He

can be reached at 202-225-2731, 910-323-0260, 910-671-6223, or 910-815-4959. Congressman McIntyre's Internet address is <http://www.house.gov/>

wanted
Adopters for Wild Horses and Burros
call 1-800-417-9647
A public service of this publication

Reflections
by Alta Nye Oxendine

Lying: A Way of Life
Here is a continuation of the article on "Desperation"

I have a sweet, kind friend who grew up in a communist country and has been, I am sure, a member of the Communist Party. I dearly love her. I do not believe she would ever want to do ANYTHING to HURT another human being.

But, for communist leaders, sooner or later LYING seems to be become a way of life. Without lying and using other forms of deception, how could communism possibly have succeeded in taking control of one nation after another throughout the 20th century?

Being Naive

I did not used to believe this. For most of my life I was a pacifist. I had spent my high school years (from December 1941, until May, 1945) hating the fact that we were fighting in a world war. When Kirby Page (no relation to my family) visited the college of Emporia in Kansas in the late 40s, I was excited!

He told us students that all America needed to do to create peace with Russia was to set the Christian example by disarming first. (I still remember how he drew an illustration of an armed man causing the entire community to take up arms in self-defense. I was so sold on this idea of disarming and causing the other superpower (our recent ally) to do the same, that I did all I could to convince other students to support this idea. It did not occur to me then that aggressive nations like Lenin and Stalin's Russia, Hitler's German, and Hirohito's Japan had caused our country to build up our Army and our arms (including the atomic bomb).

My first two years in college were spent at the University of Montana in Missoula. My sophomore year I started majoring in sociology. Through a classroom debate my major professor, an important "authority figure" in my life, had convinced me that communism was really a lot like Christianity. At the time I was also impressed to supply by the fact that he was thoughtful enough to supply us with all the source materials we needed to prepare for our side of the debate.

However, in the early 80s, I happened to mention that same sociology professor to a distant cousin who had taught economics in the same department.

"He made a simple comment about God," I told my cousin. It made me feel uneasy. By the next year I was in a state of confusion and depression asking myself over and over, "Did God make us? Or did we just make up the idea of God?"

(Ironically, by then I was minor-ing in religious education at the Presbyterian College of Emporia).

"Oh!" my cousin explained, "Paul was an avowed member of the Communist Party!" (Apparently he shared his "party" allegiance with fellow professors while keeping students in the dark.)

Although I had blamed Professor Paul for pushing me toward agnosticism, I had never once linked him to communism!

Ignorance?

Most of our present government leaders must be as naive and trusting as I used to be. Otherwise, why would people prominent in China's communist system, be allowed such frequent access to the White House?

Why didn't our current administration realize that the Chinese government (like any other Marxist-Leninist government) is still interested in using every possible method to buy influence in the U.S. Government—even though it has been experimenting with capitalism for several years?

Apparently a lot of otherwise intelligent people are unable to see that communism is still very much alive after all.

Cold War

Even though each of our last three presidents has declared that the Cold War is over, I am not convinced.

Springtime and Easter

Last Sunday as I marvelled once again at the cheerful colors and delicate, artistic petals and the azaleas in my front yard, I realized that Spring had come to us here this year just in time for Palm Sunday and Easter. Each year both spring and the Easter season give us a wonderful lesson in God's ability to bring NEW LIFE to us and to our world.

At First Methodist I heard challenging sermons by Brother Bob Mangum (on Sunday) and Brother Sam Wynn (on Monday night). I remembered listening to each of them as young pastors. Both have rendered a real service to the people of this area and elsewhere, including Native Americans throughout the Southeastern states.

We are proud that Sam is now the district superintendent of the New Bern District, NC Conference.

CHOOSE TRADITION NOT ADDICTION
Know the consequences of alcohol and drug abuse
A message from LIGHT and the National Institute on Drug Abuse

CUCUMBER CONTRACTS
in Mt. Airy Church Area!
Contact Keith Cummings
521-8279

FREE SAMPLE!
Extra Strength
ICYHOT Pain Relieving Cream
Icy to dull the pain, Hot to relax it away!
ICY AND HOT THERAPY FOR PAIN
ARTHRITIS • SORE MUSCLES • BACKACHE
BURSITIS • BODY ACHES • LEG CRAMPS
For a Free Sample send requests to:
Icy Hot® Sample Offer
P.O. Box 2069
Chattanooga TN37409

TROPHIES ARE US



- Engraving
- Plaques
- Baby Gift Items
- Trophies

"Gifts for every occasion"

Scarlett Brown
Owner

Dreammakers Mini Mall
Union Chapel Road
Pembroke, NC 28372
(910) 521-0225

Pembroke Drug and Home Health

Across from the Pembroke Town Park
Odum and W. 3rd Street
521-9797 pharmacy services/
521-4329 home care services and equipment

*We gladly accept Medicaid patients at our pharmacy!!!
Give us a chance and compare our service.
Our pharmacists want to talk to you about your drug therapy...so please ask if you have concerns.
We will monitor your blood pressure and your blood sugar in our pharmacy (nominal fee charged).*

*We can provide all types of home medical equipment or devices (ex. asthma machines, oxygen, concentrators, blood sugar machines, peak flow meters, walking aids, bathroom aids.)
We, too, will bill Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance (with the proper documentation). Request folks we have cared for you for years at Pembroke Drug and Home Health.*

Your hometown pharmacy offering more than medicines—We care for your total health

Serving Pembroke and Robeson County since 1966.

Edward Brown, R.Ph.
John Brown, R.Ph.
William Brown, DME specialist
Michelle Lerner, CRTT (respiratory therapist)
Teresa Rish, RN, RPH
Holly Shum, RN
Arthur Street, Office Manager

The Law Office of
RONNIE SUTTON
208 Union Chapel Road
In
Pembroke
Will remain
OPEN
Monday - Friday
8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
While the General Assembly is in session
My Legal Assistant and I stand ready to assist with your
PERSONAL INJURY
and other matters.
Do you have injuries from a car wreck or slip & fall?
Call (910) 521-4797 for an appointment.
No cost for initial interview.


BB & C Body Shoppe
Full Service Styling Salon
Manicures, Pedicures, Facial Waxing
Two Wolfe Tanning Systems & More
707 Union Chapel Rd. Dream Makers Mini Mall
"your complete body shoppe"
(910)521-1155 Open Tue-Sat

Quality Jewelry at Affordable Prices
Cyna's Diamonds and Jewelry
10K & 14K Gold Sterling Silver
Watch Repair • Ear Piercing • Repairs • Scrap Gold • Engraving

(910) 521-3690
Fax (910) 521-3668
Owners
Tim, Cynthia, Timma,
Tim II Locklear
707 C-2 Union Chapel Road
Pembroke, NC 28372

PROGRESSIVE SAVINGS & LOAN, LTD.

\$100
MINIMUM BALANCE CHECKING ACCOUNT
No Service Charge for Checking*

* This \$100 Minimum Balance Checking Account Allows You To Write Checks WITHOUT A SERVICE CHARGE As Long As The Balance Does Not Fall Below \$100.00.
If The Balance Does Fall below \$100.00, A \$6.00 Monthly Charge And 30% Per Check Is Necessary. This Account Does Not Pay Interest.

DEPOSITS FEDERALLY INSURED TO \$100,000.00
Substantial Penalty For Early Withdrawal - Rate Subject To Change Without Notice

PROGRESSIVE SAVINGS & LOAN, LTD.

308 N. Chestnut Lumberton, N. C. 738-1478
4400 Fayetteville Road Lumberton, N. C. 738-1416
720 Harris Avenue Raeford, N. C. 876-2488
410 E. 3rd Street Pembroke, N. C. 521-4206

For the "Best Deal in Laurel Hill" come see **PAT LOCKLEAR**
at
SAM'S
Mobile Home SALES Inc.
No Down Payment Plan!
Hwy 74
Laurel Hill, NC 28351
910-462-3611

Native American Handcrafted Wooden Doughboards For Sale

Elisha Locklear
910-521-1861 or 910-521-8347


BECK *Serving Robeson County Over 15 Years*
CHIROPRACTIC CENTER
Specializing in Auto Accident Injuries
Most Insurances Accepted
"APPOINTMENT PLEASE"
OFFICE 739-5751 FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION
Emergency Home Number
Dr. Woodrow W. Beck, Jr. 738-3126