

Sheriff and Clerk Returned to Office with Landslide Victories: No Changes in Robeson Elected Officials

With a solid base of support from Blacks, whites and Indians, Sheriff Glenn Maynor was returned to office with 70 percent of the vote in the Democratic Primary Tuesday, May 5. Sheriff Maynor easily defeated former sheriff Hubert Stone with unofficial vote totals showing 18,043 for Maynor and 7,706 for Stone. Approximately 39 percent of the eligible voters turned out to vote.

Maynor made history in 1994 when he became the first Indian elected as Sheriff of Robeson County. On Tuesday he made history again when he carried 36 of the 41 precincts in the county, including many predominately white and Black precincts.

The voters sent a clear message that they were pleased with Maynor's performance and that it is possible for

race no longer to be an issue in elections in Robeson County. Maynor, obviously was re-elected on his record.

JoAnn Locklear, Clerk of Superior Court was re-elected to her position with 18,042 votes, overcoming challenges by John Campbell, Director of Robeson County Human Relations who received 5,637 votes and James O. Perry who received 1,688 votes.

Locklear's re-election was also historical in that she had a tri-racial base of support and garnered 71 percent of the vote. Locklear was elected Clerk in 1994, becoming the first Indian in that position. She was challenged by a white and a Black.

Neither Maynor or Locklear has any Republican opposition.

All incumbents in local and county elections were returned to their posi-

tions. May 5 was a day that voters said we don't want to change positions in our county. For County Commissioner in District 2 Berlester Campbell defeated three opponents. Campbell received 1,493 votes, Betty J. Thompson received 765, Jerry Owen received 693 and former county commissioner Henry Douglas received 581. Campbell will face Republican challenger Landa Gaddy in November.

In District 6 incumbent Gary Powers defeated challenger Ray Cox, 1565 to 1332. Incumbent Bill Herndon defeated challenger Charles E. Gasque 2,439 to 1,509.

Brenda Fairley, Gloria Lowery, Terry Smith and Mike Smith were all returned to the Board of Education. These positions are non-partisan.



SHERIFF GLENN MAYNOR



CLERK OF COURT JOANN LOCKLEAR



North Carolina Women of Distinction

Beware of New Telephone Scam

There is a new telephone scam in the area. Persons are receiving telephone calls from an individual identifying himself as an AT&T Service Technician who states he is conducting a test on your telephone lines. He will tell you to complete the test you should touch nine (9), zero (0), the pound sign (#) and then hang up. By pushing 90# you give the individual making the request full access to your telephone line, which allows them to make long distance telephone calls and bill them to your home number. Please beware!

Robeson County Retired School Personnel's Spring Luncheon May 19

Robeson County retired school personnel's spring luncheon will be held on May 19, 1998 at 11:30 a.m. at Pincrest County Club in Lumberton. The cost of the luncheon is \$12.00. Reservations must be made by May 12, 1998. Checks should be made to RCRSP and mailed to S.H. Stockton, P.O. Box 888, Lumberton, NC 28359. M.L. Amos 738-3309

Awards Available for Volunteers

Do you work with volunteers and would like a good way to let them know how much you appreciate their efforts? Do you know someone who spends all their time volunteering and think they need a Thank You?

How about nominating them for the 1998 Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service? This annual award is an excellent way to recognize all of their hard work -- as well as bring attention to their agencies and projects.

To get a copy of the nomination form, contact:

Margaret Crites
Rape Crisis Center of Robeson County
Post Office Box 1564
Lumberton, NC 28359-1564
(910) 739-6278 -- If you get our answering service, please leave your name and phone so that we can call you back.

Nominations are due to the local coordinator by May 21. Awards will be given out in fall.

The Indian Education Center Holds Open House

The Public Schools of Robeson County held an open house on April 27, 1998 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the Indian Education Center in Pembroke.

Prior to classroom visitation by the attending parents, an interesting and informative program was held. Viewing of Pathmakers: North Carolina Native American Women of Distinction was highlighted by those members in attendance. Ms. Eva Chavis Jones was present accompanied by her daughter Ms. Donna Jones Chavis. Ms. Jessie Bell Smith Maynor was present accompanied by her niece Ms. Ira Lee Thomas Lowry. Also present were Dr. Cheryl Ransom Locklear and Dr. Ruth Dial Woods. Ms. Lillie Mac Jones Brewington was represented by her daughter Ms. Eva Brewington Sampson and son-in-law Mr. Ned Sampson. Ms. Jane Chavis Oxendine was represented by her granddaughter, Ms. Terena Sheppard Jephew. The North Carolina Native American Women of Distinction Exhibit will be on display until May 29, 1998 at the Indian Education Resource Center. Visiting hours are from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.

An exhibit of Native American leaders is on display at the Indian Education Center. Various categories or professions are represented: Business, Education, Government, Medicine and Law. Native American leaders present at the open house program were: Representing Education: Interim Public School Superintendent, Dr. Ruth Dial Woods, Education; Dr. Mitch Tyler, Assistant Professor and Chair Person for the American Indian Studies Department at UNCP; Dr. Joseph B. Oxendine, Chancellor at the University of North Carolina at UNCP and Dr. Rose Lowry Townsend.

AAIP Holds Annual Cross-Culture Medicine Workshop

The Association of American Indian Physicians held their annual Cross Culture Medicine workshop in Santa Fe, NM April 24-25. The workshop is for students interested in working in Native communities and covers the cultural aspects of practicing medicine.

AAIP members who presented top-

Principal at Pembroke Middle School

Those representing were: Dr. Hughes D. Lowry, Pharmacist; Dr. David Earl Brooks, Veterinarian; Dr. Jeff Collins, Dentist; Dr. Cheryl Ransom Locklear, Dentist; and Dr. Martin L. Brooks, Medical Doctor. Representing government was Sheriff Glenn Maynor propped by Rev. James Hunt; Ms. JoAnn Locklear, Clerk of Court; Ms. Vickie Locklear, Register of Deeds; Mr. Johnny Hunt, Mr. Noah Woods and Mr. Raymond Cummings. County Commissioners: Mr. Paul Brooks, Mr. Robert Deese, Mr. Mitchell Dean (Bosco) Locklear and Ms. Gloria T. Lowry. School Board Members: Ms. Madie Rae Locklear, Electric Membership Corporation Board Member. Those representing Law were: Mr. Larry Roberts, Town of Pembroke Chief of Police; The honorable Dexter Brooks, Superior Court Judge; The Honorable Gary Locklear and the Honorable William J. Moore, District Court Judges; and Mr. Henry W. Oxendine, Assistant District Attorney. Finally those representing business were: Mr. Ronald Hunt, General Manager for Lumbee River EMC; Mr. & Ms. Fuller Locklear, owner of Fuller's Barbecue; Mr. Samuel Locklear, Funeral Director at Locklear's Funeral Home and Mr. Larry R. Chavis, President and CEO of Lumbee Bank.

Special guest attending were Dr. Mary Brayboy, Ms. Cathie Martin, Mr. Bernard Garcia, Ms. Barbara Gentry and Mr. Amos Goodfox all from the Office of Indian Education in Washington, DC.

The proceedings were ended with special music provided by Ms. Charley Lowry, Junior Miss Lumbee and Ms. Morgan B. Hunt, former Junior Miss Lumbee. An enjoyable evening was shared by all.

Representative Sutton Supports Health Care Bill

Rep. Ronnie Sutton of Robeson County joined a majority of the House Thursday in supporting a bill that will provide health care for more than 70,000 uninsured children in working families.

"Like all compromises, this bill has some good parts and some not-so-good parts," Rep. Sutton said. "I voted for it because it met the goal of the special session - making health care more readily available to the children of working families."

The bill will provide health care for children in families that make too much money to receive Medicaid, but too little income to readily afford health insurance.

Children in families making less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level (\$32,900 annually for a family of four) will be eligible for the program. That would cover an estimated 71,000 children.

Some families that now purchase health insurance for their children could receive a tax credit under the bill.

Families in the upper income limits who are eligible for the health care coverage will pay an annual fee of up to \$100.00 and modest co-payments for doctor's visits and prescription drugs.

There will be a waiting period for families that drop private insurance to

participate in the program.

Passage of the bill came in the sixth week of a special session called by Governor Jim Hunt.

"It should not have taken that long to pass this bill," Rep. Sutton said. "But some House Republicans made it clear they did not want a program of any kind. They were willing to let the federal money - tax dollars collected from our hard-working citizens - go to some other state, and for children in working families to go on without health care. That would have been a shame."

The final measure also carries a much lower price tag - roughly \$170.6 million - than originally proposed by House Republicans. Their original bill would have cost more than \$300 million, much of that going to an across-the-board tax credit for families that purchased health insurance for their children. That would have meant much less money would be available due to the short session.

Under the compromise, the tax credit will only go to families making less than \$100,000 annually. That puts the measure more closely in line with the intent of the federal legislation, which was to provide health care for children in families that made too much to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to easily afford health insurance.

The tax credit will cost the state an estimated \$64.5 million, leaving more money available for cutting taxes, raising teacher pay and meeting other needs during this year's "short" session.

Unfortunately, working parents will have to pay more out of their pockets to receive the health care for their children. The compromise bill included a \$50.00 annual fee for each child or \$100.00 for two or more children. Republicans originally wanted to charge monthly premiums that would have added up to several hundred dollars a year.

Lawmakers had to swallow parts of the bill that were distasteful because there was a real fear that House and Senate negotiators would not reach agreement and that issue would carry over into the regular session. If that happened, North Carolina could have lost \$80 million in federal funds - and thousands of children would have gone without needed health care.

"It took longer than it should have, and cost more than necessary. But children in working class families will receive health care. That's the most important aspect of a bill that the General Assembly approved to end its special session," Rep. Sutton said.

Rep. Ronnie Sutton

Court of Appeals Allows Suit

On Tuesday, May 5, 1998 the NC Court of Appeals ruled that the suit filed by the Lumbee Tribal Council against Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. can move forward. The suit was filed in 1995 after LRDA would not acknowledge the 1994 vote by 8,040 Lumbees to adopt a tribal constitution, as well as the election held to elect a tribal council. LRDA, a private non-profit corporation established in 1968 to administer social programs to the tribe, contends they are the official governing body of the tribe until the tribe becomes federally recognized, and an election is held under the direction and supervision of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In 1996 the case was heard in Robeson County before the Honorable Superior Court Judge Jack Thompson. The

Tribal Council claimed that LRDA was committing trademark infringement and engaging in deceptive trade practices by purporting to be the government of the tribe. Their major claim was that they, the Council had absolute authority to manage tribal affairs and administer tribal programs. The Judge dismissed the claims of trademark infringement and deceptive trade practices. However, the Council's major claims were not dismissed. LRDA appealed this decision based on their claim they are immune to suit in state court because they are an Indian tribe.

The Court of Appeals agreed that tribes are immune from suit in a state court, however, they felt LRDA did not explicitly demonstrate representation of the tribe.



Ms. Ronda Denise Jones was crowned Miss Indian North Carolina 1998-1999 at the Twenty-third Annual North Carolina Indian Unity Conference on March 13, 1998.

United Tribes is the sponsor of the Miss Indian North Carolina Princess Pageant. The winners have participated in the Miss Indian USA Princess Pageant.

Ms. Ronda is the daughter of Dexter and Lorrie Jones of Hoke County. She is the member of the Lumbee Tribe. She is currently a Jr. majoring in social work and American Indian Studies. Her future plans are to work with American Indian youth in the public schools. Ronda will represent the Indian people of North Carolina and across the nation.

ics included physicians Ray Begay (Navajo), Melvina McCube (Navajo), Jeff Henderson (Cheyenne River Sioux), Trette Rohideaux (Roschud Sioux), and Joey T. Bell (Lumbee).

Twenty-five students from across the county attended the workshop. Local students included John Brooks, Ramone Jacobs and Angela Brewer.