

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS



Swett High student scores perfect 6.0 on NC Writing Test

Jesseca Marlo Chavis was the only student in Robeson County to score a perfect (6.0) score on the North Carolina Writing Test. She was one of twenty in the State of North Carolina and one in three in the Region. On January 25th she gave a presentation to the English teachers in Robeson County on the importance of using a specific format for the test. The format was introduced by her teacher, Mrs. Ann Smith.

Jesseca is the daughter of Tonnie Chavis and Sandra Spann. She resides with her parents and her younger brother Mark who attends Pembroke Middle School.

During her fourth grade year, Jesseca was also the only one in the county to make a perfect score on the writing test. For the past three years she has attended the summer Talent Identification Program with Duke University. She plans to apply for the North Carolina School of Science and Math for her junior and senior years of high school.

She is a sophomore at Purnell Swett High School.

Indian Unity Conference to be held March 11-13 in Fayetteville

The United Tribes of North Carolina has announced that the 1999 North Carolina Indian Unity Conference will be held in Fayetteville, North Carolina, March 11 - 13, 1999.

The site of this year's event will be the Holiday Inn Bordeaux in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

The 1999 Unity Conference theme will focus on education. It will feature seminars and general assemblies on Indian Education, Economic Development Strategies for Indian Communities, Cultural and Health Care issues affecting Indian communities in North Carolina and many more.

Congressional leaders and state elected officials have been invited to attend. Governor Jim Hunt has been invited to speak at one of the General Sessions. County and City leaders in Indian communities are expected to participate.

The conference will also feature an Awards and Scholarship Banquet at which outstanding Indian leaders statewide will be recognized in education, business and special community service.

Scholarships will be presented to several outstanding Indian youth to help with college expenses.

Another major highlight of the conference will be an exposition of American Indian talent focusing on

NC School of Science & Mathematics to Sponsor Annual Pow Wow Feb. 20th

The Native American Club, Akwe:kon, at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics will be hosting their eighth annual powwow on Saturday, February 20, 1999. We are hoping for lots of good singing and dancing as well as displays of Indian arts and crafts. Grand entry for dancers will be at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Our building, the Physical Education Center, will open at 9:00 am. We would like to invite you to join us for this occasion. Please help us spread the word!

Our host drum this year will be Southern Sun giving us music in the tradition of the Southern Plains. Southern Sun members hail from Pembroke, Hollister, Greensboro, Clinton, Lake Waccamaw, Durham, and beyond. We anticipate that Southern Sun will be joined by several Northern drums so that we have lots of variety in our music.

We are excited this year to have four outstanding Native American young people join us as our head dancers. Brock Jacobs, representing the Lumbee, will be serving as Head Man Dancer. Shelly Strickland, representing the Lumbee and currently reigning as Miss NCNAYO, will be the Head Lady Dancer. Patrick Aaron

Green will be representing the Lumbee as Head Little Boy Dancer. Audrey Denise Jacobs, from the Coharie tribe and the currently reigning Little Miss Coharie Princess, will be our Head Little Girl Dancer.

We feel very lucky this year to announce that Mr. Eddie Benton Banai will be joining us all the way from the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Reservation in northern Wisconsin as our Master of Ceremonies. Eddie is an internationally known educator, tribal historian, and writer.

The School of Science and Math is a residential school for eleventh and twelfth grade students from throughout North Carolina who show particular talent and potential in the areas of science and math. We would like to make our school better known in North Carolina's Indian communities. This is one of the major purposes of our powwow. We hope that through such efforts, we can attract more Indian students to apply to our school. We also want to make the point that once Native American students enroll in the School of Science and Math, they will find a supportive atmosphere as well as other Indian students interested in the advancement of their people and their culture

traditional Indian art forms. Also planned is a Statewide Miss Indian North Carolina Pageant.

The event will feature a Pow-Wow and will make available to the public through Indian traders authentic American Indian crafts for sale.

A registration fee to attend the conference will be charged. Banquet tickets will be on sale to the public (for those who will be attending the banquet only) will be available. No additional tickets will be sold after 12:00 p.m., Friday March 12, 1999.

Separate adult and youth dances will be held after the banquet Friday night. Additional tickets can be purchased at the door.

The 1999 North Carolina Indian Unity Conference is opened to the public but attendees must register to attend the seminars and general assemblies. The registration fee for the conference includes the cost for the banquet, Saturday morning breakfast and dance. Senior Citizens and youth will be charged an amount less than the regular registration fee for registration.

For more information about the conference, contact the nearest Local Tribal Office or Urban Indian Center. To avoid paying a late registration fee, register by the deadline which is February 26, 1999.

Federal Recognition Committee to be Formed

The Lumbee Regional Development Association Board of Directors met in a planning session Saturday, January 16th, and voted to re-establish a Lumbee Federal Recognition Committee.

The Committee will be formed in February and will be made up of elected Indian leaders, community tribal members, and Lumbee representatives from urban Lumbee communities in and outside of North Carolina.

The LRDA board is expected to fund the committee to bring in consultants to advise the committee in the development of a new strategic plan for recognition, with timeliness beginning 1999 and into the year 2005.

The strategic plan developed by LRDA in 1988 that was funded and carried out by LRDA from 1989-1994 got the tribe within three votes of being federally recognized in 1992. The plan will be a beginning point for new planning. The last plan included methods to get National Tribal support and National and State organized backing.

A fund raising component will be a part of the plan to wage a massive new education campaign about Lumbees nationally with federally recognized tribes, and potentially the Congress.

In re-establishing the focus on federal recognition, the LRDA acknowledged that recognition of the tribe will require unity and tribal support.

Acting as the governing body of the tribe, pursuant to the 1984 Tribal Referendum, and a recent court ruling recognizing this agency's responsibility and authority, the board of directors will seek to bring its thirty years of experience back to bear and focus on Federal Recognition of the tribe, working with a broad based committee.

Grand Opening of the Pembroke Public Library

The Town of Pembroke and The Robeson County Board of Trustees cordially invite you to attend the opening of the new Pembroke Public Library on Friday, the Fifth of February Nineteen hundred and ninety-nine at eleven o'clock in the morning 4113 Blaine Street Pembroke, North Carolina.

Local Educators Attend Seminar

CULLOWHEE—Anita L. Oxendine and Janet W. Locklear both of Pembroke, third-grade teachers at Oxendine Elementary School, recently attended a seminar at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching.

Oxendine and Locklear were two of 20 North Carolina teachers participating in "Exploring New Cultures: Internet," January 11 - 15, conducted by director of seminars and programs Judith Clauss and center fellow Renee Coward.

Part of the University of North Carolina, NCCAT provides a year-round series of residential seminars and teacher-scholar programs for teachers and professional development activities for teachers and staff in selected school systems. At the center, teachers engage in stimulating scholarly activities and professional networking to renew their vitality for teaching and learning. Center director is Mary Jo Utley.

Ghaffar named director of Student Activities at UNCP

Pembroke -- Abdul R. Ghaffar has been named director of Student Activities for The University of North Carolina at Pembroke. He will be responsible for the total operation of the Student Activities office including the coordination, development, implementation and evaluation of campus activities and programs.

Mr. Ghaffar is a 1990 UNCP graduate and served as sports information director and assistant director of Student Activities at the university since 1993. The Pittsboro, N.C. native was an outstanding student-athlete at UNCP, playing four years of basketball while studying public relations.

He reports to Dr. Diane Jones, assistant vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

"I feel that Abdul is just coming back home, after serving five years as

The new recognition plan will also address BIA options for recognition and legislation that may remove the process outside the BIA, that may be introduced again this session of Congress.

The Lumbee petition submitted by LRDA to the BIA may need updating since 1987 and the Lumbee tribal rolls will continue to be modernized to meet BIA computer compatibility when the tribe is recognized.

LRDA officials will be meeting with the BIA recognition staff in February to update them on the recent court ruling, and to discuss receiving assistance as needed to update the Lumbee petition since 1989.

Tribal members are encouraged to call their district elected officials and let them know what your thoughts and ideas are on Federal recognition. Call LRDA at 910-521-8602 if you are not sure who your elected officials are.



North Carolina Attorney General Mike Easley is shown addressing the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

Attorney General Mike Easley addresses Pembroke Chamber Banquet

Pembroke -- Speaking at times like a candidate for governor, state Attorney General Mike Easley told an overflow crowd of more than 200 at the Pembroke Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet and Awards Dinner that "It is time for North Carolina to take its rightful place as a leader of this country."

"We're not going to get there by being timid," Mr. Easley said. "We're going to get there by being aggressive."

Pates Supply Company, Inc. and its President and Chairman of the board, Russell H. Livermore III, were honored at the Business of the Year. Mr. Livermore is the third generation owner-operator of the agribusiness and retail company that has made Pembroke home since 1919.

Mr. Livermore not only runs a successful business, he has been instrumental in the economic development of the Town of Pembroke, said Greg Cummings, economic developer for Robeson County. Mr. Livermore, who is board chairman of the Robeson County Public Library, also donated a storefront building that served as a town library for many years. "Without good employees, a business cannot succeed," Mr. Livermore said in accepting the award. "I have some good ones"

Sworn in as new officers for 1999 were President Don Gersh, of UNCP, Vice President John Karshener of Lumbee Guaranty Bank; Secretary Brian Brooks of Locklear, Jacobs & Hunt and Treasurer Richard Oxendine, owner of Copy Cat Printers, The Tax Shelter and Robo Texaco.

Chamber membership has doubled under the leadership of outgoing President Ernestine Chavis-Bulifant, said Ken Freeman of Lumbee Guaranty Bank. Mr. Freeman awarded Ms. Bulifant a plaque of appreciation. She is with the N.C. Indian Cultural Center.

The board of trustees for 1999 are: McDuffie Cummings of the Town of Pembroke; Robert Deese of Lumbee River Electric Membership; Dr. Charles Jenkins, Dr. Diane Jones and Dr. Bob Reising of UNCP; Ron Brown of Pates Supply; Bryan Mayor of Progressive Savings and Loan; Greg Cummings of CG Enterprises; Cynthia Locklear of Cyna's Diamond and Jewels; Ken Freeman, Linda Ohlson of the Nonprofit's Consulting Services; Mike Wilkins of Fleetwood Homes; Frank Daughtrey of First Union Bank and Larry McNeill, a member of the Pembroke Town Council.

The attorney general touted the recent \$5 billion settlement that helped

negotiate with the tobacco companies.

"With the \$ 2.15 billion tobacco trust for farmers, we will be able to keep farm income stable for 12 years," Mr. Easley said. "I grew up on a tobacco farm in Nash County, and I know about the market uncertainty that farmers face."

Mr. Easley also announced his support for a state lottery with proceeds earmarked to benefit education.

"When every state around us has a lottery, and they're getting \$300 million of our money, it's not going to make a lot of sense for North Carolina not to have a lottery," he said.

Mr. Easley, who was district attorney for Brunswick, Bladen and Columbus counties, said he supported a scholarship fund similar to Georgia's Hope Scholarship that provides a free education for every student with a B average or better.

The banquet was held at UNCP Pembroke's University Center Saturday, January 23. The dinner also celebrated the success story of the Pembroke Chamber, which now boasts over 100 business memberships.

New President Don Gersh closed the meeting, promising continued aggressive leadership for the Chamber in the coming year.

Victorian Valentine's Day Planned at Local Museum

Come celebrate Valentine's Day and hear a variety of tunes from the late-Victorian era, including fox-trots, waltzes and sentimental pieces. The Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex presents Victorian Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 13, at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. and Sunday, February 14, at 1:15 p.m. and 3 p.m. All performances will take place at the 1897 Poe House. Enjoy listening to this special music, which will be performed on the Poe House piano.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the 1897 Poe House interprets the life of a typical upper-middle-class family in southern North Carolina from 1897 - 1917.

The Museum of the Cape Fear is located on the corner of Bradford and Arsenall avenues in Fayetteville. The 1897 Poe House is next to the museum on 206 Bradford Avenue. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 910-437-2603.

Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theatre Company Coming to UNCP

The Stuart Pimsler Dance and Theatre Company will perform at the Givens Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke on Saturday, January 30 at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children and students. For tickets or more information, call the GPAC box office at (910)521-6361 or 1-800-367-0778.

call 910-521-2826



Greg Cummings, left, is shown presenting the "Business of the Year" Award to Pates Supply President Rusty Livermore III.

Ghaffar named director of Student Activities at UNCP

Assistant Director in Student Activities," Dr. Jones said. "He will be very effective in continuing and strengthening close relationships with university staff and faculty in the development and implementation of our cultural, educational, social and leadership programs."

"Abdul brings many positive attributes to Student Activities --- youth and vitality, a strong work ethic, a charismatic rapport with students and a spirit for teamwork," she said. I am delighted to have Abdul rejoin the

Student Activities staff as director."

In his new position, Mr. Ghaffar will oversee a staff of three that is dedicated to advising student organizations and directing student activities on campus including leadership developmental programs.