

Published each Thursday by First American Publications, Pembroke, NC

VOLUME 26 NUMBER 12

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1999

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Mr. Ernest Demery Honored by Pembroke Church of God

By Vinita Maynor-Clark
 The members of The Pembroke Church of God proclaimed March 14, 1999 as Ernest Demery Day at their church. Family, friends and members joined together to honor Mr. Demery for his 49 years of service to the Pembroke Church of God without missing a Sunday. The program was opened by the pastor, Rev. CC Allen Jr. who turned the program over to Mrs. Joyce Chavis, the oldest daughter of Mr. Demery. Joyce told the audience about coming to church on

the back of the pickup truck with nine children and wrapping up in toe sack just to keep warm. "My father made a point about us going to church," stated Joyce.
 Jan Bullard, his granddaughter, stood up in front of the audience proudly and read a poem that she had written about her grandfather.
 Mrs. Vashti Smith, the sister of Mr. Demery's late wife Eunice, told how the couple met, fell in love and got married.
 Earl Demery, the son of the honoree, Geneva Smith a family friend

and Rev. Jack Hunt, the former pastor of the Pembroke Church of God, also made comments on the life of the honoree. The singing group, Heart Sang, provided the special music for the occasion.
 The members of the church decided to make Mr. Ernest a money tree by pinning dollar bills on his coat. The ending count reached an amount of \$312.00. After the service everyone went into the Fellowship hall and ate a dinner prepared by the ladies of the church.



Shown at the podium is Principal of Prospect School Mr. David Locklear who is completing his first year in that position. Seated behind him are: left to right, Mr. Rober i Deese, Chairman of the Board of Education for the Public Schools; Mr. Johnny Hunt, Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners; Dr. Barry Harding, Superintendent of the Public Schools of Robeson County; Ms. Lanette Locklear, Vice president of the Prospect PTA; and Rev. Larry Locklear, Pastor of Island Grove Baptist Church.

Groundbreaking Celebration held for renovation at Prospect

A celebration of ground breaking was held at Prospect School on Thursday, March 18 at 5 p.m. Taking part in the ceremony was the principal of Prospect School, Mr. David Locklear; the Superintendent of Public Schools, Dr. Barry Harding; the Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners, Mr. Johnny Hunt who has also served as principal of Prospect School; and the architect for the project, Mr. Michael Clark of Native American Design.
 On hand for the festivities was Mitchell "Bosco" Locklear, a native of the community, who was instrumental in securing the funds for the renovation and new construction. Also in attendance was long time principal (now retired) Mr. James A. Jones; District Court

Judge Jeff Moore; and others.
 The renovation and additions at Prospect includes three building additions to the existing facilities. The additions will be (1) a 12-classroom addition with boys and girls rest room facilities; (2) a computer lab and boys/girls shower facility addition; and (3) and administrative building addition. The renovations include a new metal roof over most of the existing buildings to match the new addition roofs. Additionally, new communication wiring and emergency lighting is being installed in the existing wings. The plans also include a new corridor that connects the new additions with the existing buildings.
 The site work includes a new parking lot, new driveway and canopy covered sidewalks.

Community meeting scheduled on natural gas pipeline

Residents of Robeson County are invited to attend a public meeting on Tuesday, March 30, to learn more about a planned natural gas pipeline. This informational meeting will be the first in a series of meetings designed to provide details about the planned Palmetto Interstate Pipeline project and to allow the companies building the pipeline to receive comments from the public on how to improve the plans.
 The meeting will be held at the Pembroke Courthouse on Main Street. It will follow an open house format, allowing interested citizens to come and go as they please. Representatives of Carolina Power & Light and Southern Natural Gas Company will be available between 6 and 8 p.m. and experts in the areas of pipeline safety, environmental compliance, construction practices and rights of way will be available to answer specific questions about the plans for the Palmetto Pipeline.

CP&L and Southern Natural Gas announced March 3 that they plan to build the Palmetto Pipeline from Aiken, SC to Robeson County, covering a 175-mile corridor through Aiken, Lexington, Richland, Sumter, Lee Darlington, Malboro and Dillon counties, and eventually interconnecting with existing facilities operated by North Carolina Natural Gas Company in Robeson County, NC. The planned pipeline will be a 30-inch diameter underground natural gas pipeline capable of transporting between 200 and 300 million cubic feet of natural gas per day.
 Additional maps and other visual displays will be available at the local meeting.
 The pipeline is needed to provide fuel for electric generation in the Carolinas, as well as to enhance the supply of natural gas in the region. Among the benefits to counties along the pipeline route is an estimated \$3 million in total annual property taxes that the pipeline will generate in the nine counties along the proposed route.
 The meetings will provide CP&L and Southern Natural Gas a forum to gather information to assist the companies in making decisions on the ultimate route for the proposed pipeline. The companies will work extensively with state and federal environmental agencies in the route selection.



Shown right is J. Michael Clark, Registered Architect with Native American Design Services, Pembroke, who designed the renovation and new construction of Prospect School. He is shown discussing the design with Mitchell "Bosco" Locklear, member of the Board of Education who was instrumental in securing the funds for the renovation; and Jimmy Goins, owner of NC Insurance Services, Inc. and grandparent of Prospect students.



Supporters of Prospect School attended the event. Shown left to right are Mr. James A. Jones, former principal of Prospect School; Cheryl Locklear; Madie Locklear, EMC Board member; District Court Judge, Jeff Moore; and Robeson County Commissioner Noah Woods. All these supporters with the exception of Woods are graduates of Prospect School.

Dr. Ruth Dial Woods Named to UNC Board of Governors

In the state gallery in Raleigh Tuesday Dr. Ruth Dial Woods, a Lumbee Indian and native of Pembroke, North Carolina sat very patiently as the votes were counted. After the votes were counted it was announced that she would be on the North Carolina Board of Governors. Dr. Woods had served on the Board of Governors from 1985 to 1993. This time she received the second highest vote total of the at-large candidates. The North Carolina House of Representatives selected nine members Tuesday to serve on the 32 member panel. Dr. Woods went through a seven week nominating process that began when the North Carolina General Assembly went back to work in January.
 In 1997 Dr. Woods retired as an assistant professor from Fayetteville State University.
 Dr. Woods was nominated for the Board of Governors by Reps. Ronnie Sutton of Pembroke, Donald Bonnor of Rowland and Doug Yongue of Laurinburg. The Board of Governors set policies for the 16 campus University of North Carolina system.
 "It has been a long time since UNCP has had any direct representation. It will give us a stronger voice" stated Rep. Ronnie Sutton.

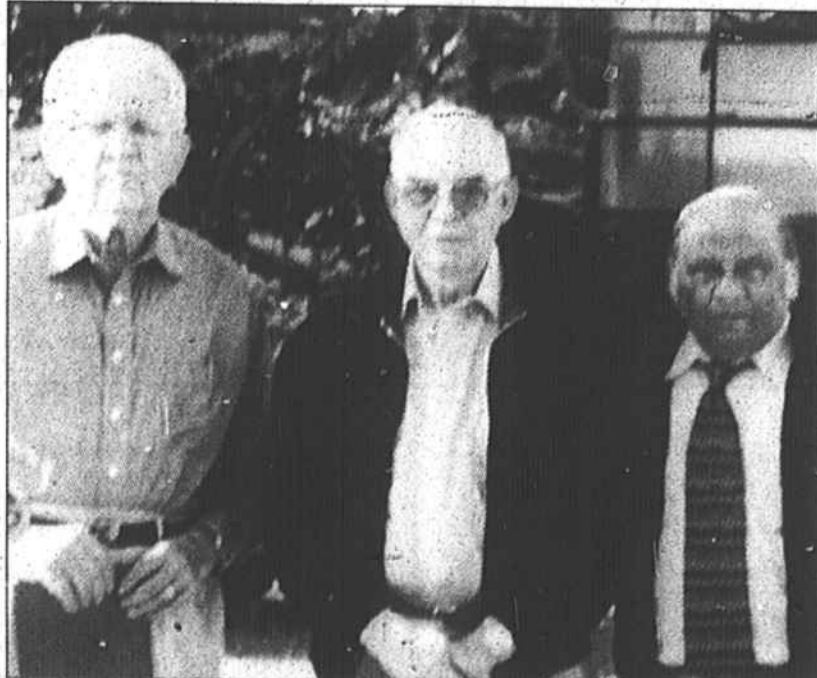


Photo: Rev. CC Allen Jr. Pastor of the Pembroke Church of God with Mr. Ernest Demery decorated with sports coat that was made into a money tree. (Photo by Vinita Maynor-Clark)

Senior Ladies Donate \$1,000 to Pembroke Public Library

By Vinita Maynor-Clark
 The Senior Adult Living Triumph in the Pembroke Community recently completed the sewing of a handmade quilt and raised over \$1,000 for the Pembroke Public Library.
 The group of eight young at heart ladies who are led by Ms. Mary Oxendine meet every Tuesday to sew quilts for fund-raising events. This time it took about a month to make the quilt and the members sold tickets to raise their goal of \$1,000.
 The quilt was won by Allean Maynor of the Pembroke Community who said "I have a nice place for this at my house." The beautiful quilt was presented to her by Ms. Mary Oxendine. Ms. Mary presented Mr. Robert Fisher the Director of Robeson County Pub-

lic Libraries with the check for \$1,000.
 On hand for the event was Mr. McDuffie Cummings, Town Manager for the town of Pembroke who showed the gratitude of our town by presenting each of the ladies with a pin that had the Town Seal on it.
 "I believe in education" said one of the ladies. "I have a great grandchild that comes here and checks out books," another said.
 When I asked the ladies to raise their hands in the air if they have a grandchild that comes to the library, there was not one single hand that stayed down.
 "This is really great," stated Mr. Robert Fisher.
 "We want to show everybody that we Seniors Ladies can do a lot if we just put our mind to it" stated Ms. Mary Oxendine.



Other supporters of the school included left to right, Harbert Moore, former member of the Robeson County Board of Education; Rev. Wilton Cummings who owns the Cozy Corner Restaurant; and Rev. Bill James Locklear, Pastor of Prospect United Methodist Church.

Plate sale and car wash planned

On April 10, 1999, New Point Baptist Church Brotherhood along with the W.M.U. is having a plate sale and car wash. They plan to raise money to help rebuild flood victim's homes in Honduras. Their goal is \$2000. The Church is located South of Lumberton on Martin Luther King Drive near the Village Station Restaurant. Everyone is invited to come to be a part of this.



Ms. Mary Oxendine with the Senior Adult Living Triumph group presented Mrs. Mattie Locklear, Head Librarian for the Pembroke Public Library with a check for \$1,000 as Mr. McDuffie Cummings, Town Manager and Mr. Robert Fisher, Director of the Robeson County Public Library looks on. Mr. Cummings presented each lady with a pin with the Pembroke Town Seal on it.