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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Nation's Largest Native American Corporation has agreement of acquisition of ChemCentral

Dennis Lowery, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Continental Chemicals Group has finalized an agreement of acquisition with ChemCentral Corporation, effective June 10, 1999.

ChemCentral Corporation is the world's largest independent Chemicals Distributor with 18 plants serving customers throughout the United States, Mexico, South America, Central America, Canada and Dominican Republic. ChemCentral's CEO, David W. Courtney, stated that ChemCentral sales in 1998 were approximately \$890 million, prior to the acquisition of Continental Industrial Chemicals, Inc. This acquisition will provide ChemCentral an extremely strong position in the Southeast, merging their product lines with the strong organic and inorganic specialty commodity lines of Continental Industrial Chemicals, and continue to recognize customer's high

quality standards and needs in the areas of technical service and formulations. The vast library of product data, technical support and high standards of services will keep their customers in the forefront of their industry.

The acquisition of Continental Industrial Chemicals, Inc. with facilities in Charlotte and Burlington, North Carolina and Greenville, South Carolina, will give ChemCentral approximately \$44 million in annual sales, representing the Southeast areas of the United States.

Continental Industrial Chemicals, Inc. was founded in 1975 by Dennis Lowery and his partner, Bob Elliott, and was later an Affiliate of what was known as The Continental Group, which was considered the nation's largest Native-American privately owned corporation, with accumulated annual sales of approximately \$100 million.

Dennis Lowery released his ownership in Kelmar Industries in 1997, followed by the sale to ChemCentral of Continental Industrial Chemicals, Inc. on June 10, 1999.

Dennis Lowery, former CEO and Chairman of the Board of Continental Industrial Chemicals, Inc. and the Continental Group, a Native-American, has now formed Continental Chemicals, L.L.C. which will operate nationally and internationally as a broker-distributor of chemicals, with concentration on marketing areas throughout the United States, Mexico, South America, Central America and Canada.

Dennis Lowery, Formerly of Pembroke, North Carolina, is the son of Zeb and Fannie Lowery, married to Judy Locklear Lowery, daughter of Barnie and Stella Locklear of Union Chapel area. Dennis and Judy have three children - Shelley, Dana and Brandon - and reside in Charlotte North Carolina.



Dennis Lowery



From left to right: Ruth Dial - EC Assistant, Leo Locklear - Social Studies teacher, and Patricia Hagans, Math teacher.

Purnell Swett High School Honors Retirees

In appreciation for the dedication and support in serving children and working beyond in the field of education, Purnell Swett High School honored its retirees Wednesday, June 2.

Assistant principal, James Locklear welcomed everyone and Michael Stevens gave the invocation. Afterwards, principal Wesley Revels saluted the retirees with honorable words displaying their work and dedication to children.

Each retiree received a plaque and a gift certificate from MR. Revels and assistant principal, Susan Blackman. Other individuals being honored included Spanish teacher, Marcos Urbaneja and physical education teacher, Scott Johnson who will be leaving.

Upon each retiree's recognition, various individuals toasted the honored guests and each retiree presented a closing speech thanking everyone for their support. Afterwards, Mr. Revels gave closing remarks wishing the retirees a joyful retirement.

The retirees included social studies teacher, Leo Locklear, math teacher, Patricia Hagans, and EC assistant, Ruth Dial.

First Annual Pembroke Summer Safety Fun Festival held

Robeson Health Care Corporation (RHCC) will be sponsoring the 1st Annual Pembroke Summer Safety Festival on Saturday, June 26, 1999 from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm, at the Pembroke Town Park. The Festival will feature safety information for the whole family. The Pembroke Police Fire Department will be doing free Kid Id's for the children, and have information on how to burglar proof your home. The NC Highway Patrol will have information on vehicle/car seat safety, and safe vacation tips. The Robeson County Sheriff's Department's McGruff will be on hand to talk with the kids. Scouts from the Mt. Airy Church Troop will have a real campsite set up demonstrate safe camping and give hiking tips. The Pembroke Fire Department will have the new Fire Truck out for a hands on look. The Pembroke Rescue Unit will be out and rescue workers will talk about safety.

Make sure to bring all the kids out so they can learn first hand about fire safety by going through the Robeson County SmokeHouse. This is a realistic house that fills with smoke and the children are taught the proper way to exit a burning home.

RHCC will provide free health screens to include Cholesterol/Diabetes Screens and Blood Pressure checks. Health care providers will be on hand to answer any health questions you have. LRDA's Lumbee Health Check Booth will provide applications for the new Children's Health Insurance Program.

There will be games, prizes face painting and entertainment throughout the day. Mr. Harold Collins of the Pembroke Power House and Mr. Curt Nobles will be doing various demonstrations. Mr. Collins, a Guinness's Book of World Records Holder is a three time U.S. Champion and 2 time Gold Medalist in the world. In addition Mr. Collins is the 1st man to overturn a 3500 LB car and has traveled all over the world representing the U.S. in the Strongest Man Contest. There will also be Native American drumming and story telling by Mr. Elisha Locklear and singing by various talents.

Free food and drinks will be available and children will be able to register for a boys and girls bicycle to be given away.

For more information please call Denise Locklear at 628-5200.

UNCP Time Capsule

Pembroke -- The time capsule that was placed in UNC Pembroke's Sampson Hall cornerstone in 1949 and opened in February during Homecoming will be returned to its concrete home for another 50 years.

Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine said the contents of 1949 time capsule which are on display in the Sampson-Livermore Library will be placed in the brass time capsule in the cornerstone in a ceremony on Wednesday, June 23 at 9 a.m. at the library's entrance. Memorabilia from the Class of 1999 as well as personal letters from current staff and faculty will also be placed in the time capsule. The time capsule will be opened in the year 2049.

The time capsule was opened Feb. 13 during UNC Pembroke's Homecoming. Attending the ceremony were several members of the then Pembroke State College Class of 1949. Participating in the 1999 ceremony was James Cleo Maynor of Pembroke, who was the school's first elected student government president. Governor R. Barnes, also of Pembroke, was the 1949 president of the Alumni Association, but was not able to attend.

The event is open to the public. For information, call University Relations at (910) 521-6330.

Say you read it in the Carolina Indian Voice

Drs. Dennis Stuart and Connie Locklear-Jones and Robeson Health Care Corp. Sponsors NC Rural Health Scholars

Drs. Dennis Stuart and Connie Locklear-Jones and Robeson Health Care Corp. Sponsor N.C. Rural Health Scholars.

This summer Drs. Dennis Stuart and Connie Locklear-Jones of Robeson Health Care Corporation are serving as preceptors for Paige Langenbach and Ramon Jacobs, rising second-year medical students who have been selected as Rural Health Scholars for the Class of 2002 by the North Carolina Office of Research, Demonstrations, and Rural Health Development. Eighteen physicians and interdisciplinary community-based practices that have demonstrated themselves as excellent role models and teaching sites now participate in this innovative program. This is the fifth consecutive summer that Robeson Health Care has sponsored Scholars.

During summer preceptorships with physician-mentors, Scholars are immersed in clinical medicine and community life. But learning skills to treat medical conditions of individual patients within the four walls of the examining room are not the only lessons that Scholars hope to learn during their summers. By visiting

patients in their homes, spending time in other agencies and working in their communities, Scholars learn about the needs of the broader community and how physicians can work effectively with others to address them.

The Program dispels many myths about rural practice. During their summers, Scholars see that rural medicine offers patients a wide range of high quality services, that rural areas and populations can be vastly different from each other, and that rural providers can find fulfillment in many aspects of rural life.

On June 1st, Paige Langenbach began her preceptorship with Dr. Stuart at South Robeson Medical Center in Fairmont and Ramon Jacobs joined Dr. Locklear-Jones at the Julian T. Pierce Medical Center in Pembroke. Paige grew up in Cary, NC and received double B.S. degrees in chemical engineering and multidisciplinary studies at NCSU. She has enjoyed research and internship experiences at Glaxo Wellcome, Cornell University and IBM. Paige played intramural flag football in college where she helped her team with the national championship in New Orleans. She hopes to incorpo-

rate preventive care into her medical practice. Hiking, running and acoustic guitar are among her hobbies.

Ramon is committed to returning to practice medicine in the community around Pembroke where he grew up. He majored in Biology and Chemistry at UNC-Pembroke, spending summers as a NASA Fellow and research assistant at Pembroke and NCSU. HE has worked extensively with the medically underserved in the Robeson Health Department and in community health center settings. Ramon's interest in genealogy reinforces the strong cultural ties he maintains with his family heritage. Tennis and photography are also pastimes he enjoys.

The Rural Health Scholars Program is sponsored by the N.C. Office of Research Demonstrations, and Rural Health Development in conjunction with the N.C. Primary Health Care Association, the N.C. Area Health Education Centers Program, the N.C. Medical Society Foundation and the ECU and UNC-CH Schools of Medicine. Now in its seventh year, the Program has included a total of 109 Scholars.



Glen Brooks degree in Political Science from UNC at Chapel Hill.



Graduates: Diane Brooks Social Worker/ certification from UNC-Pembroke.

Mother & Son Graduates

Diane Brooks never thought she would be graduating along with her son Glenn. She even took classes in the summer in order to graduate with her son. Finally the big day did come. Diane received her degree in Social Work / certification in school from UNCP May 15, 1999. Her son Glen received his degree in Political Science from UNC at Chapel Hill, May 16, 1999.

Diane is married to Veirl Brooks and she would like to say Thanks for believing in her.

North Carolina House of Representatives Passes Budget

When it comes to legislation, the budget bill is always the biggest, in more ways than one. It's the most far-reaching, touching the lives of every citizen of the state. It's the most time-consuming, requiring countless hours of work by lawmakers and staff. It's the biggest in terms of size, totaling 237 pages this year. And it's the most widely debated.

This year, the budget-writing Appropriations Committee debated the spending bill for more than nine hours, ending at 1:30 a.m. Tuesday morning.

When the bill hit the floor on Wednesday, House members spent more than 12 hours discussing the bill and voting on 41 amendments. They rejected proposals to give legislators a three (3) percent pay raise - the same as state employees - and give top state officials only one (1) percent raise.

Lawmakers approved shifting \$3 million from small school systems to low-wealth systems. This is in addition to the \$10 million in low wealth money already in the bill. They voted to suspend a House rule that requires adjournment at 9 p.m. and worked into early morning. At 12:27 a.m. Thursday morning, the bill passed by a surprisingly wide margin of 111/8.

The lopsided vote was a confirmation of what lawmakers had been saying for several days: the proposed budget was a good one. As the chairs

of the Appropriation Committee said, the budget was responsible and responsive. Spending increased by only 4.4 percent over the current year, the smallest increase in three years and most of the increase went into education.

The budget included money to hire roughly 1,000 new teachers. More than half of those will be necessary to keep class sizes within state law.

Teachers will receive an average 7.5 percent pay raise under the budget. The budget included almost \$250 million for the third phase of a four year plan to raise teacher pay to the national average.

The goal of the four year effort is to recruit the best and brightest students into the teaching field - and to keep them in the classroom.

Smart Start, Gov. Jim Hunt's program to prepare young children for school, received an additional \$58 million in the budget.

Community colleges got their biggest boost in decades. Major items included \$5 million to create the largest community college need-based aid program in the state's history, a five (5) percent pay raise for faculty, \$8 million for non-faculty positions and \$10 million for other costs, which freed up additional money for faculty salaries.

Each of the 58 community colleges received \$250,000 to be matched with local funds, for repairs and renovations.

The budget did not just allocate money, it cut property taxes for the elderly and disabled.

Homeowners who are at least 65 years old, or totally and permanently disabled, will be able to exempt the first \$25,000 of value of their homes from property taxes if their income is less than \$25,000. Currently, the exemption covers the first \$20,000 of value for those with incomes of less than \$15,000.

House passage of the budget took the last major piece of legislation off of the agenda.

Negotiators form the House and Senate must agree on a final budget after the Senate passes its version. Before adjournment, the House is expected to consider campaign finance reform and a few other issues.

There is \$250,000 in the House budget for the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center for the proposed expansion near the I-95 Interstate. This funding proposed by Rep. Sutton, had the support of the entire House delegation and is critical to development of the I-95 site of the Cultural Center. "I look forward to continuing to help the new North Carolina Indian Cultural Center Board as it moves forward with the Indian Cultural Center concept," said Rep. Sutton. The Senate must agree to the House proposal for it to stay in the budget.

Rep. Ronnie Sutton
NC House of Representatives,
District #85