

# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## Governor Hunt Appoints First Native American David T. McCoy, to Secretary of Transportation

David Timothy McCoy, former Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor, was appointed by Governor James B. Hunt, to the position of Secretary of Transportation for North Carolina.

McCoy, an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, of Belcourt, North Dakota, became the first Native American to be appointed to a Governor's Cabinet Post for the State of North Carolina.

"We are very proud of this accomplishment," states Greg Richardson, Executive Director of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs. David will do an extraordinary job."

The recent appointment was held in the old Court House, in Raleigh, followed by a reception at the Governor's Mansion. Bruce Jones, former Executive Director of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs, and long time professional/personal friend, conducted the Prayer for the ceremony. "Davis and I goback many years, states Jones I have supported his professional advancements and served as a resource whenever he needed anything. I am very proud of him and am confident he will do a great job."

Also, in attendance was NC Rep. Ron Sutton. "David and I attended Law School at Chapel Hill together,

states Sutton. I have no doubt he will do a fantastic job. He will bring a high level of experience and knowledge to the Department."

Prior to the appointment, McCoy served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Hunt, Chief Deputy Secretary of Administration, General Counsel for the Department of Administration, Deputy Director NC Commission of Indian Affairs, and Director of the Master of Public Health Program for American Indians, UNC-CH School of Public Health.

McCoy holds a Juris Doctor, UNC-CH School of Law, M.P.H. UNC-CH School of Public Health, M.Ed. From the University of Georgia, and a B.S. in Education, University of Georgia. He has served as Clinical and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education, a member of Board of Trustees for the Teacher and State Employee Comprehensive Major Medical Plan, Special Counsel to Gov. Hunt for Indian Gaming Matters, Task Force Member for Substance Abuse and the Courts State Task Force, and Directed the Hurricane Fran Statewide Volunteers and Donations Program and TREE-OFF Program in 1996.

Dr. Felicia Wilkins-Turner, first Lumbee to serve on the American Indian Advisory Board for the Demo-

cratic National Committee (DNC) was invited to participate in the swearing-in ceremonies. "This appointment serves as an inspiration to Nation as well, states Turner. I have known David for several years and he has a skill and ability (ksa's) for the position, but also a sense of inner spirit, wisdom, and vision, needed to successfully move the Department of Transportation into the 21st Century. I am very pleased with the appointment and have relayed the message that my DNC office door is open for assistance."

"I fell very honored to have been selected for this appointment, states McCoy. I will serve to the best of my ability and no doubt will call on several people, however, I will depend on my Utmost Leader for Spiritual and Personal Guidance."

There were several other Native American State employees and visitors present at the swearing-in and reception, including Bruce Jones, Marvin Butler, Weldon Freeman, Mayor Milton Hunt, Garth Locklear, James H. Locklear, Darlene Jacobs, Sharon Hunt, Jim Lowery, James Hardin, Sue Ennuis, Cliff Rudd, Elk Richardson, and Wanda Burns to name a few.

Secretary McCoy and wife Robin, reside in Raleigh with their two daughters, Meredith and Melissa.



Shown left to right: Greg Richardson, Executive Director of the NC Indian Commission; Dr. Felicia Turner; David McCoy, Secretary of Department of Transportation; and Rep. Ron Sutton.

## "Strike at the Wind!"

Only four shows left this century

Pembroke - After three-year absence, playwright Randolph Umberger's outdoor drama, "Strike at the Wind", has returned for its 21st season with only 9 performances. Attendance has already reached the 2,000 mark and the 1999 Souvenir Book is going into its Second Edition.

Strike at the Wind will only be performed Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:15 during July in the Adolph Dial Amphitheater at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center in Pembroke.

The drama recounts the tragic, romantic, and sometimes humorous story of Robeson County native Henry Berry Lowry during the Civil War, and his struggles against the vengeful home guard. A cast of 62 actors tell the story of the Indian Hero Outlaw who was never captured and the bounty was never collect.

Tickets are \$4 for children, \$5 for senior citizens, and \$7 for adults. Group discounts are available. Tickets go on sale at the amphitheater box office at 7 p.m. Gates open at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 901-521-2433.

## Internships provide insight into future careers

Pembroke, N.C. -- Theo Gibson found new respect for hospitals and got an offer of a part-time job from his summer internship.

LeeChelle Chavis found that blood causes her some discomfort.

And, Conchata Locklear believes more firmly than ever that she wants to become a doctor, and she has a better idea what kind of medicine she would practice too.

Eight UNCP students participated in six-week internships this summer as part of the Health Careers Access Program (HCAP). They fanned out across the region to work at hospitals, mental health centers, health departments and community clinics.

The program is designed to give promising students who are interested in health careers a close-up look at an early stage in their studies, according to the program Director Sylvia Johnson.

As their recent class presentations show, it works.

"I enjoyed it and I was sad it ended so soon," Ms. Locklear said of her internship with Robeson Family Medical Practice. "The only thing I had difficulty with were the heart attack patients and the pain pill abusers."

"I am more convinced than ever that I want to go into medicine, but I believe I would rather work in a hospital setting than in family medicine," said the sophomore biology and chemistry major. "I saw more than I wanted to -- from ingrown

toenails to Lyme's disease to heart attacks."

Ms. Chavis said the sight of blood was unsettling.

"I found out that I can't deal with blood," she said of her internship with Robeson Health Care Corporation. "I got real hot and I had to leave the room. It took 30 minutes to regain my composure."

If she is to continue in a health career, the sophomore biology major said, she will have to overcome her reaction or find a field that does not deal with bleeding patients.

Mr. Gibson said he did not have a favorable opinion of hospitals before his first day, but found Scotland County Memorial Hospital to be surprisingly well run by a caring family of workers.

"I found it to be very impressive to be in a professional atmosphere with such a down home feeling," he said of his internship in the hospital pharmacy.

The senior also found that he was given a lot of responsibility as an intern.

"One job I performed was checking the entire hospital for expiration dates on all drugs," he said. "At first, I thought it was busy work, but I learned that medicine loses its potency if it is kept on the shelf too long."

Mr. Gibson, who is a rising senior biology major, said he was shocked when the state pharmacy board made a surprise inspection, looking for ex-

pired pharmaceuticals.

"I was prepared for this big problems, but the head of the pharmacy called me aside and told me I did a great job," he said.

The review found no errors and earned Mr. Gibson a part time job offer.

Johnna Locklear, a sophomore psychology and social work major, also was offered a part time position with the Robeson County Mental Health Center.

"When it was over we all cried and had a party. They offered me a part-time job, and I think I'll take it," she said.

HCAP's Director Johnson said the job offers are unusual and the highest compliment her interns can receive.

"I hope from this experience that you will go on to pursue the health career of your choice," she told the students. "I hope that this is not the last contact you will have with this office, and it is the beginning of a successful career in health care."

THE interns are: Dorothy Blowe, a junior biology major from Lumberton, LeeChelle Chavis, a freshman from Maxton who plans to major in biology; JaDell Dial, a sophomore biomedical major from Pembroke; Theotis Gibson, a junior biology major from Newport, N.C.; Diedren Hunt, a freshman from Maxton who intends to major in biology; Johnna Locklear, a freshman from Pembroke who plans to major in psychology and Natalie Pierce, a freshman from Pembroke who plans to major in biology.

## Seventh Annual Fleetwood sponsored golf tournament supports UNCP Teaching Fellows

Pembroke, N.C. -- The 7th annual Fleetwood Homes/Teaching Fellows Golf Tournament raised over \$6,500 for the UNCP Pembroke program.

Fleetwood, with two manufacturing facilities in Robeson County and about 750 employees, has supported the Teaching Fellows program since its start at UNCP in 1994, said Lumberton General Manager John Beddow.

"Fleetwood is committed to supporting education in our community," Mr. Beddow said after finishing his golfing round Thursday. "We had a great turnout today and a lot of help from 48 suppliers, retailers and local businesses, who sponsored holes on the course."

Scott Harker, general manager of the Pembroke plant, stated, "We plan on continuing to do this in support of the Teaching Fellows at UNCP. We feel it is an excellent program, and Fleetwood is committed to supporting education in Robeson County."

Fleetwood contributed \$10,000 in 1994 as seed money to bring the Teaching Fellows program to UNCP. The state-funded scholarship program provides \$26,000 over four years to highly qualified students who commit to becoming teachers.

Fleetwood's contribution provides academic, social and cultural enrichment activities for the 30 Teaching Fellows at UNCP, according to Dr. Irene Aiken, director of the program. The university also provides Teaching Fellow with lap-top computers and international travel experience.

"Fleetwood's contributions are greatly appreciated and very valuable in building an attractive and successful program," Dr. Aiken said. "I thank them for this contribution and for their continued support."

Chancellor Allen Meadors also thanked Fleetwood.

"Fleetwood has been there from the beginning for this special program, and we are so appreciative of their ongoing corporate assistance," Chancellor Meadors said. "The Teaching Fellows program attracts high quality students that strengthen UNC Pembroke. When they become teachers, the Teaching Fellows raise the bar for public education in this region and across the state."

Headquartered in Riverside, Calif., Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc. is a Fortune 500 company that builds a wide variety of manufactured housing.

The tournament was organized at

Pine Crest Country Club in Lumberton by Fleetwood Sam O'Neal and Neal Locklear, a 1998 graduate of UNCP and former member of the golf team.

Tournament winners in the four-man best-ball event were:

First place: Chris Szippel, Hugo Lewis, Mike Warren and Joe Matheson

Second place: Michael Dougherty, Cliff Collins, Dennis White and Todd Epps

Third Place: Jeff Tiffin, Gary Kratz, David Lane and Chuck Dione

Longest drive: Bill Purcell

Closest to the pin: Bill Mangum (#2) and Michael Dougherty (#10)



Fleetwood Homes Lumberton Plant Manager John Beddows, far left, and Pembroke Plant Manager Scott Harker present a check to Irene Aiken, director of the Teaching Fellows Program at UNCP and Chancellor Allen Meadors, far left.

## Center For Health & Fitness Now Open in Pembroke

Pembroke - FirstHealth Center for Health & Fitness - Pembroke opened Monday, July 12, at its temporary location in the University Plaza Shopping Center at 913 B West 3rd Street. The Center for Health & Fitness will be located at this site until a permanent facility featuring a new Health & Fitness facility and a family care center can be completed by the summer of 2000.

The temporary facility has a large variety of equipment including treadmills, cross trainers, stairclimbers, upright computerized bikes, semi-recumbent bikes, Cybex strength training equipment, Hammer Strength equipment and free weights to help in building cardiovascular endurance and strength.

The facility is open Monday - Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. Pre-sales for membership

ship have been ongoing throughout the month of June and members will walk through the doors for the first time on Monday, July 12. All new members receive a fitness evaluation and supervised orientation to the workout equipment. Persons interested in memberships or information may call 521-4777 or stop by the facility during operating hours.

The permanent facility will be located on 10 acres at the corner of N.C. Highway 711 and Redmon Road near Food Lion and Dollar General in Pembroke. When completed, the new center will feature an indoor swimming pool, nursery services and locker rooms on site. A variety of aerobics and aquatics classes also will be offered.

In addition, health promotion and education classes will be available to members and the community. Classes may include weight loss, smoking cessation, stress management and dietary counseling.

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## North Carolina Granted \$3.5 Million To Improve Housing

Washington - Senator John Edwards announced on Thursday that North Carolina will receive over \$3.5 million to improve the physical condition of public housing units across the state.

"Individual communities across the state are working hard to make sure that all North Carolinians have a place they can call home," said Senator Edwards. "These local agencies deserve our support so they continue to help low-income families and their children."

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded North Carolina a total of \$3,552,865. The funding will be distributed to three separate housing agencies.

The Chapel Hill Department of Housing and Community Development will receive \$460,000.

The Eastern Carolina Regional Housing Authority will receive \$1,210,877 to serve communities in Carteret, Duplin, Wayne, Sampson, Johnston, Craven, Harnett and Onslow counties.

The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro will receive \$1,881,723. These grants will help local communities repair and maintain housing for families living in public housing units. Funding will also help ensure that local housing agencies can continue to manage and operate the public housing projects in their communities.



HCAP participants at UNCP first row from left: Johnna Locklear, Dorothy Blowe, Ja Dell Dial, Conchata Locklear and LeeChelle Chavis. Second row from left: Natalie Pierce, Theo Gibson and Diedren Hunt.

## State representative favors bill to reduce lines at polls

Raleigh -- Rep. Ron Sutton joined a majority of the House in voting for a bill that should reduce lines at the polls on Election Day.

The measure, which cleared the House on a vote of 58-49, also would make it easier to cast an absentee ballot. Voters would no longer have to give a reason for their absence on Election Day.

State election officials predict that up to 35 percent of the state's voters would cast absentee ballots with no-excuse absentee voting. That should considerably ease poll crowding on Election Day, and perhaps nudge voter turnout higher. While this is not a major problem in this county, it is a significant detriment to voting in some larger metropolitan areas.

Rep. Sutton said no-excuse absentee voting would be particularly helpful to voters in today's society. "Voting is a privilege, and one that citizens should take seriously," Rep. Sutton said. "But there is no reason for government to make voting harder. This bill will make it easier."

In a compromise, no-excuse absentee voting would apply only in general elections - when turnout tends to be larger.

Critics said the measure would lead to voter fraud. Rep. Sutton disagreed. "I respect the ability of our elections officials to conduct fair and honest elections," Rep. Sutton said. "If this proposal to make it easier to vote, and reduce lines at the polls, opens the door to voter fraud, I will be glad to help close that door with future legislation."

House and Senate negotiators were expected to resolve differences between the two chambers over the issue. Then the final bill will be forwarded to the Governor for his signature so it can become law.