

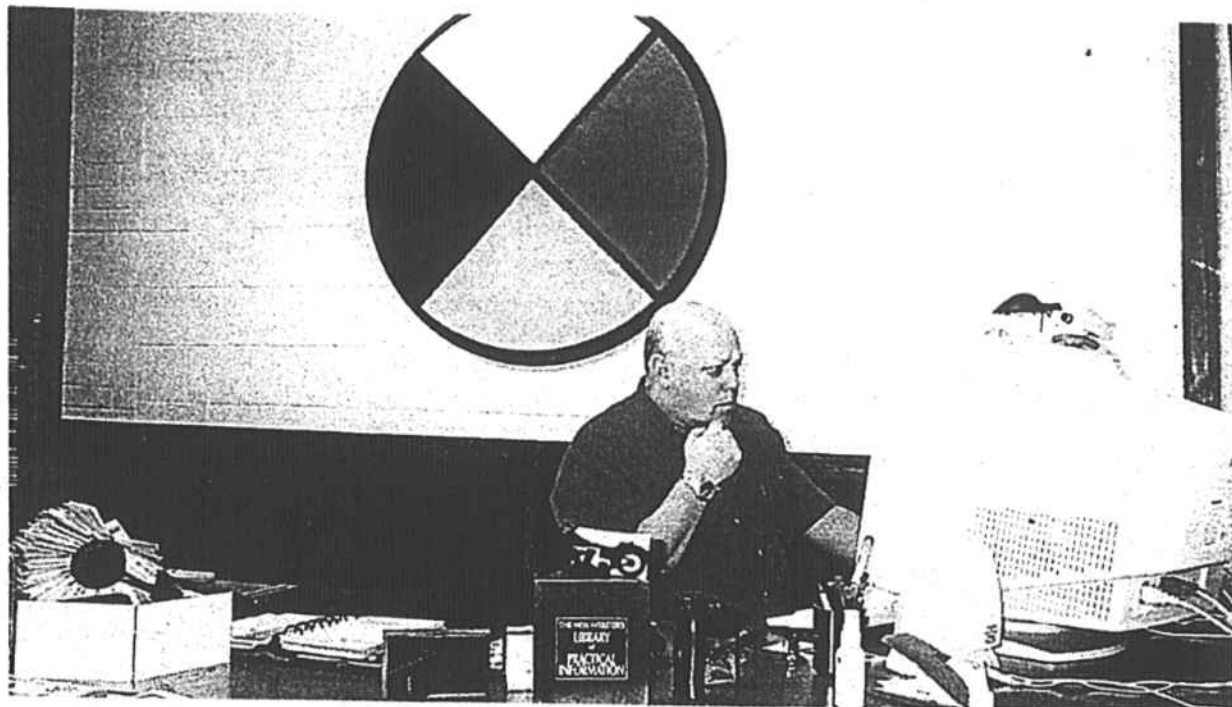
# The Carolina Indian Voice

"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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Dennis Clark

## High Technology Company Brings Jobs to Pembroke

McLean Research Corporation has recently opened their office at 306 Normal Street, Pembroke. They will entertain business leaders, members of the board of education and others who are interested in the latest in high technology on Friday, February 11 from 3-6 P.M.. At that time they will hold Open House to give the business community an opportunity to see first hand the capabilities of McLean Research Corporation (MRC).

MRC is a highly technical professional services firm which is equipped to provide a wide range of services including program management, computers systems, design, integration and support, engineering services and systems analysis, information technology and network engineering, advanced technology applications, system integration testing and evaluation, survivability and vulnerability methodologies and assessment, scientific, engineering, and technical assistance support, financial planning and administrative support, architectural and design services and instructional systems development and delivery.

It is a Native American Owned Corporation and is certified by the Small Business Administration as an 8(a) company. The stated mission of the Corporation is to apply technology and management skills to win government and commercial contracts that will provide profit, training and

employment opportunities for Natives. Their stated objective is to aggressively pursue business opportunities under the Small Business Administration's Small Disadvantaged Business, 8(a) Program; sole source and competitive contracts; strategic teaming with prime and sub contractors; and through superior performance by professional employees, cultivate a satisfied customer base which promotes the benefits of employing MRC to meet future customer needs.

Dennis Clark is the Vice President of the Southern Area of MRC. A native of Pembroke, Clark is excited to be back at home and in a position to provide employment to Native Americans. "I have always said," Clark said, "that technical expertise does exist in Robeson County. It is just one of the many untapped resources here." Clark says that an additional 30 to 50 employees will be hired by December 2000. He also expects the Pembroke office to be the principal office by May. The Corporation is a subsidiary of Bethel Native Corporation, a Certified 8(a) Alaskan Native Corporation.

After twenty-two years in the United States Navy, Clark retired from military duty in 1986. Since that time, until his affiliation with MRC, Clark was busy with aero space engineering firms, one HRB Singer in State College, PA, and the other in XEN Corp. where he began in 1988 and left in 1999 after

the company had become a \$10 million corporation. XEN was located in Alexandria, VA where Clark resided until returning home.

At the present time MRC employs nine Native Americans, including Clark. Clark's brother, J. Michael Clark, heads the Architectural and Engineering Division of MRC.

"The primary reason MRC is located in Pembroke," Clark explains is because Pembroke has been designated as an Historically Under-utilized Business Zone which means that 2-3% of federal procurement dollars will be spent in Under-utilized Business Zone areas." Also Clark stated "We wanted to afford our talented citizens of Robeson County the opportunity for high tech careers at home so they won't be forced to leave home to make a decent living."

Among other employees by MRC are Lae Ruth Sampson Alway who is financial manager; Tennille Sampson who is office manager; Brent Locklear, Engineer in training a; Tony Clark, computer network administrator and senior draftsman; and Horace Locklear, who is the State and Local Government Liaison and Marketing Entity

Clark, the son of Raymond "Spotted Turtle" Clark and the late Estelle Revels Clark is married to the former Linda Locklear, daughter of Mrs. Stella Locklear and the late Bernie Locklear of the Union Chapel Community. They have two sons and three grandchildren.

## More than 200 turn out for Pembroke Chamber of Commerce's annual dinner

Pembroke, N.C.--"Pembroke has prospered because of excellent leadership of elected officials and dedicated citizens," Sen. David Weinstein told more than 200 in attendance at the annual banquet of the Pembroke Area Chamber of Commerce.

The turnout at the James B. Chavis University Center on the UNC Pembroke campus was extraordinary despite snowy weather, according to Chamber President Don Gersh.

"This Chamber has a very loyal membership, which is its strength," Mr. Gersh said. "We sold every seat in the house."

The Chamber's immediate past President and Executive Director Ernestine Chavis - Bullfant was awarded the new Harry West Locklear President's Award for her contributions.

Lumbee Guaranty Bank President Larry Chavis accepted the Business of the Year Award for the thriving 29-year-old bank. From assets of \$670,000, the Pembroke bank has grown to more than \$100 million in assets with 10 branches.

Sen. Weinstein, a Lumberton Democrat who represents the Pembroke area in District 30, praised the growth of the Pembroke Area and said Robeson County has a solid economic future because of businesses like Lumbee Guaranty Bank.

"Farming is declining and the textile industry has really hurt us," Sen. Weinstein said. "I believe the future of all of Robeson County is in its location next to I-95 and U.S. 74."

"I-95 is a gold mine for the county, bringing in more than \$75 million in tourist business a year," he said.

A retired retail merchant, Sen.

Weinstein is former mayor of Lumberton and former UNCP trustee. He said he continues to support a large bond for the UNC system that will help UNCP meet its goal of doubling enrollment.

"We must support the bond issue, which will bring \$43 million to make this university grow and to bring more jobs and investment in Pembroke," he said. "Robeson Community College will receive \$8 million in this package."

Three new members of the Pembroke Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors were sworn in. Dr. Kenneth Clow, dean of the UNCP School of Business and Mass Communications, Dr. Rhonda Lowery, a physician with First Health of the Carolinas and Lucille Locklear, of First Union National Bank, are new directors.



Ernestine Chavis-Bullfant (center) accepts the Harry West Locklear President's Award from Don Gersh, president of the Pembroke Area Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Bullfant received the inaugural award, named in honor of the chamber's first president. Wanda Locklear Sampson attended the chamber's annual dinner and witnessed the award made in her father's honor. The award will be presented annually to a chamber member who the president selects as the "top volunteer." (UNCP Photo by Bobby Ayers)



Larry Chavis (right), president of Lumbee Guaranty Bank, accepts the Pembroke Area Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award from Joe Sandlin. Mr. Sandlin, retired president of Southern National Bank and a consultant to LGB, cited Mr. Chavis for his keen leadership and management abilities. Mr. Chavis was elected president of LGB in 1987. (UNC photo by Bobby Ayers)

## Carolina Manor supports Drug Free Celebration

Carolina Manor Treatment Center, associated with Southeastern Regional Medical Center, has made the first major donation to Project Graduation 2000, an all-night, drug- and alcohol-free party for graduating seniors in Robeson County. This year marks the eleventh anniversary of Project Graduation locally and the sixth year that SRMC has supported the event.

Larry Pittman director of Carolina Manor, presented a check for \$1,000 to be used for Project Graduation and said that he was pleased that Carolina Manor and SRMC could again be a part of this countywide event. "After working as a volunteer on the very first Project Graduation back in 1989, I became committed to the concept. SRMC and Carolina Manor are pleased to be sponsors of this worthwhile project again this year," he said.

According to Lavern Oxendine, president of Project Graduation 2000, this year's event will be held on Friday, May 26 at UNC-Pembroke. All graduating high school seniors in the county will be invited.

Opened in March 1985, Carolina Manor is a 26-bed, residential treatment center for alcoholism and other drug addictions. Thousands of patients have completed the treatment program, which is based on the 12-step model. Many more people have taken advantage of the three-day program to help family members of substance abusers.

Carolina Manor is located at 1100 Pine Run Drive. For more information, call (910) 738-1191.



David Locklear, Principal of Prospect School, left, thanks Harold Baxley Locklear for his gift to the school, a painting of a number of famous Prospect sites. Locklear has suggested that the PTA make and sell prints of the historic painting as a fund-raiser for the school's various programs.

## Harold Baxley Locklear Gives Prospect School a Painting as He Announces His Retirement

It's official! Harold Baxley Locklear, 57, has retired as an art teacher in the Public Schools of Robeson County "As of January 31, 2000." Upon announcing his retirement, he took the occasion to present a gift in parting, a painting or montage of a number of Prospect sites including Prospect United Methodist Church, Island Grove Baptist Church, Prospect School, Preston Gospel Hall,

New Philadelphus United Methodist Church and "New" Prospect Holiness Methodist Church.

Said Locklear in presenting the gift to Prospect Principal David Locklear, "This is something I wanted to do to repay this community and school for their many kindnesses to me as I finished my teaching career here. It is my hope that the PTA will make

prints of this painting and sell them as a fund raiser for the school.

Principal Locklear thanked Locklear for his gift and for his "many years of service to the school and the Public Schools of Robeson County." The Prospect School PTA is making plans to have prints made of the painting, then sell them as Locklear suggested as a fund raiser for the school.

## Congressman McIntyre Files for Re-Election to Seventh District



Lumberton--Seventh District Congressman Mike McIntyre filed recently for re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives. McIntyre, who was elected in 1996 and again in 1998, traveled to the State Board of Elections in Raleigh for the official filing.

Congressman McIntyre stated, "Serving the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District has been a high and distinct honor. We are at a crossroads for our future as we enter a new century. We must meet the challenges

ahead with concern, commitment and cooperation. We must be concerned about building a positive future for our families. We must honor our commitments, especially to our senior citizens, our children, our veterans and our military. We must strengthen cooperation between the public and private sectors and work together for the benefit of all of our citizens. Therefore, I am filing to seek the support of the citizens of southeastern North Carolina to continue serving as their trustee and voice in Washington."

"Education, health care, agriculture, and economic security will be the four cornerstones of the foundation for our future," McIntyre stressed. He said that he will continue to fight for

"Economic development, transportation needs, jobs and small business; protecting our farmers; livability and Native American recognition; A strong national defense and benefits for veterans and military retirees; beach renourishment, the environment and Wilmington port improvements' quality schools and technological advancements; communities that are safe from crime; affordable and accessible health care; fiscal responsibility and reducing the national

debt; and preserving Social Security and Medicare.

McIntyre serves on both the House Agriculture Committee and the House Armed Services Committee. He is co-chairman of both the Congressional Task Force on father hood and the Rural Health Care Coalition on Capitol Hill. Recently he was also selected co chairman of the newly-formed Democratic Task Force on Children.

A Morehead Scholar McIntyre graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1978 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received his Juris Doctorate from UNC School of Law in 1981. In 1987 he was chosen as one of the state's Five Outstanding Young North Carolinians of the Year for his community, church and civic leadership. In 1989 he earned the Governor's Award for outstanding Volunteer Service for his work with children and educators.

McIntyre and his wife Dee live in Lumberton with their two sons, Joshua and Stephen. He has been actively involved in First Presbyterian Church, the PTA, Rotary, Boy Scouts and the Chamber of Commerce, and he coached youth sports for several years.