

Around Ol' Robeson



Michael Locklear is the new mayor in Rennert

RENNERT-Hopefully Rennert's long nightmare is over as Michael Locklear was elected mayor of Rennert Tuesday for the second time in a 93-64 vote. The second election was called because of complaints by defeated incumbent Emmett McRae after the first election. The State Bureau of Investigation is looking into all kinds of shenanigans in Rennert, including McRae's allegations that illegals voted such as Mexicans and those living outside the town limits. The SBI is also investigating allegations of wrong doing swirling around McRae too. Also elected were new Councilmen to be Jeff Graham, Brenda Locklear and incumbent Junior Wilson.

Locklear, an Indian, is a middle school teacher at Red Springs Middle School. McRae, a Black, had been mayor since 1977.

3 masked men kill Pembroke man then flee

PEMBROKE-It's a mystery why a 23 year old Pembroke man was shot and killed Monday night by three masked men who then disappeared into the night.

Marcus Wayne Locklear, 23, of 77 Nancy Lane was shot to death at about 11 a.m. according to a spokesman for the sheriff's department. Capt. Randall Patterson said that neighbors saw three masked men running from Locklear's home after the fatal shooting. While leaving, the three masked men then shot Ronald Floyd, 25, of nearby 67 Nancy Lane, in both legs as he pulled into Locklear's driveway. Witnesses said that Locklear's front door was knocked open.

The SBI is assisting the sheriff's department in the investigation. Anyone with information in the case is asked to call the Robeson County Sheriff's Department at 671-3199 or the SBI at 1 (800) 334-3000.

Rennert woman charged with murder in husband's death

RENNERT-Sheriff's Capt. Randall Patterson said Monday that Sarah Locklear Chavis, 38, of 70 Reservation Road has been charged with murder in the beating death of her husband last week.

According to Patterson, Ms. Chavis admits killing her husband but said she did it to end the verbal abuse of her and their three children.

Sheriff's deputies had found Johnny Chavis, 31, dead in his bed last Wednesday night (April 5) with his skull crushed with a ten pound dumb bell. His wrists had also been slit with a box cutter.

UNC-Pembroke to help in Lumbee tribal survey

PEMBROKE-At its most recent meeting, the Lumbee Self Determination Panel decided to use the services of UNC-Pembroke to help conduct a survey of the Lumbee community concerning their feelings about what kind of government they want, if any. Jim Lowry, chairman of the august body, made the announcement and said he expected the survey to confirm that such a government is desired. If so, an election will follow shortly thereafter.

Results of the survey should be available at the commission's July meeting. Lowry said, "Based on numerous public hearings that have been held, we know that the Lumbee people want to form a tribal government and they want that government to be representative of them. A professional survey will legitimize and expedite the process toward an election which we hope will be held in October or November."

UNC-Pembroke ranks among best in teacher training in North Carolina

PEMBROKE-there were a lot of smiles on the UNC-Pembroke campus last week when the state board of education released findings showing that the University of North Carolina at Pembroke's program placed in the top echelon of the state's teacher training programs, but Dr. Zoe Locklear, Dean of Education, said that the university could do even better. The university scored a 120 in the rankings. UNC-P was one of 46 teacher training programs, both private and public, reviewed. 135 points would be exemplary. Dr. Locklear said, "The report is based on work we did last year, and we have already been working on making improvement in such areas as technology preparation, which is weak in most programs statewide."

Chancellor Allen Meadows said that he was pleased with the initial effort but noted that UNC-Pembroke's faculty and staff will continue to strive to make improvements.

Committee of 100 honored with cash award

LUMBERTON-The Robeson County Committee of 100 is one of five organizations to win \$500 cash prizes in the first N.C. Litter Prevention Award. Governor Jim Hunt will present the prizes at the Clean N.C. 2000 Rally on the capitol grounds in Raleigh on April 28.

Fleetwood honored for high customer satisfaction ratings

PEMBROKE-Fleetwood Homes of North Carolina, with plants in Pembroke and Lumberton, continues to win awards for customer satisfaction. The two plants were named winners of the company's Customer Satisfaction Index Award. The Pembroke plant had a satisfaction rating of 91 and Lumberton garnered a 90. The award is based on ratings compiled through customer surveys in which customers are asked to comment freely about the quality of their Fleetwood Home and their treatment before and after the sale.

Pembroke has won the award five times.

The Lumberton Plant took the opportunity to announce its Associate of the Year during the ceremony. Alex Locklear was named the top employee for 1999. Locklear is the assistant supervisor in the tops department. Congrats to all! Robeson County, and Pembroke and Lumberton specifically, are fortunate to have such a fine company in our community.



Chasity Chavis, Little Miss Lumbee

Little Miss Lumbee Travels Extensively

It's unbelievable! 491 miles and thirteen appearances for the month of November. This brings Chasity Chavis' miles traveled as Little Miss Lumbee to 3,886. What an exciting month November was from the Brunswick Pow Wow visiting the schools and a day care throughout Robeson County. Sometimes Chasity visited three different schools in one day. With every visit Little Miss smiled and proudly said, "Hello from the Lumbee Nation. My name is Chasity Genice Chavis, your reigning Little Miss Lumbee 1999-2000." Some of the crowds were small and then others were large, especially at the Middle and High schools. While attending a program at South Robeson, Ms. Shelia Godwin presented Chasity with a gift, a "Friend of the Feather," from Mother Earth Creations. This brightened Little Miss' afternoon because this was the last of three visits made that day.

To make being Little Miss Lumbee even more special, her mom, Yvonne, received a telephone call from the secretary of the head coach of the NC State football team. Chasity would meet the football team, Thursday morning at 10:45. Everyone could not believe the coach actually read her letter and planned to meet her before such an important game. Little Miss met Mike O'Cain, coach of the NC State football team, corner back, Lloyd Harrison (#2) and quarterback, Jamie Barnette (#4), at Ericsson Stadium for photos prior to the NC State and UNC Chapel Hill game. This was truly one time Little Miss was nervous and speechless! All she did was smile. Her dad, Michael, brothers, Mike and Jared

all had things they wanted to say or ask the coach. Little Miss was met later on that afternoon by her uncles Kenwin and Mike along with her aunts Darlene and Barbara. Her cousins, Jessica, Kendra, Kayla, and Kenwin II all had to listen to Chasity tell of taking pictures with the team.

The month of December was a little

slower, thank goodness! Little Mill had the Lumberton and Pembroke parades which she enjoyed and "smiled up a storm" for everyone. Chasity had Christmas concerts held at her school, Pembroke Elementary and Prospect United Methodist Church. She attended the Christmas program at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church also. Chasity thought it was great to lead the line at the LRDA Christmas party when it came time to eat.

Well, January and February are "breather months" but March brought the 25th Annual NC Indian Unity Conference. This was held in Fayetteville. By the way, it was 142 miles round trip from her home in the Prospect community to the convention center for two days. Chasity had her first ribbon cutting ceremony at Island Grove. They had a dedication ceremony for Island Grove Baptist Church Christian Day Care. Little Miss sang at Prospect Church's spring revival and attended the revival services each night. She also sang at the day revival held at Prospect United Methodist Church for the children who attend Prospect school. Chasity enjoyed singing for those in attendance.

The excitement is building for the Gathering of Nations' Pow Wow held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Chasity, her mom and dad, Yvonne and Michael along with her grandma Geneva will accompany her on the trip. Her brothers, Michael and Jared want to go also, so they had to SAVE their money! Little Miss ask every week, "how many more days?" Just in case you have thought of it, we already know how far it is from her home to Albuquerque, New Mexico, but we will leave you guessing until her next article.

We cannot thank everyone enough for all the kind words of encouragement you have given Chasity as your Little Miss Lumbee. May you have a wonderful Easter! This is the fourth in a series of articles on Chasity's reign as your Little Miss Lumbee!

Scotland Health Care System Receives Highest Accreditation Scores in its History

Scotland Health Care System was recently notified that it has again achieved accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) after an intensive four-day survey in February. The Joint Commission is the premier accrediting body for health care facilities. Their goal is to improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public by holding facilities accountable to established standards. Hospitals voluntarily elect to undergo a survey by a full team of experts every three years. This year, Scotland Health Care System demonstrated overall compliance with these standards with an overall score of 95 for Scotland Memorial Hospital, a score of 96 for the Edwin Morgan Center, and a score of 94 for the lab services performed in the clinics and Scotland Urgent Care Center. Only 22% of hospitals surveyed in 1999 received similar scores.

John H. Horne, Jr., Chairman of Scotland Health Care System said, "This tremendously successful accreditation proves our physicians and staff provide excellent health care.

Everyone worked extremely hard to achieve this honor as it took much cooperation and effort. As financial issues make it tougher to provide high quality health care, I am proud of our continued commitment to give our patients outstanding care and service."

Founded in 1951, the Joint Commission is dedicated to continuously improving the safety and quality of the nation's health care. "Above all, the national standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in an organization's performance and the outcomes of care," says Russell P. Massaro, MD, executive vice president, Accreditation Operations for Joint Commission. "The community should be proud that Scotland Health Care System is focusing on the most challenging goal - to continuously raise quality to higher levels."

Areas surveyed included the acute care hospital services, the five Family Practice Centers, Scotland Urgent Care, Amethyst at Scotland Memorial, The Edwin Morgan Center, and Scotland Behavioral Health.

Website Address Ready for Auto and Mobile Home Dealers

Pembroke, NC-What do internet users think when there's no website address at the bottom of dealers' ads?

They think that dealer is not up to date, says Mike Wilkins of WFC Press.

A web address is now ready for auto and mobile home dealers. It's www.car-mobilededeals.com. Dealers may use it free if they will list at least one of their specials at the site for a small fee.

Wilkins says, "People want freedom to make choices. At www.car-mobilededeals.com they can look at specials from a number of auto and mobile home dealers and select the ones which interest them."

Bill Gates has said: "By the year 2001, there will be two kinds of businesses. Those with web sites and those no longer in business." But, Wilkins does not advise auto and mobile home dealers to rush out and spend money to set up private sites.

A visitor to a private site gets only one dealer's special. At www.car-mobilededeals.com a visitor has a choice of many dealers' specials, Wilkins thinks people will be more attracted to this new site because of that.

Dealers who set up private websites

use their names in the address's body. That tells and internet user right off he or she will find only information about that single dealer at the site. Wilkins says,

"www.car-mobilededeals.com is a general address telling internet users they can find a variety of specials from a number of dealers. Wilkins says that some of the main benefits dealers get by putting this new web address at the bottom of their ads. Another benefit is it costs a dealer nothing."

Wilkins urges auto and mobile home dealers to catch up with the e times by placing www.car-mobilededeals.com at the bottom of their newspaper and TV ads. He will but says internet users will bookmark the site and return to it often. That repeat visit on will build valuable name recognition for dealers.

"I think placing the address at the bottom of ads shows respect for the many thousands of people using computers and the internet. It shows respect like a ramp for a wheelchair."

Auto and mobile home dealers may call 910-521-7314 to get details faxed to them.

WFC Press is sending postcard announcements out to some dealers.

Robeson County Democrats to Hold County Convention

The Robeson County Democratic Convention will be held at the County Courthouse in Lumberton on April 15, 2000 at 11 a.m. Election of Delegates to the District and State Conventions will be at that time. The Convention will also hear other business to be acted upon by our organized Precincts. All Democrats are urged to attend. For more information call County Democratic Chairman Milton Hunt at 521-4703 (nights).



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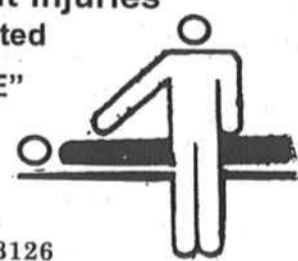


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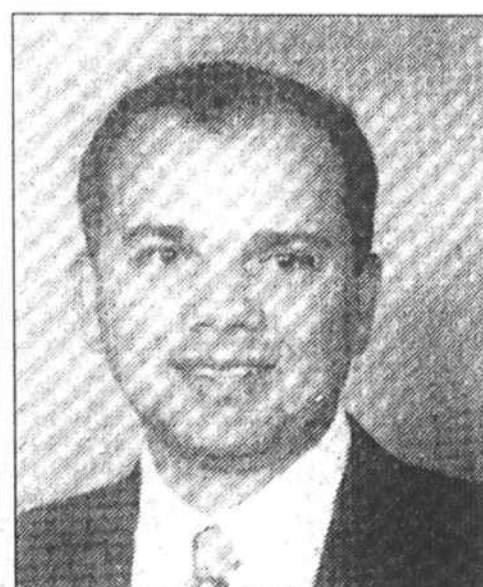
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