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Adolph Blue known as a man of principle and integrity



by Connee Grayboy

Mr. Adolph Blue, LRDA board member representing Pembroke and Union recently stepped down from his position as chairman of that board. The social services agency of the Lumbee Tribe has served the Lumbee population since 1968. Mr. Blue served eleven years as chairman and holds the distinction of serving as chairman longer than any other board member, from 1989 until 2000.

Recently while speaking with him about his overall health and how he felt about stepping down as chairman, Mr. Blue said: "I feel just like the snow has melted and new crops are beginning to grow again."

As he looked back on his thirteen years of service on the board, with eleven of them as chairman, Mr. Blue stated that he had seen many accom-

plishments as well as suffering many disappointments. "When I ran for the RDA board in 1987, I took the oath of office after winning with a great deal of anticipation and belief that I could make a difference. Thirteen years later, as I look back on it, I may have been a little naive, not being a politician, but believe that I have made a difference."

Among those who know Mr. Blue well, there is no doubt that he adds integrity and principle to the board who has an overall reputation of being very political." While Mr. Blue is the only Republican serving on the board, one of his greatest frustrations, he said, has been his failure to get the LRDA board to trade off Republican votes in exchange for Republican support on the issue of federal recognition. "It has been frustrating, but I am a Republican because I believe in the overall platform of the Republican Party. I am conservative and I would love to see a viable two party system in our county, and especially among the Indian people. I don't however expect to see that in my life time, but I still would like to see it."

Overall, Mr. Blue said, "the accomplishments and improvements I have seen in my tenure as Chairman have balanced out. There are always periods of elation and times of discouragement in anything that you do. I don't see anything that I would have done differently as chairman. When people discuss Adolph Blue and his contributions to LRDA I believe that they will say, I was honest in my dealings with them. No, I could not

do everything that people wanted me to do, but I always made decisions based upon what I felt was the right thing to do. And as long as a person does that, they can live easily and at peace with themselves."

He continued, "My mother taught me that honesty is the best policy. And I still believe that. If I didn't think I could honor a request made by a tribal member, I tried always to tell them the truth. Maybe, that was not always a popular position, but it is the best policy and I feel good about my reputation as an honest person. More importantly, when I look in the mirror, I can feel no shame or remorse about the way I have treated the people, employees and other board members as chairman. And I have to live with Adolph Blue first."

Most times when talking with Indians people about LRDA, even those who have no confidence in the agency, they will nevertheless say: "I believe Mr. Blue does the very best that he can."

Mr. Blue retired from UNCP June 30, 1991 after 25 years. He served as assistant to the physical plant director. Since his retirement he has been committed to LRDA and the Lumbee people. He is an active member of the Pembroke Lions Club. He serves in various capacities at First United Methodist Church.

While he will no longer serve as chairman of the agency, Mr. Blue will continue to serve in his elected position as board member representing Pembroke and Union.

Lieutenant Colonel Kirby R. Locklear retires from active duty with U.S. Air Force



dedicated the ceremony to his father's memory. His immediate plans call for him to stay in the Fort Walton Beach area where he has accepted a consulting position as a military planner with Tybrin Corporation.

Lt. Col Locklear's last position was Chief, Plans and Programs, Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), Hurlburt Field, Florida. The command is the air component of US Special Operations Command, providing Air Force special operations forces for worldwide deployment and assignment to regional unified commands.

Lieutenant Colonel Locklear was born 3 November 1956, in Lumberton, North Carolina and graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, Baltimore, Maryland in 1974. He attended the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force in 1978. In 1990, he received a Master of Arts Degree in Management from Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri.

He attended undergraduate Navigator Training at Mather AFB, CA, and upon earning his wings, he was assigned to the 16th Special Operations Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida in 1980 and flew the AC-130H Spectre Gunship. There he served as the squadron plans officer, and instructor navigator. In October 1983, he deployed to Operation URGENT FURY (Grenada). His crew was the first over the island and destroyed

numerous anti-aircraft sites. For the following 30 days, his crew provided close air support for Army ground forces. For his efforts he was awarded two Air Medals. Also, between 1983 while TDY to Panama, he amassed over 70 highly sensitive JCS-directed missions. Due to the demanding nature of these missions, he was awarded three Air Medals.

In January 1986, he was reassigned to the 71st Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron where he flew numerous real-world rescue missions in the state of Alaska. In 1987, he was reassigned to work as Senior Rescue Controller Headquarters, Alaskan Air Command Rescue Coordination Center. He was personally credited with 60 rescue missions and 61 lives saved.

In 1988, he was selected by Headquarters Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, as Shift Supervisor for the USAF Rescue Coordination Center. He coordinated and provided resources for rescue missions with federal, state, and local officials throughout the country.

In 1990, shortly after pinning on Major, he was assigned to HQ Military Airlift Command as Chief Southwest Asia Plans, Special and Technical Plans. During his tenure, he managed deployment plans for Rescue and Special Operations forces in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM.

Between 1992 and 1995, he was assigned to the 9th Special Operations Squadron as Chief Navigator and Assistant Operations Officer. During

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Strike at the Wind underway after great opening night

Red Banks-A near capacity crowd cheered opening night, Saturday, July 1, as Strike at the Wind opened for another great season. The outdoor drama about Henry Berry Lowrie and his white, Black and Indian counterparts in Robeson County plays Friday and Saturday nights through August 12. The ticket office opens at 8:15 p.m. nightly and the show begins at 8:30

p.m. Director David Oxendine has put together a great ensemble and the show bristles. Many of the old timers have returned, including Micah Sampson as Henry Berry Lowrie and Robert Bryant as the irrepressible Shoemaker John. Prior to the show Saturday night, the board of directors of Robeson Historical Drama Inc., the sponsoring

agency for the show, honored Bryant and Rev. Julian Ransom, who starred as the Leader for many years with Plaques of Appreciation. The organizers also recognized and honored David Carter, the chairman, for his leadership.

The show is held at the Adolph L. Dial Amphitheater at the North Caro-

lina Indian Cultural Center in the Red Banks community, approximately three miles from Pembroke.

Forticket information, call Beverly Collins at 910-521-2433, Willie Lowery at 910-671-0092, and Pearlann Revels at 910-865-5629. Tickets are adults \$7, senior citizens, \$5; and children under the age of 12 \$4.



Miss North Carolina, Lorna McNeill, addresses the General Assembly

History was made on Tuesday, June 27, 2000, when Lorna McNeill, Miss North Carolina, a Lumbee from Robeson County, was invited to address the General Assembly in Raleigh.

Miss McNeill was presented to the Senate by David Weinstein of Lumberton at their 3:30 p.m. Session and to the House by Representative Ron Sutton of Pembroke at their 4:00 p.m. Session.

Both Senator Weinstein and Representative Sutton gave introductory remarks about Miss North Carolina before presenting her to their respective chambers where she addressed the members.

Prior to presenting Lorna to the House, Representative Sutton reminded the group of a rather unique situation. Ironically, two members who are seatmates (share the same chamber desk), Representative Sutton and Representative Daniel Barefoot of Lincoln County, had winning constituents in the Miss North Carolina Pageant - Lorna from Robeson County as Miss North Carolina and Stacey Parker, the First Runner-up, from Lincoln County. Old timers cannot remember legislative seatmates having constituents

finishing first and second in the Miss North Carolina Pageant before.

Following her introduction in the House Chamber, Lorna made eloquent remarks about her goals and aspirations for the coming year.

Being invited to speak on the House and Senate floors is a unique honor. This places Lorna in very select company.

"Since I've been serving here we have had the likes of President Clinton, Vice-President Gore, Miss America, Rev. Billy Graham, foreign heads of state, former UNC Coach Dean Smith, and Miss Indian World, Miss April Whittemore," said Rep. Sutton. "It is an honor that is not bestowed on very many citizens."

Lorna received a gracious and warm reception in both Chambers and the members were impressed with her in every respect. "Lorna is going to represent us well in the Miss America Pageant in October," said Rep. Sutton as he expressed the appreciation of all the members for her visit.

Miss North Carolina was escorted to the "Well" of the House by Representatives Ron Sutton, Donald Bonner, Doug Younge, David Redwine, Dewey Hill, and Mia Morris.

Ground Breaking held for new Tribal Family Services Center to house LRDA programs

Lumbee Regional Development Association held a ground breaking ceremony on Saturday, following the Annual Lumbee Homecoming Parade.

The building will cost between \$800,000 and \$1 million dollars and will be located on the Prospect Road. The project is being financed by the Lumbee Bank and the bid for construction was awarded to Lonnie Locklear and Sons Construction Company. Construction is expected to begin immediately on the 13,000 square foot facility. The LRDA board expects the facility to be completed in December or January

To by known as the Tribal Family

Services Center, the new facility will house all the LRDA programs which are now housed in various buildings around Pembroke.

In attendance for the ground breaking was the former LRDA chairman and board member Mr. Adolph Blue and the new chairman, Mr. Leroy Freeman and other board members, employees and tribal members.

The board's intention in constructing the new facility is to make services more available to tribal members. It is planned for all services to be centrally located and will simplify services to members.

Federal Recognition Summit

The Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe held a "Federal Recognition Summit", Saturday, June 3, 2000 in Rocky Mount, NC. Members of the Tribe's Federal Recognition Committee, Tribal Council Members, and various researchers met to discuss the tribe's recognition efforts. The Galiwa-Saponi are in the process of seeking federal recognition through the federal acknowledgment project. A petition for acknowledgment, prepared by the Indian Law Unit of Lumbee River Legal Services, who was also present for the summit, was submitted in October 1989. A review outlining the obvious deficiencies, called a technical assistance review, of the tribe's petition was received in 1990. The Indian Law Unit is currently working with the tribe to prepare a formal response to that review. Elk Richardson, Tribal Council member and Chairman of the Federal Recognition Committee spoke of the tribe's dedication to obtain federal recognition. Cynthia L. Hunt, paralegal of the Indian Law Unit and co-author of the Haliwa-Saponi Petition, gave a presentation for Federal Acknowledgment, on a summary of the tribe's petition process and the status of the document. Participants, including historian Wes Taukchiray and Troy Richardson, Federal Recognition Committee member and visiting professor at Harvard University were part of an open discussion on recommendations to complete a final response to the tribe's technical assistance review. These recommendations will be made to Tribal Council. Others present included, Tribal Council member-Tiachi Richardson; Tribal Council Chairperson-Ruth Ealing; Tribal Administrator- Joseph O. Richardson; Federal Recognition Committee Members-Dudley Lynch, Senora Lynch, Marty Richardson, and Earl Evans; and Christopher Everette, Ph.D. candidate at Vanderbilt University and Cedric Woods, representative from the Mashantucket Pequot Indian Tribe of Connecticut, both researchers of southeastern Indians.



LUMBEE
 THE NEW YEAR
 Jamie Hunt



One of the symbols of Indian pride and accomplishments and always a crowd pleaser is Sheriff and Mrs. Glenn Maynor as they participated in the Lumbee Homecoming parade this past Saturday.