

# CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Published each Thursday in Pembroke, N.C.

"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

Volume 27 Number 29

Thursday, July 20, 2000

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## McIntyre Pays Tribute to Lorna McNeill in Congressional Record

Washington, D.C.--U.S. Representative Mike McIntyre has entered a tribute in The Congressional Record, to Lorna McNeill of Robeson County, who was recently crowned Miss North Carolina 2000.

On Saturday, Congressman McIntyre will present a framed copy of the remarks to Miss McNeill at a reception being held in her honor in Pembroke immediately following the Lumbee Homecoming Parade.

In his remarks to the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman McIntyre stated:

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lorna McNeill who was recently crowned Miss North Carolina 2000. A native of Saddlecreek Township which is near Lumberton, in my home county of Robeson, Lorna's recent accomplishment is a source of immense pride throughout our county and all of southeastern North Carolina. She is also the first Lumbee Indian to win the title of Miss North Carolina.

The American historian, James Truslow Adams, once said, "Seek out that particular mental attribute which makes you feel most deeply and vitally alive, along with which comes the inner voice which says, 'This is the real me, and when you have found that attitude, follow it.' With decision, dedication, and de-

termination, Lorna has followed her heart and mind and become Miss North Carolina 2000.

Lorna is a woman of decision who trusts in her instincts, her deeply-rooted religious beliefs, and the guidance of her wonderful parents in setting her goals. She is a woman of decision who always asks, "How can I best serve my community?"

Lorna is a woman of dedication who does not rest on her laurels. A winner of the first pageant she entered at the age of 15--Miss St. Pauls--and subsequent crowns of Miss Lumbee in 1994, Miss Fayetteville in 1998, and Miss Topsail Island in 2000, Lorna has kept the fire and energy alive to reach her dream of Miss North Carolina. She is a woman of dedication who provides a positive example for all to follow. A woman of dedication who has served as a substance abuse counselor with the Palmer Drug Prevention Program in Lumberton, Lorna will now inform young people all across North Carolina of the danger of drugs and alcohol.

Finally, Lorna is a woman of determination: a woman determined to make a difference, a woman of determination who understands that we face challenges that will define our future, a woman of determination who knows that we must address

these challenges, a woman of determination motivated by the hope of making life better for all.

Personally, my family and I have come to know and love Lorna over the last few years. She sang when I first announced I was running for Congress on September 25, 1995, in Lumberton's Downtown Plaza, and she also sang during my announcement for re-election on October 2, 1997. More recently, my wife, Dee, and Lorna have been "working out" together at a local fitness center for the last six months, leading up to her recent coronation. Lorna and Dee have even been taking boxing together under the same instructor, Staff Sgt. Andrew Baker, who retired from the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, Lorna often uses the words of Pastor Robert Schuller when speaking before young people on the importance of achieving their dreams: "If it's gonna be, it's up to me."

Lorna, thank you for fulfilling those words through your decision, your dedication, and your determination. We wish you continued success, and may God's strength, peace and joy be with you as your reign as Miss North Carolina 2000 and as you compete for the title of Miss America!

## Robeson County Public Defender Attends National Symposium on Indigent Defense

A North Carolina delegation of criminal justice officials attended the second annual National Symposium on Indigent Defense held June 29th - 30th, 2000. Members of the North Carolina delegation who attended were Public Defender Angus Thompson II, President of the North Carolina Association of Public Defenders; District Attorney William Kenerly, President of North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys, Appellate Defender Tye Hunter, Superior Court Judge Erwin Spainhour, Rhoda Raney of the Governor's Crime Commission, John Rubin, a professor of public law and government at the Institute of Government, and AOC support staff, Rick Kane and Dolly Whiteside.

The symposium, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, brought together teams of criminal justice leaders and policy makers from all fifty states to explore innovations and trends affecting the provision of legal services to poor people facing criminal charges.

The participants at the symposium examined how indigent defense providers could expand their role to both represent clients and help reduce recidivism; how all criminal justice agencies could work together to ensure equal justice for the poor in criminal cases; collaborate and de-

velop strategies to promote fairness, reliability and integrity of criminal case outcomes; and work together to improve public confidence in the system.

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, one of many national criminal justice leaders who addressed the group, commented that this year's meeting took place at a critical and perfect time in light of the national conversation in recent months about innocent people who are wrongfully convicted and the importance of competent counsel. The Attorney General addressed six key issues:

- 1) we must recognize the critical role of indigent defense services in the criminal justice system;
- 2) we must implement standards for indigent defense that cover among other things, skills, experience, and appropriate workloads for indigent defense offices;
- 3) we must devote sufficient resources to indigent defense such as funds to pay court appointed counsel, investigators, and staff to handle overflowing caseloads; yet recognizing the need for putting in place cost-containment measures;
- 4) we must insist that the indigent defense community acquire essential training and technical assistance;
- 5) we must gain a better understanding just how well or how poorly

indigent defense systems in this country are faring; and

6) although we may be adversaries, the criminal justice system must work in collaboration

Public Defender, Angus Thompson, was particularly impressed with the idea of establishing criminal justice planning commissions or councils on the local level. Such a commission would bring together representatives from key criminal justice agencies in a given jurisdiction to conduct planning from a multi-agency or system wide perspective.

Other members of the North Carolina delegation in attendance, whom you may also wish to contact for comment are: Tye Hunter, Appellate Defender, 919-560-3334; Angus Thompson II, Robeson County Public Defender, 910-671-3364; William Kenerly, Rowan County District Attorney, 704-639-7512; Erwin Spainhour, Superior Court Judge, 704-786-4279; Rhoda Raney, Governor's Crime Commission, 919-733-4564; John Rubin, Institute of Government, 919-962-2498; Rick Kane, Administrative Office of the Courts, 919-733-7107; and Dolly Whiteside, Administrative Office of the Courts, 919-733-7107.

Attorney General Reno's complete address which consist of five pages can be found at: [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/indigentdefense](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/indigentdefense)

## United Methodist Women Meeting

The Rockingham District United Methodist Women of The United Methodist Church will sponsor a program featuring Mary Zigbo on July 30, at 3:00 at First United Methodist Church in Laurinburg, N.C. Mary Zigbo is a mission worker (Missionary) from Monrovia Liberia, South Africa.

The program will feature slides depicting her work in South Africa and the relationship of the Monrovia district and the Rockingham District United Methodist Women.

Other features included will be the greetings from Dr. Jimmy Cummings, mission coordinator for The North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church; Rev. Jerry Lowery, Pastor Of First United Methodist Church in Laurinburg, N.C.; and Earline Wadell, District United Methodist Women President.

There will be on display exhibits including many items from Africa, Monrovia District U.M.W., resources, and many interesting items.

Refreshments will feature recipes from South Africa.

Members of the committee are:

Mary Carroll, Sheryl Taylor, Renee Wright, Elizabeth Marshall, Roberta Scipio, Chairperson, and Earline

Wadell. Rev. J. Edward Morrison is Superintendent of The Rockingham District.



A group of the Marvin and Stella Lowry great grandchildren getting to know each other.



## American Red Cross Robeson County Chapter

Mr. John Meares, left, won the diamond ring donated to the Red Cross by Cyna's Jewelers for the recent fund raiser. Mr. Tim Locklear, co-owner of Cyna's Jewelers, is shown beside Mr. Meares. Also shown is Mrs. Patricia Brayboy, Director of the Robeson County Chapter of the American Red Cross, and Mrs. Cynthia Locklear, co-owner of Cyna's Jewelers. The Robeson County Chapter of the American Red Cross wishes to thank the following people for their generous donate.

Cyna's; Sheff's Seafood; Jack's Furniture; Lagrands Formal Wear; Westpoint Pepperell; Ace Hardware; BB & C Body Shop; Mother Earth's Creations; Kmart; Lowes; Fuller's Old Fashion BBQ; and Mr. John Locklear (The Pope).

Mr. John Meares is the proud winner of a 1 ct. Round Brilliant Diamond Ring donated by Cyna's Jewelers. Other raffle winners include: Mr. James Strickland, Gas Grill; Mr. Carl Britt, Golf Watch; Mr. Ryan Chavis, Gamef Watch; Mr. John Locklear (The Pope), Shirt & Tie Set; Mrs. Joyce Hammonds, Cordless Phone; Mrs. Barbara Lovejoy, Shampoo & Style and Hand Paraffin Wax; Mrs. Diane Chavis, Wheelie Cooler; Mrs. Kimberly Wallace, Gift Certificate Mother Earth; Mr. Sherman Moody, 14 Speed Blender; Mr. Williams Roth 12 Cup Coffee Maker; Mrs. Joyce Chavis, 2 Dinner Fuller's; Mrs. Patricia Locklear, 2 Seafood Dinner Sheff's; and Mr. Larry Barr, Set of Sheets.



Three Generations of Lowry Descendants renew family ties in South Carolina.

## Lowry Descendants Meet In South Carolina

Fifty two Lowry descendants and connections from the Marvin and Stella Lowry lineage congregated on Hilton Head Island for their 13th consecutive biennial family reunion. Representation from three generations came from seven states and Mexico for a three-day family affair at the Hilton Oceanfront Resort the fourth weekend in June. Brother C.B. Lowry and spouse Sandy, from the Napa Valley in California, along with sister Barbara Conner from Matthews, North Carolina, were our hosts. Our primary mission, as in the past, was to catch up on family happenings, renew family ties, and meet new family connections. Since this family lineage has grown to 93 members, I compiled a six-page genealogical profile and made available a copy for each family present. All seven children from the Marvin and Stella Lowry union were present, along with twelve grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, and the spouses. Brother Curless Lowry, with family connections in Georgia and Florida, had the most present with twelve family members. The Ronald Lowry kinfolk from Virginia

with eleven members, was the only one to have one hundred percent present. Our lineage can be traced back to the original James Lowry family in the 1700s. We descended from the union of his son William Lowry and Betty Locklear. Over the years, this family lineage has used a variation in the spelling of their surname.

A custom we have followed in past reunions was to attend church together on Sunday morning in the home church of our host. Instead of looking for a church to attend on Hilton Head Island, brother C.B.'s son-in-law, David Nielsen, conducted a 30-minute worship service on the beach. His present job requires keeping a residence in Mexico City with his family and he is active in his church by working with the youth. Brother Marvin is quite efficient with the harmonica, which he always keeps handy. He provided the music for the group singing the first verse of "Amazing Grace." I was happy to see the spiritual growth continues to be an important part of the clan's life styles.

So far this Lowry lineage has produced 25 grandchildren and 31 great-

## UNCP Receives Grant to solve teacher shortage

Pembroke, N.C.--A federal grant awarded to UNC Pembroke's School of Education will assist in the recruitment, training and retention of public school teachers.

The \$991,439, three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education will give 61 Native American students the opportunity to attend UNCP with the stipulation that they teach two years for the Public Schools of Robeson County. The school system is a partner in the program.

"In essence the program is designed for Robeson County to grow its own supply of teachers," said Gene Brayboy, director of UNCP's Office of Sponsored Research and Programs, who applied for the grant.

The program will begin recruiting teachers in Robeson County high schools in September. The county, like the most of the state, is chronically short of certified teachers. Early this summer the public schools needed approximately 250 new teachers early this summer.

The program will provide scholarships to students after they have been admitted into the teacher education program.

Seventh District Congressman Mike McIntyre, who announced the grant receipt, praised the partnership that sought the grant.

"It is wonderful to see the collaborative effort between UNCP, Public Schools of Robeson County and the local Native American community,

and I am extremely pleased to see our tax dollars coming back home to help promote excellence in education," Congressman McIntyre said.

The grant will pump \$463,265 into the program in the first year. In the first two years, the program will help identify and recruit future teachers and provide them with academic enrichment and support. In the last year, the program will focus on retention of teachers.

Chancellor Allen C. Meadors said the program would help boost the local teacher pool.

"We all know that we have a tremendous shortage of K-12 teachers and an even smaller number of minority teachers," Chancellor Meadors said. "It is crucial that we have teachers of all races in all schools. We truly don't want to lose our Native American students to other professions."

A goal of producing 61 Native American teachers has been set, according to Dr. Zoe Locklear, dean of the School of Education.

"This is the kind of program that we believe will greatly increase the number of qualified teachers produced at UNC Pembroke," Dr. Locklear said. "I thrilled at the news of winning this grant."

"With teacher pay on the rise in North Carolina, I believe that the time is right for successful recruitment," she said. "With this program, we can go out and make our case directly to the students."

Ronald H. Lowry