

# CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## H. Dobbs Oxendine files for Tribal Government Board, District 3



H. Dobbs Oxendine

H. Dobbs Oxendine announces his candidacy for election in District 3 for a new Lumbee tribal government seat. District 3 includes all of the city of Lumberton, East Howellsville and Wisharts.

Mr. Oxendine has been self-employed since 1966 and is President of Dobbs Enterprises Inc., which includes several other businesses, including the new Dobbs Travel Center on West Fifth Street, which includes a truck stop and Huddle House.

Mr. Oxendine's businesses employ over 60 persons in the county, and his family was the first Indian family to own major businesses in the Lumberton area during 1945.

He is a businessman who feels that his business experience can be an asset to the advancement of a full-fledged tribal government for the Lumbee membership.

Oxendine is a past Chairman of the Lumbee Federal Recognition Committee, and served as its leader when the tribe came within two votes of passing the bill in Congress in 1991. He wants to continue the fight for federal recognition looking at new options such as a lawsuit that may advance the Lumbee cause.

Oxendine currently serves on the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs and the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center Board. He has a long history of service to the community, being a charter member of the "Strike at the Wind" Robeson County Historical Drama Association board.

Oxendine holds a BA degree from Pembroke State University (1963) and has over 30 years experience as an entrepreneur in Robeson County. In addition to this, he is an active member of the Democratic party and was appointed by Congressman McIntyre in 1997 to the Small Business Advisory Committee.

The Governor appointed him in 1985 to the Statewide North Carolina Human Relations Commission in Raleigh. He was also one of the original founders of the West Lumberton

Kiwanis Club, a civic, community organization.

Mr. Oxendine feels it would be an honor to serve the Lumbee tribe in this capacity to help create a unified "one tribe and one government."

He stated that he wants to help the tribe to develop a governing system that will stand the test of time for the sake of future generations. "We don't need to pass on a system of government that leads to future divisiveness of our people," Oxendine said. "It needs to be done right this time."

Housing services to the people will be a priority, Oxendine said, "if he is elected." "I want to continue to see that my district get its fair share of the housing funding under any future government," Oxendine stated.

Oxendine strongly believes, however, that the tribe cannot totally depend on social programs for funding. He will push for economic development that will create flexible revenue for the tribe and create jobs for the tribal membership. The new tribal government and its governing document must also enhance such diversity in an environment that will promote creativity and timely business decisions by the elected body, Oxendine stated.

## 24th Annual Native American Cultural Festival/Pow Wow

Greensboro--The Guilford Native American Association is pleased to announce that they will be celebrating their annual Cultural Festival and Pow Wow on September 15 - 17, 2000. The Cultural Festival/Pow Wow is co-sponsored by Guilford Native American Association and Greensboro Country Park, a division of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department. The three-day event will be held at Greensboro Country Park, Greensboro, NC.

A Cultural Festival for K-6th graders will kickoff the event on Friday, September 15. The Cultural Festival will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 1:30 p.m. School children from throughout Guilford and surrounding counties are invited to attend the festival. Admission is \$2.00 during the festival only.

Activities to take place during the festival include Native American storytelling, pottery and beadwork demonstrations, and traditional dancing. Featured performers for the festival will include the Ximalli Aztec Dancers of Mexico. Native American traders will also be selling traditional arts and crafts.

The Pow Wow will officially begin Friday, September 15 with the Opening Ceremony at 7:00 p.m. and will continue through Sunday, September 17 with various activities including inter-tribal dancing, dance competition, drum competition, arts

and crafts competition, honoring ceremonies and a gospel singing. The Pow Wow will feature dancers representing tribes from throughout the United States and Canada. These dancers, ranging from babies to our elders, will compete for prize money in several different dance categories. Food vendors will be on hand selling various foods, including traditional Indian frybread and tacos. General admission is \$5.00/day, senior citizens \$1.00, children 6-12 \$1.00, children 5 and under free.

Serving as Master of Ceremonies will be Keith Colston of the Lumbee tribe. Keith was born and raised in Fayetteville, NC but currently resides in Baltimore Pow-Wow, Metrolina Pow-Wow, NC Unity Conference Pow-Wow, and many others along the east coast.

We are honored to have Miss North Carolina Loma McNeill performing on Sunday. Ms. McNeill is a member of the Lumbee Tribe and the first Native American to hold this title. She will be competing in the Miss American Pageant on October 14, 2000 in Atlantic City.

Our Host Drum will be A-WO-HA-LI from Cherokee. Our Head Dancers will be Rafael Silva from the Navajo/Pueblo Tribe and Brenda Silva from the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe.

We are celebrating twenty five years (25) years of Guilford Native American Association's existence-September 1975 was when we incorporated. Please Note: Our theme for this year's Cultural Festival/Pow Wow is "Keeping Our Traditions Through Centuries of Dancing".

For further information regarding the Cultural Festival and Pow Wow, please call (336) 273-8686.

## Family Health and Fitness Day Planned

The Robeson County Council on Physical Fitness and Health will sponsor "Family Health and Fitness Day" on Saturday, September 23rd from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the Lumberton Senior High School Track. Scheduled events include a walk relay, blind basketball free-throws, soccer ball kick and many, many more.

You will not want to miss performances by the WKML Bootscooters and line-dancing by the Golden Ladies.

Get ready, set, go...to "Family Health and Fitness Day," Saturday, September 23rd from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Lumberton Senior High School (Fayetteville Road, Lumberton).

## Area High School Students View Civics Videotape Contributed by UNCP

Thanks to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, any of the nearly 30,000 high school students, as well as cable television views and public library patrons, in the Seventh Congressional District of North Carolina will have the opportunity to learn more about how the federal and state courts systems work. They will learn this from a civic, educational videotape contributed to every public and private high school, community and junior colleges, cable television stations, and some of the area chambers of commerce and public libraries by The University of North Carolina at Pembroke and the Committee for Citizen Awareness. The videotape entitled "Your Court System and You" features Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Ruth Baden Ginsburg, Dr. Allen C. Meadors, Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and Representative Julian Dixon. The video tape includes information pertaining only to the 7th Congressional District of North Carolina.

D. Meadors said, "The University of North Carolina at Pembroke became involved with the public-service project after learning that only 20



## Craig D. McMillian files for District 10

Craig D. McMillian, of 57 McGougan Farm Rd. in Rennert, has filed for the Nov. 7 Lumbee government election. Mr. McMillian filed for District 10, which includes St. Pauls, Parkton, Shannon, Rennert and Lumber Bridge.

McMillian, who earned his B.S. in Business Administration from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, works for Summito Electric Lightwave in Whiteville as Business Unit Leader.

Mr. McMillian, father of two, currently serves as President of the Rex Rennert Youth Organization and counselor for Troop 322's Boy Scouts of America.

If elected, I will use my unbiased beliefs to better unify our tribe on issues that effect all of us, such as healthcare, education and housing. I will work diligently, with my counterparts, to make the best and most informed decisions for our people.

I will represent and act as a voice for the Lumbee tribe in all matters including government related issues.

I will support equality for all Lumbee people, young and old. I believe that we must protect our ancestors, for they have gotten us this far, I also believe that we must protect our youth for they will take us farther.

Let your first and most important vote be for Craig McMillian, the candidate who understands, cares, and is dedicated to the betterment of the Lumbee Nation.

## Lumbee Self Determination Commission Continues Work on Nov. 7 Tribal Election

PEMBROKE--The Lumbee Self-Determination Commission continues to meet and iron out procedural and legal difficulties as it works toward its November 7 tribal election.

At the September 9 (Saturday) meeting, it was announced that candidates continue to file for the 23 tribal council seats and for tribal chair. As of Wednesday (Sept. 13), 27 candidates had filed for the various council seats and tribal chair. Three of the candidates have filed for tribal chairman, including Rev. Jerry McNeill and Leroy Freeman, respectively chairman of the Lumbee Tribal Council and LRDA. The only other candidate for chair is Harold "Iron Bear" Collins, a national and state power lifting champion who has participated in many national Strong Man competitions. He operates the Pembroke Power House Gym in Pembroke.

The filing period for Lumbee Indians who wish to serve on the new tribal government will run from August 23 until October 6. Local candidates can file in person at the Lumbee Self-Determination Office at 707 Union Chapel Road or through the mail. The mailing address is P.O. Box 2709, Pembroke, N.C. 28372. The office telephone # is 521-7861.

At the meeting Saturday, Chairman Jim Lowry noted that the survey had been validated by the Institute of Government on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus and that the board of elections had been contacted to help conduct a workshop for election workers and to also help in various other ways. It is expected

that the election sites will coincide with the board of election precincts where possible, keeping in mind that the tribal election must be separate from the regular election and that LSDC sites be at least fifty feet away from regular polling places. The commission members made a number of recommendations for election workers, and asked that those interested in working on election day contact the commission office.

Chairman Jim Lowry applauded commission members for working together, but did announce that the recent election of Mr. Marty Blanks to replace retiring Adolph Blue had been rescinded because it would have upset the balance between LRDA and tribal council. Lowry termed it "a mistake on the part of the commission", and not Blanks.

The election is part of a mandate established by Superior Court Judge Howard Manning in which he set up the commission and procedures to assure Lumbees the right to determine what kind of tribal government they desired, if any, and the mechanisms to carry it out. Manning intervened when the Lumbee Regional Development association (LRDA) and the Lumbee Tribal Council legally approached his court for legal remedies to establish which entity was the rightful Lumbee government and authority.

The next meeting of the LSDC will be Sept. 30 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Chavis Center on the UNC-Pembroke campus.

## New Chairman of Cultural Center to Make Presentation to Indian Commission

Pembroke, NC--On September 15th Mr. Gene A. Brayboy, Chairman of the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center (NCICC), Pembroke, NC, will be presenting to the North Carolina Indian Commission at their meeting in Chapel Hill. The meeting will be conducted in the State Dining Room of the Morehead Planetarium starting at 10:00 A.M., on the campus of UNC. Mr. Brayboy says his presentation features the reorganization of the NCICC Board of Directors, including innovative and imaginative strategies for future success of the Center. The presentation is titled: An Extraordinary Venture: Shaping the Future of the NCICC. Mr. Brayboy says that the NCICC is planning growth, and the meeting has enormous significance to the future of the NCICC with State and Congressional lawmakers. Growth plans include operating components such as Business Ventures & Operations, Cultural and Programming Operations, Finance & Resource Management, and Marketing & Public Relations.

## Mobility Program Continues to Offer Assistance to Seniors

The "Seniors in Motion" program of North Carolina has already assisted many people in this area and is continuing to make mobility equipment available to seniors and physically handicapped persons.

The "Seniors in Motion" program provides equipment usually at no cost to the patient. Some of the equipment available in this program includes: Motorized wheelchairs, manual wheelchairs, three and four wheel scooters, and other mobility equipment.

The requested item is delivered to the senior's home and instruction in operation is given by your local rehab representative.

A "Seniors in Motion" rehab representative is in your area and will assist you with an in-home assessment and equipment fitting. There is help available. Please call 1-800-594-1225 for more information.

## Religious Poems Sought From Pembroke-Area Poets

Good news for sincere poets! The Bards of Burbank is offering a \$1,000 grand prize in their Poetry Competition 2000, free to everyone. The deadline for entering is October 2, 2000.

To enter, send one poem 21 lines or less: Free Poetry Contest, PMB250, 2219 W Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91506, or enter online at www.friendlypoets.com.

"We think religious poems can invite achievements," say Dr. John Scribner, the organization's Contest Director. "We're especially keen on inspiring amateur poets and we think this competition will achieve that. North Carolina has made many wonderful poets over the years and I'd like to discover new ones from among the Pembroke-area grass-roots poets."



## Berea Baptist Observes Pastor Appreciation Day

Berea Baptist Church, Pembroke, NC observed Pastor and Wife Appreciation Sunday, August 27. Rev. Bruce Swett and wife Mrs. Peggy Swett received gifts and flowers.

Rev. Mike Cummings, Director of the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association and President of the NC State Baptist Convention was the guest speaker for the occasion. Gifts were presented to Mike and Quae for their continued dedication and support to Berea Baptist Church. A covered dish dinner followed in the Church Fellowship Hall.

## Fund established at Lumbee Bank for Korea Veterans Memorial

A Committee comprised of Erwin Jacobs, Fred Chavis and Rudy Locklear of the Pembroke VFW have established a fund to erect a memorial to Robeson County veterans at the Post Head Quarters on Union Chapel Road, Pembroke. The fund has been established at Lumbee Guaranty Bank. All donations for this monument are tax deductible. All donations should be sent to Lumbee Guaranty Bank, PO Box 908, Pembroke, NC 28372. Make checks payable to Robeson County Veterans Memorial Fund Post #2843.

## Lumbee Elders to Hold Spiritual Gathering September 21-23

The Lumbee Tribal Elders will be holding their Spiritual Gathering at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center September 21, 22 and 23. This event is held four times a year during the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. The gathering will feature the blessing of the grounds and the lighting of the sacred fire and other cultural activities. Vendors may set up for \$50 per day.

For further information call Beverly Collins at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center at 521-2433.