

# The CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

"Building Communicative Bridges in a Tri-Racial Setting"

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## LRDA's WIA Program has successful record of placement of workers

Lumbee Regional Development Association (LRDA), a private nonprofit corporation has successfully administered the WIA program for many years. Prior to the change of the name, the program was called JTPA. Mr. William Locklear served as director of the JTPA program and continues as the director of the WIA program.

Four County Community Services, Inc., another nonprofit corporation, has worked hand-in-hand with LRDA for many years. One of the ways they work together is through the former JTPA program now WIA. Debbie Lou Oxendine is just one example of the two agencies working successfully together.

Oxendine has been working with Four County Community Services for eight years. She is currently director of the Maxton Neighborhood Service Center.

"I owe my opportunity for success to LRDA," she said. Several years ago LRDA accepted Oxendine as a client through their JTPA program. At that time, the agency assisted students who wanted to attend Robeson Community College. Oxendine took advantage of this opportunity, through the encouragement, she says, of Shelby Dial Rogers. LRDA staff person with the WIA program.

"I still call Miss Shelby, if I have questions or need someone to talk to," Oxendine said. "It was through her encouragement and the availability of funds from

LRDA that allowed me to obtain Associate Degree in Business Administration. I am grateful to both Ms. Shelby and LRDA."

Oxendine began training with the Red Springs Neighborhood Services Center, as a JTPA worker. She worked under the supervision of Ms. Madie Rae Locklear who directs the Red Springs Center. Upon completion of her training, Four County hired her as a permanent employee. She now operates the Maxton Center.

In October, 2001 Ms. Pauline Locklear Youngblood began training at the Red Springs Center under the WIA program administered by LRDA. She was hired by Four County as a full time employee on January 8, 2002. She is excited about her position and says she loves working with people.

"LRDA will always be special to me," she said. "Without their assistance, I would not have had the opportunity to become a full time employee with Four County."

Ms. Youngblood spoke about her job with Four County with enthusiasm. "I love working with people, and here at the Red Springs Center, I have the opportunity to see many people. Ms. Madie has so many people come in to see her that it keeps both of us busy filling out applications and scheduling appointments."

Ms. Youngblood's counselor while under the WIA program was Ms. Zona Locklear. "Ms. Zona was an inspiration to me," she said.

"She told me that if I loved working with people I would definitely love working with Ms. Madie. She was right about that."

The Red Springs Neighborhood Service Center is housed in the building owned by Jimmy Goins, owner and operator of North Carolina Insurance Services, Inc. He rents space to Four County for the Center. He stopped by during the interview and commented on the number of people who visit the Center each day. "It is amazing how many people Madie Rae sees," he said. "If people have a problem, they seem to come to the Center. I don't know how she does it, but somehow she helps those who come to her."

Ms. Locklear stated that she felt it a privilege to have had such a good working relationship between her employer, Four County Community Services, Inc. and LRDA. "I have a gift of helping people," she said. "I work for an agency that gives me the opportunity to exercise the gift that God has given me. LRDA offers us great assistance by providing clients for us to train and we in turn have been fortunate to be able to place workers like Debbie Lou and Miss Pauline who are assets to both agencies."

Permanent Job Placement is the ultimate goal of the WIA program and Four County is just one of the many agencies working hand in hand with LRDA to make life better by training clients for better jobs.



Ms. Madie Rae Locklear is shown at the copier with Debbie Lou Oxendine, left, and Pauline Locklear Youngblood. (Photos and text by Connie Brayboy)



Debbie Lou Oxendine, Director of the Maxton Neighborhood Service Center is shown at her desk.



Mrs. Pauline Locklear Youngblood is shown at her desk at the Red Springs Neighborhood Service Center.

### A Call for Spiritual Poems

A \$1000.00 grand prize is being offered in a special religious poetry contest sponsored by the New Jersey Rainbow Poets, free to anyone who has ever written a poem. There are 50 prizes in all totaling almost \$5,000.00. The deadline for entering is March 16, 2002.

To enter, send one poem only of 21 lines or less: Free Poetry Contest, 103 N. Wood Ave., PMB 70, Linden, NJ 07036. Or enter on-line [www.rainbowpoets.com](http://www.rainbowpoets.com).

"We think great religious poems can inspire achievement," says Frederick Young, the organization's Contest Director. "Our desire is to inspire amateur poets and we think this competition will accomplish that."

## Pembroke First Baptist Church News

Happy Valentine's Day to all our ladies at Pembroke First Baptist Church.

Happy birthday to the following: Milton Hunt, February 15; Erika Locklear, February 23.

Happy anniversary to Larry and Nikki Brooks, February 26.

**Pray for our sick and shut ins**  
Ms. Tammer Graham; Ms. Bonnie Maynor; Ms. Marquerite Holmes; Ms. Libby Beasley; Ms. Esther Lindsey; Ms. Gurthie Jones; Ms. Stella Jacobs and Mr. Rudolph Carter. He is a very sick man. Please remember his wife, Ms. Louise Carter, in prayer.

## Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only. Boys and Girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from 48 States and 7 Foreign Countries attended the 2001 camp. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team. Camp Locations Include: Thousand Oaks, CA; Babson Park, FL; Gainesville, GA; Champaign, IL; Greencastle, IN; Dubuque, IA; Hillsdale, MI; Saint Paul, MN; Rochester, NY; Boiling Springs, NC; North Canton, OH; Lock Haven, PA; Bristol, RI; Athens, TN; Commerce, TX; Blacksburg, VA; Olympia, WA. There is also a Team All Star Camp for School and A.A.U. Teams. Team Camp Locations Include: Thousand Oaks, CA; Babson Park, FL; Greencastle, IN; Hillsdale, MI; Boiling Springs, NC; Lock Haven, PA; Blacksburg, VA. For a free Brochure, call (704) 568-6801 ANY-TIME.

## Lumber River Workforce Development and Businesses Across the County Form Partnership for Kids

Robeson County- Lumber River workforce Development announced that it will partner with businesses across the county to provide job shadowing opportunities for local area youth.

On February 18, in conjunction with Groundhog Job Shadow Day, the local coalition will kick off Job Shadowing 2002, a year-long initiative to host youth in the workplace.

"Across the country, job shadowing has proven to be an effective way to motivate youth by showing them how academics are applied to the workplace," said John Wishart, Lumber River Workforce Development Board chair. "It is also a great way for businesses to introduce youth to their industry."

"We are delighted to be a part of this initiative," said Dana Powell, WD Administrator. "We hope the alliances formed with local businesses will open doors to some wonderful opportunities for our youth."

To find out more about the coalition or to become involved, please contact Peggy Hardin at (910) 738-1505.

Beginning with a nationwide kickoff on February 1, 2002, Groundhog Job Shadow Day, and continuing throughout the school year, Job Shadowing 2002 is sponsored by a coalition that includes America's Promise- The Alliance of Youth, Junior Achievement, and the Society for Human Resource Management. For more information, log on to [www.jobshadow.org](http://www.jobshadow.org).

## SRMC Offers Orientation Program for New Parents

Expectant parents are invited to attend new parent orientation on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 7:00 p.m. in Classroom B of the Southeastern Regional Medical Center's cafeteria. A video presentation on labor and childbirth and a tour of the New Life Birthing Suites are included. Free admission and refreshments. For more information, call 671-5341.

## SRMC Seeks Volunteers for Medical Center

Southeastern Regional Medical Center is seeking volunteers to serve at its Information Desk from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. If you can serve at least four hours per week, please call the SRMC Volunteer Coordinator Beth Ivey at (910) 671-5093 for more information about these and other volunteer positions.

## Pembroke Sailor Helps Navy Look Skyward

Flying is a vision mankind has had since the beginning of time. For nearly 100 years, people have reaped the benefits of air travel. It is essential to today's way of life.

In a perfect world, airplanes would only be used for the betterment of civilization. Unfortunately, beginning with World War I, planes and other aircraft have been used in combat. In a world that uses these devices for devastation, the United States Navy has found a mission: to protect freedom, whether it be by sea or air, with the latest technology in aircraft aviation.

Navy Airman Tiffany L. Stricklin is a crew member aboard the aircraft carrier WSS John C. Stennis (CVN 74). As the 20-year-old daughter of William and Mary Stricklin of Pembroke, she is currently deployed overseas participating in Operation Enduring Freedom. As an aviation boatswain's mate, Stricklin helps secure and maneuver (for storage) naval aircraft on the flight deck. It is not an easy task for Stricklin and her 5,000 shipmates to operate and maintain a combat-ready naval vessel weighing more than 95,000 tons.

As a member of the air department, Stricklin works on the flight deck. Stennis' 70-plus aircraft operate from the 257-foot wide, 1092-foot long deck. Aircraft such as the F/A-18 Hornet and SH-60 Seahawk are two of the many types of aircraft aboard Stennis that keep the Navy on the cutting edge of military aviation.

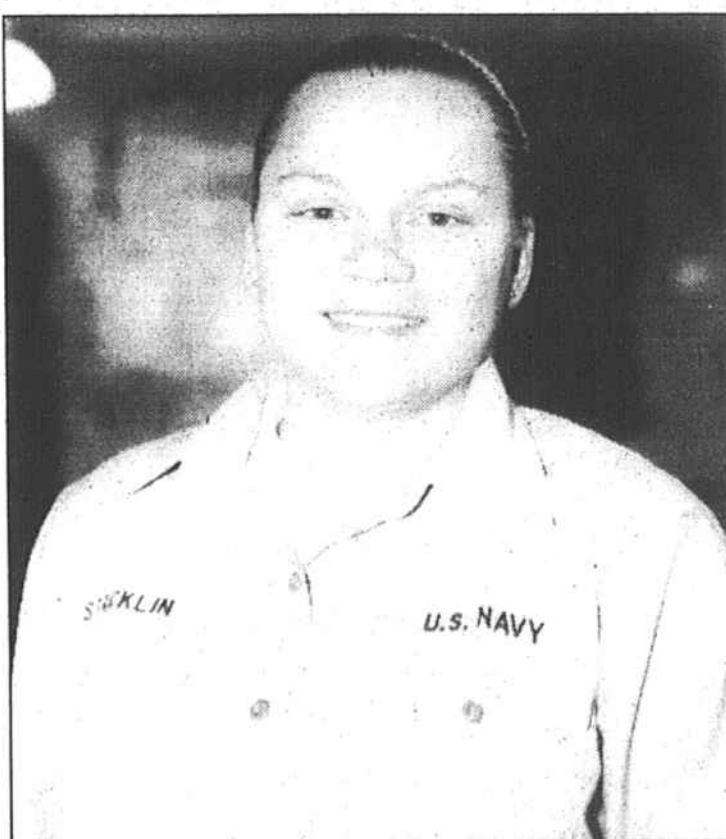
Working with these new devices and technologies can mean long and rigorous hours of flight operations. Even with a crew of more than 2,000 Sailors devoted to launching and recovering aircraft, 16 to 18-hour shifts are the norm.

Being ready to deploy on a moment's notice means that Sailors may not be able to see family and friends as often as they would like. Stricklin was not able to spend the holidays with her family; instead she was on her way overseas two months ahead of schedule.

"The most challenging aspect of being deployed is having to live and work with limited resources, under high tempo circumstances," said Stricklin, a 1999 graduate of Purnell Swett High School.

Commissioned in 1995, Stennis was named after former Sen. John C. Stennis, who served in Congress from 1947 to 1988 with an unwavering dedication to duty. As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee from 1969 to 1980, Sen. Stennis consistently supported a strong U. S. military and gained the honorary title of "father of America's modern Navy." Just like the ship's namesake, Sailors aboard Stennis continue to serve their country with an unwavering spirit. They know the importance of defending America's shores.

"We have to stand guard and patrol the seas in case terrorists attack, allowing us to act and respond fast if needed," said Stricklin, a two-year Navy veteran.



Along with the many demands of Navy life there are many benefits and rewards.

"The most rewarding aspect of the Navy is the pride and respect I get from others. I know my family and friends are proud of me," Stricklin said.

For more than 200 years, the U. S. Navy has been on the forefront of America's defense, helping to protect freedom. With Sailors like Stricklin, the Navy is looking to the skies for the future, with new advancements in training and technology.

Article written by Wayne Howlett and photo by Gayle Knight-Caya.

## Lumbee Guaranty Bank of Pembroke Pledges \$1,800,000

Pembroke, NC - Lumbee Guaranty Bank announced today its pledge to award scholarships to local high school students through the Community Bankers Scholarship Program. This pledge represents a long-term commitment to providing contributions that will enable scores of local youth to pursue post-secondary education. With college costs steadily rising, many high school graduates are unable to afford college tuition. Lumbee Guaranty Bank has enthusiastically joined the Community Bankers Scholarship Program to help families offset the cost of post-secondary education, as well as to further demonstrate its commitment to the community.

"We're participating in the Community Bankers Scholarship Program because we believe our young people have the potential to make a positive difference in our community," said Larry Chavis, President and CEO of Lumbee Guaranty Bank. "By helping these children pursue their dreams, we're investing in the development of our future civic and business leaders as well."

Lumbee Guaranty Bank will introduce the scholarship program to the community at a ceremony held on February 13, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. 403 East Third Street, Pembroke NC. Special attendees will include members of the school board and the bank's board of directors. The public is invited to attend the ceremony.

The Community Bankers Scholarship Program was designed to offer community banks an innovative way to help defray the cost of college for local students by providing a means toward tens of thousands of dollars in college scholarships. The goal of the program is to help banks throughout the nation award a combined total of more than \$1 billion in scholarships over the next 20 years.

## 2002 Annual 4-H Public Speaking Program

The Robeson County Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service will host its annual 4-H public speaking program at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, February 18, and Monday, February 25, at the O. P. Owens Agriculture Center in Lumberton. The public is invited to attend.

Individuals with disabilities and/or special needs interested in this program should contact Aggie Rogers, 4-H Program Associate, at 671-3276. The Robeson county 4-H Youth Development Program is an educational program of the Cooperative Extension Service for boys and girls ages 5-19. In addition to providing excellent opportunities to young people, the 4-H Program is also structured to allow adults an opportunity to share leadership skills and to learn and develop additional skills. The 4-H Program is supported by United Way.

Additional information may be obtained by calling Alex Hunter, Extension Agent, 4-H, with the Cooperative Extension Service at 671-3276.