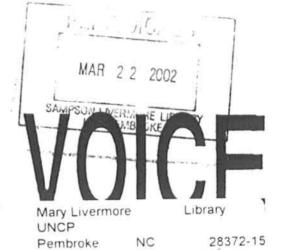
"Building Communicative Bridges in a Tri-Racial Setting"



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PSRC Receives \$1.2 Million From E-Rate Program

Thanks to persistence and the help of Sprint education market experts, the Public Schools of Robeson County announced that it has acquired more than \$1.2 from the Federal Education Rate (E-Rate) program for communication services.

PSRC will use the money to purchase and install equipment that will increase the bandwidth and speed of its communications system that was installed in 2000 and connects the district's 41 schools to a single network. The technology simplifies and speeds the ways teachers and administrators interact with their peers and students, both with schools and throughout the county system.

"We are in the business of educating children," said Dr. Barry Harding, superintendent for the PSRC. "In today's world, that takes many forms. Technology is an important part of the future for today's kinds. But it also offers many other educational options for children who do better in non-traditional learning environments.

Robeson County, the ninth-largest school district in North Carolina with 23,000 students, credited Sprint for assisting it with the E-Rate

application process.
"We initially applied for this funding in 1999, but didn't receive it because the Schools and Libraries Division (which administers E-Rate) said it didn't receive our application," said Todd Russ, director of technology for the Public Schools of Robeson County. "Sprint

helped us file an appeal and greatly assisted in the approval process." Funded at \$2.25 billion annually, the E-Rate program provides discounts of 20 to 90 percent on three categories of service-telecommunications services, Internet access and internal connections.

"The community should be proud of the schools' wise decision to take advantage of this program," said a local Sprint official. "It's clear that the system is concerned with providing a rich learning environment using advanced communications technology.

E-Rate was introduced in the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

One of the purposes of this Act was to provide affordable access to telecommunications services for all eligible K-12 public and private schools as well as public libraries, particularly those in rural and in-

"Sprint is a global communications company serving over 23 million business and residential customers in more than 70 countries. With more than 80,000 employees worldwide and over \$26 billion in annual revenues, Sprint is widely recognized for developing, engineering and deploying state of the art network technologies, including the United States' first nationwide all-digital, fiber-optic network. Sprint's award-winning Tier 1 Internet backbone is being extended to key global markets to provide customers with a broad portfolio of salable IP products. Sprint's high-capacity, high-speed network gives customers fast, dependable, non-stop access to the vast majority of the world's Internet content. Sprint also operates the largest 100-percent digital, nationwide PCS wireless network in the United States, already serving the majority of the nation's metropolitan areas including more than 4,000 cities and communities.

FirstHealth Center for Health & Fitness-Pembroke plans camps for local children

coming up soon and summer vacation to follow not long afterward, the FirstHealth Center for Health & Fitness-Pembroke has planned a couple of fun-and activity-filled day camps for Robeson County children.

The first is a Spring Break Camp June 17-21, for children ages 5 to 10 that is planned for April 1-5 from 8 a.m. to noon. Activities will include movies, arts and crafts, outdoor play time, games, music, swimming and snacks; not to mention programs on health and fitness and safety. A special program planned for the Wednesday of camp week will concentrate on fire safety and will include visits from Smokey the Bear from the U.S. Forestry Service and Sparky, the fire safety dog. Representatives of the Robeson County Fire Marshal's Office will also be on hand, and firemen from the Pembroke Fire Department will bring in their Fire Safety House and talk to the children about how to get out of a burning house

safely. The cost of the program is \$45 for Health and Fitness members and \$55 for the community. Daily rates

Pembroke-With spring break members and \$12 for the commu-

Similar activities are planned for the two sessions of the Center's Summer Day Camp. The first session, for children ages 4 to 7, will be held June 10-14. The second, for children ages 8-12, will be held

Hours of both camps are 8 a.m. to

Costs are \$45 for Health and Fitness members and \$55 for the community, and daily rates are \$10 for Health and Fitness members and \$12 for the community.

Preregistration is necessary for all camp programs: by March 25 for the Spring Break Camp, by June 3 for the first summer camp session and by June 10 for the second summer camp session.

To preregister your child or to obtain more information call 521-4777 or drop by the Center for Health and Fitness at 923 B. West 3rd Street, Pembroke, in the University Shopping Center.

For more information on programs offered by the FirstHealth Centers for Health and Fitness, visit the FirstHealth of the Carolinas Web are \$10 for Health and Fitness site at www.firsthealth.org.

Delores Smith Earns Certification

LAURINBURG, NC- After six months of renovation and construction work, The Center for Inpatient Rehabilitation at Scotland Memorial Hospital opened a few weeks ago.

Director Delores Smith added to her long days of grand opening preparation by studying for the examination to become a Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse (CRRN). She is the first of the Center's nursing staff to become certified in this field.

Ms. Smith has been a rehabilitation nurse for seventeen years, coming to Scotland Memorial Hospital from Southeastern Rehabilitation Center, part of Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, in Fayetteville. Registered nurses are certified through the Rehabilitation Nursing Certification Board (RNCB) by taking a computerized examination offered twice a year. Nurses are required to have a minimum of two years experience as a rehabilitation nurse and membership in the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) prior to taking the exam.

"Certification validates your skills and knowledge as a rehab nurse and displays accountability to the community and patients," said Ms. Smith. "Rehabilitation nursing is viewed as a very specialized practice which has a defined area of competence within nursing. These competencies provide accountability and standards of practice for

Originally from Dallas, Texas, Ms. Smith received valuable medical training during her service in the military. During her two-year military career, she worked on the VIP Ward at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. When asked who her most memo-

rable patient was, she responded "Mamie Eisenhower." She has also works at Womack Army Medical Center in Fayetteville.

Ms. Smith finds rehabilitation nursing very rewarding. "It's very gratifying to work with patients who are totally physically impaired and have them hug you as they walk out of the unit.'

Mr. Erwin Jacobs, left, is shown with his foster son, Dr. Brian Dial, who is a Chiropractor in Tarboro, NC. They are shown admiring the PHT Degree Mr. Jacobs' received from Life University of Mari-

Dr. Brian Dial begins Chiropractic practice

by Erwin Jacobs

On Sunday, March 10th, 2002, Dr. Brian Dial returned to his home in Robeson County to celebrate two milestones in his life with family and friends. Dr. Dial graduated with over 200 classmates from Life University December 16th, 2001 (the sixty-eighth commencement of the University at Marietta, Geor-gia USA). Founded by Sid E. Williams, B.S., D.C. and his wife, Dr. Nell K. Williams, in the year 1974 as Life Chiropractic College, the first class consisting of 22 stu-dents in 1975. They became known as "The Day One Class.

Dr. Dial graduated from Purnell Swett High School and was active in the 4-H Club. He had a love for logs that he learned from his late uncle, Mr. William Doris Dial. He graduated from UNCP (University of Pembroke, class of 1998). Dr. Dial majored in biology. Mr. Bill Cosby delivered the commencement ad-dress that Saturday, May 16th, 1998. Dr. Cosby delivered a very powerful speech, urging the graduates to shoot for the stars.

Later Brian asked me to go with him to Spartanburg to check our a to offer him, so he journeyed to Marietta, Georgia and after meeting with staff, he knew that was the school (University) for him. It had so much to offer students from all over the world.

The University is located in the sprawling hills of Georgia, consisting of over 100 acres of scenic places. There are cottages brought from North Carolina in working condition, dating back over 100 years, springs, rivers, a very huge lake with walking trails, etc. The place reminds one at first sight of a Health Resort nestled in the forest and rolling hills.

Dr. Dial wanted to become a veterinarian but decided he would prefer to help people rather than animals. He worked hard for the Degree of Chiropractic continuously for three and one-half years of studying for his Doctorate. I am glad I saw his potential as a young lad and offered him my help and support. I was rewarded the day he took his oath with around 300 other chiropractors: On Sunday, December 16th, 2001, his dad, Mr. Joseph Dial, and I were awarded a degree from the University "For putting him through," which brought tears to my eyes. Brian is the son of Mr. Joseph Dial and Mrs. Lois Paylovich, and is also my foster son. (I lost my real son, Rickey Jacobs August 10, 1999.) I school there. It did not have much am proud of you, Brian. You have my blessings in your profession. May God richly bless you.

Happy 27th birthday, Too!! Dr. Brian Dial can be reached at Tarboro Chiropractic Center, 2100 Main street, Tarboro, NC 27886.

Spiritual Gathering A New Beginning

The Lumbee Tribal Elders Council, Inc. has begun an aggressive campaign to restore membership and community programs for both the youth and the family. The Primary purpose of the Elders Council is to improve the daily lives of Native American people, and to preserve traditional Indian culture and heritage. Sharing the oral history of the American Indian and teaching the skills of traditional arts and crafts will enhance the learning experience of our youth while promoting social development. Passing down the oral history of our people to our youth will aid greatly in the preservation of our culture.

We are seeking new members to become a part of the Elders Coun-

cil. Members must be American Indian. To apply for membership one must attend two (2) regular meetings consecutively, then apply orally for membership during a regular meeting. Membership consist of two categories based on age; 1. Those who are fifty (50) years of age and older shall be regular members with complete voting rights, 2. Apprentice members can be any Native American with a desire to reserve traditional Indian culture under the age of fifty but have no voting rights. Apprentice members reaching the age of fifty shall be classed as regular members with complete voting rights.

We have a lot of great ideas for youth and family activities. However this can not be done without adequate membership to plan and Two New Executives implement the programs. We are especially interested in young mew

ors, whether from individuals, businesses, area schools, colleges, university, or organizations.

The next Spiritual Gathering is scheduled for March 22nd, 23rd two children, Nicholas and Drew, and they live in Lumberton. and 24th at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center. We welcome Lumbee Tribal Elders Council.

For more information call Raymond Clark (Mr. Pete) at 521-4178

or John Marshall at 521-2470.

Kindergarten Registration for Pembroke Elementary

The registration day for children who will enter Kindergarten next school year will be on Wednesday, April 17, 2002, in the school library from 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Your child must be five (5) years old

by October 16, 2002 to be eligible for Kindergarten. You are asked to do the following: 1. Complete the registration form and bring it with you on registration day. 2. Make sure that you bring your child's immunization (shot record) information with you on 'April 17th. 3. Bring a certified birth certificate. We cannot accept a mother's copy. 4. Bring your child's social security card number. 5. Bring your child's tribal enrollment card (if applicable).

Please contact the school at 521-4204 if you have any questions concerning registration or need a registration form.

Purnell Swett High School News

PO Box 1510

Congratulations to Brian Reisbeck, a senior at Purnell Swett High School (PSHS), for designing the T-shirts for Project Graduation. His design was selected over entries from each of the county's six high schools.

Tyson Meadors was named a Super Teen in the Next Step Magazine. Twenty-five North Carolina teens were chosen for their excellence in community service, part-time work, extracurricular activities, athletics, and grades.

Congratulations to Yura Teodor Alexov, the strings teacher at PSHS, who has demonstrated outstanding leadership. The Purnell Swett string students are playing as well as UNCP students and are still showing signs of improvement. Mr. Alexov, violinist, has been a member of several orchestras himself including Charleston, SC, Winston-Salem, NC, Sarasota, FL, and Naples Philharmonic, FL. He has also been a soloist with such orchestras as the Charleston Symphony and Venice Symphony. Mr. Alexov has conducted numerous groups including Anna-Maria Island Orchestra and Choral Ensemble. As a chamber musician he won first prize in the National String Quartet Competition in Russia. Currently he is the certmaster with the Long Bay Symphony Orchestra in South Carolina.

The band gave an excellent performance on March 13 sat the district contest. They worked very hard and they showed their Ram Pride. PSHS's African AASO organization presented its annual black history program Tuesday February 26. AASO members helped in making it a success. Ayana Mclean did the opening invocation, Latisa Buie was the mistresses of ceremonies, and Tonya Green and Cutis McBryde sang the black national anthem "Lift Your Voice and Sing". South Robeson gave entertainment for the program with their gospel choir, step team, and mime dancers. Melissa Thomas read "Phenom-

enal Women" by Maya Angelou, and April McCoy introduced the guest speaker Dr. Gentil Everette. Students from PSHS participated in a highway patrol simulation activity on March 13.

PSHS held a poetry and art exhibition at the Indian Education Resource Center in Pembroke March 11. Along with the event was a variety of entertainment including songs, recitations from Macbeth and various British poetry, and a dramatic performance from The rucible by Arthur Miller was performed.
On March 4 Purnell Swett students attended the TSA conference in

Clinton, N.C. with Jack Gibson as director. The Rams Battalion held their annual military ball at the Porta Plaza Pembroke Saturday March 16. The guest speaker was 2nd L.T. Robbie Chavis, an ex-cadet form the Ram Battalion. Mr. Chavis was born and raised in Pembroke NC. He is a UNC-P graduate and now is enlisted in to the Army Reserve as 2nd L.T. The military ball king was c.Maj. Matthew Locklear and the queen was Brandy Jones. The two were crowned by the previous king and queen, Robert Green and Porsha Patterson. Maj. Bennditti, the SAI of the PSHS JROTC program, thought the ball was well planned and a wonderful occasion. e would like to thank Porsha Patterson and the rest of the military ball committee for their efforts in making this event a success. Pic-

tures were taken by Ulysses Johnson of Images Photography.

For the first tie at PSHS there has been a Literary Society. Officers include: chair- Tyson Meadors, vice chair- Laura Oxendine, secretary-Charly Lowry, treasurer-Darryl Locklear, and parliamentarian-Kirk Blue. Adult leaders are Yvonne Dial, Ann Smith, Lue Graham,

Arlene Herring, and Greg Sampson.

The Blood Drive at PSHS was a success. The leaders over this activity were HOSA leaders Sue Brown and Sue Patterson.

Purnell Swett has recently named the Student of Excellence for the 10th grade. She is Ashley Marie Oxendine. Congratulations on your achievements and keep up the good work.



Brandy Jones was crowned queen and c/Maj. Matthew Locklear

Lumbee Guaranty Bank Appoints

Lumbee Guaranty Bank announced the appointment of Kyle Chavis members who enjoy volunteering their time and skills to our youth. to Vice President/City Executive for the Lumberton Market and Credit We are also discussing ways of raising money to support these com-munity activates. We will be grateful for any help toward our endeav-munity Involvement.

Kyle has been in banking for 10+ years and in the Lumberton Market for the last three (3) years. He is married to Resia and they have

They also wish to announce the appointment of Derrick Staten, Sr. all to come and visit with us at the Spiritual Gathering as we celebrate to Vice President/ Regional Executive. Derrick will have the responthe coming if the New Spring Season and a New Beginning for the sibility of the Hope Mills, St. Pauls, and Lumberton Markets for Business Development and Branch./Credit Administration. Derrick has 25+ years in banking in the Lumberton, St. Pauls, Raeford and Fayetteville Markets. He has held numerous positions within banking and has been very active in the community in many civic activities. Derrick is married to Joyce Howard and they have two children.

We would like to welcome Derrick back to the Lumberton Market

where he has spent many years in banking.

Matthew Locklear Chosen for NC All-State **Honors Band**

Magnolia Elementary is proud to announce that Matthew Locklear, an eighth grade honors student, was accepted into the North Carolina All-State Honors Band. This is a very competitive audition process. To be eligible to audition, students must first be accepted into the top chairs at the district level. Matthew and his band teacher, Becky Bryant, will travel to Greensboro for the All-State clinic and concert April