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# LINA INDIAN VOICE

"Building Communicative Bridges in a Tri-Racial Setting"

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## Jo Ann Locklear to Run for Third Term

Incumbent Jo Ann Locklear filed for a third term as clerk of Superior court. Locklear served as an assistant clerk of court for 15 years and as a deputy clerk for 12 years. Mrs. Locklear faces no opposition in the primary or general election.

She is a member of the North Carolina association of clerks of superior court. She is appointed by the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts to serve as chairperson of the Judicial forms committee. This committee reviews all proposed new forms and all changes to existing forms used by the North Carolina court system to ensure that they are necessary, usable, and consistent with new law and appellate opinions.

She is a past member of the board of trustees of UNC Pembroke, past chairperson of the Robeson County Democratic Party and a former Parent Teacher Association president. She is a member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in the Saddletree Community where she has served as church clerk for more than 20 years and is presently Director of the Children's Church.

Mrs. Locklear states, "I pledge to continue exercising the duties of my office with discretion and sound business practices and pre-



serving the integrity of the office by maintaining and enforcing high standards of official and personal conduct. I will keep myself accessible to the public. I appreciate and thank the people of Robeson county for their support and I look forward to continuing my service to you."

Locklear and her husband Grover live in the Saddletree community. They are the parents of three children. Lisa L. McCoy of Garner, Dr. Bobbi Stanley of Cary and Kevin Locklear of Phoenix, Arizona. They have eight grandchildren.

## The Real Stakes in North Carolina's Redistricting Case

By Representative Ronnie Sutton

If the Republicans who filed suit over legislative redistricting win their case in the North Carolina Supreme Court, the losers will be the people of our state.

If the lawsuit is successful, legislative campaigns will become more costly and more dependent on TV ads. The clout of big money, special interests and wealthy candidates will grow, and the cause of campaign finance reform will suffer. Average people will have a harder time contacting their legislators, and fewer good people will run for the legislature.

All of these trends have been decried in the past by North Carolina's news media-- and by advocates of better government. But, surprisingly, the media has paid little attention to how the redistricting scheme developed by the Republican legislative leadership will make the problems worse.

The fundamental issue is: should redistricting rely more on single-member or multi-member districts? The legislature adopted a plan that emphasizes single-member districts. The lawsuit would impose a plan emphasizing multi-member districts.

What difference does it make? In a single-member district, a member of the House would represent around 67,000 North Carolinians. In a district the size, candidate can drive around, talk personally to voters and listen to their concerns.

But the republicans who filed suit take the opposite approach. In Mecklenburg and Gaston counties, for example, they propose to create one mega-district that would have 670,000 people and 10 representatives.

Mecklenburg is not the only mega-district that some Republicans would force upon us. The 14th District in Wake county would elect eight representatives. The sprawling 31st would elect seven House members from six counties: Catawba, Cleveland, Henderson, Lincoln, Polk and rutherford counties.

Across the state, more than two in every five districts would be multi-member districts. In the polling place, voters could be forced to choose among multiple candidates for four, eight or ten seats.

What's worse, a legislative district could have more people and cover more land than the state's congressional districts! How will legislative candidates campaign in big districts? They certainly won't have time to drive around talking personally to 300,000, 400,000 or 600,000 people. Instead, they'll do what congressional candidates and statewide candidates do: raise big money and run television ads.

They won't go door-to-door in your neighborhood or meet with -- and listen to -- small groups of interested voters. They'll be attending high-dollar fund-raising events, phoning potential contributors and putting on makeup in television studios.

## Contest Seeks Spiritual Poems From Pembroke-area Poets

Great news for poets. The Texas Poetry Alliance is offering a \$1,000.00 grand prize in their annual spiritual poetry contest open to the public. There is no entry fee and everyone is invited to submit a poem.

"Our goal is to encourage new talent," says Poetry Director Larrie Green. "In a world where poetry is the Cinderella of the Arts, we are helping poets to find their glass slipper. Spiritual poems, which may be written on any subject and using any style, tend to inspire the reader, thus our desire for entries of a spiritual nature."

To enter, send one poem 20 lines or less to: Free Poetry Contest, 3412-A Moonlight Ave, El Paso, Texas 79904. Or enter on-line at [www.freecontest.com](http://www.freecontest.com).

The deadline for entering is April 15. A winner's list will be sent to all entrants. The editors enjoy the right to publish the winning poems.

## 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: Boiling Springs, NC, Thousand Oaks, CA, Babson Park, FL, Gainesville, GA, Champaign, IL, Greencastle, IN, Dubuque, IA, Hillsdale, MI, Saint Paul, MN, Rochester, NY, 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: Boiling Springs, NC, Thousand Oaks, CA, Babson Park, FL, Greencastle, IN, Hillsdale, MI, Lock Haven, PA, Blacksburg, VA. For a free Brochure, call (704) 568-6801 ANYTIME.



Left to right Beth Williamson, Pembroke BPW President, Marie Moore and Mary Walter. Both Mary and Beth are employees of Edward Jones Investments.

## Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Organization News

The Pembroke Business and Professional Women's organization has been busy scheduling programs, raising money for scholarships, and attending district meetings.

Maintaining an interest in the welfare of women, Edward Jones Investments representative Mary Walter spoke to the group in March about wise investments that women have an opportunity to experience. Public Schools of Robeson County former board member, Beth Williamson, accompanied Mrs. Walter at the meeting. For the month of April, Sharon Prevatte, associate director for the Southeastern Regional Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, spoke to the group about the various services that her program offers and how women need to take time out for themselves to release stress and tension from their jobs and everyday life.

The organization sponsored its annual Spring gala in March at the Pembroke JC Hut. Proceeds go towards scholarships for women who wish to pursue a college degree.

President elect, Yvonne Dial attended the annual district meeting in Sanford.

Nothing could be worse for politics in North Carolina today than going down this road. It takes us in the wrong direction. It favors wealthy candidates. It favors the special interests that raise big money. It makes it harder for you - as a citizen and a voter - to get the ear of your state representative. And it makes it harder than ever to persuade good people to run for the legislature.

The lawsuit claims that splitting counties into single-member districts violates the North Carolina constitution. Yes, the Constitution does say that counties should not be split. But there is more to the story.

In 1983, a distinguished panel of three federal judges- Dickson Phillips, Earl Britt and Franklin Dupree- handed down a well-reasoned decision on the county issue. They held that the whole-county provision is not enforceable in the 40 counties that are covered by Section 5 of the U. S. Voting Rights Act, which prohibits racial discrimination in elections.

The court held that, when the whole-county provision was included in the Constitution, it obviously was not intended to apply to only half the state. So the court concluded that the legislature is not bound by the Constitutional provision at all.

The lawsuit now asks the North Carolina Supreme Court to reach a mush different - and illogical - conclusion. The Republicans who sued want the court to say the whole-county provision of the state constitution covers half of North Carolina and not the other half.

Illogic of this magnitude shows that the lawsuit is based on politics, not principle. It is also interesting to note that the same Republican legislators who now support multi-member districts sponsored measures last session to prohibit multi-member districts.

Clearly, it is well-nigh impossible to take party politics out of redistricting. You could more easily take the jumping out of NCAA basketball. But it is possible to devise a redistricting plan that gives voters more voice in the election of their representatives. Many legislators- Democrats and Republicans - believe the plan passed by the General Assembly does just that. By dividing counties into single-member districts, the plan benefits the people of North Carolina.

Unfortunately, some Republican legislators and party leaders favor a plan that would give rich candidates, big money and big media campaigns more clout.

So don't be misled by the scant media coverage these issues have received. And don't be fooled by those Republican legislators who championed single-member districts before they suddenly converted to this new-found faith in multi-member districts, much to the chagrin of many of their Republican colleagues in the House.

Look at the facts, and decide for yourself which direction is best for North Carolina.

Representative Sutton, of Pembroke, is co-chair of the House Committee on Legislative Redistricting.

## Farmers to Recieve Drought Relief

On March 1, 2002, Secretary of Agriculture, Ann M. Veneman declared a major disaster area in the State of South Carolina, due to damages and losses caused by the drought.

Farmers may qualify for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency (EM) loan assistance, pursuant to the contiguous county provisions of the consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act. North Carolina contiguous counties are: Anson, Brunswick, Cleveland, Columbus, Gaston, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Mecklenburg, Polk, Richmond, Robeson, Rutherford, Scotland, Transylvania, and Union.

Giles B. Floyd, County Executive Director, Robeson/Scotland FSA, said that effective March 1, 2002, farmers in Robeson and Scotland counties may apply for EM loans for physical and production losses. November 1, 2002 is the deadline for filing an application. The local office is located at 442 Caton Road, Lumberton, NC and has office hours of Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Floyd said that any farmer who suffered a production or physical loss should contact his/her office for additional information.

## 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.

## Wilkins named manager for New Downtown Lumberton Office

Worth Harris Carter, Jr. Chairman of the Board and President of Peoples National Bank is pleased to announce the following:

Daryl L. Wilkins has been elected as Assistant Vice President by the Bank's Board of Directors and appointed Managing Officer of the Downtown office in Lumberton, NC which opens on April 5.

Wilkins, a native of Lumberton, is a graduate of Littlefield High School and has completed numerous courses and seminars at UNC-Pembroke and Robeson Community college.

The veteran of over 29 years in the banking profession resides in Lumberton and attends Chestnut Street United Methodist Church with her husband, Jimmy. The couple has three daughters and seven grandchildren.

"I am excited about the opportunity that exists for Peoples National Bank in Lumberton," said Wilkins. "Peoples has worked hard for over 25 years to be a good citizen in the areas it serves, and our conveniently located office at 604 North Chestnut Street will allow us to provide our unique blend of personalized services to a brand new customer base. We are simply a down-to-earth, community-oriented bank aimed at satisfying the needs of the average customer."

"Peoples National Bank understands the challenges faced by those who must work long hours to make a living for their families," concluded Wilkins. "It will be part of our mission in the Lumberton area to make life a little less complicated for our customers by providing hours and products with the community in mind."

## Red Cloud Indian Art Show

Red Cloud Indian Art Show will be held this year from June 2nd to August 11th, 2002. The Art Show is held at the Heritage Center on the Red Cloud Indian School campus at Pine Ridge, South Dakota.

Benefactors of the Indian Arts have provided more than \$5,800 in awards for this year's Show.

Now in its 34th year, the Red Cloud Art Show is open to all Native American artists, eighteen years and older. Applicants must have a tribal enrollment number.

Sponsored by the Heritage Center of Red Cloud Indian School, it is the nation's largest show of its kind, with artists of more than 30 different tribes represented.

All works entered must be for sale. No entry fees are charged to the artists and the show is admission free to the public. June 2nd to August 11th. Entries must be received by May 22, 2002.

Artists wishing to enter the Red Cloud Art show can get entry forms and details by writing to the Heritage Center, 100 Mission Drive, Pine Ridge, South Dakota 57770.

## Metropolitan Opera Star to Perform at UNCP



Michael Raulis

PEMBROKE, N.C.-- The Music society of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke announces a "Gala Scholarship fundraiser" Friday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. in Moore Hall Auditorium.

Featured guest artists for the evening are former Metropolitan Opera Star Christine Weidinger, well known North Carolina tenor Michael Raulis, pianist Ellen Robison and Gail Morfesis, a UNCP faculty member.

To reserve tickets call 910-521-6230. ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$2 for students, and all proceeds will benefit UNCP music scholarships.

A soprano, Weidinger made her singing debut on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera as Musetta in "La Boheme" with Renata Scotto and Luciano Pavarotti. An instant favorite with the public and the New York press, *The New York Times* called her, "a young artist well worth watching."

Weidinger nonetheless chose to leave the Met after three years to obtain experience in European

Verona, Italy, in a concert of operatic selections for the Italian National Multiple Sclerosis Society, he was hailed by the local press as "another Corelli!" He is a regular guest soloist with the North Carolina, the Raleigh, the Winston-Salem and the Wilmington symphonies.

Morfesis, soprano is an active performer, faculty member at UNCP and the public relations director for the Moore Hall Recital Series. She has performed throughout the Northeastern U.S. with such companies as the Opera Theatre of Rochester, N.Y., Piccolo Opera of Philadelphia, Opera of Central Kentucky, as well as performing in concert in Graz, Austria. Since moving to N.C., she has performed in concerts throughout the region as part of the West End Series, the UNCP Moore Hall Series and on other stages.

Morfesis completed her doctoral degree in music and vocal performance at the University of Kentucky. Her undergraduate work was done at the Eastman School,



Christine Weidinger

theatres. She went on to star in most of the world's major opera houses, among others Milan's La Scala, the Liceo of and the Teatro Real of Madrid, where she co-starred with Placido Domingo.

She is generally regarded as one of the finest Mozart singers in the world. Critic Alan Rich called her, "one of the pillars on which the world-wide revival of 'bel canto' music (the operas of Rossini, Donizetti and Bellini) rests. In an interview with "Opera Rara" last year, superstar Joan Sutherland named Weidinger as her most likely successor in the roles for which she was so famous.

Weidinger has performed around the U.S. with Burgaw, N.C., physician Michael Rallis, who she considers to be one of the finest operatic tenors in the world. Dr. Rallis has studied singing since entry into medical school, is one of the few traditionally trained Greek Orthodox cantors in the U.S., and, even as an "amateur" opera singer, he has won high critical and public praise. Last year in Rochester, N.Y., and the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.

Pianist and accompanist Ellen Robison is a member of the music faculty at UNC at Wilmington and the music director of Wilmington's Opera House Theater. She is one of the region's most sought after accompanists and vocal coaches.

Robison has also served as music consultant for the "Matlock" TV series and has composed a score for the soon-to-be-debuted TV series "Glory." She has accompanied Weidinger in concerts all over the southeast and in Italy. She has also helped her prepare roles for La Scala and Barcelona.

Reserve your tickets by calling 910-521-6230. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$2 for students. Don't miss out on this exciting concert opportunity and remember your ticket price is a tax-deductible gift to the University Music Society. All proceeds will benefit UNCP music scholarships.