

# The CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

"Building Communicative Bridges in a Tri-Racial Setting"

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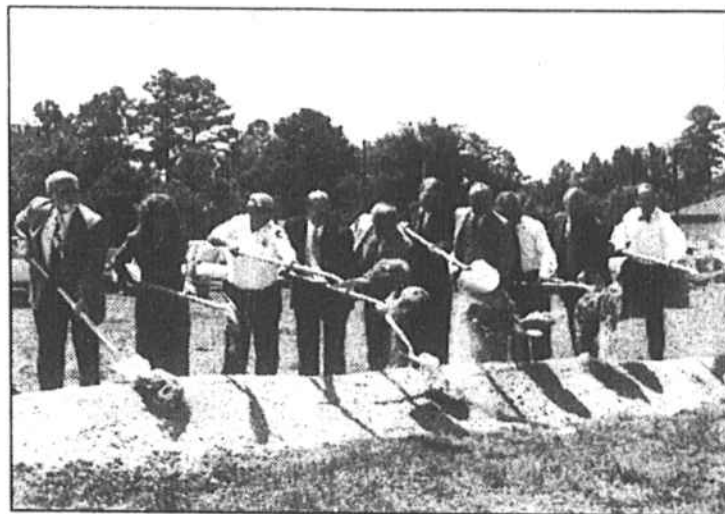
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## Ground breaking held for group home for developmentally disabled in Pembroke

In the winter of 1999, a group of local Methodist ministers, missionaries and lay persons met at Prospect United Methodist Church to discuss the establishment of a group home for developmentally disabled Native Americans in the community. Historically, Native American families tend to care for disabled family members at home for life. However, advances in medical science have led to longer life spans for people with disabilities, and parents become senior citizens who eventually are unable to physically provide for a disabled adult. It was the group's vision to have a home in the area to serve Native Americans. Meeting with the group was Rev. Phillip S. Brown, Chairman of the Board of Asbury Homes, Rev. Kenneth Locklear, Executive Director of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Agency for Native American Ministries and Vergil L. Daughtery, III, President and CEO of the Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation. Following the meeting, this group of concerned citizens, along with others, began working

diligently toward establishing the home in Pembroke. The Rockingham District Native American Cooperative Ministry along with the Southeastern Jurisdictional Agency for Native American Ministries willingly accepted the leadership of the task.

On Saturday, May 25, 2002, their vision would become more of a reality. With almost 150 persons in attendance, a groundbreaking celebration for a Native American Home for developmentally disabled adults was held in Pembroke. The home will be located on property donated by the Town of Pembroke at 300 Ruth Dial Street. It will be a faith based group home and will allow families with disabled members to remain in their traditional community. During the ceremony, Mr. Gary Locklear, Chairperson of the Rockingham District Native American Cooperative Ministry, extended a special thanks to all who have worked so hard to see this project come to fruition.



The breaking of the ground for the new town hall of Pembroke.



Rev. Kenneth Locklear, Executive Director of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Agency for Native American Ministries



Congressman Mike McIntyre address the gathering at the ground breaking ceremony for the new town hall in Pembroke

## Construction to begin on new Town Hall in Pembroke

Pembroke, NC - The Town of Pembroke will soon have a new town hall thanks to a large grant approved by USDA Rural Development and the Bush Administration. John Cooper, North Carolina State Director of Rural Development and a direct appointee of President George W. Bush, presented the \$1.5 million dollar check at a formal groundbreaking ceremony June 3, 2002.

The current town hall is dilapidated and over 60 years old. The new town hall will house town administration offices, the police department and other emergency service providers. "As President Bush recently commented, 'the first responders of America must have the resources necessary to respond to emergencies and save lives,'" said Cooper.

The new facility will replace the existing inadequate town hall. The 10,500 square foot building will enable the police department to house equipment, provide training and be more accessible to the public.

USDA Rural Development is providing \$1,500,000 for the project: \$750,000 in grants and \$750,000 in the form of a low interest loan. Terms of the loan are 4.75 percent for 30 years. Over the course of the loan the people of Pembroke will save tens of thousands of dollars in interest payments.

"These grants are important to help our rural communities in North Carolina," said Cooper. "The Bush Administration is committed to strengthening rural communities and these grants and loans are just one example of that commitment."

"We often take for granted many of the basic services that impact our daily lives. This project will have a positive impact on the lives of people who will benefit from improved emergency services. No longer will the people in charge of saving lives in Pembroke have substandard facilities in which to work."

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural development needs and administers financial and technical assistance through three agencies: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business Cooperative Service and Rural Utilities Service.

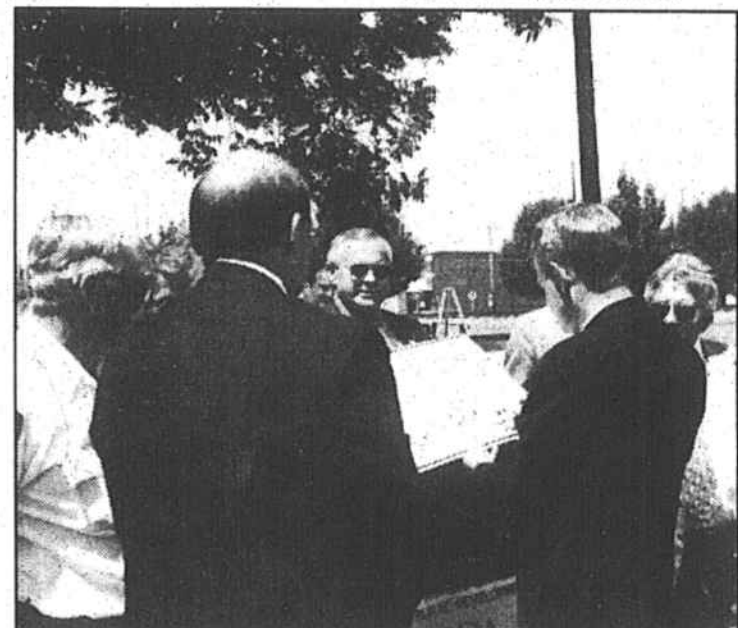


Left to right-Rev. Sylvia Collins-Huggins, Rev. Henry Hunt, Rev. Jerry Lowry, Rev. George Locklear, Rev. Mattheue Locklear, Missionary Gary Locklear, Rev. Kenneth Locklear, Rev. Jimmy Oxendine, Rev. Larry Chandler, Rev. Simeon Cummings, Rev. E. Ray Brooks, Rev. Douglas Locklear, Rev. Robert Ray, Rev. Robert Mangum, and Missionary Freeman Owle.

## Lumbee Homecoming begins June 23-July 6

Lumbee Homecoming, 2002, sponsored by Lumbee Regional Development Association will begin Sunday, June 23 with a Farewell Tea at for the outgoing queens at 3 p.m. in the LRDA Assembly Room. Many events are planned for this Annual Homecoming of the Lumbee people, including Little Miss and Junior Miss Pageants, a golf tournament, Teen and Miss Lumbee Pageant, Lumbee Elders Dinner, art show and contest, Strike at

the Wind Art Dinner, a fashion show, genealogy workshop and many other interesting activities. Mr. Leroy Freeman, chairman of the Board of Directors of LRDA, Mr. Dewey Locklear, Executive Director, and the staff extend a cordial invitation to all Lumbees to attend. See a schedule of events for this year's homecoming else where in this newspaper.



McDuffie Cummings, Pembroke Town Manger, looks on while Congressman Mike McIntyre signs check for Pembroke's new town hall.

## Indian Health Forum 2002 Held May 30th

On Thursday, May 30, 2002, an Indian Health Forum was held at O. P. Owens Agriculture Building in Lumberton, NC. The event was sponsored by the Robeson County Health Department. The focus of the Forum was to "promote awareness of minority health issues." Participants in the forum included Dr. Joey Bell a member of the Lumbee Tribe and local physician, Ruth Dial Woods, Lumbee Tribal Administrator and Carla Andersson of the Robeson County Center of Child and Family Health, Reid Caldwell, Vice President, Southeastern Regional Medical Center, and Millard

Lowry, Jr., representative of the Native American Interfaith Ministries. Information was presented on the "Healing Lodge" project which is a faith based effort to attempt to improve the community by alleviating core problems in the area. Additional information was provided on various services provided by other agencies. According to William Smith, Robeson County Health Director, "The purpose of the meeting was to pool together the resources we already have and begin to do something with them." The Forum was well attended and considered a success.



Shown is Millard Lowry participating in the Indian Health Forum.



Lumbee Tribal Council women participated in the Indian Health Forum. Shown left: Darlene Jacobs and Rosa Winfree. (Photos by Francine Chavis)

## Summer feeding program to be at local schools

The Public Schools of Robeson County will participate in the summer Food Service Program for Children. The program is available to all children 18 years or younger. Physically challenged participants over 18 years who participate in a school program are also eligible. All participants will be served the same meals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability.

The program begins June 3rd and ends on July 12th. No meals will be served on July 4th. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day, Monday-Friday. Schools participating in the summer Feeding Program are:

Deep Branch, Fairmont Middle, Janie Hargrave, Carroll Middle, Littlefield, Lumberton Jr. High, Oxendine, Pembroke Middle, Swett High, Peterson, Prospect, R.B. Dean, Red Springs Middle, Rex-Rennert, Southside/Ashpole, St. Pauls Elementary, Union Elementary.

Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any USDA-related activity should write to: Administrator, Food and Nutrition Services, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

For further information, please contact the school principal or the Child Nutrition Office at 910-738-4841.



## Gladys Woodell Sampson Celebrates 90th Birthday

Gladys Woodell Sampson celebrated her 90th birthday May 25, 2002 with a cookout at her home on Chavis street. Approximately 75 family, friends and neighbors celebrated the occasion. It was hosted by her children and grandchildren. She is the daughter of the late John E. and Minnie Sanderson Woodell.