

Welcome Home Lumbees

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25 Cents



Deidra Locklear



Hollie Young

2002-2003 Teen and Miss Lumbee Crowned

The Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. is pleased to present to you the 2002-2003 Teen Miss Lumbee Deidra Locklear, daughter of Denzel and Joan Locklear, and the 2002-2003 Miss Lumbee Hollie Young, daughter of Lonnie and Joan Young.

Deidra and Hollie were crowned Saturday, June 29, at the Lumbee Homecoming Annual Teen and Miss pageant. The theme of this year's pageant was "Red, White and Blue Forever."

For more information about the new princesses or Lumbee Homecoming, visit the agency's website at www.lumbee.org.



Taylor Smith



Kristen Emanuel

2002-2003 Little And Junior Miss Lumbee

The Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. is pleased to present to you the 2002-2003 Little Miss Lumbee Taylor Smith, daughter of Charles and Pamela Smith, and the 2002-2003 Junior Miss Lumbee Kristen Emanuel, daughter of Bobby and Donna M. Emanuel.

Taylor and Kristen were crowned Friday, June 28, 2002 at the Lumbee Homecoming Annual Little and Junior Miss Pageant. The theme of this year's pageant was "United We Stand."

For more information about the new princesses or Lumbee Homecoming, please visit the agency's website at www.lumbee.org.

Two Robeson Students Attend International Summit

Mr. Brandon Dean Hunt of Lumberton, was recently selected to join more than 1,000 students from around the world for the International Summer Summit of Young Technology Leaders taking place in Austin, Texas from July 7 through 16, 2002. The Summit will feature seminars led by technology professionals focusing on such topics as programming, gaming, web design and virtual reality, among others. Brandon is the son of Mickey and Clementine Hunt of Lumberton, NC, a rising senior at Fairmont High School, and an active member of the Rewarding Youth Achievement (RYA) Program. The RYA Program is funded by a federal grant through the U.S. Department of Labor and administered by the Lumber River Workforce Development Board, which will sponsor Brandon. The Summit is sponsored by Envision EMI, an education management and marketing company. Founded in 1989, Envision EMI has offices in Washington, D.C. and Austin, Texas. Students attending the Summit were nominated by school representatives and selected Envision based on their academic achievement and community involvement. William J. Johnson of Pembroke will also attend.

Bell Becomes District Court Judge



James Gregory Bell has been appointed District Court Judge by North Carolina Governor

Mike Easley. Bell, the son of James F. (Buddy) and Sarah Bell of Pembroke, is married to Bonita B. Bell. They reside in Lumberton with their two children.

Bell is a graduate of the North Carolina School of Law at Chapel Hill, NC.

Bell replaced Judge Gary Locklear who was appointed to the Superior Court at the death of Judge Dexter Brooks.

Bell was a practicing attorney in Lumberton prior to his appointment.

EMC Director Congratulates the new Miss North Carolina



Ms. Madie Rae Locklear, member of the Board of Directors of EMC, was visiting Raleigh during the week of the Miss North Carolina Pageant. She is shown with the former Miss North Carolina, Ashley House. Ms. House crowned Rebekah Revels, Miss North Carolina during the week of Ms. Locklear's visit. She expresses her sincere congratulations to Miss Revels. "You have made us all proud," Locklear said. "I am really expecting Rebekah to be the first Native American to become Miss America in September."

Visiting With Former Miss North Carolina



Mr. Robert Strickland, a member of the Robeson Community Board of Trustees and the Lumbee River EMC Board of Directors, was in Raleigh during the week of the Miss North Carolina Pageant. He is shown with Ashley House, former Miss North Carolina, who relinquished her crown to Rebekah Revels, Lumbee, during that same week.



William Lawrence Harris Graduates from UNC-CH

Chapel Hill- On Sunday May 19, 2002, William Lawrence Harris, youngest son of Peggy and Grady Harris (pictured above), graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Chemistry. He has been accepted to the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Medicine and the East Carolina Brody School of Medicine. With his deep commitment to being a Carolina Tarheel, William will enroll at UNC-Chapel Hill this August. William was also awarded one of only twenty University of NC Board of Governor's scholarships. William would like to thank all of his family and friends for their support and prayers during his academic career.

Lumbee Homecoming to Feature Young Writers

Pembroke, NC- Native American Literary Voices will showcase winners of the seventh annual National Lumbee Writing Contest at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke on July 6.

Five Young authors will present their works at a reading in the Dial Humanities Building at 2:30 p.m.

There were four categories: elementary school (grades 4-6), middle school (grades 7-9), high school (grades 10-12) and higher education (full time university undergraduates). Each category had a choice of poetry and a fictional prose, and the theme was "Lumbees and athletics."

Leslie Lovette, in the sixth grade at Deep Branch Elementary, shared elementary school poetry honors with Andie Mitchell, a fifth grader from Garner, N.C. Lovette's poem is called "The Road to the Final Four," while Mitchell's is called "I Wont Be Left Behind! Lumbee Maiden."

Linsey Dial, a fourth grader from South Scotland Elementary, won the elementary school fiction category with her piece, "Homerun."

Lumberton High School ninth-grader Alese Harris won the middle school fiction category with "The Dance," while classmate Brittany Paige Lowry won the poetry category with "Rabbit Hunting Through Native Eyes." Each student received \$100 and a copy of "The Only Land I Know," a Lumbee classic co-authored by the Late Adolph L. Dial, for whom the Dial Humanities Building is named.

The prizes were made possible this year by a grant from the UNCP Foundation and the Department of American Indian Studies.

At the reading, Steve Richardson's book about Oklahoma University-basketball in Robeson

Lumbee Festival Dinner Theater Experience

The Lumbee Tribal Festival Committee will host a Dinner Theatre Experience at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center in Pembroke on Saturday, July 6, 2002.

Dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. followed by the premier performance of "Strike at the Wind" at 7:30 p.m. The cost of the Dinner and Theater Experience will be \$20. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at the Tribal Office at 707 Union Chapel Rd. in Pembroke

Legislative Redistricting Debacle: A Report to the People by Rev. Ron Sutton of Pembroke

The United States Constitution requires all states to redraw district lines for certain elective offices following each census. In our case, based on the 2000 census, the North Carolina General Assembly was required to redraw all congressional and legislative districts.

Since North Carolina received a 13th Congressional seat, Utah has sued twice in the federal courts in an attempt to get the new seat from North Carolina. The state has survived the first suit and the battle is ongoing for the second challenge.

As to legislative redistricting (North Carolina House and Senate) the General Assembly drew new districts in 2001. Since North Carolina is a Voting Rights State, the plans had to be pre-cleared by the U.S. Justice Department in Washington. Both new maps were pre-cleared and a filing period opened. In response to a Republican lawsuit, both plans were alleged in Johnston County Superior Court to be unconstitutional. After several hearings, the judge agreed and declared both maps unconstitutional. First he dismissed or had the plaintiffs dismiss all political allegations from the lawsuit and he ruled solely on the issue of the maps splitting county lines.

The North Carolina Constitution clearly states that the House and Senate districts are to be drawn without splitting county lines. That task became virtually impossible following the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the "one person-one vote" concept.

Since the county splitting issue was not pre-cleared by the U.S. Justice Department, subsequent decisions by both federal court panel and

the U.S. Justice Department were that the county splitting prohibition was non binding and unenforceable

Thus, district lines in the 80's and 90's were drawn with split counties with little or no regard for that constitutional provision.

The recent lawsuit focused on that point and that is all the judge considered in his decisions declaring both the House and Senate maps unconstitutional.

The trial courts ruling was upheld following April 4, 2002 arguments and the North Carolina Supreme Court sent an order to the trial court in Johnston County directing that a hearing be held to determine if the General Assembly had the time and could re-draw district lines in accordance with their order.

In its order the Supreme Court directed that districts be drawn following their format that ironically required the splitting of county lines. Please note there is an absolute ban on splitting county lines in the North Carolina State Constitution and the courts declared my Sutton map 3 unconstitutional because I split several counties in the process. Yet in their order directing the redrawing of lines, they now authorized and even directed that county lines were to be split and how we were to split them. It should be noted that the Supreme Court order directed the General Assembly or the trial judge, as appropriate, to draw maps in a specific sequence. First, Voting Rights (VRA) districts were to be drawn. Then any county that could stand alone with one member waste to be drawn. In our case that applied only Lincoln and Wiles Counties.

Thirdly, all remaining counties that could be drawn whole with two or more members were to be drawn. In all cases the district population must be maintained at plus/minus five percent.

Then the rest of the state was to be drawn by grouping the remaining counties in as small group as possible. Then within the small group-

ings, individual single member districts were to be drawn splitting county lines as necessary for the one man-one vote concept. If the trial court determined the General Assembly could not or would not redraw such lines or if maps drawn did not meet the criteria of the Supreme Court, the trial court was directed to draw its own interim plans.

Following that hearing, the judge agreed the General Assembly could draw such lines and he gave them slightly over a week to do so. New district lines were redrawn and presented to the court as directed by Monday noon, May 20, 2002.

A hearing on the new maps with live testimony was held beginning on Wednesday, May 22, 2002, in the trial court. My Vice-Chairman Representative Joe Hackney, and I were the live witnesses for the House. As the chairman of the House Select Committee on redistricting, I explained why I drew certain districts the way I did and how I complied with the Supreme Court's order. This included the splitting of county lines which the Constitution absolutely forbids but is now authorized by our Supreme Court.

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