

Hi there everybody, it's our "little old Cookie" again from the big little town of Pembroke. I hope that you have had a great week. I would like to say a special "thank you" to the many people that I have encountered lately who have taken time to speak to me and tell me that they enjoy my column. I try very hard to write from my heart for that is a language that everyone understands.

**Our Miss North Carolina**

Our Miss North Carolina, Rebekah Revels did extremely well on Dr. Phil this past week. You could see her attorney Barry Nakeil sitting in the very front row. I know that it was taped after the pageant and before the current court cases in the news. I am proud of her for standing her ground. There are many Lumbees who wish they could catch her ex-fiance in Pembroke one good time. I really think she is going to go far in life and that she will be the very first Miss North Carolina who will be remembered as the one "who stood up for what she believed in." So far the only rebuttal comes in the newsletter "The Cherokee One Feather" as they try to defend the man who cost Rebekah her place on the stage of Miss America. I really think that "this is the lowest" that I have ever seen anyone go. I read the email and it appears that the Miss North Carolina Organization does not want the public to know about the many young ladies who were living with their boyfriends when they won the crown and were told that they could no longer live with them. They are acting like she is the only one that ever did anything wrong. Are they dumb enough to think that every one on the stage of Miss America is a "virgin"? If they do then they are "stuck on STUPID!" The NCO should have investigated the email and required proof of the actual pictures before they told her to either resign or be terminated. You go Rebekah, your people are behind you!

**Lumbee Assistance**

I am pleased to tell you that one of the three people that I wrote about in the editorial regarding Lumbee Housing has finally received some assistance. The West family from Maxton whom I have known since Miss Viola was with me in SATW 1983 finally got a ramp for her husband and now he can go out into the yard without her worrying. You see, there are sometimes in life that it pays to bring things to the attention of the public. I am glad that I could help somebody.

I have been trying to get into the WIA program so that I could better myself with a good work history for more years than I can count. I used to write grants and wanted to get back into practice. The last grant I got was 4.5 million for the Senior Citizens Action Group. As well as I am known, I can't get my foot through the front door. The management will not return my calls either. I have tried for several years now and the people will violate their own procedures and regulations before they give me the time of day. It doesn't matter to them that I am "qualified." They have had workers in their own offices with the same kind of income that I have working a 40 hour week. I have been told that the WIA will not put anyone out at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center because of the previous management. To me, that is unfair because Corbin Eddings is one of the most honest men that I know of. People tell the truth and cannot get anything and when others lie, they can get everything.

To those of you who enjoy my column, I want to leave you with a smile on your face today. Especially Ms. Clarr Jacobs and Ms. Gladys Pierce that I talked to this past week and told me "I sure do enjoy Cookie's Corner." So, here is a memory that even makes me laugh.

**"I'm not scared of dead people anymore"**

I met a man before my brother died named "Brother Billy" while visiting in the home of the late Violet Locklear, who was a friend of the family when I heard this about my brother. "Aren't you Doug Maynor's sister?" he asked. When I nodded my head "yes." He continued, "well, let me tell you about your brother. I was attending church down at Pee Dee and your brother was in charge of the brotherhood at the church. One night when we met, the lights went out in the church. We already had on our robes when Brother Doug told us that we would go outside and pray. Well, we all went outside as he lead us across the highway to the field. We kept on walking and then we stopped. He told us to spread out and kneel down. Sister Cookie, let me tell you that I was always scared of dead people until that night. I couldn't even go into a funeral home and into the casket room or where they kept the bodies. When I knelt down, my knee sunk down into the dirt and I didn't know where I was at because it was a quarter moon that night and the sky was so dark, it looked like the stars were not even there. As I was kneeling down praying there were several cars coming around the curve, and when their head lights hit us, they sped up. This old black man, we call "stickem in the mud" came along on his bicycle and when he looked up at us on the hill, he got off of his bicycle, put it on its back and took off running. And I couldn't figure out what in the world was happening. I didn't want to get up and disturb the others. However, the wind went to blowing and a branch from an old tree broke off and hit something. Suddenly, the lights came back on in the church and I felt the branch land at my feet. I stood up and could see that Brother Doug had led us not into the field but into a grave yard. Several minutes later, Brother Doug led us back into the church. I got up and said "Brother Doug, I love you and you know it. But, it doesn't say anything in the Bible about going into a graveyard to pray!"

If there is anyone that knew Doug, then you also knew that this sounded just like something he would do. It reminded me of the days that he had that old blue and white Chevy that he painted with green barn paint and would drive through Pembroke beating a drum and doing an Indian war cry. When I rode with him, I couldn't sink down in the seat fast enough so that I would not be seen. Does anyone remember the van he had that he painted and put chicken claw tracks and Bible verses on it? That was one ride that got attention. I can also tell you of the times that he picked me up from PSHS on his Honda dirt bike and would ride down through the bean fields with it trying to scare me.

I hope to see some of you at Gloryland. If you need directions call the pastor at 843-8384.

Now, you have a good week and I will see you next time in my little corner of the world. Smile for me one time. That's good now go and give a smile to someone else.

**McIntyre Announces \$750,000 for Job Creation**

Washington, D. C. - U. S. Representative Mike McIntyre announced today \$750,000 in federal funds for job creation has been approved for Lumbee River EMC.

Congressman McIntyre stated, "This is great news for job creation in Robeson County! We need jobs and this money will certainly help. Attracting new and stable businesses is the key to our economic recovery, and these funds will help do that."

Congratulations to all folks at Lumbee River EMC for their work in this matter."

These congressionally-approved funds for Lumbee River EMC will be used to enhance their revolving loan fund. The Lumbee River fund will provide aid to different types of economic activities and will consist of flexible loan packages and management assistance to prospective businesses, especially those that have not been able to secure financing from conventional sources. The funds were secured from a loan through the United States Department of Agricultural Rural development.

Congressman McIntyre is a member of the House Agriculture Committee.

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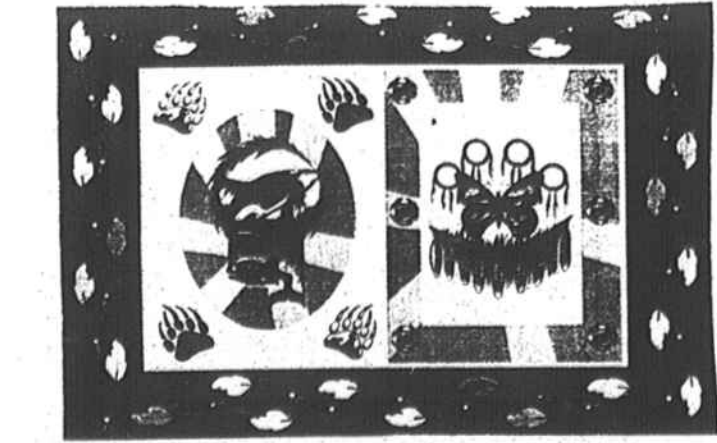
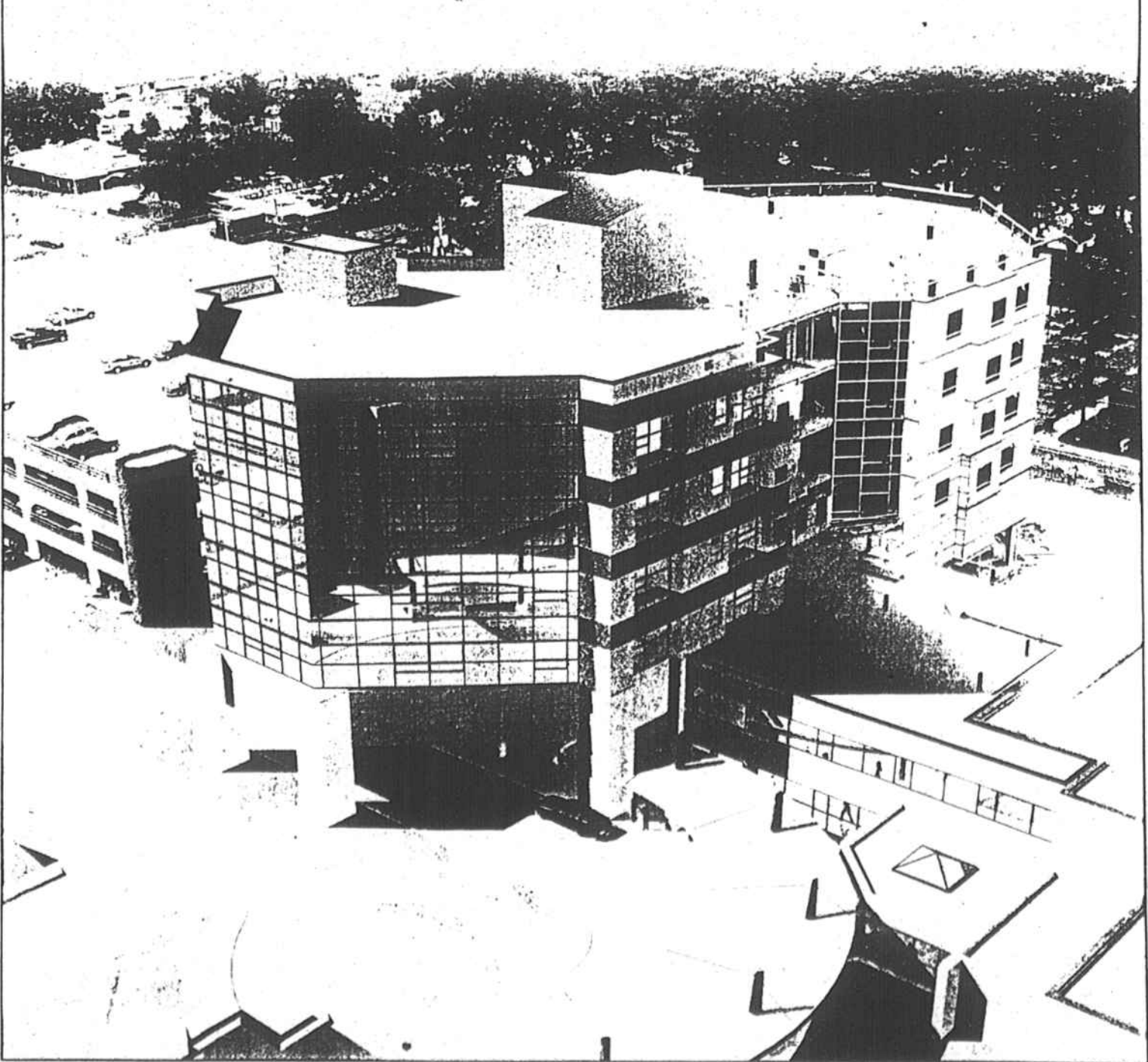
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