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Local Student Mark Brooks Receives National Recognition

Purnell Swett High School-Mark Brooks of Pembroke has been selected for membership in The National Society of High School Scholars. The Society inducts only the most outstanding high school students and honors them for superior academic achievement.

Claes Nobel, honorary chairman of the Society, states, "The hard work and success of today's youth provides foundation for a future dedicated to community-and world-betterment. I congratulate Mark on being recognized as one of the most outstanding high school seniors in the nation." As a senior member of the Nobel family, Claes Nobel extends his family's dedication to excellence to the youth of today Claes' family established the Nobel Prizes in 1901 in order to note outstanding contributions in the fields of Peace, literature, Medicine, Chemistry, and Physics. More than a century later, these internationally renowned awards continue to distinguish scientists, authors, and leaders in a world forum.

The mission of The National Society of High School Scholars is to recognize and encourage academic excellence among the most exceptional high school seniors. The Society selects students nationally and awards this distinction on a very limited basis. Membership is by invitation only, extended by Chair Claes Nobel.

Mark has recently received the Student of Excellence Award designated by his local chamber of commerce. He is also a Morehead nominee with a 4.5 G.P.A. He was Chief Marshal his junior year and is also a Ventures Scholar.

Mark is the son of Reverend Ted and Rosella Brooks of Pembroke.

Ronny A. Bell, Ph.d wins prestigious award



Ronny A. Bell

Winston-Salem, N.C. - Formerly of Robeson County, Ronny A. Bell, Ph.D., associate professor of public health sciences (epidemiology) at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, is a co-recipient of the school's New Investigator in Clinical Science award.

Bell received the award for his research, "Issues in Native American Health: Opportunities for Epidemiologic Research." His primary

research interests are in chronic disease epidemiology among ethnic minority populations, particularly Native Americans.

The award, presented at the sixth annual Research Awards day, honors a medical school faculty member who has been on staff for at least three years with less than eight years of independent research experience, has made a significant contribution to scientific literature and has the potential for an outstanding career as a scientist.

Bell received his undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his doctor of philosophy degree in foods and nutrition from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He received his master of science degree in epidemiology from Wake Forest University School of Medicine and is co-director of the Masters of Science Program in Clinical Epidemiology and Health Services at the medical school.

Golden Leaf Foundation Funds Carolina Commerce & Technology

Pembroke, N.C. - The Golden LEAF Foundation has awarded a second year of funding in the amount of \$155,000 to the Carolina Commerce and Technology Center (COMTech) in Pembroke to provide operational support for the continued development of a technology-focused education and training center designed to attract, stimulate and support business and industry for the Southeastern region of North Carolina including Robeson, Bladen, Cumberland, Scotland, Sampson, Hoke and Columbus Counties. The grant is one of 72 totaling more than \$1.4 million the Foundation recently made to nonprofits and governmental and educational agencies in North Carolina.

Last year's Golden LEAF grant was used by COMTech for operational support that proved instrumental in recruiting the first two tenants to the industrial park, which is the largest certified site in the state. Quality Housing announced plans in July to relocate to the COMTech site and create 70 jobs. The company also has plans to collaborate with UNC Pembroke to conduct research on using alternative crops to develop the panels it uses in manufacturing housing. The other business that has announced construction plans will be a business support center containing professional office space that will employ an estimated 75 people.

In its third round of annual grantsmaking, Golden LEAF continued to focus on agriculture, economic development, and workforce preparedness. Some of the 72 grants are state wide in scope, and the other grants were made to organizations in all parts of North Carolina.



Evita Wins at Pageants and at her School

Evita Saybrianna Sanderson has won four more beauty titles. Her first title was won on October 12, 2002, as Wee Miss Pikeville. She also won talent, photogenic, and back to school wear in her division.

Her second title was won on October 20, 2002, as Tiny Miss Nash County. She also won photogenic and talent in her division.

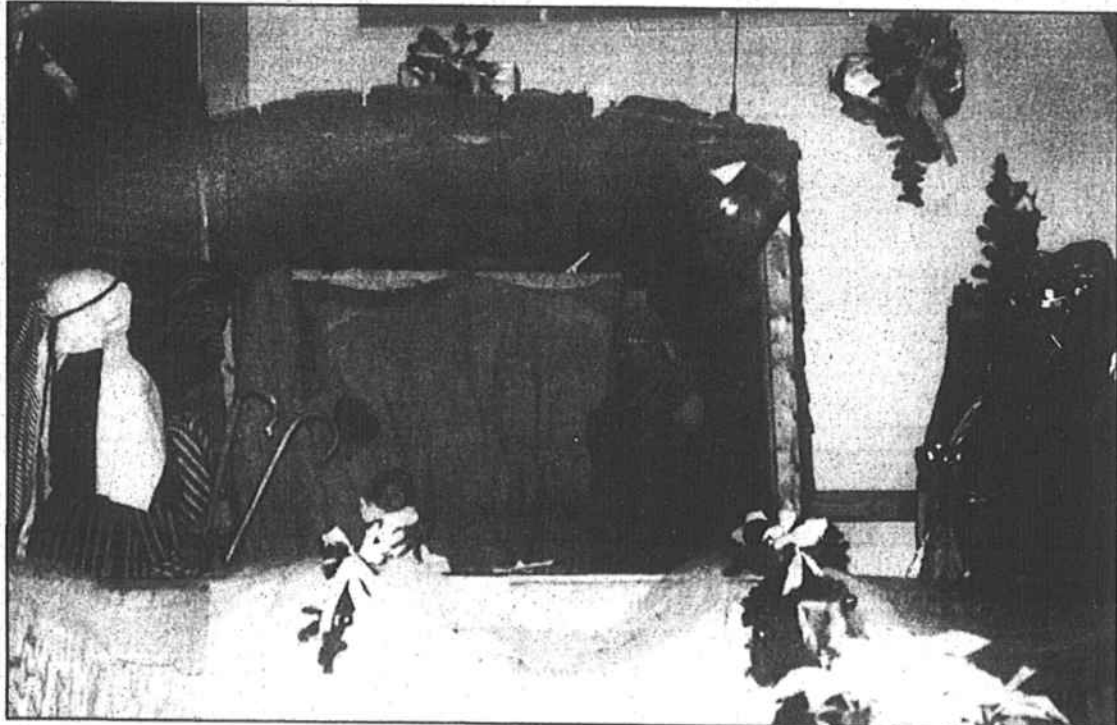
Her third title was won on November 2, 2002 as 0-4 Mini Majestic Robeson County American Beauty. She also won photogenic, casual wear, best dress, best smile, best hair, and best personality in her division. She also won talent, sportswear, most beautiful, best smile, best personality, and best hair in her division.

Evita has also been involved in school activities. She was the top seller in kindergarten for the school fund-raiser. She and the other top sellers out of each grade went on a limo ride to Pizza Hut. Her class won the "Drug Awareness" contest for wearing the most red items.

Evita's class won the "Native American" door contest for kindergarten. She won fourth place in the Indian Regalia contest. She also dressed up as Little Bo Peep for the "Library Day" at school when they had to dress as a character out of a book.

Evita attends Rosenvald Elementary School and is in Mrs. Faye Shooter's class. Evita and her classmates want to wish Mrs. Shooter much happiness in her retirement.

Evita is the five year old daughter of Sabrina Sanderson and Michael Floyd. She is the granddaughter of Sylvia L. Sanderson and the late James Edward and Mary Francis Floyd and the great granddaughter of the late Gus Howard and Eva Mae Locklear and the late Ira and Nancy Sanderson.



Prospect UMC Presents Musical Drama

The Music Ministries of Prospect United Methodist Church (Prospect UMC) will present a Christmas musical drama "Once Upon A Child" on Saturday and Sunday Evenings-December 14th and 15th at 7:00 PM, and Sunday Morning -December 22nd at 10:30 AM for the Worship Service at Prospect UMC.

Using both the spoken and sung words of God, this presentation will involve the children, youth, and adults to celebrate the birth Jesus in Once Upon A Child.

This Christmas musical drama is under the direction of The Reverend Harold D. Jacobs while Mr. David Oxendine serves as the host. With creative movements, special lighting, sound effects, and a 13 piece Orchestra, Once Upon A Child will be a spiritual experience that you do not want to miss. Therefore, we invite you to come worship Jesus the Christ as we celebrate His birthday, the birthday of a king on Saturday, December 14th and Sunday December 22nd at 10:30 AM in the sanctuary of Prospect United Methodist Church. You will be blessed.

Prospect United Methodist Church is located at 3929 Missouri Road, Maxton, NC (across the road from Prospect School), about five (5) miles Northwest of Pembroke, six (6) miles South of Red Springs, and seven (7) miles Northeast of Maxton.

The Pastor, The Reverend Bill James Locklear and the congregation of Prospect UMC want you to join them for this great Christmas celebration, Once Upon A Child.

For more information, you may call Prospect United Methodist Church and talk with Chris Boutselis at (910) 521-2111 (8:30 AM -4:00 PM Monday through Friday.)

Presentation of Paintings

A presentation of special paintings will be made at 2 p.m. December 12 at the offices of the Carolina Indian Voice. The paintings are created by Screaming Eagle (James Locklear Brooks). One of them will be presented to the Robeson County Veterans Service officer Mr. Harold Hunt; one will be present to VFW Post 29843 member Mr. Freddie Jacobs to be sold to help with the Veterans Memorial Fund created by former post member Erwin Jacobs and Mr. Fred Chavis.

Robeson County High Sheriff Mr. Glenn Maynor will be honored with a portrait of himself to commemorate his third election as the first Native American Sheriff in Robeson County.

A painting will also be given to Robeson County native Tosha Oxendine of Channel 13 in appreciation for all the great work she is doing for our county and surrounding areas with her coverage of the news.

Flu Shots Available

Start the holidays off right! Southeastern Regional Medical Center will offer flu vaccines to individuals 18 years and older at the Southeastern Lifestyle Center of Red Springs, located at 301 Mt. Tabor Road, on Tuesday, Dec. 10 from 4 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. And at the new Rennett fire Station, located at 9896 Rennett Road, on Thursday, Dec. 12 from 6 p.m. until supplies last. No appointment is necessary.

For more information, call SRMC Community Health Services at 671-5595.



Purnell Swett High School expressed their gratitude to the cafeteria staff for their hard work.

Shown bottom row, left: Eleanor Jacobs, Joyce Locklear, Alice Moore and Mary Sue Deese.

Top row, left: Donna Smith, Juanita Oxendine, Teresa Taylor, Leon Lambert, Laura Turner and Betty Oxendine. Not shown is Hazel Strickland.



Purnell Swett High School's Literary Society enjoyed an evening with author, Nicholas Sparks at the Cape Fear Regional Theater. Some of his works include-"Message in a Bottle" and "A Walk to Remember."

Members attending included: left: Travin Deese, Kayla Lowery, Nicole Jacobs, Faron Locklear, Megan Clark, and Justin Deese.

Not shown are Kara Lowry, Suzette Bullard, and Christin Bullard. Chaperones are Kimberly Locklear, Lindsey Locklear and Yvonne Barnes Dial.

Religious Poetry Contest Has January 4 Deadline

Pembroke-A \$10000.00 grand prize is being offered in a special poetry contest sponsored by the New Jersey Rainbow Poets, free to anyone who has ever written a poem. There are 50 prizes in all totaling almost \$5,000.00. The deadline for entering is January 4, 2003.

To enter, send one poem only of 21 lines or less; Free Poetry Contest, 103 N. Wood Ave., PMB 70, Linden NJ 07036. Or enter on-line

www.rainbowpoets.com.

"We think great religious poems can inspire achievement," says Frederick Young, the organization's Contest Director. "Our desire is to inspire amateur poets and we think this competition will accomplish that. North Carolina has produced many wonderful poets over the years and we'd like to discover new ones from the Pembroke area."