

"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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## FSC (ASCS) Director Janice Oxendine seeks election to local EMC board



Janice Oxendine

Janice Oxendine considers herself to be a friend of the farmer. She has worked for many years with the local Farm Service Agency and has extended invaluable help to nearly all the farmers in the area. In 1967 She began working as Assistant Executive Director of the Robeson County Farmers Service Agency. She held that position until 1998 when she became the Executive Director for the Hoke County Farm Services Agency, a position she continues to hold. Oxendine at this time is running for and elected position for the first time. She is seeking election to the at-large position on the Board of Directors of the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation's Board of Directors. A resident of the Raft Swamp area,

Oxendine stated that she felt she would be an asset to the rural cooperative board. In making her announcement, Oxendine released the following statement. "During the past thirty-seven years I have had the unique distinction of working in a field that I love. I have assisted the farmers, not only in Robeson and Hoke, but also in the surrounding counties. I have worked with the farmers, one on one, and have made sure that they received whatever they were entitled to. It has been my privilege to stay informed on new programs available for farmers. I have tried my best to make sure that all farmers have the information they needed to apply for available services. Whenever a disaster occurs, I am quick to access the availability of programs, and encourage farmers to apply for them. I have explained services and programs one on one, and many farmers have come into the ASC office and requested my services by name. I am proud of the rapport I have established with the farming community. I have never make any differentiation between small farmers and large farmers. If a person was concerned enough to farm, even if it was only a few acres, he is just as important as one who farms acres of land. I believe that farming is the founda-

tion of our country. We must have the farmer in order to eat and feed our families. I have the ability to explain the various programs and I am very knowledgeable of them. There are not many farmers who do not know me and I know most of them. I have carefully considered my decision to seek election to the EMC board and view it as an opportunity to broaden my service to my community. I have not sought public office before and hope my friends will come to the Annual Meeting of LREMC on Tuesday, October 7, 2003 beginning at 6 p.m. and allow me to represent them in the at-large position. If they do so, I will continue my dedication and service to the member consumers. I believe that service to humanity is the best work of life. And a position on the EMC board will allow me another outlet to serve my fellow man." Oxendine is known, not only for her work with farmers, but also as a dedicated neighbor and friend. She enjoys preparing and delivering meals to shut ins, visits to rest homes and responding to emergency situations. She is usually among the first to arrive when a disaster strikes in the area. In cases of house fires, she brings needed household items and clothes. She is a people person and enjoys helping others.



Ambrose Locklear



Robert Locklear



Proctor Locklear

## Ambrose Locklear to run for another term on LREMC Board

Ambrose Locklear has represented District 5 on the LREMC Board of Directors for three terms, nine years. He and his wife, Joyce Smith Locklear, who is retired as a North Carolina Drivers License Examiner, reside in the Saddletree Community. Locklear is seeking a fourth term on the board. Locklear is retired as an environmentalist who inspected septic tanks with the Robeson County Health Department. During his spare time, he visits shut-ins, and hospitals. He has long been involved in local politics and is the brother-in-law of former Clerk of Superior Court, JoAnn Locklear. He is an active member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church where he holds the position of Sunday School Superintendent. Locklear released the following statement: "I have been involved in local affairs for many years. I saw a need for my services on the LREMC board of directors nine years ago, and I put myself out there as a candidate. The members of EMC honored me by electing me to the District 5 position. I have tried hard during my tenure on that

board not to disappoint the member/owners. I have based all my decisions on the board on what is in the best interest of the consumers. I have witnessed much growth and improvement during my service on the board. I hope the members will recognize that and re-elect me on October 7, 2003. I have been very conscious of the fact that we have many elderly, disabled, and economically disadvantaged consumers. I know how hard it would be for them to have to pay extravagant electric bills on fixed incomes. I have been a part of helping to not only keep the rates the lowest possible, but have voted to keep us from having a rate increase. As a matter of fact, we have not had a rate increase in the last fourteen years and have had three rate reductions in the last eight years. I am proud to have been a part of that and feel very privileged that the consumers have recognized my sincere desire to be an asset to the cooperative. They have demonstrated this by re-electing me three times. I humbly ask for the vote and support of the consumers as I seek re-election for a fourth

term. "Serving in an elected capacity is always a sacrifice for any elected official and requires a great deal of time. I have the time and the willingness to continue to serve. Serving on the EMC Board has been a commitment I have enjoyed. It gives me an opportunity to be of assistance to the members, and especially the elderly and disabled. We have a Help A Needy Friend Program that is invaluable to those on fixed income. This program will assist with electric bills in hard times. It is one of the programs I am most proud of. There are other things which have been accomplished during my nine years on the board, but I feel really good about those programs that assist the elderly and disabled. "Returning me to the EMC board, will be returning a friend of the consumer. If I am re-elected, I will continue to voice your concerns and vote my convictions on all matters. I ask the members to remember they must vote for four in order for their vote to be counted. Please make Ambrose Locklear one of your four. Thank you."

## Robert Locklear seeks fourth term on LREMC Board of Directors

Mr. Robert Locklear is seeking another term on the board of directors of LREMC. Locklear has represented District 1 on the rural cooperative board for the past nine years. Locklear is a resident of the Evans Crossings community where he is very active in civic and community affairs. He attends Faith Baptist Church and is active with the youth and other outreach ministries of the church. Since his retirement as a farmer and an employee at LOF Glass in Laurinburg, NC, he spends his leisure hours visiting the elderly and Dial's Rest Home residents. He volunteers to repair heating systems for the elderly in his community. He has been an active member of the Evans Crossings Fire Department for twenty-eight years and has a reputation in the community of being dependable. He is a former Chairman of the Board of Evans Fire Department, a member of the Robeson County Firemen's Association as well as the North Carolina State Firemen's Association. Locklear released the following statement: "Our cooperative continues to grow and expand our interests. We have exceeded our expected

growth over the last few years. This has come about with the capable leadership of our CEO and staff. We have some of the most dedicated staff persons anywhere. They are not only dedicated, but they are extremely knowledgeable of a rural cooperative and the services we provide to our members. We have expanded our services to major industry without adding an additional burden to the members. In fact, LREMC has reduced residential rates by 15.75% to our consumers. At this time our rates are competitive with or lower than other electric providers for comparable services. LREMC, "Locklear stated, "continues to lead the field in industrial growth. In the past two years, we have added two Super Wal Marts, added a thousand-bed North Carolina Maximum Security prison to our system, along with other major industry in our service area. "Recently LREMC," Locklear continued, "has joined in partnership with three other cooperatives and we are providing maintenance and construction for Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville, NC. This is not a small undertaking and is an indication of how we have progressed. These

three cooperatives together with LREMC have formed a company to manage the electrical systems on Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base." Locklear concluded, "LREMC continues to make system improvements which are necessary for the improvement and expansion of our available services. In this ever growing and increasing expansion of industry, LREMC continues to enhance and improve the service for our consumers. While all this industrial improvement and expansion continues, we are ever cognizant that we are a member owned cooperative and are reaffirming our commitment and dedication to you the member/owner. It is our stated mission to keep our rates for residential consumers at the lowest rate possible." "I humbly ask for your vote and support on October 7, 2003. I will continue, if re-elected, to make informed and sound fiscal decisions with the best interests of the consumers in mind." Locklear is married to Rose Dial Locklear who is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

## Proctor Locklear of Hoke County files for re-election to EMC Board

Proctor Locklear has announced his bid for re-election to the LREMC Board of Directors. From Hoke County, Locklear has represented District 6 on the member owned cooperative board for twelve years. A retired educator who taught 31 years, Locklear is married to Betty Blue Locklear. He is a Deacon and Adult Sunday School teacher at Dundarrach Baptist Church. Locklear stated that the business of a rural cooperative is one which requires a great deal of attention and commitment. He stated he believes his years of experience on the board is an asset to the members. In making his announcement, Locklear released the following statement: "I have worked hard for the members of the cooperative during my tenure. I have always been and continue to be concerned with keeping unity and harmony among the board members. I have always supported the board during our annual elections, and will continue to do so. It is very important that the board members get along well with each other. Only during discussions with informed board

members and in a spirit of unity can sound fiscal decisions be made. "We have accomplished many positive things during my years on the board of LREMC. They have all been in the best interest of the members. I am proud of our capital credits program. It is a small way to give something back to the members who own the cooperative. I am proud to have been a part of the Help A Needy Friend Program whereby people who are economically disadvantaged can receive help with their electric bill. I am also excited about the industrial growth of our cooperative. We now provide electricity for two Super Wal Marts, a thousand-bed maximum custody prison, as well as providing maintenance and construction for Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base. "These are only a few of the accomplishments that I have had the privilege of being a part of during my years on the EMC Board of Directors. It is my hope that the consumers will once again allow me to serve them as the representative for District 6. I pledge anew

to continue my record of honesty and integrity as we expand and grow as the multi-million business our rural cooperative has become. We have been fortunate and have had good leadership as we have extended our services into the highly technical age that we are now a part of. It has taken leadership with vision as well as knowledge to achieve what we have accomplished. I have been privileged to be a part of this vision and hope the consumers will allow me to continue to serve them. I will continue to advocate honesty, and unity among the board members, fairness for employees, and lower rates for the members. Thank you for your consideration of me as your representative for District 6." The Annual Meeting of Consumers of LREMC will be held Tuesday night, October 7, 2003 at the Givens Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Registration begins at 6 p.m. The Annual Meeting will begin as soon as a quorum of members is in attendance.

## Family finds late son had many friends



PEMBROKE, N.C.-Jason Wayne Hunt's life touched the lives of many others. Hunt was a rising junior Computer Science major at UNC Pembroke when he died in a May, 2003 accidental drowning. Family, fraternity brothers at Phi Sigma Nu and friends organized a golf tournament in August to raise funds for the Jason Wayne Hunt Endowed Memorial Scholarship at UNCP. People came from far and to play in the golf tournament to honor Jason and raised over \$3,500 for the endowed scholarship in his name.

"Jason was loved and is missed greatly by us all," said his mother, Sandra Hunt. "Not a day goes by that we don't think of something funny he said or did, or a serious conversation we had, or what a good son, brother and friend he was. His love and friendship has carried much farther than we could ever imagine." "The fraternity has been wonderful. They worked very hard on the project," Ms. Hunt said. "People came from as far away as Raleigh and Wilmington to play." The golf tournament was held Aug. 2, 2003 at Flag Tree Golf Course in Fairmont. The event was a success with 21 teams competing, and the family plans to make it an annual event. UNCP Chancellor Allen C. Meadors praised the effort behind the scholarship. "Jason was an outstanding young man, and an endowed scholarship is a lasting tribute to his life," Chancellor Meadors said. "I cannot think of a better way to honor his legacy." Jason and his older brother Kenneth, who is now a candidate for a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at UNCP, were members of Phi Sigma Nu, UNCP's first Native American

fraternity established in 1996. Both were excellent students at UNCP and at South Robeson High School, where Jason graduated third in his class. Jason was also survived by a sister, Marie, who is a nursing student at Robeson Community College. "Jason loved life, loved his family, friends and he loved Jesus," said his father, Larry Hunt. "The scholarship will be awarded to a student who shared Jason's dream of a college education." "The scholarship will go to a sophomore Computer Science major from Robeson County with a demonstrated financial need. "Jason earned two scholarships that helped him attend the University, and the family feels that this scholarship will help other deserving students realize the dream of a better life through education," Ms. Hunt said. "The family would like to thank all who participated in the event, participants, sponsors, supporters and helpers," Ms. Hunt said. For additional information on giving to this or other scholarships at UNCP, call the Office of Donor Relations at (910) 521-6213 or email [teresa.oxendine@uncp.edu](mailto:teresa.oxendine@uncp.edu).



Photo Caption: From left Larry Hunt, father; Marie Locklear, sister; Chancellor Allen C. Meadors; Sandra Hunt, mother and Kenneth Hunt, brother.