

"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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Kendall B. Oxendine seeks seat on LREMC Board, representing Hoke



Kendall B. Oxendine has officially announced his intentions to seek membership on the Board of Directors of Lumbee River EMC. He will be vying for the District 6 seat representing Hoke County and areas east of NC Hwy 211.

Mr. Oxendine is the son of the late Walter G. Oxendine and Connie L. Oxendine. He is married to April L. Oxendine of the Mt. Airy community. He was raised in Pembroke where he attended Berea Baptist Church for more than 25 years. He re-

located to the town of Raeford, NC in 1999 where he works as a healthcare administrator with the Cape Fear Valley Health System and is a member of Manna Church of Fayetteville. The hopeful board member served two years of active duty in the United States Air Force and is currently a Medical Service Corps officer in the United States Army Reserves. Upon completing his active duty commitment, he entered the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Public Health and a Master of Business Administration from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

When recently asked what he hoped to achieve as a director, he replied, "Results! I believe if I approach every decision and aspect of governance by asking the question, 'How will my decision or action impact the customer?' I will have successfully accomplished a large part of my responsibility. Thus, the

co-op member's best interest are given priority and I don't compromise my own morals and values."

He further added, "I'm not so naive to believe that I'll make decisions that please everyone. However, I have confidence in executive management of LREMC and they'll provide the input and resources necessary to make informed decisions and I don't think any existing or prospective board member could ask for much more than that."

"Giving back to one's community is a true sign of appreciation. I'm not looking for notoriety or an opportunity to make the headlines. I'd much rather prefer the random encounter in the grocery store and have a customer tell me they appreciate what I do."

Mr. Oxendine would appreciate your vote on October 7, 2003. Voting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. in the Givens Performing Arts Center on the campus of UNC-Pembroke.

Ronald Hammonds announces election bid to LREMC Board



Ronald Hammonds of the Saddletree community announces his bid for election to the LREMC Board of Directors, representing District 5. In making his announcement Hammonds released the following statement:

"On this date I would like to announce my candidacy to be a Representative of the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation (LREMC). My agenda is simple-fairness to the members of LREMC. Do you feel that as members we should Vote to elect others from outside our own district? I hope that you will agree with myself and others, that you should be represented by someone from your own district that YOU elected! For several years there have been repeated petitions to the present Board of Directors to improve it's voting system which would make it a more FAIR, OPEN, and TRUE representation of it's membership.

Why would the present Board of Directors NOT be in favor of Fairness? This is simple, the present voting method favors the incumbents. You might ask HOW? Well, if others are voting for individuals that are NOT in their own districts-you can see how numbers and votes can be abused. The fact is, that district members are NOT the ones that are necessarily electing the representative from their own district. Other LREMC members from other districts are voting in all districts. This is a form of DOUBLE VOTING. Don't you think this is wrong?"

"Why do you think the present Board of Directors want to keep things 'as is'?" This method of voting favors them being re-elected. There have been many complaints concerning the abuse of power by the board. Our board should be working for its membership!!

"Fact: Members have been denied access to view Board minutes of meetings under N.C.G.S. (Section 55A-16).

"Fact: Some of the abuses we have discussed in our complaint-the installment of Directors Retirement (Section 4.13 EMC By-laws)

"Fact: 70% of all co-ops in North Carolina have started holding their annual meetings on Saturdays for convenience and better attendance. Did you

know that less than 4% of our membership attend our annual meetings?"

"Fact: 3 times the membership has requested a change of the election process at our annual meeting. 3 times this request has been denied. After 63 years don't you think it's time for a voters reform?"

"These injustices need to be corrected. We must have open communication, honesty, and corporate accountability of the Board of Directors. The first step should be to change the present voting procedures. The Board of Directors of LREMC should be working for the membership."

"We the members of LREMC need a voice for change."

"You can make a difference! Why should you have to vote for every district for your vote to count? But until this is changed, you do. Help support change. This is your co-op. Please attend the election of the Board of Directors and cast your vote October 7, 2003 at the Performing Arts Center at UNC Pembroke. Registration is from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m."

"These candidates have made a commitment for change: District 5-Ronald Hammonds; District 1-Bill James Brewington; At-Large-Lacy Cummings; District 6-Kendall Oxendine."

"Your vote is greatly appreciated."

Family Law Legal Clinic Planned Sept. 29th

On Monday, September 29, 2003, Legal Aid of North Carolina, Southeastern Family Violence Center and a volunteer attorney from the Robeson County Bar will conduct a free Family Law Legal Clinic from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the O.P. Owens Building, 455 Caton Road, Lumberton, North Carolina.

2831. The Family Law Clinics are sponsored by Legal Aid of North Carolina (Pembroke Office), Southeastern Family Violence Center and local private attorneys, as facilitated through a grant from the Interest on Lawyer's Trust Accounts (IOLTA) of the North Carolina Bar.

For further information contact: Mr. Dale Deese, Senior Managing Attorney; Ms. Ida T. Baker, Victims of Crime Act Attorney; Legal Aid of North Carolina-Pembroke, 101 East Second Street, Post Office Box 939, Pembroke, North Carolina 28372. (910) 521-2831. Fax: (910) 521-9824.

The general public and agency representatives with an interest in information on family law issues are encouraged to attend and/or request Legal Aid conduct future Clinics. You can request additional presentations be conducted by calling Legal Aid of North Carolina (Pembroke Office at 1-800-554-7852 or (910) 521-

Free Computer Classes Offered by Pembroke Housing and UNCP

How would you like to learn important technological skills for today's society?

Pembroke Housing Authority in partnership with the Regional Center of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke will offer free computer classes to residents of the Town of Pembroke and surrounding communities. The workshop will consist of nine classes in the following subject areas: Introduction to Computers, Introduction to the Internet, and Application Software. The classes will begin

on October 14th and will be taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 pm to 8:30pm at the Clinton L. Thomas Community Building. If you or someone you know is interested in attending this workshop, please RSVP by October 8th with Tanya Deese at 910-521-1030 (voice) or 800-545-1833 ext 761 (TDD). Limited space availability.

Sponsored in part by a Rural Internet Access Authority Digital/Internet Literacy Grant

Regional Model and Talent Review to be held

CHARLOTTE, NC-OCTOBER 3RD, 4TH, 5TH-Carolina Talent, in association with Millie Lewis International-Charlotte, will host more than fifty agents from around the world during the Millie Lewis Regional Model and Talent Review at the Adams Mark Hotel in Charlotte, Oct. 3rd, 4th, 5th. Hundreds of aspiring models, singers, dancers, and actors from a five-state area will attend the review in front of the world's leading agents.

Carolina Talent utilizes this event to promote its talent to agents worldwide. Reviews are offered in Acting, Modeling, Singing, Dance and more. Participants perform for top scout-industry leaders that new talent may never under normal circumstances. Years worth of auditions are condensed into three days.

Carolina Talent, founded in 1968, is Charlotte's premier modeling and talent agency rep-

resenting men, women, and children through its office in Charlotte. Carolina Talent is primarily involved in providing

Miss Harvest Scholarship Contest planned

Young women ages 17-24 are invited to enter the Miss Harvest Scholarship Contest sponsored by American Indian Mothers, Inc. Applicants must be enrolled in a postsecondary program of study either a community college, junior postsecondary program of study or a vocational program at a community college, a junior college or a college/university and must be a Robeson County resident. The scholarship contest is open to all applicants regardless of race, color, creed or religion.

Applicants will participate in an interview and will submit a 300-word essay on the top-Sexual Abstinence for Healthy Young Women, Men and Families. All essays must be typewritten and double-spaced. In addition to the essay, applicants

Proudly representing my Lumbee people with Beauty, Grace, and Pride, I am TaKonna Lyn Bullard, your new Junior Miss Lumbee. I am the ten-year old daughter of Michael and Teresa Bullard and have a four year old brother, Michael TaKoda who is my number one fan.

My family and I live in Red Springs and I attend the private Christian School, Mt. Zion Christian Academy. I am in the sixth grade and have stayed on the A Honor Roll since I began school. I enjoy dancing at powwows, tap dancing, singing, and swimming in my pool with friends.

I have been entertaining at schools, businesses and rest homes since I was three years old and plan to continue throughout this year representing my Lumbee title. And thank you Ms. Kim for making all my dreams come true. I want to thank my Creator for all He has given me.

I hope that, through him, I will be able to touch many lives in my upcoming years.

Representing my Lumbee people is an honor and I will do my best to make each one of you proud.

Since June 27, 2003 I have been on cloud nine not only because of celebrating my daddy's birthday, but my win as your Little Miss Lumbee. I look forward to celebrating my reign with Morgan, Lindsey, and TaKonna. And let us not forget Mr. Lumbee "Stickboy." (Isn't he cute?)

All required materials should be completed and postmarked no later than October 20, to American Indian Mothers, Post Office Box 425, Shannon, NC 28386.

Miss Harvest Princess 2003 will be crowned October 30 during the Harvest Millennium Warrior Banquet. Additional information may be obtained by calling (910) 843-9911.

should provide a biographical sketch of their family, school/church/community activities, interests and hobbies as well as other interests and a 5 x 7 black and white photograph.

to subscribe call 521-2826



Message from Junior Miss Lumbee TaKonna Bullard

Message from Little Miss Lumbee Robin Lynn Bullard



Representing you the Lumbee people, I am Robin Lynn Bullard, Little Miss Lumbee. I am the daughter of Randall and Toni Bullard and sister to Shawn, twin-Randi and Colby, and baby -Hunter -Blake. I live in Red Springs and attend Flora MacDonald Academy in the 4th grade. My hobbies and interests include dancing, modeling, swimming, baseball, four-wheeling, and hanging out with my friends and competing in pageants.

Since June 27, 2003 I have been on cloud nine not only because of celebrating my daddy's birthday, but my win as your Little Miss Lumbee. I look forward to celebrating my reign with Morgan, Lindsey, and TaKonna. And let us not forget Mr. Lumbee "Stickboy." (Isn't he cute?)

In closing, I would like to say that I plan to do my very best in representing you the Lumbee Nation, and be an inspiration and positive role model for my fellow youth.

Early Head Start accepting applications

The LRDA, Early Head Start Program is now taking applications for the Fairmont area. Applications will be taken for children between the ages of 6 weeks and 3 years old as well as expectant mothers.

For more information, please call Amanda Hunt at 910-522-2131.

Several people testify on behalf of Lumbee Bill

by Connee Brayboy

The Lumbee Tribal Chairman, Milton Hunt, and Tribal Attorney Arlinda Locklear testified on behalf of Lumbee before the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs on Wednesday, September 18, 2003.

Also testifying on behalf of the tribe was Dr. Jack Campisi, Anthropologist and principle author of the Lumbee Petition for Federal Acknowledgement. Dr. Campisi has spent a considerable amount of time with the tribe since 1984.

They were accompanied to Washington, D.C. for this event by many tribal members who wished to show their support as well as be a part of the historic Hearing on the Lumbee Recognition Bill recently introduced by North Carolina Senator Elizabeth Dole, who also presented an awe-inspiring statement in favor of full federal recognition for the Lumbee Tribe. Senator Dole gave special recognition to Mrs. Emma Lee Locklear of the Prospect community who also attended the hearing. She was recognized for following the tradition of her grandfather, Malakiah Locklear, who was a signer of the 1888 Petition to the U.S. Congress for educational aid.

The Lumbee Bill has also been introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Mike McIntyre, who also testified. He emphasized the progress and leadership among Lumbee referring to the sheriff, clerk of

court, register of deeds, district court judges, Superior Court Judge and a member of the NC General Assembly, all Lumbee, as "his."

Eni Faleomavaega, US Representative for American Samoa, and long time supporter of the tribe's recognition efforts, presented a heart wrenching statement supporting the bill.

It is the first time a federal recognition bill for Lumbee has had the endorsement and support of both the North Carolina Senators, Sen. John Edwards, who was unable to attend, has publicly supported the tribe's effort.

The Hearing before the Committee, chaired by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, is procedural and necessary prior to any vote on the recognition bill. A vote on the bill is expected early in 2004.

If approved by the House and the Senate, the Lumbee Bill will provide full recognition to the Lumbee Tribe who were recognized in 1956 as Lumbee, but were denied benefits and entitlements granted to other federally recognized tribes.

Both Chairman Hunt and Attorney Locklear are encouraged by the possibility of full federal recognition for the Lumbee with the present bill. Federal recognition is an effort

that Lumbee people have been striving toward for more than 100 years.

Early Bird Lunches to Begin

AFTERCARE "EARLY-BIRD" LUNCHESES TO BEGIN

The Red Springs Boles Home is beginning its monthly "Early-Bird" lunch at the United Methodist Church. There monthly "Early-Bird" lunch at will also be a brief explanation of Gore's Seafood at 221 East Fourth Avenue (Hwy. 211-East across from Piggly-Wiggly) at 11:00 AM on the first Thursday of each month. The first gathering will be on Thursday, October 2nd, and all in the Red Springs area who have lost a loved one and would enjoy meeting for a bit of music and medication, fellowship and just good conversation, are invited to attend as guests of Boles, whether they served the family at the time of the death or not.

Put this on your calendar and join the "Early Birds" from 11:00-12:30 on October 21st!