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"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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25

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PEMBROKE, N.C.-When it was time to retire, Gene Brayboy wanted to go out on top. The director of the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs at UNC Pembroke did just that when he left his post on October 15.

"I believe in my heart that it will take a man or woman with a lot of energy to keep this office moving in the right direction," said Brayboy. "It is time for me to step aside."

Brayboy, 67, has put his considerable energy into winning grants for 11 years. And the numbers validate his successful career. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, Brayboy's office helped UNCP take in \$9.3 million in grants. Grants receipts and grant applications have steadily increased since Brayboy's arrival in 1992. That year, the University took in just \$485,000.

"This is a faculty-driven enterprise, and I've had a good staff and a lot of support from the top," Brayboy said. "Our office

provides the faculty with as much technical assistance and support as we can. We just don't write grants. We look at markets to see where we can best put our limited resources to good use."

In the current budget-cutting environment, grants are increasingly important in higher education. Brayboy said

"If we want to continue supporting growth, we've got to go out and get it ourselves," he said. "There is renewed interest for faculty to be engaged in research and grant activities. The competition for grants is also increasing."

Brayboy believes one of the projects he is working on will give UNCP a powerful competitive edge in winning grants. He has worked for five years to have UNCP designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a "minority serving" institution for its historic and on going role educating Native Americans.

"We're close," he said. "A bill has been introduced by Congressman Mike McIntyre, and we're hopeful," he said. "If this happens, we could triple our

funding for sponsored research in a short time."

Brayboy is especially satisfied with his office's role in the start-up of UNCP's Regional Center for Economic, Community and Professional Development. The center recently broke ground on a new 7,000 square foot headquarters at COMTECH, a nearby technology and education incubator.

As a regional university, Brayboy said UNCP and its grants office must support its communities.

"We are a community based organization, and in that role we brought in \$2.3 million in outreach grants last year for economic development, youth and health related programs," he said. "I'd say that is remarkable for a higher education institution like ours."

Remarkable is a good description for Brayboy's life and career. He grew up on a farm in the Philadelphia community near Pembroke.

"At that time, it was either farm or teach," he said. "I knew nothing of the outside world."

The ambitious young Brayboy chose another path. After earning an undergraduate degree from Shaw University and a Master's in Public Health from UNC Chapel Hill, he got an opportunity to see the world.

Brayboy joined the Navy's U.S. Public Health Service. Late in his military career when he was stationed in Washington, D.C., he caught the eye of another Pembroke native, Dr. Joseph B. Oxendine, then chancellor at UNCP.

"Chancellor Oxendine was familiar with my grant work, so he hand-picked me for this role," he said. "I have had great support from both Chancellor Oxendine and Chancellor (Allen C.) Meadors."

Brayboy vows to stay busy in retirement with consulting work and other projects.

A member of the National Association of Medical Minority Educators, he was recently elected to its Board of Directors.

There is an important local healthcare issue he would like to address.



Morgan Hunt
Miss Lumbee 2003-04

A message from Miss Lumbee Morgan Hunt

How do I begin to describe my year thus far, which has brought me such fulfillment and joy? From the moment my reign as Miss Lumbee began in June, the days have flown by bringing both new and familiar faces as well as places. I have had the opportunity to work with the "Native killer" diabetes, which I will spend my reign educating native people about the deadly consequences of this disease. I have traveled to Raleigh, N.C. as a special guest on Business Dialogue that airs in the Triangle Area speaking on Lumbee federal recognition and diabetes awareness. Also appearing in my first commercial with Rebekah Revels, supporting the Charles Ray III Diabetes Association. The Charles Ray III Diabetes Golf Classic was held last week and was a huge success! I have attended powwows in Raleigh, Baltimore MD, Saddletree, Cumberland County, Clinton NC and also was chosen as the head dancer at UNCP's NASO powwow. Speaking, performing and judging at pageants, rest homes, and charity events, I am truly having the time of my life. Traveling to Asheville, NC for the North Carolina Commissioners Conference was quiet interesting... I had the time to witness first-hand politics. I feel that just one of the highlights of my year was attending the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey. I had the chance to represent the Lumbee tribe in front of thousands of Americans from all walks of life. I would like to thank the board and directors of LRDA for making this opportunity possible. Although only a couple of months have passed, you the Lumbee people have embraced me and welcomed me into your communities, homes, and organizations. If I had to choose one word to describe myself right now it would definitely be BLESSED. I have been greatly inspired by former ambassadors to follow in their footsteps, now I'm hoping to inspire other little girls to do the same... follow your dreams.

Mission Walk a Huge Success!

On September 27, 2003, over 200 people hit the streets of Pembroke. Church members, old and young, from the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference participated in a Mission Walk. The purpose of the day was to share the love of God in the town of Pembroke through witnessing, a can food drive and fellowship.

After breakfast, the group broke up into teams and visited homes in five housing projects (Chavis Park, Locklear Court, Maynor Manor, Strickland Heights, and Dial's Terrace) and Mercer's Apartments. The group distributed tracts and witnessed to people.

Meanwhile, at the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference Building, the younger children were entertained by Buzz and Dana Rankin, from Children's Bible Ministry (CBM), with a puppet show. Cherokee Chapel youth also did a puppet show. Some children wrote letters to go in the boxes for the military.

Not only was the love for God spread in Pembroke, but it will reach the sands of Iraq.

Participants gathered items to send to the military troops and school children in Trinidad. In addition, 50 Bibles were sent to the Iraqi people. Approximately 102 boxes were assembled for the military. \$11,000 dollars was collected for the CBM and 1,000 cans of food. Cans that were not given out at the projects were distributed in the town park to those in need.

100 cans of food was donated to Robeson Church and Community.

Everyone was excited about their visits and experiences in the housing projects. Some plan to continue with their visitation. Mt. Carmel Gospel singers sang a few songs while the group was having refreshments in the park. Special thank you to the Pembroke Police Department and Diane Goins of Union Chapel Holiness Methodist Church, who coordinated the event. The participating churches were Hopewell, New Bethel, Prospect, Maxton Full Gospel, Shocheel, Mission, Macedonia, Mt. Carmel, Union Chapel, Cherokee, and Riverside

Heritage Festival

Thursday, November 13, 2003
The Native American Health and Heritage Festival at UNC-Pembroke
Presented by UNC-Pembroke and the AT&T Tribal Program.
Free Health Fair with Information Booths, Panel Discussions, and Health Screenings from 12:00 pm to 7:00pm.
Music Concert featuring traditional Native music and rock and roll, with Willie Lowery, Ulali, and Switched, begins at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$5 for adults. Free for youth under 18 and elders over 62. Advanced tickets can be purchased after November 1 by calling the Givens Performing Arts Center at 910-521-6361.



Dr. Gene Brayboy

Locklears observe 50th Wedding Anniversary

The children of Rev. & Mrs. George Alton Locklear celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Freedom Assembly of God in Red Springs, NC on Saturday Sept. 6, 2003. The children are Donald J. of Charlotte, Marcus of Lumberton, Connie Eichner of Norfolk, Va., Christopher of Washington DC. The dinner was catered by Fullers.

The cake was made and designed by Christina Eichner, chef and granddaughter.

Many beautiful gifts were shared with the couple.

Speeches were made by Mr. Noah Woods, Mildred maynor, Evelyn Morgan, Donald J. Locklear, Rev. Steve Locklear, Rev. Montana Locklear, former pastor of Freedom Assembly of God and Deena Hunt Revels.



Rev. & Mrs. George A. Locklear.

"When representatives of the Lumbee Tribe testified before a Senate Committee on the issue of recognition, they had no information available about the health disparities of the tribe because there is no database available," Brayboy said. "I would like to create data on the health of the Lumbees and other tribes east of the Mississippi."

That ambitious retirement is typical of Brayboy. His colleagues say his leadership will be difficult to replace.

"We will miss him," said Lynda Parlett. "We would not be where we are without him, and he has handed us a blueprint for the future of this office."

That blueprint should keep UNCP grant receipts, research and programs on top-right where Brayboy put them.

Send address changes to PO Box 1075, Pembroke, NC 28372.

LRDA to sponsor Fall Pow Wow Oct. 31-Nov. 2

PEMBROKE, NC-The Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc will host the annual Lumbee Fall Powwow on October 31-November 2, 2003 at the LRDA Event Field located behind the LRDA Office Complex on Prospect Road in Pembroke, NC.

The Powwow Staff includes: Master of Ceremonies Ray Littleturtle and Tony Clark, Arena Director Rodney N. Jacobs, Head Dancers Miss Lumbee Morgan Hunt and Mr. Lumbee John Oxendine.

The schedule of events is:

- * Friday-Gates open 4 pm, Grand Entry at 7 pm
- * Saturday-Gates open 10 am, Grand Entry 12 noon, Competition and Specialty Dances -4 pm- Lumbee Special Give Away, Dinner Break (Dinner Special from the Lumbee Ambassadors to all dancers and drummers), 7 pm- Grand Entry, Competition and Specialty Dances.
- * Sunday-Gates Open 10 am, Grand Entry 1 pm, Competition, Announcement of winners
- Arts & crafts vendors
- Great Food

Admission for this event is \$5 General admission, \$3 Senior citizens and youth under 12. Free for handicapped and children under 5. \$1 off with college or military ID

For more information, please visit our website at www.lumbee.org or call (910) 521-8602.

LRDA, UNCP join in canned food drive

PEMBROKE, N.C.-The student Government Association of UNC Pembroke in conjunction with the Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc (LRDA) are hosting a Community Canned Food drive from October 6 until December 2, 2003.

Distribution of the collected items will take place on December 5, 2003 to various needy families and community members.

Please bring non-perishable food items to the UNCP campus or the LRDA. Items to be collected include:

Canned meats, vegetables and fruits, (or in plastic containers, ok). Tea, rice, macaroni, and all pasta. Dry beans, Hostess or Little Debbie products. Any cake that is wrapped. Diapers of all sizes. Baby needs (wipes, Q-tips, etc.) No bottles. Please! Ensure.

Sophomore Siporia Wrighten, SGA Community Service Chair said, "The Community Service Committee of UNCP's Student Government Association is very pleased to announce their partnership with the Lumbee Regional Development Association. Together we have decided to have a can food drive in which we plan to collect cans and other non-perishable items to contribute to the surrounding communities and families who are in need. This is a great honor for us, and we know that this will be a great success because we have the support of our peers and have a committee that believes in this project and what it will do for the community."



Mission Walk a huge success