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Madie Rae Locklear announces reelection bid to EMC Board at-large



"I have a great deal of experience serving on the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation Board of Directors,' said Madie Rae Locklear, in announcing her bid for re-election to the at-large position on that Board. "I have served as the atlarge representative on the EMC Board since 1989. During my tenure, I am very proud of my record," she continued. "The cooperative has accom-

plished several goals of which I am proud," Locklear said. "We have worked hard to replace utility lines and poles. This effort was to make sure that our consumers had less power outages during inclement weather. I am also proud of my record as an advocate for the consumers and our employees. We have not had a rate increase since 1997. This is very important to our consumers, and especially our elderly and physically impaired. These consumers must survive on a fixed income each month and a continuous rate increase would be a hardship for

them. One of my personal goals has been to go the extra mile for our elderly and physically impaired. I have a special interest in cancer patients and those with heart problems. My record speaks for itself about what I have done and where I have stood on issues affecting our consumers and employees. I served as the first Chairperson

of our Help a Needy Friend Program, which was designed to assist consumers who are experiencing financial hardships and are having difficulty paying their electric bill. This program has been a tremendous asset to our consumers. I am proud of the success of this program.

"During my years of service, I have also been an advocate for the return of Capital Credits to the consumers. Capital Credits are money that is set aside to be given to consumers upon the death of a spouse. The coopera-tive is owned by the membership and it is only fair that they receive a return on their invest-

Capital Credits is just one small way to ensure the consumers are eligible for something other than the requirement to pay the elec-tric bill each month. Our cooperative is a consumer owner busi-

ness," Locklear continued. "I have encouraged the recruitment of industry to our lines and we have made substantial strides in that area, especially at Fort Bragg. These are all accomplishments I have listed as my per-sonal goals to help with the expansion and growth of our cooperative with as little financial burden to the consumers as

possible," Locklear said. Locklear is employed by Four County Community Services. Inc. and serves as Supervisor of that agency's Red Springs Neighborhood Service Center. During her more than a thirty five years in that capacity, she has assisted low income families with home weatherization, applications for Social Security Disability, as well as referrals for other services not provided by Four

'During my years in Social Work, I have been blessed to have the opportunity to exercise the I feel that God has given me. This gift is to help the elderly and physically impaired. I am fortunate not only to have a job that allows me to do this, but also to serve on the LREMC Board where I have the opportunity to offer assistance in another way.

The election will be held on Thursday, October 14, at the UNCP Performing Arts Center from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.. There will also be two gifts, valued at \$50.00, presented by the cooperative to every consumer who votes. In addition, 150 other additional gifts will be given away with the grand prize being \$1200. Every consumer who votes will have the opportunity to win one of these gifts. In addition, the oldest male and female voting will receive a \$250.00 gift certificate. I look forward to seeing you on October 14 at the Annual Meeting. And please, vote Madie Rae Locklear and keep an experienced woman working for

James Hardin announces reelection bid to LREMC Board



James Hardin has announced his bid to seek re-election to the Lumbee River Electric Membership Board of Directors in its annual election, which will be held October 14th, beginning at 1 pm and going to 8 pm at the

UNC-P Performing Arts Center.
In announcing his candidacy
Mr. Hardin stated that he is running on his record of service and helping people in his nearly thirty year career in managing two large non-profit American Indian organizations in Robe-son and Cumberland Counties going back to 1976.

He has helped bring millions of federal and state dollars into Robeson and surrounding counties to provide assistance to help the elderly and poor pay their heating and cooling utility bills and help to pay for families to fully replace their worn out heating and cooling systems

through the federal Low-Income Energy Assistance Program, LIHEAP, and through state relief hurricane funds.

The Lumbee River Electric

Board of Directors set up its HELP-A-NEEDY-FRIEND, program in 1993, which has assisted over 1000 families with their crisis energy assistance needs. Mr. Hardin was the main driver in the boardroom to get the board to establish this program to help the poor and elderly in the winter months when it is needed the

In another area of leadership in the Coop board room, Mr. Hardin was instrumental in getting the Board to establish and Economic Development Com-mittee, one of the first Coops in the state to do so, and this Committee has since its enactment been active with the board in bringing millions of federal dol-lars into Robeson and Hoke Counties for plants to expand and create new jobs and also this work going back to the early 90's has now lead to the creation of the Coop becoming a lender using federal USDA funds through its Intermediary Relending Program for new business start-ups and expansion of existing businesses that can't meet all the standard banking requirements in the private sector.

A new federal loan to this IRP loan program at LREMC was just announced this week by Congressman Mike McIntyre of \$750,000 for lending in the local economy to create jobs and investment into rural poor commu-nities. Mr. Hardin also serves on the IRP Loan Review Committee at LREMC and has recom-mended funding for a number of new business and expansion en-terprises during his term. Typically loans range up to 150,000 per project.

Another area of leadership Mr. Hardin is proud of is that he was the primary advocate on the board for pushing LREMC to join in the national Coop's marketing branding program now famously known state and nationwide as Touchston This marketing partnership of Coops has gotten the Coop message to more consumers and potential customers them ever before in the history of the industry. Touchstone is a major sponsor if NASCAR and reaches an audience of millions sharing the Coop story, preparing LREMC for the day when deregulation of the electric industry will come and competition for

customers. A major area of work in which leadership has been critical is that the Coop has not had a rate increase to its customers since 1997, even with rising oil prices and war that effects oil prices in the Middle East. The work of the Budget and Work Plan Committee of the board has resulted in several large Capital Cost projects being put on hold even though they are desperately needed right now due to LREMC's continuous growth rate in primarily Cumberland

Mr. Hardin since his first elec-tion on the LREMC board has served for seven years on the NC Electric Membership board of directors in Raleigh, which is

the power supply arm of the 28 Coops in the state and he also has served on the NC Association Of Electric Coops board of directors, which is the political advocacy and services arms of all the Coops. He currently serves on North Carolina's Rural Electric Action Program (REAP), the political action committee, (PAC), for all of the electric Coops in the state This PAC contrib-utes to candidates in the state who support the state and national rural electric programs goals and needs.

If re-elected Mr. Hardin stated that he will continue to be an advocate for the consumers who face hardship each month with the cost of living, particularly the elderly and poor. He will continue to push for economic development promotion by the Coop in our four county services area, with major support for Comtech due to the jobs creation potential it holds for this regional of the state, hard hit by jobs losses due to industries moving off-shore. He will continue to support growth of the Coop's IRP business loans program to spar new investment and growth of jobs in our service area.

In making his announcement Mr. Hardin stated that, "Today's electric Coop is not the "REA" of old, it is a dynamic partner for growth in its services area not just to provide electric power, but also to promote economic development and attract new industry, and to seed the growth of new and existing businesses. This helps to keep residential consumers light bills down by having larger commercial accounts that

may use power 24-7, such as manufacturing plants and Walmarts. Innovation in the board room and courage to pursue emerging new opportunities will be needed into he 21st century for Coop to survive when electric deregulation comes. If re-elected I will provide that leadership to the best of my ability in the board room with due diligence and care at all times for all the Coop's consumers. I ask for prayers, support, and vote Oct.

Pembroke Housing Authority Receives National Award for Full Circle

Pembroke Housing Authority has been named a 2004 recipient of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment officials (NAHRO) Merit Award for its elderly and disabled residents in the form of case management services. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in housing and community development programs throughout the nation.

"We are excited and pleased to be recognized by our national organization for our Full Circle program. Our Department of Resident Services continues strives to ensure that this program is continues to enhance the lives of our residents. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and staff, we are grateful for this recognition", states Lemark Harris, Executive Director for the Pembroke Housing Authority.

"NAHRO members are consistently on the forefront of innovation in our industry, and their work helps millions of Americans nationwide." said NAHRO President James M. Inglis. "Where their success is truly remarkable, however, is at the local level, where you can see the concrete results of their efforts in making their communities better places to live. The winners of the Awards of Merit have created programs that can truly be admired by their colleagues. The 2004 NAHRO Awards of Merit recognize outstanding achieve-

ment in housing and community development programs in five cat-

egories - Administrative Innovation recognizes methods in areas such as maintenance community relations, and interagency cooperation: Affordable Housing includes special programs for homeownership. public/private partnerships, and innovative financing. Community Revitalization includes innovative use of programs in areas such as economic development, neighborhood preservation, and creative financing, Resident and Client Services includes innovative uses of programs such as special activities for children, families, and the elderly. anti-drug programs, social services, and self-sufficiency; Project Design includes efforts such as new housing design housing modernization, enduring design and landscape design.

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials is a 71-year-old membership organization of 3,300 housing and community development agencies and 17,500 professionals throughout the United States whose mission is to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans. especially those of low and moderate income. NAHRO ensures that housing and community development professionals have the leadership and education to serve communities; advocates for appropriate laws and policies; and fosters the highest standards of ethical behavior, service and accountability.

Absentee ballots available for tribal elections

Applications to vote by absentee ballot in the upcoming November 2, 2004 tribal election are available at the Lumbee Enrollment/ Tribal Clerk office located at 518 Union Chapel Road, Pembroke, NC. You may also obtain a copy of the application from the tribe's website: www.lumbeetribe.com

Absentee voting is permitted for eligible tribal voters in any of the tribal districts subject to the election provided the eligible voter is unable to vote at the poll site because of illness, travel, or work.

Tribal members who live outside the tribal territory (Robeson, Scotland, Hoke and Cumberland Counties, NC) may also vote by absentee ballot, providing the member meets the eligibility requirements to vote in the tribal election

The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is 5 00 on October 15. 2004. For further information, call 521-2843.

LRDA preparing for Fall

Pow wow, Oct. 29-31

The Lumbee Regional Development Association Inc. is sponsoring a Fall Pow-Wow October 29-31. There will be Thousands of dollars in prize money for performers in standard Pow-Wow categories. Location-Pembroke, NC at the LRDA events field located at 636 Prospect Road

Admission

College and Military ID - \$1.00 off

General - \$5.00 Oct 29-Open 4pm Close 10pm Seniors - \$3 00 Oct 30-Open 10am Close 11pm Oct 31-Open 10am Close 6pm Youth - 12 and under - \$3.00 Handicapped children under 5 - Free

Gates open/close

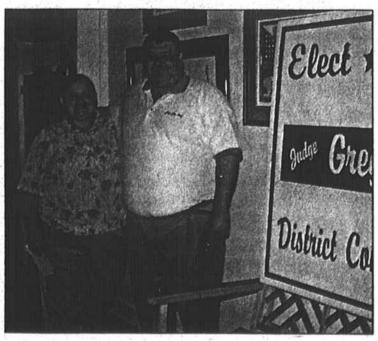
Door Prizes all three days Numerous foods, arts, and crafts vendors For more information contact: Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. (9107521-8602 or www.lumbee.org

Fund raising event held for Judge Greg Bell



A fund raising event was held for District Court Judge Greg Bell on Monday, September 27 at Sheff's Seafood in Pembroke. More than 100 people attended. Judge Bell is shown above with his wife, Bonita, daughter, Ashleigh, and his parents, Sarah and Buddy Bell. (Photo by Francine Chavis)

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District Court Judge Greg Bell is shown with supporter Sarah Locklear. (Photo by Francine Chavis)

Community meetings planned in Districts 3, 10, & 13

Tribal Council members Pearlean Revels, David Carter, Kenneth Locklear and Alton Locklear announce a Tribal Community Meeting for Tribal Districts 3, 10 & 13 to be held at Faith Assembly Church of God at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 12, 2004

This important meeting is open to all Tribal Members. Tribal Chairman Jimmy Goins along with Tribal Administrator Leon Jacobs and other Tribal Staff will discuss services available to the membership. For more information, contact Patrick Strickland or Rebekah Revels at the Lumbee Tribal Office at (910) 521-6128.