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# CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## A From Page Editorial

### Dismissal of Leon Jacobs could solve many problems for Lumbee Government

Many of our have missed, according to what you tell me, hearing about the incompetence of our Tribal Administrator Leon Jacobs. However, we have done much meditation and consideration and research of the multiple problems surrounding our tribal government and our housing program. Our research and informants have us convinced that many of our problems could be solved simply by the dismissal of Leon Jacobs. He will not resign. He is being paid far too much for that, and we are sure in addition to his salary he reaps other benefits.

To briefly speak to his incompetence and in our opinion his utter disregard for Indian preference, we have two issues. It is our opinion that he offers inadequate advice to our Tribal Council and to our Tribal Chairman. It is their mistake if they follow his advice. Just this week Mr. Jacobs hired a white woman from Connecticut who owns a newspaper, we understand, to come to Lumbee country and do a two day workshop with staff on public relations. What an insult to members of the Indian media. We understand that he is not going to hire the editor of this newspaper to do anything. That is his way of punish me for publicly pointing out his incompetence. He spends advertising dollars with other newspapers although the Carolina Indian Voice is the only Indian owned and operated one in the county. How much did he spend on this consultation? The tribal membership has a right to know? Why hire Wanda Kay Locklear as director of public relations and then bring a white in to tell her how to do her job? If she is not offended, we are offended for her. Of course, Leon Jacobs, in our opinion, is one of those Indians who feels the need to be legitimized by a white. You notice that he and his white wife chose not to live in the Indian community. Our money seems to be good enough for him, but he does not appear to want his wife exposed to our communities and our culture. He appears to be ashamed of who he is. This is unfortunate. We recommend that the Tribal Chairman dismiss him immediately and at the very least not nominate him again in March to continue as tribal administrator. Most of the problems which cause the membership to want to recall Chairman Goins could be fixed by this move by the Tribal Chairman.

The Wednesday night before the swearing in, Leon again we understand, (although he is infamous for passing the buck) recommended the Black Water Grill in Lumberton for another illegal meeting of our Tribal Council. Some of them went along with this. We believe he made this decision because he knew not many Indians frequent this restaurant. He thought they could meet in illegal session and decide who should be speaker this year. Shame on you, Leon. You need to remove yourself from recommendations to the tribal council. That is not your job. Especially when you give them bad advice. You should protect the tribal chairman and make sure he does not violate the Constitution. We believe it would be hard for you to do that as we are convinced you do not recognize our Constitution as the governing document. You give the appearance, and public perception is everything, that you are smarter than the rest of us. If you are under that delusion, you are sadly mistaken as has been proven time and time again. You seem to be building your own power base at the expense of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of our government. We urge you to STOP RESIGN! And go on the Mayfair where you feel you belong and stop impeding the progress of our government and our federal recognition.

One other point, Leon Jacobs himself told the editor of the Carolina Indian Voice that he had recommended a ban on the media. Apparently some of our council members believe Leon can be trusted. We do not agree with them. We encourage council members to examine the situation they find themselves in and correct actions taken in illegal meetings, contrary to what Leon Jacobs says. He is not God, although he seems to believe he is a god. Sorry about that, Mr. Jacobs, we will not bow to you nor allow you to destroy our government. We have tried talking with you and are now convinced by your actions that you are just downright arrogant and incompetent. History will record which of us is right.

The opinions expressed in this editorial are those of the editor and what Leon Jacobs might call allegations can be documented.



### Mr. & Mrs. Willard B. Locklear observe 69th anniversary

Mr. Willard Brantley Locklear and Mrs. Pearlle Emanuel Locklear celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary recently with family and friends. They were married on November 18th, 1935. They have Ten Children, 37 Grandchildren, 49 Great Grandchildren. The Locklears reside in the Union Chapel Community. Their Pastor Rev. Jimmy Strickland shared Scripture and Prayer with the couple. Mr. Willard is the son of the late Hayes and Phodie Locklear and Mrs. Pearlle Emanuel Locklear is the daughter of the late Isiah and Annie Ransom Emanuel.

## Report to the Tribal Membership

Monday, January 24, 2004 a meeting was held at the Townsend Building in Lumberton by tribal members to discuss Lumbee Tribal government, and ways to preserve the integrity of Lumbee Tribal Law, the Lumbee Tribal Constitution. The meeting was attended by approximately 30 persons included members of the press. A brief overview of the recent concerns was given and tribal members were given an opportunity to express their concerns regarding the Lumbee Tribal government. The group held a lengthy discussion on the Recall Process as outlined in the Constitution. This process gives tribal members the opportunity to remove the Tribal Chairman and members of the Tribal Council. In addition, a Recall Committee was formed.

I urge all tribal members to look at the recent actions of both Tribal Chairman, Jimmy Goins and members of the Tribal Council, and determine whether or not you feel they have upheld their constitutional responsibility to the Lumbee Tribal membership. In recent months they have conducted tribal business in private session, not allowed tribal members to participate in meetings, and asked the Tribal Elections Board to certify an election which was surrounded by controversy. Please take a good hard look at your tribal government and make an informed decision. Lastly, in a recent press release distributed by Patrick Strickland and Rebecca Revels immediately following the meeting Monday night, Chairman Jimmy Goins is quoted as saying that "any constructive recommendations on the part of tribal members regarding the constitution are welcome by the Tribal Chairman and the Tribal Council." However, I contend to you the tribal membership that there have been countless tribal members who have attempted to discuss their concerns with both members of the Tribal Council and Chairman Goins only to find that their concerns were ignored and made light of.

Next week we will outline each stage of the Recall Process.

by Cynthia L. Hunt, Tribal News Correspondent

## Carolina Shaggers support Hospice of Robeson

The Carolina Shaggers recently made a donation of \$3,500 to Hospice of Robeson, Southeastern Regional Medical Center's program of care for terminally-ill persons and their families.

Shaggers President Cameron Britt, Treasurer Greg Price and Past President Frank Jones made the presentation to Miriam Edwards, director of Southeastern Home Care Services and Hospice of Robeson. The funds were raised at a golf tournament held in October.

This is the second year that the club has designated the proceeds from the golf fundraiser to benefit Hospice of Robeson. Edwards said that all donated monies go directly to caring for the hospice patients.

Established in 1985, Hospice of Robeson is dedicated to the principle of affirming life, hospice seeks neither to hasten nor postpone death but emphasizes the quality rather than length of life. Hospice services are available without regard to age, sex, race, religion, national origin, handicap or ability to pay if the individual meets the admission criteria. Hospice of Robeson is the only not-for-profit hospice care located in Robeson County. For more information about hospice care, call 671-5565.



## The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics Charles R. Eilber Physical Education Center Durham, North Carolina February 19, 2005

Intertribal Dancing 1-5 pm, 7-10:00 pm Feast for dancers and singers 5:30-6:30  
Host Drum: Southern Sun Master of Ceremonies: Ray Silva (Navajo/Pueblo)  
Arena Director: Dalton Lynch (Haliwa-Saponi)  
Head Man Dancer: John "Stickboy" Oxendine (Lumbee) Head Lady Dancer: Millicent Hunt (Lumbee)  
Indian Arts and Crafts Traders by prior approval only. This will be a traditional Indian gathering. No contests, just plenty of good singing & dancing. Traditional give-away for singers and dancers.  
Information: On Weekdays -- Joe Liles at 919-416-2730. Nights and Weekends -- Joe at 919-286-9401.  
Admission: \$4, 5 and younger free (All proceeds go to support the powwow).  
Sponsored by Akwe:kon, the Native American Club at NCSSM  
www.ncssm.edu/powwow

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