

54<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**LUMBEE HOMECOMING**

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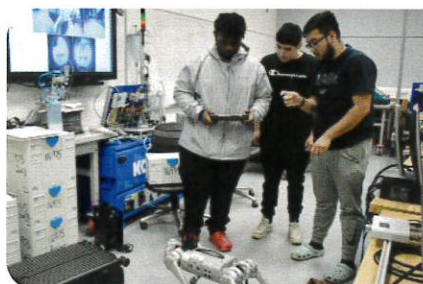
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\*Indicates new event added. Visit [www.lumbee.org/lhevents](http://www.lumbee.org/lhevents) for the most current schedule updates.

## 54th Annual Lumbee Homecoming 2023 Schedule of Events



**Friday, June 23, 2023**

6:30 p.m. - **Senior Ms. Lumbee Pageant** - UNCP/Given's Performing Arts Center - Pembroke (sponsored by Lumbee Tribe of NC)

**Saturday, June 24, 2023**

6:00 p.m. - **Lumbee Warrior's Association Veteran's Military Ball** - Southeastern Agricultural Center - Lumberton, NC

**Tuesday, June 27, 2023**

12:00 p.m. - **Lumbee Elder's Luncheon** - Southeastern Agricultural Center - Lumberton, NC

**Thursday, June 29, 2023**

5:00 p.m. - **Lumbee Games - "Home Run Derby"** - Lumberton High School - Contact Person: O.T. Johnson @ 910-775-4116 \*

**Friday, June 30, 2023**

5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. - **Business After Hours** (sponsored by Pembroke Area Chamber of Commerce) Museum of the Southeast American Indian/Old Main - UNC Pembroke

**Saturday, July 1, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC  
9:00 a.m. - **Tee Off - Annual Lumbee Homecoming Golf Classic** - Pinecrest Country Club - Sponsored by: True Value - Pembroke  
9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Games - "Wrestling"** - UNCP Auxiliary Gym - Contact Person: O.T. Johnson @ 910-775-4116  
11:00 a.m. - **Miss Lumbee Legacy Luncheon** (BY INVITATION ONLY) Chancellor's Residence  
11:00 a.m. - **Wing Warrior Competition** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Rd., Pembroke, NC \* Sponsored by Mountaire  
6:30 p.m. - **Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina Gala** - 402 Event Center - 402 Pine Street - Lumberton (sponsored by LTNC)

**Sunday, July 2, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC  
3:00 p.m. - **Ambassador's Farewell Tea** (BY INVITATION ONLY) Berea Baptist Church - Pembroke, NC  
6:30 p.m. - **Annual Lumbee Homecoming Gospel Sing** - The Rock Church of God - 2209 Carthage Road - Lumberton, NC 28360

**Monday, July 3, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC  
5:00 p.m. - **Lumbee Games - "Swimming"** - UNCP Aquatics Facility - Contact Person: Oscar Roverato @ 910-775-4629  
6:30 p.m. - **Little and Junior Miss Lumbee Pageant** - UNCP/Givens Performing Arts Center, Pembroke, NC

**Tuesday, July 4, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

**Wednesday, July 5, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

**Thursday, July 6, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market Setup** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC  
5:00 p.m. - **Lumbee Games - "Tennis"** - UNCP Aquatics Facility - Contact Person: Tony Chavis @ 910-521-6808  
6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. - **Summer Jam Outdoor Concert** - Milton R. Hunt Memorial Park (sponsored by The Town of Pembroke)  
6:30 p.m. - **State of the Tribe Address** - LTNC Boys & Girls Club - Pembroke, NC (sponsored by Lumbee Tribe of NC)

**Friday, July 7, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market Setup** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC  
9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Games - "Basketball (3 on 3)"** - UNCP Auxiliary Gym - Contact Person: Tony Chavis @ 910-521-6808  
6:30 p.m. - **Teen and Miss Lumbee Pageant** - UNCP/Givens Performing Arts Center

**Saturday, July 8, 2023**

6:30 a.m. - **5K Run/Walk** - Southeastern Fitness Center, Pembroke - Run/Walk (coordinated by Kiwanis Club of Pembroke)  
9:00 a.m. - **Lumbee Outdoor Market Setup** - Next to the LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC  
9:45 a.m. - **All Veteran Parachute Team Sky Show** - Landing site Milton R. Hunt Park - Pembroke, NC  
10:00 a.m. - **Annual LRDA Lumbee Homecoming Parade** - West Third Street - Pembroke, NC  
11:00 a.m. - **Vintage Car Show** - UNCP Annex Building Parking Lot - Contact Mr. Buddy Dial @ (910) 733-5000  
12:00 p.m. - **AISES Pow-Wow** - UNCP Quad Area (sponsored by American Indian Science and Engineering Society of UNCP)  
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Ring Wars Pro Wrestling** - This is a free event. LRDA Complex Grounds - 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC \*  
1:30 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. - **Audio/Bike Show** - UNCP Thomas School of Business Parking Lot -Contact: Mr. Lee Maynor @ (910) 536-5319  
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - **Lumbee Games - "Corn Hole Tournament"** - UNCP Auxiliary Gym  
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - **LRDA Annual Outdoor Gospel Sing** - in front of the LRDA Complex Building  
9:30 p.m. - **Annual Lumbee Fireworks Sky Show** -LRDA Complex - 636 Prospect Rd., Sponsored by the Town of Pembroke



# Grand Marshall

## JOSEPH BELL

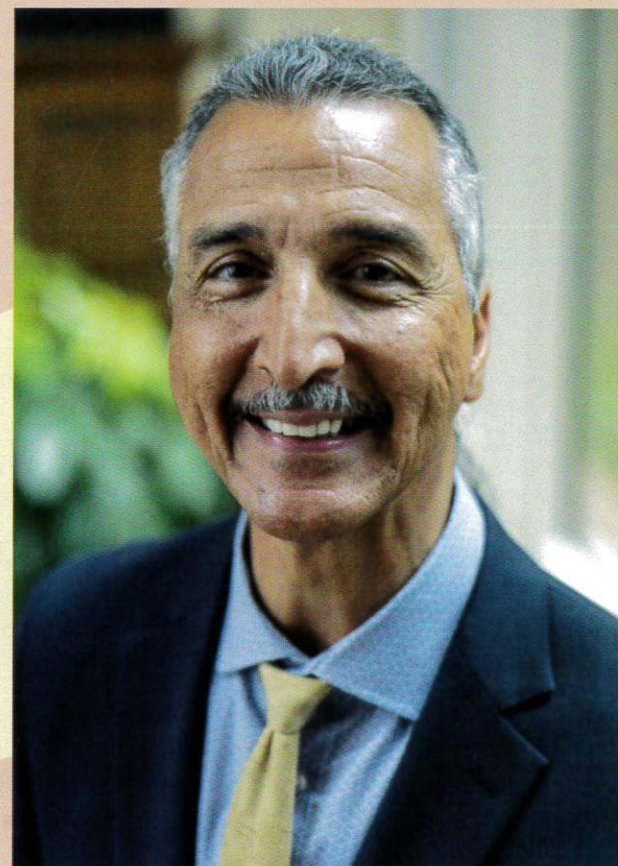
Joseph Bell, MD (Lumbee) is the son of Sarah Sampson Bell and the late James (Buddy) Bell and grandson of the late Furman and Maggie Bell and the late Stanley and Eunice Sampson. Dr. Bell is the brother of Judge James Gregory Bell and Dr. Ronny A. Bell.

He has been married to Vicki Bell for the past 34 years. They have two children, Tori Alvarado (husband David) and Isaac Bell (wife Peyton) and two grandchildren, Elena and Luca.

He grew up in Pembroke and graduated from Pembroke Senior High School in 1977. He then went to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and became the first Lumbee to play on the UNC Junior Varsity basketball team. As an undergraduate, he served as President of the Carolina Indian Circle. Dr. Bell graduated from the UNC School of Pharmacy and the UNC School of Medicine in 1986.

After finishing his Pediatric residency at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, he became the first Lumbee Pediatrician and the first Native American Pediatrician in North Carolina. He worked at Carl Albert Indian Hospital and Choctaw Nation Indian Hospital in Oklahoma for four years. He returned to Robeson County and worked for Robeson Health Care Corporation as a Pediatrician and Medical Director.

Dr. Bell has worked as a contract Pediatrician on the Catawba Indian Reservation for 24 years. He helped open Pembroke Pediatrics, a clinic of Children's Health of Carolina, in 1998. He served as medical director for 23 years. Presently, he works as a staff Pediatrician at Children's Health Pembroke (formerly Pembroke Pediatrics) and managing partner for Children's Health of Carolina.



Dr. Bell has served on the North Carolina Pediatric Society's Board. He is a member and past President of the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP), founding board member of the North Carolina American Indian Health Board and the AAIP Liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Native American Child Health (CONACH).

His awards include the AAIP Indian Physician of the Year Award, the AAP Native American Child Advocacy Award, the Physician Assistant Educational Association's Teacher of the Year Award and the North Carolina Pediatric Society's Dave Tayloe Sr. Award.

Dr. Bell is extremely honored to be serving as Grand Marshall of the Lumbee Homecoming parade this year.

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## ABOUT ME

I live my life based on priorities. Serve God first, love my wife, teach my children God's Word, serve and treat others the way I want to be treated. I lead by example and teach others they have the potential to do the same. I was previously in the US Army active duty for 20 years and retired as an E-7/SFC, before I took a leap of faith and joined the insurance industry. I didn't have any sales background but knew I wanted to help and serve people. I worked with Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance Company for 10 months and decided it wasn't for me!

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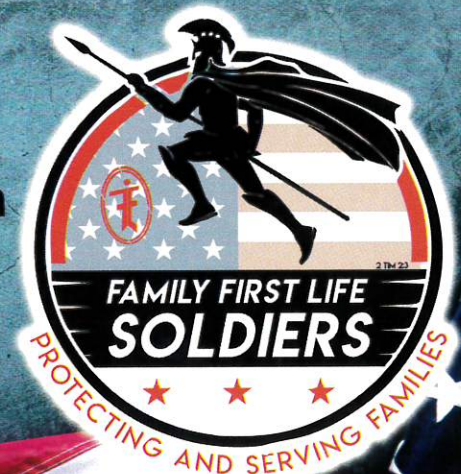
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# MISS LUMBEE

## Mahlea Celeste Hunt

Countless blessings, endless gratitude, and unwavering purpose-these are the gifts my God has bestowed upon me throughout this year, leading and guiding me in every possible way.

Though this year has presented its challenges, I have found it to be a fruitful journey, where I have humbly walked hand in hand with the Father, trusting in His divine guidance. Proverbs 31:25-26 (NIV) beautifully encapsulates this experience: "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue."

As I stand here today, I first want to express my profound gratitude to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for His unwavering love and mercy. Without Him, I would not be the woman I am today, blessed with the opportunities that lie before me. God has also blessed me with an incredible support system of remarkable individuals, starting with my beloved Momma Words cannot adequately express my love and appreciation for you. You have made countless sacrifices for me, and I cannot imagine my journey without your guidance and steadfast presence. To my Daddy, my Jim, thank you for being a pillar of strength, offering comfort in times of need and fervently praying for me. Your role in my life as a loving and faithful father has been invaluable. To my brother Tris, your unwavering support and love from across thousands of miles have been a true testament to the bond we share. I cherish you deeply.

And to my dear grandparents - Papa Gurney, Grandma Bessie, Pa Merle, and Grandma Bessie - I am forever grateful for your endless love, unwavering support, and invaluable wisdom. You are gems in my life, and I am honored to be your grandchild.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to my honorary Aunts Cheryl, Suzzete, and Kachina Your presence in my life is a tremendous blessing, and I cannot thank you enough for your unwavering support. I know Aunt Suzie is watching over us with a smile. A special thank you to my Uncle Terry as well for his support and love. To all my amazing aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended family, you have been there for me from day one, and for that, I am eternally grateful. Your love, support, and laughter have been a source of strength and joy throughout my journey.

Among the countless friends who have held my hand this year, there is one who stands out - my best friend Jenna. Your unwavering

friendship and support have been a constant source of encouragement. I love you dearly, and I eagerly anticipate witnessing your journey as a compassionate and wonderful nurse. Cuddles are in order soon!

To Dakota Locklear and the Locklear family, my heart overflows with love and gratitude. Thank you for sharing your son with me and for supporting me throughout this year. Your presence has been a source of strength and encouragement.

To Devan and the Wake Forest family, thank you for your unwavering support. I am incredibly grateful for your patience and love. Being able to represent the best college in the world as Miss Lumbee is an opportunity I will forever cherish. To the Class of 2023, our bond will endure. Go Deacs!

To Madison Davenport, Allison Mitchell, and Alexis Locklear, my former Miss Lumbees, your presence and support during the interview portion of the competition were invaluable. I love each of you dearly.

To Ms. Adrenna, Ms. Ranessa Kennedy, Ms. Cecily Maynor, Dr. Canida, Mr. Virgil, Mr. Horace Hunt, Ms. Ruth, Ms. Belinda Brewer, Ms. Tammy Maynor, Chairman John Lowery, Chancellor Cummings and Ms. Rebecca, Ms. Azalea Thomas, Ms. Demetrius, and Morgan, your contributions and support are deeply appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Ms. Keli Locklear and Nu Bella Salon, your support has meant the world to me. You are truly amazing.

To Kaya Littleturtle and the Warpaint family, thank you for your invaluable support. Kaya, the prayer you shared with me on the eve of the pageant was a true blessing. It helped calm my nerves and allowed my inner light to shine brightly.

Jakayleigh Lambert, my sweet princess, little Miss Lumbee, your radiance is captivating. I have cherished our time together and getting to know you. From visiting the American Girl Doll store in NYC to napping with your pillow and blanket during UNCP's commencement ceremonies, we've shared precious memories. I adore you and eagerly await witnessing your bright future. Remember to always be courageous and kind. The sky's the limit, little one!

Keely Noelle Deal, my TikTok queen, you keep me young. It has been a joy spending this year with you and sharing our sense of humor. I eagerly anticipate watching you navigate high school and beyond. Your angelic voice and golden heart will surely make you a star. Never let anyone dim your sparkle, and always remember that you are more than enough. I love you, my Keels.

Anna Grace Hunt, my emotions overwhelm me as I write these words. God has truly blessed me with your presence in my life. I am immensely grateful to have gained a sister and future bridesmaid. I adore you! Thank you for being my companion throughout this year, knowing that I can always rely on you. I am excited to witness your growth and success in college. I am beyond proud of you. One memory that stands out is when we both shed tears upon seeing a graduate alone during UNCP's commencement in December. Our shared empathy and connection are just a few of the reasons we will always be inseparable. My sweet Anna, I love you dearly.

To the incredible moms of the year- Rose, Kelly, and Kim - I express my deepest gratitude. Each of you holds a special place in my heart, and I genuinely appreciate your assistance and support throughout this year. Our future adventures together await!

To Mr. James Hardin, Mr. Travis Bryant, and the amazing staff at LRDA, thank you for your unwavering support throughout the year.

Ms. Natasha Wagoner Tilson, thank you from the depths of my heart. You have been there for me since I was a child, and your dedication and guidance are truly amazing. Our conversations in your office have been the highlight of my year. I love you! Your role as a former Miss Lumbee guiding and leading me this year has been invaluable.

Last but certainly not least, I want to dedicate a special tribute to all Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirits. This year has been dedicated to honoring you and seeking justice for you and your families. As your sister's keeper, my journey has only just begun in advocating for you.

To the next Miss Lumbee, cherish the blessings and opportunities before you. It won't always be easy, but it will undoubtedly be worth it. If given the chance, I would embrace this experience once more in an instant. Take a deep breath, savor every moment, and remember that Miss Lumbee is not someone above her people but among them, listening and learning. Never forget that you are a role model, and true class cannot be bought. Above all, remember that you have unwavering support, with former Miss Lumbees always standing by your side.

With grace, gratitude, and honor, it has been my utmost pleasure to serve as Miss Lumbee 2022-2023. To my community, Lumbee Tribe, family, friends, and supporters, I am eternally grateful for your love and encouragement. Thank you for joining me on this incredible journey, and may God bless each and every one of you abundantly.

Thank you to Sharon Burnette, Sr. Miss Lumbee. Graciously, forever and always, officially signing off,

**Mahlea Celesta Hunt**

# TEEN MISS LUMBEE

## Anna Grace Hunt

Wow. What an incredible year this has been. I can sum it in three words: thankful, grateful, and blessed.

Thankful: I am thankful for God's guidance and his overflowing grace and love. Without him, this year would not have been possible.

Grateful: I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the most beautiful people in the world, my Lumbee People, and for being able to share my culture with thousands of others.

Blessed: I am blessed abundantly. I have the absolute best village and support system. They have been with me throughout my year and have supported me every step of the way.

Throughout my year, I have worked to promote my platform, Healing our Native Communities with **L.O.V.E.; Letting Our Voices Encourage Because A Conversation Can Make A Difference, Even save a life.**

This has been one of the most exciting, yet challenging years of my life. I had to learn how to juggle work, my high school senior year, and ensure that I represented my people with dignity and pride. Even with all of the restless days and nights, I wouldn't have changed a thing.

To the best teachers and principals in the county at Purnell Swett High School, thank you for making accommodations to my schedule so that I could fulfill my duties and responsibilities as an Ambassador.

Daddy and Mama, I certainly wouldn't be on this journey if it wasn't for the two of you. Thank you for being the best parents and always believing in your baby girl. You have shaped me into the young woman I am today. God gifted me with the best parents and I am forever thankful. I love you both immensely.

Chloe Renee, my go to. I honestly don't know where I would be in life if I didn't have you. Thank you for pushing me to always do my best. Everything you do for me never goes unnoticed. I adore and appreciate you so much sissy girl. I love you so much!

Sidney and Josh, my protectors. I know I'll never have to worry about anything in life because I have the two of you. You both always remind me of how beautiful I am and to never settle! Thank you for always being the most supportive brothers a little sister could ask for. I love you both with all of my heart.

Charity, my little bestie, you keep all of us on our toes. You certainly have a way of keeping me grounded. Thank you for being my little helper whenever I needed you. I love you my baby sister!!

Grandma and Nana, God truly blessed me with the absolute best. Both of you ladies mean the world to me!! I hope that I continue to make you

both proud in everything I do. I can only hope to be as fabulous as the both of you as I get older.

Aunt Sandra, you have a heart of gold. You have made sure each one of my regalias have been perfect for me. I appreciate all of the hard work, love, and dedication you put into each one of them. I love you!!

Mrs. Ranessa, you are one of the most selfless people I know. You were the BIGGEST help to me during my preparation for the pageant. I could never say enough "thank yous" to express my gratitude for the love and support you have shown me. I am incredibly blessed to have you in my life, I love you!

Mr. Richard Mathis, Ms. Michelle, Ms. Khinsley and Ms. Keenya, thank you all for the photo shoot opportunities you guys provided. You all are greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Keli, thank you for opening up your salon to me throughout my reign. You always made sure my hair looked it's best and you kept it beautiful and healthy. I appreciate you so much! I love you!

Ashtyn, my personal MUA. Thank you for always glamming me up! I cherish you and our friendship so much! I love you forever!

Mr. Hardin, Mr. Travis, and Tribal Chairman Mr. John Lowry, thank you all for the leadership you have provided for our people. The Ambassadors appreciate all that you've done for us!

John Stickboy Oxendine, Kaya Littleturtle, and Mr. Reggie Brewer. Thank you for being such great mentors, not only to the ambassadors, but to so many boys and girls in our community and beyond. You help keep our culture alive and make sure it is passed down from generation to generation.

To my Best Friends, the ones that know me inside and out and the ones that are there for me no matter what. I couldn't imagine my life without y'all in it. Thanks for helping at our plate sale and being some of my biggest supporters. I can't wait to make more memories with each of you by my side. I love you all so much! I certainly can't forget about our second mama, Tara Kay. We appreciate everything you do for us. You treat all of us like we're your own. You have played a huge role in my life, I could never repay you for everything that you've done for me. I love you!

Mrs. Natascha Tilson, thank you for keeping up with our hectic schedule this year and making sure we were all where we needed to be. You have been the best coordinator I love you!

Mrs. Celeste, Mrs. Kelly, and Mrs. Rose, you ladies mean the world to me. I have loved creating memories with each of you this year. From powwows to NY City, our time together was priceless!



Mrs. Sharon, you have the sweetest soul and the voice of an angel. I pray that our paths continue to cross in life's journey. I have enjoyed our time together this year!

Jakayliegh, my little ball of fire. Your fierce personality lights up every room you step foot in. You never let anyone forget that you were a princess. You have brought so much joy into my life in such a short amount of time. I will miss all of our jam sessions in my car and dolling you up for our events. Never let anyone dull your sparkle baby girl. I will always be your "Queen". I love you bookums.

Keely bug, my singing partner and tik tok loving girl. I have enjoyed every moment I have spent with you. From singing to the top of our lungs, to laughing until we cried. I can't wait to watch you accomplish all of your goals, I know you will do big things in your life! Always reach for the stars my sweet girl. I will always be in your corner cheering you on. I love you so big!

Mahlea, my soul sister, literally. The morning of our pageant you said to me, "We are covered in prayer", I thank God for those prayers because it brought us where we are today. You had A LOT on your plate this year, but you didn't let that stop you from being the absolute best Miss Lumbee. God knew exactly what he was doing when he placed you in my life in July, 2017. Little did I know that you would become one of my very best friends. He gave me another sister that I never knew I would need. You have been the best role model not only to me, but to so many others. I hope you know how proud I am of you, how proud EVERYONE is. I hope that someday I can be half the young woman you are. I could go on and on about how much you mean to me, but we'd be here for a lifetime. I love you so very much bub.

Here's to one of the best years of my life. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to serve the most beautiful people in the world. Here's to new beginnings. This lovely chapter of my life is sadly coming to an end. To my successor, soak everything in and never take any moment for granted. Wear the crown with the upmost pride, dignity, and respect. Make our people proud.

**For the last time, I am your Teen Miss Lumbee 2022,**

**Anna Grace Hunt**





# JUNIOR MISS LUMBEE

## *Keely Noelle Deal*

"All my words fall short, I've got nothing new, how could I express All my gratitude?" As my reign comes to an end I am overwhelmed with gratitude, for I know that I have served GOD and my people! I am a living testimony and witness of Psalms 37:4 "delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart." Thank you for the blessing of representing my people as Junior Miss Lumbee!

I want to thank the LRDA staff and Board of Directors for all that you do as the main sponsor and host of Lumbee Homecoming. To Mr. Travis Bryant, our new Executive Director, thank you for your support and encouragement, it has meant so much to me. Mrs. Natascha Wagoner Tilson thank you for keeping up with all our appearances and requests, we are grateful for you.

To Mr. John Lowery, Chairman of the Lumbee Tribe thank you for your support of the Lumbee Ambassadors this year! A special thanks to Michael Oxendine for always making sure I have a ride in parades. Richard Mathis Photography and Michelle Mathis, thank you for your generous support and awesome photos. A special thanks to Matt Davenport for my fabulous beauty photo. Thank you, Teri Khinsely Locklear, for your visionary photos this year and

my ribbon pants you gifted me, I will treasure them forever! Beth Davis Hunt-Clayton Homes, thank you for your continuous support of me and our community. Mr. Howard Richardson, thank you for my beaded crown, I will cherish it forever. To the numerous businesses and people who sponsored me on this journey, thank you so much and I love you all!

This year would not have been possible without my family - "we may not have it all together, but together we have it all"! Daddy and Momma thank you for all the miles and road trips this year. Kate, thank you for doing my hair and make-up this year, my pageant coach, 2nd momma, and all the little extra things you and Tyler have done to make this year special. Calista thank you for being my hair queen this year, and honestly the girl that everyone calls my twin-Do you know what a compliment that is, lol? Dylan and Christian, I love y'all so much, thanks for being the best brothers a girl could ask for.

Jakayleigh, my Little Miss Lumbee, we have had a blast this year! Thank you for being my little side kick and song bird all year. I love you and our lil TikToks to infinity and beyond. To Mrs. Rose, thank you for always making me smile and laugh on every road trip. I love y'all and my pretty girl Ja'onna, too.

Anna Grace, I've enjoyed every moment, especially those when we got to sing our hearts out this year! You are such a phenomenal role model, my Teen Miss Lumbee, angelic voice that brings the house down, and my friend! I truly love you; I pray we will sing together again. To Mr. Scott and Mrs. Kim, I can't even begin

to thank you enough for who you are and your acts of kindness. Mrs. Kim, you are beautiful, and you'll always be my eyelash queen forever! Charity, I love you child I'm so glad I'll still get to see you every day!

Mahlea, you are an amazing, accomplished, and educated woman. I am so grateful that GOD chose you to be my Miss Lumbee this year! I love you and the bond we've made this year is forever. You have set the bar high, not only are you a 4-time ambassador, but my sister forever. I hope to follow in your footsteps, as you have left your mark on our people, on this world, and on my heart! Mr. Brent and Mrs. Celeste, thank you for everything this year, especially the road trips. I love y'all and every time I see a queen walking in high heels, I'll know that's my Mrs. Celeste!

To my beautiful and graceful Senior Miss Lumbee, Sharon Burnette, I love you! You are the embodiment of a beautiful Lumbee woman inside and out, thank you for just being you. I've enjoyed every appearance and opportunity to be under your wing. May our people continue to embrace the irreplaceable connection between our elders and our youth. To the Lumbee people, May the Lord bless you and keep you. May His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace. May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations, and your family and your children and their children. Amen!

I am forever grateful to be **Junior Miss Lumbee 2022-2023**,

**Keely Noelle Deal**

# LITTLE MISS LUMBEE

## *JaKay Leigh Miracle Lambert*



I will never forget the night I heard my name called as the new Little Miss Lumbee 2022-2023, Jakayleigh Miracle Lambert. I was filled with so much joy and happiness that I was given the opportunity to be the next Little Miss Lumbee Ambassador. This year has been a whirlwind of functions and activities but the most important thing to me was the opportunity to serve as an ambassador for my indigenous tribe, the Lumbee people.

First, I would like to acknowledge and thank my God for allowing me to serve as the Little Miss Ambassador because he deserves all the glory and praise. God gave me such an amazing experience that I will cherish for the rest of my life. He also placed wonderful people in my life that helped me have a successful year.

To my Mom and Dad, thank you both for helping me make this dream come true. Dad, I want to start by saying thank you for being so understanding this year especially when Mom had to take me to all of the appearances. Not once did you complain, just hurry back. Mom thank you for keeping up with my appearances and making sure I made it to every destination. Ja'Onna my big sister, wow where do I begin with you? Thank you for helping Mom fix my hair, makeup, and picking out my beautiful outfits. You are the best sister and I am so glad I was able to live this dream with you too. To brothers Dakota and Willie John, thank you for all the love and support. To my sister, Jazzman thank you for all your love and support also.

Mr. Richard Mathis and Khinsley Locklear, thank you both for capturing those breathtaking monuments, my photos were so beautiful. Mr. Hardin, & Mr. Bryant LRDA staff, and the Board of Directors thank you for all your support this year. Mrs. Natascha Wagoner Tilson thank you for scheduling our events and appearances you are the best. Mr. Howard Richardson, thank you for my beautiful breaded

crown, I love it.

To my Aunt Betsy, Aunt Lisa, and Uncle Greg, your sponsorship helped make my dream a reality so thank you for believing in me. To Mrs. Rhonda and Mr. Rudy Dial, thank you for your sponsorship, I greatly appreciate it. Aunt Betsy thank you for letting Mom borrow your vehicle for my parade appearances also.

To Mrs. Donna Butler, you have been so generous to me this year. You have definitely been a big part of my support team. You made sure my nails were done; I had gorgeous outfits and shoes throughout my reign. Thank you for helping me look fabulous for my appearances. Thank you also for picking me up from school and getting me ready for my appearances when Mom was not able to. Mrs. Donna, you are the best and I will be forever grateful for your love and support. To all of my supporters and sponsors that I have failed to mention by name, thank you for everything. Because of your support and love, I had an amazing year.

Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Kim, and Mrs. Celeste, thanks for taking care of me and for making sure I had everything I needed before my appearance when Mom wasn't there. I could not have asked for a better set of Ambassador Moms. New York was so much fun with everyone.

During my reign this year, I have had the most amazing opportunity to share all my experiences with some very talented and beautiful Lumbee women. The 2022 -2023 Lumbee Ambassadors, Junior Miss Lumbee Keely Deal, Teen Miss Anna Hunt, and Miss Lumbee Mahlea Hunt.

Keely, my Tik Tok girl, I am so thankful that I had you as my Junior Miss Lumbee. At every appearance, we had so much fun; we made so many Tik Tok videos. Whether we were singing, dancing, or just laughing you were by my side, thank you. You will forever be my sister and one of my best friends. I love you!

Anna, oh my where do I begin? Thank you so much for picking me up from school when my mom was not able to. Not only did you pick me up, you made sure my clothing, hair, and makeup was on point. I always enjoyed our car rides together because you made me feel so special just by asking, how was your day or what happened today a school? Thank you my Anna for everything, I love you!

Mahlea thank you for the beautiful shirt and roses that I received for the first day of school, that was so special to me. I Remember you pick me up and went to the movies. You made me laugh so much this year and made sure I was ready for my appearance also, thank you. You are one beautiful and talented woman. It has been an honor to serve this reign with you.

Ms. Sharon Burnette I really enjoy our pictures together and seeing you at events. Our reign as the 2022-2023 Lumbee Ambassadors may be over but my friendship and the love that I have for each of you will remain forever in my heart.

To the next Little Miss Lumbee Ambassador I pray you enjoy every moment because ' your reign will end before you know it. Now it is your time to shine and to be our next role model, make us proud because it has been an honor and a privilege to serve my beautiful Lumbee people.

For the very last time and with honor, I am **JaKayleigh Miracle Lambert, your 2022-2023 Little Miss Lumbee.**

**JaKay Leigh Miracle Lambert**



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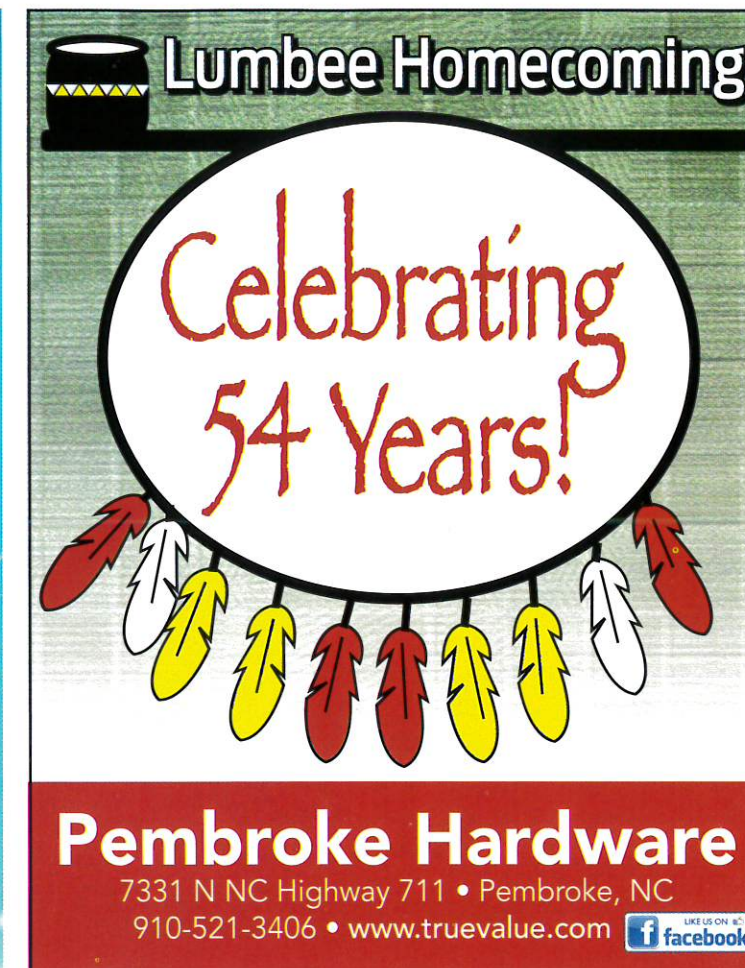
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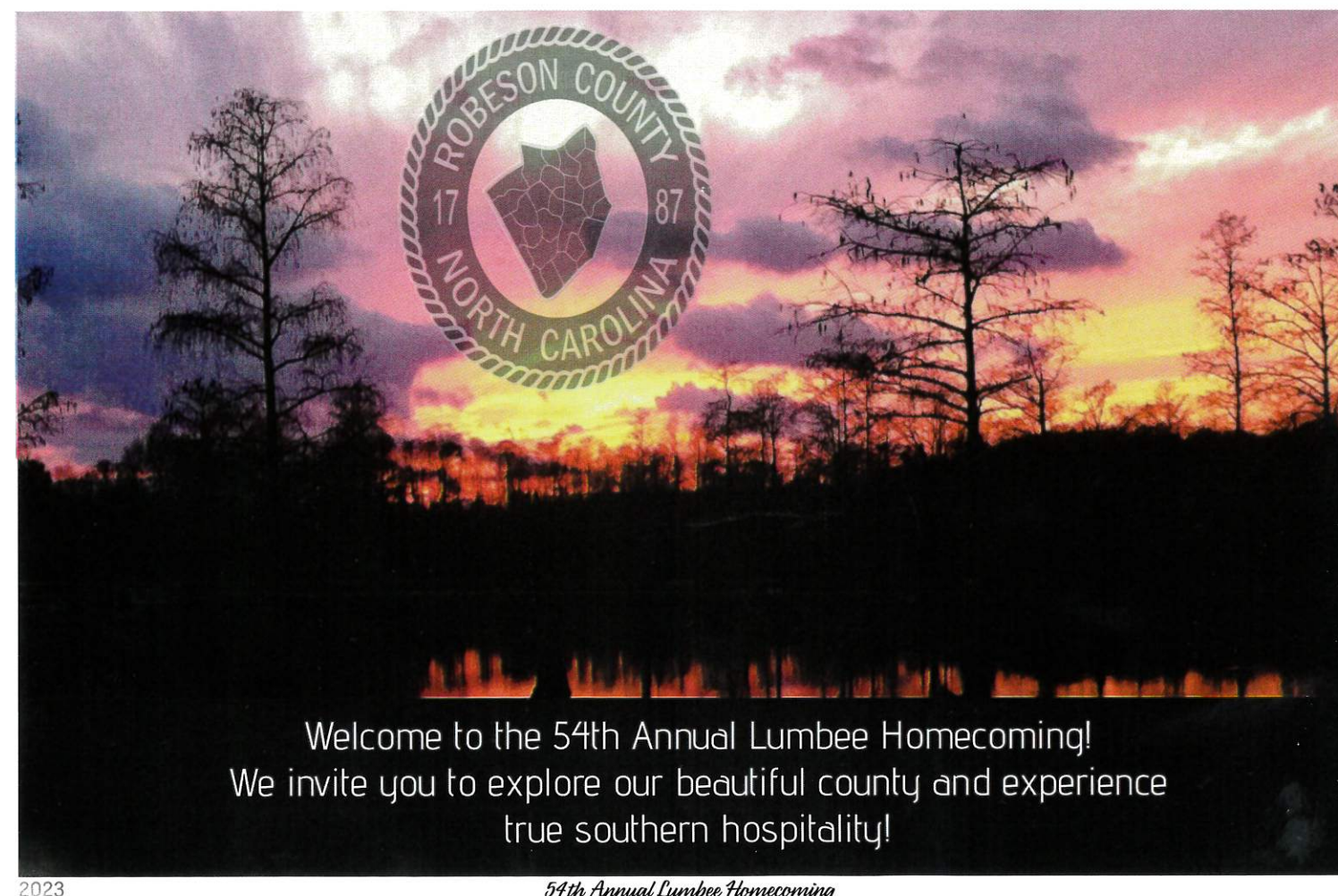
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# Little Miss Lumbee



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*Adison Reese Locklear*  
Parent(s): Wendel Locklear & Amy Revels-Locklear

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CONTESTANT 2

*Penelope Brooke McMillian*  
Parent(s): David & Makayla McMillian

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CONTESTANT 3

*Aubreyann Mac Blackhorse*  
Parent(s): Andrea & Gene Blackhorse

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CONTESTANT 4

*Malava LaRae Lyon*  
Parent(s): Richard & Miranda Lyon

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Howington Office Supply • Scott's Tire  
M&M Drywall • Double 00 Farms LLC  
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CONTESTANT 5

*Moriah Faith Jones*  
Parent(s): David Jones and Morgan Hunt Jones

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1st Choice Real Estate • Fuller's BBQ  
Papa Randall and Diane "Mimi" Jones  
Aunt Sonya and Uncle Jimmy Hughes  
Woodmen Life Chapter 1516 - Gary Strickland

## LITTLE & JUNIOR WINNERS RECEIVE

\$500 Regalia Allowance  
\$1,000 Travel Allowance to attend Gatherings of Nations Pow Wow in Albuquerque, NM  
\$1,500 Stipend  
**TOTAL \$3,000**

LRDA Board of Directors and staff would like to wish everyone a happy

**54th Lumbee Homecoming**  
Good luck to all our Little Miss & Junior Miss Lumbee Contestants!



# Junior Miss Lumbee



CONTESTANT 1

*Brooklyn Reese Jones*  
Parent(s): Channing & Emily Love Jones

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Ray and Charlotte Scott  
Aaron and Azalea Thomas  
Grandparents (Randall & Diane Jones/Warren Love)  
Family and Friends



CONTESTANT 2

*Arach Jacobs*  
Parent(s): Cathy Bell & William Jacobs

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Magnolia Faculty & Staff  
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Fairmont Pizza  
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CONTESTANT 3

*Aaliyah Grace Hunt*  
Parent(s): Sidney Hunt & Fallon Carter

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Grandpa Harold & Grandma Stephanie Smith



CONTESTANT 4

*Lecca Ashton Watts*  
Parent(s): Ronald Watts & Joely Koonce Johnson

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Sherry Brewington Wilkerson  
Creative Stone • Unique Expression Flooring and Design • Brett Polston



CONTESTANT 5

*Trinity Karaline Locklear*  
Parent(s): Kayla Locklear

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CONTESTANT 6

*Kendall Elizabeth Locklear*  
Parent(s): Kenly Locklear & Elizabeth Blue

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Falline Locklear Dial, Robeson County Commissioner • Mr. James Locklear • Kim Locklear (Grandpa)  
Tommy and Jillian Scott - "In Loving Memory" Jerry Scott, The Pepsi Man



CONTESTANT 7

*Riley Madison Dial*  
Parent(s): Robert Dial & Stephanie Jacobs

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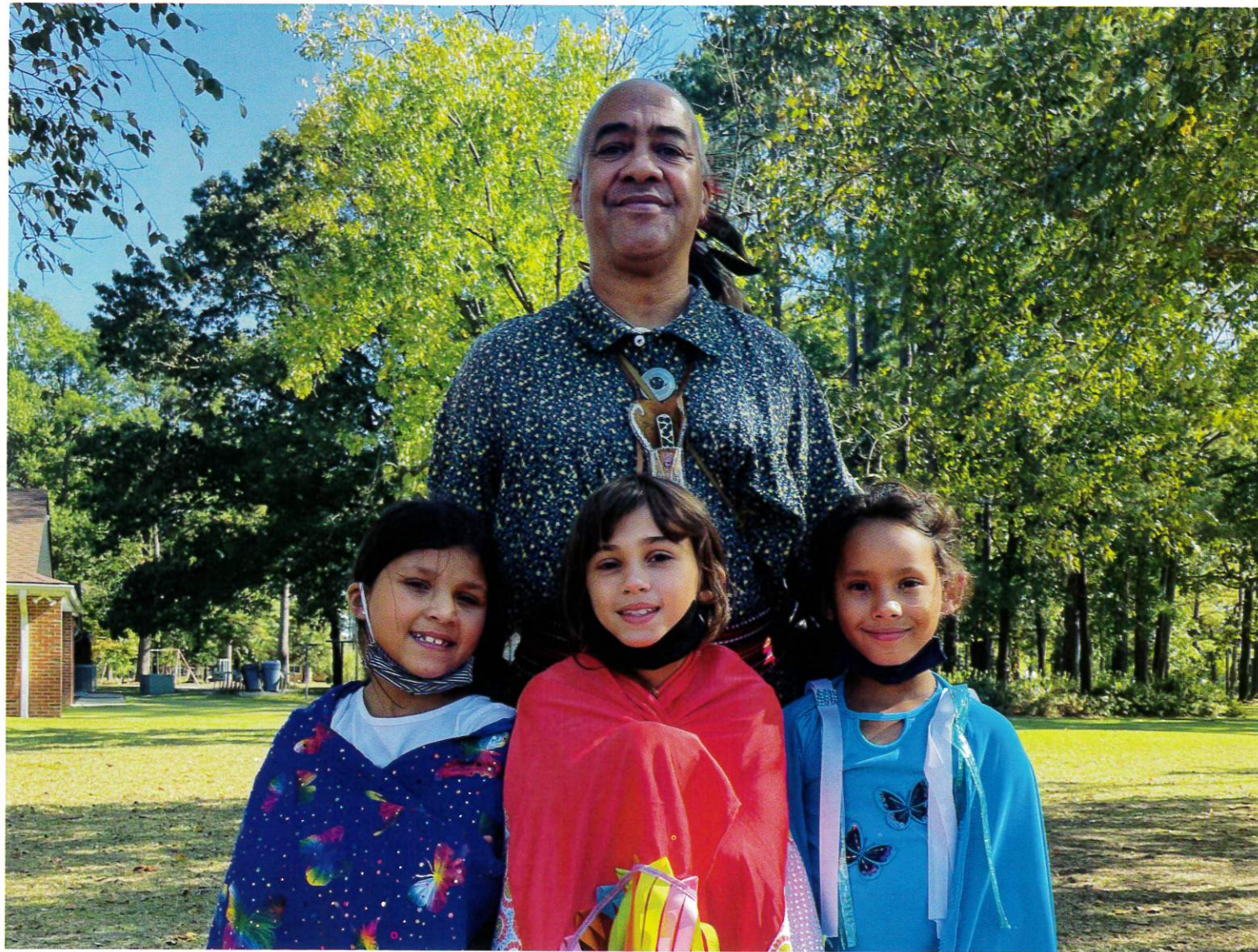


CONTESTANT 8

*Presleigh Shae Bullard*  
Parent(s): Keith Bullard & Angela Revels  
**SPONSORS**

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Aunt Dee and Cousin Makenzie  
Aunt Faye Maynor  
Cousins Alaina & Meloria Malcolm

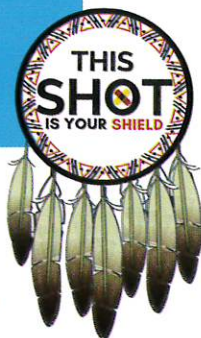




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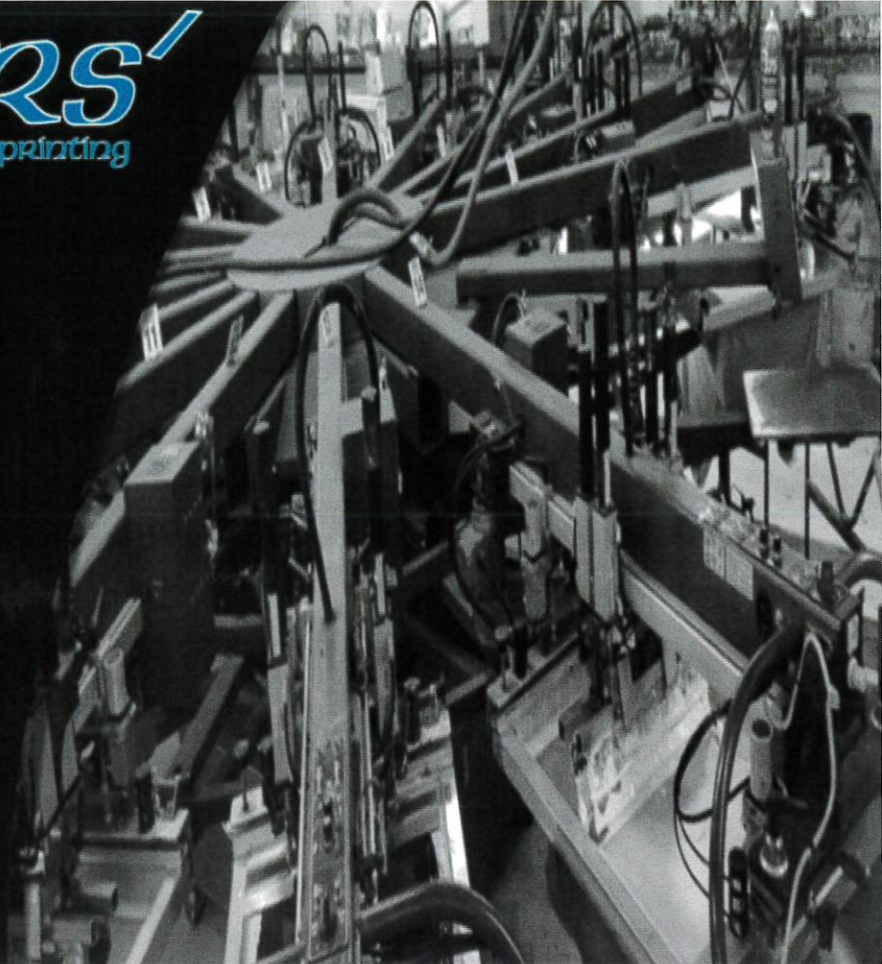
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# Teen Miss Lumbee



CONTESTANT 1

*Alexis Rosa Lowry*

Parent(s): Charles & Donna Rena Lowry

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CONTESTANT 2

*Arista Renee Lowery*

Parent(s): Danny & Glenda Lowery

**SPONSORS**

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Family and friends



CONTESTANT 3

*Kennady Elizabeth Locklear*

Parent(s): Cecil & Kayle Locklear

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Robeson Psychiatric Consultants, PLLC  
Jerry and Mary Brayboy • Family and Friends



CONTESTANT 4

*Makiah Lynn Watts*

Parent(s): Michael Ray & Anita Faye Watts

**SPONSORS**

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Aunt April Jacobs • Family and Friends



CONTESTANT 5

*Malaya Annalisa Florita*

Parent(s): Grant & Lisa C. Florita

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Uncle Jamie and Aunt Alison Collins  
Pineview Farm Home and Garden



CONTESTANT 6

*Kennedy Grace Jones*

Parent(s): Channing & Emily Jones

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Jones/Warren Love) • Family and Friends

# Miss Lumbee



CONTESTANT 1

*Ashtyn Skye Thomas*

Parent(s): Aaron & Azalea Thomas

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CONTESTANT 2

*Jordin Hailey Brewington*

Parent(s): Sonia & Harold Hammonds

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LRDA Board of Directors and staff would like to wish everyone a happy

## 54th Lumbee Homecoming

Good luck to all our Teen Miss & Miss Lumbee Contestants!



### TEEN WINNER RECEIVES

\$500 Regalia Allowance

\$1,000 Travel Allowance to attend  
Gatherings of Nations Pow Wow in  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
\$2,500 Stipend

**TOTAL \$4,000**

### MISS LUMBEE RECEIVES

\$8,000 Scholarship  
\$1,000 Regalia Allowance  
\$1,000 Travel Allowance to attend  
Gatherings of Nations  
Pow Wow in Albuquerque, NM  
\$5,000 Stipend

**TOTAL \$15,000**



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# LUMBEE HOMECOMING

2023



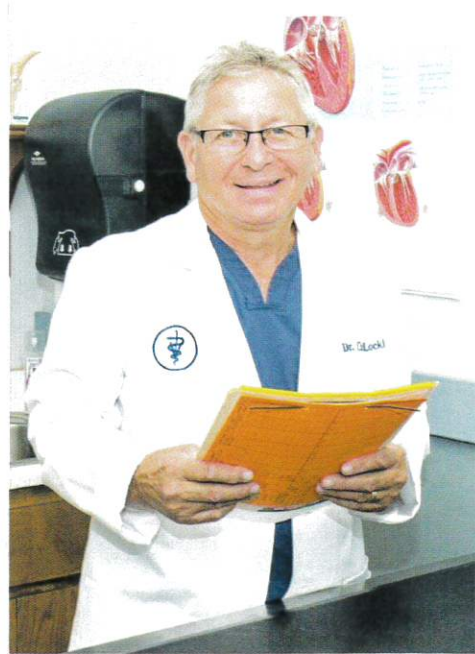
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## My Sister's Keeper

Presentation of Colors and the National Anthem . . . . . Lumbee Warrior's Society  
Welcome and Greetings . . . . . Dr. Robin Cummings, UNCP; Mr. Greg Cummings, Mayor, Town of Pembroke  
Mr. John Lowery, Tribal Chairman, Lumbee Tribe of NC; Mr. Royal Travis Bryant, Chief Executive Officer, LRDA

### OPENING NUMBER

### INTRODUCTION OF MISTRESS & MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Adam Hardin and Alexis Locklear Tamburo, Teen Miss Lumbee 2009 and Miss Lumbee 2013

Introduction of Judges and Auditors . . . . . Mistress and Master of Ceremonies  
Special Entertainment . . . . . Little Miss Lumbee 2023

### TEEN AND MISS TALENT COMPETITION

Special Entertainment . . . . . Junior Miss Lumbee 2023  
Special Entertainment . . . . . Teen Miss Lumbee 2022 - Anna Grace Hunt

### TEEN AND MISS EVENING GOWN & ON-STAGE QUESTION COMPETITION

Special Entertainment . . . . . Miss Lumbee 2022 - Mahela Celeste Hunt  
Special Entertainment . . . . . Rob Cole

### TEEN AND MISS REGALIA & CULTURAL PRESENTATION COMPETITION

Teen Miss Lumbee 2022 Farewell . . . . . Anna Grace Hunt  
Miss Lumbee 2022 Farewell . . . . . Mahlea Celeste Hunt

### TEEN MISS LUMBEE 2023 AWARDS PRESENTATION | MISS LUMBEE 2023 AWARDS PRESENTATION

### TEEN AND MISS LUMBEE PAGEANT COMMITTEE

<b>Pageant Director</b> Natascha Wagoner Tilson	<b>Pageant Co-Director</b> Helen Scott Chavis	<b>Judges Coordinator</b> Darlene Cummings	<b>Choreographer</b> Kendrix Singletary
--	--	---	--

### TEEN AND MISS LUMBEE PAGEANT SPONSORS

<b>Promotional Videographer</b> Keenya Locklear, Purposed Films and Team	<b>Promotional Photographer</b> Khinsley Locklear Portraiture
---	--

<b>Teen Miss Lumbee Crown</b> Taley Hunt "CEO of The Taley Hunt Home Team with Keller Williams" & Teen Miss Lumbee 2012	<b>Miss Lumbee Crown</b> Dr. Cheryl Ransom Locklear Miss Lumbee 1967
--	--

**Teen and Miss Lumbee Flower Bouquets for Outgoing Queens, Winners and Contestants**  
Locklear Interiors (Gail Locklear - Miss Lumbee 1973) and Locklear Cabinets

<b>Teen Miss Lumbee Sash</b> Alexis Locklear Tamburo Teen Miss Lumbee 2009 and Miss Lumbee 2013	<b>Miss Lumbee Sash</b> Eustacia Lowry Jones Miss Lumbee 1989 and Alexis Jones Miss Lumbee 2015
---	---

**Teen and Miss Lumbee Pageant Winners & Contestant Trophies**  
Lacy Cummings Farms, INC.

<b>Miss Lumbee Legacy Luncheon Sponsor</b> Faline Dial - Speech Solutions	<b>Teen and Miss Lumbee Pageant Luncheon Sponsor</b> RayRay's Hog Pit BBQ
--	--

Special Thanks to the LRDA Staff and Board of Directors, American Indian Dancers & Drummers, Erica Dellinger Atkinson-Miss Lumbee 2005, Candice Locklear Revels-Miss Lumbee 2014, Lorna McNeill Ricotta-Miss Lumbee 1994, and all former Miss Lumbee's who volunteered their time and resources to tonight's event. Mrs. Rebecca Cummings for hosting the Miss Lumbee Legacy Luncheon, and to all sponsors and supporters!





**Lumbee Homecoming 2023**

# ELDER'S LUNCHEON

**TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023**

**12:00 NOON**

**SOUTHEASTERN NC AGRICULTURE  
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**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: JUNE 9TH BY 4:30PM**



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# 2023 LUMBEE HOMECOMING



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**JUNE 27, 2023  
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- Boys & Girls 6 & Under (freestyle only) 25 Yards
- Boys & Girls 8 & Under – All races 25 yards (1 length of the pool)
- Boys & Girls 10 & Under – All races 25 yards (1 length of the pool)
- Boys 1 & Girls 2 & Under – All races 50 yards (2 lengths of the pool)
- Boys & Girls 14 & Under – All races 50 yards (2 lengths of the pool)
- Boys & Girls /Men & Women 15 & Over – All races 50 yards (2 lengths of the pool)

### ORDER OF EVENTS

**Starts at 6:15 PM**

- Freestyle
- Backstroke
- Breaststroke
- Butterfly

### REGISTER NOW

Contact Oscar Roverato

910-775-4629 ☎

910-574-6393 ☎



*You're invited!*

## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

UNCP Museum of the Southeast American Indian  
(Located in Old Main)

Friday, June 30 5:00 - 7:00 pm



**PEMBROKE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CELEBRATES 54 YEARS OF LUMBEE HOMECOMING!**



# WELCOME HOME LUMBEEES!

Monday - Thursday:  
8 am - 5:30 pm  
Friday: 8 am - 4 pm  
Saturday: 8 am - 10 am

3001 N. Elm Street Lumberton, NC 28358 • (910)674-4203







# GOLF

## TOURNAMENT

**Saturday, July 1, 2023**

**Tee off at 9:00 am**



Registration will begin soon! Look out for updates on the Lumbee Homecoming Facebook page or [www.lumbee.org](http://www.lumbee.org). You may also contact us by email to receive more information at [cstrong@lumbee.org](mailto:cstrong@lumbee.org)

For more information call 910-521-9761



Search Lumbee Homecoming Group Page

[www.lumbee.org](http://www.lumbee.org)



Pinecrest Country Club 110 Nigel Road, Lumberton, NC 28360  
910-738-6541

**2023 Lumbee Homecoming**

# LUMBEE GAMES

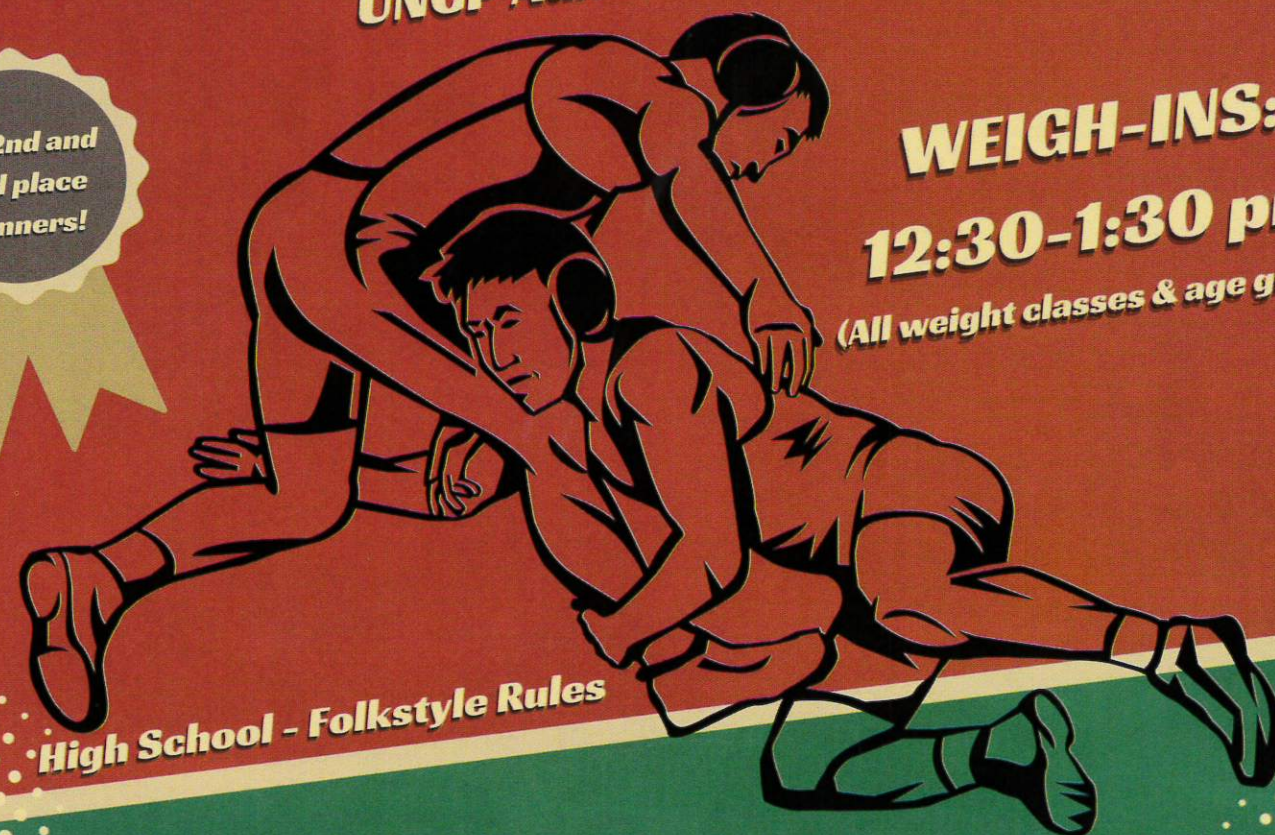
## Wrestling Tournament



**Saturday, July 1, 2023 @ 9:00 am**  
UNCP Auxillary Gym

1st, 2nd and  
3rd place  
winners!

**WEIGH-INS:**  
**12:30-1:30 pm**  
(All weight classes & age groups)



High School - Folkstyle Rules

**Pre-register by Friday, June 30, 2023**

**by contacting OT Johnson**

**at [othello.johnson@uncp.edu](mailto:othello.johnson@uncp.edu) or fax 910-521-6540.**

**For more information call 910-775-4116.**



# WING WARRIOR COMPETITION

LUMBEE HOMECOMING 2023

**SATURDAY  
JULY 1**

AT LRDA GROUNDS  
EVENT FROM 11 AM - 3 PM

**CHEFS OF ALL  
SKILL LEVELS  
WELCOME!**

**\$35** ALL YOU CAN EAT  
W/ DRINKS  
VIP TICKETS

GENERAL ADMISSION  
TICKETS \$20 PER INDIVIDUAL  
TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT:

[HTTPS://WWW.LUMBEE.ORG/LHEVENTS](https://www.lumbree.org/lhevents)

BUY BEFORE THE EVENT  
& SAVE! LIMITED TICKETS  
AVAILABLE AT THE GATE!

**\$20 DONATION  
FOR VENDOR  
REGISTRATION**

MUST PRE-REGISTER TO COOK!

**WIN CASH  
PRIZES +  
TROPHIES**



HOSTED BY



# LUMBEE HOMECOMING Gospel Singing

PASTOR HEDRICK JONES



**THE ROCK CHURCH OF GOD**  
2209 W CARTHAGE RD  
LUMBERTON NC 28360  
JULY 2ND | 6:30 PM

BOBBY DEAL FAMILY



CHOSEN GENERATION



THE BULLARD'S

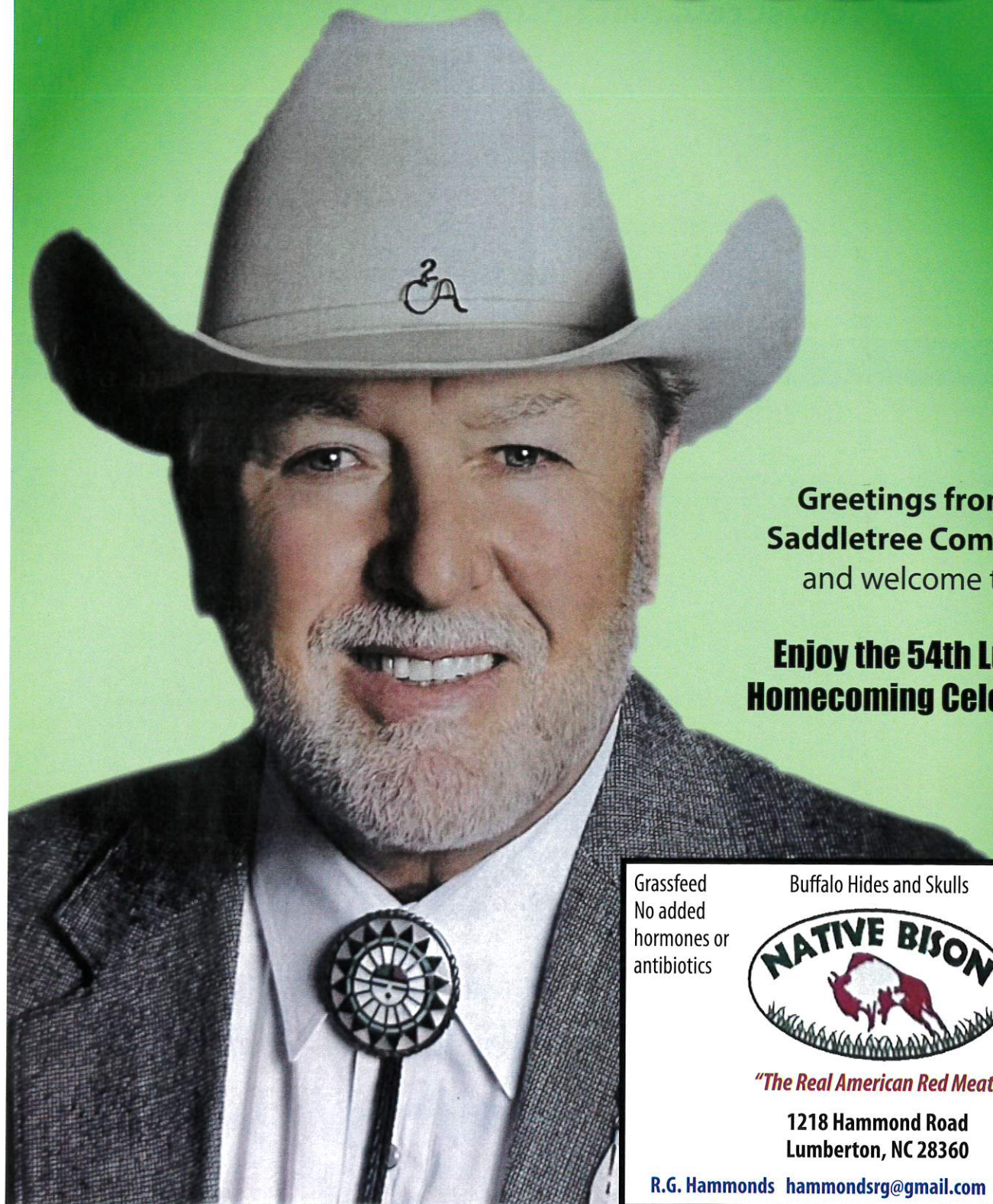


**THE ROCK CHURCH OF GOD CHOIR**





# RONALD HAMMONDS



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and welcome to all.

Enjoy the 54th Lumbee  
Homecoming Celebration.

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No added  
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Buffalo Hides and Skulls

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Buffalo Meat



"The Real American Red Meat"

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LUMBEE

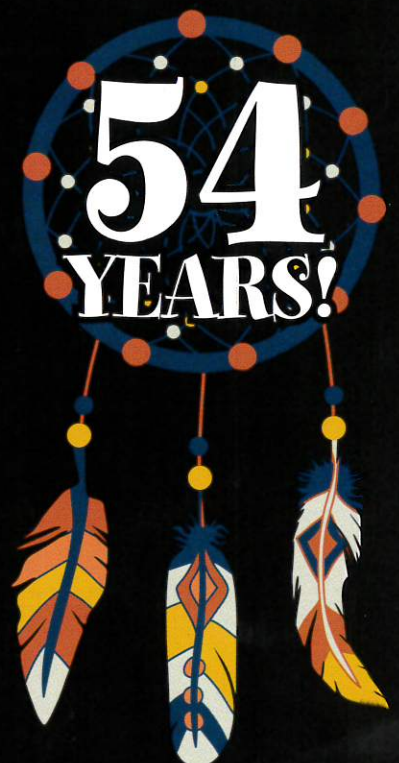


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HOMEcoming



Save  
the Date



# Gala

LUMBEE TRIBE OF N.C.

PROTECTING OUR PAST,  
MOVING TOWARD  
THE FUTURE

SATURDAY | JULY 1 | 6:30 PM  
2023

402 Event Center | Pine St. Lumberton, NC  
Online Ticket Sales Soon

2023  
LUMBEE HOMECOMING



LUMBEE GAMES

# HOMERUN DERBY



10 BALLS TO HIT  
AS MANY HOME  
RUNS AS YOU CAN,  
IN FIRST ROUND.

TOP 5 AFTER THE  
FIRST ROUND MOVE  
ON TO FINALS:

THE TOP TWO ARE  
PLACE WINNERS AND  
CHAMPION  
(METALS FOR TOP  
TWO FINISHERS IN  
EACH AGE GROUP)



**DATE:** THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023  
**LOCATION:** LUMBERTON HIGH SCHOOL  
ONSITE REGISTRATION BEGINS @ 4:30 PM

[WWW.LUMBEE.ORG/LHEVENTS](http://WWW.LUMBEE.ORG/LHEVENTS)



# LUMBEE GAMES 2023 TENNIS TOURNAMENT

DATE: JULY 6

LOCATION: UNCP TENNIS COURTS

PARTICIPANT FEE: \$10

DEADLINE: JULY 6

REGISTER NOW



Email: [orioles2@msn.com](mailto:orioles2@msn.com)  
or Call: (910) 521-6808

This is a doubles tournament. Players will be grouped by age. Please bring your own tennis balls for games.

GAMES BEGIN AT 5:00 PM



# Fourth JULY SUMMER JAM

Thursday, July 6, 2023

6:00PM - 11:00PM

MILTON R. HUNT MEMORIAL PARK

(Next to UNCP)

For more information, call 910-521-9758

Sponsored by TOWN OF PEMBROKE

Featuring





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6 weeks - 12 years old  
Free Preschool for  
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Before/After school care.

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(910) 618-1300



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LUMBEE HOMECOMING 2023

# BASKETBALL

## TOURNAMENT

07 JULY, 2023

3 vs 3

\$30.00 PER TEAM

UNCP CAMPUS  
JONES ATHLETIC COMPLEX

TO REGISTER

CONTACT: TONY CHAVIS @  
CHAVIST@UNCP.EDU

(910)521-6808 P.O. BOX 1510 PEMBROKE, NC 28372-1510



**\$25 EARLY REGISTRATION**  
**\$30 RACE DAY REGISTRATION**

REGISTER ONLINE:  
[www.racingtoes.com](http://www.racingtoes.com)

Applications available online  
[www.lumbee.org](http://www.lumbee.org)

ONSITE REGISTRATION:  
5:45 - 6:20AM

# 5K RUN

1 MILE FUN WALK IS FREE

T-shirt included with everyone Pre-registered!



Saturday, July 8, 2023 @6:30am  
Southeastern Lifestyle Fitness Center

5k Run/Walk in Honor of Mrs. Barbara Bell Buffard  
Contact Faline L. Dial at 910-827-1005 for more information





# Lumbee Homecoming Vintage Car Show



50/50  
DRAWING WITH  
DOOR PRIZES!

**SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023 | 11 AM - 4 PM**  
**UNCP ANNEX PARKING LOT PROSPECT RD.**

COORDINATED BY: CROSSROAD CRUISERS FOR CHRIST  
HOSTED BY: LRDA

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**CONTACT BUDDY DIAL (910) 733-5000**

# Lumbee Homecoming Saturday, July 8th

Location: UNCP

Registration: 10:00am thru 1:30pm

Show Starts: 1:30pm

**"We ask if you will please keep all  
your music family friendly"**



**NO ALCOHOL OR  
ILLEGAL DRUGS**

## Golf Cart

4 Speaker  
6 Speaker  
Unlimited

## Bike Show

Best of Show  
Best Paint  
Softail Class  
Sport Bike Class  
Cholo Class  
Stock Class



**Sound Off**  
Everyday Rider  
Everyday Rider Modified  
Feather Weight  
Light Weight  
Welter Weight  
Middle Weight  
Heavy Weight

## Bagger Class

21" Class  
23" Class  
26" Class  
30 and Up



**Best Looking Golf Cart**

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Pembroke, NC, 28372

Contact: Lee Maynor 910-536-5319  
With Any Questions





LUMBEE GAMES



**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
ANNUAL

# CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

**Saturday  
July 8, 2023**

**UNCP AUXILIARY GYM**



**REGISTRATION  
BEGINS  
AT 2:15 P.M.**

**GAMES BEGIN AT 3PM**

**1st Place  
\$300.00  
2nd Place  
\$150.00  
3rd Place  
\$75.00**

✉ [MSTRICKLAND@LUMBEE.ORG](mailto:MSTRICKLAND@LUMBEE.ORG)

☎ 910-521-8602

🌐 [WWW.LUMBEE.ORG](http://WWW.LUMBEE.ORG)

*Join us July 8th @ LRDA Complex  
Saturday 5:30 pm until 8:00 pm*

# ANNUAL GOSPEL SINGING



**Pastor Terry  
Oxendine**

Featuring this year:



**THE  
MCNEILL'S**

**CARLA &  
REDEMPTION**



**NADINE &  
STEVIE**



**THE  
OXENDINE'S**



*Bring your lawn chairs and join us for an awesome event!*



# LUMBEE HOMECOMING

Celebrating 54 years!

## Bob's Jewel Shop

Where quality has made the difference since 1984

4280 Fayetteville Road  
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SERVING ROBESON AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES



A non-profit hospice provider since 1986

Proudly offering in-home care to residents of Robeson County

Accredited by the Accreditation of Commission for Health Care (ACHC).

Recognized by Strategic Healthcare Programs (SHP) as a 'Superior Performer' for providing high quality service to families and caregivers of patients receiving hospice care.

When needed, Morrison Manor provides 24-hour inpatient care to keep your loved one close and out of the hospital.

Morrison Manor is available to any Scotland Regional Hospice patient, who meets the criteria for inpatient care, regardless of the county they reside in.



*"A Special Kind of Caring"*

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Laurinburg, NC 28352  
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Proud to support the

# LUMBEE 54<sup>TH</sup> HOMECOMING

## LOCKLEAR & SON FUNERAL HOME

Pre-planning your final arrangements now can help ease the financial and emotional burden from your family during a difficult time.

Pre-planning allows family to:

- Make decisions ahead of time.
- Ensure wishes are carried out.
- Pre pay for final arrangements.

LET US LEND A HELPING HAND.

- Traditional funeral services
- Consultation and support
- Memorial services
- Pre-Planning



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- Rehabilitation (910) 521-7306
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📍 812 Candy Park Lane  
Suite 5103  
Pembroke, NC  
(910) 671-6619



[UNCHealthSE.org](http://UNCHealthSE.org)



# ROBESON

Living  
Magazine  
Summer

FREE

*54th Lumbee Homecoming*

Cover photo  
courtesy of  
Khinsley Eocklear  
Portraiture







## HealthKeeperz Home Health Services

Our Home Health Services can help you rehabilitate from medical events. We can also help you manage chronic diseases..

### Skilled Nursing

Our team of dedicated skilled practitioners stand ready to assist with a wide variety of skilled care services including:

- Medication Administration and Oversight
- Diabetic Education and Management
- Wound Care
- IV Therapy
- Health Education to Assist in Recovery and Self-Management

### Physical Therapy

Comprehensive Programs specializing in the evaluation and treatment of:

- Orthopedic Problems
- Neurological Conditions
- Posture Problems
- Stroke
- Industrial Injuries
- Restorative Therapy
- Therapeutic Exercises
- Joint or Muscle Dysfunction
- Other medically diagnosed pain or dysfunction

### Speech Therapy

Comprehensive Program specializing in the evaluation and treatment of:

- Speech Disorders
- Swallowing Disorders
- Verbalizing Expression
- Dementia Staging
- Communicate Device Training
- Understanding Language to Maximize Communication after Stroke, Surgery or Trauma

### Occupational Therapy

HealthKeeperz Occupational Therapist provides medical treatment to improve or restore impaired function due to illness or injury, or to improve the patient's ability to perform tasks required for independent functioning where function has been permanently or temporarily lost by illness or injury.

### Medical Social Work

The HealthKeeperz Social Work Program focuses on early intervention that may assist in preventing unnecessary hospitalization or re-hospitalizations relating to social problems. The HealthKeeperz social workers seeks to improve family cooperation and enhance the patient's or caregiver's involvement in the plan of care.

### Home Health Aide

The HealthKeeperz Home Health Aide Service completes the care provided within the Home Health Program. Our Certified Nursing Assistants provide assistance with a client's Activities of Daily Living (ADLs). These activities may include toileting, shaving, meal preparation, light housekeeping and bathing. This type of hands-on "personal care" truly compliments the complete therapeutic realm provided by HealthKeeperz.

### HOSPICE SERVICES

HealthKeeperz provides hospice care and services that combine medical care with emotional and spiritual support for the client and the family. The HealthKeeperz Hospice team delivers quality compassionate care for people facing a life-limiting illness or injury when curative treatments may no longer be an option. HealthKeeperz believes that hospice is about living each day to the fullest in comfort and with dignity. The hospice team includes:

- Physicians and Nurse Practitioners
- Nurses
- Social Workers
- Hospice Aides
- Volunteers
- Chaplains
- Therapists
- Bereavement Program

#### What is Hospice?

Hospice is compassionate and supportive care for patients and their families facing an end-of-life crises due to a terminal illness. Hospice can be delivered in a number of places - the patient's home, a skilled nurse facility, an assisted living facility, or a hospital. Hospice teams can treat the patient, and not the disease, through a personalized plan of care designed to meet the specific needs of the patient and their family. When their plan and symptoms are managed, a hospice patient can then focus on the important thing - living a full life.

#### Why Choose Hospice?

Hospice care is delivered by a skilled team of health care professionals. Our hospice team partners with the patient and their family to create a plan of care that best suits their needs and desires. The patient always has a voice in the direction of their care.

#### Who Benefits From Hospice?

HealthKeeperz has served eleven counties in southern North Carolina for over 50 years. Our professional, medical and administrative staff are local people - living and serving in their own communities. We honor our patient's dignity and their end-of-life wishes, offering a variety of supportive and life-management programs for both the patient and their family.

### HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

#### Respiratory Care Services

HealthKeeperz Respiratory Care is a leader in comprehensive home respiratory care. We are committed to providing continuity of medical care by offering a comprehensive plan of care for patients from pediatrics to geriatrics. Our thorough patient care management is why physicians and patients rely on the HealthKeeperz Respiratory Care Team to provide the highest quality care.

Services include:

- Oxygen Therapy
- Suction Therapy
- CPAP/BiPAP Therapy
- Trach Supplies
- Nebulizer & Supplies

#### Home Medical Equipment

HealthKeeperz Home Medical Equipment provides you, your family or your patients with any medical equipment, supplies or devices. We stock a complete line of equipment and supplies including:

- Wheelchairs
- Hospital Beds
- Seat Lift Chairs
- Ostomy Supplies
- Incontinent Supplies
- Enteral Feeding Supplies
- Shower Chair & Transfer Bench
- Canes, Crutches & Rollators
- 24 Hour On-Call Service

### CAP CASE MANAGEMENT

#### The CAP Process

begins with the determination of Medicaid eligibility by the Robeson County Department of Social Services. A nurse/social worker team assesses the care needs of the client that may be met in a home setting at a cost that is less than what Medicaid would pay for facility care. Services are arranged with community agencies that provide the kind of care needed by the client. The case manager is responsible for reassessing annually the continuing need for CAP/DA services and regularly monitors the care being provided by community agencies.

**1-800-309-3784**



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PHONE: 910-379-8230

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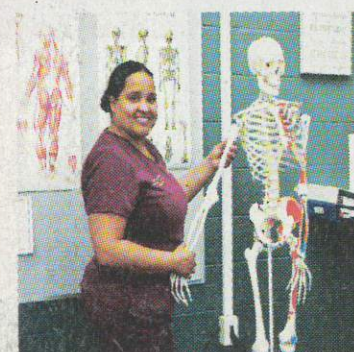
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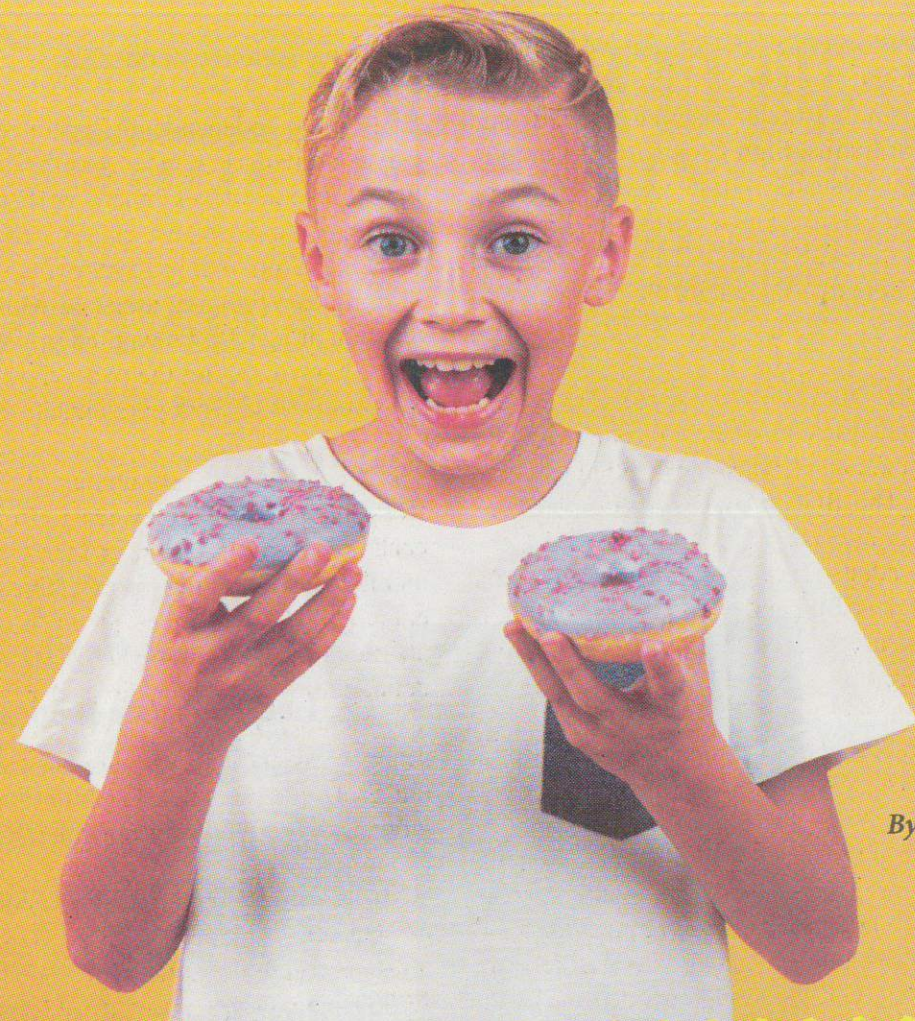


24.



49.





By Crissy Neville

## Life's Too Short Not To Have Donuts

For a sweet time, head to Biggs Park Mall on September 16 to support The Boys and Girls Center of Lumberton. Led by Executive Director Ron Ross, the circa 2021 organization serves Robeson County youth ages 6 to 18 with year-round educational and recreational programming after school and during the summer.

The special event of the day is The Jelly Filled Donut Contest, a donut-eating challenge where contestants strive to break the current Guinness Book of World Records record of ten donuts eaten in three minutes. The lucky participant who accomplishes this feat — if anyone can — will win \$500 from Re/Max Real Estate Exchange and a \$500 gift certificate from Ollie's retailer. Courtesy of Blair Watts with Woodforest National Bank,

gift certificates of \$50, \$100 and \$200 will go to the top three finishers in the food frenzy.

To sweeten the pot, eventgoers can also register to win a 5-minute shopping spree at Ollie's. One winner will win the chance to fill a shopping cart — or carts — full of goodies just in time for the Christmas season. There is no entry fee; the winner must be present to receive the prize. The action starts at 11 a.m. inside the mall at 2800 N. Elm Street in Lumberton.

At noon, the fun continues outside the mall with a cash giveaway. Tickets sold before the event for \$50 each will net one lucky winner the top prize of \$5,000 and five runners-up \$1,000 each.

Robeson Living ~ Summer 2023

Sponsors for the well-rounded day of donuts, music by Past Perfect Band and free refreshments are The Boys and Girls Center, Farm Bureau Insurance, Cakes and Pastries, Mountaire Farms, Sign City, City of Lumberton Recreation Dept., Canady Termite and Pest Control, Woodforest National Bank, Truist Bank, Adelio's Express, All American Heating and A/C Services, Chick-Fil-A, Norton's Automart, Biggs Park Mall and Trinity Holiness Church.

While September 16 promises to be a great day of support for The Center, Ross, his team of volunteers and one full-time staff member spend all year supporting the kids in their care. The BGC provides a safe place for students to learn, grow, and develop ongoing relationships with caring adults. Its life-enhancing programs focus on character development, sportsmanship, health, academic success, career exploration, mentoring, drug prevention and more.

Ross elaborated on one of his favorite programs with a sportsmanship focus.

"What we do with sportsmanship with our baseball-great Cal Ripken program is very important. If you have two kids that can come to our organization that can get along, chances are they can get along at school, too. Chances are they will get along outside of school. Maybe one day, they'll be working together or become neighbors, and they'll get still along. I can tell you I could spend hours telling stories of young people whose lives were changed just because of simple programs."

Ross has similar tales of his Center's emphasis on academics and mentoring. After an hour of relaxation and recreation after school, students at the Center must spend 30 minutes completing homework, studying or getting homework help, if needed. Students aged 13 and up with good grades may also get the opportunity to help their younger peers.

"I've never had one of my youth fail their grade during

all my years in Lumberton," Ross said.

BGC is an independently operated program that receives limited assistance from the county and city, said Ross, a youth development professional of 53 years who spent most of his career working for The Boys and Girls Club, first in Fayetteville, next in Lumberton. Starting as a program assistant with the national organization at age 18, he worked up into leadership positions. Now directing the two-year-old BGC, Ross, age 73, continues to work passionately in his life's calling.

The Center has approximately 110 youth members, Ross shared, serving between 30 to 50 kids who attend each week. Parents register their youth with a simple membership form that is available at the facility, located at 1310 N. Seneca Street in Lumberton. As not all members show up to the Center every day, attendance varies. However, drop-in care is not available. The Lumberton facility's membership costs \$10 per school year and \$10 for summer enrollment. "That is our goal," he said, "but if a child cannot pay, we do not let that stop him or her from attending."

With about \$100,000 needed annually to run the facility and all programming, Ross depends on contributions and fundraising to make ends meet. "We receive \$5,000 annually from the City of Lumberton and another \$2,500 from Robeson County," he explained. "Another \$30 to \$35,000 comes from contributions from individuals ranging from a \$10 donation to \$1,000. And we do a Christmas card mailout that nets another \$4 to \$6,000. We try to bring in the rest with our September special event."

Just as "it takes a village to raise a child" — a phrase from an African proverb that means it takes many people to provide what children need to flourish — it takes the community's backing of The Boys and Girls Center of Lumberton for it to succeed in its mission. Donuts, anyone?



Robeson Living ~ Summer 2023

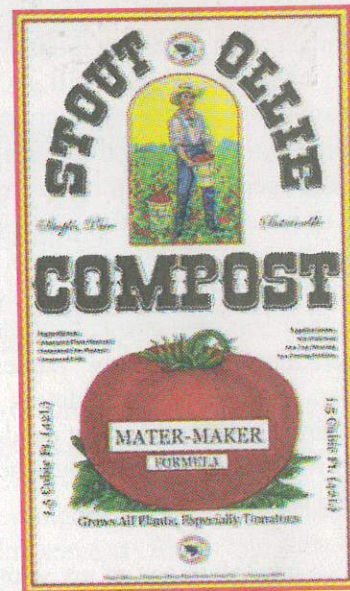


# Summer WHAT'S HOT



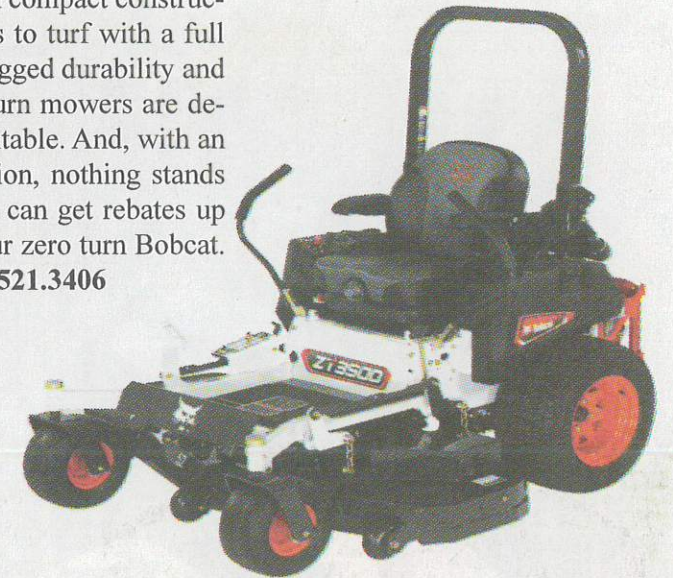
**Lumbee Outfitters** is growing fast and is a local family owned company. Just in time for Lumbee Homecoming they are a huge selection of Lumbee Nation t-shirts. They also specialize in collectible knives and outdoor apparel. Stop by their shop located at **809 University Road in Pembroke, NC**. The hours are M-F noon until 5:30pm and Saturday 11-3pm

Father and son, Ray and Les, mother and daughter-in-law, Nancy and Page, along with granddaughters, Lucy and Annie, are the Olivers behind Stout Ollie/River Run Farms. They farm in Lowcountry South Carolina growing and selling 100% Grass fed Angus beef and Certified Organic kiwi fruit. The need for an organic fertility source for their grass and fruit crops prompted them to begin making their own compost. Over the years they have perfected their formula of plant material from the cotton ginning process, fish trimmings from the Santee Cooper lakes and cow manure from their cowherd to produce a superior compost. Making more than they could use on the farm led them to bagging and selling and the Stout Ollie brand was born. **His and Her Greenhouse** has this new product to add all the essentials to your soil. While you are there be sure to take the time to browse their many greenhouses for the freshest of plants that you won't find at big box stores. Located at **2278 East Powersville Road in Lumberton, NC, 910.739.2235**



Dunlop's American Elite is the only aftermarket tire line for Harley-Davidson motorcycles that are designed and tested in the U.S.A. Available in 28 options to fit most Harley-Davidsons, the American Elite features MT Multi-Tread rear-tire technology for great handling and high mileage. Sizes available for newer and older Harley-Davidson models and select Victory and Indian motorcycles **Cycle Works** has most of the leading manufacturers of custom motorcycle parts and accessories. Located at **296 Henry Hammond Road, Lumberton, 910.671.0482**

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Julie Vos creates jewelry that is considered "wearable luxury." Her elegant designs are quality made with semi-precious stones and pearls set in 24k gold-plated nick-free brass and smartly priced, making them easy to collect. Based in New York City, the jewelry is inspired by everyday city life, architecture, and art around the world. Each collection is timelessly designed and can be worn for many years. Julie Vos jewelry such as earrings, necklaces, pendants, cuffs, bangles, and more can be found at **Gracie's Apparel & Gifts**. **Gracie's** is located in the Tulip Patch behind Wendy's at **14 Liberty Road in Lumberton. 910.608.9678**

**Pier 41 Seafood** is a "Calabash" style family restaurant which means your seafood is lightly breaded and served with generous portions. They offer choices of fried, broiled, and boiled seafood; delightful appetizers; crisp salads; mouth-watering sandwiches and a collection of non-seafood items. Their fried seafood platter is always a family favorite. Located at **2401 Elizabethtown Road in Lumberton, NC. 910.738.8555**



Every patio or porch always looks better with summer flowers and ferns. They dress up any space and you can find them at **Farm and Family Center**. While you are there check out their gardening sprays and supplies. Located at **4530 NC Hwy 211 East in Lumberton, NC, 910.738.7392**





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Campus



Robeson Community College offers several programs that allow anyone to develop their skills. College is not for everyone because some people desire to gain a skill that will allow them to go immediately to a career that they are passionate about as well as make a good salary to support their family. Many of the programs that are offered at COMtech through Robeson Community College allow a person to have a flexible schedule while enjoying their work. The Programs that are offered at the COMtech Campus are: Nursing Assistant I, Nurse Refresher, Barber Class, Natural Hair

Care, Massage Therapy, Esthetician Class, Nail Technician as well as other potential programs that could be utilized according to the needs of the community. These classes are offered for students to receive their eligibility to take the state exam for certification they also have a component that requires service hours. Students provide services to the community for a fraction of the cost to gain experience in their area of interest. COMtech also offers the Adult High School and High School Equivalency classes in order to achieve a secondary education diploma.

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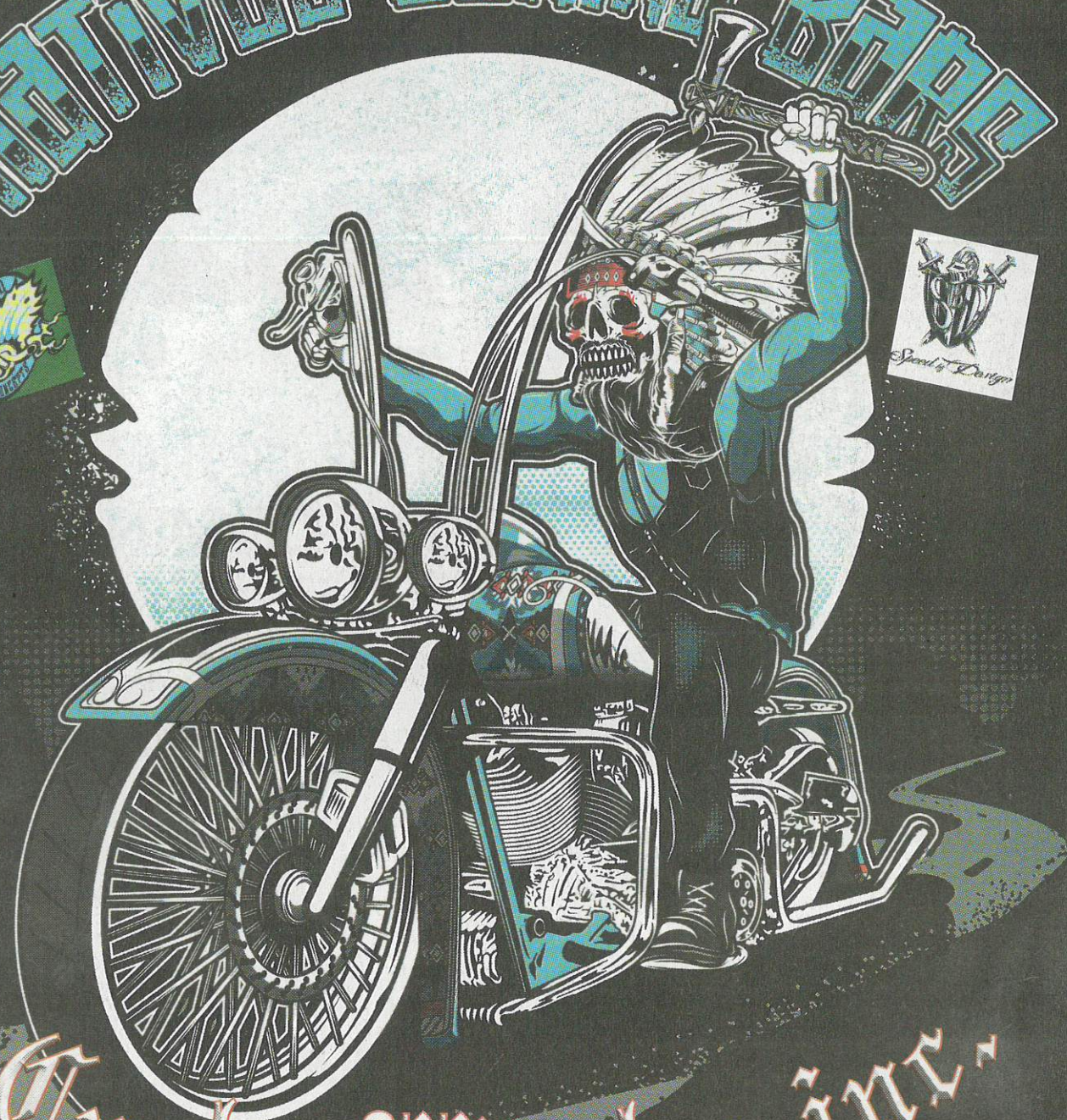
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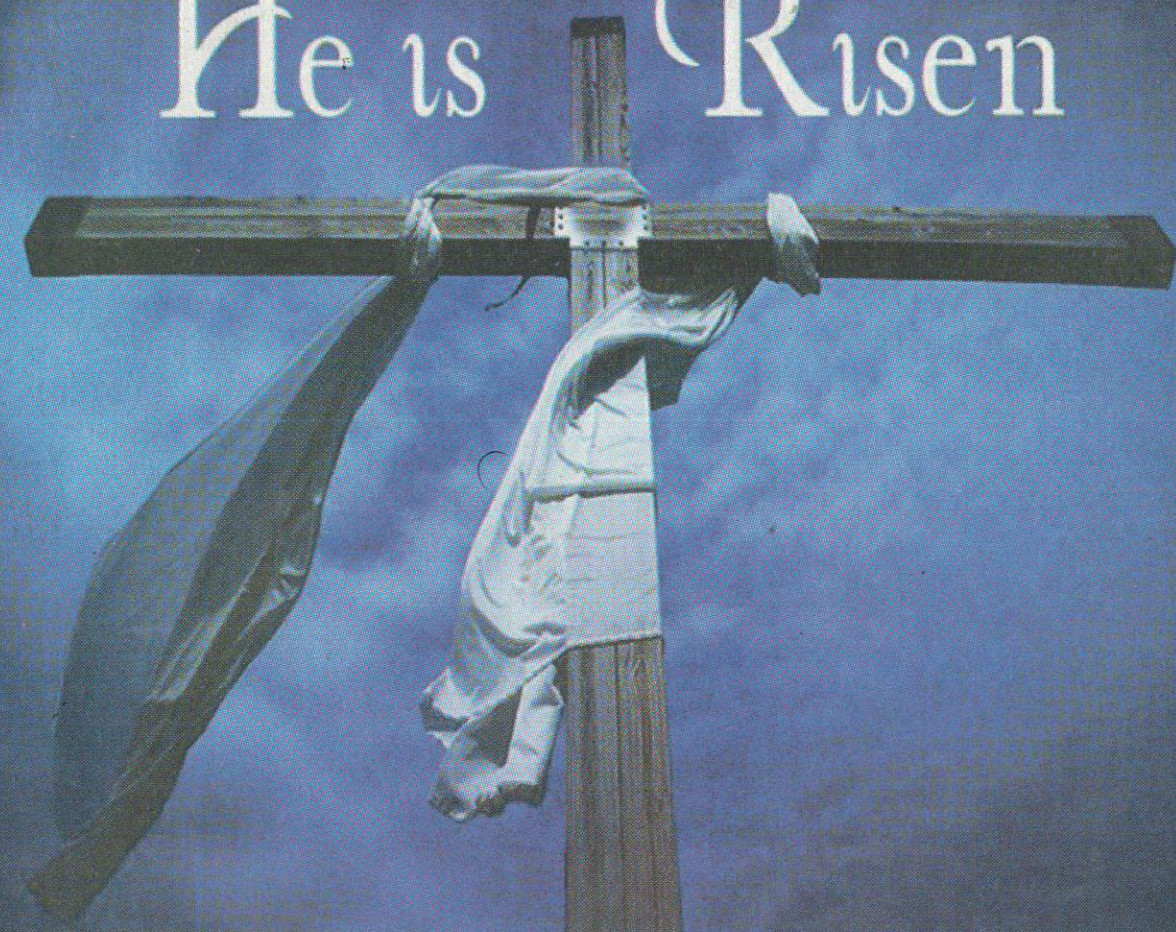


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He is Risen



## A Time for Celebration

Hello and greetings from the "Land of the Lumbee". Every year, as the 4th of July approaches, A sense of celebration settles over southeastern North Carolina as the Lumbee tribe of North Carolina prepares for the annual Lumbee Homecoming. For a week or more, activities, both day and night, are creating a season in which the Lumbee history and the hopes for the days ahead, are put on display for both the Lumbee Tribal members and their friends to engage in celebrating who we have been and who we hope to become. This annual tradition is over 50 years old. It brings Lumbee back to the community from all parts of the United States. It would be impossible to be near the community and not be touched by the feelings of pride and joyful Anticipation that comes with the expectation of seeing friends that you have perhaps not seen since this same

time last year. You would find a cordial welcome if time and opportunity would allow You to visit the Lumbee community during the Homecoming this year.

**Ps 118:24 "This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it".**

Celebrations have always been a part of the human experience. The Bible reveals many occasions where festivals were observed to add meaning to life and in some instances to represent the connection between Man and Mans creator. Life would be a lot less exciting without those occasions when we stop the normal activities of life and focus on something important to our story

and our life experience. Today, every year we have days that have been set aside to place attention and honor for some worthy purpose and some event, sometimes that occurred many generations ago. Most people groups have their cultural and historical days and events that



they consider worthy of continuous recognition and celebration.

In the Christian tradition we celebrate the Savior's birth at Christmas, The Lord's death at the Lord's Supper and the Saviors resurrection at Easter. These celebrations remind us of who we are and what is our hope for the future. For over 50 years, I have been sharing the good news of these celebrations across America and around the world. I never get tired of telling the glorious story of Him, who alone holds the hope of mankind in His life, death, and Resurrection. Throughout the holy scriptures there are many occasions when people were called to a celebration.

In Luke chapter 15, Jesus presents 3 parables that each call for a time of celebration.

In V. 11-24 is the third parable, that familiar parable where you find the story of the prodigal son, who upon his safe return to his father's house, Was made welcome and the father instructed the servants Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: to bring the fatted calf and kill it so that they might eat and celebrate, saying, for this my son was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found, and the house was filled with celebration.

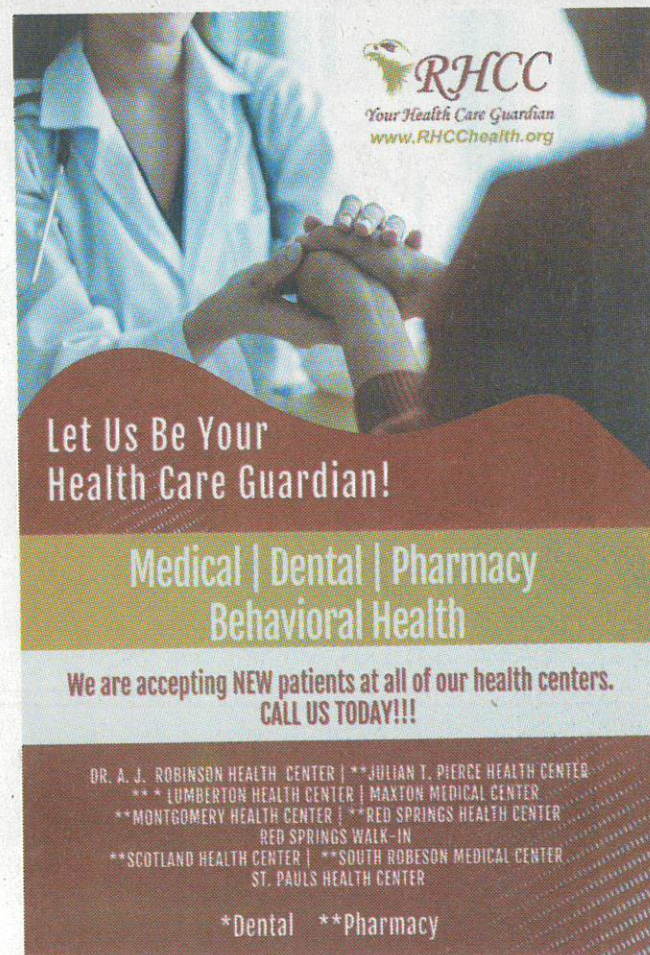
Life is meant to have celebrations. Truly sad is the person who finds no reason to pursue joy or pleasure in life experiences. Regardless of the challenges and difficulties one might face in life, just beyond that dark cloud is a ray of sunshine that reminds us we are blessed. Since you are reading this article, it means you have eyesight, thinking and comprehending ability and no doubt you have a dollar and house to sleep in that has food in it. You, my dear friend, have plenty to celebrate. As this article is being written, we are in the process of building an Orphanage in Myanmar, for some children who have lost their parents, their home, and their hope of a normal life, except for the love and concern of a young couple who have determined to help as many children as they can. And yet, these children are so excited and are celebrating in advance the fact they will soon sleep in a bed they can call their own, for the first time in their lives.

Ps 118:24 *"This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it"*. Join me in a commitment to spend our lives with thankful hearts and a readiness to celebrate the goodness of God. If you don't have a relationship to God, then I encourage you to surrender yourself to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and

take advantage of His gracious offer of free Salvation as a gift from God. It's as simple as ABC. ADMIT you are a sinner in need of forgiveness. Believe in your heart that Jesus suffered and died to provide your needed forgiveness and CONFESS your decision to those around you. Feel free to contact Me if you need or want more information.

Pastor Charles P. Locklear, Bethany Christian Fellowship at 307 S. Jones St. Pembroke, NC 28372, cplocklear@hotmail.com  
Director, Morning Star Ministry, Box 220, Pembroke, NC 28372  
www.morningstar-ministries.com

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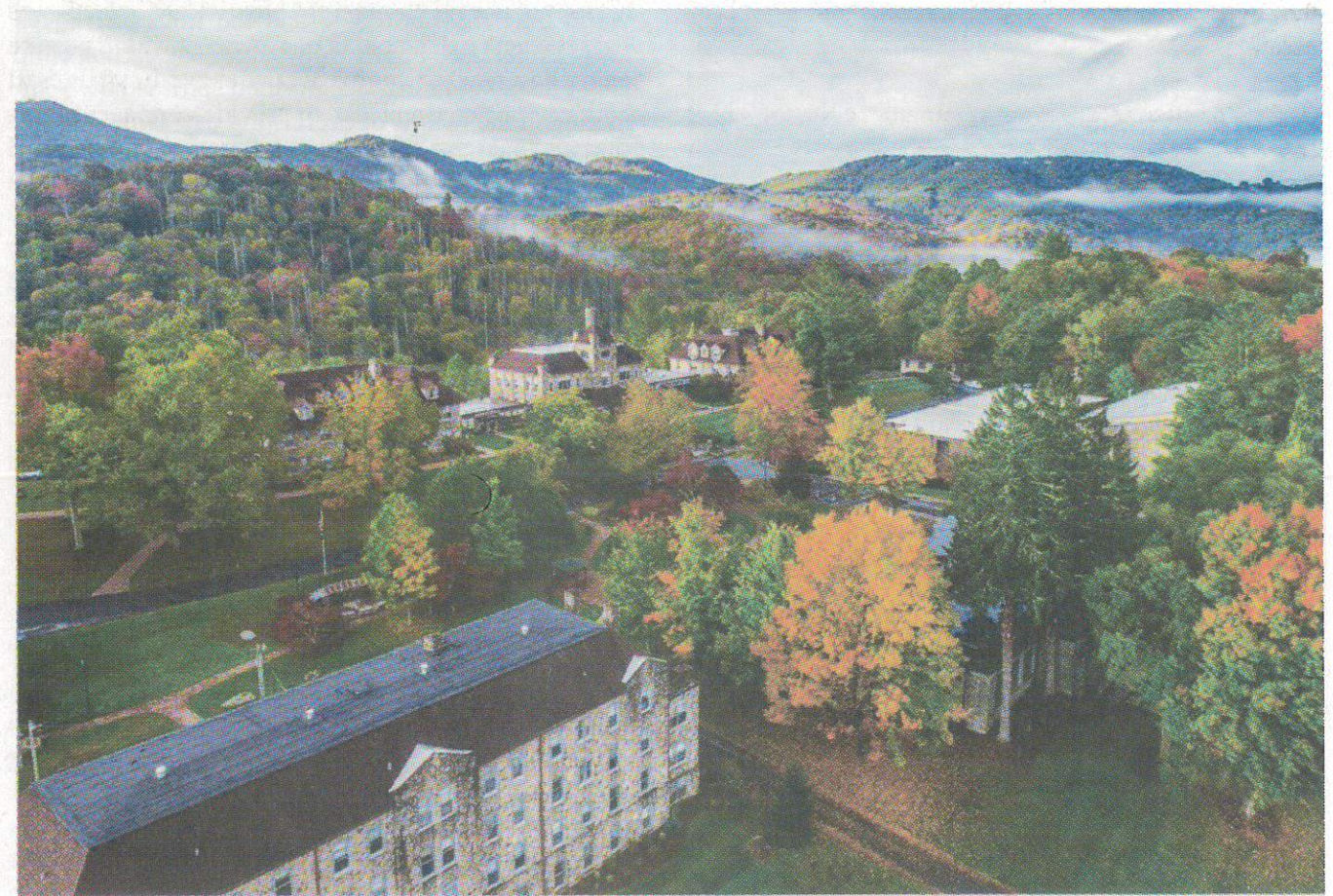
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Lees-McRae College located in Banner Elk (Facebook photo)

By Blake Tyner

## Lees-McRae has roots in Robeson

Lees-McRae College, located in Banner Elk was founded in 1900 by Edgar Tufts as part of an Appalachian ministry of service and education. Known as the "Campus in the Clouds" (the school is 4,000 feet above sea level), Lees-McRae emphasizes personal religious values and vocational guidance that contributes to each student's welfare and growth.

Tufts, a newly ordained minister in the Southern Presbyterian Church, came to Banner Elk in 1897 with the intention of founding a congregation in the remote mountains of western North Carolina. Upon his arrival he found no church, no school, and no doctor. When he died in 1923, Tuft's vision had led to the founding of a college, the 20-bed Grace Hospital, and an orphanage caring for 100 children. Tufts named his fledgling school the Elizabeth McRae Institute for Girls in honor of a dedicated teacher from Robeson County. In 1905 Tufts created a boy's department and amended the

name of the school to honor benefactor Mrs. S. P. Lees of Kentucky and New York. The school was chartered by the state in 1907 as Lees-McRae Institute and in 1931 became Lees-McRae College.

So, who was Elizabeth MacRae? She was born Elizabeth Ann Harllee on November 13, 1825, to Colonel David Stuart and Harriet Brown Harllee in Marion County, SC. He was Sheriff of the county and later moved to Cheraw, SC where is became a leading merchant of the town. At the age of fifty-one he was admitted to the South Carolina Bar.

The June 22, 1842, issue Fayetteville Observer reported "Married in Cheraw, S.C., on the 9th, Dr. Neil McNair of Harlleesville, Marion District, to Miss Elizabeth Harllee, eldest daughter of Col. David S. Harllee of Cheraw". Soon after their marriage they moved to Alma, near Maxton, in Robeson County. She became





*Elizabeth MacRae's tombstone*

the mistress of the Argyle Planation, the McNair home. They attended Centre Presbyterian Church in Maxton.

The April 30, 1863, issue of the Fayetteville Semi Weekly Observer reported that Dr. Neill McNair died suddenly near his residence on April 9, 1863, at the age of 49. "He was full of health and vigor up to the moment of his departure. Either by a sudden of stroke of paralysis or by some affection of the heart, he fell and instantly passed away. Regular in his habits and temperate in all things, no man had fairer prospects of a long life and a green and happy old age. But "God's thoughts are not our thoughts" Dr. McNair will be missed but the entire community and especially by the poor, those, who need a friend to help them. He was a kind and affectionate husband and father, a faithful and steadfast friend, a generous and cheerful helper of those who needed help and a liberal supporter of the church and of every good cause".

Just a year later she lost her only child, David Harllee McNair. The family Bible says that he was serving in the Company D First Battalion of the Confederate States Army. He died of brain fever in the hospital at Fort Cashwell on July 28, 1864, at 17 years old. She wrote "he was my earthly all of pride and joy in the

world but "the Lord gave and the Loth hath taken away and blessed be His Holy name" My darling child is not dead but living, his glorified spirit is now summering in the realms of everlasting day safely housed safely home".

The next year marked three years of trouble and sadness when her Argyle Planation was raided. There are two accounts of the raid, one from a Fayetteville newspaper and the other appears in the book The Lowrie History, As Acted in Part by Henry Berry Lowry written by Mary Calhoun Bridgers Norment the widow of Owen C. Norment.

The Fayetteville Telegraph newspaper on March 6, 1865, reported:

"On Tuesday morning, about 1 o'clock, a band of deserters and escaped Yankee prisoners, 15 in number, and led by a Yankee naval officer, attacked the house of Mrs. Dr. McNair, in Robeson County, and, after spending nearly an hour in the attempt, forced an entrance by breaking down the front door. Mr. Wm. Stanton, of this County, was staying at Mrs. McNair's on the night in question, and being called by that lady to her assistance, soon after the attack commenced, promptly "reported for duty." An excited contest fol-

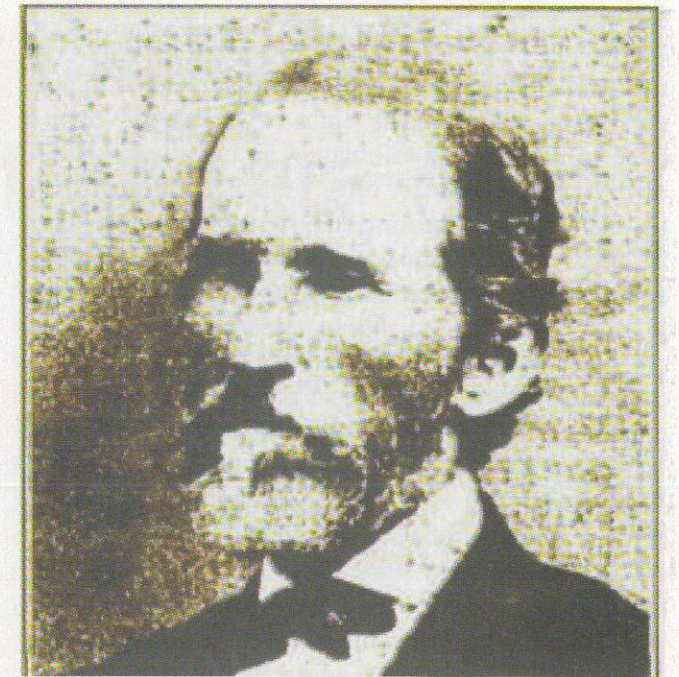
lowed, Mrs. McNair and Mr. Stanton both being provided with Colt's repeaters and a rifle, which they used with fatal effect; one of the attacking party being killed and another wounded in the breast. We regret to learn that Mrs. McNair was badly burned, and her face otherwise injured by fragments of glass and powder. Mr. Stanton was also slightly wounded.

Mrs. McNair and Mr. Stanton having exhausted their ammunition, the latter, at the urgent solicitation of Mrs. McNair (who feared the desperadoes would wreak vengeance on him for the death of their comrade,) retired, and she remained alone to brave their fury. On approaching her, the Yankee officer in command was so struck with her bold and determined mien, that, instead of harming her, he complimented her warmly on her conduct, stating that she was the first woman, who had offered any resistance to his band.

They carried off nearly all the valuables they could find, including silverware and jewelry, six thousand dollars in Confederate notes, and two breastpins, containing the pictures of Mrs. McNair's husband and son. The courage and determination of this noble woman savors more of romance than reality, but the incidents given in this article are literally true. It carried one back to the days of the Revolution, when the fearless women of the Colonies performed so many feats of wonder worthy to be imitated by many of the male sex whose knees are smiting together, like Belshazzar's, lest they be attacked by deserters and other roving desperadoes."

Mary Norment wrote in The Lowrie History " March I. 1865 the Lowry Gang raided Argyle. At the time of the raid, two families of kinsmen were residing at Argyle. Two Confederate "gentlemen friends" were also guests that particular night. A gun battle ensued between the intruders and the occupants of Argyle. Nevertheless, the Lowry Gang managed to enter the large plantation. When they neared the widow's personal bedroom, however, the Gang met firm resistance in the form of gunfire coming from within the bedroom. The gunfire probably was from a lieutenant from Fayetteville whom the widow knew intimately. The other one of her "gentlemen friends" hid in the closet throughout the shooting spree.

Capt. Owen T. Wright, ranking officer among the three escaped Yankee soldiers, was wounded during the exchange of gunfire. The widow and company were finally subdued. The Widow McNair boasted of being the one who fired the shots that felled Capt. Wright. William Lowry, then leader of the Lowry Gang, slapped the



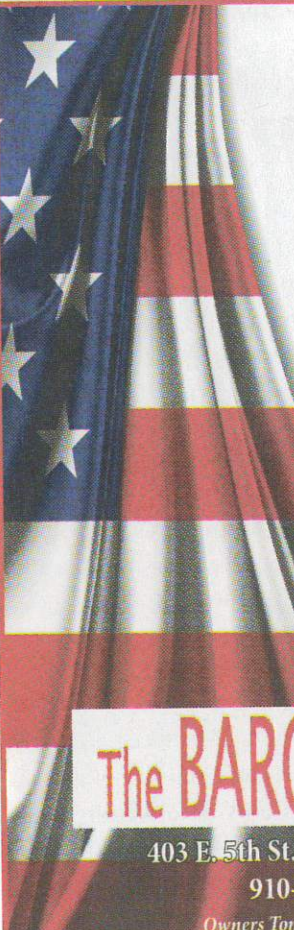
*Alexander MacRae, second husband of Elizabeth MacRae*

proud and boastful widow. An escaped Yankee interceded on the widow's behalf, preventing William from doing her further bodily harm.

The Lowry Gang took the widow's wagons and teams and a number of slaves to drive for them. They then proceeded to load the wounded Wright in one and the plunder taken from the vast plantation in the others. Capt. Wright was deposited for safe keeping several miles from Argyle with the widow Amanda Nash, a schoolteacher known to possess Indian sympathy. The horses and wagons were returned to Argyle the next day at dawn."

Shortly afterwards she married Captain Alexander MacRae of Wilmington. He moved to her Argyle Planation. He died in 1881 and was buried in Wilmington's Oakdale Cemetery beside his first wife.

William S. Powell recounts her later years in his Dictionary of North Carolina Biography "Already reputed as capable of training the young, Mrs. MacRae had been responsible for teaching many of her young relatives and neighbors. After the death of her second husband, her teaching and missionary work spread throughout the region. A Presbyterian, she began a campaign to organize missionary societies for the women of the Fayetteville Presbytery. Her own minister, Dr. D. H. Hill, encouraged her in her work, but this was not true of a majority of his fellow ministers. Mrs. MacRae faced



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opposition from the men and a lack of interest among the women. She refused to be deterred, however. At her own expense she visited all the churches of the presbytery scattered over eight large, sparsely populated counties. Since railroads were not always available, she traveled most often by horse and buggy. If no one came to a meeting, she scheduled another one for a later time. Gradually she wore down resistance, and the Missionary Union grew. When she was seventy, she traveled eight hundred miles to visit fifty-three communities, and by the end of 1896 she had traveled a total of nearly six thousand miles, generally in an open buggy regardless of the weather.

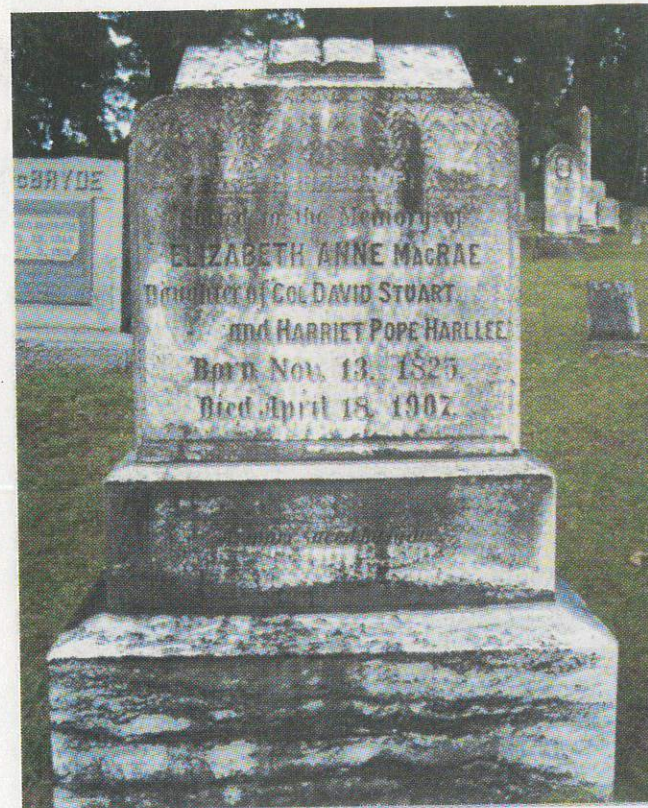
Meanwhile, Mrs. MacRae continued her teaching. Most of the year she taught in her home community, but she spent her summers teaching in the mountains. Once the success of her missionary societies was assured, she went out in search of a new career. In Banner Elk she established a school for poor mountain girls in a building that cost twenty-five dollars. She had no salary and no source of income. She had to battle suspicion as well as ignorance. She had no equipment or supplies, but she had faith. Mrs. MacRae taught academic subjects during the week and the Bible on Sunday. Her work attracted the attention of Mrs. S. P. Lees, who gave generously in support of the school. From it was established the present-day Lees-McRae College.

During a five-year terminal illness Mrs. MacRae lived with her stepdaughter, Mrs. J. F. Payne of Wilmington. She passed away at the age of eighty-three and was buried at Centre Church Cemetery, Maxton beside her husband and son.

#### Editor's Note About Author:

Growing up in North Carolina, Blake Tyner was surrounded by history and great Southern cooking, spending countless hours with his great-grandparents. The busy kitchen and large family dinners gave a perfect settling for hearing about the people of the past. As he learned the history of the area and her citizens, he developed a craving to bring the people of the past alive and share their stories.

He has published four books as well as numerous articles in regional newspapers and magazines. He served as Executive Director of the Maxton Historical Society and the Robeson County History Museum. More of his writings and projects can be found at [blaketyner.com](http://blaketyner.com).



Elizabeth MacRae's tombstone

## MR. P'S SKATEWORLD

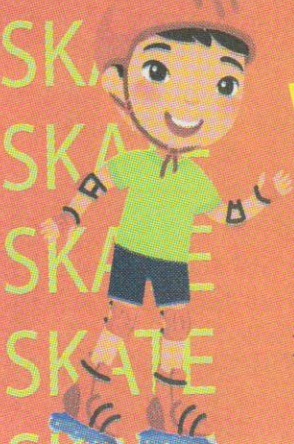
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# No Fawns for Harnett and Robeson Counties This Year!



Wildlife rehabilitation is a little different this year for several counties across North Carolina. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) has instructed eighteen counties, including Harnett and Robeson, not to take in fawns this year. The decision was made following a confirmed case of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in a deer in Cumberland County within the last year. Per the NCWRC, "CWD is caused by abnormal prion proteins, which are extremely difficult to destroy and can remain infectious for decades after an area has been contaminated with them." It can pass from one deer to another by direct contact or even environmental contamination such as through contaminated water or soil. It is easily spread through saliva, urine, feces of live deer, blood, carcasses, and body parts. It is possible for fawns to become infected before they are born if the mother is infected. Once a deer has been infected with the disease it can take over a year before the deer shows visible signs of illness and is fatal as there is currently no cure for the disease. There are also no vaccines for the illness and no way to test for it while the deer is alive. Per the Center for Disease Control (CDC), there are currently no known cases of CWD being spread to humans.

Not only are licensed fawn rehabilitators in our area having to stop the intake of fawns, but also those wildlife rehabilitators that take in fawns and help get them to a licensed fawn rehabilitator. Deer will not be allowed to be transported across the county lines of those areas considered to be under surveillance. This includes deer that have been hunted. Only boned out

meat, cleaned skull caps, and finished taxidermy can be moved outside of the surveillance areas. The NCWRC has designated primary surveillance counties as Cumberland, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin while secondary surveillance counties are Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Bladen, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Iredell, Robeson, Rockingham, and Sampson. A Wild Life encourages deer hunters to look out for updates to NCWRC rules and regulations regarding deer hunting for upcoming seasons.

A Wild Life would like to stress to the public that these rules not only apply to wildlife rehabilitators, but to the public as well. Therefore, if you find a fawn in any of these counties listed that you feel needs assistance, you should call the NCWRC wildlife helpline at 866-318-2401 (Monday-Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm). Wildlife biologists can be reached at this number and are ready to assist the public. Wildlife officers can be found by visiting [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) and searching for Law Enforcement. Folks are always welcome to call A Wild Life. We can also help you find the wildlife officer for your area. Do not try to raise the fawn yourself as it is illegal and increases the risk of spreading the disease.

During this time, we would especially like to remind everyone that if you find a baby deer alone it does not necessarily mean it needs help. It is normal deer behavior for mother deer to leave their babies while they go to forage. The mother will return to the babies to nurse them and relocate them to another area. It can be up to twelve hours that a fawn is left alone. Please do not hesitate to call the NCWRC or A Wild Life if you have any questions about a fawn that you have found.

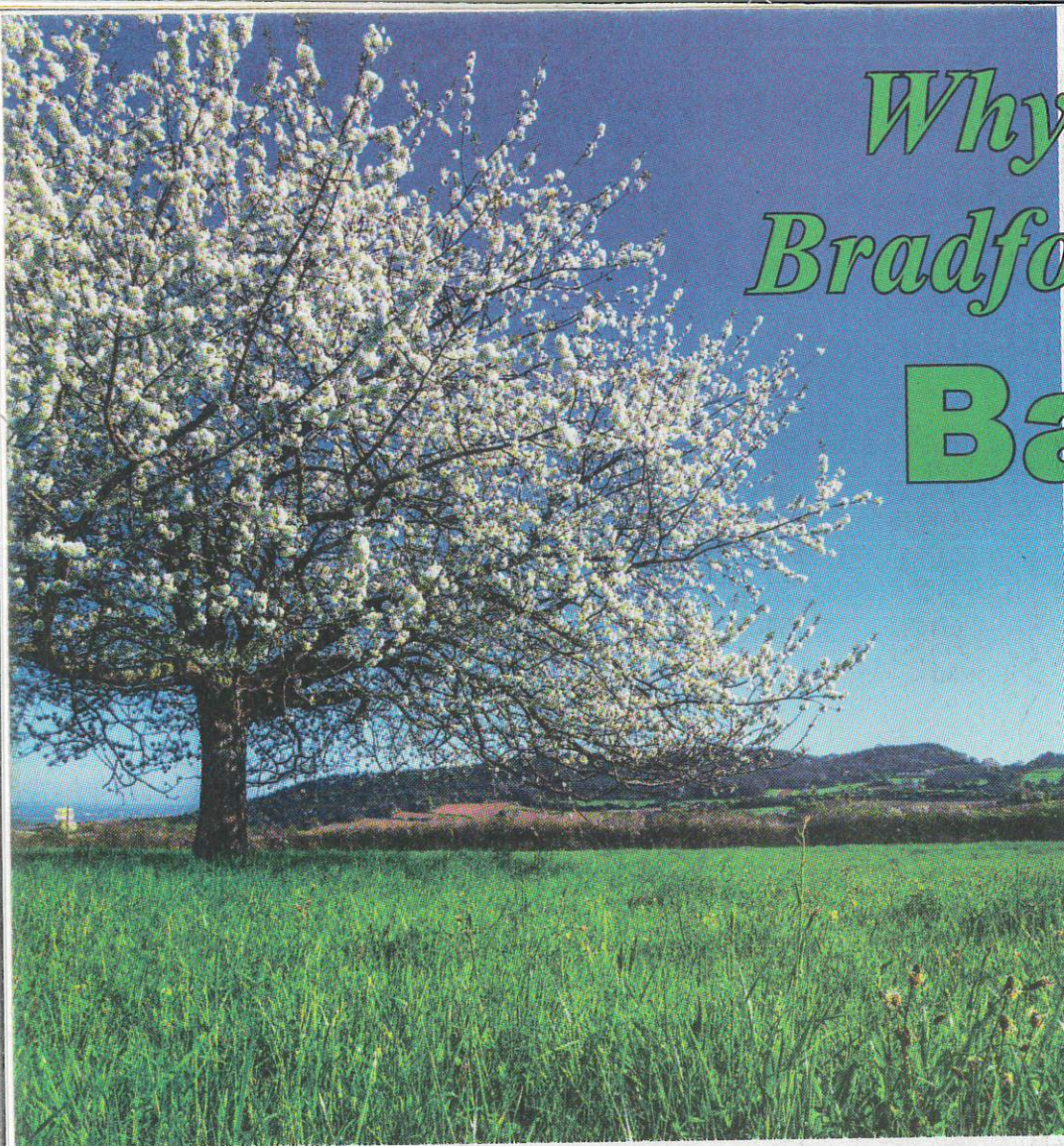
A Wild Life will continue to take in other wild animals that are sick, injured, or orphaned so please continue to contact us with any wildlife questions or concerns.

#### A Wild Life Contact and Donation Information

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[www.rehabawildlife.org](http://www.rehabawildlife.org)  
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# Why are Bradford's so Bad?



By Mack Johnson,  
Extension Horticultural  
Agent

You have all heard the saying, hindsight is 20/20. Case in point, here is another example of introducing a plant and decades later, realize it was a disastrous decision. The Bradford pear was introduced to help fight fire blight in our common pear trees. The Bradford pear is a clone that has been grafted onto callery pear rootstock. It quickly gained popularity as a landscape tree, offering extra-early bloom in the spring – emerald green foliage and brilliant scarlet red fall color. It is a fast grower, gaining up to 2–feet a year, and highly adaptable. Of course there are always some drawbacks, which surfaced fairly soon.

The beautiful blooms STINK! Not only do they stink, but are often compared to the smell of rotting fish. Fast growth usually means weak wood, and Bradfords are notorious for narrow angles where the limbs attach to the trunk. This translates into trees that will break very easy in the smallest storm, or even under its own weight. So now the problem compounds into even worse news.

The Bradford did produce seeds that were small and sterile, another plus. Unfortunately, if a sprout grows from the callery pear rootstock, or if another pear tree is in the general vicinity and blooms, then the Bradford blooms can be pollinated and become viable seed.

The seed is distributed by birds and small mammals dining on the now-fertile fruits of the tree. These seed germinate easily and give rise to callery pear. Callery pear blooms extra early like the Bradford, still stinks, grows rapidly, produces fertile seed, and leafs out earlier than our native flora. The callery can quickly be identified by the 2 – to 4-inch thorns present on the branches. These thorns have been reported to be able to puncture a tractor tire. This tree can quickly produce thickets, invading pastures, open woodlands, grasslands, hedgerows, and ditch banks.

Current research by several universities, including NC State University, is showing these callery pears are cre-

ating ecological deserts and displacing our native flora. A short ride through the countryside or local town during bloom reveals the extent of this invasion. By leafing out earlier than our natives, it is shading them out and becoming the dominant species. There are over 500 species of caterpillars that feed on our oak and maple trees, but absolutely none feed on callery pear. Most wild birds, if not all, raise their young on caterpillars; no caterpillars equals no birds. We are now seeing serious disruptions in our natural ecology.

So what can we do? I am sure some may not like this answer, but we must remove the culprit from our landscape. Several states like South Carolina and Pennsylvania have banned the sale of Bradfords; some are offering a bounty for them, willing to give you a native tree in exchange for pictures showing the removal of a Bradford from your yard. Once we become aware of the problem, I hope we can appreciate the seriousness of this and voluntarily remove these menacing trees. There are some chemical herbicides we can treat the trees and stumps with to kill the vigorous root system that resprouts easily. Triclopyr and glyphosate are

two that, when applied to a freshly cut stump, will stop growth.

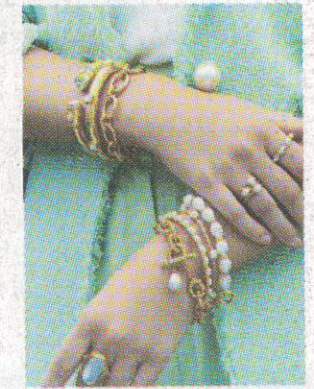
For more information, contact Mack Johnson, Extension Horticultural Agent, at 910-671-3276, by Email at [Mack\\_Johnson@ncsu.edu](mailto:Mack_Johnson@ncsu.edu), or visit our website at <http://roberson.ces.ncsu.edu/>.



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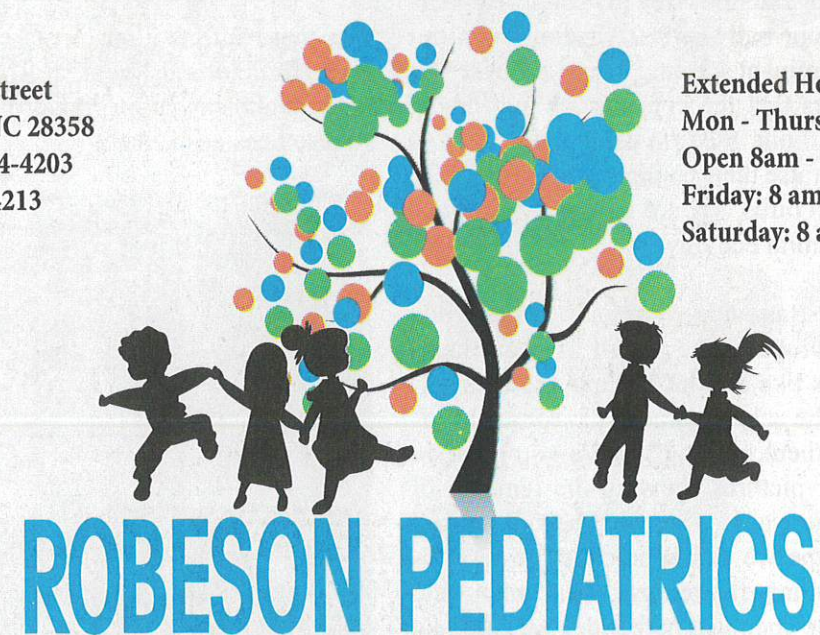
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Robeson County DSS

# Adoption & Foster Care PROGRAM



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## FOSTER A CHILD

- The minimum age to become a foster parent is 21.
- You can foster if you're single, married, divorced or widowed; own or rent; have parenting experience or none at all; already have children in your home or not.
- Like adoptive applicants, foster applicants will be finger printed and have a criminal record check completed.
- You will need to complete all required training and be licensed as a foster parent. To do this, you will need to attend 30 hours of preparatory training called "Trauma-Informed Partnering for Safety and Performance/Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting" (TIPS-MAPP). Many other families, like yourself, will also participate in the classes, and you will be able to learn from each others experiences.
- Have a stable home and income.
- Maintain a drug free environment.

## ADOPT A CHILD ADOPTION REQUIREMENTS

- You must be at least 18 to become an adoptive parent.
- You can adopt if you are single, married, divorced or widowed; own or rent; have parenting experience or none at all; already have children in your home or not.
- Adoptive applicants will be finger printed and have a criminal record check completed.
- While State law does not specify the number of training hours to become an adoptive parent, most adoption agencies provide training to those who want to be foster or adoptive parents.

## CHILDREN WAITING FOR ADOPTION INCLUDE:

- Children with special needs, such as physical, mental and emotional disabilities.
- Sibling groups and teenagers
- Minority children



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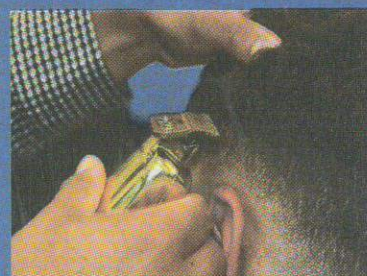
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## Student Testimonials



When was the last time you visited Robeson Community College's COMtech Campus in Pembroke? It might be time for a second look. There are many exciting things happening at COMtech. Several new short-term training programs have been launched recently, including esthetician, nail technician, and natural hair care. Other programs, such as the Barbering, Massage Therapy, and Nursing Assistance I program continue to thrive and grow. These continuing education programs give students an opportunity to learn through hands-on training that will prepare them for a career they are passionate about and become job ready upon completion.

***"After I finish barber school, I plan on opening my own business in the Hair Mecca of the World - Atlanta, Georgia," said Jerel Preston, a barber student. "I know completing this program will get me there... this is going to make a better life for me and my family, instantly."***

***"I just want to help people, and I wanted to get into the healthcare field, massage therapy allows me to do both," Allie Dryman, a massage therapy student said.***

***"This is a great opportunity. I'm glad that I discovered Robeson Community College when I did."***



***"I am a stay-at-home mom and with my child starting school, that gave me an opportunity to do this," said Brittany Barnette, an Esthetician student. "I hesitated in the beginning, but you shouldn't. This program is helping me learn how to better care for my own skin and eventually be able to start my own spa business one day."***

Many of the programs at COMtech are designed with flexibility in mind, allowing the student to enjoy the ability to continue to work and go to school simultaneously. COMtech also offers the Adult High School and High School Equivalency classes for those seeking to complete a high school diploma.

Short-term training leads to long term careers. Check us out at [www.robeson.edu/comtech](http://www.robeson.edu/comtech) and discover a program that help you reach your goals and put you on the pathway to success.



# Wee Farm Learning Center

4530 NC Hwy 211 East, Lumberton  
910-738-6070

## Why choose Wee Farm for your preschooler?

*We are diverse! Children at Wee Farm learn how to interact and respect each other's differences while in a preschool educational setting.*



Both English and Spanish are written and spoken by bilingual staff at Wee Farm, and children are taught both English and Spanish  
**HABLAMOS ESPANOL**

### Testimonials

*"Not only is she (grandchild) taught academics, but she is exposed to daily living skills such as feeding animals and growing food. Great exposure for the future!"*

-LL

*"They (Wee Farm staff) taught my son great language skills! They will work with you (families). It has been a great experience for me and my son, and I couldn't thank them enough. Amazing staff!"*

-AJ

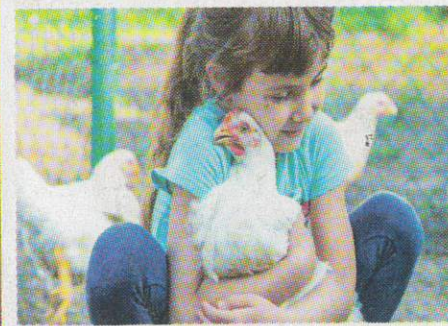
*"The main thing I like about Wee Farm is the communication of the teachers with the parents and also that my daughter learned a lot. It is a very pleasant and healthy environment. That's why I give them FIVE stars!!"*

-SB

*"I recommend Wee Farm because they help children learn how to write their names, take them out for walks in nature to see the animals, teach them good manners and to respect others. The teachers are a blessing and, above all, they treat the children well. My child is very happy to go to Wee Farm."*

-AC

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Wee Farmers take nature walks around the fields and pastures, observe chickens and other fowl in their chicken coop, and interact with our miniature horses.



Wee Farm is located on a farm on Hwy 211 East in Lumberton. Preschoolers are taught not only in a classroom environment, but also outdoors in nature.



Children learn how to plant!! They plant various kinds of vegetables and flowers throughout the year in their own gardens. Wee Farmers visit Farm & Family Center, a feed & seed store located next door, to pick out the seeds they want to grow and then plant them in gardens located on the playground. They are able to watch the growing process from start to finish!

Wee Farm Learning Center has attained the highest rating for a preschool classroom in Robeson County! Teachers in this 5-star center are "multi-years" experienced in preschool education, have Bachelor of Science degrees in early childhood education, and hold current NC DPI Educator Licenses in early childhood and elementary education.



Wee Farm accepts private pay, subsidy vouchers, and even offers a free preschool program for eligible four-year-olds!! To learn more, please call us at 910-738-6070!!

**We are now accepting applications for the  
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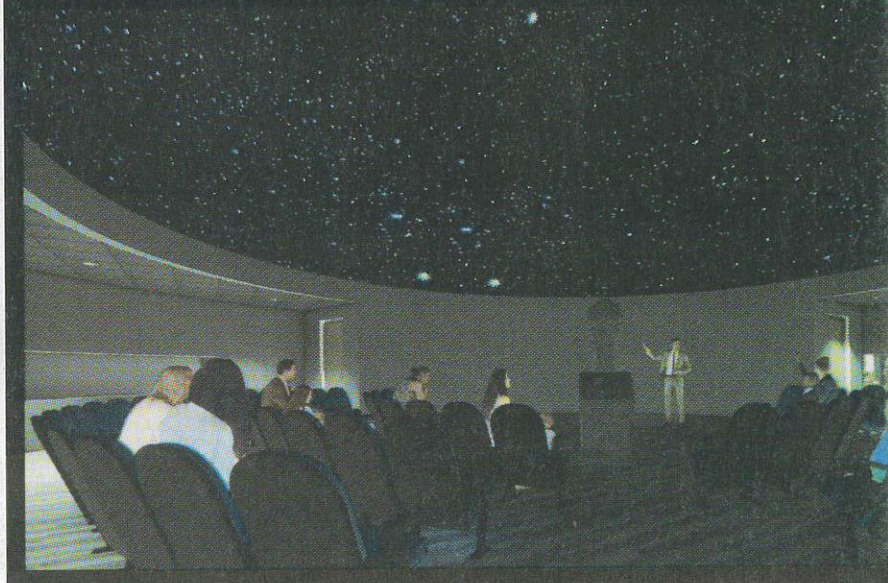
# Reaching for the Stars Through Technical Education and a New Planetarium at COMtech



A primary focus of COMtech since its inception has been education. While the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and Robeson Community College have had a presence on the COMtech site for many years offering a variety of educational programs, workforce development opportunities, meeting space, as well as cutting edge research the other education partner, the Public Schools of Robeson County has yet to bring the plan of a Career and Technology Education High School to life.

But all of that is about to change! Sometime during July or August work will begin on the Public Schools of Robeson County's new Career and Technology Education High School which will also house the new Planetarium. The previous planetarium was destroyed during the flooding that was caused by Hurricane Matthew in 2016. This new state of the art building designed by the architecture firm SFL+a which designs many of the newest educational facilities in the region is set to be completed for the Fall of 2025.

Statistics show that in the United States we are rapidly heading toward a shortage of qualified technicians and workers skilled in the maintenance of equipment, especially in the area of manufacturing. As we continue to rapidly move toward more reliance on robotics in the manufacturing process and more technologically advanced ways of bringing products to market having the ability to help develop a workforce that can be productive in the design, production, and maintenance of



this new generation of machinery is paramount to the success of our local economy in the future.

But it's not just the products and machinery on the cutting edge in the world today that we need to focus on helping to educate the next generation of workers for. We are facing a workforce shortage in many of the products and services we rely on daily as well. The plumbing and electrical trades as well as automotive repair, welding, and general construction are all areas facing challenging workforce shortages today and in the future. This new state of the art learning center on the grounds of COMtech along with the educational facilities already in place at Robeson Community College's satellite campus here, along with the UNCP Center for Regional Initiatives makes COMtech a rich ground for educating the workforce of tomorrow today.

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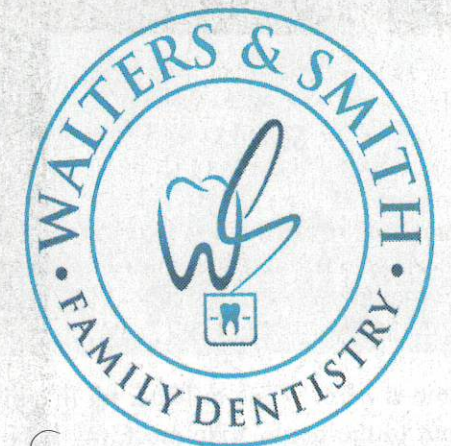
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# Just Keep Swimming

By Dr. Ryan N. Beck, DC, QNCP



Summer time is here! Time to lather up in sunscreen and head out to the pool. Like most, my kids prefer to spend their entire summer break playing in the water. So while we are out there I like to use our time as an opportunity to get in a little exercise for them and myself. They think we are just playing but really we are engaging in one of the best physical activities while having fun.

Swimming is a great physical activity for people of all ages and fitness levels. It gives the body a complete workout and has many physical and mental advantages. It is one of the few sports you can do from a young age all the way up to your 90s and beyond. It is recommended that adults get at least 150 minutes per week of moderate intensity aerobic activity or 75 minutes of vigorous aerobic activity. Children ages 6-17 years old should be physically active for at least 60 minutes per day.

Swimming is a full body workout that incorporates

nearly every major muscle group while increasing heart rate without putting stress on the body. Swimming does not put excess strain on a person's joints so someone with arthritis or a joint injury can exercise without discomfort. It can improve strength, tone muscles, enhance endurance and help manage weight. It can also help regulate blood sugar, improve sleep, boost your mood and help manage stress all while reducing the risk of heart disease.

A recent study noted that after taking into account for age, body mass index, smoking status, alcohol intake and family history of cardiovascular disease, swimmers had a 53% lower all-cause mortality rate than men who were sedentary, a 50% lower rate than walkers, and a 49% lower rate than runners.

Speaking of running, you can burn more calories swimming laps in the pool for an hour than you can running laps. One hour of vigorous laps can burn as much as 715 calories while the same amount of time running at 5mph

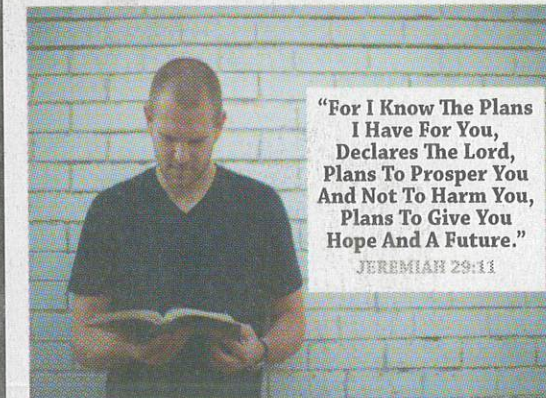
burns only 606.

Swimming is safe for most people. But like any workout, there are certain risks. If you are injured or have certain medical conditions, make sure to check with your physician before you start any new physical activity including swimming.

Other swim safety tips include having a "buddy" if there is no life guard present. Drink lots of water, even if you aren't thirsty because even though you may feel cool from the water you can still get dehydrated. And if you are swimming outside make sure to wear sunscreen of at least 15 SPF to protect your skin.

So while the kids are playing this summer, hop in the pool and get a few laps in. It's great for your body and mind. And it might even help you get a better nights rest! As always the doctors at Beck & Blackley Chiropractic Clinic can be reached at (910) 739-5751 with any questions.

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Pastor David Chestnutt 910-549-8130 [bchestnutt@liberty.edu](mailto:bchestnutt@liberty.edu)  
Office: 910-532-2175 Email: [opendooraddictioncenter@gmail.com](mailto:opendooraddictioncenter@gmail.com)  
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# BOMBS BURSTING IN AIR

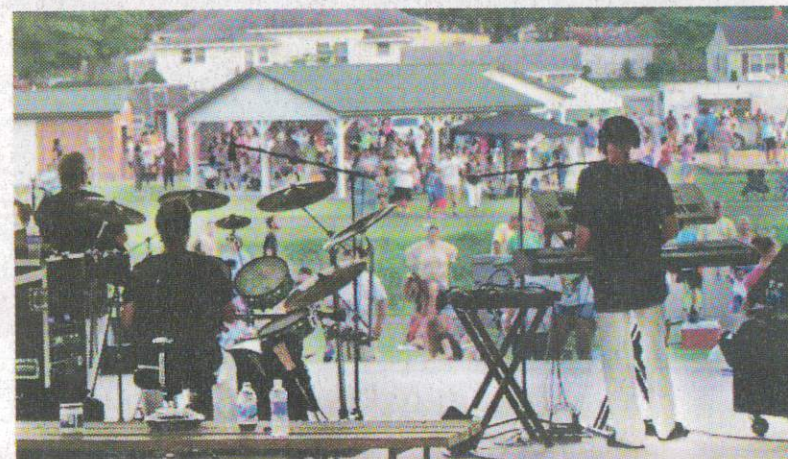
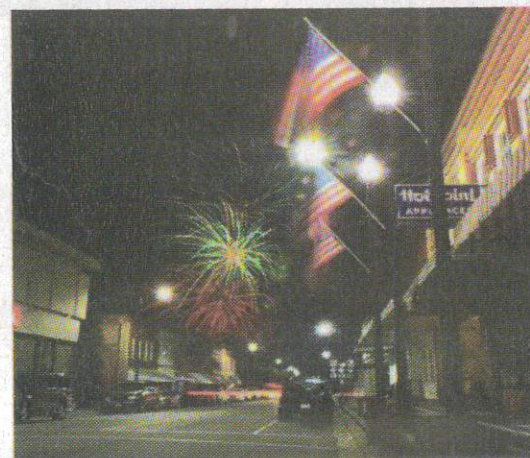
By Mayor Charles Kemp

What started out in 2007 as a plan to get the community together for a few fireworks and a local band has blossomed 16 years later into a huge and much anticipated summer fireworks extravaganza complete with a pop music band, plenty to eat and drink, and a 25 minute grand finale fireworks show. The last Sunday in June was selected for the original event and, with the exception of 2020's cancellation due to the COVID virus issue, calendars are marked well in advance by thousands who eagerly look forward to its arrival. It is no exaggeration for the number of spectators to have reached several thousand in attendance making Fairmont's Fantastic Fourth the premier July 4th event in our county. After the 2020 cancellation due to Covid the attendance at both 2021 and 2022 have produced greater crowds.

One way to liven up an outdoor crowd is with music and dancing and Fairmont's Fourth provides a great opportunity for both. Starting around 6:30 p.m. the Pizazz Band will play for three hours under the FDC park pavilion to crowds arrayed before them sitting in chairs or

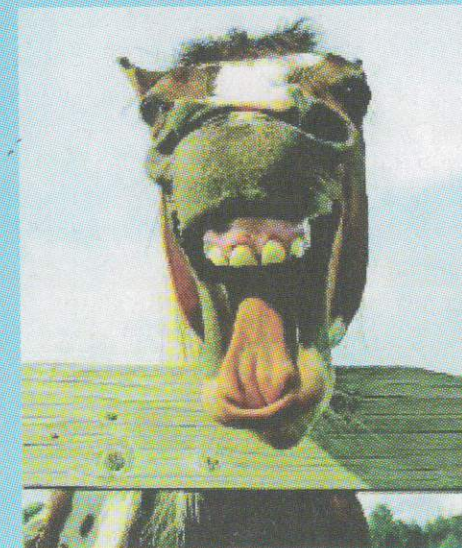
on the grass. Dancing is encouraged on the paved dance pad in front of the pavilion. Food and drink concession trailers are on hand to provide refreshments to the spectators. Parents of small children can be comforted by playground equipment in the park for their children to play on. AND THEN, at 9:30 the ebony sky will be illuminated by a huge fireworks display which lasts about 25 minutes and concludes with an array of patriotic music and a heart thumping finale. Sunday July 2nd can't here quickly enough for those who want to socialize outdoors with many friends and family members.

The Pizazz Band joins the long list of former beach and pop music bands such as Gold Rush, Too Much Sylvia, and Spare Change all who have treated spectators to great music and lots of dancing fun. Mark your calendars now and plan to spend Sunday evening July 2nd at Fairmont Community Park on South Main Street for the 16th annual FAIRMONT'S FANTASTIC FOURTH. You don't want to miss it.



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By Mack Johnson,  
Extension Horticultural Agent



## Rose Culture

Sooner or later, most home gardeners think about growing roses. Roses are available in almost any color imaginable and are suited to a number of sites. They can be mass planted in beds, used as specimen or trained plants, planted as screens or hedges, or located near fences or arbors and allowed to climb. Several miniature cultivars can even be used as a ground cover or as edging material. The most common classifications of modern roses today are hybrid tea, floribunda, grandiflora, climber, miniature, and shrub roses. These descended, in part, from eight species of roses which came to Europe from Asia in the 16th century. They became the

modern hybrids, principally because they were able to bloom repeatedly throughout the growing season. Most of the other species only bloom once, in June or July.

Roses should be planted where they receive 6-8 hours of full sunlight each day. The ideal site is one which offers full sun early in the morning, and late-afternoon shade. This will allow foliage and buds to dry early in the day, which will discourage diseases. Shade in the afternoon will encourage the development of good flower color. The area should be open, allowing for good air circulation.

Just about any soil will require either physical or chemical amendments before planting. Roses require good drainage. To provide this characteristic, it might be necessary to prepare a 'raised bed.' Since roses are expected to last several years, one should take extra time and effort in bed preparation. The soil should be tilled to a depth of 8-16 inches with lime added to adjust the pH up to the 5.5 or 6 range. Organic matter such as decayed sawdust, pine bark, compost, or manure may be added to soils to improve the tilth.

For best results planting should be done in the early spring or in the fall. If individual roses are to be planted, the hole should be large enough so roots can be spread out in the hole. A good plant will require a hole 12 inches deep and 18 inches wide. Broken roots should be pruned and the top portion cut back to 5-7 inches. Before putting soil back around the roots, be sure roots are loose and not pot bound. The backfill should contain native soil and not just prepared media. Roots will then grow out into the native soil and provide a better moisture relationship. Plants should be mounded slightly higher than "grade level." The soil should be tamped down to eliminate any air pockets. Watering during planting will also aid in this step.

As in any landscape planting, mulch will provide aid during stressful periods. Holding moisture, discouraging weeds, and preventing soil crusting are a few added benefits of a 3- to 4-inch layer of organic matter. Disease problems can be decreased if the mulch is replaced each spring.

A tendency for many new rose growers is to over-fertilize newly planted roses. Generally speaking, a commercial grade 10-10-10 or 8-8-8 fertilizer at the rate of 2-3 pounds per 100 square feet is adequate. This can be applied in two applications early in the growing season. The addition of cow manure as a supplement is also advised. When the buds begin to form, apply another application of 10-10-10 or equivalent at the rate of 1-2 lbs/100 square feet. Repeat this application every four weeks until mid-August.

When rose plants don't get a weekly soaking by natural rainfall, supplemental irrigation will be necessary. An excellent system would be the soaker hose. This provides moisture to the root system while keeping foliage dry. If an overhead system is used, a morning irrigation would be recommended as the foliage would have time to dry and lessen the possibilities of black spot or pow-

dery mildew infections.

Pruning could be one of the most important and necessary steps in growing roses. Correct pruning will improve the overall shape; promote new, healthier growth; and eliminate dead, broken, or diseased canes. Most of the pruning should be done in the spring, just as the buds break dormancy. The most important thing is to look at the buds. The gardener who prunes too early will gamble future growth to frost, and one who prunes too late will have a plant weakened by loss of sap. So watch for the buds: when they begin to swell, go ahead and prune. The height of the plant can be controlled by pruning. Pruning cuts should be clean and at a slant. The wood should be removed about 1/4 inch above an outside bud. Periodically dip the pruning shears in a 70 percent alcohol solution to decrease spread of disease organisms. Pruning diseased canes should be done as soon as necessary.

Adapted from Roses for North Carolina; Horticulture Information Leaflet

For more information, contact Mack Johnson, Extension Horticultural Agent, at 910-671-3276, by Email at [Mack\\_Johnson@ncsu.edu](mailto:Mack_Johnson@ncsu.edu), or visit our website at <http://robeson.ces.ncsu.edu/>.



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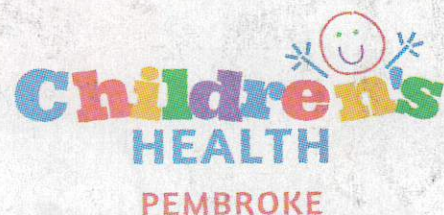
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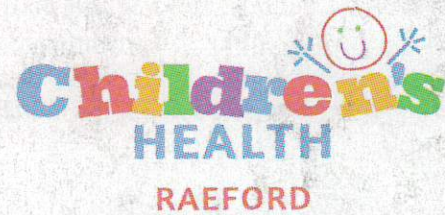
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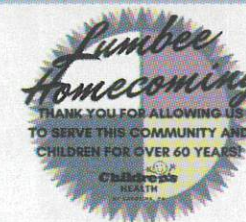


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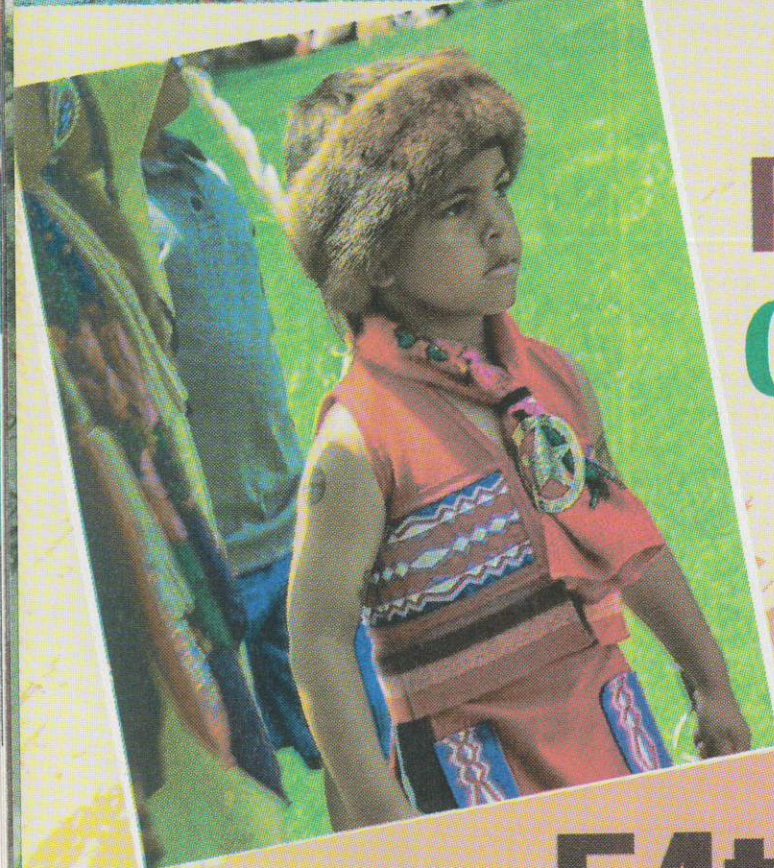
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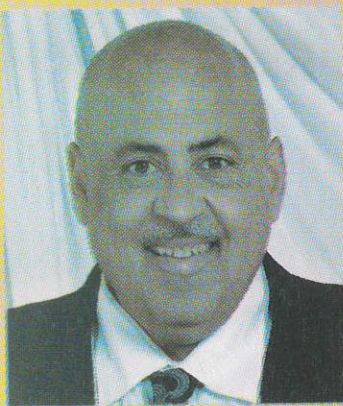




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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS \*indicates new event added

For more information visit  
[www.lumbee.org/lumbeehomecoming](http://www.lumbee.org/lumbeehomecoming)

### FRIDAY JUNE 23, 2023

6:30 p.m. – **Senior Miss Lumbee Pageant** – UNCP/Given's Performing Arts Center, Pembroke (sponsored by Lumbee Tribe of NC)

### SATURDAY JUNE 24, 2023

6:00 p.m. – **Lumbee Warrior's Association Veteran's Military Ball** – Southeastern Agricultural Center, Lumberton, NC

### TUESDAY JUNE 27, 2023

12:00 p.m. – **Lumbee Elder's Luncheon** – Southeastern Agricultural Center, Lumberton, NC

### THURSDAY JUNE 29, 2023

5:00 p.m. – **Lumbee Games – Home Run Derby** – Lumberton High School – Contact Person: O.T. Johnson @ 910-775-4116 \*

### FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2023

5:00 p.m.- 7:00 pm – **Business After Hours** (sponsored by Pembroke Area Chamber of Commerce) Museum of the Southeast-American Indian – Old Main, UNC Pembroke

### SATURDAY JULY 1, 2023

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

9:00 a.m. – **Tee Off – Annual Lumbee Homecoming Golf Classic** – Pinecrest Country Club – Sponsored by Pembroke TrueValue Hardware

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Games – Wrestling** – UNCP Auxiliary Gym – Contact Person: O.T. Johnson @ 910-775-4116

11:00 a.m. – **Miss Lumbee Legacy Luncheon** (BY INVITATION ONLY) – Chancellor's Residence

11:00 a.m. – **Wing Warrior Competition** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC \*

6:30 p.m. – **Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina Gala** – 402 Event Center, 402 Pine Street, Lumberton – Sponsored by LTNC

### SUNDAY JULY 2, 2023

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

3:00 p.m. – **Ambassador's Farewell Tea** (BY INVITATION ONLY) Berea Baptist Church, Pembroke, NC

6:30 p.m. – **Annual Lumbee Homecoming Gospel Sing** – The Rock Church of God, 2209 Carthage Road, Lumberton, NC 28360

### MONDAY JULY 3, 2023

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

5:00 p.m. – **Lumbee Games – Swimming** – UNCP Aquatics Facility – Contact Person: Oscar Roverato @ 910-775-4629

6:30 p.m. – **Little and Junior Miss Lumbee Pageant** – UNCP/Givens Performing Arts Center, Pembroke, NC

### TUESDAY JULY 4, 2023

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

### WEDNESDAY JULY 5, 2023

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

### THURSDAY JULY 6, 2023

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market Setup** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

5:00 p.m. – **Lumbee Games – Tennis** – UNCP Aquatics Facility – Contact Person: Tony Chavis @ 910-521-6808

6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. – **Summer Jam Outdoor Concert** – Milton R. Hunt Memorial Park (sponsored by The Town of Pembroke)

6:30 p.m. – **State of the Tribe Address** – LTNC Boys & Girls Club, Pembroke, NC (sponsored by Lumbee Tribe of NC)

### FRIDAY JULY 7, 2023

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market Setup** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Games – Basketball (3 on 3)** – UNCP Auxiliary Gym – Contact Person: Tony Chavis @ 910-521-6808

6:30 p.m. – **Teen and Miss Lumbee Pageant** – UNCP/Givens Performing Arts Center

### SATURDAY JULY 8, 2023

6:30 a.m. – **5K Run/Walk** – Southeastern Fitness Center, Pembroke – Run/Walk (coordinated by Kiwanis Club of Pembroke)

9:00 a.m. – **Lumbee Outdoor Market Setup** – Next to the LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC

9:45 a.m. – **All Veteran Parachute Team Sky Show** – Landing site Milton R. Hunt Park, Pembroke, NC

10:00 a.m. – **Annual LRDA Lumbee Homecoming Parade** – West Third Street, Pembroke, NC

11:00 a.m. – **Vintage Car Show** – UNCP Annex Building Parking Lot – Contact Mr. Buddy Dial @ (910) 733-5000

12:00 p.m. – **AISES Pow-Wow** – UNCP Quad Area (sponsored by American Indian Science and Engineering Society of UNCP)

12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. – **Ring Wars Pro Wrestling** – this is a free event. LRDA Complex Grounds, 636 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC \*

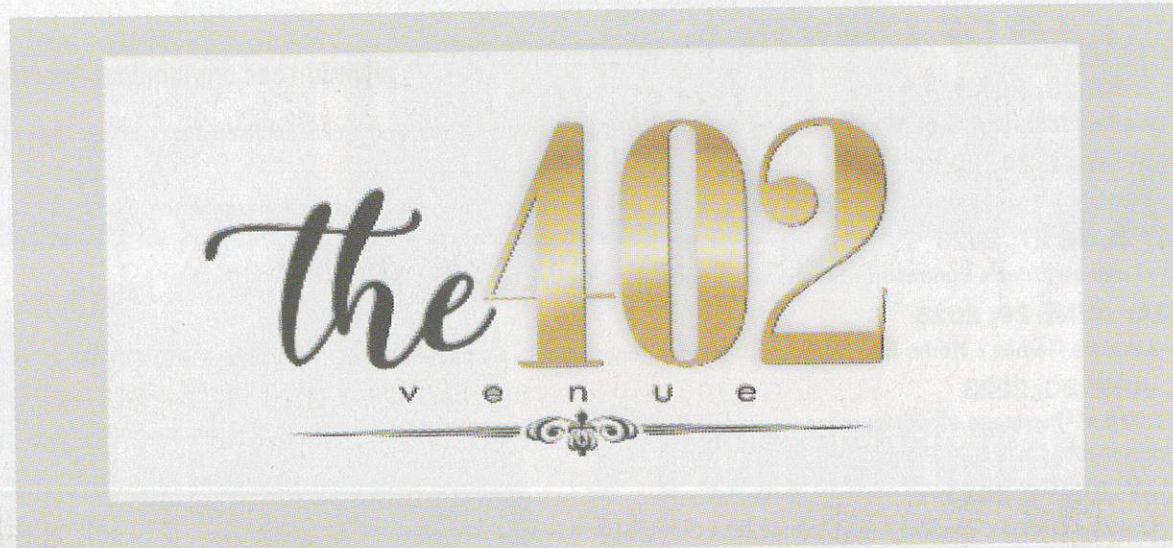
1:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. – **Audio/Bike Show** – UNCP Thomas School of Business Parking Lot – Contact: Mr. Lee Maynor @ (910) 536-5319

3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. – **Lumbee Games – Corn Hole Tournament** – UNCP Auxiliary Gym

5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – **LRDA Annual Outdoor Gospel Sing** – in front of the LRDA Complex Building

9:30 p.m. – **Annual Lumbee Fireworks Sky Show** – LRDA Complex, 636 Prospect Road – Sponsored by Town of Pembroke





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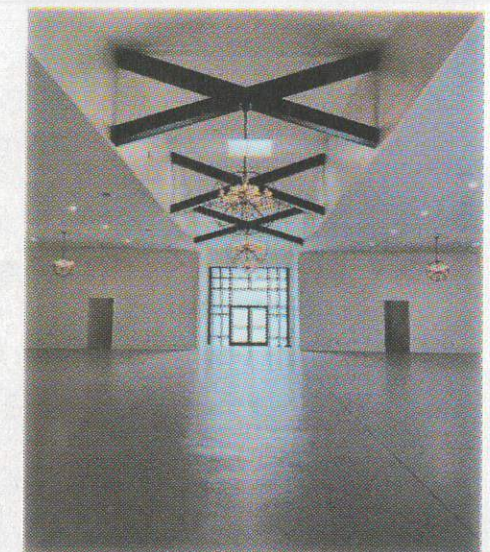
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# Grand Marshall

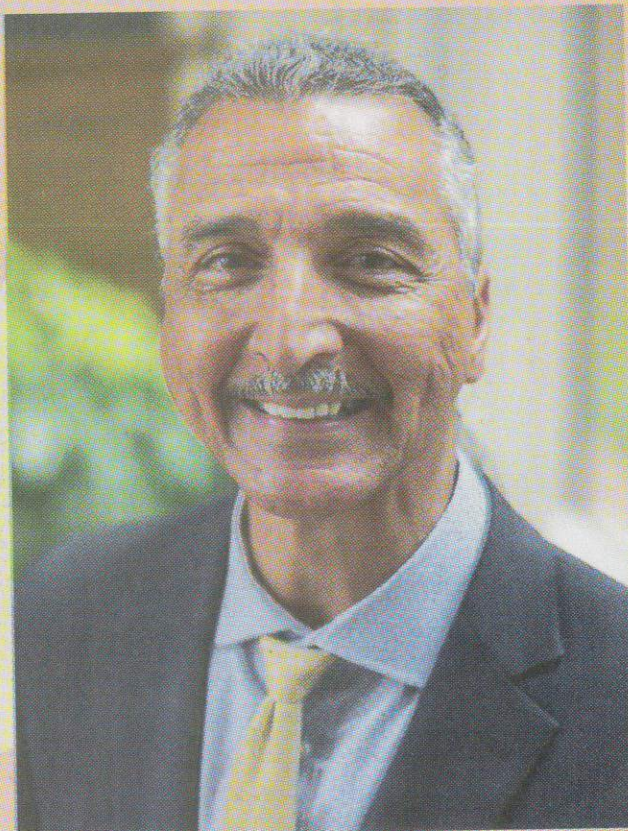
**JOSEPH BELL**

Joseph Bell, MD (Lumbee) is the son of Sarah Sampson Bell and the late James (Buddy) Bell and grandson of the late Furman and Maggie Bell and the late Stanley and Eunice Sampson. Dr. Bell is the brother of Judge James Gregory Bell and Dr. Ronny A. Bell.

He has been married to Vicki Bell for the past 34 years. They have two children, Tori Alvarado (husband David) and Isaac Bell (wife Peyton) and two grandchildren, Elena and Luca. He grew up in Pembroke and graduated from Pembroke Senior High School in 1977. He then went to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and became the first Lumbee to play on the UNC Junior Varsity basketball team. As an undergraduate, he served as President of the Carolina Indian Circle. Dr. Bell graduated from the UNC School of Pharmacy and the UNC School of Medicine in 1986.

After finishing his Pediatric residency at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, he became the first Lumbee Pediatrician and the first Native American Pediatrician in North Carolina. He worked at Carl Albert Indian Hospital and Choctaw Nation Indian Hospital in Oklahoma for four years. He returned to Robeson County and worked for Robeson Health Care Corporation as a Pediatrician and Medical Director.

Dr. Bell has worked as a contract Pediatrician on the Catawba Indian Reservation for 24 years. He helped open Pembroke Pediatrics, a clinic of Children's Health of Carolina, in 1998. He served as medical director for 23 years. Presently, he works as a staff Pediatrician at Children's Health Pembroke (formerly Pembroke Pediatrics) and managing partner for Children's Health of Carolina.



Dr. Bell has served on the North Carolina Pediatric Society's Board. He is a member and past President of the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP), founding board member of the North Carolina American Indian Health Board and the AAIP Liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Native American Child Health (CONACH).

His awards include the AAIP Indian Physician of the Year Award, the AAP Native American Child Advocacy Award, the Physician Assistant Educational Association's Teacher of the Year Award and the North Carolina Pediatric Society's Dave Tayloe Sr. Award. Dr. Bell is extremely honored to be serving as Grand Marshall of the Lumbee Homecoming parade this year.

*Congratulations  
Joseph  
From Your Family*



Mom: Sarah Bell  
Honorable James Gregory Bell and Family  
Dr. Ronny Bell and Family

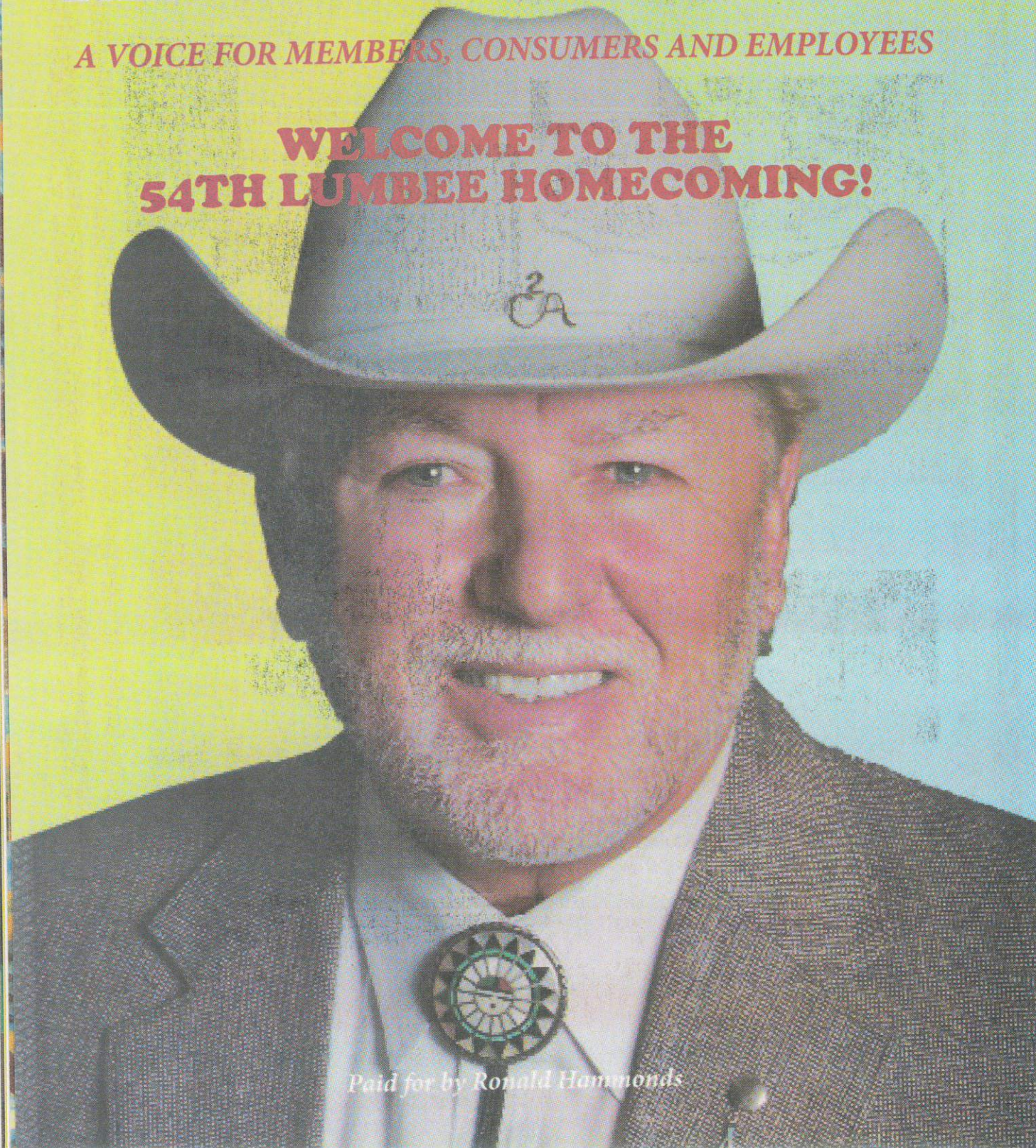


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# Miss Lumbee 2022



**Mahlea Celeste Hunt**

Countless blessings, endless gratitude, and unwavering purpose—these are the gifts my God has bestowed upon me throughout this year, leading and guiding me in every possible way. Though this year has presented its challenges, I have found it to be a fruitful journey, where I have humbly walked hand in hand with the Father, trusting in His divine guidance. *Proverbs 31:25-26 (NIV)* beautifully encapsulates this experience: "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue."

As I stand here today, I first want to express my profound gratitude to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for His unwavering love and mercy. Without Him, I would not be the woman I am today, blessed with the opportunities that lie before me. God has also blessed me with an incredible support system of remarkable individuals, starting with my beloved Momma. Words cannot adequately express my love and appreciation for you. You have made countless sacrifices for me, and I cannot imagine my journey without your guidance and steadfast presence. To my Daddy, my Jim, thank you for being a pillar of strength, offering comfort in times of need and fervently praying for me. Your role in my life as a loving and faithful father has been invaluable. To my brother Tris, your unwavering support and love from across thousands of miles have been a true testament to the bond we share. I cherish you deeply.

And to my dear grandparents – Papa Gurney, Grandma Bessie, Pa Merle, and Grandma Bessie – I am forever grateful for your endless love, unwavering support, and invaluable wisdom. You are gems in my life, and I am honored to be your grandchild.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to my honorary Aunts Cheryl, Suzette, and Kachina. Your presence in my life is a tremendous blessing, and I cannot thank you enough for your unwavering support. I know Aunt Suzie is watching over us with a smile. A special thank you to my Uncle Terry as well for his support and love. To all my amazing aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended family, you have been there for me from day one, and for that, I am eternally grateful. Your love, support, and laughter have been a source of strength and joy throughout my journey.

Among the countless friends who have held my hand this year, there is one who stands out – my best friend Jenna. Your unwavering friendship and support have been a constant source of encouragement. I love you dearly, and I eagerly anticipate witnessing your journey as a compassionate and wonderful nurse. Cuddles are in order soon!

To Dakota Locklear and the Locklear family, my heart overflows with love and gratitude. Thank you for sharing your son with me and for supporting me throughout this year. Your presence has been a source of strength and encouragement.

To Devan and the Wake Forest family, thank you for your unwavering support. I am incredibly grateful for your patience and love. Being able to



represent the best college in the world as Miss Lumbee is an opportunity I will forever cherish. To the Class of 2023, our bond will endure. Go Deacs!

To Madison Davenport, Allison Mitchell, and Alexis Locklear, my former Miss Lumbees, your presence and support during the interview portion of the competition were invaluable. I love each of you dearly.

To Ms. Adrenna, Ms. Ranessa Kennedy, Ms. Cecily Maynor, Dr. Canida, Mr. Virgil, Mr. Horace Hunt, Ms. Ruth, Ms. Belinda Brewer, Ms. Tammy Maynor, Chairman John Lowery, Chancellor Cummings and Ms. Rebecca, Ms. Azalea Thomas, Ms. Demetrius, and Morgan, your contributions and support are deeply appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Ms. Keli Locklear and Nu Bella Salon, your support has meant the world to me. You are truly amazing.

To Kaya Littleturtle and the Warpaint family, thank you for your invaluable support. Kaya, the prayer you shared with me on the eve of the pageant was a true blessing. It helped calm my nerves and allowed my inner light to shine brightly.

Jakayleigh Lambert, my sweet princess, Little Miss Lumbee, your radiance is captivating. I have cherished our time together and getting to know you. From visiting the American Girl Doll store in NYC to napping with your pillow and blanket during UNCP's commencement ceremonies,

we've shared precious memories. I adore you and eagerly await witnessing your bright future. Remember to always be courageous and kind. The sky's the limit, little one!

Keely Noelle Deal, my TikTok queen, you keep me young. It has been a joy spending this year with you and sharing our sense of humor. I eagerly anticipate watching you navigate high school and beyond. Your angelic voice and golden heart will surely make you a star. Never

let anyone dim your sparkle, and always remember that you are more than enough. I love you, my Keels.

Anna Grace Hunt, my emotions overwhelm me as I write these words. God has truly blessed me with your presence in my life. I am immensely grateful to have gained a sister and future bridesmaid. I adore you! Thank you for being my companion throughout this year, knowing that I can always rely on you. I am excited to witness your growth and success in college. I am beyond proud of you. One memory that stands out is when we both shed tears upon seeing a graduate alone during UNCP's commencement in December. Our shared empathy and connection are just a few of the reasons we will always be inseparable. My sweet Anna, I love you dearly.

To the incredible moms of the year – Rose, Kelly, and Kim – I express my deepest gratitude.

Each of you holds a special place in my heart, and I genuinely appreciate your assistance and support throughout this year. Our future adventures together await!

To Mr. James Hardin, Mr. Travis Bryant, and the amazing staff at LRDA, thank you for your unwavering support throughout the year.

Ms. Natasha Wagoner Tilson, thank you from the depths of my heart. You have been there for me since I was a child, and your dedication and guidance are truly amazing. Our conversations in your office have been the highlight of my year. I love you! Your role as a former Miss Lumbee guiding and leading me this year has been invaluable.

Last but certainly not least, I want to dedicate a special tribute to all Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirits. This year has been dedicated to honoring you and seeking justice for you and your families. As your sister's keeper, my journey has only just begun in advocating for you.

To the next Miss Lumbee, cherish the blessings and opportunities before you. It won't always be easy, but it will undoubtedly be worth it. If given the chance, I would embrace this experience once more in an instant. Take a deep breath, savor every moment, and remember that Miss Lumbee is not someone above her people but among them, listening and learning. Never forget that you are a role model, and true class cannot be bought. Above all, remember that you have unwavering support, with former Miss Lumbees always standing by your side.

With grace, gratitude, and honor, it has been my utmost pleasure to serve as Miss Lumbee 2022-2023. To my community, Lumbee Tribe, family, friends, and supporters, I am eternally grateful for your love and encouragement. Thank you for joining me on this incredible journey, and may God bless each and every one of you abundantly.

Thank you to Sharon Burnette, Sr. Miss Lumbee. Graciously, forever and always, officially signing off,

*Mahlea C Hunt*



# Miss Lumbee Contestants



**Contestant 1**

*Ashtyn Skye Thomas*

Parents: Aaron and Azalea Thomas

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and Behavioural Health Care • Fullers  
Channing and Emily Jones



**Contestant 2**

*Jordin Hailey Brewington*

Parents: Sonia and Harold Hammonds

Sponsors:

Sonia Hammonds - 911 Telecommunications Superviso  
Peterson Toyota • Dr. Samantha Chavis Oxendine  
Peggy Griner Trucking Company  
Family and Friends

## TEEN MISS AND MISS LUMBEE WINNERS RECEIVE

### Teen Miss Lumbee Winner

\$500.00 Regalia Allowance

\$1,000 Travel Allowance to attend Gatherings of Nations Pow Wow in  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

\$2,500 Stipend

Total \$4,000

### Miss Lumbee Winner

\$1,000.00 Regalia Allowance

\$1,000 Travel Allowance to attend Gatherings of Nations Pow Wow  
in Albuquerque, New Mexico

\$8,000 scholarship

\$5,000 Stipend

Total \$15,000.00

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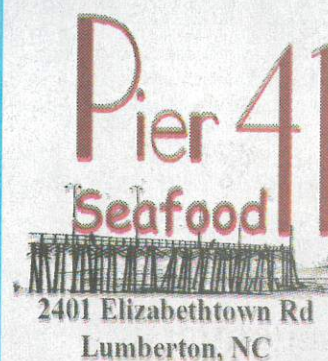
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# Teen Miss Lumbee 2022

Anna Grace Hunt



## Teen Miss Lumbee Farewell

Wow. What an incredible year this has been. I can sum it in three words: thankful, grateful, and blessed.

**Thankful:** I am thankful for God's guidance and his overflowing grace and love. Without him, this year would not have been possible.

**Grateful:** I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the most beautiful people in the world, my Lumbee People, and for being able to share my culture with thousands of others.

**Blessed:** I am blessed abundantly. I have the absolute best village and support system. They have been with me throughout my year and have supported me every step of the way.

Throughout my year, I have worked to promote my platform, Healing our Native Communities with L.O.V.E.; *Letting Our Voices Encourage Because A Conversation Can Make A Difference, Even save a life.*

This has been one of the most exciting, yet challenging years of my life. I had to learn how to juggle work, my high school senior year, and ensure that I represented my people with dignity and pride. Even with all of the restless days and nights, I wouldn't have changed a thing.

To the best teachers and principals in the county at Purnell Swett High School, thank you for making accommodations to my schedule so that I could fulfill my duties and responsibilities as an Ambassador.

Daddy and Mama, I certainly wouldn't be on this journey if it wasn't for the two of you. Thank you for being the best parents and always believing in your baby girl. You have shaped me into the young woman I am today. God gifted me with the best parents and I am forever thankful. I love you both immensely.

Chloe Renee, my go to. I honestly don't know where I would be in life if I didn't have you. Thank you for pushing me to always do my best. Everything you do for me never goes unnoticed. I adore and appreciate you so much sissy girl. I love you so much!

Sidney and Josh, my protectors. I know I'll never have to worry about anything in life because I have the two of you. You both always remind me of how beautiful I am and to never settle! Thank you for always being the most supportive brothers a little sister could ask for. I love you both with all of my heart.

Charity, my little bestie, you keep all of us on our toes. You certainly have a way of keeping me grounded. Thank you for being my little helper whenever I needed you. I love you my baby sister!!

Grandma and Nana, God truly blessed me with the absolute best. Both of you ladies mean the world to me!! I hope that I continue to make you both proud in everything I do. I can only hope to be as fabulous as the both of you as I get older.

Aunt Sandra, you have a heart of gold. You have made sure each one of my regalias have



been perfect for me. I appreciate all of the hard work, love, and dedication you put into each one of them. I love you!!

Mrs. Ranesa, you are one of the most selfless people I know. You were the BIGGEST help to me during my preparation for the pageant. I could never say enough "thank yous" to express my gratitude for the love and support you have shown me. I am incredibly blessed to have you in my life, I love you!

Mr. Richard Mathis, Ms. Michelle, Ms. Khinsley and Ms. Keenya, thank you all for the photo shoot opportunities you guys provided. You all are greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Keli, thank you for opening up your salon to me throughout my reign. You always made sure my hair looked it's best and you kept it beautiful and healthy. I appreciate you so much! I love you!

Ashtyn, my personal MUA. Thank you for always glamming me up! I cherish you and our friendship so much! I love you forever!

Mr. Hardin, Mr. Travis, and Tribal Chairman Mr. John Lowry, thank you all for the leadership you have provided for our people. The Ambassadors appreciate all that you've done for us!

John Stickboy Oxendine, Kaya Littleturtle, and Mr. Reggie Brewer. Thank you for being such great mentors, not only to the ambassadors, but to so many boys and girls in our community and beyond. You help keep our culture alive and make sure it is passed down from generation to generation.

To my Best Friends, the ones that know me inside and out and the ones that are there for me no matter what. I couldn't imagine my life without y'all in it. Thanks for helping at our plate sale and being some of my biggest supporters. I can't wait to make more memories with each of you by my side. I love you all so much! I certainly can't forget about our second mama, Tara Kay. We appreciate everything you do for

us. You treat all of us like we're your own. You have played a huge role in my life, I could never repay you for everything that you've done for me. I love you!

Mrs. Natascha Tilson, thank you for keeping up with our hectic schedule this year and making sure we were all where we needed to be. You have been the best coordinator! I love you!

Mrs. Celeste, Mrs. Kelly, and Mrs. Rose, you ladies mean the world to me. I have loved creating memories with each of you this year. From powwows to NY City, our time together was priceless!

Mrs. Sharon, you have the sweetest soul and the voice of an angel. I pray that our paths continue to cross in life's journey. I have enjoyed our time together this year!

Jakayliegh, my little ball of fire. Your fierce personality lights up every room you step foot in. You never let anyone forget that you were a princess. You have brought so much joy into my life in such a short amount of time. I will miss all of our jam sessions in my car and dolling you up for our events. Never let anyone dull your sparkle baby girl. I will always be your "Queen". I love you bookums.

Keely bug, my singing partner and tik tok loving girl. I have enjoyed every moment I have spent with you. From singing to the top of our lungs, to laughing until we cried. I can't wait to watch you accomplish all of your goals, I know you will do big things in your life! Always reach for the stars my sweet girl. I will always be in your corner cheering you on. I love you so big!

Mahlea, my soul sister, literally. The morning of our pageant you said to me, "We are covered in prayer", I thank God for those prayers because it brought us where we are today. You had A LOT on your plate this year, but you didn't let that stop you from being the absolute best Miss Lumbee. God knew exactly what he was doing when he placed you in my life in July, 2017. Little did I know that you would become one of my very best friends. He gave me another sister that I never knew I would need. You have been the best role model not only to me, but to so many others. I hope you know how proud I am of you, how

proud EVERYONE is. I hope that someday I can be half the young woman you are. I could go on and on about how much you mean to me, but we'd be here for a lifetime. I love you so very much bub.

Here's to one of the best years of my life. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to serve the most beautiful people in the world. Here's to new beginnings. This lovely chapter of my life is sadly coming to an end. To my successor, soak everything in and never take any moment for granted. Wear the crown with the upmost pride, dignity, and respect. Make our people proud.

For the last time, I am your Teen Miss Lumbee 2022,

♥ Anna Grace Hunt ♥



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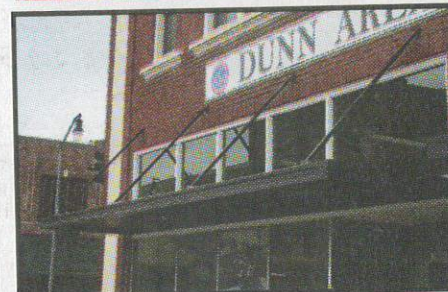
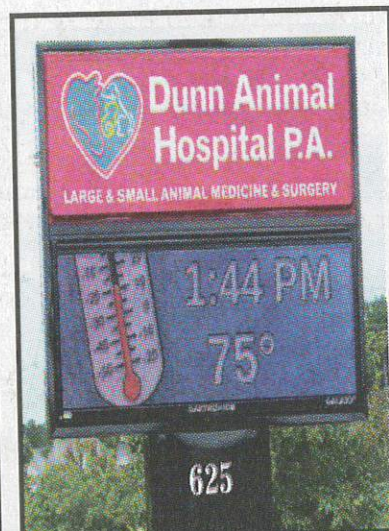
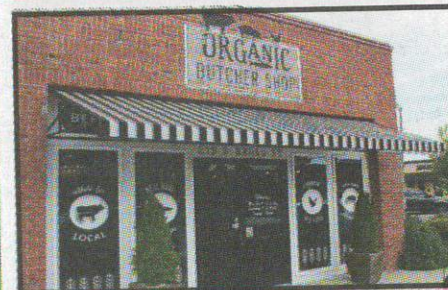
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Parents: Charles and Donna Rena Lowry

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*Rynnady Elizabeth Locklear*

Parents: Cecil and Kayla Locklear

**Sponsors:**

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**Contestant 2**

*Arista Renee Lowery*

Parents: Danny and Glenda Lowery

**Sponsors:**

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Emanuel Insurance Agency • Primary Health Choice, Inc  
Caring Touch Home Care • Heritage Funeral  
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**Contestant 4**

*Makiah Lynn Watts*

Parents: Michael Ray and Anita Faye Watts

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*Malaya Annalisa Florita*

Parents: Grant and Lisa C. Florita

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Pineview Farm Home and Garden



**Contestant 6**

*Kennedy Grace Jones*

Parents: Channing and Emily Jones

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# Junior Miss Lumbee 2022

Keely Noelle Deal



"All my words fall short, I've got nothing new, how could I express All my gratitude?" As my reign comes to an end I am overwhelmed with gratitude, for I know that I have served GOD and my people! I am a living testimony and witness of Psalms 37:4 "delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart." Thank you for the blessing of representing my people as Junior Miss Lumbee!

I want to thank the LRDA staff and Board of Directors for all that you do as the main sponsor and host of Lumbee Homecoming. To Mr. Travis Bryant, our new Executive Director, thank you for your support and encouragement, it has meant so much to me. Mrs. Natascha Wagoner Tilson thank you for keeping up with all our appearances and requests, we are grateful for you.

To Mr. John Lowery, Chairman of the Lumbee Tribe thank you for your support of the Lumbee Ambassadors this year! A special thanks to Michael Oxendine for always making sure I have a ride in parades. Richard Mathis Photography and Michelle Mathis, thank you for your generous support and awesome photos. A special thanks to Matt Davenport for my fabulous beauty photo. Thank you, Teri Khinsely Locklear, for your visionary photos this year and my ribbon pants you gifted me, I will treasure them forever! Beth Davis Hunt-Clayton Homes, thank you for your continuous support of me and our community. Mr. Howard Richardson, thank you for my beaded crown, I will cherish it forever. To the numerous businesses and people who sponsored me on this journey, thank you so much and I love you all!

This year would not have been possible without my family - "we



may not have it all together, but together we have it all"! Daddy and Momma thank you for all the miles and road trips this year. Kate, thank you for doing my hair and make-up this year, my pageant coach, 2nd momma, and all the little extra things you and Tyler have done to make this year special. Calista thank you for being my hair queen this year, and honestly the girl that everyone calls my twin-Do you know what a compliment that is, lol? Dylan and Christian, I love y'all so much, thanks for being the best brothers a girl could ask for.

Jakayleigh, my Little Miss Lumbee, we have had a blast this year! Thank you for being my little side kick and song bird all year. I love you and our lil TikToks to infinity and beyond. To Mrs. Rose, thank you for always making me smile and laugh on every road trip. I love y'all and my pretty girl Ja'onna, too.

Anna Grace, I've enjoyed every moment, especially those when we got to sing our hearts out this year! You are such a phenomenal role model, my Teen Miss Lumbee, angelic voice that brings the house down, and my friend! I truly love you;

I pray we will sing together again. To Mr. Scott and Mrs. Kim, I can't even begin to thank you enough for who you are and your acts of kindness. Mrs. Kim, you are beautiful, and you'll always be my eyelash queen forever! Charity, I love you child I'm so glad I'll still get to see you every day!

Mahlea, you are an amazing, accomplished, and educated woman. I am so grateful that GOD chose you to be my Miss Lumbee this year! I love you and the bond we've made this year is forever. You have set the bar high, not only are you a 4-time ambassador, but my sister forever. I hope to follow in your footsteps, as you have left your mark on our people, on this world, and on my heart! Mr. Brent and Mrs. Celeste, thank you for everything this year, especially the road trips. I love y'all and every time I see a queen walking in high heels, I'll know that's my Mrs. Celeste!

To my beautiful and graceful Senior Miss Lumbee, Sharon Burnette, I love you! You are the embodiment of a beautiful Lumbee woman inside and out, thank you for just being you. I've enjoyed every appearance and opportunity to be under your wing. May our people continue to embrace the irreplaceable connection between our elders and our youth. To the Lumbee people, May the Lord bless you and keep you. May His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace. May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations, and your family and your children and their children. Amen!

I am forever grateful to be Junior Miss Lumbee 2022-2023,

Keely Noelle Deal



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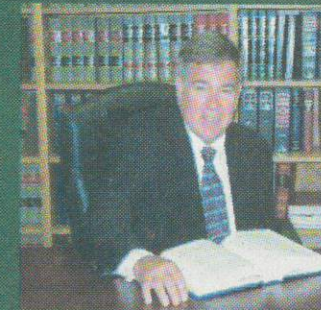
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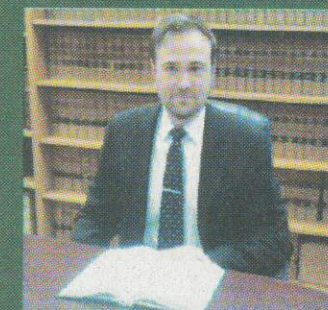
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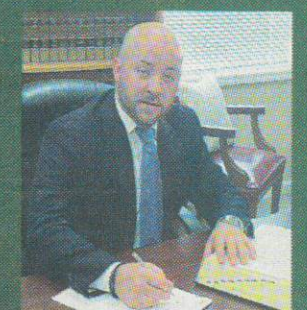
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**Contestant 2**

*Avaeh Jacobs*

**Parents:** William Jacobs and Cathy Bell

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**Contestant 3**

*Aaliyah Grace Hunt*

**Parents:** Sidney Hunt and Fallon Carter

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*Leea Ashton Watts*

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*Trinity Karaline Locklear*

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*Riley Madison Dial*

**Parents:** Robert Dial and Stephanie Jacobs

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*Presleigh Shae Bullard*

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# Little Miss Lumbee 2022

**JaKayLeigh  
Miracle Lambert**



## Little Miss Lumbee Farewell

I will never forget the night I heard my name called as the new Little Miss Lumbee 2022-2023, JaKayleigh Miracle Lambert. I was filled with so much joy and happiness that I was given the opportunity to be the next Little Miss Lumbee Ambassador. This year has been a whirlwind of functions and activities but the most important thing to me was the opportunity to serve as an ambassador for my indigenous tribe, the Lumbee people.

First, I would like to acknowledge and thank my God for allowing me to serve as the Little Miss Ambassador because he deserves all the glory and praise. God gave me such an amazing experience that I will cherish for the rest of my life. He also placed wonderful people in my life that helped me have a successful year.

To my Mom and Dad, thank you both for helping me make this dream come true. Dad, I want to start by saying thank you for being so understanding this year especially when Mom had to take me to all of the appearances. Not once did you complain, just hurry back. Mom thank you for keeping up with my appearances and making sure I made it to every destination. Ja'Onna my big sister, wow where do I begin with you? Thank you for helping Mom fix my hair, makeup, and picking out my beautiful outfits. You are the best sister and I am so glad I was able to live this dream with you too. To brothers Dakota and Willie John, thank you for all the love and support. To my sister, Jazzman thank you for all your love and support also.

Mr. Richard Mathis and Khinsley Locklear, thank you both for capturing those breathtaking monuments, my photos were so beautiful. Mr. Hardin, & Mr. Bryant LRDA staff, and the Board of Directors thank you for all your support this year. Mrs. Natascha Wagner Tilson thank you for scheduling our events and appearances you are the best. Mr. Howard Richardson, thank you for my beautiful breaded crown, I love it.

To my Aunt Betsy, Aunt Lisa, and Uncle Greg, your sponsorship helped make my dream a reality so thank you for believing



in me. To Mrs. Rhonda and Mr. Rudy Dial, thank you for your sponsorship, I greatly appreciate it. Aunt Betsy thank you for letting Mom borrow your vehicle for my parade appearances also.

To Mrs. Donna Butler, you have been so generous to me this year. You have definitely been a big part of my support team. You made sure my nails were done; I had gorgeous outfits and shoes throughout my reign. Thank you for helping me look fabulous for my appearances. Thank you also for picking me up from school and getting me ready for my appearances when Mom was not able to. Mrs. Donna, you are the best and I will be forever grateful for your love and support. To all of my supporters and sponsors that I have failed to mention by name, thank you for everything. Because of your support and love, I had an amazing year.

Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Kim, and Mrs. Celeste, thanks for taking care of me and for making sure I had everything I needed before my appearance when Mom wasn't there. I could not have asked for a better set of Ambassador Moms. New York was so much fun with everyone.

During my reign this year, I have had the most amazing opportunity to share all my experiences with some very talented and

beautiful Lumbee women. The 2022 -2023 Lumbee Ambassadors, Junior Miss Lumbee Keely Deal, Teen Miss Anna Hunt, and Miss Lumbee Mahlea Hunt.

Keely, my Tik Tok girl, I am so thankful that I had you as my Junior Miss Lumbee. At every appearance, we had so much fun; we made so many Tik Tok videos. Whether we were singing, dancing, or just laughing you were by my side, thank you. You will forever be my sister and one of my best friends. I love you!

Anna, oh my where do I begin? Thank you so much for picking me up from school when my mom was not able to. Not only did you pick me up, you made sure my clothing, hair, and makeup was on point.

I always enjoyed our car rides together because you made me feel so special just by asking, how was your day or what happened today a school? Thank you my Anna for everything, I love you!

Mahlea thank you for the beautiful shirt and roses that I received for the first day of school, that was so special to me. I Remember you pick me up and went to the movies. You made me laugh so much this year and made sure I was ready for my appearance also, thank you. You are one beautiful and talented woman. It has been an honor to serve this reign with you.

Ms. Sharon Burnette I really enjoy our pictures together and seeing you at events. Our reign as the 2022-2023 Lumbee Ambassadors may be over but my friendship and the love that I have for each of you will remain forever in my heart.

To the next Little Miss Lumbee Ambassador, I pray you enjoy every moment because your reign will end before you know it. Now it is your time to shine and to be our next role model, make us proud because it has been an honor and a privilege to serve my beautiful Lumbee people.

For the very last time and with honor, I am JaKayLeigh Miracle Lambert, your 2022-2023 Little Miss Lumbee.

*JaKayleigh Miracle Lambert*





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*Adisyn Reese Locklear*

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**Contestant 3**

*Aubreyann Mae Blackhorse*

**Parents:** Gene and Andrea Blackhorse  
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 Mooi Photography • Studio 3 & Co.  
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 Chavis Farms • Clyborn Pines Church of God



**Contestant 2**

*Penelope Brooke McMillian*

**Parents:** Daniel and Makayla McMillian  
**Sponsors:** Godwin's Credit Solutions  
 Cooper's Insurance Services • Cummings Farm  
 McMillian Contracting • Autry Lowry  
 Brenda Jacobs • Amanda Locklear  
 Tammy Chavis



**Contestant 4**

*Malaya LaRae Lyon*

**Parents:** Richard and Miranda Lyon  
**Sponsors:** Soeco Electric Company  
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 Howington Office Supply • Scott's Tire  
 M&M Drywall • Double 00 Farms LLC  
 Stricklands Insurance • Granny (Ruby Barton)



**Contestant 5**

*Moriah Faith Jones*

**Parents:** David Jones and Morgan Hunt Jones  
**Sponsors:** Papa Johnny and Demetrius "Ma" Hunt  
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### Little Miss Lumbee Winner

\$500.00 Regalia Allowance  
 \$1,000 Travel Allowance to attend  
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 \$1,500 Stipend  
 Total \$3,000

### Junior Miss Lumbee Winner

\$500.00 Regalia Allowance  
 \$1,000 Travel Allowance to attend  
 Gatherings of Nations Pow Wow in  
 Albuquerque, New Mexico  
 \$1,500 Stipend  
 Total \$3,000.00

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**First Baptist Early Childhood Ministry** 606  
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