



Dear Lumbee People,

The Lumbee Tribe Fall Festival and Fish Fry was held at the Cultural Center in October. This year, we included our first 5K Fun Run and Walk. The festival featured Lumbee artisans who demonstrated their knowledge of basket making, herbal remedies, making lye soap, digging out a canoe, and other activities. There was also a pig picking demonstration, which included homemade sausage, cracklings, pulled pork, and much more. Visitors also had an opportunity to see a social stickball game and some wonderful gospel singing to finish out the day. I want to thank the staff and volunteers who helped make this event a success.

On October 6th, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission restocked the lake at the Lumbee Tribe Cultural Center with 10,000 Red Breast and 1,000 Channel Catfish. With this allocation of fish, our people will be able to fully fish again in the lake next year. Senator Danny Britt played an important role in making this happen, along with Representatives Charles Graham and Brendan Jones. I want to thank lawmakers' Britt, Graham, and Jones for their support with the Cultural Center over the last few years as the tribe worked to overcome hurricane devastation.

Rev. Evert Locklear left this world to travel to his heavenly home on October 8th. At 103 years old, Mr. Evert was our oldest living Lumbee and carried the titles of husband, father, grandfather, veteran, pastor, and friend to many. His service to our country in the Navy during WWII and his later dedication to serving God at the local level as a pastor, endeared him to all. I thank God for blessing us with such a servant as Mr. Evert.

The United States Small Business Administration (SBA) made a stop in Pembroke to discuss resources available to small business owners and entrepreneurs. Assistant Administrator for Native American Affairs Mr. Jackson Brossy (Navajo) and Mr. Allen Thomas, Southeast Regional Administrator, are promoting economic growth in rural and tribal communities.

Governor Roy Cooper welcomed me to the Governor's Mansion in October. During our time together, we discussed full federal recognition, economic development opportunities, the tribe's new Agriculture and Natural Resources Department, Medicaid Expansion, and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women issues. After visiting with Governor Cooper, two of his administration officials, Secretary of Administration Pamela Brewington Cashwell (Lumbee/Coharie) and Secretary of Natural and Cultural Resources Reid Wilson toured the Lumbee Tribe Cultural Center and Maxton Pond. These are historically significant to the Lumbee People. We are working to partner with the state to carry out conservation efforts at both sites.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Chairman. I love you all

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Lowery".

John L. Lowery  
Chairman

**OFFICE OF THE LUMBEE TRIBAL CHAIRMAN**

6984 Highway 711 | PO Box 2709 | Pembroke, NC 28372 | 910.521.7861

