

# EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

"We cannot know where we are going if we do not know where we have been."



**As I See It**

by Bruce Barton

**"THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE IS RACIAL. THE PAPER IS NOT MY VOICE," SAYS READER**

I am thick skinned, no doubt about it. A newspaper editor has to be able to take a little criticism from time to time. But sometimes it hurts, no doubt about that either. There is nowhere to hide when publishing a newspaper, especially one named The Carolina Indian Voice in tri-racial Robeson County, the land of five separate and distinct school systems and, not too long ago, three separate bathrooms and Black, White and Indian waiting rooms, segregated seating in theatres and exclusion from the arts and culture (sic) and more.

In our last batch of renewal letters we received one back with the notation, "The Carolina Indian Voice is RACIAL. The paper is not my voice." That stung a little bit. As I see it, it would be self-defeating for me to be racial when I have been discriminated against myself in provincial Robeson County. But readers have a right to their opinions. But I have a right not to necessarily agree when those opinions run counter to mine.

My perspective is the Indian viewpoint, the Indian expression. I make no apologies for that. Sometimes I feel it is necessary to speak out in behalf of an Indian aspiration, an Indian right. I hope I will always be able to do that.

But, really, I do not pretend to speak for anyone other than myself. To infer more would be the worst kind of impertinence. Indian folk do not like for anyone to speak for them, especially Indians of Robeson and adjoining counties.

But I always hope that I have touched a nerve, found the consensus of feeling in the

consider myself a racist in any form or fashion. But I also respect every man's opinion... even when I do not agree with that opinion. I defend a man's right to say whatever he wants to say, or think what ever he wants to think. After all, this is America! But I reserve the same rights for myself.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Writer thanks

### Pembroke LIONS

Dear Lions,  
As one travels down life's highway, we often come to valleys almost too deep to pass through. My valley has been the loss of my sight. The doctors termed me legally blind. With the help of the Lord and skill of doctors, one eye has been restored to the point where I can see much better.

To maintain my sight is that eye I had to have glasses.

Another valley of despair appeared when I had no means in which to purchase the required glasses. Just when you need the Lord most he shows Himself. He showed Himself through the wonderful organization called the Pembroke Lions Club. Words can't express the appreciation I feel toward this club. Thanking you over and over again for the check you sent me. May God bless.

Ms. Anzabell Locklear



The average person spends about 20 years asleep.

## Board of Education tables action West Robeson Sewer System

by Connee Brayboy

The Robeson County Board of Education met in special session on Tuesday evening to decide on the sewer system for the proposed West Robeson High School. Two options were offered. One was to tie into the town of Pembroke and the other was septic tank systems.

Ed Wilkins, sanitarian with the county Health Department told the board that the septic tank option would work. The board had allocated \$250 thousand for a sewer system for the site. To tie into the town of Pembroke would cost them an additional \$110 thousand. David Green, chairman of the board said, "...We do not have \$110 thousand now..." Assistant Superintendents Doug Yongue and J.C. Humphrey discussed the matter. Humphrey stated that they had budgeted \$300 thousand from the county commissioners in capital outlay to be used for old building. Youngue stated that the money was never enough to maintain the schools. And to use that money for the sewer system for West Robeson might mean that "leaking roofs may have to go unattended."

After much discussion with the officials from the town of Pembroke, the board took a recess. Representing the town of Pembroke were: Mayor Pete Jacobs, McDuffie Cummings, the town manager and Milton Hunt, town councilman. Following the recess the board heard from Gene Locklear, owner of University Sportswear who warned them against using the septic tank systems. He stated that he had always had problems with that kind of system. He urged them to hook up to the town of Pembroke. He said, "We owe it to our children to leave things where they won't have to worry with them..."

Following Mr. Locklear's comments, E.B. Morton moved to table the matter until the town of Pembroke met on Monday night. Mayor Jacobs was asked to discuss the matter of extending the board 2-4 years for payment of the \$110 thousand. The Mayor extended an invitation to the board members to attend their Monday session.

At the regular April meeting of the board of education, a committee had been appointed to meet with town officials and make a recommendation.

That committee was composed of Dr. Gerald Maynor, John A. Gibson, Ronald Hammonds, E.B. Morton, and David Green who served as chairman. According to reliable sources, that committee had decided to recommend that the board go with the septic tank system. According to that same source, those committee members voting for hook up with the town of Pembroke were Gerald Maynor and Ronald Hammonds. Opposed to that option were John A. Gibson and E.B. Morton. David Green, reportedly broke the tie voting against hook up with the town.

## Lumbee Speeches published in American Indian Women's Collection

OHOYO MAKACHI, Words of Today's American Indian Women has just been published by the OHOYO Resource Center, a women's educational equity project funded by the U.S. Department of Education-Women's Educational Equity Act.

OHOYO MAKACHI translated WOMEN SPEAK, is a first collection of Oratory by American Indian/Alaska Native Women and includes addresses from the 1981 Ohoyo Resource Center Conference on Educational Equity Awareness which was held in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, together with other selected conference speeches from meetings and conferences involving American Indian/Alaska Native Women.

OHOYO MAKACHI is a volume which symbolizes an effort by American Indian and Alaska Native women to speak for themselves, about themselves and to others in past, present and future perspectives on a wide range of topics representing diverse tribal affiliation and speakers, but women with similarities and common goals for the Indian women who share common experiences as they seek to attain educational equity and lead their families, tribes and personal careers to more productive levels.

This recently published collection of American Indian/Alaska Native Women oratory includes a paper presented by Ruth Dial Woods (Lumbee) entitled: "Cross Cultural Networking," and delivered at the 1981 Ohoyo Resource Center Conference in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Ms. Woods is presently Director of Indian Education for the Robeson County Board of Education and has extensive and varied experience in speaking and writing on Indian issues and concerns, and broad experience in providing leadership at the local, state and national levels in women's issues and Indian affairs. Ms. Woods also serves as a member of the Advisory Board of the Ohoyo Resource Center.

A second paper is that of Dr. Helen M. Scheirbeck (Lumbee) who is presently Project Coordinator of the Indian Information Project in Alexandria, Virginia. The paper is entitled: "Retrospect and Prospect: The Past, Present and Future of Indian Women" and was presented at the First Conference sponsored by Ohoyo Resource Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September, 1979. Dr. Scheirbeck has advocated for Indian rights and services for a number of years at the federal and national levels and has provided technical assistance to numerous efforts regarding Indian affairs. She is past Director of the Office of Indian Affairs of the U.S. Office of Education and the former Project Coordinator for the National Commission on International Year of the Child.

Copies of OHOYO MAKACHI may be obtained for \$2.50 for postage and handling from Ohoyo Resource Center, 2301 Midwestern Parkway, Suite 214, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308.

## Town Board agrees to 3 Year Payment for Hook up fee for West Robeson

by Connee Brayboy

The Pembroke Town Council met in special session on Wednesday evening. In attendance were Mayor James A. Jacobs, Councilman Larry T. Brooks and Councilman Milton Hunt.

Councilman Hunt offered the following proposal. That

the payment for hook up services for West Robeson High from the Robeson County Board of Education be paid in three equal payments, beginning July 15, 1982; the second payment due July 15, 1983 and the final payment due July 15, 1984 to total the required \$110,000. And that

the Board of Education have full responsibility for installing lines from the West Robeson site to the town facility.

Second was by Larry T. Brooks and Mayor James A. Jacobs asked that the record show that he was in favor of the proposal.

## Local People Support

### "Strike at the Wind!"

"Strike at the Wind," the successful local outdoor drama, is becoming a tourist attraction in the State of North Carolina. It is indeed the biggest tourist attraction in Robeson County. Many local people are giving their support to the drama in many ways. According to Cornell Locklear, "That's the way it should be because 'Strike at the Wind' also brings money into the county."

According to Locklear the drama has a budget of \$85,000 for 1982. He reports that a great deal of that money has to be raised in some manner. One means of raising this money is by selling memberships, ads, collecting donations, etc. in order to be ready for opening night July 3rd. Locklear reports also that the drama has no guaranteed federal or state grants, therefore, the drama must receive funds elsewhere. Helping in some way were Bruce Barton, Editor of the Carolina Indian Voice; Harold Dones, guidance counselor at Maxton High School; Les Chavis, retired from

Army and hog farmer; Lycourus Lowry, a successful farmer and Charles David Locklear, farmer and businessman, along with others.

Said Locklear, "In 1981 there were three complete rains out, nine nights where it rained until 7:30 or 8 p.m. and stopped raining and you still have 100 people in the audience. Strike at the Wind is obligated to pay the 75 actors regardless of the money taken in. With the help of people such as those mentioned above, the 1981 drama could have been financially limited."

"Strike at the Wind" 1982 season begins July 3rd, 1982 and continues through August 28, every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at the Lakeside Amphitheater. For further information call 919-521-3113, Pembroke.

As a means of saying thank you to those people who helped make the 1981 season a successful, Locklear presented several certificates of appreciation.



About half the population of America over the age of three wears glasses.



Cornell Locklear, general manager of "Strike at the Wind" is shown left presenting certificates of appreciation for Harold Dones; Les Chavis; Lycourus Lowry; Charles David Locklear and Bruce Barton. (Sarah Lantz photo)

The Faculty & students  
of the  
Lumbee Regional Development Association's  
Lumbee River Native American Center for the Arts  
cordially invite you to attend an  
"EVENING OF FASHION"  
Spring Fashion Show  
Tuesday May 11, 1982  
Pembroke Senior High School Cafeteria  
8:00 p.m.  
Admission \$3.00  
R.S.V.P. 521-2401



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**LARRY T. BROOKS**  
Your  
County Commissioner

- \*Experienced In Government
- \*Certified In Educational Administration
- \*A Capable Businessman

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 **LARRY T. BROOKS**  
"A Man You Can Trust"

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