



Editorial And Opinion Page

Editorially Speaking

Klan mentality and re-districting

AS I SEE IT
Bruce Barton

Watch for *IN THE LIGHT OF REVERENCE*, a PBS Documentary co-produced by our Malinda Maynor

I'm going to leave the bigots in our midst to their own devices this week and devote my column to "good" stuff, like our very own Malinda Maynor, a doctoral student studying history at UNC-Chapel Hill, who also dabbles in film making. She is also the coordinator of our Lumbee River Fund.

She has co-produced a documentary which will appear on the UNC-Chapel Hill Public Television Network Saturday, August 18 at 11 pm (check local listings), as part of P.O.V., the independent documentary series.

ABOUT THE FILM

In the Light of Reverence is a 72-minute documentary that tells the stories of three American Indian communities and the places they care for: the Lakota at Devils Tower in Wyoming, the Hopi in the Four Corners area of the Southwest, and the Wintu at Mt. Shasta in California. Places of extraordinary beauty (and impassioned controversy) where Indians and non-Indians struggle to co-exist with different ideas about how the land should be used. For the Indians, land is sacred and akin to the world's great cathedrals. For others, land should be used for industry and recreation. The award-winning film explores this cultural dichotomy and documents the Indians as they struggle to protect their sacred sites.

The film is produced and directed by Christopher McLeod and co-produced by Malinda Maynor. Watch for it! It is an extraordinary film and one you should not miss!

Well, let me send one little message to the bigots ...
Robeson County is subject to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and other applicable legislation, to make sure that all people, including Indians, are treated fairly and aligned constitutionally with "THE BOOK"! Board members are, as we write, working on voting districts for the county school board. Watch 'em close! Whatever they do has to be approved by the justice department because, in the past, Robeson County politicians discriminated against Robesonians of color. Keep an eye on 'em!!

Three hundred and twenty-seven people responded to our poll last week. The question was: should Donnie Douglas and Bo Biggs stay out of Indian business? The poll was unanimous and a resounding YES! Many of those who responded by fax especially had some other interesting comments. Nevertheless, we continue to recommend that Indians NOT spend their money with people who demonstrate Klan mentality or those who begin their conversation with the famous declaration: "I am not a racist!"

Speaking of that mentality, Terry Smith, who represents District 8 on the Board of Education (a white district, of course) this week was reported to have talked again when he should have listened. He was reported to say that if Gloria Lowery was living in District 8, something was wrong with the board of elections. We think the idea of an Indian representing Smith's white district was almost more than he could bear. It is a sad commentary on race relations in Robeson. We hope that Smith and company are in the minority. Now we all know that Pearlene Revels, Supervisor of Elections, has long been on the "hit list" Smith and his cohorts have. You know, in addition to serving as supervisor of elections, Ms. Revels is also Chairman of the Robeson Historical Drama Association. Just recently the daily newspaper's editor accused her of "shady" dealing in reference to a Strike at the Wind painting that was purchased by the Indian Education Program of the Public Schools. Not only does she hold those two positions admirably, she is also an Indian. Hence, she has made the Klan mentality hit list. We would prefer to be on their list than to be counted with Patrick Bullard who appears to be a vote for the expansion of the Smith agenda. You remember that some of the whites have an agenda. That are attempting to remove all Indians in positions of authority. I guess they want to "take back their county." It is hard to take back something that you

never owned to begin with. But that is another story for another day. But we remind you that every time a negative comment about an Indian is thought of by this group, the daily newspaper gives it front page coverage. We are not fooled and neither are the majority of Indians in this county!! Keep your eye on the coverage of the re-districting issue. It is very important to their agenda to keep Patrick Bullard in place, especially with his voting record thus far.

About the re-districting? We contend that re-districting lines to place Patrick Bullard's new home into the district he represents is not adequate reason to re-district. Bullard should resign from the board of education if he is residing outside his district. That is the right thing to do. His allegiance with Terry Smith and cohorts leave us to question whether he will do the right thing. It is even possible that there is no real need to have districts in Robeson at this period in our history! Someone will raise that issue with the Justice Department we are sure. Wouldn't it be interesting if Terry Smith had to run county wide? We would expect very little votes for him in some rural areas. Watch how this Klan mentality group fights to keep those districts!!! County wide elections once again for school board? It is an idea and maybe an idea whose time has come. We just throw it out for speculation!!! The school board will hold public hearings on re-districting in the near future. Those should prove to be interesting.

We are expecting an offer by Bullard and the Smith contingency to "buy out" the superintendent's contract. We hope they will not be that fool hardy!!! We call on Bullard to remember that "pay back" never works!! Nevertheless, we will continue to watch and record Bullard's allegiance with the Smith contingency!

Clark and Scott to Wed



Dexter and Jackie Clark of Lumberton, N.C. wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Clark to Matthew Scott, the son of Renferd and Andrena Scott of Pembroke, N.C. The wedding ceremony will be held at Berea Baptist Church on August 25th at 3:00 p.m. All friends and family are invited.

Elvis Again to Appear for Strike at The Wind! Closing Night!

Artistic Director David Oxendine has announced that he will once again perform an Elvis skit the closing night of the regular season of SATW! August 11, 2001 at 8:00 P.M.. After many requests that he perform the Elvis impersonation he decided to perform it on the closing night. Last year there was a record of more than 1200 people in attendance for the closing night performance. Oxendine has directed Randolph Umberger's Strike At the Wind! for 11. According to Oxendine, "audiences get a big kick out of the Elvis performance and really get a chance to get involved in the show." He also stated this will coincide with the 24th anniversary of Elvis Presley's death on August 16, 1977 of heart failure. This time Oxendine states he will perform new songs including "Teddy Bear," "Don't Be Cruel," "Suspicious Minds," and "My Way." For the price of one show, audiences will relive some of the magic of Elvis Presley and experience one of the best, if not the best outdoor drama in the county. "Strike At the Wind!" with music composed by Willie French Lowery. So come out early on August 11, 2001 to the Adolph L. Dial Lakeside Amphitheater, 3 miles west of Pembroke off highway 74 near Purnell Swett High School. In order to get a good seat and catch one of Elvis' Scarves, audience members should arrive at the theatre by 7:30 P.M.. After the Elvis performance at 8:00 P.M. SATW! will begin at 8:30 P.M.. Ticket prices are \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for senior citizens (age 50 and older), and \$5.00 for children under age 12. For further ticket information please call 910-521-2433.



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-Greg Norman

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