



THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1983

Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting



## THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

**SPAPER FOR THE INDIANS OF ROBESON COUNTY AND THEIR FRIENDS** 

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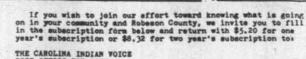
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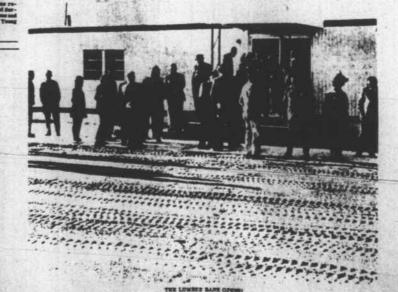
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## A DECADE OF SERVICE; PROGRESS

by Lew Barton

Since January 1, 1973, my eldest son Bruce Barton has been articulating the affairs and concerns of the North Carolina Indians...and of all Indians generally. Aided and abetted by a younger brother (Garry Lewis Barton) and a younger sister (Connee Brayboy), he has made journalistic and publishing history. For one thing, although a number of former attempts were made, theirs has been the only Indian periodical in the state to survive, all the others sooner of later falling by the wayside. The Indian Observer, the Pembroke Progress, the Lumbee...these and other "voices" saw the light of day for a brief span, then lapsed into silence. Yet for a

full decade, come Hades or high water, the Carolina Indian Voice has prevailed, issue after issue appearing as regularly as clockwork.

In a tri-racial setting such as ours in Robeson County, North Carolina, that is no small accomplishment. I salute these younger people, armed only with Indian determination and their brighter dreams of a more glorious tomorrow for all our people. They have truly made Robeson a better county in which to live. They have, in fact, enhanced Indian life throughout

Interestingly enough, the life of the Carolina Indian Voice has coincided with the Indian renaissance, experienced not only in this but also in all other states of

become national models for Indian education and Indian economic advancement generally. We saw individuals from our own group take high and great places of natural Indian leadership, and come away with honor after honor.

And so it is that the Carolina India Voice has much to celebrate, much for which to be justly proud.

The news covered during those ten years has not been all good, but neither has it been all bad. And there have been more success stories. I believe, than stories of violence and mayhem. The paper has observed, reported, formula-ted and expressed opinion. But it has not only observed and reported upon life in

unique Robeson. It has also become an stegral part of that life.

One of the most important functions of the Carolina Indian Voice is that it has helped one Indian in one location keep in touch with another Indian in another. And it has helped to keep the Indian mmunity at large function as a single nit, in a very real sense. We have no nger been totally isolated from each ther, striving to continue without

God bless the Carolina Indian Voice nd those who strive so faithfully to keep affoat, in good times and bad. It has ouched all our lives, and mostly for ood. May it continue to publish and ourish in all the decades ahead for the

blessing and edification of us all!

The paper has helped to right wrongs, air grievances, improve bad situations and make our very lives more livable. Any community without a voice is a sad community, indeed. And no matter what anyone may contend to the contrary, the Carolina Indian Voice, in fact, has been just that--- a community voice.

Some ten years ago, I had fears that the Indian community might eventually disappear altogether. We no longer had our community schools and their relate activities, per se. What was goin happen to us? Now, a decade later, I am more confident than ever that the India aity will go on fo

We are experts at survival. I still grow

misty-eyed when I recall from Indian tradition how that little band of colonists and Indians set out from "Roanoke in Virginia" (now Roanoke Island, North Carolina) to brave the perils of a vast, untamed wilderness in 1587. We have faced up to all the rigors and dangers between that point in time and now and have been victorious.

Yes, Brandi, my sweet little grand-daughter, and Dennis, my equally sweet little grandson, in case you ever ask, as I am sure you will, there will always be

Bruce, Connec and Garry, like the father, have printersink in their vein Moreover, they have the love of the