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THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-Racial Setting

P. O. Box 1075 Pembroke, N. C. 28372



Area Code 919 521-2826

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 8

25¢ PER COPY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1983

AFTER 10 YEARS! WHAT?

Where Do We Go From Here?

By Bruce Barton
This is the concluding installment of a two part series on the future of the Carolina Indian Voice newspaper. Thank you for your positive responses.

As noted, in last week's edition of the Carolina Indian Voice, we celebrated ten years of continuous publication on January 20, 1983. We marked the occasion by calling it "a decade of service."

But I'm tired. Honest. Maybe it's burn out, mental fatigue, just plain I've had just about enough of this...

Being founder and editor of the Carolina Indian Voice has been a heart wrenching experience for me. Friendships have been forged, and destroyed, because of the newspaper. Some, over the years, have gotten mad about something appearing in the Indian Voice and haven't spoken to me for years; others praise me unduly, heaping accolades upon me and my staff. The extremes of the two positions have caused me much pain; I have been lonely on occasion and have cried real tears of frustration and exultation over the last ten years. And there have been times when I really felt no one cared one way or the other.

So, where do we go from here? It is a legitimate question, and worthy of a reasonable answer.

Who will be the Next Editor of the Carolina Indian Voice?

I honestly feel as if I am trapped, unable to escape the editorship of the Carolina Indian Voice. This is a plaintive cry: I do not want to be editor of the Carolina Indian Voice for the rest of my

life. I hope to die, as the old saying goes, if that isn't the truth.

Who will be the next editor of the Carolina Indian Voice? The answer to that question holds the key to the future of the Carolina Indian Voice.

I see a newspaper—especially one published from an ethnic perspective—as a public trust, like a utility. Or, maybe, like a bank...with lots of stockholders.

That's why the Carolina Indian Voice is a public corporation now, owned by stockholders of varying political and sociological persuasions. And I desire more local ownership, until the ownership is diffused and owned by a lot of different stockholders, with the majority, of course, being Indian. We have a prospectus available, although we note, because of securities laws, that this is not necessarily a public offering.

I am now 41 years old, acutely aware of my frailties and poor health. And I want to more fully explore my Christian faith. I want to write books, visit the sick, grow as a Christian.

And the Carolina Indian Voice is a jealous lady, demanding more time and attention than I wish to pay her.

So, as noted last week, the Carolina Indian Voice needs to strengthen itself at the expense of Bruce Barton, the founder and editor. I suggest that yours truly be depersonalized, less dictatorial. Diffuse the power of Bruce Barton by selling enough of the stock to discourage him from confusing himself and the Indian Voice as the self same entity. They are not...and should not be. A good cross section of the community ought to own the Carolina Indian Voice, not just a few

like me.

BREAKING UP OLD PATTERNS...

And, if the Carolina Indian Voice is to survive my personality, we must break up some old patterns.

It is no longer good enough to just get by, raise enough monies to pay the printing bills and run from bill collectors from week to week.

No. Prosperity must come. Financial stability must be assured if the Carolina Indian Voice is to survive another decade.

And we must have 5,000 paid subscribers by December 31, 1983 and 10,000 paid subscribers by December 31, 1984 to survive and attract the kind of advertising we are going to need to be solvent, and buy the kind of equipment and attract the kind of employment needed to produce an interesting and profitable newspaper.

I AM COMING TO SEE YOU...

I'm coming to see you in the next few weeks. Kiwanians. Jaycees. Lions. Jaycettes. Church folks. Friends. I'm going to level with you and find out if we really want a newspaper, and what we can do to realize our desires concerning a communicative vehicle for our folks to use.

Invite me to your organization. Talk to me. Call me.

Let's see what we can do as we share our dreams and aspirations for the future.

Thanks for letting me share this personal message with you.

The Dream is Taking Shape

The crates are being opened, and the boiler is being fitted...right now...as we are writing this report. The Pembroke Nutrition Program funded by the Women of the Church Birthday Offering for 1982 has provided a dream for the people of the Pembroke area, a dream which is taking shape before our very eyes.

The Nutrition Program includes funding for a cannery, a farmers market, nutrition education, community gardens, and home cooking clubs.

The Cannery will be opening in March for testing and training. Six months of planning and site preparation have gone into opening the cannery. A four inch cement floor had to be poured to accommodate the drains for the food preparation area, and the ceiling in the room was raised two feet to make room for the hoods and fans over the steam canner. When the cannery is fully operational this summer it will have the capacity for canning over 800 quarts of vegetables, and five hundred pints of fruit per day.

Over 130 families have already signed up for training in the use of the cannery, and a week long training event put on by the Church of the Brethren Food Preservation Program is being planned for March 21-25, 1983.

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A People Profile... Commissioner Wyvis Oxendine



Wyvis Oxendine, Robeson County Commissioner, Pembroke-Smiths-Maxton District.

by Connee Brayboy

Wyvis Oxendine is the newest member of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners. He represents Pembroke, Maxton and Smiths. Oxendine's first official meeting as county commissioner was December 6, 1982. To his first elected position, he brings many goals and aspirations.

"My number one priority," Oxendine said in a recent interview, "is education. There are two places of education—the home and the school...One weak area in our educational system is a lack of parental involvement...Some of this is due to the working society in which we live. Here in Robeson County we are going through a transition from the agricultural type of life to textiles. In many cases both of the parents are out of the home working, and many work various shifts." And he continued, "I would like to see more monies put into our educational system. Presently we allocate \$165 per student in the county school system. At that rate, we are one of the lowest in the state."

Oxendine, 35, also brings to the local governing board a very impressive educational background. He is a 1965 graduate of Prospect High School. He graduated under the administration of Mr. Danford Dial whom he recalls with affection and gratitude.

"Mr. Dan," he said, "was inspirational. He has the unique ability to inspire a student to be the very best that he can be. He is one of the most influential people in my life. There is only one word to describe Danford Dial...inspirational."

Oxendine is a 1973 graduate of Pembroke State University where he earned a B.S. degree in health and physical education. In 1977 he earned a Master's Degree in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. He holds the distinction of being one of two Lumbee Indians who hold a degree from the prestigious university.

He was employed by the Maxton School System as Director of the Indian Education Program for three years prior to that system's merger with the county system. In this position he served as coordinator and counselor.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

PRECINCT ELECTIONS PLANNED

Elections for officers of each precinct will be held March 3, 1983 at 8 p.m. at each precinct polling place. According to a spokesman for the Robeson County Democratic Party, a quorum of 10 registered voters must be in attendance to elect officers.

Voters of each precinct in Robeson County will elect a precinct chairman, three vice chairmen and a secretary/treasurer.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TOBACCO TO HOLD HEARINGS

The Subcommittee on Tobacco will hold hearings Friday, Feb. 25 at 9 a.m. at the Fairmont Middle School in Fairmont, NC. Only tobacco farmers will be allowed to speak. No Tobacco Organizations or Companies will testify. The hearings will be chaired by Congressman Charlie Rose, Chairman of the Tobacco Subcommittee. Congressman Charlie-Whitley of North Carolina, Congressman Robin Tallon of South Carolina, Congressman Pat Roberts of Kansas, and Congressman Charles Hatcher of Georgia will also be there.

If you need any further information you may call Congressman Rose's Wilmington office. 919-343-4959. Lunch will be served.

SCIENCE FAIR AT PJH

The Science Department at Pembroke Junior High School will sponsor a "Science Fair" on Thursday, March 3, 1983 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the school gym. Projects of students and other professional projects will be on display.

Awards will be given to the fifteen best student displays. Parents of students and anyone else in the community who is interested are invited to attend this event.

BUTTER AND CHEESE DISTRIBUTION

The Robeson County Department of Social Services will begin distributing cheese and butter at the agency on Wednesday, March 2. The commodities will be available to house holds that receive food stamps in March. Food Stamp households will receive a form along with their March coupons to take to pick up the commodities.

Other households may apply for cheese and butter if the head of the household is age 60 or over and the only income in the home is from either Social Security, SSI, or VA checks. These households will need to take with them proof of their monthly income and proof of the age of the head of the household when they apply for the cheese and butter. In addition, these households when they apply for the cheese and butter. In addition, these households will have to meet food stamp eligibility requirements to be eligible for cheese and butter.

A bag or some other type of container should be taken to pick up the butter which will be frozen.

BURNT SWAMP BIBLE

INSTITUTE SPRING SESSION BEGINS

The Burnt Swamp Bible Institute Spring Session begins Tuesday, March 1 at the Baptist Building. Three ten-week courses will be offered. See ad elsewhere in this issue of The Carolina Indian Voice for more details.

INSTALLATION BANQUET PLANNED

The Robeson County Young Democrats will host an Installation and Recognition Banquet on Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Lumberton. Admission is by ticket only. Tickets are available for \$7 per person. Contact Rose Marie Lowry for ticket information at 521-4354.

Three outstanding Democrats to be honored will be Nancy Hays, Allen McLean and Mary Locklear.

ROBESON LITTLE THEATRE AUDITIONS

Auditions for Robeson Little Theatre's Spring Musical, "Gypsy" will be held Sunday and Monday, Feb. 27 and 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Robeson County Public Library, Osterneck Auditorium. Needed will be singers and actors ages 12 and up. Music will be furnished. Production date in six weeks.

Ingram Banquet Speaker for Pembroke Jaycees



John Ingram

The Pembroke Jaycees will host their annual Distinguished Service Awards Banquet on Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Pembroke Jaycee Hut at 7:00 p.m. The annual program is being co-chaired by Noah Woods and Jimmy Goins, District Director.

Guest speaker for the banquet will be North Carolina Insurance Commissioner John Ingram. Commissioner Ingram is currently serving his third term as the State's elected Insurance Commissioner and has received national acclaim as a "pacesetter in insurance reform in the nation for the consumer."

Commissioner Ingram is a former state legislator from Montgomery. Randolph County and during his tenure in the North Carolina General Assembly, he was instrumental in several legislative matters including author of the House Bill which ratified the 18 year-old vote; co-sponsored the Absentee Ballot Bill which permitted absentee ballots in primary elections, and authored the statewide vote for the referendum for establishing the State Zoo. Upon his election as N.C. Insurance Commissioner in 1973, he has advocated numerous legislative initiatives for insurance law improvements to protect the consumer and to maintain solvency for insurance companies in North Carolina.

HOW ARE WE DOING? ON OUR WAY TO 5,000 PAID SUBSCRIBERS

Paid Mail Subscriptions as of February 24, 1983: 1,160
(Not counting news stand sales)

Our Public #1 Goal-The Carolina Indian Voice
5,000 by Dec. 31, 1983;
10,000 by Dec. 31, 1984
WE CAN DO IT TOGETHER!!



Shown above, left, Edwin C. Baker, President of American Defender Life Insurance Company, presents PEGGY BARNES BREWINGTON of Pembroke an award recognizing her as one of the Five Outstanding Young Women of North Carolina for 1982.

Peggy was recognized for her outstanding performance in her city and community.

This event was sponsored by American Defender Life in connection with the North Carolina Jaycees' Five Outstanding Young Men and Women Program.