



ASI
SEE IT

by
Bruce
Barton

-AN INDIAN MANIFESTO-

by Bruce Barton
I am a Lumbee Indian. That fact is the focal point of my existence and has dictated my life to date.

A Lumbee Indian, unlike a reservation Indian, is free from the restrictions of a tribal council but a Lumbee's Indianness is emphasized even more vividly by the society he (or she) lives in.

A Lumbee Indian is an idea, a sociological phenomenon, as much as anything else.

One is what he is, in part, by the company he (or she) keeps. Like kinds tend to keep to their own.

Being a Lumbee Indian is to hold a name—Locklear, Sampson, Lowry—or to be a part of a community like Prospect, Deep Branch, Union Chapel, Saddletree, etc.

Life style, name, community, idea is most important in determining whether one is a Lumbee Indian or not. "Blood" is important but not as overriding as the above mentioned.

Lumbee Indians have also suffered subtle-but evil nevertheless-discrimination in Robeson County. Lumbee Indians are mostly products of segregated schools. Lumbee Indians live in rural settings generally.

But Lumbee Indians, in large part have always been fiercely independent, proud, unhappy with their rank on the sociological pecking order in Robeson County. Lumbee Indians are strivers, goal setters, dream chasers.

Education—mostly at Pembroke State University—has forged the Lumbee Indian, given him (or her) a way to improve their quality of life.

I am a Lumbee Indian, a member of a good and proud people. I am what I am.

I grew up in the Town of Pembroke, poor but proud, as my parents struggled fiercely to survive. My father was an enigma, a reader, a writer, a guitar player, always out of step with the world around him.

I was educated in the Robeson County Schools with my Indian peers. Races were segregated until 1970. I knew no other race but my own until I entered service in the early 60's.

Each step beyond my upbringing has been one of challenge, change, confrontation. I have had, in a sense, to step outside myself. I have had to relate to other races, ideas, places, values.

But my upbringing as a Lumbee Indian has marked me forever. I remain a Lumbee Indian forever and always because pride in my heritage has replaced my fear of it. Although forced by segregation and racism to be what I am I remain so now because I have seen the beauty of my Lumbee Indianness.

Now that many of the racial barriers have been dismantled, I remain what I am because I choose to be so.

Being a Lumbee Indian is an idea, a way of life, a badge to those around me. The badge shouts, "I am proud to be a Lumbee in 'an...yes I am!"

And my children will also grow up strong and proud as I instill Lumbee Indianness in their bosoms, teaching them as I was taught...to be proud of what I am—a Lumbee Indian!

My wife, Barbara, our children Brandi and "Sissy" now live in the Deep Branch Community. Our children attend the nearby schools. We attend Deep Branch Baptist Church, a predominately Lumbee Indian congregation. Our friends (by choice) are mostly Lumbee Indians.

But there is a distinction that needs to be made at this point. Now that segregation has been outlawed, I am a Lumbee Indian mostly because I choose to be so. Yes, I am what I am. I am proud to be a Lumbee Indian!

As the motto of The Carolina Indian Voice notes, "one cannot know where he is going if he does not know where he has been." I know where I am going because I know where I have been.

Letters

Local Medal of Honor Winners

Dear Mr. Barton:
On June 7 of this year, Postmaster General William Bodger unveiled the new Medal of Honor Stamp, honoring all those in our armed forces who have earned this distinction. To honor those in the area who have won this medal, we will be presenting an engraved album of the stamps to the individuals listed below on August 12, 1983 at 11 a.m. at the Main Post Parade Field (flag pole area) at Fort Bragg.
Mr. Roger H. Donlon-Fort Bragg, N.C.; Mr. Rodolfo P. Hernandez-Fayetteville, NC; Mr. Robert L. Howard-Fort Bragg, NC; Mr. Rutas G. Herring-Roseboro, NC; Mr. Fred W. Zabitovsky-Pembroke, NC; and Mr. Charles B. Morris-Spring Lake, NC.
Since the military officials at Fort Bragg are assisting with the ceremony, i.e., band, color guard, etc., the occasion will offer photographic opportunities. Please contact Ed Odom of my office at 919-486-2363 if you can be present and if you have any specific requirements.
Sincerely,
Jeff Marda
Acting Sectional Center Manager/Postmaster
Fayetteville, NC 28302-9998



REPORT FROM
U.S. Senator
JESSE ★★
HELMS

WASHINGTON—Not even at the very last could I bring myself to acknowledge that she had become, after all, an old lady. She had accepted the passing years as if time were somehow meaningless. No matter how late the Senate was in session she was eager for our late-evening stroll when I got home. In earlier years we had jogged together through the quiet Arlington neighborhood, but her gradual, growing shortness of breath took its toll. As the end approached we just walked, slowly.

Sometimes she would scamper ahead, up the silent street. But then she would stop and peer backward through the darkness to make sure I was not far behind. Cataracts had dimmed her vision, and deafness had begun to set in. But there was that unspoken determination to continue to do the things she had so loved in earlier years. The affection between us grew.

And then, in late July, congestive heart failure ended her life.

PATCHES—As humans count years, Patches was 112. One year in a dog's life, I am told, is equivalent to seven in the life of a human. Her 16th birthday, in June, had been celebrated with a dinner of hamburger and a scoop of ice cream. I recall having been so certain that she surely would be around for at least another year or so. But it was not to be. Patches went quietly, with a slightly puzzled look in her soulful eyes but also with an attitude of resignation.

As pedigrees go, Patches had none. She was mostly beagle, but we were never sure—nor did we care—about the rest. Nor did anybody else. She had the face of a collie; her bark could have passed for a hoarse hoot-owl. She had been patted and rubbed by Senators, judges and presidential candidates—and she liked them all. She had been on television and in the newspapers, and had been totally unimpressed by it all.

In 1981, her picture appeared, in color, in *Time Magazine*. Almost immediately there came a letter from a ten-year-old girl in Paris who had seen the picture. The child enclosed a picture of her dog which could have passed for an identical twin to Patches.

The little girl extolled her puppy, but added that she was surprised that there could be two people in the world who would love "such a mutt."

That little French girl and I became pen pals, because we know how easy it is to love dogs which may be nondescript to everybody else, but very dear to us.

YOUNG PEOPLE—I am often asked what I like most about being in the Senate. That's difficult to answer, because there are many enjoyable aspects. But if forced to pick one, I think it would be my contacts with so many young people and their families who come to Washington to tour this remarkable city.

I have met families from all over America as they wandered about the Capitol, wondering how to go about being admitted to the visitors' galleries of the Senate. A dozen or more times a week, I enjoy escorting families into the Senate Chamber. Occasionally, when time permits and the Senate is in recess, I take them onto the Senate Floor itself.

A week or so ago, a young family from North Carolina went with me into the Senate Chamber. The little girl of the family is eleven. She was awe-struck as she moved around the desks of Senators.

As they departed, she pulled me down and hugged me. "I love you," she said. And then: "When I get home, they won't believe me when I tell them where I've been."

That's one of the nice things about being a Senator.

Pharmacist
Howard Brooks
Pembroke Drug Center
(Main and W. 2nd, Pembroke, NC)

The crutch palsy condition
Improper use of crutches can cause a condition known as **crutch palsy**, with numbness and weakness of the hands and arms.
The problem occurs when the weight of the body rests on the underarm (axillary) pads pressuring the nerves and blood vessels, rather than supporting the body's weight on the handgrips. It is understood that crutch length adjusts for your comfort.
From drugs to sickroom supplies, you receive the most concerned and professional pharmacy services in the neighborhood from our pharmacy. Let us be yours!

STUDIES FROM THE BOOK OF ISHBI
7-381 "He that holloweth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive."
Dial 821-4888
Your Pharmacy

RTC Grads

Robeson Technical College graduated 383 students in the Pembroke State University Performing Arts Center Thursday night, August 4th. The guest speaker was RTC's Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. A.D. Lewis of Fairmont. Of the 383 students, 97 were technical graduates, 161 were vocational graduates, and 125 were adult high school graduates.

Robeson Tech presented awards to several students which included the RTC Special Service Award to Richard Jones, Jr., President of the 1982-83 Student Government Association, whose leadership strengthened student activities and implemented many student projects, and four Outstanding Service Awards to Hoyt Booth, Richard Jones, Jr., Rolf Kellerman, and Gregory Oxendine who showed exceptional service to the school as outstanding campus leaders.

Betty Tart and Rolf Kellerman were awarded the Bruce Boney Stephens awards for academic excellence in maintaining the highest academic averages in their respective technical and vocational programs.

Various businesses presented additional awards to students including Southeast Production Credit's award for academic excellence in business to Jolene Long; Wall Street Journal's award for scholastic achievement in business to Cedric Thompson; Robeson Office Supplies' special award to Edwina Lewis; Acme Electric Corporation's special awards to Robert Meehan, Gregory Oxendine and Robert Shaw; McKenzie Supply Company's special awards to Daniel Evans and Dwight Murray; Pembroke Machine Company's award for academic excellence in the machinist curriculum to Gene Elvington; Bryant Supply Company's award for academic excellence in the electrical curriculum to Joe Forest Ross; Carolina King Welding Supply's award for outstanding performance in welding to Roger Grass; and Harvey, Hasco's awards for outstanding performance in the air conditioning curriculum to Robert Meehan and David Kinlaw.

For the first time this year RTC awarded a one year scholarship to each of its ten adult high school graduates who scored the highest on the North Carolina Competency Test. These graduates were: Barbara Blanks, Jessie Blanton, Jr., Anthony Connor, Earl Jordan, Ramona Jordan, Kenneth Pait, Monette Singletery, Nancy Strickland, Donna Thorman and Dale Thorndyke. In addition RTC's Alumni Association presented cash awards to three adult high school graduates who scored the highest on the state competency test. The recipients were Donna Thorman, Jessie Blanton Jr. and Kenneth Pait.

ISN'T THIS A
Beautiful
Day!

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EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

We Cannot Know Where We Are Going if We Don't Know Where We've Been...

So fittingly we honor our Pioneer Fathers

MEANDERING WITH GARRY L. BARTON

Remember - these views are mine, they are not necessarily anyone else's; they aren't even necessarily views.

"RobCor" or "RobScam?"

Some people go through life never feeling loved or wanted if they're present or missed if they're not. In that regard I guess you could say I'm more fortunate than most. Three different people told me they missed my column when I recently went on vacation (if that's what you call being unemployed) and discontinued it for a spell. Think about it! I have three fans out there who shall remain nameless for the sake of my many detractors out there who would argue that I shouldn't include myself in that three. Nevertheless, I declare to my Cult of Three (Two if I can't count myself): I'm back!

I'll be honest with you folk. With the FBI camped out in Robeson County seemingly intent upon meeting their quota of promised arrests, I'm kind of jubes about picking up the pen again. But I have just got to say this. One of the agents said the arrest of Chris Antwi was just the tip of the iceberg. If the flimsy charges against the recently arrested eleven in the county is any indication, the FBI haven't even shown me the tip of an icicle.

Think about it people. If the prejudiced treatment of the two Indians arrested among the eleven is any indication, the FBI must ascribe to the same sentiments of the late President Kennedy. Weren't he the one who said: "I'd rather be dead than red"?

And NC FBI Agent Pence coined the investigation "RobCor" for Robeson County Corruption. Ain't that cute? I think it would be more appropriate to call the investigation "RobScam" in honor of the recent "Abscam" investigation. This is just my opinion people, but the "RobCor" investigation seems to be a scam to me. I wonder if I can say that out loud.

And did you notice the alleged crimes charged against the unfortunate eleven? People please! There don't appear to be a decent murderer or bank robber in the lot...at least nothing to my estimation to warrant the FBI becoming involved.

AN EDITORIAL EXPRESSION

Senator Soles 'Not Guilty' Portent of Things to Come in Ol' 'Robcor'

The headlines rang out Tuesday morning: "Senator [R.C.] Soles found not guilty." And that verdict seems to us to be a portent of things to come in our very own "RobCor" probe here in Ol' Robeson County.

This newspaper expresses satisfaction in the not guilty verdict expressed by the jury in the trial of Senator R.C. Soles who lives in nearby Tabor City. The man is a political animal, make no mistake about that. But that is not reason enough to take a man's reputation and drag it through the media mud like the Republican Federal District Attorneys and the FBI have done. Decency should, more than any place else, be shown in our judicial system where order separates us from lower life animals. Or does it?

Senator Soles was found not guilty of aiding and abetting the extortion of money from FBI undercover agents in 1981 and 1982, the charge being the only one left after Judge James C. Fox threw out charges of lying to a grand jury, accepting a gold bracelet in exchange for influencing a precious metals bill and promising not to scuttle a mixed drink referendum in Bolton, North Carolina.

Here in Robeson County the fabled FBI have found instances of where maybe just maybe \$14,000 has been misapplied or misappropriated out of millions spent in the CETA program administered by the Robeson County Department of Human Resources whose head was Chris Antwi, a transplanted Ghanaian from Africa, until he was indicted himself for irregularities in administering the CETA program. Since then, according to reputable sources, Antwi has been telling prosecutors everything he knows in hopes of receiving a more favorable sentence since he has pleaded guilty himself.

Eleven Robesonians have been indicted, including the county manager, the county attorney, the former chairman of

the board of commissioners, and a number of others. It does seem much ado about hardly anything. Some of the charges seem pitiful, hardly worth the tens of thousands spent by the FBI to date in the probe.

Even the district attorneys prosecuting "RobCor" do not think the matter is serious if one looks at the bond set for the alleged crimes. The charges include people who lived in Hoke County and said they lived in Robeson County, another where a former county commissioner talked about using votes to move Antwi from his post if he did not do as he was told and other similar spurious charges.

As my friend Bob Windsor, the bi-weekly and wild-eyed editor of THE LANDMARK, one of the greatest newspapers in America located in Chapel Hill, said, "...by the way this is the 75th anniversary of the FBI. I was given several documents depicting their history and its highlights. They have pictures of Hoover, Kelly, Webster, of scientific labs, fingerprint files, FBI agents learning to shoot and their magnificent new building in Washington, the J. Edgar Hoover Building. They have pictures of Baby Faced Nelson, Doc Barker, John Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd, Al Capone, Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. They have lists of those they have captured and brought to trial including German spies, Alger Hiss, the Rosenbergs, Colonel Rudolph Abie and many others. Now they can add to that list of great arrests names of Theresa Boudreaux, Lonnie Coggin, Joseph Ward, Jr., H.E. Edwards, Alton White, Eddie Smith and James Dial."...And Herman Dial, Paul Graham, etc., etc., etc.

We expect, after all the hoopla, and the ruined reputations, that a number of not guilty verdicts will result from our "RobCor" probe too. But it's going to cost a lot, as we see it. Too much.

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE
521-2826

NOW THERE'S SOME GREAT READING!