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Robeson County

"Building communicative bridges in a tri-racial setting"

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11th Annual Lumbee Homecoming Road Runners Classic held

The Road Runners Classic was one of many events that was held July 4th during Lumbee Homecoming. There were over 80 runners from across the state who participated in the 4-mile run, 2-mile fun walk and the wheel chair competition.

The event was sponsored by Fleetwood Homes of Pembroke; co-sponsored by Lumbee Regional Development Association, Chairman Gregory Cummings, Pembroke State University, Co-Chairman, Larry Rogers, Robeson County Recreation Department, Co-Chairman Rudy Paul and Southeastern General Hospital Fitness Center, Co-Chairman Barbara Bullard. Special thanks to these persons for their time and participation.

Wheel Chair Competition winners: Jenny Joe Bell Nichols and her partner Michael Bell Nichols.

Women's Division-4-mile road race: Mary Piepes, 16 years and older; 19 to 28 years of age: Amanda Cole, Paul Antonelli, Deloria Jefferson; 29-35 years of age: Barbara Bullard, Sandra Oxendine and Rebecca Cummings; 2-mile fun walk winners: 15-years and under: Christian Lowry and Alison Elk; 29 to 35 years of age: Kathy Wilkins and Patsy Lowry; 36 to 49 years of age: Charles Beasley and Brenda Brooks; 50 years and over: Joyce Maynor and Albert Wahrhafftig.

Winners of the 4-mile road race, men's division: 15 years and under: Bronson Oxendine, Jeremiah Cummings and Steven Hunt; 16 to 18 years of age: Jeremy Brewington; 19 to 28 years of age: Willie Christian, Mark Locklear and Art Locklear; 29 to 35 years of age: Stephen Boone, Ben Chavis and David Lewis; 36 to 49 years of age: Bobby Locklear, Gary Deese and Donald Locklear.

Hunt Family Reunion

During Lumbee Homecoming weekend recently, a reunion of family and friends was held at the home of Mrs. Carlee J. Hunt on McInnis Street, Pembroke.

Attending this get together were the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Attending from Los Angeles, California were Dallas Locklear and son, Dallas Kermit; from Detroit, Michigan were Berry J. Campbell and daughter, Carla P.; from Ft. Lee, Virginia, Captain Donna O. Locklear; from Kingsport, Tennessee- Pamela G. Huber with husband and daughters- from the home-Ms. Sarah G. Watson.

Following the July 4th parade, a lawn cookout and dinner was held at Mrs. Hunt's home and hosted by her. Family prayer and dinner blessing was offered by the Rev. David Huber of Kingsport, Tennessee.

Harker R. Barton, the Indians' "first lawyer without a license..."

by Bruce Barton

The writer's spiritual self is anchored somewhere in the distant past, and seems happiest when exploring some far away star...like grandfather Harker Randolph Barton. It is always interesting to listen to family and friends talk about grandfather whom Mr. Clement Bullard and others often refer to as "the Indian people's lawyer without a license."

Thoughts of "Papa" were revived last week when some aunts, an uncle, and the widow from Papa's third marriage visited home. It was good to see them and talk turned, as usual, to long ago days when things seemed simpler somehow. Harker R. Barton, or "Papa," as scads of grandchildren called him, died when the writer was a mere 13 in 1954. He is buried in "Old Prospect" Cemetery, and is fondly remembered in Prospect where he was raised, and beyond.

Harker Randolph Barton was the son of Nathaniel A. "Buddy" Barton and Florence Goins. He was rumored to be "the first Indian to own a typewriter in Robeson County," and had the Winston-Salem Union Republican and other newspapers delivered to his door. Like many present day Bartons, he loved to read and write. Fond memories are of Indians visiting on "legal" matters when the writer stayed many nights with "Papa" and "Ma Rose." A "sawmill man" by trade, Harker R. Barton was, as noted earlier, more correctly the Indian people's "Lawyer without a license." A Barton story is that he was once cited to court for "practicing law without a license," as told by his son, Lew Barton, (the writer's father) and others.

Records gathered during the recent effort for federal recognition for Lumbees reveal some of his correspondence in behalf of many Indian World War I veterans, who went off to fight for their county only to be denied their bonuses and pensions upon their return. Barton's efforts, mostly, helped the Indian veterans receive their rightful bonuses and pensions by petitioning the War

Department, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other federal agencies, in their behalf. An example is this letter:

August 24, 1925,
Department of the Interior of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I have your letter of recent date in response to my letter addressed to the War Department. Please be advised that the information contained in your letter to me does not give me the information that I desire. The facts that I want to know is this, was the Indians of Robeson County North Carolina United States citizens or were they non citizens when they and at the time they were drafted into the United States war service? According to the regulations of the selective service law they were not citizens. This information is wanted to ascertain whether or not these drafted men can make claim for life time pensions to the War Department for their war service.

Please look into this matter and advise me at your earliest convenience.

Oblige yours truly
H.R. Barton
Maxton, N.C.

By permission of the ex service men.

The letter indicates that Harker R. Barton had to prove, ironically, that the Indians were not federally recognized, thusly entitled to the bonuses and pensions. Federally-recognized, or "reservation" Indians were not given citizenship until 1924. His legal approach worked.

Harker R. Barton was a small man of stature, but a giant of a good samaritan, intellect and "lawyer."

As noted, he reared three families, and fathered 17 children before he died in 1954.

Harker R. Barton was married, in turn to the late Lucy Jane Locklear Barton, the late Catherine Ann Dial Barton and Rosa McMillan Barton Jones who survives him and lives in the Magnolia School area.

More next week...

Appointed to Indian Housing

The National American Indian Housing Council announced that Greg Richardson, Executive Director of the North Carolina State Indian Housing Authority, whose headquarters is in Fayetteville, North Carolina, has been appointed to its Board of Directors. Richardson will represent Region I, which includes all States East of the Mississippi, on the National Council.

The Council represents Indian Housing issues and concerns, on a National Basis, it prepares position papers on Indian Housing and testi-

fies before Congress on Indian Housing Issues. The Council also provides Technical Assistance and Training, for Indian Housing Authorities, throughout the United

States.

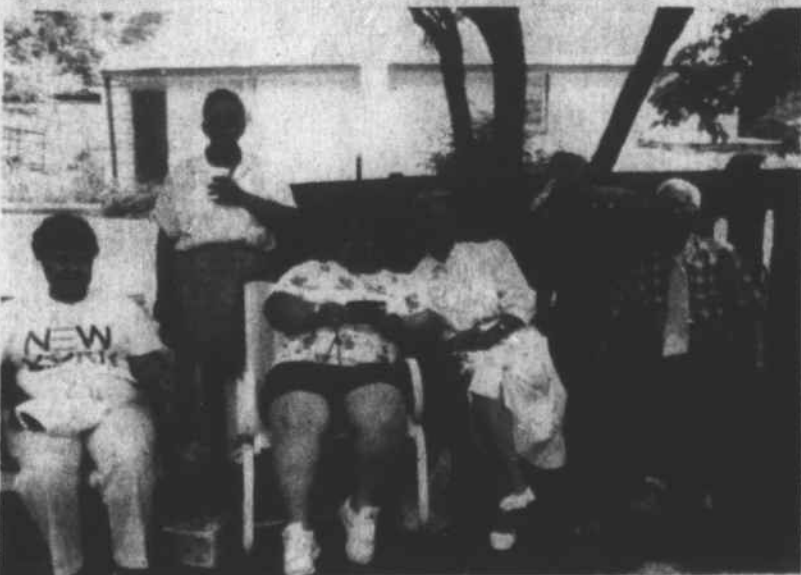
The National American Indian Housing Council Board of Directors will meet in Carmel, California, September 22-23, 1992.

Vietnam Veterans to gather

The Vietnam Veterans Reunion will be held on Monday, September 7, 1992 at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center (home of "Strike at the Wind.") The event will begin at 10 a.m. and last until....

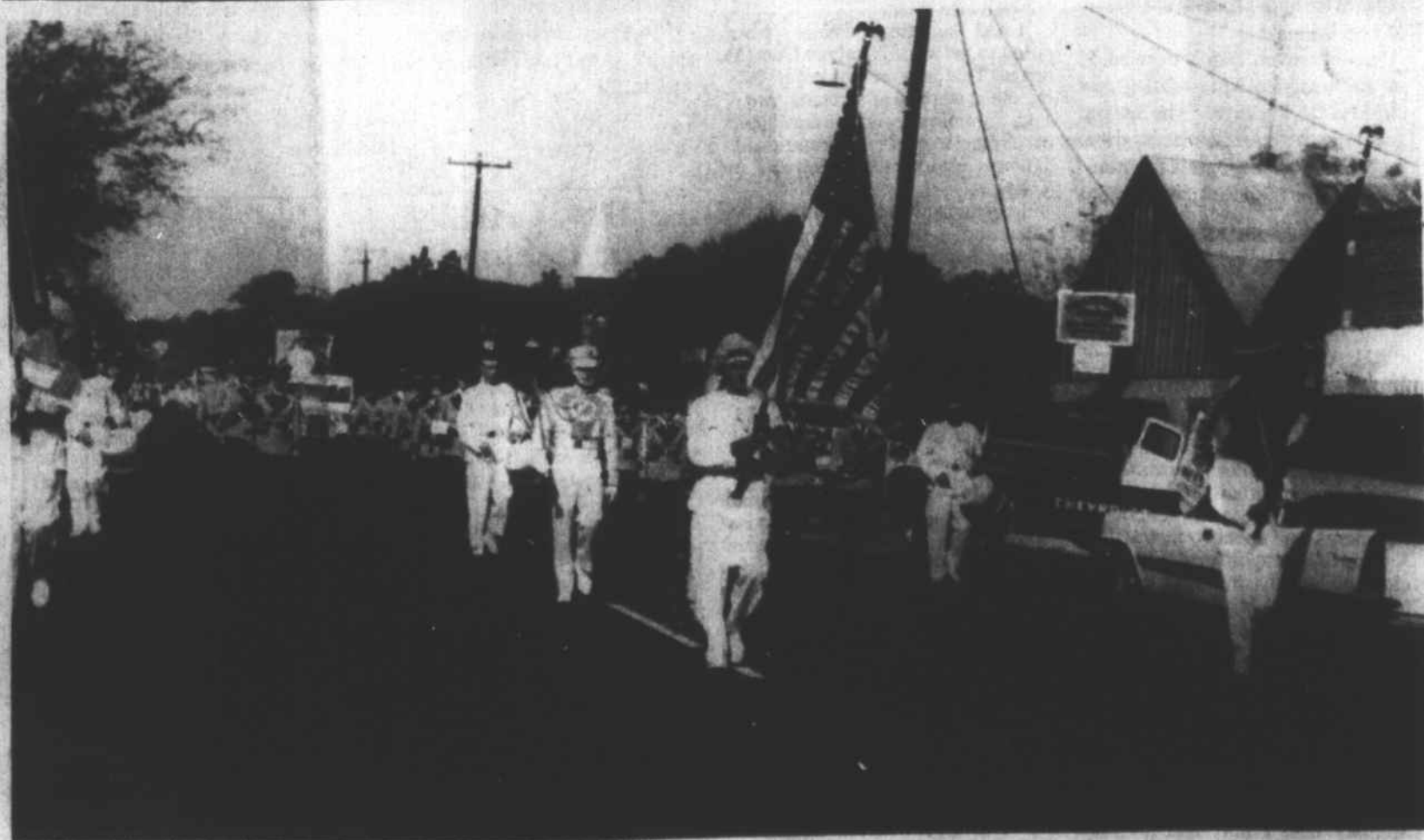
Interested veterans are encouraged to call 739-8861 or 521-2940 Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and on weekends to call 738-1747 after 5 p.m.

Locklear family gathers in Maxton



The family of the late Mr. and Mrs. Richard Locklear of the Cherokee Chapel community recently held a family reunion at the home of a daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Woods of Maxton. Richard Locklear was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Elias Locklear of the same community.

Shown left to right are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Locklear: Vincy Scott of Maxton; Carletter Locklear of Route 1, Pembroke; Gennie R. Britt of California; Dorothy Lowry of Raeford; and the hostess, Clementine Woods. Rev. Isaiah Locklear, uncle of the ladies and brother to Richard Locklear is shown to the far right. (Photo by Helen Locklear).



Looking Back...

Shown above is the marching band for Pembroke State College. The band was directed by Ira Pate Lowry of Pembroke, shown with baton in hand. The Pembroke State College Marching Braves was the official name of the band. This photograph was taken in 1961 at the Veterans Day Parade. It was not unusual thirty years ago for the college band, dressed as Indian Braves, to be an active part of community functions. The photo was shared with us with T.Sgt. Ret. William P. Revels of St. Pauls. Sgt. Revels will be sharing photographs of bygone days with the readers of the Carolina Indian Voice from time to time.