



BOLD SPIRIT

PEN & INK

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200 S/N 10A/P

The indigenous people of North America respected and honored Mother Earth because she nurtured and provided them with the essentials of life. Their campfire stories, often filled with laughter, taught lessons from the Great Almighty; how he encouraged them to live harmoniously with themselves and others; and how he taught them to treat and respect all things as a living spirit. This was the Way for them.

Yet, the Newcomers to this bountiful country labled the Native Americans—the First ones on the land—as uncivilized, barbarous, and bloodthirsty savages. This point of view overwhelmed the Native Americans, and set the stage for how history would ultimately treat them. Policies and programs, so often translated through BJA directives, many times abolished Native American identities. The First Ones on the Land were demoralized, shamed, and dropped on the doorstep of distinction. In spite of history, some tribes survived while others were not so fortunate.

Today, despite history's backward glance, there is a current effort by Native Americans to retain what they have left of their Traditions, their Culture, their Language, their Land. They have survived!

As my next print—"Bold Spirit"—I have depicted a Native American with one foot firmly planted in the past, and the other pointed westward. In this print, the living spirit of the Ancestral past, and the discipline demanded of one walking the paths of Righteousness and Success portrays the Native American in today's modern society—All dressed up with somewhere to go.

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## REFLECTIONS

by Alta Nye Oxendine

**Mother and the Nursing Home**  
One year ago I made the reluctant decision to place Mother in the Sheridan Nursing/Rest home 18 miles from the modernized log house where Daddy was born 97 years ago—and where Mother had lived for 52 years. Ever since I've felt guilty and uneasy, especially since I'd planned to take her back to her old home in a few months and stay there with her.

Well, I've just returned from a short visit with her in Montana. Now I feel MUCH better! In spite of her earlier few of spending the rest of her life in a dreaded "nursing home," she really enjoys many things about this Care Center. Especially all those good meals served in the spacious dining hall with picture windows looking out on snow-covered mountains.

I was allowed to take her home for two nights at a time, without having her lose her bed and her half of the room she shares with 92-year-old Petra, who came all the way from Denmark at age 18.

Besides taking Mother home twice (for a total of four nights) I took her with me to Dillon (25 miles away) on two trips. We also went to Virginia City (the county seat and an interest-

ing old gold mining town), to her church in Sheridan and to a family get-together at the Twin Bridges church we used to attend. Then I ate a delicious Thanksgiving dinner with her at the recently re-named "Tobacco Root Mountain Care Center."

Since Mother heading toward 98 in January) is still alert and more active than most residents, she seems to be getting some special positive attention from the nurses and the many aides who work there. Also, she has a lot of friends and relatives who visit her from time to time.

From now on, I'll keep in touch by telephone and notes, and concentrate on life here in North Carolina.

**Ten Year Anniversary**  
This month's Single Adult Fellowship meeting marks ten years since the group first met at Pembroke's First Methodist Church in December, 1984. Its purpose is still to provide good, wholesome fellowship for persons of any age of background who are single or single again. Regular meetings are held each month on the second Tuesday night at 7 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. Plans are also underway for a reunion of present and former members during January.

## Channel 62 Honored by Pembroke State

The management of WFAV-TV (Channel 62 in Fayetteville) was recently honored by Pembroke State University Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine for the television station's contributions to the University during the past ten years.

"We're very appreciative of WFAV-TV and James Thrash for the very significant contributions to Pembroke State and WPSU-TV," said Dr. Oxendine. "We thank you very much."

James Thrash, general manager of WFAV-TV, said his station has donated more than \$180,000 in broadcast time to WPSU-TV since the fall of 1972.

Dr. Oscar Patterson, III, is PSU's Director of Telecommunications and a professor in the Department of Communicative Arts. He said the relationship with WFAV-TV is unique. "A number of students found immediate employment at WFAV-TV upon graduation. It is difficult to express how much we appreciate this relationship." According to Dr. Patterson, 16 of his graduates have been employed at WFAV-TV during the past ten years.

PSU graduates currently employed at WFAV-TV include David Smith, class of '89, who is the chief engineer at WFAV-TV. Liza Babirak, a 1991 PSU graduate, who began as a master control operator is now in charge of production.

Tricia Damian earned her degree from PSU in 1994 and is an assistant in production at WFAV-TV. Another PSU '94 graduate working for Thrash is Glynda Norwood, the traffic manager.

Current students working part time at WFAV-TV are Charity Sanderson, a junior from Red Springs, and Mack McDonald, a senior from Raeford. Both are master control operators.

Thrash also recognized the contributions of George Johnson who was the original chief engineer of WFCT-TV (the predecessor of WFAV-TV) when it went on the air ten years ago. Johnson joined the University in 1989 as an telecommunications engineer at WPSU-TV. He is an alumnus of Pembroke State University and is working on his master's degree at the University.

Pembroke State University offers the bachelor of arts degree in broadcasting under its Contracted Major Option. Pembroke State broadcasting students produce live news programs each week during the regular semesters, and more than 100 taped public affairs programs and half hour entertainment programs.

WPSU-TV's programs are telecast over cable channel 31 in Hoke and Robeson Counties, aired over WFAV-TV each weekday morning, and carried in seven communities across North Carolina. More than 2.5 million viewers have access to the student produced programs.

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