

Editorial And Opinion Page



AS I SEE IT

Bruce Barton



Death is real. Our hearts tell us so, and we are left on this pale place to mourn our loved ones who are not with us anymore. They have gone to another place, "a better place" as some have termed it. It is a mysterious place where we can not go just yet. We must wait our turn, often times in the shadow of a sagging mountain or a seashore that does not shimmer as of old. We can never be what we used to be when our loved ones were with us laughing and singing and seeming to live forever. A moment has come to all of us at some unexpected time when death enters our room without invitation. And now we are most of the time sad and life is defining and we are always less than when we knew our departed loved ones in the flush of our youth.

I think of my oldest sister, Mary Ruth Barton McCoy Watkins. Married twice, she birthed three sons; only two of her boys, now men, survive her. She was sitting at a stop light in Burlington, N.C., obeying the law a long ago February day, and a young whippersnapper barreled through on the other side drunk and arrogant. The head on crash sent Mary Ruth to the hospital in Alamance County where she languished for a few days then died suddenly; the young fellow did not receive a scratch. It was a deadly blood clot that claimed her on Feb. 11, 1979. We did not have time to say goodbye.

For a long time I wanted to kill the young whippersnapper, and every once in a while the evil thought still returns but not as often as it did. I shudder. I miss my sister who died 21 years ago. She would have been sixty this month. Mary Ruth, we note your life and your death. We daily go where you are.

Around Ol' Robeson



Indian golfer now in jail has many fans in Ol' Robeson. Pro golfer Notah Begay III has many fans in Ol' Robeson, so many of us signed deeply Monday as he reported to jail to begin a seven-day sentence for drunken driving. I'm not Begay, a Navajo, and a two-time winner on the PGA tour last year was arrested Jan. 20 after failing a sobriety test when his vehicle struck a parked car outside a bar in New Mexico. Police said his blood alcohol level was 0.11, or more than twice the legal limit. His fans hope this incident was an aberration, and not the norm. We like our heroes upright and sober.

Come join Ms. Alceon Jones at her Art Exhibit

We hope you will join Ms. Alceon Jones some time during her art exhibit which is on display at the Indian Education Resource Center Art Gallery (located in what used to be the Pembroke "Indian" High School building), and next door to the chancellor's residence on the UNC-Pembroke campus. The facility is now home to the Public Schools of Robeson County's Indian Education Program.

The art exhibit is co-sponsored by the Indian Education Program and the Southeastern Woodland Native American Arts Guild. The art show and sale runs March 2 - April 13, 2000.

Ms. Jones is married to Robert W. Jones, and is the mother of five children. She presently serves as visual arts specialist with the elementary students in five schools in the Public Schools of Robeson County. Ms. Jones loves to express herself, and her paintings reflect her hearty and enthusiastic outlook on life. She is one of the most positive and outgoing personalities we have ever had the pleasure of knowing. She is a delight, and will be showing 20 of her original works. She looks forward to seeing her many friends at the reception tonight (Thursday, March 2 at 7 p.m.) and throughout the viewing period until April 13, 2000. The Indian Education Resource Center Art Gallery is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., or by special arrangement. Call Bruce Barton at 521-1881, extension 13 for more details.

The Carolina Indian Voice Published each Thursday in Pembroke, N.C. by First American Publications

The first issue of the weekly newspaper, The Carolina Indian Voice was published on January 18, 1973, by then editor, owner and founder, Bruce Barton with a \$500 personal loan. It has a proud history of continuous publication, having never missed an issue since its inception. Bruce's sister, Connee Brayboy, the current editor, is the only person to have enjoyed full-time employment since the newspaper's inception. A brother, Garry Lewis Barton came to work full-time in 1973 and ended his affiliation with the newspaper in 1985; its founder, Bruce Barton left to further his education shortly thereafter. Another brother, Ricky Barton, has been affiliated on a part-time basis with the newspaper since its inception. For the first time in years, the four siblings are reunited and dedicated to publishing the best newspaper humanly possible.

Connee Brayboy Editor
Bruce Barton Publisher
Ricky Barton President and Business Manager
Garry Lewis Barton Production Manager

They who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night.

—Edgar Allan Poe

A "sorry" letter from Myrtle Beach

Rantin' and Ravin'



Gary Lewis Barton

In a letter to the editor appearing in the February 28th issue of *The State* newspaper, Kevin M. Martin, from Myrtle Beach, says...
"I am a 35-year-old non-black American male. I have worked extremely hard since age 15 to make something of myself. I have always found work, ranging from raking yards to mental labor, to earn money. I would like to take this opportunity to apologize."

"I am sorry for being non-black. I am sorry that black Americans make up approximately 13 percent of the American population. I am sorry that your ancestors were sold into slavery by other black Africans during slave trading, centuries ago. I am sorry that the out-of-wedlock birth rate is almost 70 percent in the black population."

"I am sorry that blacks must have a Miss Black America beauty pageant. Black Entertainment Television, the United Negro Fund, the NAACP, the Rainbow Coalition, affirmative action and all-black colleges that further separate them from other minorities who have none of these."

"I am sorry that the average SAT scores for blacks are lower than for (non-blacks). I am sorry that America is the greatest country in the world today; yet blacks constantly berate, complain and protest this great nation's policies."

"I am also sorry that the majority of prisons are filled with blacks. What I am most sorry for is that blacks continue to blame everyone in America, especially whites, for all of their shortcomings."

"The opportunities... in America today are limitless. To achieve success, you must work hard and not blame everyone else for your failure."

"After writing this, I have realized that I am no longer sorry. Why should I be sorry for being hard-working, (non-black), morally sound and financially successful and for reaping the benefits which extend from my hard work, dedication and desire to better myself?"

(This is the end of his letter.)

I joined the work force at the age of 13 when I asked Mama to buy me a bicycle. She suggested instead that I get a paper route, earn money and buy it myself. "But Mama," I whined, "I need a bicycle to run the route." "You gotta crawl before you walk," said she, in essence. "And sometimes, walk before you ride." So I delivered the Chapel Hill Weekly newspapers on foot until I saved enough money to buy a bicycle. And I have been working ever since, Mama instilling in me the correct notion that one works for what he gets and should not sit idle on his haughty haunches waiting for a handout. Thanks, Ma!

Folk, I do not hate blacks. There are good and bad apples in all racial baskets. I just resent our lawmakers writing new laws favoring blacks and discriminating against non-blacks every time they feel a pang of guilt about something like slavery, over which I had no control. Heck, only 10% of folk in the South, the elite, owned slaves back then. If I lived back then, I probably couldn't have afforded a slave if I had wanted to.

Like the letter writer, I too am sorry about slavery. In fact, next to the government's campaign to wipe Native Americans off the face of the earth, I think slavery was the second most heinous crime against humanity in this country.

Now, how 'bout you sorry scoundrels who can work but won't taking my apology and a pen, going to Job Service and getting a job. It's time to stop groveling in sorrow and pity over something like slavery, over which we had no control. It's time to move on, folk. The truth is that the country would be a lot better off today if Farrakhan had urged those black men, who marched on Washington in the so-called Million-Man March a while back, to march to the Job Service nearest them instead, and get a job. I know it sound harsh. But if I was in charge and folk were able to work and wouldn't, they wouldn't have to worry about going on hunger strikes in prison. I would give them a headstart. Work or starve would be my slogan if I were president.

Yes, I'm sorry about slavery, a shameful period in our history. I'm sorry that Rosa Parks, that fine black lady, had to sit on the back of the bus. But the truth is that if black folk owned the bus, she could have sat anywhere she wanted to. And if anyone wants something bad enough in this country, whether they are red or yellow, black or white, or polkadotted, even if it's owning a fleet of buses, and is willing to work hard for it, it's possible.

We'll talk again, folk. Meanwhile, like the letter writer said, "I'm sorry." And if you can work and won't, so are you!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE Alceon Jones Art Show & Sale March 2 - April 13

NOW SHOWING AT

THE Indian Education Resource Center Art Gallery,
formerly the Pembroke "Indian" High School building,
next door to the UNC-Pembroke chancellor's residence.

8 A.M. - 5 P.M. Monday through Friday, or by special arrangement
call Bruce Barton at 521-1881, extension 13 for special scheduling
and for more information.

Reception is today, Thursday, March 2
at 7 p.m. The public is cordially invited!

Registration for Kindergarten

Prospect School Kindergarten registration will be held on Tuesday, April 4, 2000. The hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Media Center. Parents need to bring a certified birth certificate, original shot records and Social Security number to the school. American Indian students should also have their Tribal registration information. Your child should be 5 years old by October 16.

Applications will also be available for Pre-K registration. Parents are not required to bring their children.



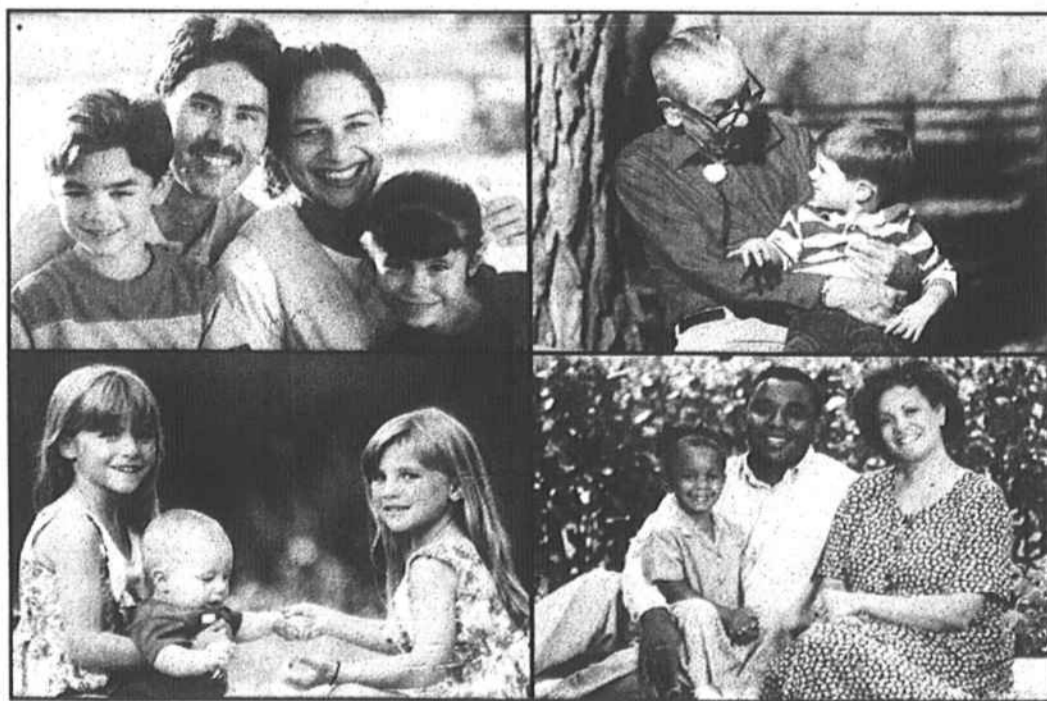
Experimental radio broadcasts began in 1910 with a program from the Metropolitan Opera House, starring singer Enrico Caruso.



Cork is the outer layer of bark from an evergreen oak. The first stripping of the cork oak occurs when the trees are between 15 and 20 years old.

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Roundball

with Coach Kelvin Sampson and the Oklahoma Sooners

by Bruce Barton

WHAT ABOUT THEM SOONERS!



Kelvin Sampson

NORMAN, Oklahoma—Eduardo Najera recorded his Big 12 Conference-leading seventh double-double with 25 points and 10 rebounds as No. 20 Oklahoma used an explosive first half for an 83-56 rout of Missouri Saturday, February 26.

Oklahoma (22-5, 10-4 Big 12) won for the ninth time in 11 games and its fifth straight at home while handing Missouri (16-10, 9-5) its fourth loss in the last six.

"The way our team played was Sooner basketball," said Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson. "We made them work for every shot and any time you score 83, you're doing something right. Tonight wasn't about the game, though. It was about our seniors."

The Sooners have two more games left in regular season, including a game at Texas Tech (Wed., March 1) and the season-ending conference game against cross town rival Oklahoma State Saturday, March 4. After that, it's conference tournament time and then another attempt to get as far as possible in route to a national title.

WHAT ABOUT THEM SOONERS!!
Pembroke native Kelvin Sampson also recorded his 300th victory with a 93-64 win over Texas Tech Wednesday, February 23, 2000. Good for you, Coach Sampson. We are all proud of you here in Ol' Robeson. Yeah!!!!

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it.
—The Song of Solomon

Let's Keep Mitchell "Bosco" Locklear Working for You!



Board of Education-at Large
May 2, 2000

This is a County Wide Election

*For Experience *For Continued Progress
*Someone Who Speaks Up For Your Interests
Re-elect Mitchell "Bosco" Locklear
"A Man you Can Trust"