

MORE LETTERS

Committee Chairs See White House, Not Country

(Continued From Page 4-A)

To the editor:
This is a reminder to all supporters of the Radical Republican and Christian Coalition that President Clinton was elected by 43 percent of an extremely large voter turnout, while the recent election was determined by a mere total of 37 percent turnout.

Admittedly, it is difficult to register as a Democrat or Republican in our times. It is high time that voters start to get educated and learn the facts prior to casting a vote. You can be sure that among the mere 37 percent who made sure to go to the polls, 100 percent of that small number were the radicals, the tobacco, NRA, health and oil lobbies.

That sure leaves a majority of very discontented or lazy voters at home with a very negative attitude. The attitude is understandable in this day and age, but responsibility for the future is also a weight that we elders must bear.

Had the powerful chairmanships of Congress passed into the hands of moderates and not radicals, we probably would have had a productive government until the next election. Instead, we have a bunch of power-hungry chairmen looking at the White House in 1996, and not at our country in 1994.

As an Independent, I am hoping for the best, as some good came from the past elections, such as the defeat of Oliver North, Tom Foley and Rostenkowski. We partially cleaned out Congress, but the job won't be done until we get rid of Gingrich, Dole, Gramm, D'Amato and Helms.

Raymond L. Ratigan
Calabash

A Quick Response

To the editor:
Along with so many others, we wish to thank the Tri-Beach Fire Department for their quick response to the recent fire on Holden Beach. Though we always had faith that such would be the case, to have it proven makes everyone feel more secure.

Jim Lowell
for Greater Holden Beach
Merchants Association

Zone Is 'Dizzy Dream' Of Bureaucrats, Boards

To the editor:

The story of the Alice Crockett family in the Southport area, not being able to build their homes on their family land of many years, verifies the disgrace of our zoning ordinance and the people that put it together.

The Southport Town Board was informed in 1992 that the soon-to-be-adopted county zoning ordinance that the public favored was flawed in bureaucratic design and would be detrimental to the residential character of the Southport, Oak Island and Boiling Spring Lakes communities. At that time, the Southport Town Board sent a representative to a county meeting, wrote a letter to the county planning board and then sat on its hands and watched as the protection the public sought was prostituted into a dizzy dream of a super Heavy Manufacturing Zone.

Bureaucrats, with the depth of the finish on cheap furniture, decided that a river and a railroad made an industrial metropolis. This was done with no regard to the thousands of people and their homes that were, in fact, on the ground. Moreso it vividly points up the maxim that good people contribute to evil things when they stand by and do nothing.

It seems that the present planning board is beginning to understand when they have flesh and blood people standing in front of them plead-

ing for what is and always has been their home. Will the boards that sat on their hands get involved and not sit and watch? Will the residential nature of this area be recognized and protected?

Hard to say. None of us wear three-piece suits.

Bob Quinn
Southport

Don't Let The Courts Become Our Legislatures

To the editor:

Prior to the election, George Will's column expressed some very profound thoughts regarding our national judicial system. He discussed the tendency for our court judges to turn courts into legislatures. "Whatever the judges deem unfair or unwise must be unconstitutional."

Specifically referencing California's Proposition 187, he stated that probably there would be no Prop 187 if elected officials had not been "corrupted by the culture of judicial activism and had been delighted...to allow a court to take custody of a convenient problem."

Here we taxpayers are far from California and have no Prop 187, but we do have the "inconvenient problem." The county school budget became the issue not conveniently handled with the county system of government. The school committee processed an appeal to an apparently friendly court to support budget allocation in excess of the commission authorization. The court decision

was favorable to the school committee's total amount requested based apparently on a "gut feel" that they had a more reasonable approach. Now the commission is appealing, not reconsideration of a violation verdict, but rather a reversal of a budget policy decision!

The subsequent election now being complete, California has its own problem and we have reconstituted county governing staff. The two

groups are bipartisan; nonetheless I would like to see a closing of the ranks to get the courts out of the school district business activities. A better understanding of the respective responsibilities and accountabilities, as well as improved definitions of reasonable and legal parameters for an effective school system, certainly would be appropriate.

James P. Jackson
Calabash

Write Us

We welcome your letters to the editor. Letters must have an original signature and must include your address and telephone number. (This information is for verification purposes only; we will not publish your street/mailling address or phone number.) Letters must be typed or written legibly. Address letters to:
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