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**Concerned Citizens
not after truth, justice**

On Tuesday evening, Nov. 24, I attended a meeting at West Robeson High School conducted by Mr. John L. Godwin and Rev. Mac Legerton.

It has been widely reported throughout the land that their group, the Concerned Citizens for Better Government and the Church and Laity organization, represented such noble causes as truth and justice for all the residents of Robeson County.

As the meeting progressed, it became evident that the truth was farthest from their minds. It was clear that the primary motives they espoused were money and publicity. The right to free speech was totally ignored by these purveyors of justice, as evidenced by their denial of free access to their microphone by reputable residents who wished to answer the very questions they had posed in regards to the two officers, Mark and Grajin Locklear.

They allowed a person to rant and rave for 30 minutes on the corruption of elected officials, but when a well-respected former teacher of mine, Mrs. Sarah Neal Locklear, attempted to defend the character of the two officers, she was rudely asked to sit down and keep her mouth shut. The friends and family members of the two officers became acutely aware that Mr. Godwin and Rev. Legerton were not in search of truth and justice if it differed from their distorted view of right and wrong.

It would do these two men well to tour Robeson Community College and learn about the competent training program our law officials receive and stop portraying themselves as champions of justice, because they revealed to the whole county their true nature and character when they denied our residents the right to speak.

Matthew Locklear
Pembroke

THE READER'S FORUM

Citizens For Bitter Government

**Kelly
Richardson
Fund
Established**

To the Editor:

Over 6 weeks ago 9 year old Kelly Richardson, while waiting for her school bus, suffered cardiac arrest. Kelly lives in rural Warren County, North Carolina and had to wait quite sometime for medical help to arrive. Kelly went without oxygen for over 15 minutes and suffered brain damage. Kelly is at Baker's Children's Hospital in Durham and must be monitored 24 hours a day.

Kelly is the daughter of Kelly and Bernadine Richardson of Route 2, Macon, NC and the granddaughter of Susie Richardson of Route 2, Macon and Charlie and Roberto Richardson of Route 1, Hollister, NC. She is a 4th grade student at John R. Hawkins Elementary School in Warrenton. Kelly enjoyed all things that little girls enjoyed. Now, Kelly is confined to a bed and must have constant attention.

In two weeks, Kelly will be allowed to come home under the care of her family and friends. Kelly's tragedy has put a tremendous strain on the family, emotionally and financially. The family does not have health insurance and is in great need. Items needed include a hospital bed, oxygen tank, wheel chair, supplemental feeding equipment, special food, linens, suction machine, and much much more. In order to help the family, we have set up a trust account. Donations should be sent to: Kelly Richardson Fund, Branch Banking and Trust Company, P.O. Box 280, Warrenton, NC 27589. Joseph Richardson, Trustee.

The family can be reached by writing to: Kelly & Bernadine Richardson, Route 2 Box 97-B, Macon, North Carolina 27551.

Joseph O. Richardson can be reached by calling 919-257-4600, after 4 p.m. I can be reached at 301-675-3535 or 301-675-2404.

Also, several businesses and organizations in the Warrenton/ Hollister area have jars out in order to accept donations for Kelly. Please support this effort.

Please join me in helping to ease the pain and strain of the family.

On behalf of the family, thank you for your support and prayers.

Sincerely,
Barry Richardson
Baltimore, MD



More than 70 million decks of cards are sold each year in the U.S.

To The Editor:
On November 24, 1987 at West Robeson School Cafeteria I witnessed one of the worst organized demonstrations since the Klu Klux Klan rally in Maxton in 1968, The Citizens for Better Government, Namely Godwin and Legerton need to change their title to Citizens for Disorganized Government because that was what they demonstrated at the meeting.

We, the supporters of Deputy Mark Locklear, and Officer Grayland Locklear thought this was an open meeting to voice concerns for those who wanted to speak. Little did we know there was a hidden agenda. When the last drumbeat ceased at 7:45 pm the attack started with accusations, hearsay and innuendos hit the floor against the Police Officers.

Any sensible organizer would have waited until the upcoming hearing or inquest to call such a meeting. Nothing was gained or accomplished only feelings were hurt. The first speaker began with seeking unanswered questions and lots of hearsay. Mr. Godwin continued with this attack on Sheriff Stone & DA Britt, & hearsay again on the police officers. The main event was yet to come when the Great Liberator namely Mac Legerton who came with his act preaching love in one hand and hatred in the other. Yes you guessed it hatred won out.

He continued to work the crowd into a frenzy with his accusations against Deputy Mark Locklear, questioning his character among other things. After Legerton's attack several supporters of Deputy Locklear asked to speak in behalf of the Deputy. Remember an open meeting to voice concerns. But Legerton waved them aside and held steadfast to the microphone as if someone was about to take it away. After refusing the supporters of Locklear to speak the supporting group left the cafeteria to gather in the Lobby to talk to the News Media. We came to a conclusion that this meeting was to hear only one side of the story. Deputy Mark Locklear was judged by a Kangaroo Court, namely Godwin and Legerton.

I would like to respond to one of the speakers who stated across the heavily traveled Hwy. 711 because that was a misdemeanor. I ask you if he would have hit a car head-on and killed all the occupants what would you call that? The highways need as much protection as our homes, because that is where most deaths occur and by those highly intoxicated.

The speakers mentioned Deputy Locklear should not have pursued the violator but if Sheriff Stone said he was in the right to pursue, the S.B.I. said he was in good judgement to pursue, then tell me what credentials Godwin and Legerton have to say otherwise. Another issue, I have never seen so many people who were asleep that Sunday Morning but later they realized that they were awake and saw and heard everything.

In conclusion, I have compassion for the Zabitosky family and I also have compassion for the Mark Locklear family. I do not believe in violence. Was it unavoidable? Most of the time our police officers have to act quickly, on an impulse. They do not have time to sit down and figure things out like you and I in our daily routine of work. Responding quickly, to protect their lives and others was foremost in Mark Locklear's mind.

So I ask you if someone pumped six bullets in your car occupied by yourself and two others what would you do...HOLLER TRICK OR TREAT?

James E. Locklear
Route 1,
Pembroke, N.C.

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**MAINTAINING ORDER IS
TOP PRIORITY IN
CCBG MEETINGS**

Dear Editor:
If the views expressed in the Robesonian on November 30, 1987 are representative of the views that would have been expressed at the Concerned Citizens for Better Government meeting on November 24, 1987, Concerned Citizens for Better Government were correct to dis-allow any views of those who attempted to disrupt the meeting with negative views and abusive language.

Concerned Citizens for Better Government has no intention of entertaining negative views and/or abusive, libelous language at any time. Maintaining order is the top priority in conducting a meeting. Those who wished to express their views on November 24, 1987, were out of order and were informed they would be heard at the end of the CCBG agenda. They refused to comply with this decision by CCBG.

In the future, should anyone desire the opportunity to speak at a meeting of Concerned Citizens for Better Government, he or she must comply with the rules of order and rules established by the CCBG Planning Committee.

Should you wish to speak, the Chairman, Mr. John Godwin or Vice-Chairman Rev. Joy Johnson must be contacted no later than 4:00 pm of the night before the CCBG meeting. You should also have a prepared presentation of no more than 500 words, also providing a copy to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman prior to the meeting.

Also, anyone who is perceived to be impaired by chemical substance or alcohol will definitely not be allowed to speak at any CCBG meeting.

Concerned Citizens for Better Government is and has been a condition in which to bring clear and honest government to Robeson County. Therefore, we do not intend allowing anyone, who has no respect or concern for the betterment of the people, the opportunity to cause the downfall of this much needed organization.

JOHN L. GODWIN
Pembroke, NC

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The Carolina Indian Voice

Newspaper is Published every Thursday afternoon by

The Carolina Indian Voice, Inc.
P.O. Box 1075
Pembroke, N.C. 28372
Phone (919) 521-2826

Editor.....Connie Brayboy
Office Manager.....Stephanie Locklear
.....And a host of friends and volunteers.

Subscriptions

1 Year.....\$12 (In State)
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