



"PRAISE HIM ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW" shows the importance of all animals and plants on our Earth. PHOTO BY BILL FAVER

## Praise Him All Creatures Here Below!

BY BILL FAVER

Those of us who sing the Doxology in our church services each Sunday may not realize that we are acknowledging the importance of creation. Each time we sing, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below," we are affirming the Creator and the natural world made by that Creator. We are saying the birds and mammals, snakes and snails, plants and trees and everything else is as important as the creature called "humankind."

The way we treat these "creatures here below" is a good indicator of how we feel about the Creator. If we believe we humans have been placed here as stewards or keepers of the planet, we realize we have responsibilities to keep it in obedience to the will of the Creator—the owner! If we feel it is here for our own use and enjoyment to the point of exploitation, then we signal a far different response to the Creator.

At Christmas, Christian people celebrate God's coming to Earth to be among us—with us. The Creator cared enough to come and show us how to live in harmony with each other and with all of his creation. So it is very appropriate for us to celebrate this joyous season expressing our love and concern for each other and for our natural world. The meaning of Christmas is not only that God was reconciling mankind (and womankind) to himself, but that he was making man "right" with the rest of creation.

Sing joyfully, "Praise Him all creatures here below," and try to remember this Christmas that when we exploit and destroy the creation we are also showing how little the Creator means to us. But when we respect our fellow creatures who share this planet with us we are giving praise to the maker of us all! Merry Christmas!

### MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## U.S. Jobs Gone And Still Going

To the editor:

You had a most fitting cartoon on the editorial page in the Dec. 5 edition depicting "Buy American." Unfortunately it is not only clothing that is not made in the U.S.A. but many other items such as most of what is in your home—automobiles, power lawnmowers, appliances, TVs, VCRs, cameras, flatware, dishware, pots and pans, \$100 athletic shoes, watches, rugs, picture frames and many other items too numerous to mention, many of which are made in Japan and other countries of the Orient. If it was fair trade that would be fine, but it is not.

If the items imported were of higher quality and lower prices, that would be fine. A man's shirt made overseas with horrendously cheap labor sells for the same price as an American made shirt.

If you removed each article from a fully clothed United States serviceman that was imported, the soldier would stand naked before you. He could then jump in his modern tank made in Egypt.

In Mexico, right across the border, are "Maquiladoras" assembly plants established in Mexico mostly owned by well-known U.S. corporations (GE, GM, Ford, United Technologies, Litton and others) and most of the products (electronics, electrical and auto parts) produced from these plants are sold in the United States. Maquila workers are paid only 60 to 70 cents per hour and live in squalor.

All of the mentioned items formerly were manufactured and assembled in the United States.

Now we have "fast track" which means many thousands more of lost U.S. jobs to Mexico.

This means millions of good paying United States jobs are gone and still going.

William G. Hoffman  
Schenectady, N.Y.  
and Holden Beach

### Champions Going And Coming

To the editor:

Our family journeyed to Chapel Hill Saturday, as did many other people. We wanted to see the West Brunswick High School Trojans beat the Thomasville High School Bulldogs for the North Carolina High School 2-A championship.

We saw most of the Trojans' games this season. At 13 and 1, they were equal to the Bulldogs. But the outcome of the game was not exactly what all of us had hoped would happen. Let us not deny that the opposing team played a fine game. Just remember this: our Trojans were champions when they entered Kenan Stadium and they were still champions when they departed for home.

This team has gone further than any other in the history of WBHS. A final score of 21-6 doesn't mean our guys lost, only that Thomasville won.

The cheerleaders were peppy. The Trojan Marching Band was never

better. I was proud to be among the many fans who cheered, waved flags and supported our West Brunswick High School football team.

Thank you, Coach Seay and the Trojans!

Otho and Alice Tew  
Holden Beach

### Could Be Slap In Veterans' Face

To the editor:

As commander of Calabash V.F.W. Post 7288, and representative of over 300 members, we feel that it will be a slap in the face to veterans if the position of service office is filled by someone who is not a veteran.

We have nothing against a woman being appointed to this position if she is a qualified veteran.

We understand that there are over 200 applicants for this position from all over the state. A qualified veteran will have a better understanding of the concern and needs of veterans and more able to be of assistance.

Edward S. Wood, Commander  
V.F.W. Post 7288  
Calabash

### Is DOA Being Discriminatory?

To the editor:

In response to the challenging question in *The Brunswick Beacon* Dec. 12: yes, I am looking for work. With a veteran's pride, I acknowledge being one of the 207 applicants competing for the county veteran service officer position vacated by Jess Parker.

The article stirred more than just interest in job searching. It appears the county manager, David Clegg, may be offering a non-veteran an opportunity to compete for the coveted position. According to Mr. Clegg, "Not allowing non-veteran applicants would be discriminatory."

Attention is directed to a recent internal announcement published by the North Carolina Department of

Administration (DOA) dated Nov. 4, 1991. It announced (in summary) that a veteran service officer position is available in Winston-Salem, N.C. After statements of required training and experience, was this special note: "Applicants must be an honorably discharged veteran who served on active full-time duty in the United States Armed Forces other than active duty for training." So, is the North Carolina DOA being discriminatory?

The *Beacon* article continued by quoting Mr. Parker as saying, "Ms. Julia Hayes, a non-veteran, was the logical one to take over."

I strongly disagree with placing a non-veteran in the lead position of our veteran affairs office. Ms. Hayes is a warm, friendly and professional assistant with an outstanding record of achievement. Her longevity and devotion to her assigned position brings credit to herself and the citizens she continues to serve.

However, as cruel as it sounds, she is not a war or peacetime veteran. She does not possess the common core of veteran experiences associated with World War II and Korea, the jungles of Vietnam and cold war in Europe, the action in Grenada and Panama nor the burning sands of the Persian War. She was not there to witness our native sons and daughters fall while serving America's freedom flag. We may be asking too much of any non-veteran in this capacity.

I respect Julia Hayes and would cherish the thought of learning from her experiences and sharing with her in developing future goals to serve the approximately 6,000 county veterans (as of March, 1990) and their dependents.

Some alternative incentive must be pursued by the county in rewarding Ms. Hayes for her outstanding service. An increase in annual salary and/or proper public commendations may be a start.

CMSgt J. C. Chadwick,  
USAF (Ret)  
Leland

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Steven Hager looks sharp in his Billabong outfit.

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