

ELECTION '06 LETTERS

Chairman wants you to vote for Democrats

To the editor:

The 2006 election is upon us, and Cleveland County voters have begun casting votes at the Board of Elections, deciding who will lead this country, state, and county.

I challenge each registered voter to research the candidates. The Democrats have a real plan to keep us safe at home and around the world. The quality of leadership NC Democrats have shown in Raleigh has far surpassed that of the Republicans in Washington.

Remember the real issues facing Cleveland County voters: the need for high-paying jobs, the rising costs of health care and Medicare, the war in Iraq, the high cost of gasoline, help for senior citizens, the needs of public education, and continued support for Social Security. Please do not be fooled by Republican rhetoric on hot-button issues that they have had every chance to change, but have failed to do so.

I encourage you to go to the polls and vote the issues. The Republicans have let you down! I ask that you put your faith in the Democrats:

- US Congress: Richard Carsner
- NC Senator: Senator Walter Dalton
- NC House 110: Jim Long
- NC House 111: Betsy Fonvielle
- NC House 112: Representative Bob England
- Sheriff: Sheriff Raymond Hamrick
- Clerk of Court: Mitzi McGraw Johnson
- District Attorney: Rick Shaffer
- Coroner: Dwight Tessenner
- Non-Partisan Races:
- Judge 27-B: Judge Ali Paksoy, Jr.
- Soil & Water: Bill Walker
- NC Judges:
- Supreme Court: Chief Justice Sarah Parker
- Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson
- Judge Robin Hudson
- Court of Appeals: Judge Bob Hunter
- Judge Linda Stephens

Betsy Wells, Chairman
Cleveland County Democratic

We should learn about candidates

To the editor:

The number one reason why qualified voters don't go to the polls on election day is because they simply don't know enough about candidates on the ballot.

This drought of information is especially a problem when it comes to races for our state's highest courts. That's troubling, because four of the seven seats on the North Carolina Supreme Court - a majority - are on the ballot this year, with the winners handed an eight-year term.

Fortunately, the State Board of Elections has created a free non-partisan voter guide featuring all of the candidates running in the November 7 election for the N.C. Supreme Court and N.C. Court of Appeals.

The guide has been mailed to voters across the state, and is available online at www.ncvoter-guide.org. It includes information on the candidates' experience and qualifications, along with a personal statement straight from these court contenders.

Empowered with facts on the candidates, voters can cast a confident ballot this year.

Bryan Warner,
Director of Communications,
Nc. Center for Voter Education

Moore defends traditional marriage

To the editor:

While watching the Cleveland Community College forum I noticed quite a few differences in the candidate for House District 111. Most noticeable was the marriage issue.

Rep. Tim Moore, the Republican candidate, a proponent and sponsor of the Defense of Marriage act, asked Betsy Fonvielle, the Democrat candidate, point blank would she support a NC constitutional amendment defining marriage as a "marriage between one man and one woman at one time." Mrs. Fonvielle's reply was that we have a law to that effect already and that she would not vote to support that amendment.

We just saw this week one state court strike down a law similar to the one we currently have in North Carolina as being unconstitutional. The liberals know that the only way to bring in gay marriage is to allow the courts to do it by having statutes sitting out there in by the constitution. Tim Moore's position is simple,

he wants to spell out in our state constitution that marriage only be between one man and one woman so that a court cannot use the constitution to give a right to gay marriage. Betsy Fonvielle is willing to allow the courts to embrace gay marriage. I am unsure if she does not understand the legalities and necessity of this issue or if she is simply trying to hide her liberal agenda. In either case I just cannot support having her in the state legislature.

This year the choice is simple. Tim Moore, a conservative who will protect the traditional marriage, or Betsy Fonvielle, a liberal who will stand by and allow gay marriage. We need to keep Tim Moore in the House of Representatives. He is fighting for our values and is taking steps to protect traditional moral family values.

Bridget Ashworth
Shelby

Moore works with county officials

To the editor:

I write this letter in support of our state representative Tim Moore who is running for reelection this year. There are a number of reasons I support Tim and why I have concerns for the positions his opponent, Betsy Fonvielle, might take if elected to the state house.

I can point to one example that I think gives me the most concern and it is something I was very involved with in my services as a county commissioner. Everyone remembers that we had a terrible drought in 2002. Shelby's water supply ran dangerously low and resulted in the need to connect to Kings Mountain's water system through fire hydrants in order to keep drinking water flowing to the residents and industries of Shelby. Additionally, PPG Industries was within days of shutting down if water was not supplied and if the drought conditions did not improve.

With this dire condition facing Cleveland County, all but one of the elected officials of the county, towns and legislative delegation overlooked any partisan or regional differences to support the construction of an emergency water line running to the big Broad River to supply Shelby. This was one of the few times that all of the business, political and emergency personnel entities were in agreement on everything because we all knew we had to pull together to make this happen.

I stated that all of the officials but one supported the emergency water line. The lone person who voted against it was Betsy Fonvielle while she was a member of the Shelby City Council.

I was surprised and disappointed at that time and when I heard she was running for state house I became very concerned. I respect Ms. Fonvielle personally and believe she is a fine person, but I have to make decisions based on the job I have seen candidates do in their past positions of service. It is important because we count on our local legislative delegation to help us when it comes to economic development in bringing in new companies and in securing funding for infrastructure, such as roads. I can tell you that every time we have asked Rep. Tim Moore for his help he has answered the call and done all he can to help. He recently helped us in supporting the incentives plan that brought Indian Motorcycle and Chris Craft Boat Company to Cleveland County.

As chairman of the county commission, I need to know that when an emergency need faces Cleveland County that we can call on our state representative to help. Tim Moore will answer the call and I ask you to join me in reelecting Tim Moore to the state House of Representatives.

Ronnie Hawkins
Kings Mountain

Tim Moore is tough on crime

To the editor:

Nothing is more heinous than a crime against a child. It has really hit close to home with the Jessica Lunsford tragedy.

The legislature this year passed a law making it tougher on a child predator and our own Rep. Tim Moore was one of the sponsors of that law. However, while it is a good start it isn't tough enough.

Tim Moore wanted to go further and introduced "Jessica's Law," which would make it even tougher on someone who molests children. It would require that a sex offender serve at least 25 years in prison and not be able to get out early. His bill would also clamp down on the less serious offenders by making those offenders who are not in prison register for longer periods of time and would give the police more tools to make sure the offenders are living at the address they provided. Tim Moore's bill would also prevent sex offenders from being on

school grounds or any other educational location.

Someone who molests a child needs to go to prison for a long time and nothing less. We need to know that those who wish to harm children will be punished to the maximum. Our children are our pride and joy. Anyone who does them harm must face the stiffest punishment available. We need Tim Moore's "Jessica Lunsford" bill passed. We need to vote for Tim Moore because he has succeeded in getting tougher laws on sex offenders and will keep working to make the laws even tougher.

Vote to reelect state representative Tim Moore because he is one person we can continue to count on to be tough on crime.

Debbie Braswell
Kings Mountain

Westmoreland will use common sense

To the editor:

As a resident of Kings Mountain for 55 years and a former practicing physician, this is the first time I have written a letter to the editor. This writing is in regard to an important political issue that is not being addressed adequately.

I have witnessed the need of true reform of the health care system. Current laws force physicians to practice defensive medicine, increasing the cost for

everyone and forcing many onto the Medicaid rolls.

This year there is an option on the ballot. Wes Westmoreland of Cleveland County, born in Kings Mountain, is a conservative business man who with his father I have known most of their lives and whose strong work ethics I have admired.

Wes grew up working in his father's veterinary practice and on the family farm in Shelby, but he eventually followed his grandfather's trade in printing. Wes is a conservative businessman, who will bring a much needed perspective to Raleigh. Wes' perspective will bring a common sense approach to many issues facing our state. Issues such as illegal immigration, education, taxes and health-care.

The issue of Tort reform, and such things as frivolous lawsuits, will affect all of us, directly or indirectly, who ever need health care. Wes Westmoreland is the candidate who will be the one who will address and help us most with these issues. Then, if these issues are important to us, Wes Westmoreland is the clear choice for NC Senate.

PS - With apologies and all due respect to all my attorney friends, two children attorneys, a very honorable opponent, and friends Dean and Betsy.

John C. McGill, MD
Kings Mountain

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in Our Hands!**



ELECT JO BOGGS
CLEVELAND COUNTY COMMISSIONER
NOVEMBER 7TH

Realizing that the future is in our hands, I understand that we must strive to keep Cleveland County a safe, clean and wonderful place to live, work and raise our families.

I want to serve the citizens of this county by bringing my knowledge and experience to the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Paid for by the committee to elect Jo Boggs Cleveland County Commissioner.