

LTE
From page 4A

The group opposing a casino has been criticized by some of the supporters for saying the same things over again. What, pray tell, happened in David Dear's article? He has only said the same things that were used in the beginning when the cat was out of the bag. "Jobs", restaurants, service industries, tourists, etc. To which I say b-a-l-o-g-n-a, or baloney as some would pronounce it.

The job number is highly inflated but even higher in David Dears mind. Now he's promising 8,000 jobs, 4000 two year construction and 4000 employees of the resort. WOW!

1500 hotel rooms! Who needs the local inns? Restaurants on site! Who needs local feeding spots?

Tourists? With everything conveniently located on I-85 why would they leave that area?

All those "facts" questioned and aside let's ask this one. Where will the money come from to pay for all the construction, the land, the employees, the power and water, the

low cost food and the profits for the "resort"? Mostly local losses.

Having mentioned facts and references check this out:

Gulfport, Mississippi opened its first casino in 1993.

According to the Gulfport Police Department, which incidentally, doubled in size from 75 to 150 officers in less than five years; the city experienced a 92% increase in overall crime from the first seven months in 1993 to the same period in 1994. Increases were noted in the following crime types:

200% sexual battery, 311% robbery, 100% burglary, 160% vehicle thefts, alcohol related accidents increased 101%, domestic violence related incidents increased from nearly 3,000 to more than 5,000 (a 69% increase) between 1992 and 1994. Socioeconomic Impact of Gambling, Seminole County Sheriff's Office, 2011.

Having mentioned facts, check this out: FACT: The casino is not a... done deal as some have told you. The people spreading that are spreading misinformed rumors or lies or both.

FACT: The support letters written

for and signed by the County Commissioners and Mayor and City Council (except Keith Miller) on your behalf were sent along with the Catawba Indian Application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The letters were not official acts by the boards although they are written and look like they are official.

FACT: A representative of the Bureau of Indian Affairs confirmed that if the request for land trust is found to be legal, then community input will have influence on their decision to allow a casino in our area, that is why the letters are important and why they were sent along with the application. There is no public vote but your opposition can be as strong as a vote if we do it collectively.

FACT: A representative of the Eastern Trust Division of the BIA said directly to me by phone that he had never known an Indian Tribe to try to develop trust land and gambling in an area where they weren't welcomed. That is another reason the letters are so important and why many of us find them deceitful and unethical.

FACT: Both the County Board of

Commissioners and the Kings Mountain Mayor and Council earlier admitted they did not do any studies of possible down sides to a casino in our area although some claim that they have since done studies.

FACT: Both the County and City have been addressed numerous times and asked to review verifiable facts in a public forum and they have totally ignored those requests and have been unwilling to publicly acknowledge the growing opposition to a casino.

FACT: All Commissioners, Mayor and Council have been invited to attend informative meetings related to problems with having a casino and only two have attended any.

FACT: Even though this issue is currently dealing with the support letters that the County and City officials wrote about the casino, this is a problem not contained by City and County lines. The horrible social and economical effects will reach east as far as Charlotte and 50 miles west, 50 miles north, and 50 miles south of Kings Mtn.

FACT: It's not over until God

says it.

David Dear has said he's staked his reputation and career on the Catawba Indian Resort giving many years of positive economic impact to citizens of Cleveland County.

I for one, don't want to see David Dear lose his reputation or his livelihood over this issue, but in this case he is wrong. The facts I have studied are completely contrary and polar opposites to his. Unlike David Dear my 57 years of working life was spent in the private sector where people are dependent on themselves and God and believe equal exchange of money and goods is the best way to do business.

I even have some experience in the gambling arena that I believe makes me more qualified than David Dear to speak on the subject. While I appreciate any effort David Dear has put forth to bring real meaningful jobs to Cleveland County just remember it only takes one "aw crap" to do away with a lot of atta boys.

BEAUFORD BURTON
Kings Mountain

The Kings Mountain HERALD

is proud to present

Mountaineer Football

"The SMAC Game of the Week"



LISTEN EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT!

**Sept 26th
KINGS MOUNTAIN @SHELBY**

Coach Chris Norman, Paul Foster and Casey Harrelson

LISTEN WITH OUR NEW APP! IT'S FREE!



Download from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store for your Smart Phone or Tablet!

ShelbyInfoRadio.com