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19 Big Spruce Lane
Waynesville, NC 28786
January 31, 2016

Subject: Vicki Hyatt already Manipulating the Mountaineer 2016 Candidate Forum

Vicki Hyatt is already hard at work manipulating the 2016 Candidate Forum to be held at the County Courthouse on Thursday, February 11 at 6pm, put on by Vicki Hyatt and Jonathan Key of the Mountaineer.

#1. A typical case in point is slamming candidates before the thing even begins, by subliminally picking her own candidates. Vicki Hyatt indicated in her article **Candidate forum is Feb. 11, By Vicki Hyatt | Jan 25, 2016**, [re: article follows in it's entirety on the next page]

- Candidates confirmed to attend so far include County Commissioner Kevin Ensley, Aaron Littlefield, who is running against Mike Clampitt for the N.C. House District 119 nomination and Rhonda Schandavel, who is facing a primary campaign against Reese Steen for the N.C. 118 House District nomination.
- Candidates who have not yet confirmed their attendance are encouraged to do so. Or, if a candidate did not receive a forum invitation, contact Mountaineer Editor Vicki Hyatt at 828-452-0661.

From this, you would infer that the only candidates that bothered to show an interest were:

- Kevin Ensley
- Aaron Littlefield
- Rhonda Schandavel

But Wait!

Let's examine the form letter some of the candidates received. I can't say all received this letter, but in talking with some folks, more than one received this letter from Vicki Hyatt.

[Form letter appears after Vicki Hyatt article, sent to Terry Ramey, generic letter, i.e. "Greetings"]

She asked "Please let us know if you will be unable to attend."

To any sane person on this planet, that would indicate that if you were planning on attending, you would not have to let her know otherwise.

What the [expletive deleted]? Why did she give the impression that only Ensley, Littlefield and Schandavel were responsive? I'll tell you why - she is manipulative.

#2. Televised event. Vicki Hyatt indicated that "The forum will be televised on the Haywood County government channel, which can be viewed in all households served by cable television."

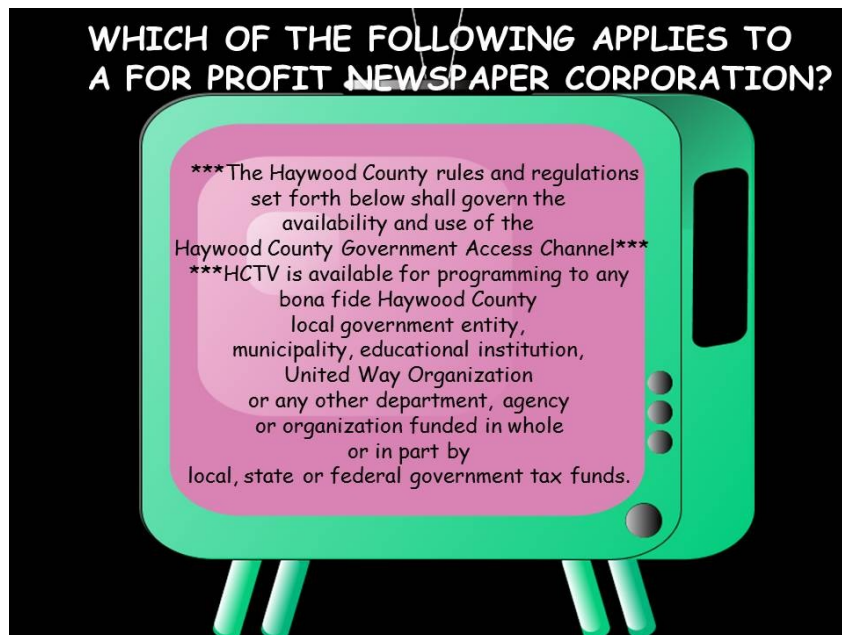
She, and the Mountaineer, were using the government channel several years ago until people started pitching a fit. Why restart this practice for this event? What gives the Mountaineer the right to get free use of the HC government channel?

According to:

http://www.haywoodnc.net/downloads/public_information/Public_Information/HaywoodCountyTVGuidelines_Revised_.pdf

HCTV is available for programming to any bona fide Haywood County local government entity, municipality, educational institution, United Way organization or any other department, agency or organization funded in whole or in part by local, state or federal government tax funds.

How does the Mountaineer meet any of these criteria?



#3. Questions. Vicki indicated "The public is invited to submit questions for consideration. Email them to news@themountaineer.com, or send them by post to The Mountaineer, 220 N. Main St., Waynesville, NC, 28786". Who picks the questions? Vicki, and whoever, does at the Mountaineer. There will be no opportunity for anyone else in attendance to ask a question.

Vicki has to walk a fine line here. She wants to take out candidates that are unfavorable to her and the Mountaineer, i.e. the two Republican Candidates for County Commission (other than the RINO) and Terry Ramey, by asking difficult questions that will make them look bad. On the other hand, the other candidates that she deems favorable can't look bad while answering these same questions.

Expect questions on the closure of CES and Haywood County Budget.

Don't expect any questions on how Mark Swanger purchased a Quarter of a Million Dollar Condo in Panama City Beach for \$10.00 and putting it in his wife Susan's name, or anything on the Landfills.

Monroe Miller
Haywood County Taxpayer.

Candidate forum is Feb. 11

By Vicki Hyatt | Jan 25, 2016



Mountaineer Publishing, Inc. will be sponsoring a candidate forum for legislative and county commissioner candidates on Thursday, Feb. 11.

Candidates in contested primaries will be invited to tell voters about themselves and their plans, if elected.

Candidates confirmed to attend so far include County Commissioner Kevin Ensley, Aaron Littlefield, who is running against Mike Clampitt for the N.C. House District 119 nomination and Rhonda Schandavel, who is

facing a primary campaign against Reese Steen for the N.C. 118 House District nomination.

Others invited, but who have not yet confirmed their attendance include Democratic commissioner nominees Robin Black, Steve Brown, Charley Boyd and Terry Ramey; Republican commissioner candidates Greg Burrell and Brandon Rogers and legislative candidates Steen and Clampitt.

The forum will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday in the courtroom of the Haywood County Historic Courthouse on Main Street in Waynesville.

Legislative candidates will make their pitch during the first segment of the debate, followed by the commissioner candidates. Legislative incumbents Rep. Joe Sam Queen and Rep. Michele Presnell aren't facing primary opposition, but will be allowed 3 minutes to make a pitch to voters before the legislative candidates are introduced.

The public is invited to submit questions for consideration. Email them to news@themountaineer.com, or send them by post to The Mountaineer, 220 N. Main St., Waynesville, NC, 28786

The forum will be televised on the Haywood County government channel, which can be viewed in all households served by cable television. There will also be copies of the video available at the public libraries.

Candidates who have not yet confirmed their attendance are encouraged to do so. Or, if a candidate did not receive a forum invitation, contact Mountaineer Editor Vicki Hyatt at 828-452-0661.

Mountaineer Publishing, Inc.

220 N. Main St.
Waynesville, NC 28786
(828) 452-0661

Greetings,

Mountaineer Publishing, Inc. will be sponsoring a candidate forum for those running in contested primary races for the March 2016 election. The forum will begin at 6 p.m. Feb. 11 in the commissioner meeting room at the Historic Haywood County Courthouse.

The forum will begin with legislative primary candidates in House District 118 and 119. Legislative candidates in these two races who aren't facing a primary challenge will be allowed 3 minutes to address the crowd.

A forum for county commissioner candidates will follow.

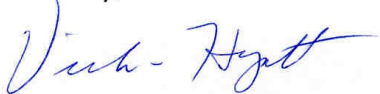
The forum format will allow each candidate a 1-minute opening statement and up to one minute to respond to a series of questions. Candidates will have up to 2 minutes to make a final pitch.

As in the past, the forums will be videotaped and broadcast on the government channel and disks will be available for check out at the local libraries.

Please let us know if you will be unable to attend.

Good luck in your campaign.

Sincerely,



Vicki Hyatt, editor
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