

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
2200 Camp Branch Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
October 2, 2022

Subject: Candidate forum was illuminating? Liberal Hack Writer Vicki Hyatt slams NC Senator Hise.

Liberal Hack Writer's **Vicki Hyatt** Mountaineer Candidate Forum last Thursday was a complete bust. To vent her frustrations, "Opinions" are frequently posted along with Letters to the Editor, but these "Opinions" are typically rarely signed by whoever wrote them, but in most cases, they point to Liberal Hack Writer **Vicki Hyatt**. One such "Opinion" was posted after the failed Candidate Forum, with Liberal Hack Writer **Vicki Hyatt** lashing out at people who snubbed her forum. This time, it was NC Senator Ralph Hise.

The following is a reprint of the "Opinion". In case you missed it, here it is, courtesy of the Mountaineer for including the text of the "Opinion" in the html source code of the on-line article.

Candidate forum was illuminating

September 30, 2022

The traditional candidate forum hosted by The Mountaineer was both a disappointment and a refreshing glimpse into the thoughts of present and future leaders. Topping the disappointment list was that of the 13 unopposed candidates on the ballot, only two bothered to show up. Thank you Hunter Plemmons, Clerk of Court, and Sherri Rogers, Register of Deeds. To all of the judicial candidates, unopposed school board candidates, soil conservation, sanitary district supervisors and especially Sen. Ralph Hise, we are very sorry you missed a chance to explain your duties and your thoughts on pressing issues.

*Candidates who are unopposed should not receive an automatic pass on their duty to be accountable to the public. As such, they should show up at events where a large number of individuals interested enough to delve into issues, are there to listen. Particularly disturbing was the non-responsiveness of Sen. Ralph Hise. Because of redistricting, the long-standing senator from Spruce Pine now has a portion of Haywood in his legislative district. **If he's ever showed up in Haywood for an event, it's news to us.***

He is unopposed and will hopefully be a voice for all in Haywood, not just the portion of the county he represents. But, if he doesn't take the time to meet his new constituent base, how can he really represent us? After a mailed letter and candidate questionnaire weren't acknowledged, numerous phone messages were left on all his phones leading up to the forum urging him to attend. The day before the forum, someone he works with emailed that he had another obligation. Thankfully, we now have an email where he can be reached as the campaign filing document didn't include one. On the hopeful side, the historic courtroom was packed with observers interested enough to spend two and a half hours listening to local leaders discuss local issues. Another great thing about this year's forum was that we received a lot of questions from readers they wanted to have candidates consider. We tried to use questions that came up frequently and ones that were more generalized, which hopefully gave candidates the leeway to tell voters about the top issues on their mind and how they would address them. For those of you who missed the Thursday forum, it can be viewed on The Mountaineer Facebook page, (don't let the empty courtroom fool you, just fast forward) and on Chanel 193 for those with Charter service. Zito Media service, which purchased Carolina Mountain Cable Vision has not made provisions to carry the government access chanel (sic) yet, but officials promise to look into the situation. The next action step is to vote. One-stop absentee voting where individuals can both register to vote and cast a ballot opens Oct. 20. Sites are open at the Canton library, Clyde Town Hall and the Haywood County Senior Resources Center in Waynesville. Election Day is Nov. 8.

Liberal Hack Writer **Vicki Hyatt** said about Ralph Hise -

“ ... Particularly disturbing was the non-responsiveness of Sen. Ralph Hise. Because of redistricting, the long-standing senator from Spruce Pine now has a portion of Haywood in his legislative district. **If he's ever showed up in Haywood for an event, it's news to us. ...**”

WTF?

This is a prime example to how oblivious Liberal Hack Writer **Vicki Hyatt**, and the Mountaineer in general, are to local events.

As informed Concerned Citizens of Haywood are well aware, Ralph Hise accepted an invitation to speak before the Concerned Citizens of Haywood, at the Buttered Biscuit on 9/1/2022!

The Concerned Citizens of Haywood has a continuous line-up of interesting speakers, all champing at the bit to speak before this group, except **Kevin “Adjudication” Ensley**, who cancelled because he is sick. The format of the meeting is simple. There is none. Speakers usually provide background information about themselves, and then take any and all questions from an inquisitive audience.

Senator Ralph Hise' interactive session was extremely interesting and informative.

Does anyone suppose that Liberal Hack Writer **Vicki Hyatt** will ever write a retraction / correction about what she said about Ralph Hise coming to Haywood County?

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
Haywood County Taxpayer