

OPINIONS & C

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A funny to share...

Dear Editor:

I came across this in the New York Times and enjoyed it so much I wanted to share...

"One struggles to think of a worse vehicle at a worse time. Introduced shortly after 9/11 — an event whose causes were tangled in America's unquenchable thirst for oil — the Hummer H2 sent all the wrong signals. It was/is arrogantly huge, overtly militaristic, openly scornful of the common good. As a vehicle choice, the H2 was a spiteful reactionary riposte to notions that, you know, maybe we all shouldn't be driving tanks that get 10 miles per gallon. Not surprisingly, the green-niks struck back. A Hummer dealership was torched in Southern California. The H2 was also a PR catastrophe for GM, who happened to be repossessing and crushing the few EV1 electric cars at the time. It all contributed to GM's emerging image as the Dick Cheney of car companies."

Now I hear that enterprising Realtors in other areas are offering a Hummer with the purchase of a new high end mini mansion.

Personally I'd be ashamed to owe let along drive one.

Thanks,

Cindy Williams

A letter to let you know where I stand.

Dear Editors,

I am writing in response to a September 5th editorial. The editorial mentioned two topics that interest residents of the 10th District: illegal immigration and highway construction. I hope you will allow me to share my thoughts on these topics with your readers.

In the September 5th editorial, you mentioned that my colleague, Rep. Marsha Blackburn, is charging forward with former Rep. Charlie Norwood's "Clear Law Enforcement for Removal of Criminal Illegal Aliens (CLEAR) Act." The editorial failed to mention that she and I have worked together to reintroduce this legislation, which has been renamed the "Charlie Norwood CLEAR Act of 2007." In fact, I am the first Member of Congress to have co-sponsored the bill.

The CLEAR Act is an important bill that will strengthen state, local and federal efforts to

enforce the nation's immigration laws. It contains tough, common-sense provisions such as: increased federal detention space; the denial of State Criminal Alien Assistance Program funding to so-called "sanctuary cities"; and requirements that the Federal government remove and deport criminal aliens. Passage of this legislation would represent a major victory against illegal immigration and would serve as a great addition to Rep. Norwood's legacy. I am proud to join with Rep. Blackburn in offering this bill.

The editorial also brought up the I-3 interstate project in a context which might mislead a reader who was unaware that I support the creation of a North-South highway corridor from Augusta. I believe that a North-South highway corridor will encourage further economic development in the CSRA. Further, I have long maintained that we should achieve this worthy goal in a cost-effective manner.

As a steward of taxpayer money, I believe that some proposals, such as widening Ga. 17 to four lanes and running it

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south from Habersham County to I-20, or running an interstate connection from Augusta to Greenville, South Carolina,

need to spend the huge amounts of money it would take to build new roads over and through the mountains of

these and other important issues. Thank you in advance for your consideration of my letter.