

OR

Vote Eckart to revive county

I want to encourage every voter in Allen County whose income and quality of life are threatened by our continuing weak local economy to vote for Fred Eckart for county commissioner in November. We need an infusion of good jobs in Allen County, and I, for one, am tired of waiting for the current county officials to demonstrate economic leadership and promote ideas which will add good paying jobs to our area. One-party rule equals lack of innovation, creativity and oversight.

Join me on Nov. 2 and vote for Fred Eckart for county commissioner.

Kate Love-Jacobson

Peters has the know-how for job

As a college student, I am temporarily away from Allen County, but I am very much interested in what happens there. We need to promote economic development as a regional issue, not just involving Fort Wayne. We need to strengthen job training to meet changing economic opportunities. And we need to reduce the "brain drain" so that young people like myself can return to Fort Wayne! As a start, we need elected officials who understand government, who have experience in business, and who have volunteered in neighborhood and community associations, such as Nelson Peters. Please pick Peters for Allen County commissioner, so that we'll have a partner in promoting economic development and making government more efficient.

Daniel Patrick Kensinger

Young face Social Security mess

It's great that large numbers of young people are registering to vote, unlike their parents' generation did. Dannesha Robertson, a first-time potential voter, told *The News-Sentinel* she is "worried about what Social Security benefits will be available for her 40-something parents." The Social Security problem is 67 years old. My generation, Baby Boomers, have let down their children by not taking a stand on Social Security long before now and have put their own retirements at risk, as well as jeopardized their children's future.

A program that pays those born after 1985 just 29 cents back for each dollar of taxes and credited interest is not fair. Americans want value for their dollar. You can buy a value meal at about any fast-food chain consisting of a sandwich, fries and drink for about \$4. If Social Security were a value meal, it would cost \$13.79.

If we want to save Social Security, then each adult must send a check today to Social Security for \$87,000, or cut benefits by 40 percent, or raise taxes by 85 percent. There simply is no painless solution. How firm are you on saving Social Security?

Our children should not be worrying about Social Security. It is our obligation to make sure we do not become a burden on our children. It is our obligation to ensure a foundation for a prosperous United States. It is this high school senior's responsibility to make sure they vote for candidates who represent their views, and not wait six or more decades to correct mistakes or pass the bill onto their children.

William R. Larsen

President should release CIA report

Our economy is sputtering, the deficit is ballooning, our schools are crumbling, and who knows what's on the economic horizon? Our federal budget is tight, and if we don't know the facts on Iraq, we can't have a meaningful national debate about how to balance competing priorities at home and abroad.

And judging from the statements of the presidential candidates, the truth about Iraq is not so clear.

President Bush should release the CIA's report on Iraq, which was completed in July and outlines future scenarios there — all secret information should be removed. We need all the facts. Otherwise, how are we going to avoid budgetary disaster at home?

Chad Hurley

Wrong candidate, wrong time

As a veteran, I am appalled at Sen. John Kerry's assertion that the Iraqi war is "the wrong war in the wrong place and at the wrong time." I also question his epiphany on the morality of the Vietnam War. If the Iraq and Vietnam wars were wrong, then so were the Korean War and World Wars I and II, where American troops fought on the European front. In each of these wars, American soldiers fought and died for freedom on foreign soil.

Now he says that he is in favor of stem-cell research. He wants to allow scientists to develop embryos, nurture them to produce stem cells, then kill them for possible cures. Apparently, Sen. Kerry has not heard of the principle: The end does not justify the means. His beliefs contradict the sanctity of life, the Bible and the teachings of the Catholic Church.

I can only conclude that Sen. Kerry is the wrong candidate at the wrong time for the presidency.

*Robert Neff
Columbia City*

Kerry's composure was inspiring

I was pleasantly surprised by the composure that Sen. John Kerry showed in the debate. I was embar-