As a Republican, I am writing to express my disappointment in the Chairman of the party that supposedly represents me. In his recent letter to The Journal, Mr. Headley threatens Steve Wolfe with political action if things aren't done according to Mr. Headley's demands. John Headley does not speak for all Republicans in KG.

This weekend, I spoke with Mr. Headley and discussed a number of issues associated with the DHRT. This issue is a non-partisan one in principle, but is being exploited for partisan purposes. I believe that there are a relatively small group of individuals who are angry that they aren't getting their way after attempting to bully the county. They misrepresent the facts and make baseless accusations.

I asked Mr. Headley for specific information about the claims he is making. I got none. I asked him how converting the railroad to a trail would facilitate the alleged utility corridor. After all, if the owners intended to install a utility corridor, couldn't they do it without a trail? How does a trail make this more likely? Mr. Headley couldn't offer an explanation and told me the Board of Supervisors could answer that question (an obvious attempt to avoid a question for which he had no answer). I asked him for details about the 'unanimous vote' of support for his actions. Specifically, I asked him how many committee members the King George GOP has. He spent the next 5 minutes evading the question. He first replied that they had 35 volunteers for the Fall Festival booth. I reminded him of the specific question - how many committee members do we have? He then responded that they have over 400 names on the mailing list. I insisted - no, how many committee members does the KG GOP have? Mr. Headley answered by telling me that the by-laws allow up to 62 members. Again, that wasn't the question. How many committee members are there? Mr. Headley replied with a non-answer: he didn't know and gave me the name of the Secretary so I could get the information. So apparently, Mr. Headley can recount other numbers with specificity - 400, 35, 62 - but doesn't know the answer to the most basic question - how many committee members are there? This begs the question - when the GOP had a "unanimous" vote explanation to his accusations about the trail being "anti-Christian and racist." He offered none. And on it went. Numerous accusations with nothing to substantiate them. About the only information Mr. Headley could provide was regarding my voting record. He told me that he had looked up my voting record noting that I hadn't voted in any primaries (I guess this is significant, but I'm unclear exactly how. Maybe I'm not Republican enough to deserve any answers.) He then went on to misrepresent what trail supporters had done. He told me about our supposed dealings with the gun club and Little Ark Baptist Church; about the trail clearing; about what was on our website. Unfortunately for him, I've helped clear parts of the trail and help maintain the website. Earlier in the year, Dave Jones and I accompanied Mr. Brickley to the gun club to listen to their concerns and were told to leave because we weren't invited (apparently they only wanted to meet with David Brickley). So I know everything he told me was a gross misrepresentation of the facts.

But most distressing is the tone of Mr. Headley's article. I have every reason to believe that Mr. Wolfe and the other Supervisors are honorable men who are trying to represent the residents of King George. These "new allegations" about a utility corridor are a rash of baseless accusations that have been made for years. There is no proof behind them, but the "smoking gun" Mr. Headley cites begins "utility easement for the installation and maintenance of future utilities." But this quote says nothing about any intent to exercise this easement. Or what the details of the easement are. Or that this is something unique that isn't standard boilerplate for any deed.

I believe Mr. Brickley and Mr. Williams are honorable men with good intentions. They are working to resolve the issues. Instead of questioning their integrity without cause and making belligerent demands of our Supervisors, I'd encourage Mr. Headley to act less like a bully, more like a citizen, and tone down the partisan rhetoric.

Dave Fedorchak
King George

To the Editor:

Since most of us are not lucky enough to be in the class of the country's super rich that have benefited so much from the policies of the Bush administration, hopefully we will go to the polls on Nov. 7.