



Global gun grab: Gun buy-back programs and other civilian disarmament schemes are used around the world. In Sao Paulo, Brazil, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, thousands of turned-in guns were crushed by a steamroller.

"Universal Declaration of Principles on Firearms Regulation" that would have all nations establish gun turn-in programs, license all gun owners, and require registration of all firearms. Each of these steps on the road to domestic disarmament are also key objectives of the U. S. anti-gun lobby in general, and the Clinton administration in particular.

Many local law enforcement agencies have conducted so-called gun "buy-back" (turn-in) programs, which entice law-abiding individuals to surrender firearms in exchange for money or other rewards. The guns collected are often destroyed.

Yet as Dr. Gary Kleck and other scholars have pointed out, such programs have no impact on the crime rate. Even many who espouse them admit as much, acknowledging that it is absurd to assume that criminals will voluntarily surrender the tools of their trade.

Turn-in programs do, however, accomplish at least two objectives: they increase the disparity between the number of guns held by law-abiding citizens and those in the hands of lawbreakers, (thereby promoting, rather than deterring, crime), and they gradually reduce the overall supply of guns available to civilians.

From the New American

authority and does not hesitate to use it, one who knows the chairman's authority and will insist that he not exceed it.

We must have at least one commissioner who believes passionately in the citizen's right to know anything they want to know about county business.

We must have at least one commissioner who truly believes in service to the public at every level of government. One who will even publish a newspaper in that effort. Vote for **BIVINS in November.**



Vote Derrick Vickers Sheriff Grady County

Vote Derrick Vickers - November 7, 2000

I have over thirty five years experience in Management, Supervision, Administrative and Budget Areas. This fully qualifies me in running the Sheriff's Department as a Business, because it is a business as well as a law enforcement agency.

I plan to implement a drug squad, focus on young people, improve wages. Have efficiency and professionalism throughout the department, showing no favoritism or partiality. Equalness to all citizens regardless of race, religion, sex, creed or financial status.

Reduce department waste, 911 issues, job performance. Realignment & restructuring of job duties, initiate training programs. Setting high standards along with implementation of needed policies and procedures. Enforce the safety, service and protection of all citizens. I will have an open door policy at all times.

In the Nov. 7 General Election, voters can cross over and vote for any candidate regardless of party.

Grady County "Serving Grady County"

INQUIRER

Intentionally Prophetic & Opinionated

STANDARD MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO.12 WHIGHAM, GA. 31797

August, 2000 • TIME TO TAKE OUR COUNTY BACK • Issue 7, Volume 1

New EPA Farm Regulations Coming Zoning Regulations Coming At You

Zoning Ambush

When Ex-commissioner John Harrell shows up at a commissioner meeting, I know there is going to be the devil to pay. He is there at the invitation of one or more of the city commissioners for a demonstration on how to thwart my efforts to resolve yet another problem.

The problem was racetrack noise, and junkyards. A delegation of citizens had come to the previous three meetings, complaining of a motorcycle racetrack built in their neighborhood. At the previous meeting, I requested sample ordinances to be provided for study. If we can directly resolve specific problems with an ordinance, this would leave citizen's other property rights intact.

A good case can be made for the use of ordinances to resolve problems. A few short years ago, gigantic chicken houses were being built all over Grady County. Complaints of odor, improper waste disposal, etc. were numerous. An ordinance was passed by the board of commissioners, specifying restrictions on future chicken house construction. I have not heard a complaint since.

Besides, even if you have zoning regulations, ordinances still have to be written and passed into law to address specific problems. My requesting noise and junkyard ordinances for study just served as an excuse to bring up zoning regulations.

The city commissioners Burns and

Copeland, supported by Norton, and ex commissioner Harrell thought this would be a good time to bring up Zoning Regulations - again. If you will remember, this is one issue that got John Harrell defeated in 1996.

Well, their effort led to the subject of a zoning referendum. In defense of Mr. Copeland, he expressed the concern that he did not think it right that city voters should vote on zoning regulations for unincorporated county. I agreed with him, and later entered the motion for a division, if it goes to referendum. Motion was not seconded.

Ordinarily, I am for referendum, but I am not ready for the issue of zoning to come up at all, until after the November election. Why?

If Lewis defeats Norton, and Bivins is reelected, then we can prevent the board from passing zoning regulations. Remember, even if citizens vote not to have zoning regulations, the referendum is non-binding. A majority on the board can still vote in zoning. My opinion is that they will vote it in because of special interest influence, and that Norton, Burns, and Copeland are in their pocket.

Remember also, that if zoning is passed in the county, it will pave the way for consolidation of city and county government. This will cause unincorporated county property owners to be taxed for the continued growth of Cairo. Believe it.

Believe also, that the citizens of Cairo will vote for zoning in the county. Forty five percent (45%) of county

voters live in the city of Cairo. They have been led to believe that the reason their tax bill is so high is because they are being double taxed.

In my first issue of The Grady County Inquirer, I wrote the following on page 4:

"You can expect attempts soon to implement zoning regulations in Grady County. It must be done while the three wolves, Norton, Burns, and Copeland are in the majority on the board of commissioners. Hopefully, the writing of this letter will slow it down."

The only way to stop zoning regulations on our farms and homes is to turn out in record numbers for the November election. I will continue the fight. Mr. Walter Lewis is anxious to join the fight to stop zoning, thereby protecting our property rights, and the planned increased tax burden on unincorporated county property.

I wish that I could afford to send this letter to every voter in Grady County. Maybe concerned citizens could pass it around. If you have friends in D3 - Duncanville, Higdon, Midway, Ragan - Calvary and Reno, you may want to have a talk with them about our property rights and election of property rights advocate Walter Lewis. I hope you will talk to each other about my re-election, as well. Otherwise, we can kiss our private property rights goodbye, never to return.

George Bivins

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CYAN MAGENTA



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CYAN MAGENTA

Special Interests

Two weeks ago, I had a conversation with a lady who is in business in Cairo. She asked me who were the special interests I was always referring to? I said, for one, the Cairo Messenger. She replied that is no special interest, that is a business. You see it was totally beyond her reasoning that businesses could be a special interest. Business is the biggest special interest in Grady County. They seek to be sanctified at the Chamber of business, (Commerce). This reminds me of a time, many years ago, when I was flying for PANAM almost exclusively into Central and South America. I noticed that the pursers were hauling liquor off the airplanes by the case and giving it to the customs agents in Rio, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, and other places. When I complained about this they said it was in the best interest of the company and America. They were good will ambassadors. You see they had been doing this so long and gotten away with it, that it was not wrong anymore. The practice had become sanctified. When the practice was exposed it was clear that the purpose was to bribe custom officers to look the other way while they smuggled jewels and artifacts out of the country. All at the expense and liability of PANAM. I want business to prosper

and grow in Grady County, but not at the expense and liability of its citizens. Let business pay its way. Yes, I know business is being taxed and hounded by the federal government at every turn, and I sympathize, but we are talking here about local conditions. That is all that I am concerned about. If I were a U. S. Senator, I would talk to you about the federal stuff.

County Commission

The office of county commissioner is much more important than many people realize. It is much more important than many of the commissioners themselves realize.

The county commissioners are lawmakers, legislators, and judges all in one package. They can make your life better, or they can ruin it.

Some commissioners get caught up in the politics of the job, and their own self-importance, rather than representing the citizens as job one. They depend on the county attorney, administrator, county clerk, or some special interest to provide information on which they make decisions. They don't realize that the information provided may be slanted, resulting in a biased decision. This does not represent the people; it allows others to do it. In other words, them who control the information controls

from the desk of THE EDITOR

the decisions.

Commissioners today need to have a source of information apart from that provided by staff. That source is the Internet. This is a source that is virtually unlimited. It requires only limited computer skills. In five minutes I can pull up any Georgia law and read it or print it out. I can access other counties web page, communicate with them to see how they handled a problem.

I have used my computer skills to provide information to the other commissioners, often in conflict with staff, to arrive at a good decision.

When faced with the proper information the commissioners have to vote sensibly, or be made to look bad at election time. This is the secret to my legislative success as a commissioner.

It is election time, and I am publishing what I consider improper positions taken by some commissioners, in the face of good information that I provided.

"The only way we can judge a person's future conduct is by his past,"

George Bivins

Whispering Charlie

Norton is whispering around that Bivins is too radical. No, Charlie, you are confused. You mean too patriotic, too honest, and too caring.

You could also say that Bivins is impatient with foot dragging, inefficiency and lack of accountability.

You may even get a road paved if you are not careful.



WORLD

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa

AIDS conference to convene

With the AIDS pandemic sweeping across Africa, thousands of the world's top experts on the disease are gathering for the 12th International AIDS Conference — the first time the meeting has been held on the continent most ravaged by the disease.

Seventy percent of the 84 million people infected with the virus that causes AIDS live in sub-Saharan Africa. Nearly all the world's 11 million AIDS orphans live here as well.

State Prison Near Whigham

By George Bivins

WHIGHAM - Over 34 million people worldwide are known to be infected with the AIDS virus. Virtually all will die of full blown AIDS. In America, the number of AIDS infected people is not known, for sure, their status is protected.

Aids infected victims with little or no immunity, are incubators for developing drug resistant diseases, such as TB, Hepatitis C, and God knows what else.

I cannot see subsidizing the location of an incubator for all these diseases built near Whigham. The employees of these prisons will serve to spread diseases to the populace.

See my article on these diseases in the June Grady County Inquirer.

Remember this guy?

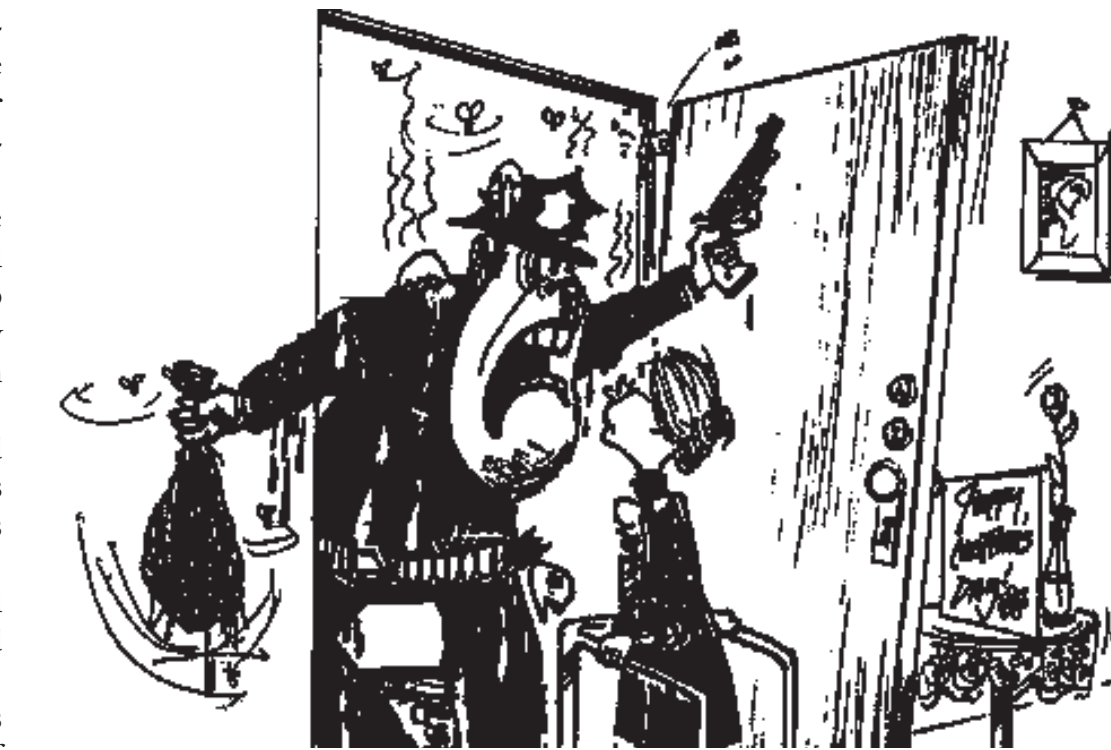
I have developed this column to make sure everyone is aware of the rules for our household garbage dumpsters.

Only household garbage may be put into them. All other trash must be taken to Cairo City Dump. A new county law has been written with teeth.

State law, incorporated with county law, requires the Sheriff to write citations just like a speeding ticket. The Magistrate Court will process the violations and collect the fines.

Only about 2% of citizens are ignorant of the rules of garbage and trash disposal, or just don't care. That means that 98% of citizens do care.

I am asking the citizens who care to help the Grady County Commission, and the Sheriff, to police these



violators. You can help by making call in complaints to your commissioner.

When you call your commissioner you should tell him the tag number, the county and state, and

a description of the vehicle and the condition you observed.

This commissioner will protect the identity of the citizens who report violations. •

George Bivins

Commissioner D1

Phone: 912-762-3200

e-mail: gbivins@rose.net



This comic strip is to remind you that there are Republicans in the county races. You will probably not vote for them in the July Primary, because if you did you would not be able to vote in the other races which are mostly Democrats.

In the November General Election, you can vote for any candidate in any party. This is the time when Republicans can shine.

Please remember that there are two Republican candidates for county commission. I think two Republicans and three Democrat commissioners is fair.

SYLVESTER -

Worth County officials have had to explain that the new curbside garbage collection program is not a take-it-or-leave-it proposition. All households within the county will be billed \$12.75 per month to cover the cost of the service, plus the fee already being charged to fund the solid waste transfer station. Officials point out that participation is mandatory, not voluntary.

FITZGERALD -

The controversial issue of mandatory countywide garbage pickup came to an end at a recent meeting of the Ben Hill County Board of Commissioners when commissioners voted, by a split vote, to table the question until it can be put before voters.

Worth County apparently imposed mandatory garbage pickup on their citizens.

Whereas Ben Hill County Commissioners decided to hold a referendum on the issue, let voters decide the issue.

Obviously, I will insist upon referendum before I will require citizens to spend \$600,000 per year.

Since I have explained the issues to you, and demonstrated to you by the above examples, I hope you will join with me and the board of commissioners, the Sheriff Department, and the Magistrate Judges Office, to clean up our garbage/trash problems.

It will take some real concern and effort on the part of good citizens to resolve our problem.

Obviously the county police cannot see all that goes on in the county, but citizens can, and you must take action, or we will pay the price.

Businesses cannot dump at these garbage sites, nor out of county or out of state people.

Citizens living near the county or state lines should maintain a careful lookout at dumpsters sites.

LEWIS SAND COMPANY ALL TYPES OF SAND/MASONRY, CONCRETE, PLASTER, TOPSOIL, ROCK, BASES 912-377-5011

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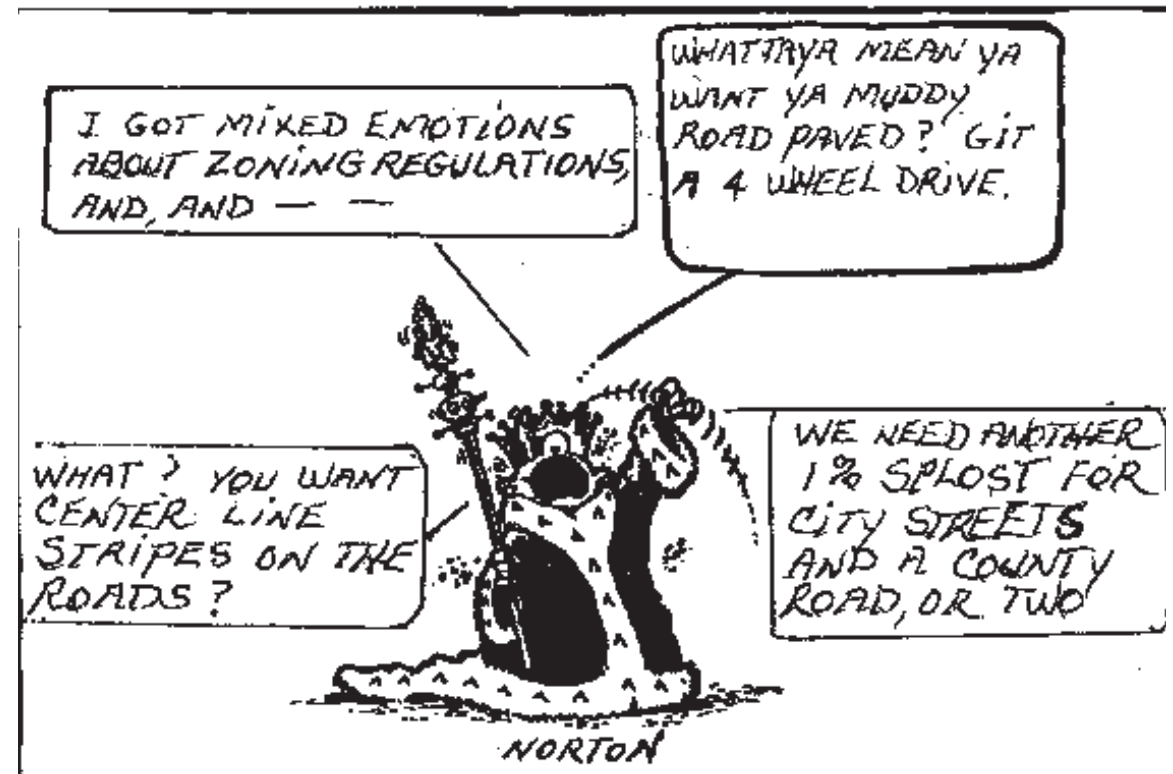
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CYAN MAGENTA

The Funny Paper

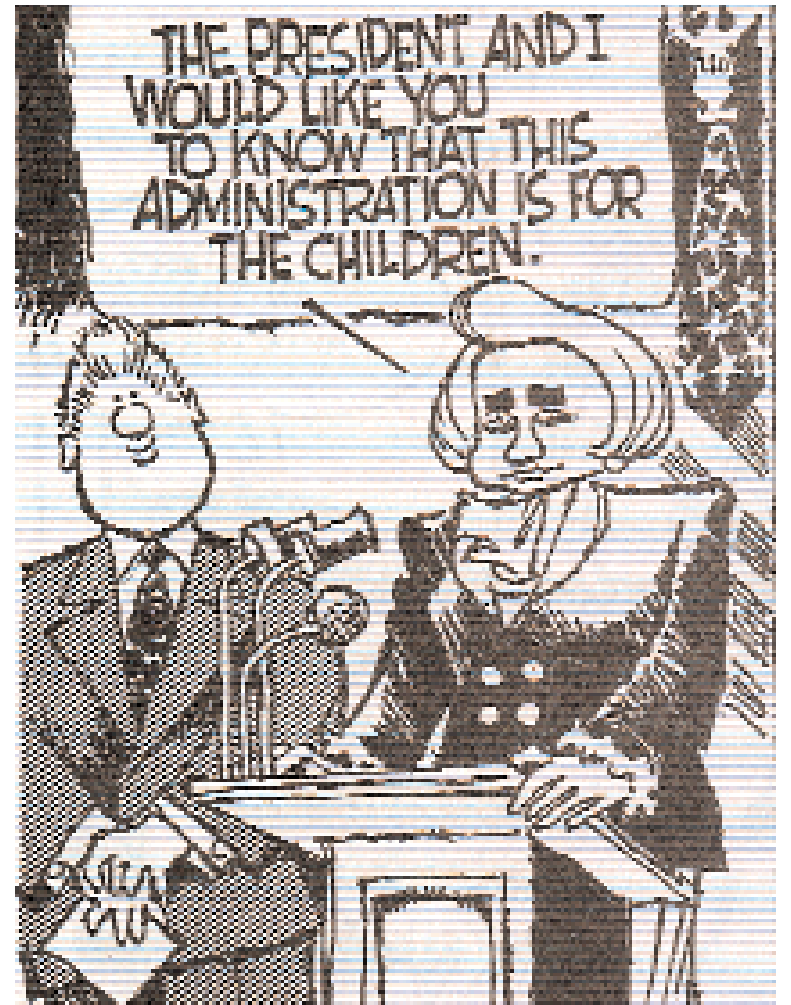


Now I believe I understand why Norton, Burns, and Copeland voted not to include in the FY2001 budget, the funds for Surveying roads already approved by DOT, and funds for repainting road centerline stripes. They apparently were depending on another 1% SPLOST.

I have already stated, that if local governments and schools start depending on SPLOST, they'll stop managing our money. Budgeting will mean nothing.



Mr. Norton admits that he intentionally and with forethought, lied about his intention to change chairmen every year. Lied about his agreement that this would reduce outside influence on the board of commissioners.



Home schoolers compete & excel

Twelve-year-old George Thampy of Maryland Heights, Mo., distinguished himself ... by winning the Scripps-Howard National Spelling Bee. Thampy is taught at home by his mother along with five of his six siblings. Not only that, but Thampy had been runner-up the week before at the National Geography Bee and had competed at the top levels of the national spelling bee in two previous years. In addition to Thampy, the other two finalists at the spelling bee were also home-schoolers, as were an amazing 11 percent of those who made it to the national level competition.

From nearly negligible numbers 20 years ago, home-schooling has exploded to include 1.5 million American children. Many of our elite institutions of higher learning are discovering that home-schoolers make excellent students who can compete and excel against any others.

Many skeptics or opponents who are unfamiliar with home-schooling express concerns about socialization. Thampy and others dispel these concerns, and the evidence bears them out. ...

The evidence is overwhelming that home-schooling not only shouldn't be suspect, but that it works well. — *The Nevada (Mo.) Daily Mail*

EPA rushes to create new rules

Clinton tries to beat deadline for waterway cleanup rules

By Seth Bernstein and Steven Thomson

WASHINGTON — Despite an act just passed by Congress that expressly forbids it, the Clinton administration has found a way to impose tough new rules to clean up waterways polluted by runoff from farms, forests and cities.

The secret President Clinton has ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to rush the rules to completion before the July 18 deadline for his signature making the bill a law. Involved is a type of runoff the administration says pollutes 20,000 U.S. rivers, lakes and bays.

The key word in the rider was "now." The president has until July 18 to sign the military spending bill, so if the EPA can complete the nearly finished rules pronto, the prohibition will be meaningless.

"It won't be new and the law will be pointless," said University of Virginia government professor Larry Sabato. "As usual, Clinton holds all the aces."

Clinton's use of executive prerogatives is something he has resorted to increasingly to defy the will of the Republican-controlled Congress.

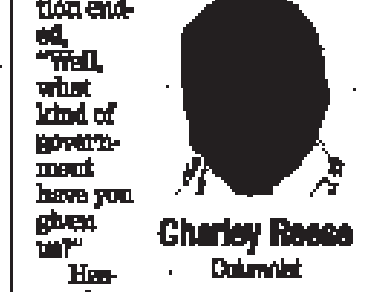
Editor's Note: Farmers can get ready for new regulations on what you can plant, where you can plant it.

If you think it is bad under Clinton, check out Gore's environmental positions.

A republic is not a democracy

As much as I admire Charles Sumner, I wish he would stop misquoting Benjamin Franklin.

Hester often tells the story about the lady who asked Franklin after the Constitutional Convention ended, "Well, what kind of government have you given us?"



Hester then quotes Franklin as saying, "We have given you a democracy — if you can keep it."

Actually, the traditional version of the story has Franklin saying, "We have given you a republic — if you can keep it." That indeed is what the Constitution gives us: a republic. And a republic and a democracy are not the same thing.

The simplest way to explain it is that we do not vote for legislation. We elect representatives, and they vote on legislation. In theory, if we do not like the way they have voted, then we don't re-elect them.

It's true in some states that people vote directly for issues on referenda, but, by and large, the business of American government is handled by

... we do not vote for legislation. We elect representatives, and they vote for legislation.

our representatives, who are expected to exercise their own judgment on the public issues. We then exercise our judgment about their performance.

One rarely hears any talk about republican government these days, with most politicians, like Hester, preferring to call it democracy. Although I think Hester is innocent of any guile, the blurring of the distinction is deliberate on the part of the politicians. It is a subtle but designed to create the illusion in our minds that we actually govern ourselves.

In fact, today in America, the many are ruled by the few, who are careful enough to do it gently and behind clouds of rhetoric so that it isn't obvious. Members of the public, by and large, not only do not know what's going on, they don't care.

You and I, of course, are the exceptions. Unfortunately, the "Exceptional Party" is not on the ballot. I'm sorry, but I don't know the answer to public ignorance and public apathy.

It's easy enough to say education, but if people don't care, they won't bother to learn. People keep forgetting that education involves hard work, and that doesn't seem so popular anymore. There is always more knowledge available than there are people who care to acquire it. I do know that most people with a college education these days appear to be about as ignorant and apathetic as people who don't have one.

It might well be true that any people, at any time, who are reasonably well-fed, entertained and not visibly threatened will settle into ignorance and apathy like a man settling into a goose-down mattress for an afternoon nap. If all seems to be well with the world, then why worry?

I worry because I see American freedoms being taken away ever so gradually — and always in the name of some allegedly greater good. It's true that it is still possible to live a good life. Will our children and grandchildren be able to say that? And what is a good life?

Being a Celtic man, I despise the idea of anybody but God and my conscience telling me what I must do or what I must think or what I must say. That's the good life I want: freedom. And that kind of good life is being threatened today.

Charley Reese's column is distributed by King Features Syndicate.

George Bivins - Editor
Phone: 912-762-3200
e-mail: gbivins@rose.net

Cat fight in the courthouse

Soon after the Aug. 8 runoff election, two county employees didn't like the apparent winner, who won by only 3 votes. The next day while on duty in the courthouse, these two employees and one of the polls workers went to the Probate Judge's Office and filed to have a recount. You would think that the loser should request a recount, wouldn't you?

One of these, on duty, county employees was non other than the county clerk, the other works in the court clerk's office. Who do you suppose was the leader of this trio?

Now, if the apparent winner occupies the Probate Judge's office, there will be many years of animosity for the board of commissioners to weather, because we failed to control our county clerk. Just as it has had to weather with the tax office, and for the same reasons.

There are people who just love trouble and dissensions, because it gives them a sense of power. A strong chairman would put a stop to this.

It looks like ten Republicans were allowed to vote in this Democrat runoff. A new runoff election may have to be scheduled. If it happens, and if I could, I would vote for the apparent winner, just to teach these courthouse big shots a lesson. Make sure the apparent winner is a decisive winner, without question. These courthouse big shots have very little respect for the voters anyway. They think they run the county, so why shouldn't they decide who should be elected.

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The Riverbank

The Issue of Bivins

Back in the early 90s, I published a small tabloid called the Riverbank Philosopher, which proved to be important but impossible for me to continue. Time and money are always barriers to working class people. In the late 90s, Ed Komarek published a tabloid for a time, which was information rich. Ed was gracious enough to allow me to write in it and I did so. Today, George Bivins publishes a monthly tabloid, which is furnished free of charge to so many. The only way the people of our county will ever be informed is by people who hold certain values within them that are important enough to spend their own money so that you the citizen can be informed.

Mr. Bivins, Mr. Komarek, and Mr. Lewis are not active in the county because we seek material rewards. The object has always been to protect private people and their rights from those in the establishment who use local government, the local paper, and local association in ways that promote what's good for them as good for everybody.

Have you ever witnessed any example in which the local paper disagreed with the local gov-

ernment, or any other establishment friendly group? The local government, the local paper, and the local political and economic associations, all act as support legs to the same stool. To the informed few, the occupant of the stool is not government information equally supporting the people's best interest, but is government information and associations which support themselves in the form of special interest. The three legs of the stool support themselves by the use of public means, and do so by promoting the notion that what's good for them is what's good for us.

The Tired Creek property is an issue, which the three legs are happy to ignore, because, it is a shameful example of something they should never have supported - the taking of private property. I confronted the commissioners during public comment time several years ago, and that led to the Savannah trip to meet with higher government. You the citizen in Grady County live under the control of various special interests, rather than in your own control, exemplified by government, media, and economic associations, whose reason for being should be common benefit. Has the

local government, local newspaper, and local establishment associations ever seen a tax they didn't like? Have they ever seen a regulation on your freedom that they didn't support together?

The true issue concerning Commissioner Bivins is not what he advocates in government on it's merits, but is the fact that Mr. Bivins is not controlled by the majority of commissioners, or the local paper, or the local economic associations. Mr. Bivins is a free man, and has taken a lot of slings and arrows for the benefit and purpose of other citizens who want to stay free.

You as a citizen of Grady County can't spit on the ground today without local government having an opinion. If it stands still - tax it. If it moves - regulate it. If it can think - propagandize it, and prevent it's spread in the so-called public media.

If you, the ordinary citizen, think the next election is about good government in Grady County, you would be wrong. It is about whom the government will exist for, and whose use can be served.

The government of Grady County if it is ever to learn what government represents to a free people - it must free its self-first and that takes the voters. Taxes, regulations,



special interest influence, all these things work for somebody, and the bottom line is that the citizen's power and interest is quenched in favor of others.

I may give away all my rights, money, and property, but how freely I do it, in my loss of those things, makes me a free man or a slave. I, as a citizen of Grady County, realize, as an American, that government at all levels grows in power and in influence, and in the growth of those governments, the day will come when complete socialism will occur, and liberty in any form will perish for citizens.

You must learn that all citizens don't trust freedom in our society, and are hard at work using government every day to undermine our values and responsible society, towards a day when we will become so dysfunctional that government will take over everything as a needful result.

The Anti-Christ will rise as a result of government being sought as the savior

of society. The other side of that is that in a once free society the need for such government arises in human dependence on government, and never in a people loving their freedom enough to live accordingly.

To love government, and to see government as the authority, under which people are to live their lives, is the very social system necessary, before that government can cast away the people's values in the society. My school, my church, my family, my government, my rights, and all other important things are secure to me, only as I am secure in the knowledge of what these things exist for.

Only a few will ever be willing to be out front, but the rest had better support those few, or else the entire society, absent of those few, are but ripe fruit, ready for any hand to pick and consume them.

Walter Lewis 8-1-2000

THE EDITOR

Why does Elwyn Childs run?

I cannot see for the life of me why Mr. Childs would run against me for county commissioner. He served 18 years as commissioner, during which time the county went stone cold broke. Could not meet payroll, or pay the bills without borrowing money.

Could it be that he, like another elected Grady County officer, just needs one more term to get the state pension?

What about term limits? Personally, I believe a county commissioner, or any other similar office should be limited to two terms, and that the chairman of the county commission should rotate every year. This would serve to minimize special interest influence. Some counties in Georgia restrict a county commissioner from serving more than two terms.

Could it be that special interests have prevailed on Mr. Childs to run, knowing that he will play ball, and keep quiet, not make a fuss about anything?

Could it be that the Whigham Community Club leaders, Mr. Truelock, Mr. Harrell, and Mr. Eubanks have transformed Mr. Childs into a Whigham boy, so that they could start this "state prison in Whigham without a referendum" again, if he wins?

"The only way that we can judge the future con-

duct of a man is by his past." I intend to examine Mr. Child's voting record as a commissioner. I invite him to examine mine as well.

George Bivins

Court: Taxes don't end

Carroll County authorities were not required to stop collecting a special-purpose, local-option sales tax in 1998 when tax receipts reached \$34 million — the amount they told voters they wanted to raise, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled Monday. Instead, the court said the county was authorized to collect the tax for the full five years voters agreed it could last. The 4-3 ruling overturned a decision of the Court of Appeals, which held that the county had to stop collecting the tax when it reached its announced revenue goal.

I cannot believe the Supreme Court ruling above.

If a local government's contract with it's citizens is not sacred then nothing is. How can the citizens ever trust the C a r r o l C o u n t y Commission again. They had better get all they can now, because the voters will never approve another SPLOST.

How did the issue get to court in the first place? Well, it appears they planned it all along.

This begs a question regarding the two SPLOST already approved by Grady County voters. Will Grady County Government and the School System honor their contracts and stop collecting on schedule?

You bet your boots they will if I have anything to say about it. If I get reelected, I will have something to say. George Bivins

What is wrong with subdivision and zoning regulations?

Simply put, these regulations provide a framework that allows bureaucrats to constantly tinker and indiscriminately change the rules, without the oversight of elected officials.

A case in point: under the building regulations of Grady County, it was decided to require electrical cutoff on the outside of buildings. I don't remember this issue coming before the board of commissioners. This was an extra cost to homebuilders, now anyone can walk up and cut the power to your house or business.

These regulations can possibly be justified in cities because of the population density. There is no justification for these regulations in the unincorporated county.

Subdivision and zoning regulations on unincorporated private property is nothing more than an attempt to totally control the use of our private property.

There are no state or federal regulations that require subdivision or zoning regulations in the county. It is strictly up to the county commissioners. Is this America, or is it Soviet Russia?

Elect Walter Lewis and George Bivins to the Grady County Commission.

Tax Suckers

I am so sorry to report to you that I am a delinquent taxpayer. I failed to pay a \$5 tax bill for 1999. I rushed to the courthouse to pay the bill that now totaled \$50. I believe the collection agency got about \$23.

The purpose of this letter is to show you two examples of how skilled the tax suckers have become, aided by state and local bureaucrats.

Governmental Solutions Inc., is a company that sprang up out of nowhere to collect delinquent taxes. They advertise that it won't cost the county anything. They didn't bother to divulge that they would skin the taxpayers.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is an organization that apparently intends to enrich the accounting and auditing professions. Imposing auditing requirements on 87,000 local city and county governments to inventory capital assets, including trees, sidewalks, roads, etc. and to depreciate them each year. Already, Grady County Administrator and Chairman Norton intend to hire a staff accountant at a cost of about \$45,000 per year. It ain't going to happen, if I can help it.

The primary purpose of the Grady County Commission is to protect the interest of taxpaying citizens. We will do so, if I can prevail. George Bivins

Minimum Wage

All over America, industries and governments give raises to employees as a percentage. When you give a 3% raise across the board year after year, the lowest paid employees fall further and further behind. Because the basic things in life that everyone has to have to survive, a loaf of bread, a gallon of milk, cost the same to a poor family as a rich family.

The federal government addresses this phenomenon by the minimum wage. Minimum wage would not be necessary if employers would address this "basic staff of life" issue, by developing a two-tier wage scale.

I have tried to address this issue on the Grady County Commission in every budget that I have been involved in.

Another justification is that the future county employees come from the low paid ranks. If the county cannot attract and hire good employees from the beginning with a reasonable wage, then we will, in the future, have to hire warm bodies and train them in basic skills.

Present laws do not permit hiring and firing until you've got the properly skilled labor force. You are stuck with whom you've hired. You had better hire very carefully.

Note: Grady County now has windows based payroll software, with integral security.

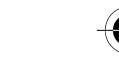
Now, it is no longer possible to give your nephew or cousin an unauthorized raise.

YELLOW
BLACK



CYAN
MAGENTA

YELLOW
BLACK



CYAN
MAGENTA