We told you so

The Town Board has the opportunity at its Dec. 4 meeting to send a long-overdue message: land developers must pay their way. In Mooresville — in all Iredell County — developers have been getting almost-free rides far too long.

Mooresville has got to start giving more than lip service to one of its favorite catchphrases, "orderly growth." The plain, simple and increasingly-painful truth is, governments — hence taxpayers — are being taken advantage of. They have assumed they must attract industrial, commerical and residential development at all costs.

That is a shortsighted and potentially disastrous assumption. Already, they are watching chickens come home to roost, and they have to see the all-costs concept is too expensive. Mooresville's and the county's public services are approaching overload. The town is facing major expansion of its sewage collection and treatment facilities. The cheese can only get more binding. The cost of keeping pace can only go up, and at a rate far exceeding revenue realized from growing tax bases. So the hurrier muinicipal and county governments go the behinder they get.

So more of the costs must be paid by developers. We've got to get our policies in line with those other municipalities and highly-urbanized counties have enforced for decades. For example, try building a shopping center somewhere else without bringing streets and roads up to standards needed to handle the additional traffic. For another, try opening a residential subdivision elsewhere without curb and gutter.

By permitting homesites without curb and gutter the town is asking for trouble. It is getting into the ditch-cleaning business in a bigger, not smaller way. Fewer ditches to clear is the way to go.

As a prospective homeowner, would you rather have curb and gutter or an open drainage ditch in front of your house?

Require this small refinement now and everybody wins. The developer recovers his investment through lots that sell for more because they're worth more. The resident has a more attractive and a more functional home. The town has less street-maintenance responsibility — and a tad more assessed value.

Developers who know they've been getting away with murder will scream to high heaven about being forced to provide housing out of financial reach of people who need it. But then, they also continue to bellyache about not being compensated for having to extend water and sewer through their properties to accommodate the next developer.

Do not allow property to be developed unless developers agrees to common-sense conditions that clearly are in the public's best interests. These conditions must be met sooner at the developer's expense, not later at public expense.

This is a reprint of a Tribune opinion piece published Nov. 29, 1989. Last week, the Town Board moved to resume requiring residential developers to provide curb and gutter. During the discussion leading to that decision, Mayor Joe Knox said that "by not having these requirements, we basically ruined two of the nicest subdivisions to come to Mooresville."

The gerrymonster is coming

One on one
By D.G. Martin

Have you seen the proposed redistricting maps?

Don't look at them. They will make you weep. I am talking about the maps that show the proposed redrawn congressional and state legislative districts.

Every 10 years, after the census, our General Assembly redraws lines for legislative districts to reflect population changes. The process always creates a storm of controversy, especially among legislators whose districts are affected.

Underneath the simple objective and balancing the population in each district there are always currents and cross currents of other objectives that have to do with partisan politics, racial balance, court mandates and personal rivalries.

Maybe that explains why the new proposed districts look so stupid. But maybe it doesn't.

Take, for instance, the proposed congressional districts. Traditionally, North Carolina congressional districts have been formed by grouping contiguous counties. Counties were not split into different districts. But after the 1980 census, to make the populations in each Congressional district just about equal, the legislature divided a few counties — only five. It probably had to be done to meet the ever-tightening "one-man/one-vote" standards required by the courts. But it has been a nuisance in the counties that were split up.

"Who is our congressman?" people in those counties ask. Do these citizens have two representatives? Or none?

The new proposed 12th district would compound the confusion by dividing six more counties. Why? Apparently, the new district was designed by partisan Democrats to take concentrated areas of Republican voting strength from several other districts. Although the 12th will have a Republican congressional representative, the Democrats think they will have a better chance in the other districts.

In other words, it is a classic gerrymander. It shouldn't work. And it won't. If Democrats in the legislature try to force it to work they will pay a price like the one they paid 30 years ago when congressional lines were drawn to "get" Republican representative Charles Jonas. Voters sent Jonas back to Washington and elected Republican Jim Broyhill to keep him company in Congress.

In 1992, voters in newly split-up counties will be angry about their inconvenience and confusion.

If splitting up six counties is a mistake, what about 16? One proposal for creating a majority black district in the east would split that many more counties. Of course, the legislature's goal is to assure the election of at least one black congressman.

That is a good goal. But there must be a way to do it without breaking up so many counties. State Rep. Mickey Michaux says that it might be better for the legislature to assure that black candidates could have a good chance to win in several districts, rather than to isolate the bulk of black political power in one district.

D.G. Martin of Chapel Hill is executive director of the University of North Carolina. He shares these opinions with state newspapers.

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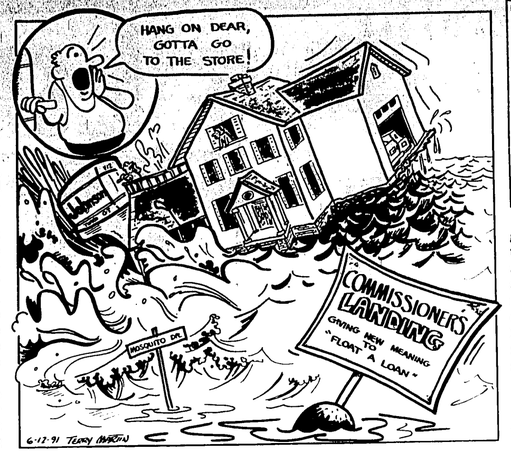


Uncle Dan from Doolie says

On seeming, but not being

A clipping Ed Doolittle brung to the session at the country store Saturday night shows where a nine-year-old outfit in Texas final is gitting some attention. It is Bat Conservation International, and it still has a way to go before it catches the public fancy. When you draw up your list of tough jobs, Ed said, bat praise agent has got to be clost to the top. Right up there with climbing a fence leaning at you, kissing a girl leaning away from you and living up to your compliments.

The bat's public image is so bad until all the animal rights groups have give up on it. It is ugly by all standards, Ed noted, even if it don't fly around at night and suck the blood out of sleeping babies. Nobody cares if the bat is a dangered species as long as it is one somewhere else, was Ed's words.

But the item went on to say bats are more afraid of us than we are of them, and we ought to think of em as friends that eat mosquiters and other bugs that otherwise would be eating us. A feller in the love the bat club said he and other members put out boxes with open bottoms fer em to sleep in during the day, and he said they ain't bothered by flying insects at night. He said folks that think mice are cute can think of bats as mice in hang gliders.

Ed said one reason he clipped that item was to show how the public will see any image it is told in the right way to see. Fer instant, he said, as soon as the press got out of military control the image of Irock switched from smart bombs and Patriot missiles to mangled, starving and freezing human beings. Nelson Mandela is a long suffering saint burdened with a mean spirited wife, Ed went on, because he has convinced the image makers that's what he is.

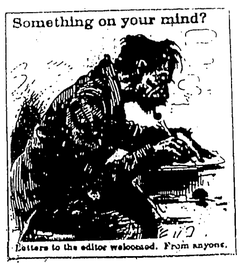
The fellers took some interest in Republican Ed's report. Democrat Clem Webster said he would pass up mentioning the cost of changing President Bush's image from wimp to righteous warrior, and that he would move on to the public being took in by images done with smoke and mirrors. Fer sure, he said, all guvernments at all levels turn the image makers and the taxpayers to their advantage.

Fer sure, all Guvernments at all levels turn the image makers and the taxpayers to their advantage. — Ed Doolittle

Clem reminded that all guvernments are making budgets and are trying to present em in the best light. They are saying and the papers are reporting that they are gitting big bangs out of ever buck. They trot out the dogs and ponies and the papers run the pictures. The public is told that spending is down and services up. When the smoke clears, this means that even though more administrators are hired, the department budget still weighs in five percent lighter than the 30 percent increase the director ask fer. That is the case from the courthouse to the White House, was Clem's words.

Bug Hookum said he saw merit in Clem's lament, but Ed was on target with the image makers. Bug said he has took note where the Federal budget news is focused on defense because it's on the public mind. Domestic programs ain't near as glamorous, Bug said, and you got to dig to find mention of the third biggest item in the whole budget, after Social Security and defense.

It is $210 billion in interest, Bug said, and what kind of image can you give it?



Communicating With Your Government Representatives

		Office	Home
Town	Manager — Rick McLean	663-3800	664-7735
	Mayor — Joe Knox	663-0426	664-1051
	Ward I Commissioner — Grady Shoe	664-1300	664-1365
	Ward II Commissioner — David Tompkins		663-7572
	Ward III Commissioner — Darrell Wilson	664-3617	664-2069
	Ward IV Commissioner — Gene Brannon	664-1772	663-0248
	At-Large Commissioner — Richard Nantz	664-5806	664-3027
	At-Large Commissioner — Robert Randall	663-3221	664-1921
County	Manager — Joel Mashburn	663-1616	
	Commissioner Chairman — R.B. Sloan Jr.	873-5241	872-8664
	Commissioner Vice Chairman — Alice Stewart	585-6644	
	Commissioners — Sara Haire	663-1777	896-0715
	Doug Madison	873-0521	873-9887
	Frank Mitchell	876-0133	876-4327
State	26th District Sen. — Howard Bryan, 1420 Mt. Vernon Ave., Statesville, NC 28677	919-733-5783	872-9000
	43rd District Rep. — Robert Brawley, Route 5, Box 96, Mooresville, NC 28115	919-733-5931	663-2635
Federal	9th District Rep. — Alex McMillan, 507 Cannon Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-1976	663-1976
	Senator — Terry Sanford, 716 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510	202-224-3154	
	Senator — Jesse Helms, 403 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510	202-224-6342	

OUR COMMUNITY

IN OTHER YEARS
1927
64 YEARS AGO

You wouldn't need to see the goat to know that it has been captured if you passed along Center avenue anywhere between Main and Church streets Tuesday afternoon. That fleet-footed animal, so dear to the heart of Uncle Silas McLaughlin, was frightened away from eating coal behind Rankin's store last week. It was brought back into captivity Tuesday morning when several young boys found the old fellow securely fastened to a cluster of bushes in Oscar Brawley's pasture, where the short rope it wore about his neck became tangled and held fast. Mr. McLaughlin has taken his goat back to his farm after giving him a haircut and trimming his whishers, which gave the beast the appearance of a visit to a beauty parlor where young shieks get their hair all mussed up with Saturday night stuff, only the goat's odor is not quite so bad. Mr. Claude Mayhew will be thoroughly convinced that Mr. McLaughlin has a strong, robust goat when he returns from New York.

Misses Tommie Nesbit, Virginia Munday, Dorothy Morrison, of Statesville; and Helen Nail of Troutman, spent several days here last week the guests of Miss Irene Smith.

Mr. Neel Stewart, who has been doing work in the government agricultural department in Florida for the past year, is spending sometime here with his father, Mr. J.A. Stewart.

Messrs. Frank B. Freeze, Roy Melchor and sons, Masters Charles and Hugh Melchor, left the first of the week for Asheville, where they were joined by Mr. Lonnie Smith, a brother-in-law of Mr. Freeze. The party will spend a week out in the mountains of North Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee, having taken a camping outfit prepared to enjoy the great outdoor life.

Miss Lillian Plyler and Mr. George Brigman were married in Rock Hill, S.C., on Monday, July 4, in the American Legion Hut in the presence of about one thousand people. This young couple has the honor of being the first couple ever to be married in the Hut. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Jolly and Mr. L.D. Cook.

Carrol Beaty, who has been in New York for sometime, has returned to his home in this city. He is a son of Mr. E.D. Beaty, who has been quite unwell for sometime, and Carrol will assist his father with the rural mail deliveries, and otherwise look after his father's interest until there is some improvement in his parent's condition.

Mr. R.O. Miller Wednesday morning received a message from Mrs. Miller, stating that her mother, Mrs. J.H. Hinton, died at her home at Blackwell, Okla., Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. Mrs. Hinton was 60 years of age, and had been an invalid for about 18 months. Mrs. Miller and her son, T.D., who have been at the old home for sometime, were with Mrs. Hinton at the time of her death.

The following announcement has been received by friends: "Mr. and Mrs. C.O. Cashion announce the marriage of their daughter, Minnie Cashion, to Mr. Wallace William Mundy on Saturday, May the twenty-eighth, one thousand nine-hundred and twenty-seven, Mooresville, North Carolina." The bride is well remembered here where she attended school before going to college at Due West.

Chief of Police J. Poston Honeycutt is seriously sick at his home on North Broad street, suffering an attack of erysipelas. He was reported at noon Wednesday to be resting more comfortably than he had been and there are some signs of slight improvement. He is still a very sick man.

Mrs. Carl Thompson, a young mother 22 years of age died Wednesday, July 6 at the Lowrance Hospital at six o'clock where she had gone for treatment.

LAKE NORMAN AREA TV PREVIEW featuring Cable

Wednesday, June 12 thru Tuesday, June 18

BEAU BRIDGES: PORTRAYING JAMES BRADY

by Seli Groves

On June 16, HBO will present a remarkable film about two remarkable people. It's called "Without Warning: The James and Sarah Brady Story." It stars Beau Bridges as James Brady and Joan Allen as his wife, Sarah. Brady, of course, is the former press secretary to President Ronald Reagan who was shot by John W. Hinckley in an attempt to assassinate the president on March 30, 1981.

Bridges, who recently costarred with his brother Jeff, in "The Fabulous Baker Boys," and in the TV film "Guess Who's Coming for Christmas," with Richard Mulligan, considers "Without Warning" among the best things he's done in his 43-year career. (He started as a tyke on his father, Lloyd Bridges', series "Sea Hunt.")

"I've been asked, if the movie is about a hero or a fool," Bridges said. "Actually, it's about a family and how it stays together and grows stronger when faced with a terrible crisis. It's about people who love each other and who just won't give up. Jim survived a bullet in his brain. It's left him partially paralyzed and unable to speak normally. But throughout his ordeal," Bridges continued, "he was determined to keep fighting. And his family was determined to help Brady, Jim's wife, Beau added. "She's strong and loving, and, I think, the reason he's been able not just to survive, but to live a very good, very vital life again."

(Sarah Brady lobbied tirelessly over the past several years for stronger federal gun control legislation that would have made it more difficult for someone like Hinckley to buy his handgun. When I chatted with Beau Bridges, the House of Representatives had just scored a breakthrough vote, acting by a larger majority than anyone expected, to require a seven-day waiting period before anyone could buy his weapon. The Senate has yet to vote on the bill, however, or the other. If the bill is passed, a once certain presidential veto is less certain now that former President Reagan has changed his mind and now supports some form of gun sales regulation.)

There are some actors who feel that playing someone you admire can affect what you do; literally turning a performance into a pacan. There are also actors who feel it's a real challenge to play anyone who is alive and has been in the public eye. Bridges has come a carbon copy of that person.

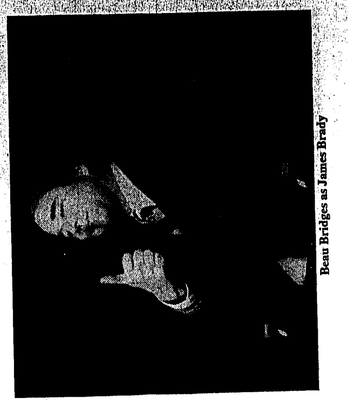
Beau commented on both points: "A lot of personal experiences and feelings to a role. I don't think it can be a problem unless you allow your feelings to get in the way.

"I brought two very strong experiences with me: one was my awareness of Jim and his struggle for recovery long before I got this part. So, I had this personal sense of who he was. But I also had my own experience with a gun, which I carried with me into the role. I used to shoot skeet and trap and about 10 or 15 years ago, I was recovering. I left there and the gunman ordered them to lie down on the floor. He jammed the gun right between my eyes, and when that happens to you it sure gets your attention! You're not likely to think of anything else except how to avoid being shot. I was really saved, in a way, because it was back when a lot of people were wearing Afros, and when the gunman left, I stepped right out of them and sprinted from the place and called the police. They got there pretty quickly, but there was some shooting. He got a woman in the leg before he was captured.

"My only other experience with firearms was in the military learning how to fire an M-1, and it taught me to respect the power of guns. So far as guns for target shooting or any such use is concerned, I've always felt that if you were of a mind to use a gun, that it confers a tremendous responsibility on you. There's a lot that can go wrong — and very wrong, at that. I take gun use very seriously. It's the kind of responsibility that I don't care to have, so I've never had a gun since I came in with a lot of impressions and facts about Jim.

"But while all these facts are certainly important and helpful, I as an actor feel that I feel are appropriate in playing the role, and let them speak for the character. Otherwise, it would not be a living experience, which it should be.

"Of course, it also helps to have the benefit of a screenplay by Robert Bolt. (Oscar winner for 'Dr. Zhivago' and 'A Man for All Seasons.') He had a stroke, so he knows what it's like to struggle back from a traumatic brain incident, and the depression that can come with it."


Beau Bridges as James Brady

Beau (whose real name is Lloyd Bridges III) and his brother Jeff, have several children born following most of whom scrambled into show business. Their sister, who had worked with her father when she was a youngster, has not been as active in recent years. "But she does work with us occasionally," Beau said. "As a matter of fact, I directed a Disney movie, 'The Thanksgiving Promise,' which is now repeated every year, and she was in it, along with several other members of my family."

On June 19, three days after "Warning Shot..." debuts, Beau will be seen costarring with Tony Goldwyn (grandson of movie mogul Samuel 'Goldwyn') of HBO's popular "Tales from the Crypt."

"I had a lot of fun with it," Beau said. "I remember the old 'Tales from the Crypt' comic books — and that's what makes doing one of these shows a little special for me."

With a recent history of actors becoming politicians (even a Pope, as in the case of Pope John Paul who once trod the boards), has Beau considered politics?

"No. Not at all. I think being an actor or a writer, or in any way doing something that communicates ideas is probably a better way to reach people."

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Entertainment Extra by Evelyn

Q. Could you please tell me when the Daytime Emmy Awards will be televised this year and who are the actual nominees? Guy R.

A. The Daytime Emmy Awards will be televised via CBS on Thursday, June 12, 1991, and for the first time will air in prime-time. The festivities will take place live from the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City. Here is the listing of the actors and the categories in which they are nominated along with my picks for the winners:

OUTSTANDING DRAMA SERIES — "All My Children" (ABC); "As the World Turns" (CBS); "Guiding Light" (CBS); "The Young and the Restless" (CBS). EVELYN'S PICK: "Guiding Light" (CBS).

OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTRESS IN A DRAMA SERIES — Susan Lucci (Erica Kane Montgomery in "All My Children"); Julia Barr (Brooke English in "All My Children"); Elizabeth Hubbard (Lucinda Walsh-Dixon in "As The World Turns"); Finola Hughes (Anna Lavery in "General Hospital"); Jeanne Cooper (Katherine Chancellor in "The Young and the Restless"). EVELYN'S PICK: After 12 nominations, I think Susan Lucci will finally take home an Emmy.

OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES — David Canary (Adam Chandler in "All My Children"); James Reynolds (Henry Marshall in "Generations"); Nicolas Coster (Lionel Lockridge in "Santa Barbara"); A. Martinez (Cruz Castillo in "Santa Barbara"); Peter Bergman (Jack Abbott in "The Young and the Restless"). EVELYN'S PICK: Peter Bergman.

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A DRAMA SERIES — Jill Larson (Opal Cortlandt in "All My Children"); Kathleen Widdoes (Emma Snyder in "As the World Turns"); Darlene Conley (Sally Spectra in "The Bold and the Beautiful"); Maureen Garret (Holly Lindsey in "Guiding Light"); Jess Walton (Jill Foster Abbott in "The Young and the Restless"). EVELYN'S PICK: Jill Larson.

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES — William Christian (Dr. Cecil Frye Hospital"); Kin Shriner (Scotty Baldwin in "General Hospital"); William Roerick (Henry Chamberlain in "Guiding Light"); Jerry VerDorn (Ross Marler in "Guiding Light"); Bernie Barrow (Louie Slavinski in "Loving"). EVELYN'S PICK: Stuart Damon.

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7 Channel 42 Charlotte (PBS) WTVI
8 Channel 40 Belmont (IND) WJZY
9 C-SPAN
10 Channel 9 Charlotte (ABC) WSOC
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20 Future Channel
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22 The Family Channel
23 Nickelodeon
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25 Entertainment and Sports Network (ESPN)
26 USA Network (USA)
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28 Weather Network (TNN)
29 Lifetime
30 Arts and Entertainment (A&E)
31 CNN Headline News
32 Weather Channel
33 Cable One
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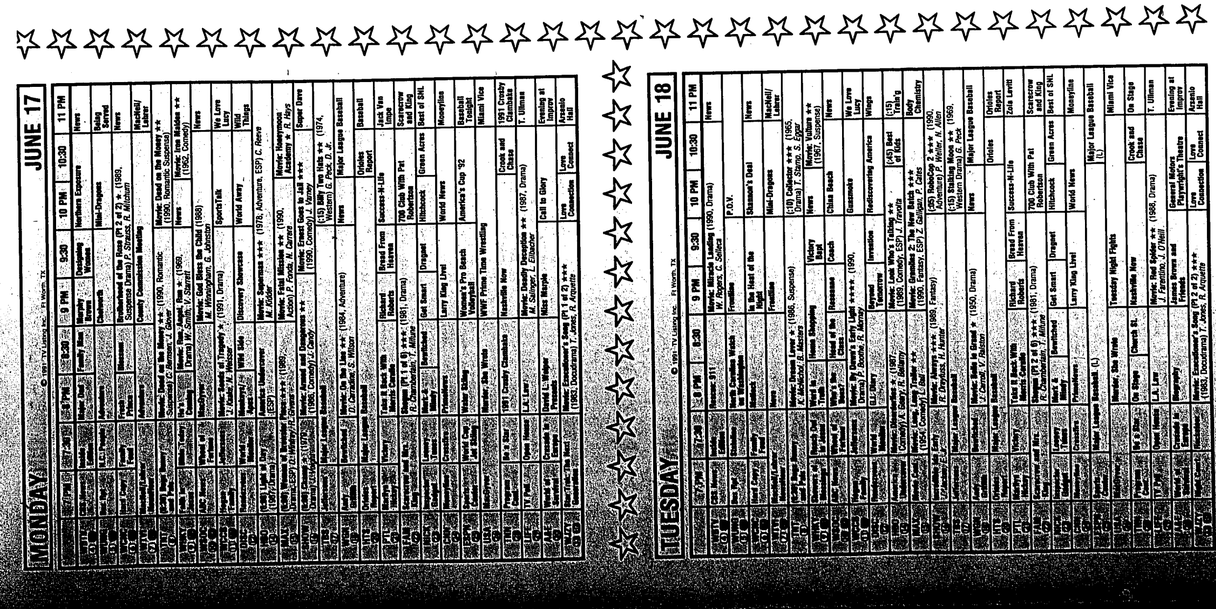

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