

WAYCROSS JOURNAL-HERALD

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Thought for
Today

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus,
who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Romans 8:1

Sign 'Seven Out' Petition

A *Journal-Herald* news story of one month ago which detailed the presence of high concentrations of lethal chemicals in the soil and ground water in Mary Street Park has met with a tepid response from the Georgia Department of Public Health.

Joan Tibor McNeal of the Carswell Community Association reports that Jane Perry of the Chemical Hazards Program, Environmental Health Branch, Georgia Department of Public Health, Atlanta, has largely left the heavy lifting to Waycross residents who live on the periphery of the city-owned park.

In a July 31 letter to Ms. McNeal, Ms. Perry promised to "review reports, photos, data, medical test results and concerns submitted by residents" to her office in Atlanta. So what are we paying state income taxes for, Ms. Perry? Isn't that the state's job?

Previously, a chemical analysis lab (Ana-Lab Corp.) located at Kilgore, Texas, positively identified a "witch's brew" of dangerous chemicals in soil and water samples submitted by Ms. McNeal for analysis. She paid for the test out-of-pocket.

The samples submitted for analysis were taken from a private yard and city-owned sidewalk located across the street from Ms. McNeal's McDonald Street residence.

According to Ms. McNeal, the residents of about half of the homes located around Mary Street Park are suffering from serious sickness. Many have tumors growing in various parts of their bodies, she says.

These illnesses are believed to be directly related to accidental (or intentional?) chemicals spills at the Seven Out Superfund site located several blocks away from the park on Francis Street.

What's more, she reminds that 10 out of 30 employees at City Hall have contracted cancer and eight have died. She has no proof that these City Hall cancers are related to the Seven Out Superfund site, but suspects that City's Hall's basement is dangerously

contaminated by chemical pollutants found in the groundwater.

One or more of these chemicals has the ability to become airborne after exposure to air, McNeal warns.

"This (Seven Out) site dumped hundreds of thousands of gallons of toxic substances in our city canal which runs through Mary Street Park and went into the Satilla River. These toxic chemicals could be under your home and you may be breathing the gasses they produce," she warned.

A petition is now being circulated which calls upon local, state and federal officials to immediately take steps to begin testing "Mary Street Park, residents' homes, businesses, city wells, the Satilla River and our aquifer for toxic contamination."

The petition further states that the "EPA Seven Out Superfund site documents that this community was in 'imminent danger' as a result of Seven Out," and that "EPA reports document ground water, surface water and soil contamination routes and states that the level of toxins 'exceed residential levels.'"

Those wishing to sign the petition should contact Renae Perry, 403 Nicholls St., 722-9374, or Sandy Pohlman, 503 McDonald St., 283-2397. Those having access to a home computer may sign the petition online by going to <http://silentdisaster.org/>

In addition, Ms. McNeal is urging those who are concerned about this matter to call or e-mail Jane Perry at jmperry@dnr.state.ga.us. Her phone number is (404) 657-6534.

The *Journal-Herald* urges its readers to come together as a community and sign this petition. We cannot allow the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to simply sweep this alarming situation "under the rug" because of cost considerations.

Obama's Rx Won't Work

The Washington Times

President Obama says he has a "Better Bargain for America" to rescue the feeble housing market. He offers the usual clever turns of phrase, but it's just repackaging of the same government intervention that created the subprime-mortgage crisis in the first place.

Mr. Obama chose to present his program for bailing

It's a disastrous record, and the only thing the program accomplished is extending the pain for these families.

The 2008 housing market meltdown was caused largely by the government subsidizing credit to people who bought more house than they could afford. That will continue as long as the government backstops every



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BY BYRON YO
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The move to defund Obamacare gathered support in the Senate. Republican Sen. Mike Lee had to sign a letter promising to "not continuing resolution or appropriations funds further implementation of Obamacare." Of the Senate's 41, 12 signed the letter when it was July.

In the weeks since, one more Mike Crapo, has joined the grand total to 13. That means 33 declined to sign.

The non-signers include some conservative members of the Senate, two of them — both determined to defund Obamacare — why they have not made an effort.

"I'm not sure it's the best point," said Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions. "I looked at it really hard, I've certainly respect what he's doing, but I'm convinced right now that this is going to be successful and effective."

The Democratic-controlled House's defunding measure, Sessions announced, a Democratic president would veto it up in a government shutdown with no way to avoid this."

Wisconsin's Ron Johnson, y