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# Empire City--Georgia's 2nd Largest--A Dream?

By BILL SCHEMMEL

Journal Staff Writer

Coupier up, it you can, a picture of a Cobb County of the 1970's governed by one authority. The cities of Marietta. Smyrna, Austell. Acworth. Powder Springs and Kennessew would no longer exist. Neither would the Marietta Public School System and the present overlapping systems of water, severage, street and road maintenance, police and fire protection and faxation.

Imagine all the territory in obb County consolidated into Imagine an use Cobb County consolidated into one municipality called Empire City, the state's largest in area and second only to Atlanta in population

very potent dose of imagina-tion.

But one Cobb Countian,
State Rep. Bob Howard of
Marietta, has not only imagined this revolutionary turn of
events but drawn up legislation for introduction in the
General Assembly aimed at
bringing it about.

There are at least two very
formidable "iffs" that must
be resolved if Empire City is
ever to become more than a
plan on paper. And Rep. Howard candidy admits that the
odds against it wouldn't encourage many bets.

First all, the bill must be signed by five of the seven members of the Cobb legisla-tive delegation before it can even be placed before the voters in November. Friday afternoon it had three signa-

alternon it had three signa-tures — Howard's and those of Reps. High Lee McDaniell and Bill Cooper.

Obtaining those two other signatures will require a "selling job" on Howard's part. Rep. Joe Mack Wilson has openly opposed the idea and Sen. Sam Hensley has drawn up legislation considered a rival. Sen. Cy Chapman and Rep. Jack Henderson reportedly are cool to the proposal.

proposal.

If the bill should get the

necessary tive signatures and is signed by the governor, Howard then will have the task of selling his idea to Cobb County voters, who have a deep conservative streak like-ly to reject anything of such a far-reaching nature. But Howard is optimistic that the voters if given a chance will

Howard is optimistic that the voters, if given chance, will approve his Empire City plan. The new city will be created by a series of actions. First of all, the charter of the City of Elizabeth will be amended to reincorporate it as Empire City, invested with all rights, privileges and powers available to municipalities under City and the company of the company of the company of the charter of the cities of Marietta. Smyrna. Austell.

Powder Springs, Acworth, Kennesaw, Machinery City and Chattahoochee Plantations will be repealed and Empire City will assume all the territotry that now makes up cobb County.

The county of the county of the company of the company

the assets, liabilities, and ob-ligations of the currently ex-isting municipalities.

The Marietta School Sys-tem will be abolished and all its assets, obligations powers duties and responsibilities taken over by the Cobb Coun-ty School System.

All water and light supplies

for Empire City will be administered by a Based of Lights and Wespeers, exception, and western of the comparison of the comparison of the comparison of the mayor and council. It will have charge over any system of sewerage within the limits of the city and be authorized to purchase, establish, maintain and build a sewerage system in Empire City.

All zoning matters, including those now handled by the county, will be under jurisdiction of the city.

A municipal court, with a judge appoint of by the mayor, will be established and granted all powers and authorities allowed under existing state laws.

Empire City will be able to:

Buy and sell water, elec-

tricity, and gas at cost or for a profit both within and without

protit both within and without its territorial limits.

• Exercise complete control over public street, including the speed limits.

• Levy, assess, and collect taxes to raise sufficient revenue for all improvements, services, equipment and facilities.

services, equipment ities.

Tax ad valorem all property subject to taxation within the city.

Rep. Howard said the Cobb County government would not cease to exist, but would continue to carry out its release. See EMPIRE CITY Page 3



MR. AND MRS. R. F. PANNELL EXAMINE 'LIFE' MAGAZINE
Mariettans Discovered Wreckage Pictured Was Son's Plane

### Marietta Pilot Finds Reason to Love Life

By LYNDA BARRON Journal Staff Writer Most Vietnam War stories end sadly, but one Mariettan's has a happy ending—at least, temporarily.

has a happy ending—at least, temporarily.

1st. Lt. Alvin F. Pannell is in a U.S. Navy hospital at Beaufort, S. C. suffering from a fractured and dislocated right leg and hip, the loss of 12 tech and severe facial lacerations, but he's thankful to be alive.

His light "spotter" plane, an O—IC Birddog, was shot down by Viet Cong in January 27 and, fortunately for "annell, the crash was near more Marines who were able to pull him from the wreckage.

The lleutenant's parents,

Marines who were able to pull him from the wreckage.

The lieutenant's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Pannell, of 383 Talcott Circle, first heard of their son's injuries February 4, when he called them from a Navy hospital at Yokohama, Japan. The next Friday, the senior Mr. Pannell was at a local barber shop and telling of his son's experience, when a mass in the next chair, who was persuing a current issue of "Life" imagazine, said "Well, here's his plane; and "Well, here's his plane. The picture the man showed Pannell was used in conjunction with a story about the battles at Khe Sanh but the same there, sare enough Li-Pance here, sure enough Li-Pance enough L

snowed Pannell was used in conjunction with astory about the battles at Khe Sanh, the place where, sure enough, Li. Pannell's plane had been downed.

Other friends of the family called the Pannells over the weekend and mentioned the placture, so the Pannell's took a copy of "Life" when they learned their son had been transferred to the South Carolina hospital.

I.A. Pannell took one look at

the magazine and said no, it by have landed his plane wasn't his plane. Then he without crashing, but his began to examine some other wheels caught on some pictures he had that had been barbed wire, causing the made of the wreckage and crash.

compared them with the one Mrs. Pannell said her son



LT. PANNELL

mark on the plane that had been his, he was certain that it was his plane pictured in "Life."

or new where casing the crash. Pannell said her son her the engine was trooked back into the cockpit pinning him in the wreckage. She said the six Marines who per formed the rescue forcibly pulled the pilot's seat back and away from the wreckage to free Pannell. A passenger riding is 'he back of the small plane e...aped with only a few scratches, she said.

The "birdog" is used to fly over enemy territory and "spot" the enomy. The pilot keeps radio contact with near-by troops and reports the enemy's movements. Since the planes are in such danger, their light, smill design is a protection. Mrs. Pannell said her son told her the day before his crash he had thought he was going to die. He said to the Was going to die. He said to the law part of the la fore his crash he had thought he was going to die. He said he had been dodging enemy fire that would have disintegrated his tiny plane in mid-air, his mother said. She said her son told her he was normally not excited when re-porting the enemy's locations, but that he had been weaving through the bombs and fairly screening into the microming into the mici

A 1961 graduate of Marietta High School, Lt. Pannell at Hended Emory University 3 years before his enlistment in the Maries in Ociober, 1964. He was married in Septem-ber, 1994, to the former Nancy Hassler, of Atlanta, and the couple has one child, seven-month-old Liss.

# Few Clues Found n Mail Robbery Inside Job

### Manager Charged Aunt Fanny's

# Hit by Raid

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### Smyrnans Lose Love for Dogs

Dog is man's best friend? If he's your pet, yes. If your only contact with him is an overturned garbage can and a littered lawn, no.

A number of Smyrna residents are disturbed by roaming packs of dogs that scatter treath and sometimes snap at children. More than that, they are disturbed by Smyrna's leash law.

Leash laws are universal bugaboos. City Clerk Les Charles said. Smyrna's is patterned after those of a number of other cities, but no one of them work, he said.
"It's difficult—most difficult—in all the cities over Geor-

of other cities. but no one of them work, he said.

"It's difficult—most difficult—in all the cities over Georgia," he said.

The law itself covers the subject of roaming dogs clearly, he pointed out. The problem is in trying to enforce it.

Under Smyrna's leash law unleashed dogs must be inside an enclosure; when outside a fence they must be on a leash held by someone strong enough to control them; and they cannot be allowed to run in packs.

"They usually roam in areas where there's a woods nearby a subdivision where they can sleep by day and roam by might," Charles said.

The leader of a dog pack was shot by a Smyrna policeman once several years ago, on authority of the dog's owner, and once several years ago, on authority of the dog's owner, the owner's wife sued the city.

He said that city and county official groups have wrestled with the problem of leash laws for years, but they have never come up with a workable law that allows the police to instigate charges and capture and destroy the dogs.

To keep a leash law legal and workable, Charles explained, it must be based on a court action in which the complainant charges the dog's owner. They both must then appear in court and have the matter settled by a judge. If the complaining witness falls to appear, the hunge has no alternative but to dismiss the case, he said.

One realised of the Willis High School area said part of One realised of the Willis High School area said part of owners and press charges.



### pected to post book sometime State Revenue Department State Revenue Department State Revenue Department with possessing more than the evith possessing more than the stroyed Cooper said. Aunt Fanny's has been the subject of whiskey raids besubject of whiskey raids before. Celebrates Birthday Mrs. Tatum, 99 Looks for 100

Mrs. Julia A. Tatum, who celebrated her 99th birthday Saturday in her room at Kennestone Hospital, says she is ready to try for 100. ways keeps her nails pol-

Mrs. Tatum has three living children, two daughters in Roswell and another in At-

in Roswell and another in At-lanta; eight grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren, and 13 great great grandchildren. She lives at Shoreham Nurs-ing Home, but was admitted to Kennestone Feb. 10.

Mrs. Sheeler In Favor

Of Location

Mrs. B. C. Sheeler, president of the Marietta PTA Council, said Saturday she was "disappointed" in the reaction of parents to the proposed site for the junior high school and not in the board of

school and not in the board of education's recommendation of the Dallas Road site.

Mrs. Sheeler said she felt the people and not the board of education had lost sight of the real purpose of the bond issue—nto build a badly needed junior high school.

Mrs. Sheeler made no prediction as to the fate of the bond issue for the junior high. She said her views were misrepresented in a story in the Marietta Dally Journal Friday.

"It's the Lord's will," she says. "I'm ready to go home, but if the Lord wills me to stay here, I'm ready to do that, too."

Her only complaint is that she "can't do anything." Be-dridden now, she likes to read but her sight is diminishing.

but her sight is diminishing.

The hospital presented Mrs. Tatum with a birthday cake, iced in white and bright cake it was a significant of the s

#### **Cold Temperatures** In Store Today

The weatherman is predicting fair skies and cold temperatures for Cobb County Sunday. A high of 40 degrees is expected.

The mercury was expected to dip to a cold 18 degrees Saturday night.

#### Suspected By Police By BILL SCHEMMEL

By BILL SCHEMMEL
Journal Staff Writer
U.S. Post Office Department inspectors said Saturday they were without "hardy any clear" to the identity of a pair of masked robbers who sprayed a mail truck driver with a disabling chemical statement of the statement of th

escaped with between \$7,000 and \$7,500.

A high ranking officer of the Cobb County Sheriff's Department said Saturday morning he suspected the robbery might be an "inside job" since the operation of picking the deposits up at the main post office and branches then depositing them at the Bank of Smyrah and only been in effect for about five weeks. The mail truck had completed pickups at the main post office in Smyraha and six branch offices and the driver. Mickey L. Jackson, 25. of Smyraha, was preparing to deposit the money at the Bank of Smyraha on Atlanta Road when the robbery took place. about 8 p.m.

Accordine to Jackson, two men wearing six masks raced up to him and dremanded the obe truck.

Jackson told officers he estruggled with one of the men. broke loose and tried to run.

struggled with one of the men. broke loose and tried to run for help. The second bandit

broke loose and trees to run for help. The second bandit aprayed him in the face with the eye-irritating chemical mace-similar to tear gas.

Jackson said he was forced back to the truck at gunpoint and the said forced back to the truck at gunpoint and bag from Reba Cantrell, 47, a post office department employe riding in back of the truck, of the mail bag. Officers said neither Jackson nor Mrs. Cantrell was armed. The two men escaped on foot, they told officers.

One of the bandits was described as five feet git inches tall, weighing 165 pounds. His companion was obestibled as about six feet tall and weighing about 200 pounds.

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