

Thornburg Governor '92

Leadership for a change.



PHOTO BY BILL FAVER

The Green-backed Heron is a small, crow-sized, dark-colored heron.

Green-Backed Herons

BY BILL FAVER

We usually find Green-backed Herons perched precariously on a low shrub or a rock watching the water for small fish. They can be almost motionless until something to their liking swims by and then a quick jab with that long bill catches their food.



FAVER

These birds are small for herons, about 18-22 inches long and have an overall brownish appearance, with more of a slatish-blue than a green back. When startled they can raise a dark crest on the top of their heads and extend their necks way out, making them look rather strange and different from their normal perched position. These herons have reddish-brown necks, sharp-pointed bills, and orange legs.

Sometimes the Green-backed Heron can be quite acrobatic. They may lean down watching minnows until they are in a position where their head is way below where their feet hold onto a branch. They can even drop off into the water at just the right time, and some observers have reported them swimming underwater in pursuit of a fish.

Green-backed Herons nest in single pairs away from the rookeries of many of the other herons. Nests are made of small sticks and can be placed anywhere from on the ground, in low-growing shrubs, or 20-30 feet up in the trees. Preferred areas seem to be around ponds, lakes, and streams, though they have been found nesting in dry locations like old orchards and upland woods.

Watch for these interesting herons in swamps and wetlands. You may see them perched patiently waiting for some action in the water below them, or you may see them flying slowly overhead just after sunset. Don't try to see the "green-back," just look for a dark, crow-sized bird quietly sharing space around us as we enjoy together this special place where land and sky and sea come together.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Granddaughter's Heart Is Broken

To the editor:

I am writing this to tell you what happened to my granddaughter. Her name is Theresa Rose Blackwell. She turned 11 years old March 20.

For her birthday she got a faded blue denim purse with shoulder strap and flowered pink ruffle on one side, a wallet with telephone address book, calendar planner and note pad inside, and \$15 cash. She was so happy about getting these things.

Three days later she was in her

last class, a music class at Bolivia Elementary School, and her purse and everything she got for her birthday were taken from this class.

It was not easy for us to buy these things. Please, could you print this and maybe someone will read it and return her things to Bolivia School as she feels real sad right now. I appreciate any help you can be.

Thelma Cates
(Theresa's Grandmother)
Rt. 2, Bolivia

"Adopt a Cop" Successful

The men and women of the Sunset Beach Police Department would like to thank the following people, businesses and industries for their donations to purchase bullet-proof vests for the department.

- | | |
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Dear Brunswick County Friends:

I am a candidate for Governor because I care about the future of North Carolina. My campaign is also your campaign. It's about electing a Governor capable of setting priorities, and making the tough decisions about how the people's hard-earned tax dollars are spent.

Our campaign is about providing our children a quality education, preparing them to live and work in well-paying 21st Century jobs. It's about improving our schools by returning more decision making authority to the local level, freeing teachers from bureaucratic overload, and letting the teachers teach.

Our campaign is about helping existing North Carolina business and industry—the big and the small—to modernize and expand, and to provide them with a well trained workforce. It's about developing better export markets for North Carolina products, and encouraging environmentally responsible business and industry to bring jobs to North Carolina—for North Carolina people.

Our campaign is about making our communities safe and secure, by building sufficient prisons to lock the revolving door and keep the dangerous criminals off the streets. It's about requiring the inmates to work to earn their own keep, and re-pay their victims.

We have ambitious and important goals for North Carolina. Working together, we will reach these goals, and put North Carolina back on track.

With all best wishes to my Brunswick County friends, I am

Sincerely,

Lacy Thornburg

Lacy Thornburg:

- ◆ led the fight against crime in North Carolina
- ◆ worked to protect the environment
- ◆ represented the concerns of minorities, women, the elderly, and the disadvantaged
- ◆ saved the people of North Carolina significant amounts of money and tax dollars
- ◆ fought for the interests of North Carolina's consumers
- ◆ fought unfair increases in consumer rates at Utility Commission hearings, in the courts, and through legislation.

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