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Letter to The Editor:

I laughed when I learned that County Judge Jon Burrows was asked to be the keynote speaker at the upcoming Republican Party Annual Banquet. According to Bell GOP Chairman Nancy Boston, Judge Burrows supposedly “shares our commitment to the principle that the best government is strong, local government involving citizens who are committed and involved” Huh?? I’m not sure if I shook my head in sheer disbelief or plain disgust! Certainly, she did not refer to the same Judge Burrows who fought tooth and nail to prevent the common local citizenry from participating in several bond petition drives; or whose attitude toward the common voter-activists is best described as cavalier and condescending.

As a lifelong Republican, I innocently presumed that local Republicans would act in concert with those principles espoused on the national level. I was mistaken and I now understand why it is said that “all politics is local”. Indeed, I learned that for many local politicians, Party affiliation is grounded on political expediency, not Party principles. And some, like Judge Burrows, clearly share no deserving philosophical connection with National Republican values. Indeed, there is a serious disconnect between local political action and national political party values. Thus, while so-called local Republican leaders gather and listen to Judge Burrow’s prepared remarks and carefully crafted sound-bites – and, while they feast on grilled pork tenderloin with raspberry chipotle glaze – I hope some attendees will reflect upon why so many “good Republicans” are not present. In short, we will not be among that captive audience because Judge Jon Burrows has done more to damage the local Republican base than any Democrat could ever hope. Why else is there already a grass roots campaign afoot to “**Boycott Burrows and His Boys**” at the upcoming election? It is because Judge Burrows and his ilk broke faith with Republican principles and lifelong affiliates – like me. And worse, our confidence and commitment to the Party will not return until they are gone!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John P. Galligan', written in a cursive style.

John P. Galligan