

## CHESTERFIELD UNAPPROVED NEWSLETTER 30

MAY 01, 2013

By John Hoffmann

**COMING SOON ANOTHER REVIEW OF MUNICIPAL COURT CASES:** If you remember last December we looked at about 20 cases from Town and Country and Chesterfield where defense attorneys DEMANDED JURY TRIALS (Which never happened) and the cases were sent over to the Circuit Court in Clayton. Our research showed that most of the DWI cases were given no-record probation terms and the companion charges, such as speeding or lane weaving were amended to illegal parking with high fines assessed all on the recommendation of the city prosecutors. This meant the person left the courthouse without having any points on his driving record, despite having been a dangerous drunk driver. Thieves had their cases amended to "Littering" so they did not have a theft conviction on their record which after three can be charged as a felony.

[http://johnhoffmann.net/dwi\\_and\\_thieves.pdf](http://johnhoffmann.net/dwi_and_thieves.pdf)

**CHESTERFIELD POLICE WANT YOU TO PAY AROUND \$10 TO LOOK AT PUBLIC RECORDS OR \$7.80 TO GET A COPY OF A REPORT. That is a 64% increase since December.**

Last November 21, I paid \$40 to obtain copies of eight police reports. April 30 it was \$195 for 24 reports.

**DELAY OF GAME:** The newsletter would have been completed and sent out by now if not for one thing... The Chesterfield Police Department has delayed in providing the reports and has raised the price of the reports 64% since four months ago. I received the info along with mug shots from Town and Country within 36 hours of my request. We are currently in a Week-Two hold with Chesterfield, but hope to get the reports by Friday.

The cops wanted to charge even more for me to simply review the public records and not make copies.

I can go to the Circuit Clerk's office in Clayton and read files all day long for free. Copies are just 10-cent a piece.

All police departments have “record rooms.” They keep police reports. Most of these reports, but not all, are open public records. The deal with public records is that the public is supposed to be able to look at them at no charge.

When I lived outside of Washington, DC I could sit in the Library of Congress all day long reading documents at no charge. This was despite their funding for a huge staff that included a police force.

On April 30 I wrote a check for \$195 to the Chesterfield Police to get copies of public records that in November would have cost me \$120. I’m sure most of our readers realize there is no advertising connected with the newsletters we post. Operating the website costs about \$800 a year. Incidental costs such as court and election commission copies, business services such as turning documents into PDFs for posting on the website are another \$100-to-\$200 or more a year. When the Chesterfield Police suddenly increase the cost of a police report 64% it is noticed.

**PAST EXPERIENCE:** In 30-years as a police officer, I have had positions where record rooms were under my control. I used to have an unusual approach to public records...I liked to share them.

If a resident was a victim of a crime or in an auto accident where I was a police captain, an officer would drop a copy of the police report off at their house at no charge. When I was an enforcement official for a county of 1,000,000 people, I would mail copies of reports to victims of offenses I investigated at no charge. It was great PR and it kept the victim in the loop of the investigation.

In my position with Montgomery County Maryland, newspaper and TV reporters could request copies of reports and info from my department head, a political bureaucrat or me. It was much like a Tale of Two Cities. The Maryland Freedom of Information law allowed government agencies to take up to 3-days to respond to requests and they could charge a certain amount. My boss would make them wait for the full three days and they charge them as much as she could. She did not like the press.

If they contacted me, I’d get them report copies or information as fast as possible at no charge. My theory was “Why piss off people who work where they buy ink by the barrel or where they have an hour to fill with local news every day.” If you piss them off they will look harder at your agency trying to find something. Why not get along with them, is what I believed. The Chesterfield Police apparently don’t share my approach.

**CHESTERFIELD DOES NOT WANT YOU TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING...THE PRICE FOR A POLICE REPORT HAS GONE UP 64%...SO MUCH FOR**

**TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT:** Okay this newsletter isn't read by hundreds of thousands like the Post-Dispatch, but we can track between the free subscription lists and the hits on the website and know that around 1000 area residents do read it.

The Chesterfield Police with instructions from the city prosecutor Tim Englemeyer, only release what they want to release and then do their best to keep crime news from the public, especially if it involves cases where charges are reduced, which is almost a certainty in all cases. If the major news media sniffs out an arrest of a notable person or if the police want PR to give themselves a pat on the back about a specific arrest they will have a press release ready along with a mug shot. But if someone wants to review files they seem to throw a roadblock up and make it as difficult as possible.

For instance nine months after the arrest first DWI arrest of Cardinals broadcaster Dan McLaughlin, Chesterfield Police refused to release the arrest report. They said it was not an open record because the prosecutor (Englemeyer) could order additional investigation.

I'm not sure what new evidence they would find, as the Blood Alcohol Content of someone will disappear in nine hours, let along nine months. Once there was a plea deal they reluctantly released the report. We then found out that despite being falling down drunk, trying to bribe the officer and then refusing to take a breath test, Englemeyer agreed to a plea deal where McLaughlin would not have anything points against his driver's license. Chesterfield's hippie judge "Let em Loose Rick Brunk didn't have any problems with the deal and gave McLaughlin a no record SIS probation term.

We only got a copy of the report after McLaughlin's plea deal. Then we found there was no additional investigation done after the night of the arrest.



The two most dangerous men in Chesterfield. Judge Rick "Let em' Loose" Brunk and city prosecutor Tim Englemeyer.

In 2011 I went (as a member of the public) to the Chesterfield Municipal Court office and asked to review a couple of files. The Court Clerk said she would have to get approval from the judge for the public to review public records. This was the first time I had ever run into this. If you go the County Courthouse, a completely disinterested clerk hands you the file. The best I can figure is that Judge Brunk and PA Engelmeyer don't want the public to know what they are up to. It was bad enough that I wrote a column about it when I was writing for patch.com. (I have to admit since then the Chesterfield Court Clerk has been extremely gracious and helpful.)

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/articles/sunshine-sometimes-hard-to-find-within-chesterfield-courts-and-police-department>

Other records in some West County municipalities are easy to obtain. Ladue PD and Muni Court release police reports at the time of arrest. Town and Country will give you a mug shot and the cover sheet at the time of arrest and the full report at the time of the case had been adjudicated. At Town and Country they actually try to help you with your request.

The sunshine law allows governments and police departments to charge up to \$5 a report. It does not require them to. For instance the Board of Elections charges 10-cents per page copied. That is it! No staff time is charged. They are aware that open public records are important. That is not the case with many municipalities.

Here are some emails I received from Chesterfield after I already researched the cases and provided them with the date of the police report, the date the case was adjudicated, before what judge and the sentence that made the case an open public record. I know they have to double check, but I did provide all the info to make their work easier.

**From:** Steve Lewis [<mailto:SLewis@chesterfield.mo.us>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013 3:56 PM  
**To:** John Hoffmann  
**Subject:** RE: records request

John,

We will review the below and work up a cost estimate for the requested information and respond with that estimate as soon as possible

**From:** John Hoffmann [<mailto:johnhoffmann@charter.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013 4:47 PM  
**To:** Steve Lewis  
**Subject:** RE: records request

Steve...If it will be a drag on your staff...just keep that request and do one a day...I already did the sunshine work for you and included it in the request. If you want to double check just go to casenet. Once a day that should take 60 seconds.

I was joking about the volume discount...

I realize work is work...but open records is part of the deal for you guys even if it is a pain in the ass. If it would be better, I can come out one day at a time and request to see one report at a time. However these are the 20 I want to look at for an article. Last fall I paid \$5 a report for similar research in a volume request. I don't know how the price can suddenly jump in five months, unless you are discouraging people from obtaining public records.

**From:** Steve Lewis [<mailto:SLewis@chesterfield.mo.us>]

**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2013 12:59 PM

**To:** John Hoffmann

**Subject:** RE: records request

Each report would cost \$5.00 per and an additional \$75.00 for Sgt. Schneider's time. Total cost for the request \$120.00 for 24 Reports plus \$75.00 for the time to gather and review the records, **total cost = \$195.00.**

If you would like the reports, please provide payment in advance at the Chesterfield Police Station, you may contact Sergeant Schneider and he will gather the reports you requested and contact you when they are ready.

**From:** John Hoffmann [<mailto:johnhoffmann@charter.net>]

**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2013 1:14 PM

**To:** Steve Lewis

**Cc:** 'Jeremy Kohler'

**Subject:** RE: records request

Steve,

...(An)investigative reporter has pointed out to me that reports are public records which the public can review. So I will come out and review each report. I will pay \$75 for Sgt. Schneider's time.

I can come out today with the money. Let me know when I can review the reports.

John Hoffmann

**From:** Steve Lewis [<mailto:SLewis@chesterfield.mo.us>]

**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2013 1:18 PM

**To:** John Hoffmann

**Subject:** RE: records request

I will check with Sgt. Schneider and his schedule, I know that today will not be possible, I will contact you early next week to determine when/if that is a possibility. We will make every accommodation that we can to assist you, however Sgt. Schneider will still need to review and redact the records, that cannot be done at a moment's notice, I will let you know when you can make an appointment to do so.

**From:** John Hoffmann [<mailto:johnhoffmann@charter.net>]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2013 1:46 PM  
**To:** Steve Lewis  
**Subject:** RE: records request

Steve,

"I don't understand "if that is a possibility." There is case law that the records have to be available. Looking forward to reviewing reports.

John H

**From:** Steve Lewis [<mailto:SLewis@chesterfield.mo.us>]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2013 1:47 PM  
**To:** John Hoffmann  
**Subject:** RE: records request

John,

Bob is not at work today, we will review your new request and respond as soon as possible, but by the first part of next week at the latest. Have a good weekend.

**From:** Steve Lewis [<mailto:SLewis@chesterfield.mo.us>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2013 11:25 AM  
**To:** John Hoffmann  
**Cc:** Bob Schneider  
**Subject:** RE: records request

Mr. Hoffman,

The fees for the reports will be as stated below. Please contact Sgt. Schneider to arrange for your payment for the reports and his time, upon receipt of that payment he will conduct the required work to prepare the reports for you to receive and will let you know as soon as possible when they are available for you to pick up. That will be the most cost effective measure, printing the reports for your review will be the same as you reviewing them here, as the work involved will be the same. They are not available for review on a monitor as they are

contained on a secure site, and Sgt. Schneider would have to review and pull up each report, and remain with you while he does so. The cost for this would exceed the per report cost.

Even if you show up in court to see and hear what is going on the old hippie, Judge Brunk, makes sure your mission will be impossible.

He calls up defense lawyers and defendants to the bench and they whisper back and forth. It was so unusual that that I wrote a column about that experience.

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/articles/chesterfield-city-court-features-the-judge-whisperer>

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/articles/it-is-time-for-chesterfield-leaders-to-get-tough-on-dwis-starting-with-a-new-judge-and-prosecutor>



2010 arrest when he peed on himself. 2011 arrest when was so drunk he could not figure out how to open his car door.

Less than 10 months after getting a “no-record” probation for the first DWI with no points on his driving record McLaughlin is arrested again. He pleads guilty in front of Judge Brunk who reduced the offense from a 12-point offence to an 8-point offence so his license is merely suspended and not revoked for a year. Then he does something that was crazy. He refused to revoke McLaughlin’s first probation, despite the fact of a second more serious offense in less than a year, where McLaughlin was in several accidents.

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/articles/mclaughlin-s-probation-is-not-revoked-for-first-dwi-after-he-pleads-guilty-to-second>

**SERIAL DRUNK DRIVER CHARGED WITH A FELONY:** 52-year-old Roy Anthony Garozzo of 1080 Westmeade Drive in the apartments that run along parallel to Baxter Road, was been charged on April 19 with a felony of being a persistent drunk driver. Garozzo has been living on Westmeade since before Chesterfield was a city. His DWI arrests date back a quarter-of-a-century.



If you see this man driving...first get out of his way, then call the police.

Garozzo was first arrested and convicted of DWI in 1987 after being stopped by the County Police on April 2, 1987.

On October 27, 1991 Roy was arrested for DWI, No Valid Driver's License and Improper Lane Use, in Montgomery County Missouri.

1991 There was evidence of an alcohol related driving arrest in Kansas City.

In 1993 there was a reported DUI arrest in Kansas City, which we could not confirm.

On July 28 1993 he was sentence for two days in jail for Driving While Revoked (Failure to take Breath Test) in Saline County.

On July 31, 1997 Garozzo was arrested for DWI by the Missouri Highway Patrol. He pled guilty on October 22 and was sentenced to serve 60 days in the County Jail on December 27. (He also pled guilty to speeding and following too closely.)

On St. Patrick's Day in 1998 Garozzo was arrested for Driving While Suspended. He pled guilty on June 15 and was sentenced to 60 days in the City Workhouse.

On March 6, 2000 a St. Louis Police Officer in the first district in far south St. Louis charged Garozzo with Driving While License Suspended. On November 15, 2000 he pled guilty was sentenced to one year in the City workhouse, but the execution of the sentence was suspended and Roy was placed on probation.

On November 15, 2007 his driver's license was revoked again.

On October 11, 2008 Officer Gunn of the Chesterfield Police clocked Garozzo speeding 62 MPH in a 40 MPH zone. He found that Garozzo was also drunk and he was

arrested for DWI. In an amazing and very uncommon event in Chesterfield, Garozzo was actually assessed a full 12-point DWI violation along with a 2-point speeding conviction. He was sentenced to jail for 90 days, but the judge stayed the jail term and placed Garozzo on probation for two years. It was an amazing two years. Roy was not arrested or caught violating his probation. That was about to change two months after his probation ended.

On February 18, 2011 Garozzo was arrested for DWI and Driving While Revoked (for failure to take a breath test) by the Wentzville Police. On September 29, 2011 he pled guilty and was sentenced to 120 days in jail.

On July 11, 2011 he was arrested by the Moscow Mills Police in Troy County for driving without a valid license (2<sup>nd</sup> offense) and fined \$350.

On June 8, 2012 he was arrested for Driving While Revoked by the Missouri Highway Patrol. He was convicted on April 2, 2013 (after his last DWI arrest but prior to the Chronic Offender Warrant being issued). He was also found guilty of speeding.

On March 23, 2013 Roy was arrested again by the St. Louis County Police and charged as a Chronic DWI Offender. He was officially charged on April 19.

Driving offenses weren't the only things Mr. Garozzo was being arrested for. On November 12, 2011 he was arrested for Poaching by Conservation Agents in Lincoln County. A month later he was fined \$250.

**LIKE FATHER LIKE SON:** While searching for arrests involving Garozzo, we also found DWI arrests in the 1980s for his father, who was born in 1927.

**BE ON THE LOOKOUT:** Known in the police business as a BOLO...in this case it is for



your own safety. According to County Tax records Garozzo has three vehicles, a 1993 Jeep Wrangler (which I saw parked outside of his apartment this week), a 1997 BMW 740 and a Harley Davidson motorcycle.

**SUSPECT FINALLY CHARGED IN SMITTY'S ASSAULT:** 52-year-old Jayne Baning, of Manchester, who knocked down and then sliced open the face of Smitty's waitress and bartender Nancy Seaman has finally been charged with felony assault.



On January 29 when Seaman refused to serve an intoxicated Baning any more drinks, Baning hit Seaman with a broken cocktail glass's stem cutting open her face and requiring 81 stitches to close the wound. Baning also pulled Seaman by the hair down to the floor and attempted to stab her with the broken glass before a cook intervened.

Chesterfield Police arrested Baning that night, but released her on a ticket to appear in city court on an ordinance violation. Meanwhile Seaman suffered lifetime injuries.

After protests from myself and others including Congresswoman Ann Wagner, a regular at Smitty's, the police withdrew the charge and the case was assigned to a detective, who applied for warrants against Baning on March 15. The County Prosecutor's Office finally on April 19 charged Baning with felony 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Assault. There was a \$15,000 "cash only" bond requirement. She was arrested by the Manchester Police after the warrant was issued and taken to the County Jail. On April 25 a Circuit Court Judge allowed Baning to post 10-percent of the required bond.

Meanwhile Seaman, who had extensive plastic surgery on her face in the first week of April, has been told she will need more plastic surgery due to the severity of the wound. She also has vision and neurological problems, plus may also have to have root canals in connection with the wound. She is still off of work. She has repeatedly said that the Chesterfield Police detective assigned the case has been extremely helpful and supportive.

**IN A SIMILAR CASE JUNIOR COLLEGE POLICE DROP BALL. IT TOOK A CHESERFIELD TEENAGER TO GET THINGS DONE:** It appears as if a plucky 19-year-old co-ed from Chesterfield forced the campus police at the St. Louis Community College Meramec Campus to put things in high gear.

Blythe Grupe was jumped from behind at the sink in a women's bathroom by a male student. She screamed as she was being choked and an instructor rushed in. The suspect was caught by campus cops in the building. However, like Chesterfield cops in the Nancy Seaman assault case, the Meramec Campus cops let him go pending

warrant application. They should have held the suspect, 18-year-old Jevon Mallory from St. John, at the county Jail on a 24-hour hold while they obtained warrants.



Grupe, a Marquette High School grad, went on the offensive when she learned the suspect had not been charged and she contacted media sources. She was on the 6 and 10 o'clock newscasts at several TV stations.

Meanwhile Campus Police Chief, Paul Banta, a retired Des Peres Public Safety (fire & police) command staff officer, went on the defensive sounding rather lame in giving his explanation why Mallory was released without being charged.



Meramec Campus Cops didn't know what to do with felony assault suspect Jevon Mallory, so they let him go. The victim started a media firestorm that got him arrested.

Meramec President George Wasson resigned on April 29 as a result of the handling of this incident. However it seems as if Chief Banta is the one who should be resigning. Even if Wasson told him to release Mallory, Banta should have ordered his officers to have him held for 24 hours while they obtained arrest warrants. If Banta got fired he could go after Wasson. Instead a 19-year-old student, who was the victim of a heinous attack, was forced to go the media to get justice.

**MONSANTO EXPANSION:** Just as a new slate of city council members and a new mayor with a platform against giving tax breaks to businesses, the County Executive Charlie Dooley, who has never had much use for Chesterfield, cuts property taxes at

Monsanto's Chesterfield research campus 50-percent for 10 years while the company expands and plans to add 675 jobs.

Here are two comments posted after the Post-Dispatch story on the expansion and tax breaks. They pretty much sum up the issue.

[Bobby Friend](#) · Top Commenter · This is great news for the St Louis area! These 675 jobs are HIGH paying positions. Thank you Monsanto.

[Jeffrey Dean Bowman](#) · Top Commenter

Why are Missouri taxpayers footing \$31.5 million of this expansion when Monsanto had in excess of \$2Billion in profits in 2012?

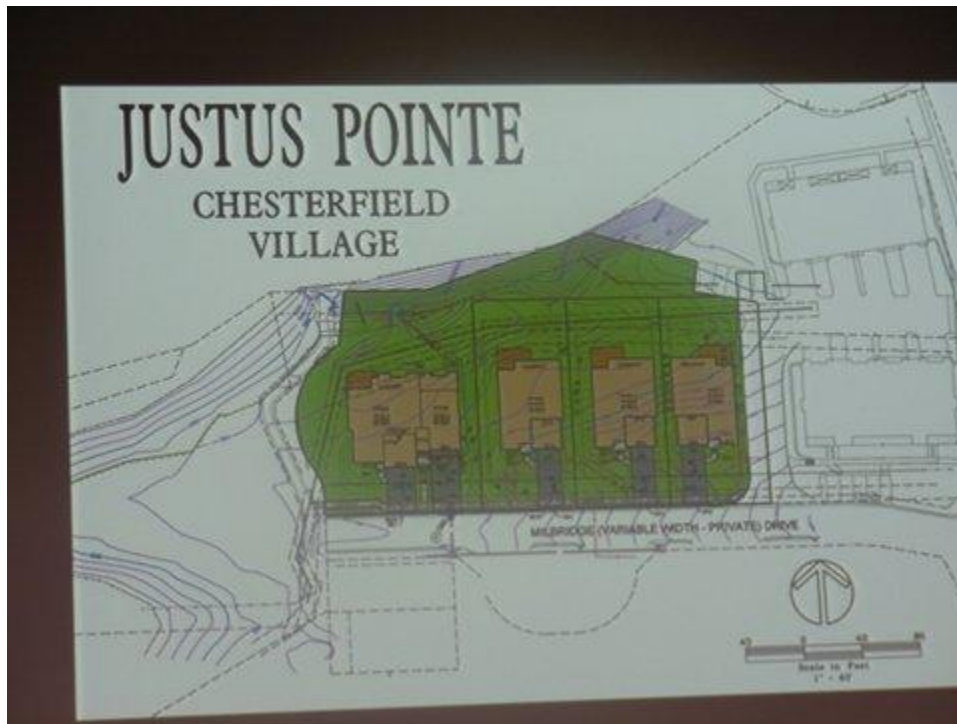
**NOT MUCH AT APRIL PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS MEETING:** These meetings can sometime go as long as two hours. However it was the first with Bob Nation as mayor. It was a snooze and over in 30 minutes. Councilwoman Connie Fults as chair of the committee takes the place of Randy Logan who was defeated handily by Dan Hurt. Hurt also joins the committee.

**BARK, BARK, WOOLF, WOOLF...** The committee followed the Planning Commission and approved to add a dog kennel to the approved businesses that will be allowed into the Spirit Valley Business Park, located on Olive Street Road across from the Rombach Farm market area.

The business park is basically a warehouse district. The owner originally listed a kennel and vet office along with other uses when originally before the Planning Commission in 2007. While not specifically naming kennels, the commission asked the applicant to reduce the number of types of businesses for the area. With no kennels requesting space they were cut from the list. Now that there is a kennel seeking to build in the development the owners are back.

The planning department staff generated a mere 19 pages of documentation, including maps and photos to go with this request.

**MORE CONDO UNITS PALNNED FOR JUSTUS POINTE:** Under the topic of "upcoming items" members of the Public Works and Planning Committee were shown a plan that was just submitted for four more condo buildings along Justus Pointe and Chesterfield Parkway.



**CHANGE AT MONARCH MAY TAKE A WHILE:** Yes, there is a new power shift at the Monarch Fire Protection District. But it might take a while for the command staff to figure that out. At the swearing in ceremony where Robin Harris was elected the new president of the Fire Board no time was wasted in new orders, including posting of labor agreements on the website and advertising for new legal representation. The fire chief, assistant chief and board attorney did not have smiles on their faces.

On Wednesday April 24, the District website showed there would be a meeting that would be open to the public that night at 7pm. However there was no agenda posted. I emailed Harris and asked about the agenda for the 7pm meeting. He emailed me back saying it was a 5pm "closed" meeting where personal issues would be discussed. The fire chief corrected the website three hours before the meeting. I wonder how many folks showed up at 7pm?

**OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE OLDER:** West Magazine had a feature story on the Chesterfield elections. Much like what we have been reporting for sometime... older former office holders were swept back into office along with the mayor's office while younger politicians were forced out. However...they missed using the best headline or subhead for the situation...Out With The Old And In With The Older!

**TWO WEEKS AND STILL NO EMAIL LINKS FOR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS:** You might think that a city with two members of the city council whom teach networking and computer studies that it would not take two weeks or longer for the three new members to get an email link on the city's website so residents can contact them. But that has not been the case in Chesterfield. Former mayor and new councilwoman Nancy Greenwood, former long time councilman and recently elected new councilman Dan Hurt and Bruce DeGroot do not have email links on the city's website. They don't even have their photos or bio posted.

**FOLLOW THE LIES IN TOWN AND STYLE:** I have closely read the Talk of the Towns column by Bill Beggs, Jr. that appears in the Town and Style Magazine, ever since he lifted a column I wrote for Patch.com, changed a few words and then ran it under his byline. I complained to the editor and she eventually admitted that perhaps Mr. Beggs should have credited me or not run the information he stole.

His "column" involves no real reporting. He pretty much lifts items from other media sources. For sometime Town and Style was using the logo of Rock Hill for tidbits from Richmond Heights. I guess all "RH" logos mean the same thing for them.



Wrong way Bill Beggs, Jr.

In the April 17 issue of Town and Style Beggs, under the "Ballwin" caption wrote a long paragraph about the new Schnucks store in Ballwin at Kehrs Mill Road and Clarkson Road. First he sounded like a paid apologist for the Schnucks stores over the company's pathetic lack of concern for long time customers and their credit. He then wrote how the new store is 40,000 square feet "(half the size of the Des Peres flagship, also brand new at 80,000 square feet.)"

When did they add the extra 6,000 square feet? This is typical of Mr. Beggs' work...don't let facts get in the way of your story. That store in Des Peres has been 74,000 sq ft since it opened and that was the big laugh when Dierbergs opened a store down the street at 75,000 sq feet.

This is the first two paragraphs from a Schnucks Press Release that is online:

Date : August 31, 2009

**New Flagship Schnucks Opens to Des Peres Customers on Sept. 15**

*Store Manager says, "It's an experience in food!"*

DES PERES, Mo. – After 46 years of serving customers in its present location, **Schnucks Des Peres** will close at 9 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 14, and reopen at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at its new location, **12332 Manchester Road** (next to West County Mall). The relocation of this landmark facility marks the beginning of a new era for the family-owned grocery company.

At 74,000 square feet, this combination food and pharmacy store is like no other Schnucks store. Schnucks Chairman and CEO **Scott Schnuck** explained, "We promised our Des Peres community something special and that's just what we will deliver. Des Peres will be a flagship store in our company because of the atypical offerings it will include."

## **FOLLOW THE MONEY:**

I don't know if you read the Post-Dispatch article by Mark Schlinkmann, how St. Charles Republican state representative Kathie Conway has introduced a bill that would that would slap stiff penalties on cities and counties that had smoking bans. Sales taxes collected from restaurants and bars under a smoking ban would be diverted from cities and counties providing basic services and be given to school districts. Luckily Rep. Conway's bill isn't calling for high schools to have "smoking areas" for students 18 or over who want to light up on campus.

Let's follow the money and see who is giving someone crazy enough to introduce this bill campaign contributions. Here is a list of people or organizations giving \$250 or more to Conway over the last 18 months. In black bold type are companies associated with cigarette or liquor sales or casinos. Highlighted in red are elected officials, labor groups affiliated with fire departments and EMS, plus health care organizations that are supposed to be concerned with the health and welfare of people.



03/28/13	\$250	Perman and Winton Consulting Group	Jefferson City, MO
<b>03/28/13</b>	<b>\$150*</b>	<b>Missouri Beverage PAC</b>	<b>Jefferson City</b>
03/28/13	\$250	Missouri Freedom (Trial Lawyers)	Jefferson City
03/28/13	\$350	ASA Midwest	PAC St. Louis CO MO Construction contractors
10/11/12	\$350	Century TEL	Monroe, LA
<b>10/11/12</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>Ann Wagner for Congress</b>	<b>Manchester, MO</b>

10/11/12 \$500 Citizen for Tim Jones Eureka, Mo  
 10/15/12 \$350 Ameren Missouri PAC Jefferson City  
 10/15/12 \$500 Citizens for Diehl **Town and Country, MO**  
 10/15/12 \$350 Missouri Healthcare Assoc PAC Jefferson City  
 10/17/12 \$250 **Ameristar Casino of Kansas City**  
 10/17/12 \$250 **Ameristar casino of St. Charles**  
 10/17/12 \$250 **Casey General Stores Ankeny, IA**  
 10/17/12 \$350 Monsanto Co Creve Coeur, MO  
 10/17/12 \$350 Stinson, Morrison, Heckler, LLP Clayton, MO  
 10/17/12 \$250 MO Dental PAC Jefferson City, MO  
 10/24/12 \$325 HEAL PAC Creve Coeur, MO  
 10/24/12 \$250 Missourians for Mike Cierport Lee's Summit MO  
 10/25/12 \$250 Fire Service Alliance PAC Jefferson City  
 10/25/12 \$250 Realtor's PAC Columbia MO  
 09/29/12 \$500 **Anheuser Busch Companies St. Louis**  
 09/28/12 \$250 Steven Shull Lake St. Louis MO  
 09/25/12 \$300 Assoc of Industries of MO PAC Jefferson City MO  
 09/25/12 \$325 Charter Communications **Town and Country MO**  
 09/25/12 \$400 Professional Firefighters PAC St. Peters MO  
 09/25/12 \$500 Missouri Medical PAC Jefferson City  
 09/22/12 \$350 Free Government Requires Active Citizens (Republican PAC)  
 09/22/12 \$250 General Motors Washington DC 20001  
 09/22/12 \$500 **CHC of MO (Coventry Health Care) Town and Country, MO**  
 09/22/12 \$500 FEAPAC of Missouri Overland Park, KS (Future Educators Assoc)  
 09/22/12 \$250 MOLEGG Jefferson City MO  
 09/22/12 \$250 Realtors PAC Jefferson City  
 09/22/12 \$570 Redmon for State Rep Monticello, MO  
 09/22/12 \$300 **Isle of Capri Casinos Creve Coeur, MO**  
 09/22/12 \$300 American Family Ins PAC St. Joseph MO  
 09/18/12 \$250 St. Charles Associations of Realtors  
 09/18/12 \$500 **MHA-PAC Jefferson City MO (Missouri Hospital Association)**  
 09/18/12 \$250 **Xcaliber (cigarette maker) MO PAC**  
 09/18/12 \$300 Property & Casualty Assoc of American Des Moines, IA  
 09/06/12 \$325 Home Builders Assoc **Chesterfield MO**  
 07/25/12 \$500 Friends of Todd Richardson Popular Bluff, MO  
 07/15/12 \$500 **Anheuser Busch Companies St. Louis MO**  
 06/27/12 \$250 Realtors PAC Columbia MO  
 06/26/12 \$250 Missouri Dental PAC Jefferson City MO  
 06/20/12 \$350 AGC of St. Louis PAC (Assoc General Contractors)  
 05/31/12 \$325 Home Building Industry PAC

05/25/12	\$350	Charter Communications <b>Town and Country MO</b>
02/03/12	\$325	HEAL PAC Ballwin, MO
12/31/11	\$500	Right Choice Managed Care Cincinnati OH
12/30/11	\$500	Ameristar Casino Kansas City MO
12/30/11	\$500	Ameristar Casino St. Charles MO
12/22/11	\$500	RAJ Jefferson City MO
10/20/11	\$500	Citizen for Tim Jones Eureka MO
10/17/11	\$350	Charter Communications <b>Town and Country MO</b>
10/07/11	\$300	Professional Firefighters PAC St. Peters, MO
10/03/11	\$300	MAPAC Jefferson City, MO
10/03/11	\$500	MHA PAC Jefferson City, MO
10/03/11	\$500	Group Health Plan <b>Town and Country MO</b>
10/03/11	\$500	Redmon for State Rep Monticello, MO
10/03/11	\$1,500	Missouri Health Care Assoc Jefferson City MO
10/02/11	\$300	RGA Reinsurance Co <b>Chesterfield, MO</b>

**FIRST MITT ROMNEY TELLS ME I'M ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST NOTABLE REPUBLICANS...NOW THEY WANT MONEY FOR THE VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S**

**RACE:** Yes, I received the October 5, 2012 letter from Mitt, telling me what a great Republican I am and asking for up to \$50,000.

On April 24, I received an email asking me to contribute to the campaign fund of Ken Cuccinelli who is the Republican candidate running for governor in Virginia. I have claimed I'm an Independent since I lived in the heavily Democratic State of Maryland in 1993. I would like to find a Republican I could enjoy voting for and not one who wants to repeal child labor laws, smoking bans or talks about legitimate rape being a form of birth control. However, I don't see moving to Virginia as an option.

**CAN PATCH.COM BE FAR BEHIND:** On Saturday DCRTV (a website that covers national radio and TV news along with radio and TV news from the Washington DC/Baltimore markets) reported that AOL is shutting down its online music operation:

**AOL Music Shuttered** - 4/27 - Once Dulles-based AOL has shut down its AOL Music service and laid off its staff. AOL has consolidated some its online content under the Huffington Post, which AOL acquired in February 2011. AOL Music's flagship music site was Spinner, which had originated as an online radio service in the early 1990s. AOL Radio is not affected by the closing of AOL Music. [FMQB](#) has more.....

You have to wonder if Patch.com can be far behind. Patch.com continues to drain money out of AOL. 2011 was its worst year when it lost \$100,000,000 but it has continued to lose money in 2012 and now.

## **FOOD AND MUSIC:**

**A LONG NIGHT AT JOHN MINEO'S:** Friday April 26 may have been my last trip to John Mineo's Italian restaurant at Clayton and Mason Roads.

**OUR LONG NIGHT AT JOHN MINEO'S:** I am going to scale back recommending readers see any of our musician friends after our experience on Friday April 26 at John Mineo's where the multi talented Dean Christopher performed.

Before Friday our last trip to Mineo's was to see the Doug Bert Quartet in the bar loft. It left us all smelling like a camp fire. Smoke from the outside burn pit drifted upstairs into the bar loft for the entire night.

For Friday's dinner with the Dean Christopher show, I made reservations by email in early March for 7:30 and reconfirmed them about 10 days before the date. I arrived at Mineo's at 7:30 on the dot. Here are how things went:

ME: My name's Hoffmann I have a reservation for 7:30.

Host: I'll put you on the list it might be 20 minutes or longer.

ME: So reservations were pointless.

Host: Sir, you don't have reservations with me.

ME: I emailed them in March and then confirmed with Beth less than two weeks ago.

Host: I'm not Beth. You should have made the reservations with me.

ME: How I'm I supposed to know that?

Host: Anyone who calls for a table between 7 and 8:30 on a Friday, I tell them they may have to wait.

ME: So making reservations is pointless.

Host: You can take it out on me, but you will still have to wait at least 20 minutes.

Meanwhile I can see Dean and the group performing, but they are so far away I cannot hear them.

My wife drove separately because she planned to leave early as she had an art show she was in the next morning in Augusta.

She arrived at 7:35. I sent her up to the host to see if she could do any better. BINGO, she waved at us and we were seated at a table next to the band. Well it was next to the band and behind the band.



A sketch of Dean from our view



Dean doing a bit that included a impression of a very relaxed Dean Martin sitting at a table.

We were seated about 7:42 and a drink order was taken and some of the drinks arrived about 10 minutes later, others in about 20 minutes. An hour later someone at the table wanted a second martini. We were told there would be a wait as they would out of martini glasses. Someone offered up their used one and a fresh martini presumably after the glass was washed out arrived 10 minutes later.

We were never given menus, but we grabbed four off of a nearby table. It really didn't matter as no one tried to take an order until around 8:45 or an hour after we sat down. The appetizers and salads arrived a little after 9:30 or about 2-hours after our arrival. .

At about 10:15 or waiter was asked if he had any idea when the meals might arrive. He said he didn't.

The food arrived at 10:30 or three hours after we did. My wife left at 10:45 to go home and go to sleep. Dean was asked to go a little longer by the management. He performed until 11:10.

It was about the same time they cleared our dinner plates. No one made an attempt to show us a desert menu.

But the five of us at our table had a good time, thanks to Dean.

The food was very good and while most entrees started at about \$36...there were two entrees at the 1973 price of \$9.00, plus \$1.50 soups and salads and \$2.00 appetizers, all part of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Despite being ridiculously late the food was very good besides being a bargain.

**YOGURT ANYONE?** The other night my wife and I were having dinner with former Chesterfield patch.com editor Jean Whitney at Smitty's. Of all the great things you can say about the menu at Smitty's (low prices, tremendous comfort food, homemade soups) the one thing you cannot find on the menu are desserts.

Jean suggested we try Lancia Frozen Yogurt in the shopping center next door. Personally I'd rather drive the ten miles to Fritz's Custard stand in Twin Oaks, but I went along and was pleasantly surprised and saved a lot of money.

When we walked in we were somewhat amazed. Rows of ice cream and yogurt soft serve machines on the customer's side of the counter. As our jaws dropped open, Zack, an employee correctly asked if it was our first time in the store. He then took us back to machines of different flavors of Yogurts and offered everyone a sample. A ritual we watched Zack repeat several more times while we were there.

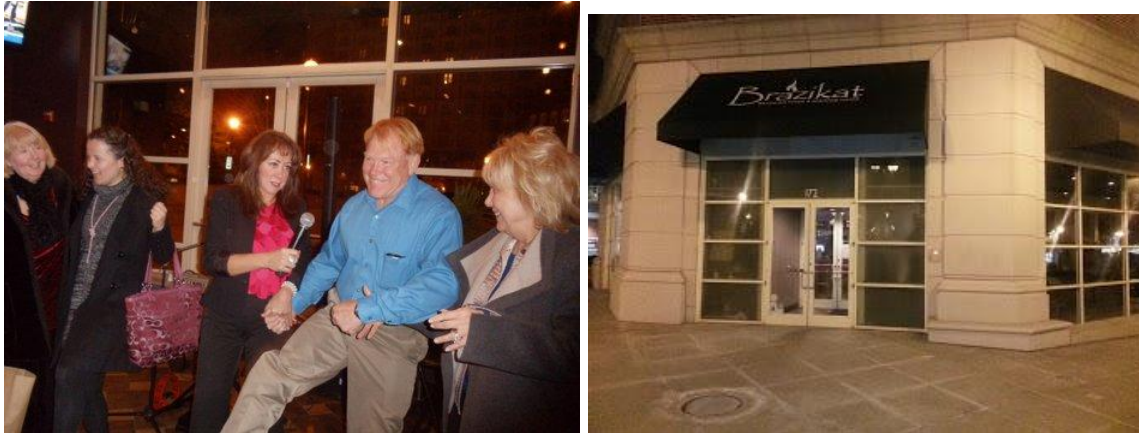


Zak shows a new customer how to self serve By the cash registers are rows of toppings.

The employees don't fix your dessert...you do. You fill up a cup with as much or as little soft serve ice cream or yogurt that you want and then you add the toppings of your choice, including hot caramel, hot fudge, chocolate shell or all those little things Ted

Drewes and Fritz's will sprinkle on your sundae. The staff then weighs your creation and you pay 45-cents an ounce.

**A TOUGH TRIP TO BRAZIL:** If you remember a couple of months ago I wrote how my wife and I caught the Anita Rosamond experience at the Brazikat, a new eatery across the street from the Ritz Carlton in Clayton. I wrote how one of our two meals was uneatable and the other was average. Anita as usual however had the place jumping.



Here is Anita with customers doing a line dance with kicks to New York New York at the Brazikat last February.

A few days later a review of the Brazikat in the Riverfront Times claimed the place was awful and a fraud to Brazilian cooking. A week later the Post-Dispatch published one of the most negative reviews of a restaurant that we have read in years. It was about the Brazikat.

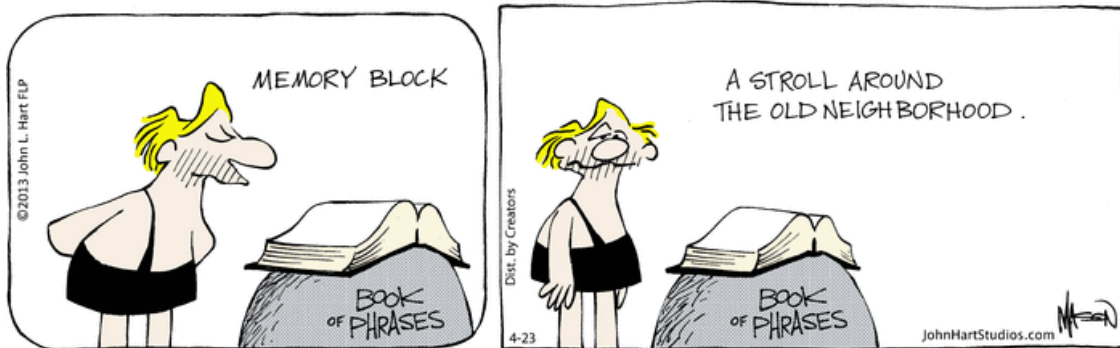
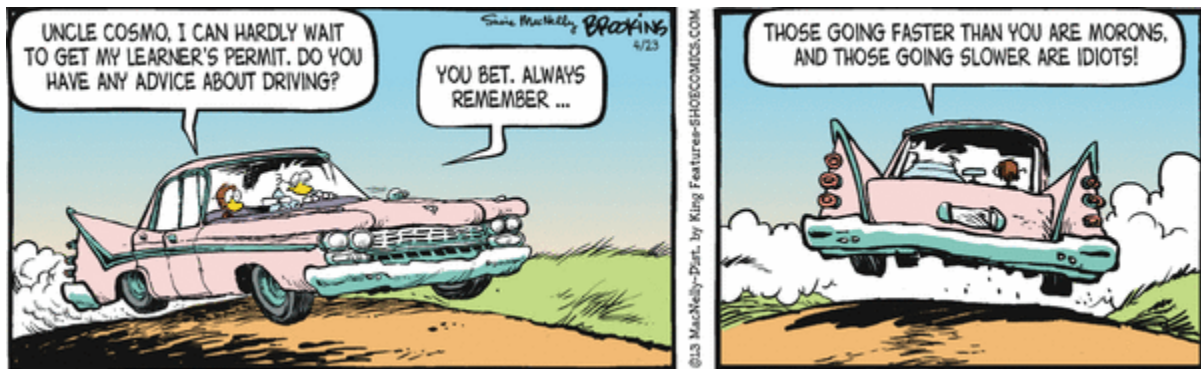
**There is just one place that can light my face...Gary Indiana, Gary Indiana...Not Louisiana, Paris, France or Rome:** I was clearing off my desk the other night and ran across a Brazikat business card I picked up the night I saw Anita. Before throwing it away something caught my eye. It was the phone number... it has a 219 area code. That is for Northwestern Indiana, with the largest city being crime infested, corrupt and economically just one step ahead of Detroit, GARY INDIANA! Yes, when I think of Brazil, I usually also think of Gary, Indiana. The owner is using his cell phone and doesn't even have a permanent telephone for the joint.

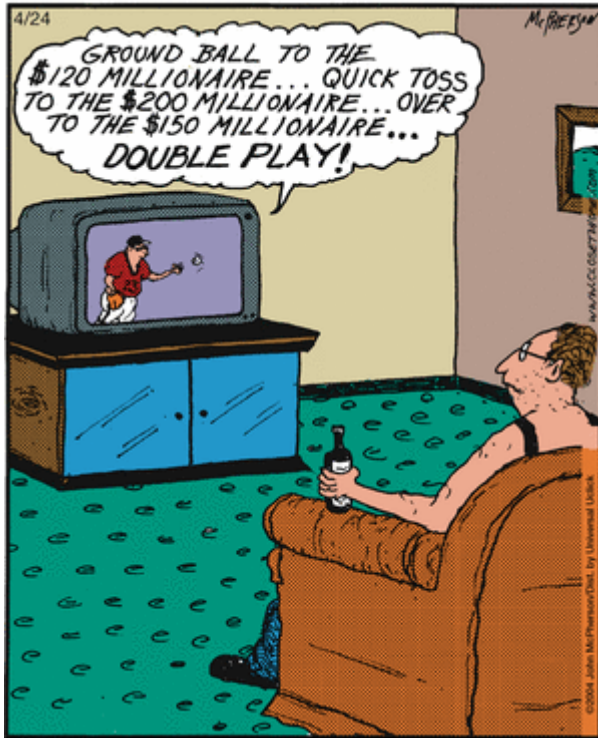
Based on all of this I have to give the Brazikat until Labor Day before it closes. However if you want to try it...I'd suggest going on Saturday May 4 or Friday May 17 from 7:30 to 10:30 when Anita will be back.

**UPCOMING:** We plan to attend the **Ellisville City Council** meeting on May 1. If there is anything worthwhile at that municipal asylum we will be sure to report it in our next newsletter.

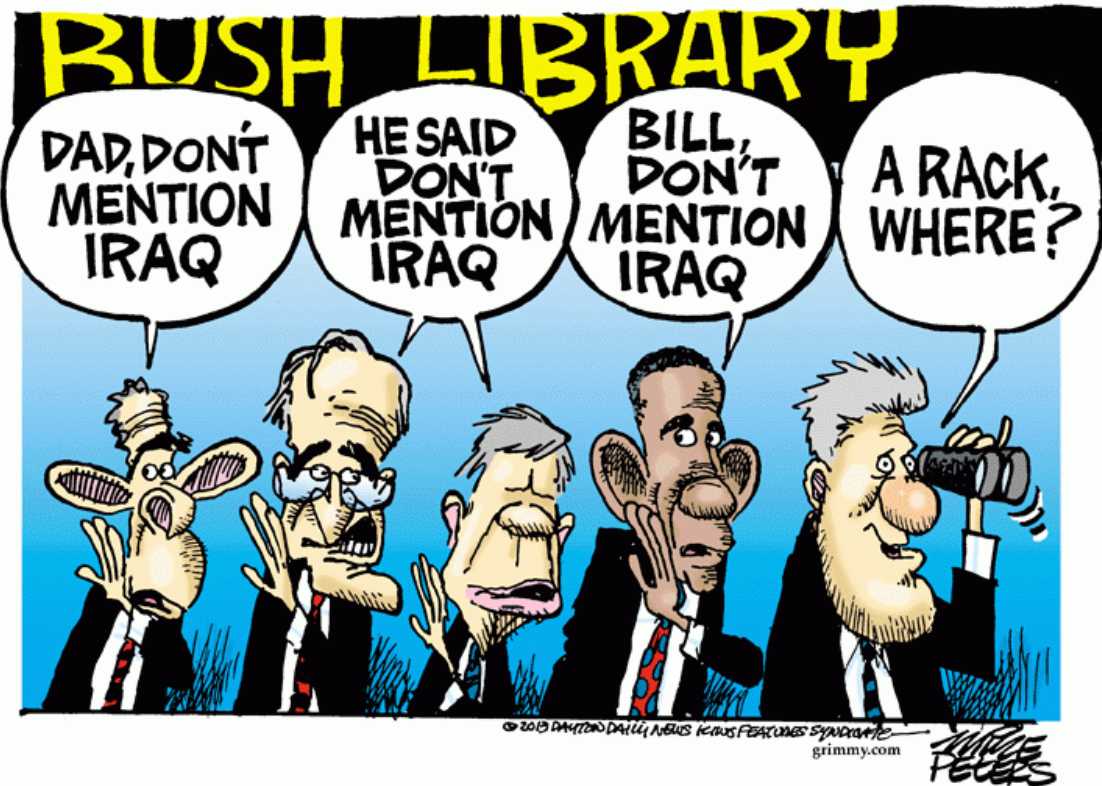
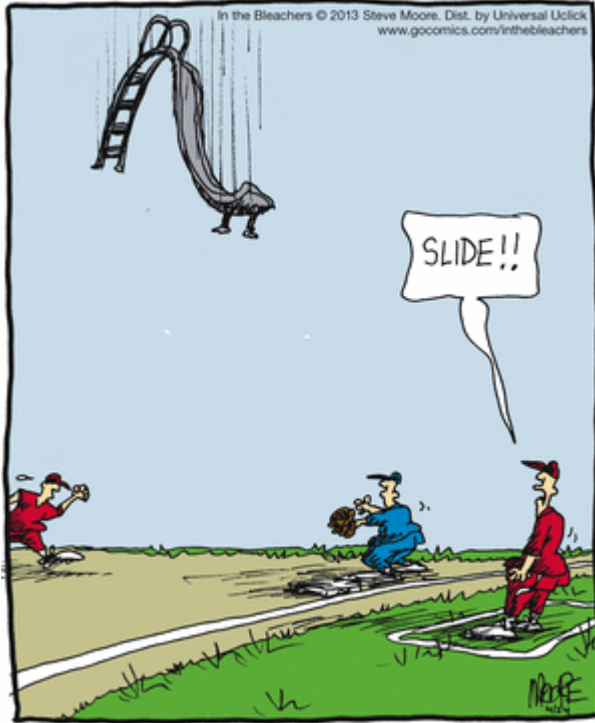
**DRUNK DRIVERS AND THEIVES:** Our second edition of this check of the local criminal justice system is due out soon...just as soon as we get the police reports from Chesterfield.

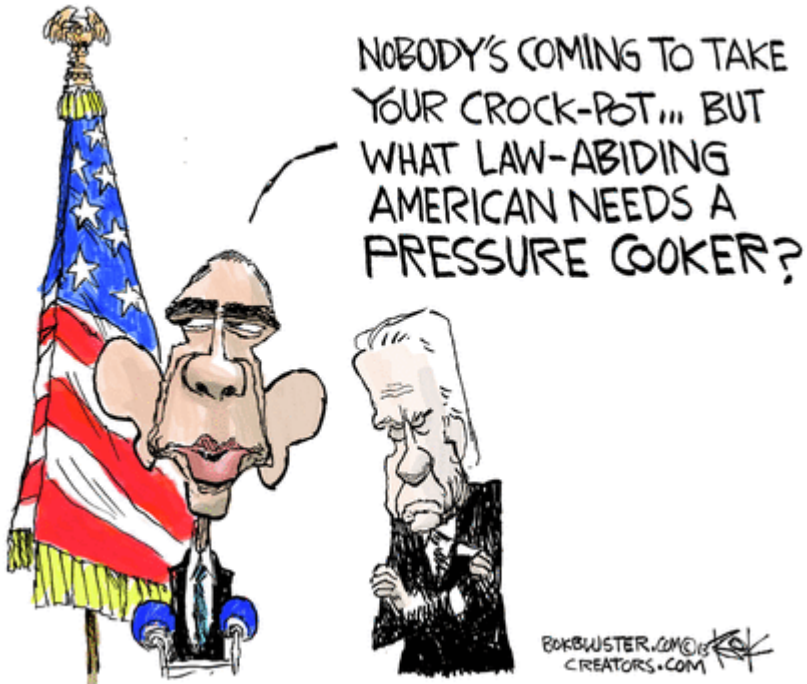
**CARTOONS:**

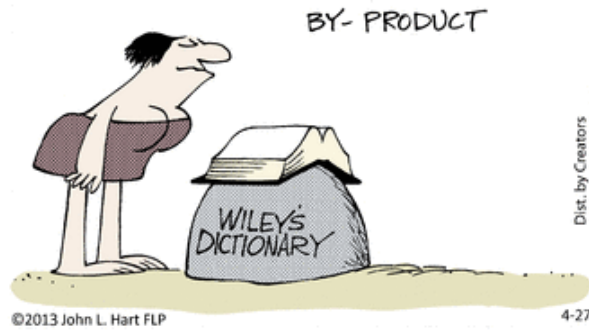
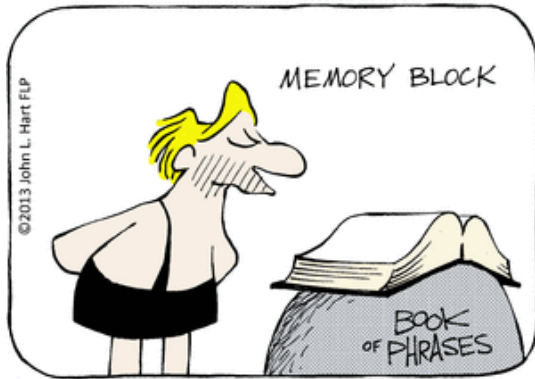
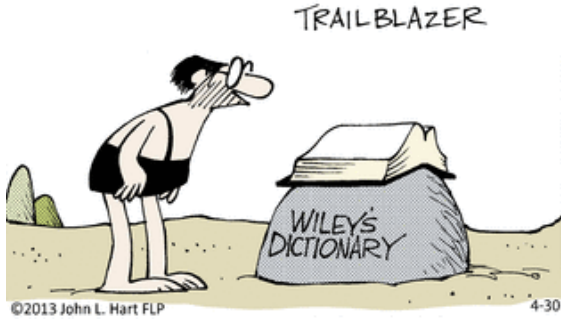




"Brad, your mother and I never got around to saving for your college education. Here are 100 instant lottery tickets that we hope will make it up to you."





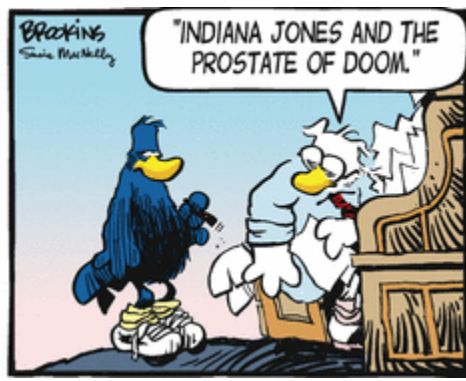
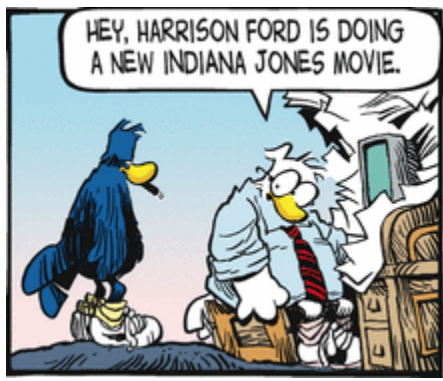
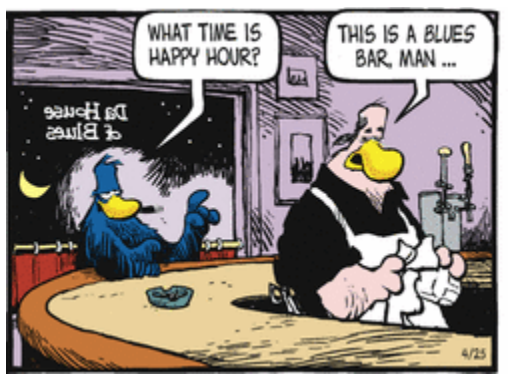




“Apparently you’re not aware of the dress code here, pal! Either you put on some ugly pants NOW or we will ask you to leave!”



“Hold still, son. We’ll get that tooth out in a jiff.”





I'm not taking a position on Boy

Scouts and gays...this one just made me laugh

