

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 118



March 3, 2014

By John Hoffmann

ETHICS COMMISSION FINDS DALTON GUILTY OF 27 VIOLATIONS OF CAMPAIGN REPORTING RULES: On February 19, 2014 Town and Country mayor and Jefferson City Lobbyist Jon Dalton signed a five page joint stipulation-of-facts where Dalton agreed that he had violated the Missouri Ethics Commission rules 27 times when filing campaign contribution forms.

The Ethics Commission can only go back two years while investigating complaints. In fact Dalton had violated these rules for years. IN 2005 there were seven violations. In 2009 there were 23 violations. There were three more violations in 2010. In total we counted 60 violations of Missouri campaign finance laws by Jon Dalton, the man who every four years tells voters how he is the top law enforcement official in Town and Country as mayor. Well this top official violated Ethics laws 60 times!

Here is what Dalton did. He signed off on his campaign finance reports and faxed them to the County Election Board from his law office at Lewis-Rice, without listing the occupation or employer of the contributors. It is not that he overlooked it once or twice. He simply never did it.



Here is his excuse:

“Respondents met with the Commission staff and presented evidence in support of their position that the alleged omissions were wholly unintentional, the product of administrative oversight and occasioned by the Respondent’s confusion with the pdf reporting system.”

Now here is a lawyer who is also a lobbyist and files monthly lobbyist reports with the ethics commission.

His excuse of not understanding the pdf reporting system is completely ridiculous.

Candidates can file electronically with the Ethics Commission. Those reports are available online for the public to easily review. Or you can file the campaign finance reports at the local board of elections. Those are not online. For the public to view those reports they have to drive to the elections offices during weekday business hours, wait to see an election official then fill out some forms and pay for any copies. Dalton makes it as difficult as possible for the public to see his records.

To file this way you simply print out a PDF form and fill it out then submit it to the local election board. On the form the following is listed to be filled out:

- Name:
- Address:
- City / State:
- Employer:

<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTEE			
NAME: Mel E. Lucas ADDRESS: 953 Kingscove Court CITY / STATE: Town & Country, MO 63017 EMPLOYER:		3-17-2013 1,000.00	\$ []
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTEE			
NAME: Mari De Villa ADDRESS: 13900 Clayton Rd CITY / STATE: Town & Country, MO 63017 EMPLOYER:		3-14-2013 2,500.00	\$ []
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTEE			
NAME: Frank Petkovich, M.D. ADDRESS: 13535 Weston Park Drive CITY / STATE: Town & Country, MO 63131 EMPLOYER:		2-25-2013 150.00	\$ []
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTEE			
NAME: William A. Riesenbeck ADDRESS: 50 Monaco Street, #314 CITY / STATE: Miramar Beach, FL 32550 EMPLOYER:		2-15-2013 250.00	\$ []
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTEE			
NAME: George M. Stock ADDRESS: 12629 Topping Place Drive CITY / STATE: St. Louis, MO 63131 EMPLOYER:		2-15-2013 200.00	\$ []
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTEE			
TOTAL: ITEMIZED CONTRIBUTIONS			\$
(CARRY TO ITEM 7 "SUBTOTAL: ITEMIZED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ANY ATTACHED PAGES" ON FORM CD-1)			\$

Somehow a dummy without a law degree like me was able to figure out these forms. In fact almost every candidate in Town and Country and Chesterfield whose campaign contribution forms I have checked in the last three years have been able to figure it out. But it has been too difficult for Jon Dalton to understand.

(Of course the reason for this requirement in Missouri Statutes is so the public can review these records and look for any possible conflicts of interest between the contributor and local government.)

WHAT WAS THE PENALTY? Apparently the only penalty Dalton faced was having to sign the agreement and have the document of law violation in his file. In other words he got a written warning.

TOWN AND COUNTRY POLICE REPORT: DESPITE SNOW AND COLD IN JANUARY MODOT HAD THE SHOULDERS CLEAR FOR T&C TRAFFIC COPS: Here are the police activity stats for the very cold and very snowy month of January.

The following activity was recorded by the police department during the month of [January 2014](#):

59 Vehicle crashes

30 Criminal Reports

23 Driving While Intoxicated arrests

55 Miscellaneous arrests (Traffic charges, Fugitive charges, Failure to appear charges)

453 Traffic citations issued (296 speeding)

The department averages between 350 and 400 DWI arrests a year, so January got off to a bit of a slow start, with one exception in back to back DWI arrests on January 1 and January 2 where officers booked drivers for “Felony DWI.” Two different drivers that were arrested one after the other each had at least two prior DWI convictions. The County Prosecutor’s Office routinely takes several months to issue charges in felony DWI cases. Once the cases are filed we will try and get you the details.

FEBRUARY 20 STORM CREATED HIGH NUMBER OF CALLS: Town and Country City Administrator Gary Hoelzer reported the combined dispatch center handling police calls for Town and Country, Frontenac and Creve Coeur received an extremely high number of calls on Thursday afternoon February 20th when a strong storm with wind gusts in excess of 50mph hit the area blowing down trees, causing accidents, blocking streets and causing power outages (which usually results in burglar alarms going off). In one-hour and 45-minutes the dispatch center at the Town and Country City Hall, received 225 phone calls that resulted in 100 police calls for service and 533 radio transmission. This was handled by three dispatchers, who could only use two dispatch consoles as a power surge knock one dispatch console out of commission for a period of time.

LAPTOP MURDER SUSPECT TRIAL DATE IS SET: William Lynn Gunter, who is charged with killing his wife, Suzi Gunter in March of 2013 in their home at 1515 Mason Hill court in the Mason Valley subdivision now has a July 14, 2014 court date. A December settlement conference did not reach a plea agreement with Gunter and the prosecuting attorney's office.

Gunter allegedly killed his wife by beating her in the head with a laptop computer. He is charged with First Degree Murder, which normally requires some proof of premeditation. This is why I thought there could be a plea deal to Second-Degree Murder as it is unusual to plan a murder using a laptop computer as the murder weapon.



DRUNKEN MIDNIGHT DECEMBER BURGLAR INDICTED: Gary Hockman of Springfield, Missouri who December 13 at 2am broke into an occupied house on Ballas Road forcing the residents to huddle in the bathroom while calling the police. Hockman, gained entry to the house but left and was later attempting to break into another nearby house when he was arrested by Town and Country Police. He was charged with first Degree Burglary and felony Property Damage. He posted a \$55,000 bond the day after his arrest.



Hockman had been convicted in 2009 for felony DWI and Resisting Arrest by the Springfield MO Police. He was sentenced to 8-years in the Department of Corrections, but did not serve a day. Instead he was placed on 5-years probation. This arrest should have revoked that probation, but Greene County Judge Thomas Mountjoy gave Hockman an early release from his probation on September 13, 2012, two years early on the recommendation of Missouri Probation and Parole Officer Rebecca Nuccio.

A St. Louis County grand jury indicted Hockman on the First Degree Burglary and Felony Property Damage on February 12. The Grand Jury indictment means there will not be a preliminary probable cause hearing. Hockman will now be arraigned on March 12 at 1pm before Judge Maura McShane.

SEXUAL HARRASMENT LAWSUIT SETTLED: The two current woman police officers on the 29-officer Town and Country Police force should send Shannon Woolsey a thank you note.

Woolsey worked for 10 years and 2 weeks as the lone female police officer on the Town and Country Police Department. Almost immediately after starting on the job Woolsey was harassed sexually and propositioned by her supervisor who was eventually suspended for a whole day for his actions. That supervisor, Sgt. Chip Unterberg finally was transferred to an admin job where he supervised civilian employees including dispatchers, where he had an extra marital affair with a female employee under his command. This came out after Woolsey's lawsuit was filed and Unterberg was encouraged to resign which he did. He is now a car salesman in North County. The department took no action on other complaints that Woolsey made concerning harassment from supervisors and other officers after her complaint against Unterberg was leaked.



Woolsey receiving a regional award for her action on a crisis intervention case Unterberg on the car lot

For all the lurid details read Woolsey's lawsuit at:
http://johnhoffmann.net/woolsey_lawsuit_may_2013.pdf

Woolsey filed suit against the City of Town and Country for the harassment and sexual advances over 10 years on March 12, 2012. Town and Country finally settled on February 18, 2014. Of course the settlement was secret so I'm not even going to bother to ask about the amount.

City Attorney Steve Garrett said the settlement will be covered by insurance and will not use any city funds. Except of course the city's insurance coverage should go up.

Woolsey is now an insurance adjuster. I have a feeling she would like to return to law enforcement, but I don't see that happening. It is too bad. Every time Mayor/Cigarette Lobbyist Jon Dalton runs for reelection he likes to tell the voters how he is the "chief law enforcement officer" of the city. Well if that is the case, why did Dalton allow this to happen and why hasn't he offered Woolsey an apology and an offer for her job back?

Hopefully as a result of this lawsuit what happened to Woolsey will not happen to the two female officers now on the force. The fact that there is a new police chief should also help.

LONGVIEW FARMHOUSE RENTAL REVENUES DROP IN

2013: IN 2012 rental fees for the Longview Farmhouse brought in \$20,499. This was still a losing proposition as the city employee hired to rent out the house for parties and meetings makes much more than the rental fee generate. Apparently the lure of the Longview Farmhouse diminished in 2013. Rental fees dropped to \$15,055.19. The drop in popularity is despite the addition of more parking spaces in 2013. The rentals of the house have never reached a breakeven point.



MAYOR MISSING, LYNN WRIGHT HAS A HISSY FIT:

Mayor/Lobbyist Jon Dalton was not present for the Board of Aldermen meeting, not an unusual occurrence for Dalton, the lobbyist, when the Missouri Legislature is in session.

That put Lynn Wright, this year's president of the Board of Aldermen, in charge of running the meeting. While several of the alderpersons have rather thin skins when dealing with criticism, Wright has always had the thinnest, especially if someone is trying to block something she wants for a park.

Back in 2009 Wright tried to pass a resolution for \$25,000 worth of work at Longview Park by a local contractor without taking competitive bids. I was on the board at the time and objected saying Wright's resolution was breaking city law that required competitive bids for work over \$7,500 and how she was ignoring safety issues at Longview in favor of cosmetic improvements. I was able to stop the resolution and the contractor that Wright wanted to give the work to didn't even bid. Boy was she pissed.

Last Monday she was sponsoring a bill to accept the two Trova sculptures on a 25-year loan from the St. Louis County Parks. Ald. John Benigas immediately asked how much it was going to cost the city to accept the sculptures. Wright said \$2,000 for the concrete bases. Benigas wanted to know how much it was going to cost to pick them up. Public works Director stated it would cost the city about \$10,000 to have a contractor do the work, but he felt the city could do the work using the city's dump truck, skid loader and flatbed trailer plus the concrete base work.

Benigas then wanted to get the breakdown of the costs using city labor and equipment.



Lynn Wright giving Ald. Jon Benigas the stink eye.

Then Ald. Phil Behnen piped up and wanted to know if there were definite locations for the two sculptures. Wright now exasperated told a half truth and said the Parks Commission and Arts Commission are working on it. Actually as we reported in October and again last week, the Parks Commission voted in October to put one in Longview Park along the wooded trail and another at Drace Park. The selection of Drace Park displeased some Alderpersons as Skip Mange is trying to create a 1840s village of log

cabins in Drace Park meaning a modern sculpture next to a log and mortar building might look to be out of place.

“How can we pass this if we don’t know the costs,” asked Ald. Chuck Lenz. That got Wright to start whining with a raised voice.

“Let’s back up here Chuck! This is not that big of a deal,” said an angry Wright.

Lenz then began talking about the cost of concrete fluctuating. That got Ald. Tim Welby to jump in and complain about not knowing the costs.

Then it was back to Lenz, who asked if the city’s insurance carrier was okay with the city moving a piece of art owned by someone else. That caused Lynn to even whine at a higher pitch.

“You know Chuck...” she started and then appeared not to know what to say next and shut up..

TIM WELBY SENDS A BIG WELCOME TO GOLD’S GYM...WELBY VOTES AGAINST NEW BUSINESS IN HIS WARD: Gold’s Gym is moving into the old Liens and Things building in the Manchester Meadows Shopping Center in Ward-2. This shopping center has become a partial Ghost Town after Wal-Mart moved out in 2009. Sports Authority and Home Depot are the only two large stores left and most of the small stores are vacant. Even the Post Office moved out.

While Gold’s Gym will not deliver any sales tax revenue it will bring people into the shopping center. Gold’s wants signs, including four smaller signs listing services offered at the gym. Gold’s doesn’t want flashing lights or banners or oversized signs. They did want a variance for signs in this under used shopping center. Also directly across the street in unincorporated St. Louis County is a shopping center with less restrictive local sign laws, plus a gym that is the main competition to Gold’s.





Tim Welby (right) who once again votes against a business, giving serious thought before voting no on Gold's Gym signs.

Everyone on the Board of Aldermen thought the signs were fine, except for Welby, an alderman who represents residents and businesses in Ward 2. The measure passed 6-to-1 with Chuck Lenz recusing himself as he is a long time member at Gold's Gym.

UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER #63



March 3, 2014

By John Hoffmann

A CITY COUNCIL CANDIADATE QUESTIONS OUR DEFINITION: I'll let an email exchange I had with Ward-3 candidate Andy Kazen (who is running against incumbent Mike Casey) speak for itself.

From: Andy Kazen [<mailto:andykazen@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:58 AM

To: johnhoffmann@charter.net

Subject: Kazen info

John,

I don't have a website but have added a facebook page "Kazen For Council 2014". I have a few of my viewpoints there.

thanks for your interest.
Andy Kazen

From: johnhoffmann@charter.net
To: andykazen@hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Kazen info
Date: Fri, 21 Feb 2014 10:02:32 -0600
Andy,

I found it last week and mentioned it on the website this week.

<http://johnhoffmann.net>

Thanks for thinking about us!

Interesting meeting on Wednesday with a showdown between the two factions on the City Council.

John Hoffmann

From: Andy Kazen [<mailto:andykazen@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2014 1:03 PM
To: John Hoffmann
Subject: RE: Kazen info

John,
As you may know I missed the last Council meeting but have since talked w/ the mayor.

I did visit your newsletter and have a few comments.

- 1) I'm NOT a professional poker player My LinkedIn profile tells you what my business background is in.
- 2) I do host a popular poker podcast www.2guystalkingpoker.com but I'm a recreational player at best. I have had some limited success.
- 3) If accuracy is important to you, you might consider retracting your comment about being a professional poker player. That is irresponsible at worst inaccurate at best. BTW most folks under 60 years old have no clue who Brett Maverick is.
- 4) You are correct on the scope of City Council affairs and know more than most citizens including myself. I didn't know the autonomy w/ Monarch until recently.
- 5) I might be posting a website but at least will be updating my positions on the Facebook page.

Appreciate your attention,

Andy Kazen

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

Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2014 7:55 PM

To: 'Andy Kazen'

Subject: RE: Kazen info

Well Andy...you make money playing poker...that would make you a professional by most definitions. The fact you have not included much of your background or what you have done or do on your facebook election site makes about the only thing one can go on is what pops up repeatedly when someone researches you...The first things that pop up are how much money you have won playing cards.

Here is a definition of a “professional” from the Merriam-Webster Dictionary:

¹pro·fes·sion·al

adjective \prə-ˈfesh-nəl, -ˈfe-shə-nəl\

: relating to a job that requires special education, training, or skill

: done or given by a person who works in a particular profession

: paid to participate in a sport or activity

It seems to me that you have been “paid to participate in a sport or activity.”

I just checked Linkedin and see that you have spent a number of years in radio sales, following the normal track of reaching a sales manager’s position and then moving on due to usual consolidations, corporate changes and mergers of clusters. I was in radio for three years a long time ago and still have some friends who work in the business. IN fact for a year I operated my own radio advertising agency and had five clients as a 19-year-old. I appreciated your honesty of listing one year as a management guy for Cheap Channel but Clear Channel is one of the worst things to ever happen to local radio. I worked on the “talent” side and even though we got a paycheck thanks to the work of the sales force, we normally considered the sales folks as “sales weasels” due to some of the crazy agreements and stunts that were done that affected programming. Of course that was 40 years ago...maybe things have changed.

I’m well aware that most people under 60 don’t know who “Maverick” was...expect those who saw the Mel Gibson movie. Of course this 61-year-old remembers Brett Maverick from the original shows as a kid and when they were rerun for 10 years while I lived in Kansas City in the 1980s. Heck, Jack Kelly, who played Bart Maverick later become the mayor of a Los Angeles suburb. I have always liked James Garner and if I can use some photos from the old Maverick show in connection with my website I will, it puts a smile on my face.

Also I imagine there are very few people under 50 who read my website. Younger people really are not that interested in local politics. These older people are the ones who vote in municipal elections...as shown by your lack of a city election voting record as a “younger” resident of the area.

I also find it interesting that people who file to run for office and then do not immediately have a specific reason why they are running or why the incumbent needs to go. I hope at some point you make statements that address those points, I look forward to that.

I can think of a number of reasons why someone would run against your opponent...it will be interesting if you list any of those.

John Hoffmann



UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 59 BECOMES AN AGENDA ITEM:

The third item on the Chesterfield finance and Administration Committee meeting on Monday February 24 had to do with this newsletter, specifically #59 from February 4. It read: Discussion – Candidate Filing Procedure – Councilman Elliot Grissom, Ward II.

Grissom quoted from the requirements on the city’s candidate filing form that includes the person filing must be a registered voter of Chesterfield. He then read from the newsletter where I wrote about the following about his opponent, Tom Northcott:

Tom Northcott: *I gave the following name and address as listed with the City of Chesterfield: Tom Northcott 1831 Rockmoor Dr Chesterfield, MIO 63017. Here is what I received from the BOE: “There is no person registered by this name at this address.”*



City Administrator Mike Herring stated he had researched Grissom's complaint and found that Chesterfield elections are regulated by Missouri Statue concerning Third Class cities. He said that state law requires that the candidate live in the city of the election and they be a registered voter in the State of Missouri but not the city where they live. Herring added that the candidate must be a registered voter of the city before taking office.



Councilman Elliott Grissom (left) asking how someone can file to run for the City Council when they are not a registered voter in Chesterfield or in St. Louis County. City Administrator Michael Herring (right) giving a rather long answer which points out some holes in Missouri law regarding municipal elections.

The Board of Elections investigated the case of Northcott and found he was a registered voter in Missouri, but not in St. Louis County (they wouldn't say where). That made him eligible to file to run. If he wins he will have to register to vote in Chesterfield or he will not be sworn in.

I hope that was clear as mud.

The committee voted to order the city administrator to change the city's candidate filing form deleting the requirement that you had to be a registered voter of the city to file for office and include verbiage from the state law.

Interestingly Northcott by signing the candidate filing form and swearing all the information was true which included how he was a registered voter in the city did file a false affidavit, which Herring said could open Northcott up to a civil lawsuit by an individual and not the city.

TRYING TO GET THAT EXTRA 1/10 OF 1-PERCENT: The Finance and Administration Committee vote 4-0 to forward to the City Council a proposal to buy CDSs from the Missouri Securities Investment Fund.

“We can get better rates than with banks,” said City Administrator Michael Herring.

He then said the current rate with the fund was 0.82%.

I remember in 1981 after getting married how my wife and I bought CDs with 12 and 13% interest rates.

BOOM AND BANG: The F&A Committee also made a unanimous vote to recommend to the city Council to spend up to \$12,000 to pay for the fireworks display at the first concert of the Chamber of Commerce summer series on June 3. This has been a regular expenditure for the city for over a decade. Once again when you have \$12,000 to spend on fireworks a month before the 4th of July, you are in pretty good financial shape.

DUST UP AT LOGAN CONTINUES...LAWSUIT AGAINST BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:

When one thinks of a college or university alumni association and its' duties several things come to mind...keeping a social web or bond of former students intact through newsletters, social events and activities. But the first thing is normally fundraising for the college. Alumni associations can do such a good job at generating donations to the university that the institution will often pick up their expenses and provide office space.

That is what seemed so odd when the October 25, 2013 article appeared in the Post-Dispatch reporting the rift between Chesterfield's Logan University (former Logan College of Chiropractics) and its alumni association.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/education/logan-university-at-odds-with-its-alumni-association/article_c3f51028-ee24-59fd-ae18-ebbe715b807a.html

At Logan, like most colleges and universities the alumni association is located on campus...that is until August 27, 2013. On August 27, 2013 at 2:52pm Dr. Kim Hartmann the director of the alumni association was notified that the alumni association had to vacate its office and movers would be there in eight minutes.

Apparently this was not a sudden move by the university. In response to our questions Dr. Hartmann emailed us material that show the alumni association had been concerned with former Logan president George Goodman's excessive salary and how the university rules over nepotism were being violated as Goodman had several relatives on the payroll, including his wife at a high paying position.

The material provided by Hartmann also showed other concerns. The expulsion in August should not have been that big of a surprise for Hartmann as the alumni associations' and her email on the Logan email system were disconnected in July.



Dr. Kim Hartmann, director of Logan Alumni Association

Who in Their Right Minds is Going to Put This Guy on The Board of Directors?

However there was one thing that immediately caught my attention: The chairman of the Logan Board of Directors is Steve Roberts, better known in the St. Louis area as one of the "Roberts brothers." Steve Roberts and his brother Michael Roberts have owned and taken into bankruptcy a chain of hotels, a group of television stations and have been sued by banks for failing to make payments on loans. Roberts' employees have long complained of missed paychecks, plus there have been a history of heavy liens against businesses that had been eventually sold off in bankruptcy proceedings.



From a Post-Dispatch photo, Steve Roberts on the left and Michael on the right

Anyone with any sense would have to ask what a person like Steven Roberts is doing on someone's board of directors, let alone being chairman of the board. Perhaps he is there to say, "Wait a minute, I did that once and went bankrupt."

Apparently Logan President Clay McDonald has no problem with the Chairman of the Board of Directors having a proven track record and taking businesses and properties into bankruptcy, but now he has to deal with a lawsuit filed by its former students.



Logan President Clay McDonald

The lawsuit: Two days after their eviction a lawsuit was filed by the Alumni Association, but it was later dropped. A new lawsuit was filed on October 31, 2013 alleging illegal conversion of property, wrongful eviction, tortious interference, misappropriation of funds and accounting. The next hearing on the lawsuit is scheduled for April 9. A copy of the lawsuit can be found at:

<http://loganalumni.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Logan-College-of-Chiropractic-Alumni-vs13SLCC03815.pdf>

Another view: I did contact a Logan graduate who after working as a chiropractor is now headed to medical school. Here is what he wrote:

When I received the letter from Kim, I found it so outrageous that naturally I was also upset at what she had described with the Alumni Association being "kicked off campus" and such, but I later learned that she is operating a bit more independently than I think she wanted alumni like myself to believe. In short, most Logan alumni have not much idea of what is going on and it has not impacted us in any way that we are aware of at this time. Some significant context here: I had never received anything from Logan's Alumni Association prior to that letter! That's a red flag to me...She described the new Logan president (Clay McDonald) in very poor terms. However, many of the leaders in our profession that I trust as very ethical and sharp people generally think he was a very good choice, has good experience and will do a fine job (Logan needed it after the embarrassing fiasco of the Goodmans).

I WAS RIGHT...REPUBLICANS HAVE TO VOTE DEMOCRATIC IN AUGUST IF THEY WANT TO GET CHARLIE DOOLEY OUT OF OFFICE...WELL KNOWN LIAR FILES FOR THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE:

Ellisville city councilman and former mayor Matt Pirrello could not get reelected to the city council in Ellisville let alone a countywide race, but he went ahead and put his name on the Republican ballot for St. Louis County Executive on Wednesday February 26. From the day reform mayoral candidate Adam Paul was elected mayor in Ellisville in April of 2012 documents show that Pirrello and former city attorney Paul Martin plus city manager Kevin Bookout began conspiring to find some way to remove Paul from office. Pirrello and city attorney Paul Martin got the impeachment of the mayor in front of a hostile city council, which had just one Paul supporter. The council voted to remove Paul from office on the day most of them were voted out of office. Pirrello's impeachment of his adversary over the WalMart TIF cost the city over \$100,000.

Paul appealed the impeachment to the St. Louis County Circuit and it was overturned on the grounds that it had been unconstitutional and Paul was returned to office.

Pirrello had publically stated on a radio talk show that he would resign with Paul was reinstated of mayor. He refused to do so when Paul was first ordered back into office. Saying the ruling was not permanent. Within days it was permanent with the judge ruling Mayor Paul's constitutional rights had been violated. Pirrello then said he would not resign as Paul was returned to office on a "technicality." Apparently Pirrello believes the U.S. Constitution is a mere technicality.

After refusing to resign, Pirrello's neighbors put up yard signs that simply stated, "RESIGN." Pirrello had to drive by them every time he left his subdivision off of Manchester Road. One neighbor reported that one day while in her yard Pirrello drove by and gave her the "finger."



Watching Pirrello while covering the Ellisville impeachment I came to the conclusion that he was a sociopath or worse.



The above photo is the trio who conspired to have an illegal impeachment of Mayor Adam Paul. On the left is Paul Martin who was fired as the city attorney and prosecutor by the new city council. On the left is Kevin Bookout who was fired as city manager by the same city council. Only Pirrello remains and most people believe he would be turned out of office by a landslide if he was up for reelection.



Pirrello (left) promised to resign during a radio interview if Adam Paul was reinstated by the courts as Ellisville mayor. Paul (right) smiling after receiving a standing ovation on the night he returned to the dais as Mayor of Ellisville. Pirrello never delivered on his promised to resign.

What West County Voters Have to Do: As hard as it sounds for many right wing Republicans in West St. Louis County... they have to suck it up and walk into their neighborhood polls and ask for a Democratic ballot this August and then vote for County Councilman Steve Stenger, who is running against County Executive Charlie Dooley in the August primary. Because if they think Pirrello can win any election anywhere, they are sadly mistaken.



County Councilman Steve Stenger



Scandal prone County Executive Charlie Dooley

WRONG GUESS ON NOVEMBER FIREWORKS ACCIDENT ON I-270:

Here is what we wrote last November after an unusual event on I-270.

DARWIN AWARD NOMINEE: Perhaps there is an unusual circumstance but until I hear of one Manchester resident Kara Koriath, 43, might be up for a nomination for a 2013 Darwin Award. The mother was driving at 6am with her two teenage boys, Andrew Dreeste, 16, and Matthew Dreeste, 13 in the backseat of her 2008 GMC Arcadia large size SUV.

Somehow at 6am fireworks in the vehicle got ignited and then set off more fireworks. We are only guessing Kara and the boys like to celebrate Thanksgiving with a bang.

The detonations caused Kara to lose control and crash the vehicle off the road. The SUV then burned. After State Troopers and T&C cops arrived on the scene it appeared as if Kara was driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol and she was arrested after everyone was transported to Mercy Hospital for "serious" injuries.

Kara is a Financial Advisor with PNC Investments.

The simple fact of fireworks blowing up in a car is not unheard to me. Back in 1983 when I was a cop in the Kansas City suburb of Liberty, Missouri I handled a car fire at two o'clock in the afternoon when a woman and her kids watched their car burn up with a bang. They had just bought a large number of fireworks from a stand located about 50 feet outside of the city limits. Just possession of fireworks were illegal in the city but the sale of fireworks was perfectly acceptable in the unincorporated areas. This woman was about 1,500 feet away from the stand and at the intersection of Hwy 69 and Hwy 33 when a tossed cigarette went back into the car and ignited the stockpile of fireworks. So I know stupid stuff like this can happen.

This wasn't an accident: However, I owe an apology to the two boys, now that it has been disclosed that mom was trying to kill them and had rigged her GMC SUV into a car bomb, using flammable liquids and fireworks. She was charged with two counts of first Degree Assault against her teenage sons, who the Highway Patrol report she was trying to kill along with herself to get sympathy from a former lover who drove along I-270 every morning. In her house troopers found a suicide note and insurance policies.



Since the incident Koriath's address has changed from the 2700 block of Barrett Station Road in West County to 2337 Macklind Avenue in the City of St. Louis.

She was arrested on February 26th and arraigned on the same day. Her bond was set at \$200,000. A motion by her lawyer to reduce the bond amount was denied, however she is allowed to post a 10% Professional Bond...where the defendant can pay a bonding company 10% of the total amount of the bond and the bonding company then guarantee the defendant will be in court.

The arrest has garnered press attention across America and in London.

Here is a note from her docket sheet from Judge Mary Schroeder:

02/26/2014 Warrant Served

Document ID - 14-SLARW-872; Served To - KORIATH, KARA A; Server - PD ST LOUIS COUNTY; Served Date - 25-FEB-14; Served Time - 00:00:00; Service Type - Police Department; Reason Description - Served

Judge/Clerk - Note

EHO AND ONLY SUPERVISED VISITATION WITH CHILDREN

It is good to note she can only see the kids she tried to kill under supervision.



Local cosmetic sales are expected to drop while Koriath is in custody.

MUSIC: On Sunday February 23 I attended the Big Little Big Band concert at the Scottish Rite on Lindell near Grand. The band sounded great however the vocalist Steve Shinger, former member of the Air Force Band had limited range and was not much of an entertainer between numbers. The show in 2013 featuring Dean Christopher was much better. But the band itself was great both years. Scott Vignassi, the band's leader mentioned that he was hoping to put on a fall show featuring classic big band arrangements. The shows are free and we will provide details once we know when a fall show is scheduled.



Here is Jim Owens being featured early in the show on trombone. Owens is one of the top big band arrangers in town who is also an excellent pianist.

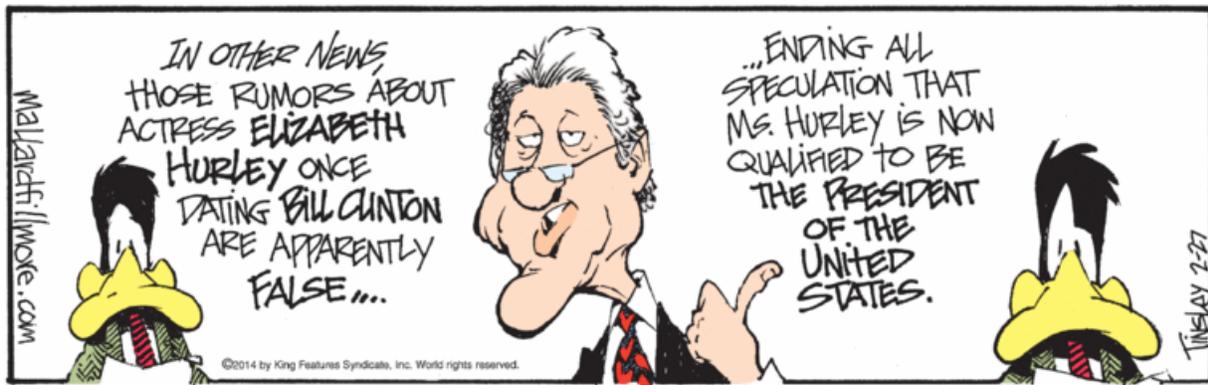


Steve Shinger at the 2014 show



Dean Christopher, who wowed them at the 2013 show

CARTOONS:





"It's Alice Kramden!"

Jackie Gleason's birthday Feb 27 1916...



"Heads, I listen to instructions my coach shouts. And tails, I listen to instructions my dad shouts."