

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 211 AND CHESTERFIELD 156



By John Hoffmann

January 21, 2016

2016 ELECTION REPORT:

WARD TWO IN TOWN AND COUNTRY ONLY CONTESTED RACE: Nan Kulkarni, anesthesiologist, a member of the Art Commission and the Town force Task Force against Lindsey Butler, who was active with Amy Anderson's and Tiffany Frautschi's campaign acting as campaign manager for both. After filing Anderson decided she didn't want to run and went out looking for someone to replace her on the ballot. She went to Kulkarni first which is a bit of a mystery.

At the January 19 after announcing she was not going to run she said the following,

"Nan, how do you say her name?" When she was told it was Kulkarni, she said,

"Oh yeah Kulkarni, she is on the Arts Commission and served on the Town Square Task Force."

When you don't know the person's last name, can there be any higher endorsement?

CUNNINGHAM WITHDRAWS FROM CITY COUNCIL RACE: The day after the filing deadline to run for City Council Jane Cunningham officially withdrew from the Ward-2 race. This means Alan Pollitte would be the lone candidate for the Ward-3 race on the ballot if it wasn't for one thing. Randy Logan filed 15 minutes before the deadline.



I don't know if you would call this a Trojan House move or a Fire Wall. A Trojan Horse on a ballot would be something or someone who voters are happy with. That would be Cunningham, a very conservative Republican who has never lost a race, for the Ladue School Board or after moving to Chesterfield for state rep or state senator or most recently a six-year term on the Monarch fire Board.

As a Fire Wall Cunningham would simply put her name on the ballot making anyone else considering filing think twice to run against a formidable candidate who has never lost. I thought this might have been the case as Alan Politte has strong ties to the Republican Party. Her plan failed as at 4:45 pm former councilman Randy Logan filed putting his name on the Ward-3 Ballot.

Cunningham broke the pro-firefighter union control of the Monarch Fire Board when she won a six-year term in 2013. Since it is illegal to be both an elected official to a Fire District and any other government body in Missouri, I was surprised that the Firefighter's Union wasn't looking to give Cunningham contributions and support to become a Councilperson and resign from the Fire District. .

Cunningham became interested in Chesterfield city politics when the city council hired a lawyer without a vote, contract or bids to explore impeaching Mayor Bob Nation for swearing in the office of a high ranking city official about the conduct of the City Administrator Michael Herring.

"If you impeached every sate rep and senator in Missouri who swore in front of staff there would be very few people remaining in either chamber," Cunningham told us in September when asked if much swearing went on in the Capitol.

Cunningham felt the city council was violating several state laws including hiring the attorney without a vote or contract and the approval of gifts to city employees in the form of gift certificates. She also felt the interim city attorney Harry O'Rourke was doing a poor job of providing legal advice to the council.

Here is a statement she gave after removing her name on January 20.

Today I took my name off the ballot for Chesterfield City Council, Ward 3. My interest in running stemmed from three primary issues I had with the City which are listed below. I discussed these issues with **Dr. Alan Politte** who also filed for Ward 3. I am convinced he too is sensitive to these deficiencies.

Additionally Dr. Politte expressed his primary interest which is to wait until the new Council is elected to replace the current City Administrator since his retirement and the election are within days of each other. The April 5th election will bring a significant change in the makeup of the Council. Therefore the Members who will be going forward should choose the Administrator with whom they will work in the future.

Dr. Politte has previously served on the Council. Coupled with his perspective on the critical issues mentioned, I believe his experience and knowledge of Chesterfield's early governance and history will be invaluable. I, therefore, endorse the candidacy of Dr. Alan Politte for Chesterfield City Council, Ward 3 and urge your vote for him on April 5th.

Jane Cunningham

William (Randy) Logan has lived at 14597 Harleston Village Drive since 2001. He lost his council seat in 2013 when only managed to garner 25% of the vote. He was tied to former mayor Bruce Geiger, Matt Segal, Elliot Grissom, Mike Casey and Connie Fultz in opposing Bob Nation and supporting Matt Segal for mayor. Nation beat Segal with 52% of the vote.



Logan in front of City Clerk Vicki Hess' desk.

After filing Randy told us that he was for "fiscal responsibility" and wanted to "return decorum back to the council."

It was an interesting comment from Logan about decorum. I remember back in 2012 when the TDD and CID tax abatement proposals came before the Council and a large group of residents spoke against them. Logan lectured them in a very demeaning way before dismissing their comments. Frankly I was shocked at his cavalier attitude toward residents, voters and taxpayers.

Then at the recent Censure of Mayor Bob Nation we reported the following display by Logan after Nation was censure. When Logan finished his remarks he was roundly booed by 70% of the people in the room.

Former councilman Randy Logan who was on the losing slate with Matt Segal, was a bit of a prima-dona and not exactly a man of the people driving his Porsche to Council meetings said he hoped Bob Nation would run for reelection.

"I want to see your name on the ballot. With your baggage and antics we can vote for someone to repair the damage you have done," said Logan.

If seemed as if it was bad enough that Nation was just censure with no due process but he had to sit at the defense table and take shots from the likes of Randy Logan.

CHESTERFIELD WARD 1 Barry Flachsbart had been unopposed in his reelection attempt up until 10 minutes prior to the 5 o'clock deadline to file on January 19. When it was first being discussed of creating the City of Chesterfield in the 1980 s Barry Flachsbart was there. He also was one of the original council members since day-one, in 1988, with only a two-year break when he ran for and lost in a mayoral election.

At 4:50 pm **Mark VanDonsel** was in line and filed his paperwork with City Clerk Vicki Hess.



After he filed I briefly spoke with VanDonsel and offered to give him some space in an upcoming newsletter for his bio and platform. I tried to get some information from him and he would not go into any great detail other than to say he went to school in Wisconsin, has lived in Scotland and was in the Navy for six years. One of the reasons he might not have been interested in giving much of a bio is that he lived most of his life under a different name.

VanDonsel said he was interested in investing in a sustainable infrastructure.

In doing a quick background check I found that he lives at 853 Wellesley Place Drive with his wife. They do not own the house at 853 Wellesley Place. That is owned by Hu Yi and Ni Shubel who have owned the house since 2001. They live in Creve Coeur.

Problem paying taxes: Sustaining any infrastructure involves financing it. However Mark and Alde have a history on not paying their taxes on time for their two autos. They currently own a 2005 Toyota Highlander and a 2007 BMW. As of January 19, 2016 they had not paid their 2015 taxes of \$473.44. In 2014 they were eight months and a week late in paying \$563.62 in taxes. In 2013 they were one month late.

BUT WAIT DO WE KNOW VANDONSEL AND HIS WIFE UNDER DIFFERENT NAMES? YES WE DO. Mark changed his name from **Mark Elliott Peterson** to **Mark Vergel Vandonsel** on September 30, 2013. We should know his wife, who ran for Ward 1 Council seat against the Nancy Greenwood in 2013 under the name of Adelaida Vercel Peterson. She got 63 votes to Nancy Greenwood's 1,535 in that election. At the time she was "Mrs. Missouri."

She has changed her name to Danica Adel Vandonsel, but is using the name Adel Van Donsel as professional name trying to get acting and modeling roles.



Adelaida Peterson as she was known in 2013 with then Mark Peterson. Current photo.

I wrote in 2013 that Mark and Adeladia Peterson claimed to own Essence Photography, which had a St. Louis location, but a Macon Georgia area code on the phone number. They don't appear to have anything to do with Essence Photography anymore.

Adel Van Donsel the former Adelaida Vergel Peterson has a IMDB (Internet Movie Base) that lists her as an extra in several small budget or Indie films in post-production.

On her Facebook page she states that she supports Bernie Sanders. Mark's Facebook page has almost nothing.

BARBARA MCGUINNESS showed up at City Hall on January 19 with her fingers crossed that she would be unopposed. She lost out as the last person in line at 5pm filed against her. McGuinness like Flachsbart was one of the original founders of Chesterfield. She was not elected but appointed to the Planning Commission where she spent time as the Chairperson of the Commission. While longtime councilwoman and former mayor Nancy Greenwood death with terminal cancer last fall, McGuinness was her pick to replace her.

JERK FILES AGAINST MCGUINNESS! (I was going to use Asshole Files! but I thought that might be a bit too much.) The last person in line to file, who finished the paper work at 5:15 was David Kaplan of 14231 Trailtop Drive in the Greentrails subdivision. Kaplan was the only person not to provide a phone number with his filing.



Kaplan at a table with Vickie Hess filing out paper work putting himself on the ballot. In the background walking down a hallway is Barb McGuinness.

After Kaplan filed I stopped him in the lobby and introduced myself (we had been talking informally 30 minutes earlier as I hung out in the lobby). He stated he knew who I was. This is how things went downhill from there:

Me: Which Ward-1 slot did you file for, the one-year one against Barb McGuinness or the two-year one against Barry Flachsbart?

Kaplan: I don't want to discuss that now. Maybe later. Maybe after the election is over! Maybe you could go look and see if they put it up on the website.

Me: You know I'm going to walk over there and ask the city clerk and 20 seconds from now I'll know the answer to my question.

I turned and walked away and 20 seconds later I knew he filed to face McGinniss for the unexpired seat of the late Nancy Greenwood. I figured there was really no reason to talk to him again.

VOTING RECORDS FOR CANDIDATES IN CONTESTED APRIL

ELECTIONS. I started doing this back when I was writing columns for AOL patch.com sites during the municipal election season. For people who really want to get elected we checked out to see what their voting record has been. We found that some had 100% attendance at the polls in April, while others rarely ever showed up to vote for city and school district candidates and local proposals. Here is our check of the current candidates we did one week before filing deadline for races. (The last minute candidates will be featured in a future newsletter.)

TOWN AND COUNTRY WARD 2

Nan Kulkarni: We were able to go back 15 years in checking Nan's voting record. She has voted in exactly four out of 15 April elections. Of the 15 election years 13 had contested Town and Country Ward-2 or Mayor races. All 15 had Parkway School District contested races.

Over that 15 year period Kulkarni has NEVER voted in an August primary election.

The only area where Kulkarni has not missed visiting the polls is for November general elections. She has a perfect 8-for-8 record.

MUNICIPAL TOWN AND COUNTRY ELECTION RATING: 31%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTION RATING : 27%

Lindsey Butler: Butler has only lived in Town and Country since 2010 covering five municipal elections. She has missed voting one time in April, in 2011, when I ran as a last minute write-in against Tim Welby. She has only voted in one of the last three August primary elections.

MUNICIPAL TOWN AND COUNTRY ELECTION RATING: 80%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTION RATING: 80%

CHESTERFIELD WARD-1 WE WILL HAVE RATINGS NEXT WEEK.

CHESTERFIELD: Ward 2

Guy Tilman: Tilman did not vote in an April election from 2000 through 2010. He did vote in the next four April elections, but not in last year's election that was uncontested in Ward-2.

Tilman only voted in two of seven primary elections. He has voted in all eight November general elections in that time period.

MUNICIPAL CHESTERFIELD ELECTIONS RATING : 36%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTIONS RATING: 29%

Pat Flynn: Flynn has voted in five of 12 contested city elections since 1999. He has voted in five of seven primary elections and all eight November general elections.

MUNICIPAL CHESTERFIELD ELECTIONS RATING: 42%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTIONS RATING: 32%

Lynn Schmidt: Schmidt filed to run one week before the filing deadline. She and her husband Richard have lived at 1337 Conway Oaks Drive since 2005. She has only voted three times in April since 2000.

MUNICIPAL CHESTERFIELD ELECTIONS RATING: 37.5%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTIONS RATING: 30%

WARD 3:

Alan Politte: Over the last 16 April elections Politte voted in 14 of them and he was 14 for 15 in City elections contested and uncontested,. The only one he missed was the 2014 election that featured incumbent Mike Casey against professional poker player Andy Kazen. Politte was an elected Councilman eight of those 16 years.

In that same period Politte has not missed one primary or general election.

MUNICIPAL CHESTERFIELD ELECTIONS RATING: 93%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTIONS RATING: 88%

RANDY LOGAN: Logan has resided at his Ward-3 home since 2001. He failed to vote in city elections with city wide or Ward-3 races in 2001 and 2003. He failed to vote in a total of six April elections where school district and fire district candidates and proposals were on the ballot.

MUNICIPAL CHESTERFIELD ELECTIONS RATING: 86%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTIONS RATINGS: 57%

JANE CUNNINGHAM: Even though she withdrew from the race, we did check and found that Cunningham had a **perfect 100% rating** in Chesterfield and all April Elections since 1999.

WARD 4:

Thomas Decampi: Tom is running against Connie Fults. Unless Connie did not vote for herself in the contested election in 2014 she has a perfect voting record. Amazingly, so does Decampi. He is a perfect 15 for 15 in April elections, but he missed the 2006 and 2010 August primary elections.

MUNICIPAL CHESTERFIELD ELECTIONS RATING: 100%

TOTAL APRIL ELECTIONS RATING: 100%

CONNIE FULTS: 100% APRIL RATING 100% CHESTERFIELD RATING



DECEMBER AND 2015 OVERALL

TOWN & COUNTRY POLICE ACTIVITY:

The following activity was reported by the police department during the month of **Dec**:

Officer responded to a total of **1792** calls for service and wrote a total of **221** reports, including:

90 Vehicle Crashes

35 Criminal Reports

12 Driving While Intoxicated arrests (**0** Felony, **0** Misd, **12** ord)

19 Misc Arrests (Traffic charges, Fugitive charges, Failure to appear charges, etc)

434 Traffic citations issued (**274** speeding)

2015 TOTAL POLICE ACTIVITY

2015 Police Activity Town and Country January -December

1069 Vehicle Crashes

567 Criminal Reports*

201 Driving While Intoxicated arrests (11 Felony, 11 Misd, 179 Ord)
382 Misc Arrests (Traffic charges, Fugitive charges, Failure to Appear charges, etc)
5,145 total traffic citations issued
3,476 speeding
 * 37-percent of the criminal reports involved fraudulent Income Tax Filings

TOWN AND COUNTRY 2015 CRIME REPORT: The following is not police activity, but a listing of all crimes in the 11 square miles of Town and County in 2015. I

Part One Offenses:	175
Criminal Homicide	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0
Forcible Rape	1
Robbery	1
Assault (agg/cmn)	25
Burglaries:	18
Residential	16
Business	2
Larceny-Theft	122
Motor Vehicle Theft	8
Arson	0
Part Two Offenses:	558
Curfew Violation	0
Disorderly Conduct	0
Driving While Intoxicated	201
Embezzlement	1
Forgery /Counterfeiting	7
Fraud	212
Gambling	0
Liquor Laws	0
Non-traffic /Domestic	22

***Note: That IRS Frauds are included in the Fraud Total**

Narcotic/Drug Laws	28
Offenses Family/Children	0
Runaway/Missing	2
Sex Offenses	3
Stolen Property Buy/Rec'd/Poss	2
Trespassing	2
Property Damage	17
Weapons Violation	0
All Others	83

DALTON COMPLAINS ABOUT LIFE IN TOWN AND COUNTRY: At the last Board of Aldermen meeting on January 10 there was a discussion on the new noise ordinance. In fact Dalton forgot to call on a resident who had filled out a speaker's card to talk on that matter. There appears to be problems in the gate subdivision Buckland Hall with one resident playing music too loud at their outdoor hot tub.

During the discussion Dalton mentioned how he had to deal with construction noise next door to his house. This reminded me when Dalton would tell subdivision groups how the lights from the new stoplight at Clayton Road and Topping shined into his bedroom. But it didn't bother him because the stoplight was good for public safety. Of course the light did not shine into Dalton's bedroom at all. The light was directed straight down Clayton Road. Plus there is heavy vegetation between the road and Dalton's property. It was impossible for that light to shine into Dalton's bedroom or any other part of his house.



Above is a photo of the new home site on Clayton Place at Clayton Road taken about Christmas. If you look to the center left of the photo you can see Dalton's garage. The noise from this site could only be bothering Dalton if he fell asleep in his car, left the windows down and was parked in the driveway or garage with the door up.



This is the plans for the new house on Clayton Place behind Dalton's home on Tundra Ct. I'm told that the bricks on the new house will not be as pink as in the drawing.



Jon Dalton in FOS mode at the last Board of Aldermen meeting.

THE BLINDING LIGHT INTO THE BEDROOM: That FOS statement that Dalton used to make is just ridiculous.



Above is the stoplight on a cold winter day. I'm stopped in the middle of Clayton Road with Dalton's house on a hill to my left.



This time I'm at the same spot on Clayton Road late at night. The naked eye does not notice any glare from the stoplight, but the camera does. All the glare is directed to the side at the intersection of Clayton Road and Topping. If you notice to my left there is no light, but solid darkness at the Dalton property line.



Here is the tree line that runs the rear of Dalton's property and his neighbors to Topping Road. So for all of you who heard the mayor at neighborhood meetings talk about the light from the stoplight coming into his bedroom, please be advised he is FOS.

NO ONE LISTENING TO THE FINANCE COMMISSION ON NAME CHANGE!

Members of the Finance Commission did not like their name change under the new realignment of Commissions and their merger with the Benefits and Insurance Commission. The new Commission has called the Ways and Means Commission.

The members thought it should be called the Finance and Insurance Commission. The thought was the name "Ways and Means" sounded too much like the bloated Federal Government and did not describe what the Commission's purpose was. They complained to their Chair Linda Rallo, who with Lynn Wright came up with the new combined Commissions and names. They also complained in front of Mayor Jon Dalton. It did no good whatsoever.

THE TENANTS FOR THE QUARRY: The major building project along Des Peres Road on the north side of Manchester Road and almost to Topping Road in Town and Country is well underway. This is a mixed use development that is in unincorporated St. Louis County. For some time the developer had one person living in a trailer on the property who was a registered voter. If either the City of Des Peres or Town and Country tried to annex the property the lone resident was there to vote against it.

Currently plans call for apartments and condos, a hotel, a bank and a restaurant.

The development has to be great for people who live on Thornhill Court east off Topping Road in Town and Country. First you buy a house for \$1.5 million that was built not on land but on quarry rock. Then they are building a large commercial project just off your property line that you have no control over.





Look carefully how close the house is to the rear of the project.

THE LATEST LOOKS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY: Town and Country City Attorney Steve Garrett continues to look weirder and weirder, especially for a guy who is the front man for a city paying out close to \$200,000 to his law firm. Take a look!



2012



Summer of 2015 the Grizzly Garrett look.



Jan 2016 the Ponytail.



THE UPSET ALDERPERSONS OF WARD 1: Skip Mange appears not to handle criticism too well anytime someone makes remarks questioning the work of his Town Square Task Force, which Skip hand directed. He goes into an immediate defensive mode. I checked to make sure this is not just a common Mange pose and until recently it was not.



Skip is not pleased with what Larry Shiffer of Love Development had to say in December.(left) In October (right side photo) he was displeased with a comment by Mayor Dalton.

Alderwoman Lynn Wright for over two years never appears to be happy.

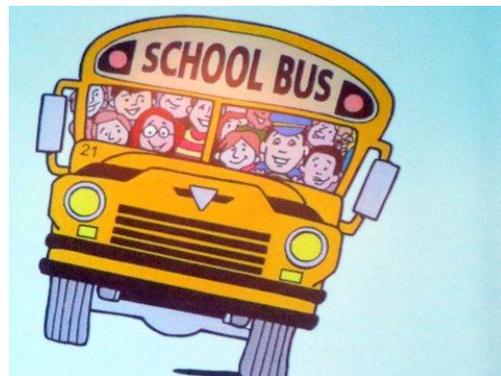




For the last two years Wright normally looks mad, confused or downcast. I had to go back to 2013 to find a photo of Lynn with a happy face.

THE GARY HOELZER MORNING CHAT: The Town and Country City Administrator spoke at the latest Ward-2 morning meeting with residents and alderwomen Tiffany Frautschi and Amy Anderson. (These monthly morning chats are all the work of Frautschi, Anderson merely shows up.)

I have always said that Gary will spin things to put a positive light on the city and elected officials and avoid saying anything negative. However if you ask Gary a question he will not lie, even if it makes the city or leaders look less than great. Monday January 11 was no exception.



I had to laugh when the first image on his power point presentation was a school bus. Gary said all the kids on the bus were happy and they represent the residents of Town and Country as the City is such a nice place to live.

However, I see a school bus being operated recklessly with kids who should be seated standing and the bus being driven on just two wheels. Just a different of opinions!. Gary started out by saying it was 31 years since he graduated from the police academy. It is 41 years since I graduated from the Police Academy. Clearly stuff had changed in that 10 years, like school buses being driven on two wheels.

Clayton and Ballas At one point a resident asked about the vacant lot at Clayton and Ballas and asked if it was true the city hall staff had found the Tim Horton Coffee Shop and restaurant people only to have the alderpersons vote the project down. (Something that we reported in July) Gary admitted that it was true.

Preservation Park: Another person asked Gary about what the city planned to do with Preservation Park on the North side of I-64. Many of the residents at the meeting did know that Preservation Park existed. It has been around since 2000. Gary explained that CBC bought the majority of the land from the city and owns the baseball field, practice soccer field and track, plus the driveway and parking areas. He said everything to the west of the parking lot before the baseball field belonged to the city. Gary admitted that half of the city's portion of the park is closed due to vandalism and the city needs to decide in 2016 whether to improve the park or sell it.

Muni Courts Gary in his talk spoke of Municipal Court reform and the committee formed by Overland MO municipal judge Frank Vatterott. This committee is taking no steps to stop having serious moving violations reduced to expensive Parking Violations so drunk drivers can leave court paying a \$750 to a reduced charge , be placed on a No-Points No-Fine probation and leave court with nothing on their record. While police departments can access their arrests, insurance companies cannot, so you and I underwrite their insurance which should be more expensive but isn't.

I asked Gary if it was wasn't true the Committee headed by Vatterott was not addressing the problems of lawyers being a prosecutor in one town, a judge in another and a defense attorney in still another and how few people who hire them actually get convicted of a moving violation. Gary briefly told the audience that there was a problem of a small number of lawyers being involved in municipal court cases as defense attorneys, and judges and prosecutors. So he started by spinning how things were being addressed with this committee and under questioning admitted they were not addressing some of the problems.

The oddest thing about the meeting was the Amy Anderson did not tell the residents that she had decided not to run for reelection.

DES PERES DOCTOR PLEADS GUILTY Michael Edward (Ted) Mimplitz who lives on Point Oak Drive off of Bopp Road just south of the Town and Country city limits pled guilty to illegally obtaining Mexican HGH drugs unapproved by the FDA for patients at The Men's Medical Institute, a Des Peres clinic for men at 1062 Des Peres Road. Mimplitz is also a OBGYN associated with DePaul Hospital.



HGH can only be used in the United States for a very limit number of medical uses and not in connection with body building, anti-aging or weight loss. Mimplitz pled guilty to one count of Distributing Misbranded Drugs in Interstate Commerce. His sentencing date is April 21. The maximum sentence is 3-years in prison and a \$250,000. It would be unusual if he received a maximum sentence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY DEER WHACKO INVADES DES PERES

ALDERMANIC MEETING: No it was not Mariette Palmer with her white tattoo'ed lips, but from her Deer Whacko Coven, Al Gerber showed up. Des Peres has hired Town and Country's contractor White Buffalo to do a deer census in Des Peres, so the city can make decisions on what to do about the ever increasing deer herds. Eric Al Gerber showed up at the Monday January 11th Des Peres Aldermanic meeting, preaching his view of the need to give deer \$1,200 hysterectomies (actually called overectomies for deer) instead of shooting the deer and donating the meat to food shelters.

Al says that you don't notice a reduction at first but over the years you will if you keep giving hysterectomies to deer. Common sense say that sterile deer still damage

property, destroy growth that protects small mammals from predators and still will cause serious auto accidents.



Al Gerber

Des Peres Mayor Rick Lahr was not having any of it. He stated that Des Peres was merely taking a deer census count. The problem many other West County communities have dealing with deer is that they don't have the open space created by one and two acre lots plus open land that Town and Country has to allow bait and shoot operations.

But as deer populations continue to increase inside their borders they are going to have to do something both for public safety and public health. This is especially true as more and more cases of Lyme Disease spread by deer ticks continue to increase in the region. Ignoring the crap peddled by Geber and others who put deer above the health and safety of residents would be a good start.

BALLPARK VILLAGE CLAIMS ANOTHER VICTIM: When the Cardinals first unveiled Ball Park Village it was going to be a combination of condos, offices, shops and restaurants. Only the restaurants and bars were ever built. Ball Park Village with mostly non-locally owned restaurants immediately began killing off locally owned businesses in Laclede's Landing, on Washington Avenue and on S. Broadway.

The latest victim appears to be Mike Shannon's Steakhouse on Market Street, the overpriced steakhouse that has been in operation for 30 years. The restaurant announced it was going to close on January 30.

The restaurant is actually owned by Shannon unlike many where the sports celebrity's name is merely rented. Plus Shannon is not a baseball player from California or Florida who ended up in St. Louis. He is a rarity of being a local kid, who grew up in St. Louis

whose dad was a St. Louis Police Officer and later a prosecuting attorney, and who went to CBC High School.



In a city with a stagnant population growth with more businesses expanding to St. Louis and St. Charles Counties than downtown, there is only a limited amount of entertainment dollars to go around. Plus people going to Ball Park Village were not likely to walk 10 blocks north or south to go to other places.



MEDIA WATCH: See if you can spot anything inconsistent with this news report posted on the KMOV Chanel 4 website:

After entering the store, the suspect pointed a firearm at the 63-year-old woman behind the counter and demanded money. The woman then got her firearm and pointed it at the suspect.

The suspect fired his gun several times, hitting various locations inside the store, before leaving.

While he was exiting the store, the suspect pushed a 64-year-old employee who was standing by the front door, causing a laceration to his face.

The suspect was last seen running from the store south on Cherokee.

The victims were not injured during the incident.

DIDN'T MISSPELL THE COUNCILWOMAN'S NAME A LITTLE, BUT A

LOT: For several issues of this newsletter back in 2015 I misspelled Barb McGuinness' name as McGuiness. But it was nothing compared to what Bruce Kunz, The Fin Man, did to her name in the Monday January 19 edition of the Post-Dispatch. Here is what he wrote under of photo of a newer Mustang ragtop in front of the Velvet Freeze. Kunz dropped the "Mc" and an "n"

And what would a car show be without stopping, on the way home for some sweet treats at the last Velvet Freeze on the planet?!? Owned and operated by one time Velvet Freeze CEO John Guinness and his wife, Barbara, they still have the original flavors, including the Velvet Freeze exclusives Swiss Chocolate (my personal favorite) and Gold Coast Chocolate. I still think John should rename his Tornados to Toronados in honor of The FIN MAN. A TKCS-StL sponsor, Velvet Freeze is open year-round and located at 7355 W. Florissant Avenue, in Jennings. They are open from 2 to 10 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, and closed Mondays and Tuesdays. If you go, please tell them The FIN MAN sent you!



MUSIC: For the past two years we have put on a fun and very entertaining evening around my wife's and my birthdays in February at the One-19-North in Kirkwood. We pay for the entertainment and anyone is welcome to come and enjoy it.

Well for 2016 we have CANCELLED IT AT THE ONE-19-N and decided not to celebrate birthdays, but celebrate **GROUND HOG DAY** instead. We have also moved the party to the

RIVERBEND RESTAURANT (The former Harvest)
1059 S. Big Bend 63117 (One block from Clayton Road)
314-664-8443

The entertainment will be a five-to-six piece band featuring Dean Christopher singing and making with the jokes. It will be on February 2 at 7 pm with the show starting at 7:30. Riverbend serves Cajun food and also Hank's Cheesecake. You can always show up and nurse a drink for 2 hours and see a great show. But the food is good and the portions are LARGE. I suggest you split something. But first call and reserve a table.



Is that a reincarnated Sammy Davis, Jr. as a white guy? No, it is Dean. Valeria Tichacek has also promised to appear.

A BIGGER LOSS THAN THE RAMS: Someone snatched the Rams from Cleveland fans a month after they won the NFL championship in 1945. 50 years later they headed to St. Louis and now they are going back to LA. I can live with that.

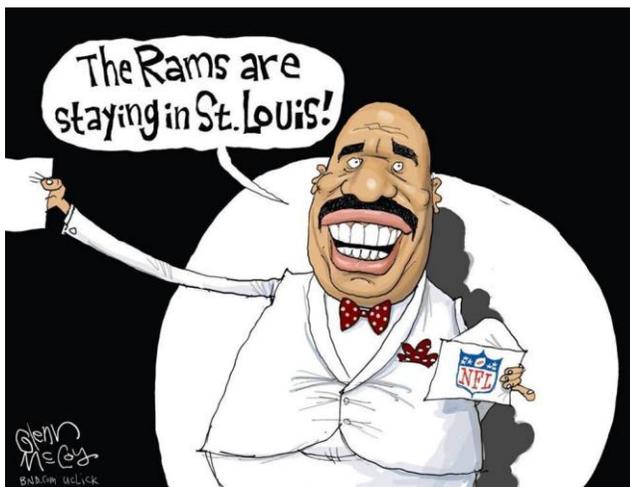
I'm sorry, but when I think of Rams football I first think of QB Roman Gabriel, the defensive front four, known as the fearsome foursome in the 1960s that included Rosey Grier, Deacon Jones and Merlin Olson. Grier would later be a regular cast member of

the Daniel Boone Show starring Fess Parker and Ed Ames. Olson was a regular on Little House on the Prairie and was the color commentator for NFL Football on both NBC and CBS.

Sure I think of Kurt Warner, but not before those other guys. But the person I will miss the most when the Rams move to LA is singer Christi Jon-Bye. Christi is just a great singer. She used to be a regular with Carolbeth True's groups. She does one of the best female vocal arraignments of Pick Yourself Up I have heard in St. Louis. Christi kind of disappeared when she had twins a couple of years ago She and her husband, Jake, have a house in Warson Woods. Unfortunately Jake Bye also has a job as Vice-President of Ticket Sales and Premium Seating for the Rams. He is now listed on the Los Angeles Rams website.



CARTOONS:



The Fact That There's A
HIGHWAY TO HELL
And Only A
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN
Says A Lot About Anticipated
Traffic Numbers.

