

## EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 227 AND CHESTERFIELD 172



By John Hoffmann

May 29, 2016

**NEW CITY LIMIT SIGNS WENT UP ON HIGHWAY 141 IN LATE APRIL:** As we reported early in 2016 we were still mystified that the Missouri Department of Transportation was refusing to mark the city limits along the new section of Highway 141 that had been moved to the east from its old location. With the help of State Senator Jill Schupp, MoDOT finally agreed to mark the road. Here are the new signs first as you go north toward Olive Blvd and then as go south from Olive:



NB Hwy 141 just before Ladue Road



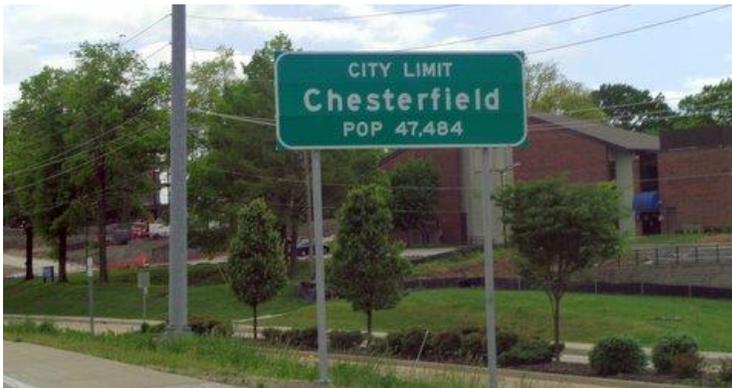
Ladue and Olive

NB at the halfway point between



Central HS football field to the right. (notice lights)

SB 141 with Parkway



entrance ramp

SB at the end of the Ladue Road

**APRIL 2016 TOWN AND COUNTRY POLICE STATS:**



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

Officer responded to a total of 1891 calls for service and wrote a total of 218 reports, including:

102 Vehicle Crashes

30 Criminal Reports

19 Driving While Intoxicated arrests (3 Felony, 0 Misd, 16 ord)

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

297 Traffic citations issued (172 speeding)

#### Felony DWI info

-Greg Wolters WM 54 of the 2000 block of Fairway 63049 was arrested 4/5/16 2:35 SB270 at Manchester.

-Francisco Venero Hispanic Male 54 of the 200 block of Enchanted Ct. 63021 was arrested 4/10/16 2:36 at SB270 at Clayton

-Robert Holthaus WM 31 of the 10 block of Seven Oaks Dr 63005 was arrested 4/29/16 2:25 at N. Outer 40/Chesterfield Pkwy

## **2016 Town and County Police Activity Report Jan- April**

Officer's responded to a total of 7,374 calls for service and wrote a total of 809 reports, Including:

347 Vehicle Crashes

112 Criminal Reports

67 Driving While Intoxicated arrests (7 Felony, 1 Misd, 59 Ord)

109 Misc Arrests (Traffic Charges, Fugitive charges, Failure to Appear, etc)

1325 Traffic citations issued (814 speeding)

**PARK UPDATE: NOW THE TRAILS ARE BLOCKED!** If you remember last fall we reported that the Western Entrance to Preservation Park would be closed through winter due to vandalism and illegal activity. The vandalism included graffiti and setting fire to a picnic table and a wooden pavilion. The illegal activity was evidence of alcohol and illegal drug use.

Then up pops spring and the west entrance remained closed until further notice, but Parks Director Anne Nixon said the public can still access the trails on the west side from the east side main parking lot.



Longtime newsletter readers might remember that while I was still an alderman how I complained how unsafe some steps were on one of the west end trails. The city attorney admitted they did not look safe, but did not think they needed to be fixed or removed. A sign saying they were unsafe was all that was needed.



After leaving the board of aldermen I continued to write about the unsafe stairs and took new alderpersons there to see for their self. They all agreed how unsafe the stairs were. But when they got elected they did nothing to make the steps safe.

A newsletter reader wrote us last week saying the west side trails that Parks Director Anne Nixon encouraged residents to use, are impassable. At two locations dead tree limbs block the trail. In another location the trail has been swallowed up by honeysuckle making it impassable.

**Irony:** For two months there have been wood chips that were placed on the closed parking lot to be placed on the trails that people can't use because the Parks Department has failed to keep them passable.



The big question is why would you keep a piece of property you refuse to maintain? If this was a residential property the City Planner or Code Officer would be issuing citations for the condition it is in.

**THE PRINCIPIA STRIKES AGAIN! Once again the school draws national media attention they could have avoided.** I don't know who is doing The Principia's thinking when it comes to public relations, but they are apparently brain dead. With the football summer camp sodomy cases still pending, they have former employee Zach Retzlaff who as an employee began a sexual relationship with a 16-year-old student.

The girl's mother filed suit against Principia saying that Retzlaff, a relative to a member of the board of trustees and a school administrator, had group sex involving other Principia students. The suit was dropped. I at first thought it was because Principia settled. That was wrong. It was dropped because the victim, who is allegedly living with the suspect, turned 18.



Zachary Retzlaff



However now the mother is identified as Phoebe McVey, age 53, because she has filed another lawsuit against Principia. It turns out she was on the faculty as a home-economics teacher. She is alleging that Principia fired her with one more year to go on her teaching contract after she filed suit concerning the school's lack of actions to fire Retzlaff after the school knew he was having sex with students, including her daughter.

The question arises why Principia when they fired McVey claiming low enrollment in her classes, they did not simply pay off the final year of her contract making it impossible for her to sue claiming the firing as connected to the sex allegations and McVey's original lawsuit?

The last activity on the criminal charges cases against Retzlaff were on March 10 when the defense motion to hide Retzlaff's address from court documents was granted. The case is set for trial on June 27.

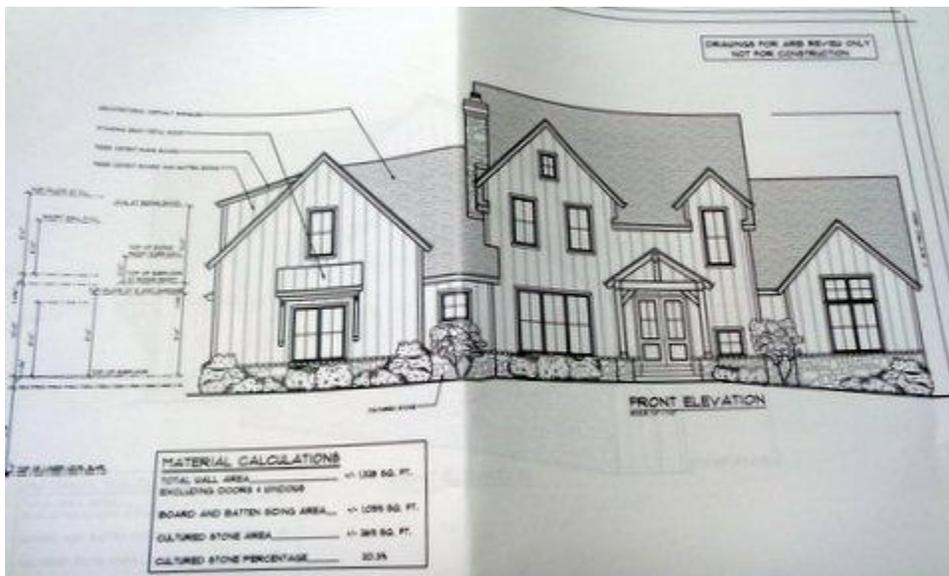
The case has not stayed out of the national news. Here is a link to an article appearing in the Daily Beast on the latest lawsuit. The original lawsuit is on the homepage of our website.

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/05/24/mom-claims-boarding-school-tried-to-silence-daughter-s-s-m-abuse.html>

**NEW HOUSE PLANNED FOR 13607 Peacock Farm Road.**



Soon to say hello to a bulldozer.



Proposed new house.

The new owners are Dave and Amanda Ringhofer. Even though this house is in a different subdivision than ours we used to have occasional contact with the prior owners, the Bauer's. They had a large black dog who was very friendly and also afraid of the lightning and thunder. If the dog was outside and there was a storm, somehow it would get out of the fenced yard and head to our house.

It would show up soaking wet often late at night. The Bauer's did not answer their phone late at night, so the dog would be our guest, usually in our garage with a rug, a bucket of water and some dog biscuits. These overnight stays would result in the Bauer's giving us a gift certificate for our two dogs at PetSmart.

**IT IS NOT EASY BEING A FENCE IN THE DAYS OF DISTRACTED DRIVING:** For the third time this year a large section of fence was wiped out on a major Town and Country road. The first two crashes involved the same section of fence on S. Mason Road at Lockinvar. The latest is on Clayton Road just before Country Life Acres.



Feb.15, 2016



April 2016

So the latest fence killing by car occurred on May 12 at 8:24 on a Tuesday morning at the hands of Daniel Garabedian of Wildwood driving a 2008 Chevy Equinox.

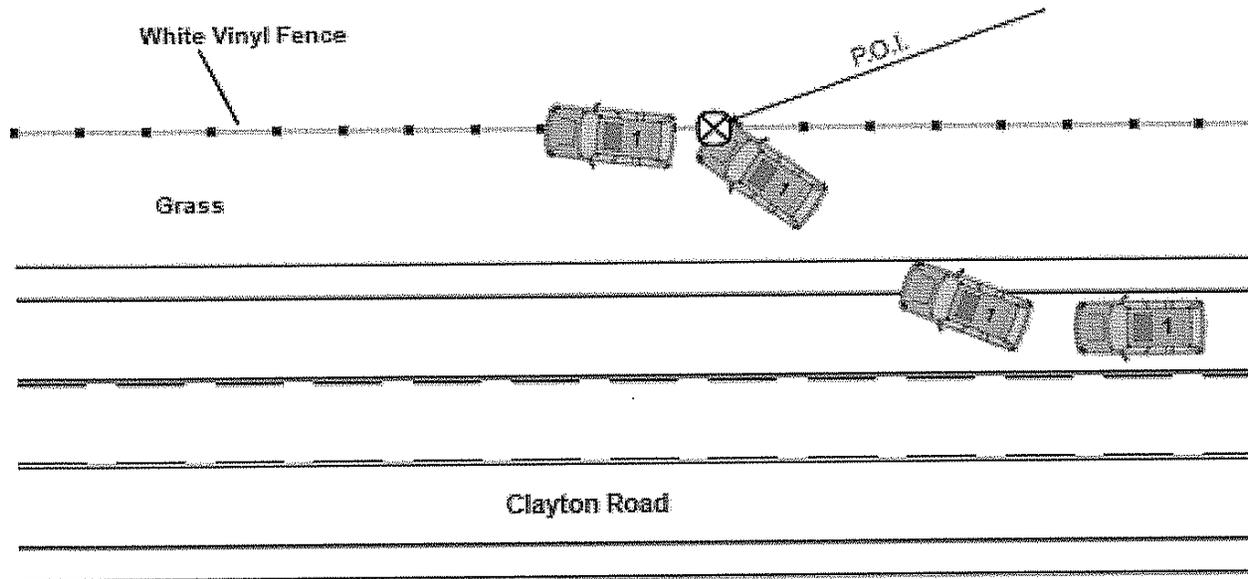


Here is the entire narrative of the police report by Officer Michael Dafoe.

Driver#1 said he was EB on Clayton Road, approaching Country Life Acres. Driver#1 said the three vehicles ahead of him suddenly slowed. Driver#1 said he began to brake and swerved to the right to avoid striking the vehicle ahead of him. Driver#1 said his vehicle left the roadway to the right and struck a vinyl fence. Driver#1 claimed no injury.

I was about 5 vehicles behind vehicle#1 traveling east. I observed vehicle#1 leave the roadway to the right and strike the vinyl fence.

Traffic slows at this location everyday during morning rush hour. Slowing traffic is not an unusual event.



What gets me is that the Town and Country Police write hundreds of traffic citations a month to people not in crashes claiming it is not an act of not revenue generation, but public safety trying to reduce crashes.

But when a crash happens and it witnessed by a police officer there is no citation issued. Officer Dafoe did not issue Garabedian a citation. I mean "who is looking out for the fences?"

**THE TALL, TALL GRASS OF HOME:** Here are a couple new locations in Town and Country that may result in Tall Grass Court.

**Convict and wife walk away from home. Grass and ants take over.** Ronald Lee Roberts, 55, an ex con having been convicted in Federal Court for investments scams from 2003 had bought the house at 12931 N. Topping Estates with an out of state mortgage. He went back to work by stealing large sums of monies from investors. In March of 2015 Roberts was sent back to Federal Prison. He is currently residing in the Federal Prison in Memphis, Tennessee.

Meanwhile his wife Sonya Roberts remained in the house until she was evicted. Sonya Roberts was known for a failed nightclub on Grand Avenue. She has hundreds of thousands of dollars of judgments and tax liens against her.

The house is now owned by the U.S. Bank National Association of Coppel, Texas.



On the day we visited the property the grass had not been cut for some time and ants were all over the front door. After we sent her photos City Planer Melanie Rippetoe got the bank to harvest the grass last week. I don't know what was done about the ants.



The next Town and Country home that is apparently vacant is at 12930 Thornhill Dr.

The house is vacant but still furnished and the day after this photo was sent to the city, the grass was cut sort-of.



This house sits on the back of the property line and has a huge front yard that is to the side of the lot. Only half of the grass got cut.



The owners are Randy and Linda Dessau, a certified letter has been sent by the City.

**QUEENY PARK DOG PARK NOW OPEN:** They were a year late and finally a month late after the revised opening date, but the Dog Park at Queeny Park accessed from Mason Road finally opened on May 26.

## **UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 172**



**May 29, 2016**

**MARRIED MONARCH FIRE CAPTAIN AND FORMER UNION BOSS SEEN SLAPPING AND THEN CHOKING GIRLFRIEND WHO IS ALSO A FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC . The tale of off-duty and apparently drunk fire captain Andy Stecko at the Hanger Grill is an interesting**

**one.** Four weeks ago we wrote how the Monarch Fire District Fire Board voted to dismiss Captain Andy Stecko. The only thing the Fire District would release was the 3-0 vote to fire Stecko which is required by the Missouri Sunshine Law.

Last week we obtained the police report of the incident that was heavily redacted. However with some interviews outside of the fire district and police headquarters we were able to put together what happened on Thursday March 3, 2016 at about 8:30 pm.



One bar customer claimed that he first noticed Stecko and firefighter/Paramedic Donna Kessler making out in the bar before words were being exchanged. Bob Chitwood, the owner of the Hangar Bar and Grill on Long Road at Edison, did not mention the tongues in mouths, but made it clear that Stecko and Kessler were an item, an arguing and fighting item.

C█████ stated that a male and female patron entered into his business together at approximately 2030 hrs, and had several drinks. C█████ stated that the male appeared to have been drinking prior to his arrival, but not the female. C█████ stated throughout their time inside of his business, the male was very disrespectful, and argumentative with the female, and at one point, C█████ stated he saw the male slap the female across her chest with the back of his open hand.

While the owner of the bar did not think Kessler had been drinking he said it was clear that Stecko had been drinking. Kessler later admitted that she had been drinking before arriving at the Hangar.

Then things got scary as Chitwood followed Stecko and Kessler outside after they left without paying the \$32 bar bill.

C█████ further stated that the pair remained in his bar after the assault, and continued to argue with the male being the instigator. C█████ stated when the couple left, he realized that their bar tab had not been paid, so he went out onto the parking lot and located the couple inside of a ██████ truck, where C█████ stated he saw the male with his hand around the female's neck. C█████ stated the male saw him standing near, and exited his truck and asked what he wanted, and C█████ stated he told the male he hadn't paid his tab, and the male stated he'll be back in. C█████ stated that the male reentered his truck, and C█████ reported as he was walking back towards the bar, he turned around and saw the back of the female's head going back and forth, as if the male was banging her head against the passenger door window. C█████ stated the male did pay his tab by credit card, and at one point made the statement, "Every now and then, you got to keep them in line."

The bartender on duty at the time was Sarah Ferguson. Here are some of her comments.

The ██████ was identified as ██████ F█████, who responded to the rear area and reported seeing and hearing the male being very loud and argumentative with the female, whom F█████ described as sweet, and non-combative. F█████ stated that the male was loud and would argue at random with the female, and appeared to be "bullying" the female, which lead F█████ to purposely make contact with the couple and ask how they were doing, in an attempt to stop the male from arguing with the female, and also advised the male that he needed to calm down.

F█████ also reported that she witnessed the female crying at one point, and appeared very upset. F█████ also stated that the couple appeared to have been drinking prior to their arrival, and advised me that the female informed her that she was a ██████████.

F█████ advised me that the male did carry the female to the bathroom on one occasion due to her having a boot on one foot. But F█████ reported later as the couple was leaving; the female walked out first and appeared to be upset, and the male yelled, "If you leave, you'll never see me again." F█████ stated the male left behind her, and returned a short while later to pay his tab.

Next came the statement of a bar customer.

C█████ informed me that he and B█████ are friends, and arrived at the Hangar at approximately 2030 hrs, where they observed a couple who were "making out" one moment, and arguing the next. I asked C█████ to describe "making out", and he described them as being embraced in each other's arms and kissing.

C█████ stated that the couple left the bar several times for short periods of times, then would reappear, and exhibited the same behavior throughout their time at the bar.

In reference to the nature of the arguments, C█████ stated that he heard the female tell the male something to the effect of, "I'm leaving you" and "why don't you go back to your wife and kids". And on another occasion, the female got up to leave, and the male grabbed at the back of her top outer clothing in an attempt to stop her, but she continued out of the bar with the male behind her. C█████ also stated he heard the male tell her, "If you walk out the door, we're over."

C█████ advised that on one occasion, the male looked over at him and B█████ and told them, "What the hell you're looking at", and B█████ asked him to calm down, and advised that they'll call the police, and also stated that the chief of police lived in his sub division. C█████ reported that the male pulled out an ID card and stated that he was a ██████, and stated the chief was a friend of his, then held up his cellphone and said call him.

The following day Fire Chief Chuck Marsonette was informed by an unknown source about the incident. He did his own investigation and also requested a police investigation by Chesterfield Police Department. Detectives obtain the statements. They also interviewed Donna Kessler, a former Captain who asked to be demoted to firefighter-paramedic.

Kessler asked if the investigation was a "prank." She then denied being assaulted and said she and Stecko were continuing to discuss "work related issues" when they arrived at The Hangar. She admitted they had been drinking elsewhere before coming to The Hangar, but could not remember how much. The discussion of "work related" issues later changed to work and personal issues and it was the personal issues that had caused her to cry.

Stecko said he and Kessler went to The Hangar to discuss some work related issues and have several beers. He stated that when they discussed a personal issue Kessler got upset.

The Chesterfield assistant prosecutor Barry King reviewed the reports and refused to issue any charges against Stecko.

However, the Monarch Fire Protection District brought internal charges, which six weeks later resulted in Stecko being dismissed.

As someone who over a 30-year law enforcement career both as a labor rep and a command officer representing management I see the following reasons to dismiss Stecko.

- 1) Was under the influence of alcohol in public within the fire district..
- 2) He was creating a loud disturbance in a public business in the fire district and identifying himself as a member of the fire district.
- 3) There is a witness claiming he assaulted a woman more than once.
- 4) There are witnesses claiming he was threatening a female subordinate within the fire district.
- 5) He was having an inappropriate relationship with a subordinate. (You might say it is impossible to control matters of the heart. However supervisors in public safety are paid extra not to have sexual relations with subordinates)
- 6) Stecko lied to the police investigator concerning his actions that night.
- 7) Stecko admitted having been drinking with Kessler before coming to The Hangar and then drinking enough with Kessler to create a \$32 bar bill. He then drove off to another parking lot with Kessler and then home to his wife and kids in Washington, MO. According to the bar bill, his admission and the statements of witnesses Stecko operated a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

The other thing that Stecko did that really pissed me off was when witnesses reported how Stecko loudly announced how he was a Monarch firefighter and people should thank him for his service. I think the people have thanked him enough already. In

recent years he was making just under \$100,000. Last year he pulled down \$94,574 in salary and \$135,470 in total salary and benefits, all this in a fire district without many fires. He should have been thanking the residents and taxpayers.

These are more than enough reasons for a dismissal. Plus Stecko as a former Union Shop Steward often went out of his way to act unprofessional when addressing the Board of Directors. He should have been smart enough to avoid trouble within the District while he was off-duty, knowing that no one would be especially sympathetic toward him after being called names in the press and at meetings.

I was torn about identifying Donna Kessler in this article, but felt she should be identified for the following reasons:

- 1) The fact she is a 20-year fire-rescue employee and was in the middle of a peace disturbance in a public place, where she could have left but showed bad judgment and stayed.
- 2) She admitted drinking at two different places and likely was under the influence at some level. She is paid \$96,774 a year. She should know better.
- 3) She lied to the police detective claiming nothing happened.
- 4) She was in public within the District displaying sexual affection with a supervisor.

However the person other than Stecko that comes out the worse in this whole matter is Hangar Bar owner Bob Chitwood. He did not call the police or tell Stecko to leave when he was creating a disturbance and threatening Kessler.

He did not call the police when he witnessed Stecko strike Kessler. He did not call the police when Stecko drove away in an intoxicated condition. Chitwood showed little concern for a female customer being hassled and then assaulted or every other member of the public driving that night.

**POLICE BLOTTER #1** Since we were out of town and then in hospital we ran our Drunks and Thieves series, we have several police blotters to catch up on. Here is first one:



# CHESTERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Media Report April 27, 2016 - May 3, 2016

Time of Occurrence    Generic Address    Business/Location Name    Incident Type

05/03/2016, 0230 8XX AMOLAC DR    **Burglary Residential** - Garage  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject entered victim's closed but unlocked garage but did not take anything.

04/11/2016, 0715 1XX THF BLVD Walmart    **Larceny under \$500** Employer  
**Brief Narrative Description:** 18 yo male took TV from employer while working.

04/30/2016, 1200 20XX LYNN BAY CT    **Property Damage to House**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject tampered with water supply line in house under construction causing water damage throughout house.

05/03/2016, 1644 17XX CLARKSON RD Clarkson Eyecare    **Larceny over \$500 Shoplifting**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject concealed eyeglass frames and left store without paying.

05/03/2016, 1600 1XX LONG RD BP    **Larceny under \$500 Gas Drive Off**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject pumped gasoline and drove out of gas station without paying.

05/02/2016, 1451 2XX CHESTERFIELD MALL Children's Place    **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** 21 yo male concealed clothing and left store without paying.

04/28/2016, 1804 2XX THF BLVD Lowe's    **Possession of Stolen Property Other**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** 41 yo male in possession of stolen circuit breakers from hardware store.

05/01/2016, 1500 - 05/02/2016, 0630 14XXX RUTLAND CIR    **Larceny under \$500 from Auto**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject entered victim's unlocked vehicle and took radio transmitter and USB cables

02/16/2016, 1200 - 04/20/2016, 1200 14XX COUNTRY LAKE ESTATES DR    **Fraud Identity Theft**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject used victim's information to open up loan accounts.

04/30/2016, 2030-05/01/2016, 0930 15XXX CONWAY RD Residence Inn    **Property Damage to Vehicle**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject scratched the side of victim's vehicle with unknown object.

04/30/2016, 1345-500 4XX THF BLVD Galaxy Theatre    **Larceny under \$500 from Person**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took victim's wallet after it was lost at movie theatre. Credit cards were later used at nearby business.

05/01/2016, 1200-1330 1XX THF BLVD Walmart    **Larceny over \$500 Employer**  
**Brief Narrative Description:** 23 and 21 yo females fraudulently added money to employee payroll card.

05/01/2016, 1359 BOONES CROSSING & N. OUTER FORTY    **Drugs Possession - Misdemeanor**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 16 yo male in possession of marijuana after being stopped for a traffic violation.

05/01/2016, 2003 1XX HILLTOWN VILLAGE CTR    Schnucks    **DWI Alcohol**

**Brief Narrative Description: 35 yo female was operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and left the scene of a motor vehicle collision. Prior to being stopped, subject urinated in public and resisted arrest.**

04/29/2016, 2330 - 04/30/2016, 0730 15XXX WOODLET WAY CT **Larceny over \$500 from Auto**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject entered victim's unlocked vehicle and took money and a cell phone.

04/29/2016, 2200 - 04/30/2016, 0845 16XXX MEADOW OAK DR **Larceny over \$500 from Auto**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject entered victim's unlocked vehicle and took sunglasses and medication.

03/29/2016, 1200 - 04/19/2016, 1200 14XXX WOODS MILL COVE DR **Fraud Identity Theft**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject used victim's information to open up credit card accounts.

04/30/2016, 1000 - 1004 10XX WESTMEADE DR **Larceny over \$500 from Residence**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subjects took computers and wallet from victim's residence.

04/28/2016, 1220 4X THF BLVD Target **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject concealed two Fit Bit devices and left store without paying.

04/28/2016, 1700 4X THF BLVD Target **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject concealed alcohol and left store without paying.

04/28/2016, 2039 I-64 HWY W & BOONES CROSSING **Liquor Violation Minor In Possession**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 18 yo male in possession of open liquor containers after being stopped for DWI.

04/28/2016, 2040-2051 17XXX NORTH OUTER 40 RD Justice **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject concealed clothing and left store without paying.

04/26/2016, 1840 16XX CLARKSON RD The Sound Room **Fraud Checks**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 41 yo male wrote fraudulent check to business for electronics.

04/25/2016, 1200 2XX WILDHORSE SPRINGS CT **Fraud Identity Theft**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject used victim's information to open up credit card accounts.

## **COUNCILMAN BRUCE DEGROOT TRIED TO STRIP CO-INTERIM CITY**

**ADMINISTRATOR MIKE GEISEL OF HIS CITIZENSHIP.** At the last Chesterfield City Council meeting in May (on May 23) two things of note happened. First while Co-City Administrator Mike Geisel was sitting on the dais, the subject of hiring the City Administrator search firm came up. Geisel as an active candidate for the position left the dais and was replaced by Police Chief Ray Johnson. Geisel sat out in the audience.

Then Councilman Bruce DeGroot told Geisel to leave the room. This was during a public meeting. Geisel certainly is a member of the public or at least he was until the DeGroot order.



Mike Geisel



Bruce DeGroot

DeGroot is a lawyer but apparently doesn't give a rat's ass about people's rights. If the Council wanted to exclude Geisel from the audience they should have gone into executive session. They did not do that. The topic did not involve hiring a city administrator but hiring a firm to do the search. Geisel had every right to sit in the audience as anyone else.

Later in the meeting on another topic they wanted to ask Geisel a question. Someone went outside and found that Geisel had gone home. Good for him.

## **CHESTERFIELD PLANNING ISSUES... NEW CONSTRUCTION**

### **WARD ONE:**

**PLANNED 10 NEW HOMES AT WARWICK AND WHITE ROADS :**



**CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT INCREASE NUMBER OF NURSING UNITS AND INCREASE HEIGHT AT FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE.**



**WARD 2:**

I-Fly is proposed for Chesterfield Mall at 595 Chesterfield Center.



**40 LUXURY LIVING DEVELOPMENT KU Development with Mills Properties 14.2 Acres. South Outer Forty and Schoettler Road. (See more on pages 23 & 24)**



**WARD 4:**

**Brew Pub on Hold:**



**ARBORS AT WILMAS FARMS, A MCBRIDE PROJECT: 47 single family houses on 50 acres is now before city staff.** Site development plans are before city planners for review.



**LOOK FOR THE APARTMENT PLANS FOR SCHOETTLER AND SOUTH OUTER FORTY TO GET HEATED:** There was a small group at the Planning Commission meeting in Chesterfield who were against this project.

Mills Properties with their headquarters on South Hanley Road in Brentwood currently has an "F" rating with the BBB for failure to respond to complaints. The complaints vary from failure to return security deposits, to delays in doing maintenance and general poor customer service.

We also hear part of the plan is to trade properties with the church located in the development site with a preexisting church building.



The next Planning and Public Works Committee where this matter should be heard again will be on **Thursday June 9 at 5:30 in the rear conference room.**

It will be interesting to see how the Council votes on this matter. Lots of trees would be gone and a buffer between I-64 and homes would be destroyed. However, similar projects have been popping up along I-64 service roads for some time.

**POLICE BLOTTER PART TWO:** With the posting of three new Drunks and Thieves Columns while I was gone on vacation, we got backlogged on Chesterfield Police activity reports. Here is the one that covers through May 10.



## **CHESTERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT Media Report May 4, 2016 - May 10, 2016**

**Time of Occurrence    Generic Address Business/Location Name    Incident Type**

03/01/2016,1200 -05/08/2016, 0800 15XXX DRESDEN LAKE CT **Larceny over \$500 from Residence**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took jewelry from victim's residence.

05/10/2016, 1226 15XXX OLIVE BLVD Friendship Village **Harassment/Threat Texting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 30 yo female sending unwanted text messages to ex-boyfriend.

04/29/2016,1200 8XX WOODPOINT DR **Larceny over \$500 Business**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took pressure washer from job site.

05/10/2016, 1530 - 1550 1XX THF BLVD Best Buy **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 34 yo male concealed video games and left store without paying.

05/10/2016, 1635 4X CHESTERFIELD MALL Macy's **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 30 yo male concealed clothing and left store without paying.

Subject also in possession of stolen clothing and gave false information to officer.

05/10/2016, 1715 1XX THF BLVD Walmart **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 33 yo female concealed merchandise and left store without paying.

05/10/2016, 1820 14XXX TEALCREST DR **Animal Bite Dog**

**Brief Narrative Description:** UPS driver bit by dog at residence while making delivery causing minor injury.

05/10/2016, 2217 16XX WESTMEADE DR **Violation of Ex-Parte/Full Ord Ex-Parte**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 35 yo female violated the conditions of a court order of protection by calling ex-boyfriend.

05/08/2016, 2245 - 05/09/2016, 1130 14XXX RUE DE GASCONY CT **Larceny under \$500 from Residence**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took propane tank from BBQ pit.

05/07/2016, 1600 5XX KINGSCROSS LN **Larceny over \$500 from Residence**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took A/C unit from outside of residence.

05/09/2016, 0930 15XXX HARRIS RIDGE CT **Assault Common - Actual Assault**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 52 yo female punched victim in the face after argument causing minor injuries.

05/08/2016, 1112 2XX CHESTERFIELD MALL Solar X **Larceny under \$500 Business**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject entered covered kiosk and took cash from envelope.

05/08/2016, 1721 13XXX OLIVE BLVD McDonalds **Larceny under \$500 Employer**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 23 yo male took cash from employer's safe.

05/08/2016, 1206 2XX CHESTERFIELD MALL Perfect Gifts **Larceny under \$500 Business**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject entered covered kiosk and took money from cash register.

05/07/2016, 1528 - 1600 18XXX OUTLET BLVD Sunglass Hut **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 47 yo male concealed sunglasses and left store without paying.

05/07/2016, 0128 BLACKWOOD CT & WILDHORSE PARKWAY DR **Curfew**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 14 yo male out after curfew.

04/04/2016, 1200 - 05/07/2016, 1204 15XXX OLIVE BLVD 271 Friendship Village **Larceny over \$500 from Residence**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took jewelry from victim's residence.

05/07/2016,1600 - 1900 15XXX TIMBER HILL LN **Property Damage to Mailbox**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject damaged victim's mailbox.

05/07/2016, 2210 E CHESTERFIELD PKY & OLIVE BLVD & W CHESTERFIELD PKY **Liquor Violation Open Container**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 47 yo male had open container of alcohol inside his vehicle after being stopped for a traffic violation.

04/25/2016, 1628 17XXX NORTH OUTER 40 RD Heavy Duty Equipment **Fraud Checks**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 41 yo male passed fraudulent check to business for construction equipment.

05/04/2016, 1200 17XX GOLDEN LAKE CT **Fraud Scam**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject convinced victim to wire money in fraudulent shopper scam.

05/06/2016, 1459 2XX CHESTERFIELD MALL Chesterfield Mall **Possession of Stolen Property Clothing**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 21 yo male in possession of stolen clothing after shoplifting investigation.

04/18/2016,0800 - 04/25/2016, 2200 1XX THF BLVD Walmart **Larceny under \$500 Employer**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 21 yo female took cash from employer while working and improperly rang out merchandise to customers.

05/05/2016, 1400 16XXX CLARKSON WOODS DR **Fraud Credit Card**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject used victim's credit card information to make purchases.

04/29/2016, 1800 - 05/01/2016, 1800 19XX MISTFLOWER GLEN CT **Property Damage to Vehicle**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject scratched victim's vehicle.

05/06/2016 1830 4X CHESTERFIELD MALL Macy's **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 15 yo male concealed clothing and left store without paying. Also gave officer false information on his identity.

05/06/2016, 1740 18XXX OUTLET BLVD Sunglass Hut **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject concealed sunglasses and left store without paying.

05/05/2016,2130 - 05/06/2016, 0400 14XXX WHITE BIRCH VALLEY LN **Property Damage to Mailbox**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject damaged victim's mailbox.

05/03/2016, 1200 23XX WELLINGTON ESTATES DR **Assault Common - Actual Assault**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 65 yo male pushed and scratched victim after argument causing minor injuries.

05/06/2016, 2155 1XX LONG RD BP **Liquor Violation Minor in Possession**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 17 yo male in possession of alcohol and fake ID after suspicious person investigation

05/05/2016, 0030 - 0040 14XXX LADUE RD **Assault Common - Actual Assault**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 25 yo male and 22 yo female pushed and scratched each other after argument causing minor injuries.

05/04/2016, 1500 - 1800 3XX N WOODS MILL RD Parkway Central High **School Larceny over \$500 Person**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took backpack containing laptop and clothing after it was left unattended on track field.

05/04/2016, 1825 18XXX OUTLET BLVD Sunglass Hut **Larceny over \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject concealed eyeglass frames and left store without paying.

05/04/2016,1515 - 1745 8XX FOREST TRACE DR **Fraud Scam**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject convinced victim to send iTunes account cards to pay off fraudulent tax debt.

05/01/2016, 0800 - 1630 16XXX SWINGLEY RIDGE RD Double Tree **Larceny over \$500 Person**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took victim's I Pad after it was left unattended in hotel room.

04/28/2016, 1626 - 04/29/2016, 0630 3XX S WOODS MILL RD Brooking Park **Larceny under \$500 Business**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took 13 rolls of quarters from office desk.

05/04/2016, 2015 2XX CHESTERFIELD MALL V-Stock **Larceny under \$500 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 18 yo male concealed CD's and left store without paying.

05/04/2016, 2147 CHESTERFIELD AIRPORT RD & N GODDARD AVE & S GODDARD AVE  
Drugs Possession - Misdemeanor

**Brief Narrative Description:** 18 yo female in possession of marijuana and paraphernalia after being stopped for a traffic violation.

This week the Sunglass Hut was the big victim with three reported thefts, while WalMart and Macy's each had just two reported thefts.

**CHESTERFIELD REFUSING TO RELEASE REPORT ON THE STEVE SPIELBERG OF GAS STATION RESTROOMS:** Lights! Camera! No Action from the Chesterfield Police.



David Cerna, who while working as a police officer for the City of Chesterfield had developed a second occupation, that as a video director and editor of recorded images he had made of men and boys using the restroom at the Mobil on the Run on Clarkson Road and then posting them on homosexual porn websites.

The Chesterfield Police were notified of the offense by KTVI investigative reporter Chris Hayes after a viewer found out he was recorded using the restroom and was able to

identify the restroom. The investigation quickly showed it was one of their own doing the recording. Charges were filed about one-year ago.

Now Cerna has pled guilty to all of the Chesterfield charges and will be pleading guilty to additional charges from his St. Charles County home where he was video recording men who came to his house for oral sex with who thought was a woman but was really Cerna using a "glory hole." That plea should be in the first week of June.

In pleading guilty to the St. Louis County charges on May 20 Cerna received probation terms for the three felonies. The misdemeanor Invasion of Privacy, Cerna received one-year in the County jail. While he received a 10-year probation term for Sexual Exploitation of a Minor instead of jail the plea will mark him as a sex offender for the rest of his life. Cerna doesn't want that to happen.

First of all it is amazing that Judge Gloria Reno did not sentence him to prison, but merely the County Jail. Cerna was under an oath to protect residents and instead he exploited residents and minors in a scheme that went on for an extended period time. He not only committed crimes that make your skin crawl he also stole the public trust and stole some of the goodwill the Chesterfield Police had developed over decades.

Since Cerna pled guilty to all charges that should mean the police investigation report is an open public record. Cerna was given a Suspended Execution of Sentence on 10-year probation for Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, meaning he will have to annually report his address and provide a current photo as a sex offender.

The supervisor of the Chesterfield Police Records Unit turned down my request for a copy of the report saying that Cerna could appeal his sentence. He was not appealing his sentence when I made the request which would make it an open record. The public certainly has the right to know all the details of these crimes involving a police officer.

I made a complaint to the new acting city attorney, Chris Graville. The supervisor of the records unit responded that according to the assistant County Prosecutor, Cerna's lawyer, Dan Juengel of Clayton has filed an "intent to appeal the sentence."

My point is that until the appeal is actually made this is an open record and the Chesterfield Police should release a copy of the report involving one of their officers.

**WEBSITE SETS NEW RECORD FOR APRIL AS READERSHIP FOR NEWS FROM SNOBURBIA AKA THE WEST COUNTY WHIRL HITS 1,000 READERS A WEEK.**

The website site had record hits on the story of West County EMS and Fire Board

President Ron Rogan's Promoting Prostitution arrest in 2014. That record was broken in February of 2016 with our story on the facts behind the resignation of State Representative Don Gosen. However despite having one day hits in the high 700s and 800s at the end of each month our daily average for readers was between 80-and-90.

In April with no sex scandal to write about the website was averaging 104 readers a day and counting the people on our original subscription list before the newsletters were posted on the website our weekly readership was over 1,000. Clearly if the demise of the Journal papers and the Post-Dispatch no longer having special suburban news sections twice a week, there is a place for more local news than what West Magazine is providing.

**CREDIT CARD TRAVELLING** : I was amused when contacting the two 800 numbers on my Master Card and my Visa to notify them that the card might be in places away from the St. Louis area. I called the 800 number on my Master Card first and the person in India could not understand me. I called again. It was a different person who I could not understand. Third time was a charm. We understood each other and he sounded wide awake for 1am, India time. The Visa card's 800 was answered by a guy in Springfield, MO. There were no problems communicating with the guy in Greene County, Missouri.

#### **BUSINESS:**

**SAY GOODBYE:** I was amazed when they built the Russell Stover store on Manchester Road at the east end of Des Peres, where the nursery and greenhouses had been for over 60 years. I was also amazed how big the place was and how many parking spaces it had. Keep in mind they sell Russell Stover chocolates at the nearby Dierberg's supermarket at the next stoplight. The other problem is out in West St. Louis County there is a preponderance of thin women who have quit eating chocolate years ago to look good at the country club.

The last day for the store was on April 30. I was somewhat surprised they did not wait one more week until after Mother's Day



The large sign in the front door is hard to read but announced the store was closed and suggested customers go to the other Russell Stover store in FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS.

**SAY HELLO IN THE FALL:** This is the view of the new giant Fresh Thyme store from the stoplight at EB Manchester Road at North Kirkwood Road being built. The hippie produce store joins the other Fresh Thyme store on Manchester Road in Town and Country and the Lucky's Store on Manchester Road in Rock Hill. Ironically for now there is a Shop and Save supermarket billboard over the Fresh Thyme store being built.



**VACATION PHOTOS PART 1:** This year we went out of California before going to Alaska. One of my favorite things to do on vacation is to drive California Highway 1, both south of Carmel through Big Sur and also north from Sausalito. This year it was Big Sur again. I had a deal with my wife who hates being in the passenger seat on the edge of a cliff. She drove south and then I drove back north from San Simeon with her seat next to hills and mountains.



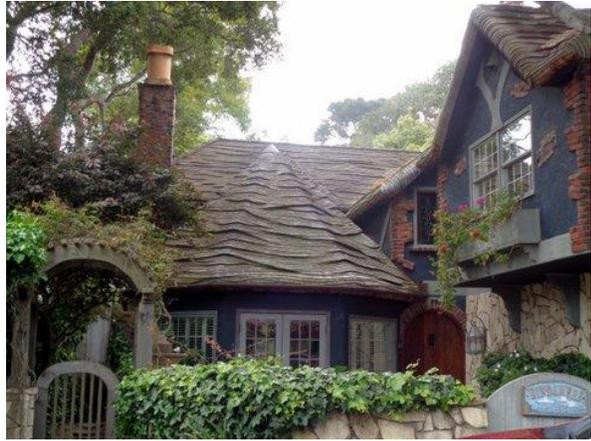


**REAL ESTATE:** In the 1980s when I would go to Carmel I was amazed at the 900 sq to 1,200 sq foot cottages, not in particularly good condition were going for \$700,000. You can still find a few that are in disrepair for that price but the average price now is between \$2.5 and \$3.7-million. Here is a range of houses in the City of Carmel by the Sea:





Old school Carmel by the Sea

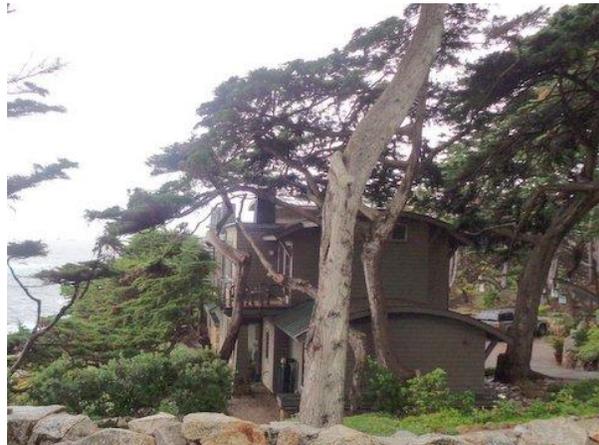
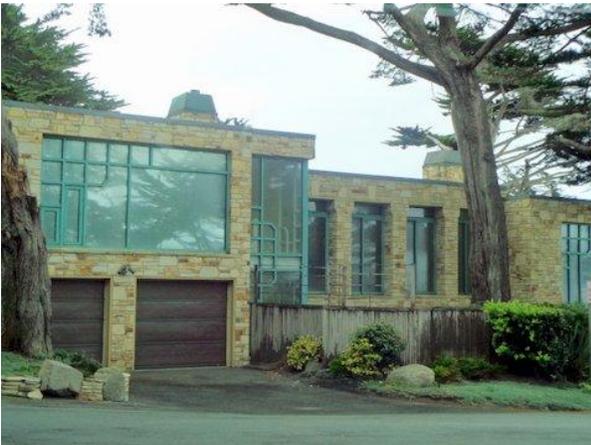


Large Old-School



This one is an old large/small model

NOW THE HIGH DOLLAR HOUSES:

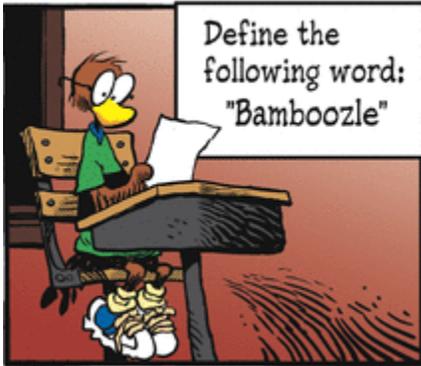
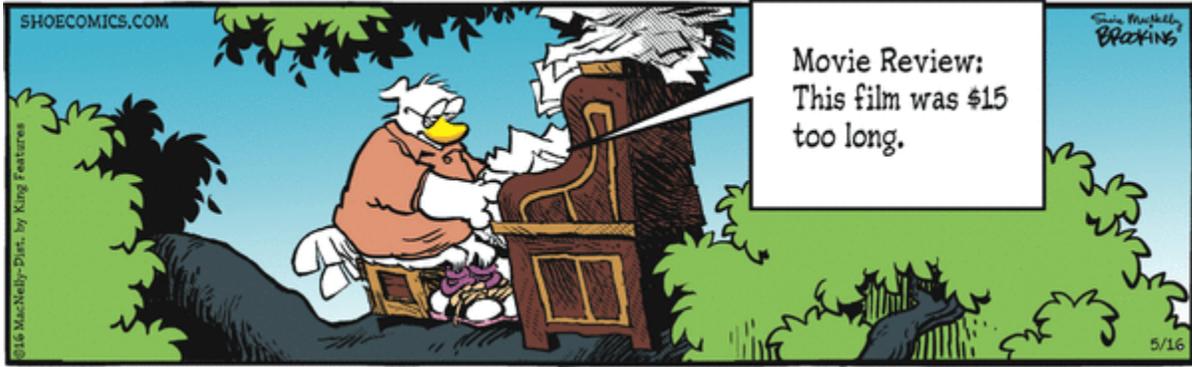




For the grossly oversized favorites with T&C nouveau riche you really need to go north to Pebble Beach or out to Carmel Valley.

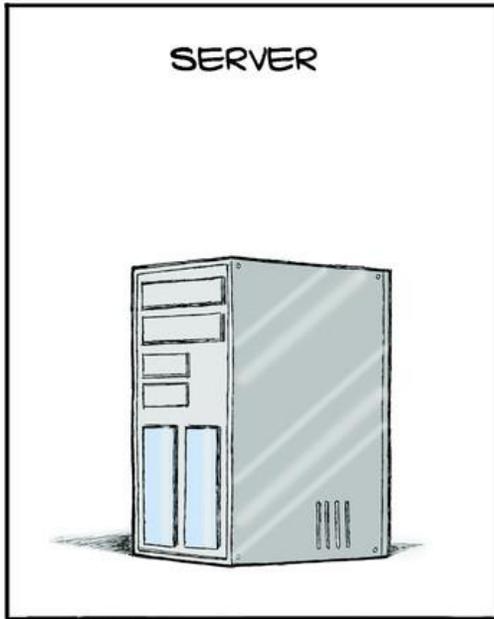
**CARTOONS:**



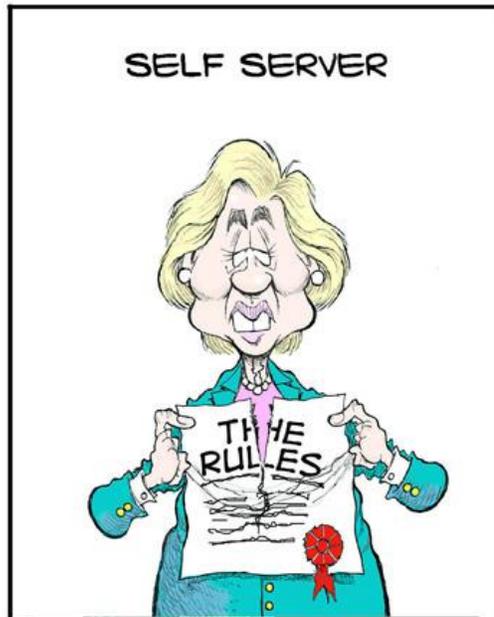




**"Nuts! Engine light fairies! The little buggers mess with things until the engine light needlessly pops on!"**

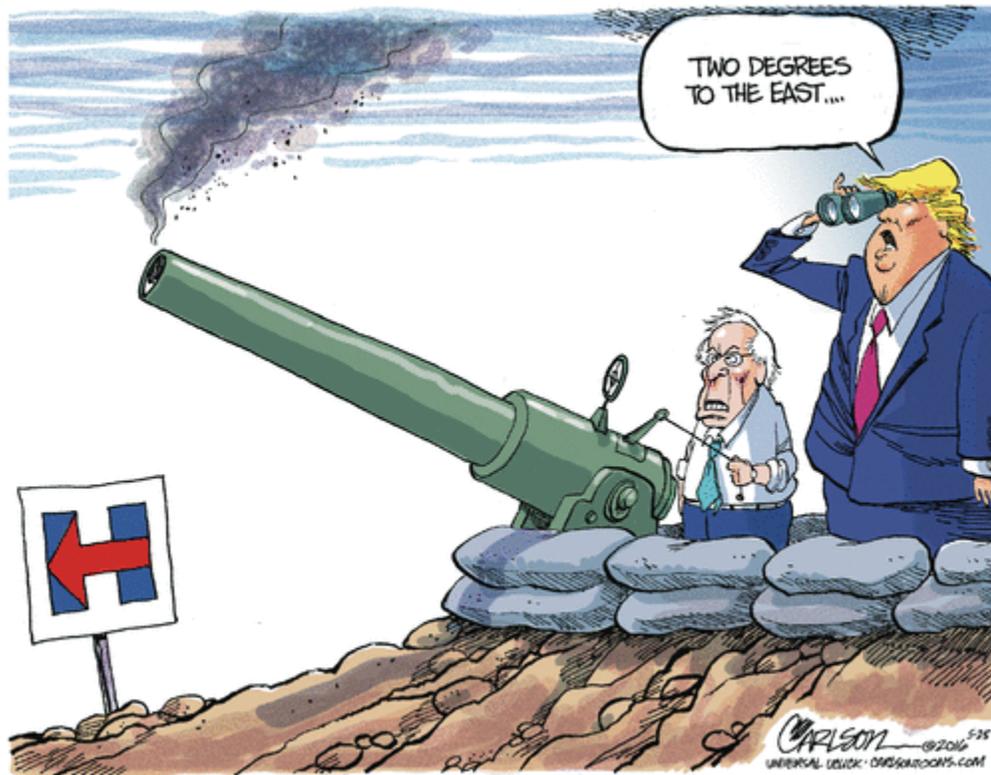


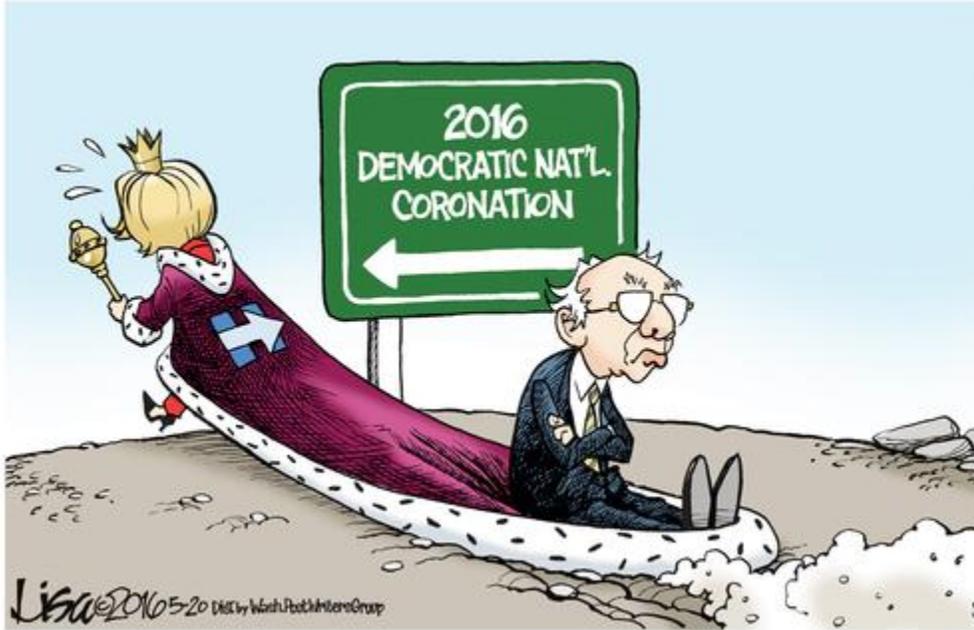
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KING DON VS. GODZILLARY

