

## EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 264 AND CHESTERFIELD 209



**February 13, 2017**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY JANUARY 2017 POLICE STATS:** For an unusual January with good weather Town and Country Police calls were down, as were arrests and citations, but criminal reports were slightly up.

Jan-17				
Stats for Chief				
CATEGORY	JAN. 2017	YTD 2017	JAN. 2016	YTD 2016
Calls for Service	1835	1835	1904	1904
Reports Written	156	156	208	208
Vehicle Crashes	67	67	85	85
Criminal Reports	24	24	20	20
DWI Arrests	8	8	18	18
Misc. Arrests	18	18	28	28
Traffic Citations	183	183	383	383
Speeding	106	106	242	242
Traffic Warnings	215	215	149	149
Total Traffic Contacts	398	398	532	532

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PARKS COMMISSION HAS AN ALMOST SECRET MEETING AND THEN CLAIMS THERE WERE NO DOCUMENTS:** Town and Country normally posts dates for upcoming meetings weeks in advance. In the case of the next Parks Commission meeting it was posted to be held on February 21, 2017 at 6pm at the Longview Farmhouse. That is it was until Friday afternoon January 27th when it was suddenly placed on the City's agenda calendar for the next business day on Monday January 30.

I had checked the website on Thursday and saw nothing posted for the last days of January or the first days of February. Unfortunately I did not check again on Friday afternoon. I'm signed up to have meeting announcements emailed to me. I never received one for this in my mailbox, spam box or on my server.

Here was the agenda for that almost secret meeting:

## AGENDA

### PARKS & TRAILS COMMISSION

Monday,

January 30, 2017

6:00 PM

Longview Farm House

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Turkey Trot, Breakfast with Santa , Arbor Day May 7, 1-3 PM

### 2. Mason Road Trail Grant Award and Timeline

I was mostly interested in the Mason Road Trail (sidewalk) grant award and the timeline. A number of newsletter readers live off of Mason Road and drive on it daily and would be interested in the timeline.

I wrote a Missouri Open Records Sunshine request to the Town and Country asking for the Mason Road Timeline. Here is the response I got:

**From:** McNamara, Ashley [mailto:McNamaraAN@town-and-country.org]

**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 9:47 AM

**To:** John Hoffmann

**Subject:** RE: Missouri Open records Request

Good morning John, I have spoken with Anne Nixon about your below Sunshine Law request. She has informed me that there are no records available as the item was handled via discussion only.

Have a great day,

Ashley

The idea that Parks Director Anne Nixon or Parks Commission Chair Lynn Wright had this timeline memorized and did not have a printout or a computer entry of the timeline is very hard to believe. But perhaps they both memorized this timeline and could quote it verbatim. However, they still had to have a printed document to memorize.



Anne Nixon



Lynn Wright

## **TWO NEW HOUSE PROPOSALS IN TOWN AND COUNTRY. LOOK FOR ANOTHER MONSTER ON CLAYTON ROAD.**

On Pine Creek an interesting single level home was torn down. The lot is multi-acre site and the developer plans to build up to three houses on lots less than 1-acre in size. This is permissible since the subdivision off of North Outer Forty Road was originally zoned to allow 1/2 acre lots before being annexed by Town and Country. Mariette Palmer accused the entire Board of Aldermen of taking bribes for allowing these homes.

Here is the lot where they hope to build two or three houses on Pine Crest:



orig house

The first set of plans for a house:



This next one submitted for the March P&Z meeting is on the corner of Clayton Road and Greenwich Green. The former ranch house faced Clayton Road and had a Clayton Road address. The developers have gotten a Greenwich Green address for this new house, which is too bad. The first six houses on Greenwich Green were designed by acclaimed and retired architect Ralph Fournier. They are all of the unique Mid-Century Modern Design. This new place is nothing close to a unique mid-century design.



Here is the proposed new big house:



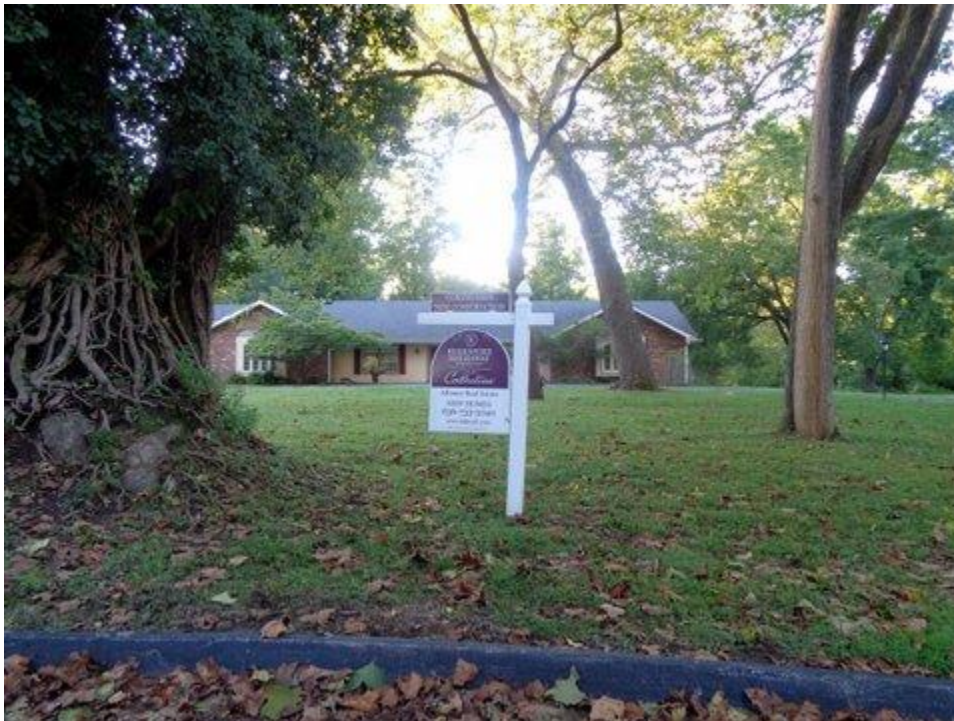


**TREE CITY? UPON FURTHER REVIEW THIS ONE MADE SENSE:** The City of Town and Country likes to brag how it has year after year the Tree City USA" label. However alderpersons, members the Planning and Zoning Commission and of the Architectural Review Board rarely ever go out and look at sites where trees are to be removed for new construction.

If you drove by 1819 Nettlecreek last week, where a mid-century ranch house has been demolished in November you would have been shocked at the size of tree that had been cut down.



However if you look at the photos prior to demo and the photo during demo, you can see what tree it was and why it needed to go.






**TOWN AND COUNTRY PROSECUTOR TURNS ANOTHER DANGEROUS SPEEDER INTO AN ILLEGAL PARKER.** This is despite a prior moving violation being reduced to Illegal Parking.

On Monday August 22, 2016 just after noon Andrew Payton Coulton, 19, of Bayview Point Lane in Wildwood, MO was driving his 2004 Audi A4 south on Highway 141 at Clayton Road in a 50 MPH speed limit zone. Town and Country Officer Hamel was south of Highway 141 and Clayton Road when he clocked Coulton at 81 MPH in the 50 MPH zone or 31 MPH over the speed limit.

Hamel stopped Coulter and issued Coulter a citation for 81 MPH in a 50 MPH zone.

On Wednesday March 9, 2016 Coulter was cited in Ellisville for Speeding 50 MH in a 35 MPH zone on Clarkson Road at Virginia. In that case Coulter on May 9, 2016 had the charge amended to Illegal Parking (A No Points Violation) and was fined \$200.



Uniform Citation				Violator's Copy	
 ORI NO. MO 0957200 TOWN AND COUNTRY POLICE STATE OF MISSOURI DIVISION OF 21st CIRCUIT COURT				<b>160250840</b>	
STATE OF MISSOURI				DIVISION	
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF <b>TOWN AND COUNTRY MUNICIPAL</b>				COUNTY <b>1</b>	
COURT ADDRESS (Street, City, Zip)					
<b>1011 MUNICIPAL CENTER DRIVE DR, TOWN AND COUNTRY, MO, 63131</b>					
COURT DATE		COURT TIME		COURT PHONE NO.	
<b>09/22/2016</b>		<b>7:00</b> <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PM		<b>(314) 432-1420</b>	
I, KNOWING THAT FALSE STATEMENTS ON THIS FORM ARE PUNISHABLE BY LAW, STATE THAT I HAVE PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT:					
ON/ABOUT (Date)		AT TIME		HWY CLASS UPON / AT OR NEAR (LOCATION)	
<b>08/22/2016</b>		<b>1205</b> HRS		<b>SB MO 141 AF RT HH</b>	
WITHIN CITY / COUNTY AND STATE AFORESAID,					
NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)					
<b>COULTER, ANDREW, PAYTON</b>					
STREET ADDRESS					
<b>4800 BAYVIEW POINT LN</b>					
CITY		STATE		ZIP CODE	
<b>WILDWOOD</b>		<b>MO</b>		<b>63040</b>	
DATE OF BIRTH		RACE		SEX	
<b>06/17/1997</b>		<b>W</b>		<b>M</b>	
DRIVER'S LIC. NO.		CDL		STATE	
<b>[REDACTED]</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		<b>MO</b>	
EMPLOYER					
ADDRESS (Street, City, State, Zip)					
DID UNLAWFULLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPERATE/DRIVE <input type="checkbox"/> PARK <input type="checkbox"/> C.M.V. <input type="checkbox"/> WITH HAZ MAT					
VEHICLE	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	STYLE	COLOR
	<b>2004</b>	<b>AUDI</b>	<b>A4</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>BLK</b>
VEHICLE	REGISTERED WEIGHT	L I C	NUMBER	STATE	YEAR
			<b>[REDACTED]</b>	<b>MO</b>	<b>2016</b>
DID THEN AND THERE COMMIT THE FOLLOWING OFFENSE. THE FACTS SUPPORTING THIS BELIEF ARE AS FOLLOWS:					
<b>EXCEEDING SPEED LIMIT 50 MPH ZONE</b>					
<b>LANE 1. PATROL LASER 7 @ 1015.3 FT.</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Subject taken into custody. (Complete "For issuance of a Warrant" section on reverse side.)					
DRIVING		POSTED SPEED LIMIT		DETECTION METHOD	
<b>81</b> MPH		<b>50</b> MPH		<input type="checkbox"/> STATIONARY RADAR <input type="checkbox"/> WATCH (AIR) <input type="checkbox"/> PACE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LASER <input type="checkbox"/> MOVING RADAR <input type="checkbox"/> WATCH (GROUND) <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	
IN VIOLATION OF: STATUTE/ORDINANCE - CHARGE CODE					
<input type="checkbox"/> RSMo. <b>320.010</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORD. <b>90002050</b>			

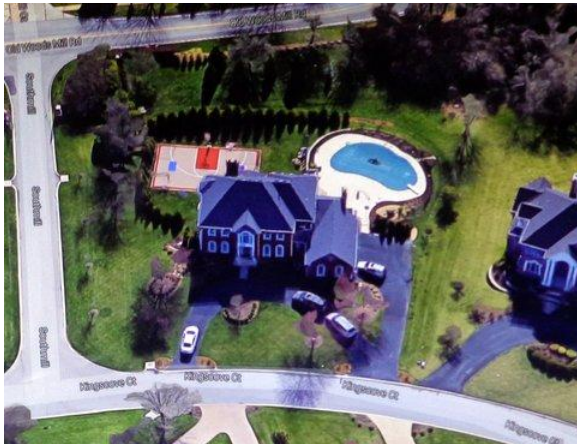
**OUTCOME:** You might think if someone who already was just cited for speeding and had that case reduced to Illegal Parking he would not get a similar deal for a more serious violation three months later.

Well, you would be very wrong. Public safety and justice are two things that are little concern to Town and Country Prosecutor Ed Sluys. For doing 31 MPH over the limit Coulter had the charge reduced to Illegal Parking and he was actually fined less than he was for doing 15 MPH over in Ellisville that was reduced to Illegal Parking. The Town and Country case saw Associate Circuit Judge Mary Ott fine Coulter just \$198.50 for his Illegal Parking at 81 MPH.



**HOCKEY RINK TENT NOT TAKEN DOWN AND IN VIOLATION:** Tom Canfield at 960 Kings Cove had a Temporary Use Permit for the tent the covered the ice rink that was placed on top of his tennis court & basketball court. The permit was for December 9 to December 31, 2016.

I looked at it during the day and night. I didn't find anything that bothered me about it, but most of the neighbors had a problem. They went to City hall and the tent and lights under the tent that allowed hockey at night were found to be a violation of the zoning code and that was when the Temporary Use Permit was issued.



Dec 16

I went back in the last week of January to see if the tent was still up in violation of the special Use Permit. It was still up.



January 31.

I next went to City Hall and contacted staff in the Planning and P-W Department. I asked if Mr. Canfield had been cited. (Director of Planning Craig Wilde is famous for NEVER having his staff issue a citation.)

I was told that no citation has been issued for violating the Special Use Permit and the case has been sent to the Town and Country prosecutor Ed Sluys.

I then asked if Sluys was going out there issue a citation for the Violation of the Permit or if he would simply cut to the final act and issue a citation for "Illegal Parking."



Sluys

I was then again told by the staff how the case was "in the hands of Sluys."

**AT LEAST FOR THE WINTER THREE BAY B-B-Q IS SIMPLY A HOT DOG STAND:**

The Phillips 66 station and car wash at Clayton Road and Woods Mill is actually owned by Phillips 66. The leasee was told to stop servicing cars and concentrate on the convenience store and gasoline sales. That left the question of what to do with the three service bays.

They have opened 3-Bay B-B-Q three days a week. But don't go expecting to buy some ribs or a brisket sandwich. Their winter menu is only Pulled Pork, Hot Dogs and Chili. They do have sides that include potato salad, baked beans, Cole Slaw and chips.



## UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 209



February 13, 2017





Congrats to Post-Dispatch reporter Stephen Deere for this front page story on the Doorack Scandal in Chesterfield. So far KTVI's Elliot Davis started the ball rolling with an April 2016 You Paid For It story after being tipped by someone inside Chesterfield government.

I followed up on that over the next seven months filing repeated Missouri Open Records Sunshine Requests, with some being honored and others being denied. We broke the story in December, after Mayor Bob Nation broke a 4-4 tie by the Council to release the information. (The four who voted against the release and to keep the information from the public were Randy Logan, Barry Flachsbart, Bridget Nations and Bruce DeGroot. If you believe in open transparent government perhaps you should never vote for any of these people again.) Stephen Deere did even more digging of details. The story was delayed at least twice, but when it appeared it certainly opened the eyes of those people who never read my website.

Here is a link to Stephen's story if you have not read it yet:

[http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/why-does-chesterfield-spend-a-year-on-a-piece-of/article\\_f55f78cf-1f7c-58ed-80be-0c7d993fd6e1.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/why-does-chesterfield-spend-a-year-on-a-piece-of/article_f55f78cf-1f7c-58ed-80be-0c7d993fd6e1.html)

### **CITY COUNCIL VOTES TO RELEASE ROB HEGGIE FROM ATTORNEY-CLIENT**

**PRIVILEGE:** This does not mean the former city attorney and now Judge Rob Heggie would have to talk to the press, but it surely would mean that he could not claim that he couldn't talk due to an Attorney-Client Privilege. Heggie clearly intentionally violated the Missouri Open Records law by not advising the city to make the vote on the Doorack land lease public as required by law and then hiding the document from the public by keeping it at his office claiming it was part of "attorney-client privilege."

**Chesterfield resident Ken Katt** spoke in the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting prior to this vote.



"I see a lot of nice things here in Chesterfield, but this is not one of them (hiding votes and land deals). If you are getting a good deal you don't try to hide it," he said.

"Anyone who voted to hide that from the public has a lot of explaining to do," he added.

Katt also congratulate Councilwoman Barb McGuinness on getting this out to the public.

There were plenty comments from the council before the vote.

**Tom DeCampi:** This does not compel Judge Heggie to speak. There was some dissent in committee, but this allowed Judge Heggie the choice to speak.

**Dan Hurt:** I agree in transparency. I agree in removing any obstacles in the way. He may choose not to, but we should not stand in his way.

**Barry Flachsbart** spoke up and said he would vote against the motion as did **Bridget Nations**.

**Bridget Nations:** I think is it dangerous.

**Barb McGuinness:** He is not a practicing attorney. He is a judge. I want to know why he wanted to keep it (the Doorack Lease) in his office.

**Mayor Bob Nation:** The residents who read the whole story could not know exactly what happened, including the why,

What happened was a disgraceful waste of public tax dollars. There is a lot more information that is mind blogging.

**Nathan Roach:** We need to do something about it. I received calls today. No one asked "why," just "what are you going to do about it."

Next before the vote Tom DeCampi suggested that Bridget Nations should recuse herself since her husband John Nations was mayor in 2009, was involved with the vote and actively involved in hiding the vote and the lease from the public.

Nations responded that she would not recuse herself as she was not involved in the vote and received nothing of any monetary gain by the original vote.

Here is how the vote went with an Aye to release Heggie from the attorney-client privilege involving the Doorack Lease and a Nay to not release him.

**Aye**

Tilman

DeCampi

Roach

McGuinness

Logan

Hurt

**Nay**

Nations

Flachsbart



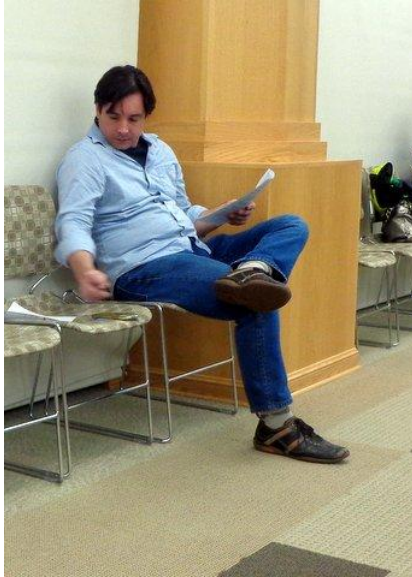
It is interesting that Logan on January 23 at the Finance and Admin Committee meeting voted for sending the release of Heggie to the full Council but said he would vote against it.

Since then the Stephen Deere front page story appeared in the Post-Dispatch. Suddenly Logan, the candidate against Bob Nation for mayor, who according to records in 2011 had no problem with Heggie and City Administrator Mike Herring, hiding the lease and voted to continue to hide the lease from the public, now wants transparency.



Logan before his vote to release former city Attorney Rob Heggie from attorney-client privilege at the February 6th Council meeting. As usual, rather than pay attention Logan is texting.

**REPORTER CALLED OUT:** It was interesting that Mayor Bob Nation during the last Council meeting pointed out that Post-Dispatch reporter Stephen Deere was in attendance, mentioning that Deere had written the front page story in the paper on the Doorack scandal that appeared the day before.



Stephan Deere



Rob Heggie

I would expect that Stephen Deere (above) will try and re-contact Judge Rob Heggie and then write about the vote. However, Heggie's father died the day before the February 6th vote, meaning it might be a while before Judge Heggie can be contacted.

**SPECIAL MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FEATURING CHESTERFIELD CITY PROSECUTOR; HELP!** This had been talked about for a while, but just placed on the city's Website the first week of February.

### **Chesterfield Municipal Court Presentation**

Did you know that the City of Chesterfield's Municipal Court handles around 14,000 cases per year?

Did you know that 145 different types of crimes are prosecuted through our Court?

Did you know that all of these cases are handled on Tuesday nights in your City Hall?

Join us on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. when prosecuting attorney Tim Engelmeyer will present an overview of the Chesterfield Municipal Court, how it operates and statistical data about our court. He will also cover policies and procedures as they relate to the handling of various municipal ordinance violations such as DWIs, Shoplifting and Assault. Mr. Engelmeyer will also answer questions about our Court and the newly-passed municipal court reform laws.

For years we have been reporting how first and second time DWI offenders leave court in Chesterfield after Engelmeyer makes plea bargains putting drunk drivers on No-Fine No-Points probation terms and reduces serious moving violations that caused the drunk to get stopped to Illegal Parking. Chesterfield's Judge Rick Brunk then accepts the plea deals.

I can't be there. I will be working my job as a PA announcer at two college basketball games. Perhaps some readers could go and ask some questions about why Engelmeyer refuses to protect the community by actually prosecuting drunk drivers and people who come to Chesterfield from out of town to steal. They get their charges (as long as they have an attorney), reduced to "Illegal Parking" and "Littering."

Here are a few cases you could use to ask questions about:

1) Juan Vargas was driving drunk, had an accident on Eatherton Road when he ran off the road and hit a fence. He had no driver's license despite holding a fulltime job in St. Louis County. His BAC was .142%. Engelmeyer reduced the DWI to Careless and Impudent Driving and dropped the No driver's License charge altogether.

2) 19-year-old Andrew Peters was really drunk and friends drove him home from a party. He refused to stay home and got into a Jeep and left his house at 1AM and a block later drove off the road in the subdivision and crashed into a tree. When police arrived he refused to open the door, forcing police to break open a window. His BAC was .21%. Engelmeyer gave him a SIS probation term, meaning No Fine and No Points, which Judge Brunk accepted.

3) Maybe the worse case review we have done. Eric Schmalkuche was still very, very drunk from the night before at 11 am on a Sunday morning. He was on EB I-64 in St. Charles when a concerned couple began calling police about Schmalkuche's driving. They also began video recording his driving. He left the highway in Chesterfield was driving on Eatherton Road with the witnesses still following trying to get the police to stop Schmalkuche. That's when he rear-ended a car in front of him at high speed causing injury to the other driver. Police arrested Schmalkuche. His BAC at 11:08 on a Sunday monrning was .303%.

Engelmeyer did not prosecutor him. Instead of doing his job as city prosecutor, he represented the woman injured and filed suited against Schmalkuche, that case is pending. The DWI case was moved to St. Louis County Circuit Court by the defense attorney. Another lawyer filled in for Engelmeyer reduced the DWI to Excessive BAC. The Careless Driving was reduced to Illegal parking. The reduction of the DWI to



Excessive BAC at the time was a 6-point violation and the C&I to Illegal parking meant Schmalkuche's license would only be suspended and not revoked.

4) On a Sunday afternoon 12/01/13 at 3:30 William Kerckhoff, 47, was driving in a Chesterfield condo complex on Woods Mill Cove when he drove off the road and hit a parked vehicle off the road in a parking space. The drunk Kerchhoff then fled the scene. He was observed by witnesses who saw him leave and called the police. Kerchoff drove to his mother's condo, where he tried to hide his large Ford SUV in his mother's underground garage. After being arrested his BAC was found to be .246% or more than 3-times over the limit.

Engelmeyer allowed Kerchoff to plea guilty to and be placed on No-Points, No-Fine No-Record probation term for DWI and Leaving the Scene of an Accident. Judge Brunk accepted the plea.

5) August 27, 2014 four officers responded to a domestic disturbance. Robert Schmitt, 38, was drunk and threatening his girlfriend. In lieu of arrest Officers offered to drive him to a local hotel. While walking outside he assaulted the officers. He was arrested and charged with Peace Disturbance and resisting Arrests. Schmitt had prior similar arrests in other parts of Missouri. Engelmeyer dismissed the Resisting Arrest and reduced the Pease Disturbance to Littering.

6) 12/11/13 Employees at the Valvoline Shop next to Wendy's called Chesterfield Police about a drunk driver hitting parking barriers and driving over them driving to get to Wendy's, Police arrived and found a very drunk David Ross, passed out behind the wheel of his running car. He was arrested and a breath test showed his BAC level was .34% or more than four times the legal limit.

Engelmeyer allowed him to receive a SIS No-Record, No-Points, No-Fine probation term on the DWI and reduced the Careless and Impudent Driving charge to Illegal Parking.

7) A young man from Wildwood had been arrested for Stealing (Shoplifting) at the Chesterfield Walmart. At the time of his arrest he was issued a "Trespassing Notice" stating if he returned to the Wal Mart store he would be arrested for Trespassing. He was placed on a No-Record, No Fine probation offered by Engelmeyer and approved by Chesterfield Judge Rick Brunk.

On 9-11-14 Tradell Buckner returned to the Wal Mart and was caught trying to steal a radar detector. The Police charged him with Stealing and Trespassing.

Engelmeyer made a deal and Buckner received a second No-Record, No-Fine probation for Stealing and had the Trespassing charge dropped to Littering.

8 & 9 Cardinal broadcaster Dan McLaughlin was so drunk driving back from a golf tournament in St. Charles that a number of motorists were calling 9-1-1. Chesterfield Police stopped him and found him very drunk, that he had urinated in his pants and he offered to bribe them. He refused to take a breath test. Between Engelmeyer and Judge Brunk McLaughlin got a No-Record, No-fine, No-Points probation for DWI and had the moving violation reduced to Illegal parking.

13 months after being placed on probation McLaughlin was drunk again and involved in an accident when he drove off the road and knocked down a sign on Clarkson Road at Baxter. He tried to flee the scene, but his vehicle was high centered on a curb. He was so drunk he could not open his door. He was charged with DWI and Careless Driving.

Judge Brunk refused to revoke his earlier probation. He had the DWI reduced to an Excessive BAC which at the time was less points. It meant instead of McLaughlin getting 16-24 points he got six points and instead of his license being revoked for a year it was only suspended for a month.

10) David Coldewe driving a dump truck saw Matthew Burbes in the 7 o'clock morning rush hour on April 20, 2015. Coldewe began chasing Burbes in rush hour traffic on I-64 in St. Charles into St. Louis County and Chesterfield.

Coldewe was upset with Burbes, because he was dating Coldewe's ex wife. Coldewe was apparently trying to injure or kill Burbes with the dump truck by ramming his vehicle. Witnesses reported that Coldewe was driving 75 MPH on the shoulder of I-64 in Chesterfield trying to catch up Burbes. He finally did. He pulled in front of Burbes and slammed on the brakes of the dump truck causing Burbes to rear end the truck.

He admitted to officers why he did it. The Chesterfield police grossly missed charged Coldewe and instead of charging him with Felony Assault or Attempted Murder, they merely charged him with Aggressive Driving and Peace Disturbance.

In court in Clayton where the case was transferred to but still prosecuted by Engelmeyer, he reduced the Aggressive Driving to Illegal Parking with a \$250 fine. The Peace Disturbance charge (trying to maim or kill Burbes) resulted in Coldewe being placed on a No-Fine, No-Permanent Record probation term. (In January of 2017 Coldewe pled guilty to two Missouri Highway Patrol moving violations reduced to "Illegal

Parking." Who accepted the plea in St. Louis County Associate Circuit Court? It was none other than former Chesterfield City Attorney Rob Heggie.)

A reader of the newsletter who knew I was preparing this list sent their own list of questions to ask Engelmeyer with what they would expect as answers.

Q—Can I expect justice to be blind in Chesterfield's Municipal Court?

A—No, there's a much better chance for that to happen in Circuit Court.

Q—Does Judge Brunk ever rule against you?

A—No, we're a team. I just need for him to show up.

Q—What laws do you enforce?

A—Certainly not written laws. We have our own interpretation of the law. That's why it's best not to even bother to defend yourself against an Ordinance violation.

Q—How do you handle exculpatory evidence?

A—Ignore it.

Q—Who is your client?

A—I will take direction from anyone involved in signing my paycheck.

**CITY F&A COMMITTEE VOTES TO SPEND \$150,000 TO IMPROVE RECORDS STORAGE, BUT THE MUNICIPAL COURT DOES NOT HAVE \$10,000 TO MEET SUPREME COURT ORDER.** At the January Chesterfield Finance and Administration meeting, councilpersons voted to send a request to the full City Council for \$150,000 from fund reserves to buy a new computer system for record storage. Currently the basement of City hall is full of paper records. (The request was passed on 2/6/17)

However at the same time all Muni Courts are under an order from the Supreme Court to make their records available to the public. Town and Country completed this about nine months ago. Ellisville has met the new standards for several years. Chesterfield has not even started on this "open records" project. I'm told they need \$10,000 or a little more to have records online, but the City Council has not appropriated the funds.

**OLD ADVISORY COMMITTEE BEING BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE:** At the F&A meeting staff brought up bringing back the F&Z Citizens Advisory Committee. The committee would have no power and has not met for years. It would be made up in

theory of people with financial expertise at help the F&A Committee that is staffed by elected officials.

That brought about this exchange:

Mayor Nation: What do you envision them doing?

Councilperson Barb McGuinness (an opponent to the Big Sports baseball dome project that the mayor favors): We could give them the Dome project to look at.

Mayor Nation: Or not!

**MORE ON DOME:** McGuinness who was on the losing side (5-3) of the city spending millions of dollars and wiping out the Parks' Fund reserve to partner up with Cardinals Manager Mike Matheny and Dan Buck on the baseball dome, at the end of the meeting brought up that there was never a public hearing on the dome.

She said before the city council votes to spend more money there should be a public hearing to allow the residents' voices to be heard.

That brought the following lecture from councilman and mayoral candidate Randy Logan, speaking against hearing from the public:

"Barb you have beaten this deal like a dead horse has ever been beaten before. You are a dog with a bone you won't give up. You lost! Get over it!"

We have a feeling that McGuinness will not be getting over this anytime soon.

We have written in the past how McGuinness has a large number of loyal constituents and it seems impudent for any candidates for mayor to take any shots at her until after the election.

**DEREK GRIER AS A CHRISTIAN SCIENCITIST IS GETTING MONEY FROM SOME INTERESTING PEOPLE.** I found it interesting that State Rep. Derek Greir, a good and active member of the Christian Science religion, a graduate of Principia High School and Principia College is taking some contributions from some very un-Christian Science sources.





Grier

Keeping in mind that the Christian Science Church does not believe in medicine, hospitals or doctors, here are some of Grier's recent contributions:

\$200 Comprehensive Health Management Tampa, FL  
\$300 Walgreens Deerfield, IL  
\$500 Supporters of Health Care and Research Clayton, MO  
\$500 Missouri Hospital Association Jefferson City, MO  
\$500 Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists St. Louis, MO  
\$400 Association of Nurse Anesthetists Jefferson City, MO

Not only do members of the Christian Science Church stay away from caffeine, they also have nothing to do with booze. Grier also makes a booze exception.

\$500 Anheuser Busch St. Louis

And then there was this one from drunk drivers' best friend. A guy as a prosecutor or judge makes sure drunk drivers get probation terms with no fines and no-points and then reduces the probable cause moving citation issued to a drunk driver to a No-Points Illegal Parking violation. Yes, Tim Engelmeyer gave Grier \$250.

**CHESTERFIELD CITY ATTORNEY MAKES A RECENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE MAN WHO WAS THE HEAD OF THE MOST CORRUPT MUNI COURT IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY AND ONE OF THE MOST CORRUPT COURTS IN MISSOURI.** The

Missouri Auditor's Office did an audit of the Pine Lawn Municipal Court. In the period of the audit covered a large amount of time was when Dean Plocher from Des Peres in West County was the judge of the troubled North County city. The audit found serious problems with Plocher's former court. It included missing money, missing records and more.



Plocher is now a State Representative for a district where the last two elected officials, including Speaker of the House John Diehl, resigned over sex scandals.

On December 5, 2016 Chris Graville, the Chesterfield City Attorney, gave Plocher a \$1,000 contribution.



**CHESTERFIELD POLICE BLOTTER:** Let's see who the first week of February was for the men and women of the Chesterfield Cop Shop. We have highlighted some unusual cases

## CHESTERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT Media Report February 1, 2017 - February 7, 2017

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

**02/07/2017, 1747 I-64 HWY E & CHESTERFIELD PKWY E   Weapons Violation Firearm**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 49 yo male in possession of illegal firearm after being stopped for DWI.

**02/07/2017, 1730   14XX TIMBERLAKE MANOR PKY   Animal Bite Dog**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Report of dog bite with minor injuries to adult victim.

**02/06/2017, 1453 2X THF BLVD Golf Galaxy   Larceny over \$750 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subjects took golf clubs and walked out of store without paying.

**02/07/2017, 1252 3XX THF BLVD Home Depot   Possession of Stolen Property Other**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 41 yo male and 39 yo female in possession of stolen property after suspicious vehicle stop.

**02/06/2017, 0138- 0139 4X THF BLVD Ulta   Burglary Commercial -Business**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subjects forced open front door of business and took perfume.

**02/06/2017, 1521 17XXX NORTH OUTER 40 RD Polo   Larceny under \$750 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 32 yo male and 30 yo female concealed clothing and left store without paying. Also in possession of narcotic paraphernalia and prohibited theft device.

**02/02/2017, 1700 23XX BAXTER RD Parkway West Middle School   Assault Common - Actual Assault**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject struck victim after argument while on school bus.

**02/04/2017, 1945 17XXX EDISON AVE Skyzone   Larceny under \$750 Person**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took victim's cell phone after it was left unattended in storage area.

02/04/2017, 2005 17XXX EDISON AVE Skyzone **Larceny under \$750 Person**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took victim's cell phone after it was left unattended in storage area.

02/04/2017, 1655-800 2XX SANTA MARIA DR Ascension Church **Larceny under \$750 from Auto**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject broke out window on victim's vehicle and took a purse.

02/04/2017, 1655-1800 2XX SANTA MARIA DR Ascension Church **Larceny under \$750 from Auto**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject broke out window on victim's vehicle and took a purse.

02/04/2017, 1211 1XX THF BLVD Walmart **Larceny under \$750 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject concealed video games and DVD's and left store without paying.

02/03/2017, 1500-02/04/2017, 1000 2XX CHESTERFIELD MALL Chesterfield Mall **Larceny under \$750 Person**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject took victim's cell phone after it was lost in mall food court.

02/04/2017, 0934 1XX THF BLVD Walmart **Larceny under \$750 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 27 yo male concealed cell phones and left store without paying.

02/03/2017, 2130 4XX THF BLVD Sushi AI **Larceny under \$750 Business**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subjects ordered food and left restaurant without paying.

01/20/2017, 0000-02/03/2017, 1042 12XX CREVE COEUR CROSSING LN F **Fraud Identity Theft**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject used victim's information to open up social security account.

02/02/2017, 1730-1755 3XX THF BLVD Gordman's **Larceny under \$750 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 29 yo female concealed clothing and left store without paying.

02/02/2017, 1827 1XX THF BLVD Walmart **Larceny under \$750 Shoplifting**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 19 yo male concealed cell phone cover and left store without paying.

02/02/2017, 2021 14XXX CLAYTON RD Phillips 66 **Assault Common - Actual Assault**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 22 yo male struck victim in the head after argument causing minor injuries. Subject also in possession of marijuana and Xanax.

02/02/2017, 1434 3XX THF BLVD Home Depot **Drugs Possession - Felony**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 36 yo male and 37 yo female in possession of heroin, narcotic paraphernalia and stolen property after being stopped for a suspicious vehicle investigation.

02/01/2017, 2013 LADUE BLUFFS CROSSING DR & LADUE RD & OLIVE BLVD **Assault Common - Actual Assault**

**Brief Narrative Description:** 50 yo female was intoxicated and drove a motor vehicle with two children unsecured in rear of vehicle. After arrest, subject had marijuana in her possession and assaulted three police officers on the scene and during booking causing no injuries.

01/05/2017, 1413-02/01/2017, 1245 18XX WESTMEADE DR **Fraud Scam**

**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subject attempted to convince victim to purchase gift cards for shopping scam.

02/01/2017, 2030 - 2055 2XX CHESTERFIELD MALL Victoria's Secret **Larceny over \$750 Shoplifting**

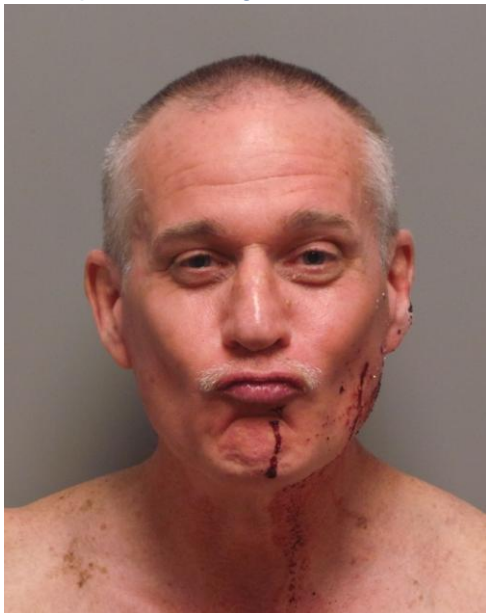
**Brief Narrative Description:** Unknown subjects grabbed clothing and ran out of store without paying.

For the second week in a row there were no shoplifting theft reports from either Sunglasses Huts in Chesterfield Mall and in the Outlets Mall.

Maybe God is sending a message that you should go to Mass on Sunday. On Saturday 02/04/17 two cars were broken into on the parking lot of the Ascension Church during Saturday 5-o'clock Mass.

Then there was the drunk driver, who left the scene of an accident, with a passenger who was shot in the arm. KMOV (Watching out for (4) Me) aired the story of this on Monday February 6, which Chesterfield Police officials say is inaccurate. Here is the statement from Chesterfield PD.

This is the same incident however some of the details in the KMOV excerpt are incorrect. I am using information from the approved police report as source. The accident occurred at Clarkson/Baxter. One of the vehicles left the scene. A witness followed that vehicle (providing description) to Clarkson/Wilson where the passenger exited the vehicle. The passenger was injured, so the witness stopped to render assistance. The suspect vehicle continued on Wilson. An officer was dispatched to Clarkson/Wilson where they contacted the passenger, who had an injury to his arm consistent with a gunshot wound. A description of the suspect vehicle was broadcast and officers spotted it a short time later eastbound on I-64. It was soon stopped just before the on-ramp from Chesterfield Parkway. The driver of the vehicle was impaired and there was a handgun in the vehicle. He was arrested there for LSA, and DWI. The police report indicates that there was shattered rear window on the vehicle, and several bullet holes in the vehicle. There is no further information documented regarding how/where the damage occurred, so I can't confirm that a shooting was involved, where it occurred or when, based on the report. Nothing related to a shooting occurred in Chesterfield.



Kevin Foster, 49, of Ballwin, was arrested for DWI and Leaving the Scene of an Accident. There was shattered glass and bullet holes in his vehicle at the time of his arrest. A passenger with a bullet wound to the arm had exited the car before the arrest.

Then there was the woman arrested for DWI with two unrestrained kids in the car, The drunk driver insisted in continuing to assault police officers on the street and in the police station. There is no mug shot of her as after she continued to assault police



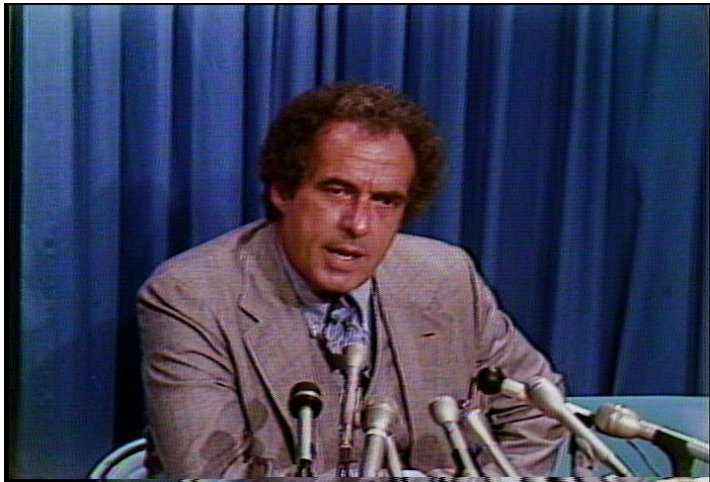
officers during the booking process, she was taken to the hospital before a mug shot could be taken. Here is the very brief additional information provided by the police:

Rogina Johnson, St Louis 63130, age 50 charged with DWI, Possession of Marijuana, 3 counts of Assault on LEO, Child Endangerment, and several traffic tickets. All charges in municipal court. There is no mugshot.

### **THE WEST MAGAZINE ARTICLE ABOUT FORMER COUNTY POLICE CHIEF GIL KLEINKNECHT FORGOT TO TELL BOTH SIDES OF THE STORY!**

In 1969 The St. Louis County Police Department hired Robert diGrazia, who at the time was police chief of the 27-officer department in Novato, California, outside of San Francisco in Marin County. (Why anyone would leave there is beyond me.)

diGrazia, a liberal reformer wasn't all that well received and was not around long leaving in three years to head the Boston Police Department. Being the first none Irish police chief in Boston, plus being a reformer looking to clear out a century of corruption and with court mandate bussing on its way, diGrazia only lasted another three years.



diGrazi announcing his resignation from the Boston PD in 1976

He then went to Montgomery County, Maryland where he lasted another three years before being fired. Montgomery County has had a very strong police union for years.

Here is are two links to a Washington Post article on diGrazi

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/01/04/bostonians-not-neutral-on-new-montgomery-police-chief/2fa9e559-8512-4aab-9c8a-5cbd93f51aee/?utm\\_term=.ce1d640d56e5](https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1977/01/04/bostonians-not-neutral-on-new-montgomery-police-chief/2fa9e559-8512-4aab-9c8a-5cbd93f51aee/?utm_term=.ce1d640d56e5)

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1978/11/30/rumors-still-surround-montgomery-chief-digrazia/0e0a8fe7-ffc8-4320-8982-6b955a332383/?utm\\_term=.73c6c3eca58e](https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1978/11/30/rumors-still-surround-montgomery-chief-digrazia/0e0a8fe7-ffc8-4320-8982-6b955a332383/?utm_term=.73c6c3eca58e)

In St. Louis County, the long haired liberal diGrazi was replaced by Gil Kleinknecht, who has a crew cut and was a spit and polish cop who was not into touchy-feely policing.



At the time St. Louis County PD had the crime lab and a helicopter unit, but was not considered to have the best cops. Places like University City, Jennings, Ferguson, Crestwood, Woodson Terrance, Berkley all had a better reputation for tough cops, than the County.

What did Kleinknecht do after being hire to make friends with the municipalities? He put the slogan "The Proud Ones" on the side of all the police cars. He managed to piss off chiefs and patrol officers by inferring "we are better than you."

I was in the combined St. Louis/St. Louis County Police Academy in 1974. We had a class of 50 recruit officers. Two months into the four month academy session the top five academic positions were held by officers from municipalities, not with the County Police. It included three officers with Rock Hill (I was number 5 and finished #7 at the end of 16 weeks. Wayne Moore then with Rock Hill and now a lieutenant with Ellisville finished first.) The top shooter in the class was from the Kirkwood PD.

This apparently pissed off Kleinknecht as after eight weeks all eight officers with St. Louis County were called to police headquarters and chewed out over the fact muni cops were scoring higher than they were on track to win all the class awards.

In 1983 Kleinknecht did something that was totally despicable. Municipalities across the County were holding annexation elections attempting to grow their city limits and latch

on to more commercial districts. This was carving out large portions of the County Police territory. One of the big issues in areas being annexed including a huge annexation in Town and County, Creve Coeur, Ballwin, Ellisville, Manchester and others (with Chesterfield to follow by incorporating in 1988) was police protection. The County Police often took hours to answer calls. (The other issue was zoning.)

Kleinknecht moved officers from busy high crime areas to the West County areas where there were annexation elections. This created a temporary and false police presence. Meanwhile the remaining officers in the higher crime and call areas were grossly overworked.

**Kleinknecht also created the "St. Louis County Police Truth Squad"** which was anything but truthful. They would go to neighborhood meetings and preach to residents why they should vote against annexations.

The truth squad suffered a fatal blow when officers in marked County Police cars were caught stealing Pro Annexation yard signs.

By 1989 it became clear that longtime Republican County Executive Gene McNary was not likely to be reelected as Democrats had more votes in union-labor areas of North and South County than the GOP had in West County.



Gene McNary

If McNary was replaced it was very likely that Kleinknecht would be gone too.

McNary left office in 1989 before the end of his term when President George H. W. Bush appointed him the Commissioner of the I.N.S. He left office on Inauguration Day of Bill Clinton. McNary brought along Kleinknecht as the Associate Commissioner of Enforcement at the Border Patrol. It was a position that Kleinknecht held for six years. He then took a job at the U.S. Marshall's Service headquarters in Washington, DC.

Here is the link to a New York Times article on the dysfunctional INS during the McNary days:

<http://www.nytimes.com/1994/09/11/us/at-immigration-disarray-and-defeat.html?pagewanted=all>

How I remember Col. Klink (Kleinknecht's derogatory nick name used by his officers and muni cops) was how he assigned officers to investigate who wrote an unflattering article in 1980 for St. Louis Magazine about a number of area police departments including St. Louis County. They found me and I was fired from the Manchester Police Department. (Which turned out to be a good thing as I had a number of new experiences working in law enforcement and journalism in Kansas City and the Washington, DC area.

While Kleinkencht originally lived in an area of unincorporated St. Louis County just outside of Creve Coeur, it was eventually annexed into the City of Creve Coeur, despite the work of the TRUTH SQUAD.

After moving back to St. Louis Kleinknecht lives in a place that he fought against while he was Police Chief. Yes, he lives in a municipality; Kirkwood. At least the Chief of Police in Kirkwood was originally a county cop, in fact he was in my academy class.

The fact that West Magazine did not make any mention of any of this while claiming Kleinknecht is a keeper of police history (but forget to tell the unsavory parts of his participation in that history) was a little disappointing.

<http://westnewsmagazine.com/2017/01/23/74738/a-part-of-history-now-a-keeper-of-it>

**MUSIC:** The last of our February Parties was held on Tuesday at the Parkside Grill on Clayton Road in Wildwood. The crowd was maybe one of the smallest we have had (which in one way was good as it lowered my food and bar bill) but the music and comedy was great thanks to some very talented entertainers/musicians. (Other reasons for the smaller crowd was after putting on parties three times in Kirkwood and once in Richmond Heights, Wildwood was pretty far out for people to come. And of course I had another year of pissing people off with this newsletter.)

The band was Chris Swann on the keyboard and key bass, Arlen Spader on the drums, Scott "Papa Doc" Collier pounding away on the stand up and Conga drums, Larry Johnson on the sax and Jim Owens on the trombone.

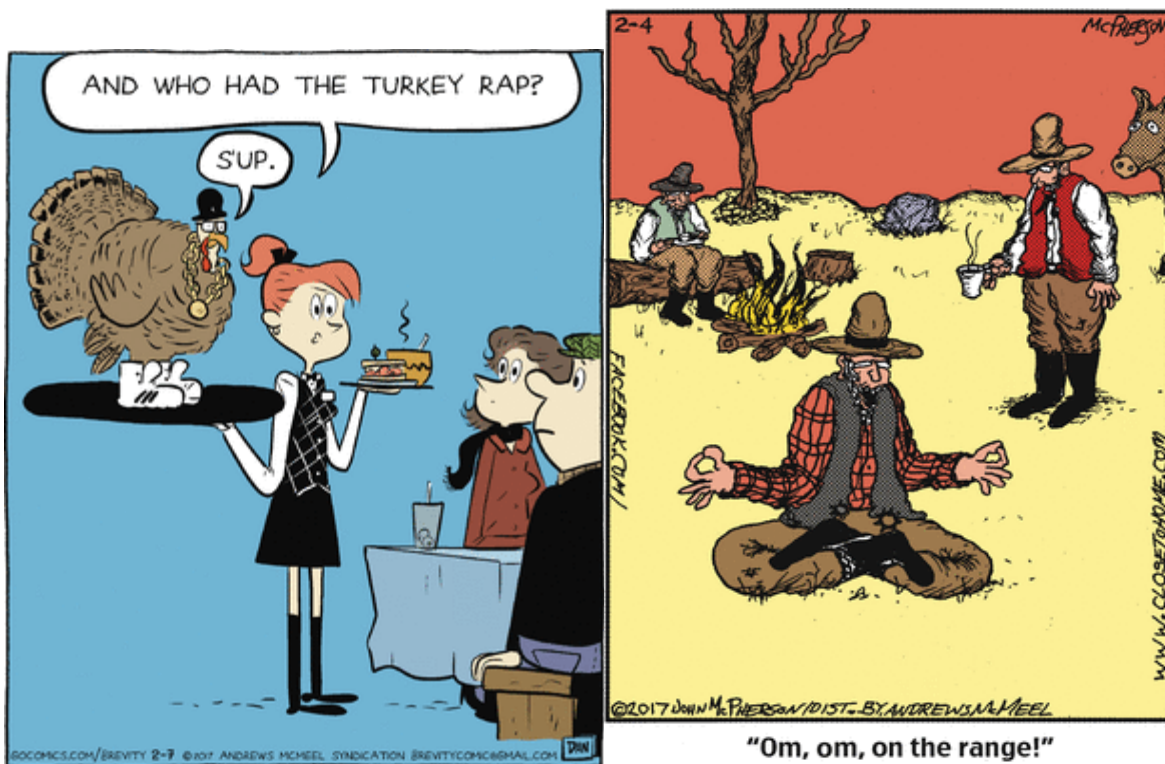
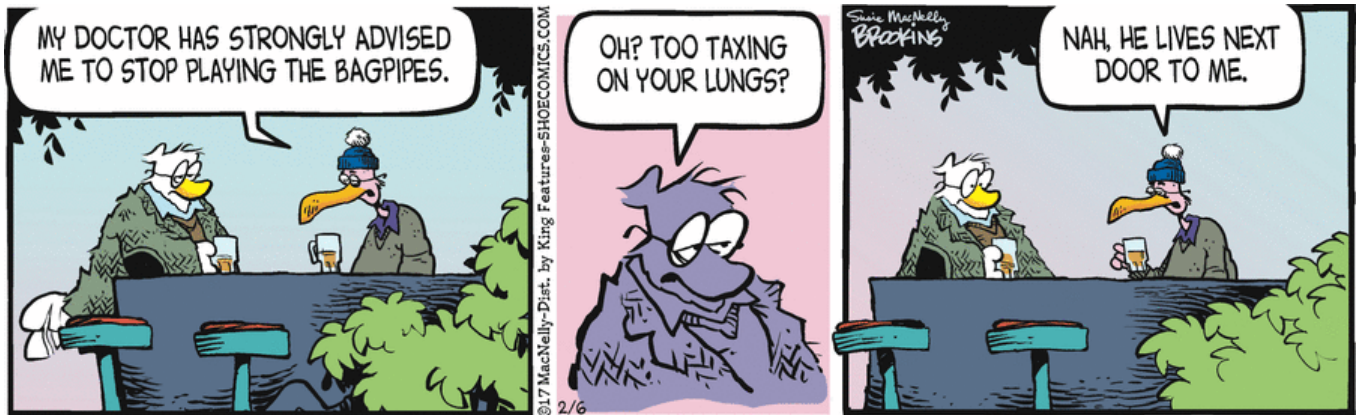


The entertainers and vocalists were Valerie Tichacek and Dean Christopher. Highlights of the night for me were Valerie singing my Theme Song, "If I Only Had a Brain" and for the first time live, the old Fred Astaire song, "Shine on Your Shoes" (When there is a Shine on your shoes there is a melody in your heart, with a singable happy feeling, what a wonderful way to start to face the world every day) and Dean performing a duet of Cole Porter's "I've Got You Under my Skin" as Daffy Duck and Porky Pig. (He picked that song because it had plenty of S's.)



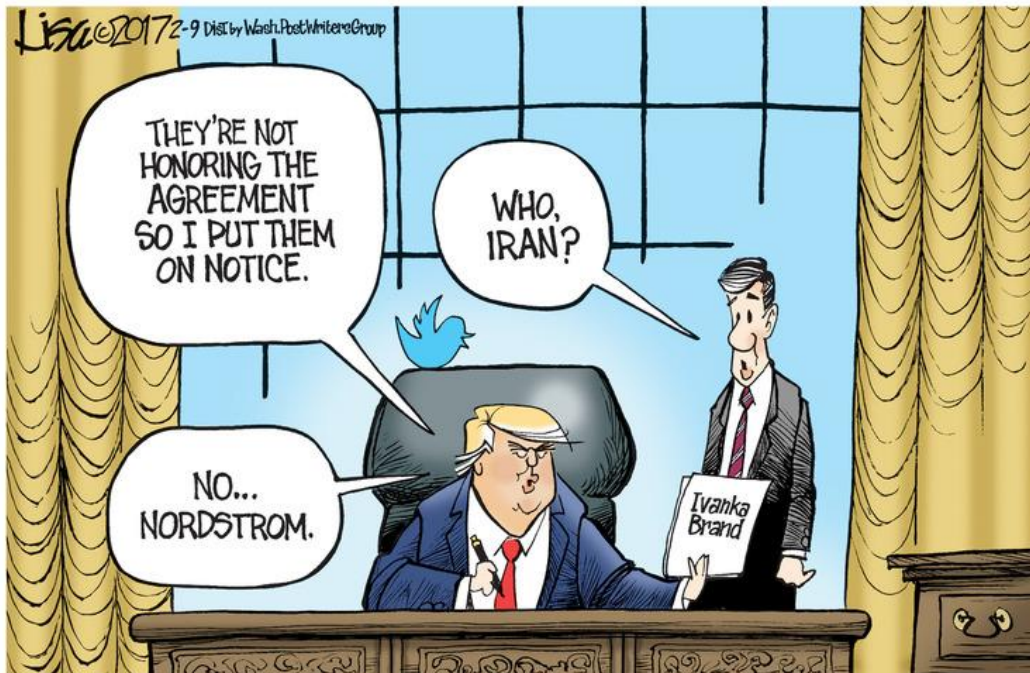
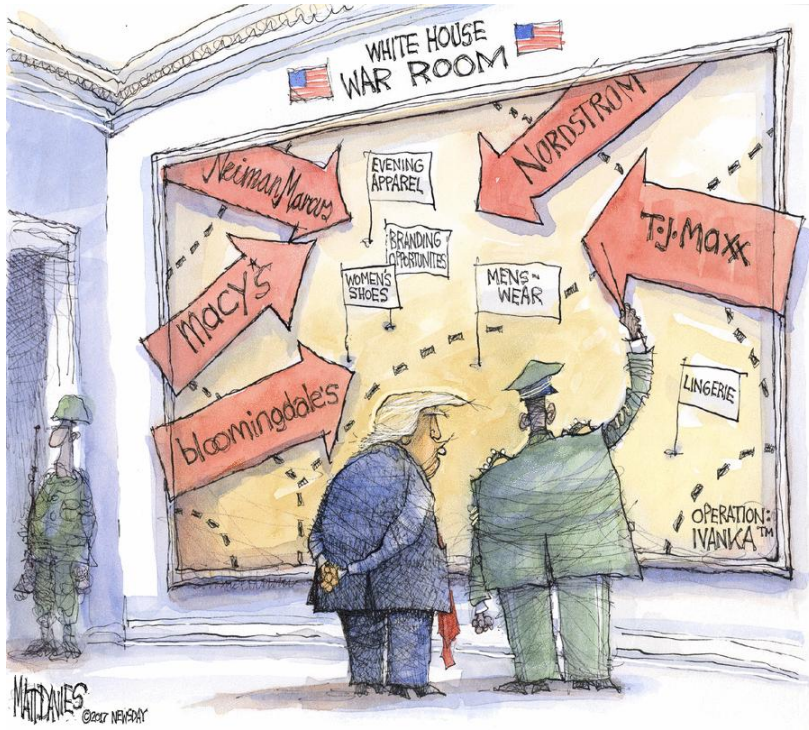
It can be creepy how Sammy Davis, Jr. returns from the dead and briefly occupies Dean Christopher's body. Sammy closed the night for us at about 9:45. Valerie with the band (right)

## CARTOONS AND MORE:

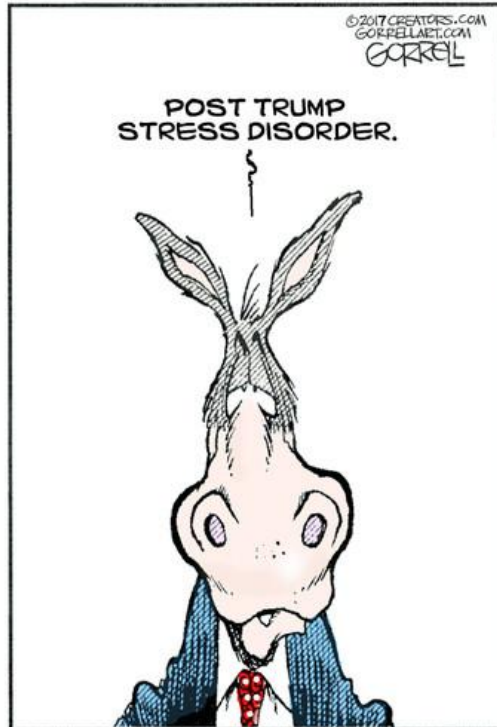
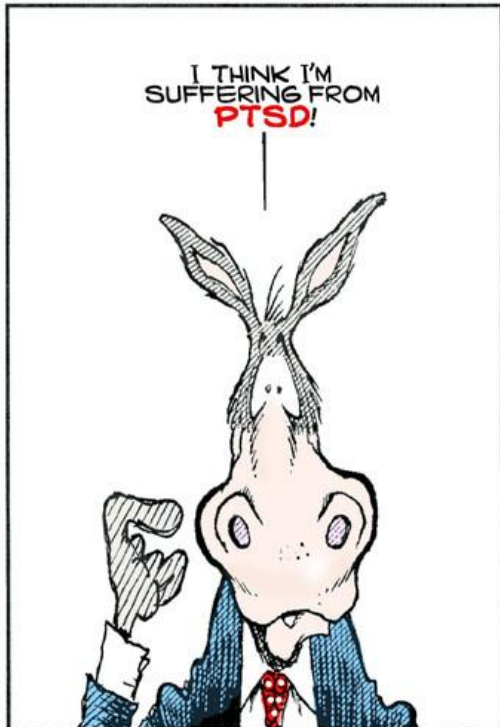












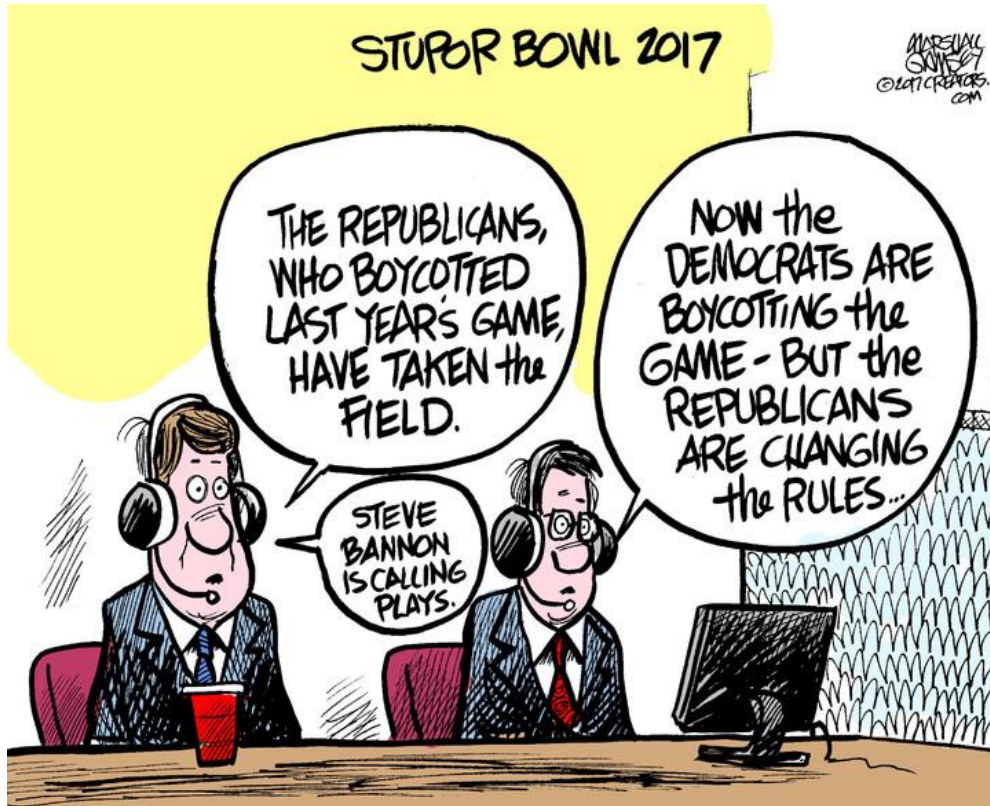
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A sign proposed for Natural Bridge Road where motorists drive through numerous small towns:



CROWDS:

