

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 164 AND CHESTERFIELD 109



By John Hoffmann

February 09, 2015

THE DOG AND PONY SHOW MIGHT NOT MAKE IT FOR THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY: The Harry Weber sculpture of a horse sniffing a dog has a price tag of \$139,000. The first phase of work there needed to be a payment of \$10,000. That was made. Through January 28, only a total of \$21,875 in donations has been received. So in other words \$129,000 is still needed and so far only \$11,875 is in the bank.



This is supposed to be next to the fire station which is in the center of the "Town Square" project that many of us believe will eventually consist of a new Jon Dalton City Hall and Community Center. I would not hold my breath for this art work to occur during the 65th anniversary of Town and Country's incorporation as a Village in 1950.

For the last three months the City's homepage on its website had been begging money with the above photo of the horse and dog superimposed on the lawn. Frankly the begging doesn't seem to be working...but it is better than the old homepage where Dalton claimed to the world how "prestigious" Town and Country is.

We hear the Dalton's next move is to ask businesses for money. Of course no one wanted to take my suggestion seriously...make the horse a Clydesdale and the dog a Dalmatian, put a beer wagon off to the side and get A-B In-Bev to pay for it.

MEET AND GREET FOR THE TOWN SQUARE TASK FORCE: Mayor needs a city history lesson. Mayor/Cigarette Lobbyist Jon Dalton began the first meeting of the Town Square Task Force and then took his name placard and got the hell out of there.

Dalton claimed the city along with the committee was at "the intersection of preparation, planning and opportunity." Dalton talked about the city's "strong reserve" but failed to mention in the last four years under Dalton that reserve has dropped by about 50-percent. He said that the reserve was important "when you want to preserve opportunities," hinting there was cash available to spend on more property or putting up buildings.



Jon Dalton spreading BS without a shovel.

"This is the last leg of opportunity. The Wirth property has been at the center of our town since the 1800s," said Dalton. Actually for the first 33 years that Town and Country existed (1950 to 1983) the Wirth property was not even in the city limits, which stopped a couple of blocks west of Topping Road. The "Center of Town and Country" for 33 years was the intersection of Clayton Road and Ballas Road.

Dalton is a Connecticut Yankee...who went to school at The University of Missouri and then failed to move back to the East Coast. He moved from Ballwin to Town and Country in 2000 and then started a tradition of being sued for not paying his bills to local businesses. His sense of local history is a little warped.

IF YOU HAVE TO ISSUE A STATEMENT DENYING THERE IS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST...THEN THERE IS PROBABLY A CONFLICT OF INTEREST. Alderman

Skip Mange began his first meeting with the Task Force formed to figure out what to do with 8.8 acres of land purchased for \$2.25-million, by handing them and then reading a statement that was a conflict of interest disclaimer. Mange stated that the Task Force might be looking at some property owned by Principia and he was an employee at Principia teaching physics through June at what time he will no longer be working for Principia. However he has worked at Principia for 23 years.



Mange reads a statement where he claims he doesn't have a conflict of interest, when he does.

"I'm currently employed Principia where I teach physics. I have worked at Principia for 23 years. I feel I can discharge my responsibilities without a conflict," proclaimed Mange.

Mange asked Task Force members if any of them had a problem with him serving of the chairman. Apparently no one on the Task Force was familiar with the golden rule of government of "If you have to deny that you have a conflict of interest, you probably do."

Mange and Dalton have appointed Alderwoman Amy Anderson to head a sub-committee of the task force that will have members from nearby neighborhoods, Straub's "overpriced" grocery and The Principia School. Anderson is not only a grad of Principia, but her kids go there. That certainly would not create a conflict like that of someone working there or receiving a pension or a 401K from Principia, but it certainly does stack the deck in favor of Principia in any discussions.

Neighborhood Representatives Subcommittee

Chairman Alderman Amy Anderson
Rutherford Lane
Mason Oaks
Mason Woods Village
Good Shepherd Church
Kings Glen
Weston Place
Williamsburg
Wheatfield
Principia
Love Management
Straubs

PEOPLE WHO DON'T GET IT: Two statements followed by others during the night showed that Mange and Anderson live in a somewhat unrealistic and sheltered world.

"We want to be sure what is done with this property is positive," said Anderson, which properly eliminates selling the front 1.8 acres of commercial property to a gentlemen's nightclub.

"What we would really like to get is what the city can do to make it (the property) for all residents. There is talk of this becoming a gathering place," said Mange.

I repeat this ever so often but it remains true. Town and Country will never be like Webster Groves or Kirkwood even though a number of people who once lived in those cities would like it to. Webster and Kirkwood have a central school district that much of the community revolves around. Town and Country does not. Town and Country is served by four different public high schools from three different school districts. It has four major private high schools, plus many residents send their kids to private high schools in Creve Coeur, Frontenac and Ladue. All this plus the majority of homes being on 1-acre lots, along with a number of residents belonging to private country clubs leaves Town and Country a fractured community.

While Skip and Amy might feel a close community mix among all the Christian Science Church members and people associated with Principia, in reality Town and Country will never be a close knot community with a need for a gathering place.

Also Town Squares in the U.S. and Europe are places where people walk to or drive to to shop and eat. That is not going to be happening in T&C.

Head and Eyes in the Sand: The condition of Preservation Park is deplorable. Over the years the city has not done much to maintain Drace Park. Although this year the city is removing invasive honeysuckle, but it is going on a year since the park's restroom roof was damaged in a February 2014 wind storm and nothing has been done to repair it.

Our parks director's strong suit is not land management and here there is talk in expanding park area that has to be managed.

CURRENT EVENTS: Skip Mange mentioned that in 1999 Straub's was interested in buying the Wirth property and building a new grocery store. He mentioned Staub's (several times) of maybe having an interest in buying the commercially zoned part of the property. This caused me to make my first interruption of the night and ask if Skip had not been reading the St. Louis Business Journal or the Post-Dispatch and how Straub's almost went bankrupt after building the 55,000 square foot store in Ellisville that they had to close in less than a year when they discovered people in Ellisville and Ballwin would not shop at a grossly overpriced "gourmet" grocery store. I said I doubted if Straub's was ready to buy land and finance a building right now.

Also at this meeting, Amy Anderson, who likes to claim to have been born and raised in Town and Country said she has not been to the Straub's in Clayton but hopes to. She added, "I hear there is a Straub's in Webster Groves, too."

I had to mention that Straub's was founded in Webster Groves. I missed the date. I said in 1898...it was 1901. While Straub's has been in a modern building in Webster since the 1960s, the original location on Lockwood is still intact and is occupied by a printing company. Of course there has been another Straub's on Kingshighway at Maryland Plaza since 1948 and the headquarters is now in Clayton where the Clayton store has been operating since 1933.



Kingshighway and Maryland Plaza



Webster Groves



from 1948 Clayton Straub's

LAKE PROPERTY: The task force is suppose to come up with the ideas, but Mange already is pitching his own, suggesting a "lake" at the rear of the Wirth property as a retention pond to keep storm water from flowing into the yards on Kings Glen.

DEMOGRAPHICS: One task force member asked Mange if he had the demographics of Town and Country. Apparently the former mayor, former county councilman and alderman, Skip Mange had no idea what demographics are. Skip put on a power point slide that showed how many service stations, restaurants and churches there are in Town and Country.

Mange asked if that answered his questions. The member said, "Not exactly. I was looking for something different.

Here are a couple of definitions of "demographics that have apparently escaped 75-year-old Mange.

dem·o·graph·ics

demə'grafiks/
noun

1. statistical data relating to the population and particular groups within it.

Noun 1. demographic - a statistic characterizing human populations (or segments of human populations broken down by age or sex or income etc.)

statistics - a branch of applied mathematics concerned with the collection and interpretation of quantitative data and the use of probability theory to estimate population parameters

This caused me to speak up and tell the member to google "Town and Country MO City Data" and he would get all the demographic information he was hoping for. The member was writing my web instructions down as Mange looked at me and claimed that would give him only 2000 census information. I corrected him and told him it would give 2010 census information and some 2012 information, adding that it was the most up to date source and included race, education, median household income, age and other info far more important than how many service stations and churches there are in town.

<http://www.city-data.com/city/Town-and-Country-Missouri.html>

THE MAN DALTON FORGOT TO APPOINT: There seemed to be one Town and Country resident missing from the Town Square Task Force. A person who can try and convince people they need something, when in fact they don't. Yes that would be David

Peacock of 42 Ballas Court, who is currently trying to convince St. Louisians that there is an urgent need to build a \$900,000,000 football stadium on the riverfront for 10 football games and a few soccer games a year. Of course there is nothing wrong with the current football stadium...it is just too old...17 years old...time to abandoned it. Also Peacock is trying convince people there is a need for a new football stadium despite the fact that there is no guarantee there would even be a football team in town when it was completed. (Our suggestion is if Peacock gets his \$900m stadium, they should let Larry Rice move into the Edward Jones Dome.)



Dave Peacock

If he can sell people the football scheme he would be perfect to try and sell people on spending money to create something on the Wirth property. Plus I think Peacock knows the definition of demographics.

BIG TURNOUT FROM CITIZENS (JUST KIDDING!): At the first own Square Task Meeting there were a total of nine people in the audience. All three aldermanic candidates were present, plus two former aldermen, me and Eric al Gerber, plus Al's wife, a newspaper reporter plus two others.

Unfortunately the Task Force could not decide when the next meeting would be held. If they can't decide when the meeting is, the rest of their work could be problematic.

SMOKESCREEN: A number of people who follow Town and Country politics suggest wearing a gasmask at Town Square Task Force meetings, claiming it is one big smoke screen to buy land from Principia and at some point build a new city building.

A back story has popped up that the Christian Science Church and Principia are having cash flow issues, as fewer and fewer people are coming to a religion that doesn't believe in polio and measles vaccines or doctors. In other words some are saying the Christian Science Church is headed the way of the Shakers, who believed in medicine, they just didn't believe in sex. Of course that said, the Catholic Church has also seen a drop off in attendance and closing of parish schools. They believe in both medicine and sex. But the point is Principia is looking for some revenue.



Shakers...no grand kids, but plenty of nice furniture.

THE DALTON TWO-STEP STRIKES AGAIN: You might think that an elected official would or at least should say who he represents or works for away from city hall so the public can be sure there is not conflict of interest. You might think so, but Mayor/Cigarette Lobbyist Jon Dalton doesn't.



In an article from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch concerning a request with the State of Missouri to license a small urgent care hospital in North St. Louis by Northside Health Center, LLC is all about Dalton. The phone number for the the Northside Health Center, Inc is answered by Jon Dalton, Town and Country mayor and flim-flam man who was behind the failed Icehouse Nightclub district that snatched the property and business from widow Opal Henderson under "eminent domain" where Dalton's then law firm helped the City of St. Louis in forcing Henderson to give up her property. Dalton and others were sued and lost. They were forced to pay Henderson over \$800,000 that they cheated her on the deal. He is now the front man for the Northside Health Center.



According to Post-Dispatch business reporter Samantha Liss, Dalton is at it again. He claims to be representing Northside Health Center, Inc. which is not listed with the Missouri Secretary of State. There are three "Northside Health" listings with the SOS office.

The one in St. Louis went out of business in 1975. There is also a defunct LLC from Kansas City. The only active one is Northside Health Clinic, LLC out of Springfield, MO.



Here is part of Liss's story:

Northside Health Center Inc. is listed as the project's owner and operator, according to letter obtained by the Post-Dispatch. The corporation, however, is not listed on the [Missouri's secretary of state's website](#).

Calls to the listed phone number for Northside Health Center were answered by Jonathan Dalton, a lawyer with Armstrong Teasdale, who also is listed as the attorney for the project.

Dalton said the project is "a collaboration of a lot of interests, and it's about all I can tell you."

Dalton did say BJC HealthCare, the area's largest employer, is not currently involved in the collaboration. BJC HealthCare owns Christian Hospital, in an unincorporated area of St. Louis County, about eight miles north of the proposed project.

The address for the proposed 10-bed hospital, which would be named Northside Medical Center, is 4411 North Newstead Avenue. That is the same address as a [social services building](#), Prince Hall, owned by the state of Missouri, [records with the city show](#).

Rebecca Woelfel, spokeswoman for Missouri's Department of Social Services, said her agency is not involved with the project.

http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/bed-hospital-proposed-for-north-st-louis/article_24da5086-4973-5e1d-91d4-b56104328a60.html

There is also an article in the St. Louis Business Journal that was more of a puff piece that simply quoted Dalton with the "reporter" doing no follow up,

When Dalton said that BJC is "not currently involved" it raised a red flag for me. Even if Dalton is currently talking to BJC, he has a conflict because he as mayor is supposed to be having his city staff oversee the construction of the BJC pediatric surgery center making sure it meets the requirements set out by the Board of Alderman. He is also supposed to be sure his city staff is overseeing another BJC hospital, Missouri Baptist Medical Center and that is not in violation of any city zoning codes.

It is also ironic that Dalton is now shilling or investing into a Healthcare facility after spending over 10 years lobbying in Jefferson City for over 28 brands of cigarettes, cigars and chewing tobacco.

UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 109



February 11, 2015

MORE BS AT PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING WITH THE JUDGE AND PROSECUTOR DOING ALL THE SHOVELING:

The agenda for the Chesterfield Public Safety Committee had city prosecutor Tim "No Points" Engelmeyer and the Judge Whisperer Rick (Let'm Loose) Brunk making an appearance. Here is what was on the agenda for the January 29th meeting:

II. Municipal Court Presentation

The Municipal Judge and Prosecuting Attorney will provide an overview of the Court's operations and functions.

What really transpired was a one-sided presentation claiming what a tremendous job they do, when in fact they are the most dangerous men in Chesterfield, who both have a clear conflict of interest of being defense attorneys by day and judges and prosecutors at night.

In a power point presentation Engelmeyer was fast and loose with facts and only occasionally truthful without telling what all the results were. Here are some examples of half truths and other highly spun comments:



The "Judge Whisperer" Rick Brunk



The Non-Prosecuting Prosecutor Tim Engelmeyer.

1. Under DWI prosecution, Engelmeyer's power point showed **first time defendants got a SIS (suspended imposition of sentence)**. Engelmeyer inferred that everyone gets this deal, almost as if it is a rule. He didn't mention that to get a SIS which means there will be no record of the offense at the end of a 2-year probation term, you had better show up to court with a lawyer.

Of course Engelmeyer and Brunk don't have to hand out all the SIS probations to first time Drunk Drivers. Do the ones who have had accidents, refused to take breath tests, fought the cops, were falling down drunk, driving 100 mph deserve special treatment with no public record? I don't think so. You should earn special treatment.

2. Engelmeyer lied and said "Sure I reduce charges to trespassing and littering," He never mentioned those \$300 and \$500 phantom "No Parking" violations he reduces drunk drivers' companion charge or probable cause charge to, so the drunk driver with a lawyer can leave the courtroom with no points on their license and no increase in insurance rates.

3. An outright lie..."A DWI, Leaving the Scene of an Accident, Driving White Suspended, they all lose their license," Engelmeyer announced. That would only be true if they were actually convicted without a SIS probation term. That almost never ever happens with Engelmeyer and Brunk. Remember these guys are defense attorneys too and defend drunk drivers in other courts, so they have to give great deals to get great

deals. This is a conflict of interest that does not seem to bother Mayor Nation or any of the City Council.

4. BIG SURPRISE COMING: "Issues in the news don't even apply to Chesterfield," said The Judge Whispher, Rick Brunk and the start of the show. I have written about Justice "Brunk Style" since 2011 when I was a columnist for Patch.com. Brunk's sentencing of Cardinal broadcaster DWI defendant Dan McLaughlin to a "no-record" SIS with all other charges reduced to "no-points" parking violations. This after McLaughlin was so drunk he peed in his pants and offered to bribe the officer to let him go. Should people offering to bribe officers get special Probation deals? The Riverfront Times then used the police report I obtained and wrote about the arrest and sentence.

Then 11 months after sentencing McLaughlin to a "no-record" probation, McLaughlin was arrested again for DWI this time involving an accident. Brunk refused to revoke McLaughlin's probation for his first DWI and Engelmeyer reduced the second charge to DUI so McLaughlin's license would only be suspended for a month instead of revoked for a year.

Then there are the every six month article I write about Engelmeyer and Brunk giving SIS probation terms to second time Drunk Drivers or defending drunk drivers arrested in Chesterfield by Town and Country and St. Louis County Police.

So who was sitting next to me at the Brunk and Engelmeyer Show? It was an investigative reporter with the Post-Dispatch. I have a feeling Chesterfield will soon be an issue we see in the news.

5. ENGELMEYER APPARENTLY INCOMPETENT: Engelmeyer stated he is being forced to reduce DWI charges because of a court ruling that does not allow some breath tests results into evidence. I made 375 DWI arrests and maybe two or three depended on a breath test results. It was a general rule...you should always be able to make a DWI case without a breath test. Field sobriety tests, observations, smells, liquor in the car, statements of the driver, the way the driver was operating the car. All this put together should be enough to convict someone of drunk driving without a breath test.

I'd guess that over 50-percent of those people arrested for Drunk Driving refuse to take a breath test anyway. Is Engelmeyer claiming he can't prosecute them? Apparently so! That fact is that Tim Engelmeyer is a terrible prosecutor.

6. ENGLEMEYER BLAMES DEPARTMENT STORES FOR FORCING HIM TO REDUCE SHOPLIFTING CHARGES. Engelmeyer claimed that department stores were at fault for him having to reduce shoplifting theft charges to "littering" because often the witnesses no longer work at the store. He also mentioned how college students often are the witness. Knowing this Engelmeyer and Brunk could do something to help the situation, but they refuse to. Of course this would not be a problem if Engelmeyer was ready for trial and if Brunk refused to allow continuances of shoplifting cases.

Frankly it is was clear to anyone with an internal Bull Shit meter that Engelmeyer was using the alleged "transient" nature of department store employees to cover up the fact that he is making these charge reductions for his buddy defense attorneys, so they can get their clients off and charge a high fee.

7. JUDGE WHISPER INVITES COUNCIL TO SIT NEXT TO HIM AND OBSERVE WHAT GOES ON: We wrote the classic news column for AOL's Patch.com called "The Judge Whisperer" about Brunk after attending his court. You have no idea what is is going on in the courtroom because Brunk calls everyone up to the bench and they whisper back and forth. When Engelmeyer plays judge in Creve Coeur he does exactly the same thing. They make it impossible for anyone to sit in the courtroom and know what is going on.

When I was a police officer in the 1970s there were a number of retired people who would go to the Courthouse in Clayton and sit in various courtrooms and listen to pleas, sentencing hearings and trials for entertainment. (All this was long before the days of cable-TV and the internet!) I did the same thing as a kid in the summer time. If my friends were out of town and I didn't have enough money for a movie or a Red Bird Express fare and a bleacher ticket at the ballpark, I'd attend a session of the Webster Groves Municipal Court. That would be impossible to do in Chesterfield or Creve Coeur of course because even if you sit in the first row you have no idea of what is going on.

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

<http://patch.com/missouri/crevecoeur/night-court-in-creve-coeur-is-a-big-secret>

On this night Brunk kept urging councilpersons to come to court and "sit right next to him" and hear what he and Engelmeyer do.

"I urge you to come to court and sit right next to me. I often have a person from MADD sit right next to me and hear every word," said Brunk.

Here is the deal...the public or elected officials should not have to sit next to the judge in an open court to know what it going on! Courts are supposed to be open to the public and a place where the public and see and HEAR what is happening. That is not the case in courts where Brunk and Engelmeyer work.

8. THE SADDEST PART OF THE NIGHT: It was pathetic that none of the elected officials asked any tough questions. Here would be a few they should have asked:

To Brunk:

1. Why do we have to sit next to you to know what is going on in your court? Why can't we sit in the courtroom and know what is going on?
2. If "issues in the news don't apply to Chesterfield" why is there a Post-Dispatch investigative reporter sitting 25 feet from you?
3. Why would you place a drunk driver on probation and then refuse to revoke the probation 11 months later when he is in a drunk driving related accident?
4. You are not required to give "no-record" SIS probations to all first time drunk drivers. Why would you do it if they were in an accident, if they were extremely intoxicated or refused to take a breath test?
5. Why do drunk drivers get a "no-record" probation and then have the other moving violations reduced to "no parking violations" and leave your court with no points on their driving records? Is that fair to others who simply mail in their speeding ticket payments and get points?

To Engelmeyer:

1. Why do you reduce moving violations associated with Drunk Driving cases to Illegal Parking so the defendant despite being a drunk driver has an unblemished public driving record?
2. Why do you have to reduce the charge or offer a deal in cases where case law won't allow a breath test to be admitted? Don't the drivers in over half the DWI cases refuse to take a test? Are you saying you don't have the ability to prosecute them?
3. Why should you give a first time DWI defendant a SIS if they are extremely intoxicated, had an accident, lied to the police, attempted to flee or fought the police?
4. If department stores and retail outlets have transient employees/witnesses, why don't you not vigorously fight continuances that would delay the case, especially if a college student is the witness?

5. Why did you tell us that people charged with DWI and Leaving the Scene of an Accident lose their license, when in fact most get a SIS probation term that has no effect on their license as it does not count as a conviction?

MAYOR GIVE PROCLAMATION TO GIRL WITH NO LAST NAME: There is Lulu (To Sir with Love), Cher and of course Madonna. Now there is apparently Ayla too! She apparently at age 11 is another female going by just one name.

On Monday February 2 a Skype connection was set up so Mayor Bob Nation could read his proclamation declaring February 2 Ayla Day along with Groundhog Day. Ayla is an 11-year-old who is competing in the Master Chef Junior competition on the Fox TV Show Master Chef. The 11-year-old does not go by a last name.

I asked for her last name and was told by a city staffer that she did not want to use it as she is simply known as Ayla on the TV show. That's interesting FOX TV is apparently dictating to Chesterfield how to give out proclamations. The show was taped in the fall of 2014 and the winners have not been announced yet, but on the Tuesday February 6 episode Ayla advanced to the next round and is one of the six finalists.



Mom, Faronda Davis



Ayla

Not only don't we know her name, we don't know what city she lives in or where she goes to school. It was mentioned in the ceremony that her mother owns the Honey Kids Kitchen in Chesterfield Mall where cooking lessons are given to children.

From that bit of information I was able to find that Faronda Davis owns the Honey Kids Kitchen and she has a daughter Ayla Davis. Ayla's father is Steve Davis. Forondra Davis lives on Sarah lane in Creve Coeur. Actually some publicity from Fox claims Ayla's last name is Smithers. However, we now hear that possibly the family has moved to California.



Mayor Nation read the proclamation and Ayla Davis thanked him and seemed happy and surprised over having a day named after her in a town where she didn't even live.

Her cousin, Nathan Sewell, accepted the award for her and said, "Ayla is one of the best cousins you could ask for."

In fairness to Mayor Nation proclaiming a day to a person without knowing their full name, falls to a staffer. This was orchestrated by Libby Malberg-Tucker, the city's director of Community Services. One of Libby's many jobs is to promote local businesses and people connected to them.



Libby Malberg-Tucker

Of course my favorite proclamation given by Bob Nation to a kid was to Chesterfield resident Ruimin Wu who had won a Google Doodle contest. This seemed like one unbelievably happy kid as Nation proclaimed a day in her first and last name.



2014 CHESTERFIELD CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FOUND IN VIOLATION OF MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION REGULATIONS AND IS FINED \$100. Normally if a person running for office is not following the Missouri Ethics Commission campaign laws and rules no one bothers filing a complaint if the violator loses. That was not the case in 2014 in the Chesterfield City Council race.



Andy Kazen

Andy Kazen was running against incumbent Mike Casey in Ward 3. We had fun with Kazen because he is all over the Internet as a professional gambler, having won several poker tournaments. Every time I ran Kazen's photo I'd also run one of James Garner as Bret Maverick. It turned out Kazen only voted once in 14 prior municipal elections.



Bret Maverick dealing cards



Mike Casey reflective

On April 8, 2014 Casey creamed Kazen by taking 74-percent of the vote. Ten days later a complaint was filed with the Missouri Ethics Commission that Kazen paid for and sent out campaign mailers without indicating on the mailer who paid for it.

On August 20, 2014 Kazen signed a joint consent decree and on September 2 he was fined \$100. You have to wonder who filed the complaint. I know who I'd put my money on.

<http://mec.mo.gov/Scanned/CasedocsPDF/21620.pdf>

FOLLOW THE MONEY: 2014 Lobbyist totals: Here are the total amounts of money local elected state office holders receive from lobbyists in 2014:

Official	Amount to Official	Amount to Official's Staff or Family	Total
Rep. John Diehl	\$3,023	\$2,722	\$5,745
Rep. Sue Allen	\$2,842	\$278	\$3,120
Rep. Don Gosen	\$911	0	\$911
Rep. Jill Schupp	0	0	0
Sen, John Lamping	0	0	0

2015 Speaker of the House John Diehl might look like he is leading the way for ethics reform by cancelling all legislative hearings scheduled to be held at the Jefferson City Country Club with house members' high dollar meals being paid for by lobbyists, but his record does not indicate it. The \$5,745 in lobbyist gifts for himself, staff and family in 2014 was the most raked in of any state representative.



SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME: Cops being nice is almost unheard of, but in reality there have been some cops over the decades who have done nice things. Myself when I was in uniform and worked the street and thousands of other cops, would often reach into our pockets, pull out some money to end calls where merchants and gas station clerks reported someone would not pay or help someone who needed cab fare. I would always hand the person my business card and ask them to send the money when they had a chance. I'd say I got about a 50% return often with a little more money than I had "loaned."

My most memorable one where I helped someone, but didn't get the loan back, involved an elderly man from outside of Newark, NJ, who had onset dementia issues. He got the car keys out of his wife's purse and decided to drive to the store. Five hours later he was involved in a traffic accident on Connecticut Avenue in Chevy Chase, Maryland a couple of blocks from the border with Washington, DC. I had to tow his car, but I didn't know what to do with him as family was five to six hours away. I could not put him inside the County Police precinct because he was not under arrest. Nor could I leave him in the lobby of the police station because he could wander off.

I took him to the Ramada Inn Hotel in downtown Bethesda, Maryland. The manager cut me a deal on a room for \$60 down from \$120 and threw in a room service meal. Plus the front desk staff promised to keep an eye out in the event he tried to leave.

Once his wife showed up six hours later, she did not offer to pay me back for the hotel bill and was pissed that the damaged car had been towed.

So a letter in the January 30 edition of the Webster-Kirkwood Times got my attention of a couple of police officers who went over, above and beyond the call of duty, plus apparently opened their wallets.

Police Officers Appreciated

Sorry I am late in getting this to you due to the Christmas rush, visitors, etc., but I would like for you to publicize this Christmas story.

There has been so much bad publicity about law enforcement officers that I feel they need all of the accolades they can receive.

Shrewsbury would be very proud and I'm sure they are of their police department.

Christmas eve, it was 10 minutes past 4 p.m. when I was at the flower shop. I was looking at

wreaths in front of the store when a Shrewsbury officer drove up and asked if he could help. I told him I was going to buy a wreath for my husband's grave at Jefferson Barracks to take on Christmas, but was too late.

He asked me all sorts of questions – what branch of the military was my husband in, was he in Korea, where I lived. He (Sgt. Tommy Flotz) replied that he was also a veteran.

He said he would see what he could do, so I went home.

Low and behold! Sgt. Tommy Flotz and his superior, Lt. Lisa Vargas, who was off duty, appeared at my door an hour later with a beautiful spread for my husband's grave and two poinsettias and white daisies for me.

They apparently had asked the owner to open the shop for them – and they wouldn't even let me pay them for the flowers.

So to the people who are looting, breaking the law and causing the unrest in our beautiful St. Louis County – this is what the Shrewsbury police did for me – what compassion!

I am so grateful to Sgt. Tommy Flotz and Lt. Lisa Vargas, and all the police who help and protect us every day.

Peggy Krabbe
Shrewsbury
January 29, 2015

MEDIA WATCH...GOOD SPORT AWARD: I was watching the KMOV noon news on Friday January 30 when the anchor Laura Hettiger introduced a story saying "There are changes at one of America's best known Universities, Dartmouth in New Jersey."

Being a smart ass I sent off the following email to KMOV:

Sent: Friday, January 30, 2015 12:12 PM
To: KMOV Channel 4
Subject: missed story

I think that according to your anchor perhaps just as big of a story as Dartmouth changing alcohol policies and requiring sexual offense seminars would be that according to her, it moved to NEW JERSEY!

I was surprised that the next time I checked my email, I had this response from Ms. Hettiger:

KMOV Channel 4; johnhoffmann@charter.net
Subject: RE: missed story

Mr. Hoffmann,

I agree with you—that would be big news! For some reason, I said New Jersey instead of New Hampshire. That is 100% my mistake.

I appreciate you watching News 4 and I appreciate you taking the time to contact us. I do apologize for my error. All I can say is as soon as “Jersey” came out of my mouth—I knew it was wrong.

Thanks again for watching and have a great weekend,

Laura K. Hettiger

News 4 Reporter

314-604-8215

lhettiger@kmov.com

Clearly Laura deserves the Good Sport Award for the week.



Laura back from a funeral. Laura in a Cindy Prezler sleeveless number. Laura with a lot of bling!

RESTAURANT REVIEW: The ONE-19 NORTH 119 N. Kirkwood Road Kirkwood, MO
January 12, 2015: I have to admit that there are only three menu items I really like at this place. But I like them a lot, plus they offer music. This Tapas style eatery has lots of items on its limited menu that I could never choke down. However, I have yet to see anyone, who likes those food items give anything but good-to-rave reviews of their entrées. So we will feature a number of items ordered by other people.



Personal favorites: The staff at One-19 North usually has a pretty good idea what I'm going to order when I walk in. The 8 oz sliced sirloin steak in Brandy crème sauce (\$16) along with the roasted potatoes (\$6) in a sauce. Once in a while I will deviate from this and get just a double order of potatoes without the steak. There is one other item I will buy when it is available.



The One-19 North has a fantastic **cheeseburger** (\$8.59) on the lunch menu. However, Chef Chris Delgado has promised if there are burger patties in the kitchen and the dinner rush is over customers can order a cheeseburger in the evening.



Those are my favorites...here are everyone else's:

One of my wife's favorites are the **panned seared sea scallops** (\$16). When the price is affordable Chef Chris Delgado will buy scallops from Digby, Nova Scotia, which are considered by many to be the best in North America.

The grilled salmon is not a large piece of fish, but it is so flavorful I have never heard anyone complain. The Agave Grilled Salmon is served on a bed of Spanish rice and spinach (\$13). I am not a big fan of spinach but spinach lovers like how Delgado uses it.



I'm not a big fan of mushrooms either. They are a fungus, just like athlete's foot. But many of my friends will order the **Vegetarian Mushroom Risotto** (\$7). Another favorite among Grits-fans are the **Smoked Gouda Southern Style Grits** (\$7). These grits cross party lines. I once saw two women sitting across the table from each other, one a

far left liberal and the other one of Missouri's better known conservatives...both raved about these grits.



Vegetarian Mushroom Risotto.

Another of my wife's favorites is the **grilled Brussels sprouts** (\$6). These are grilled with bacon bits and parmesan cheese in extra virgin olive oil. They could be dipped in chocolate and I would still hate Brussels sprouts, but my wife loves these.

On an October night the **asparagus** were the chef's vegetable of the night at \$7. I even liked them.



Dinner salads are perfect for salad lovers, which I'm not one of...I'm happy with some iceberg lettuce, chopped hardboiled egg, tomato and cheese under a coating of ranch dressing. But these two seemed to be popular with the "salad lovers". One is \$6 and the other is \$7.



The couple that shared the **Chipotle Chicken Flautas** (\$9) thoroughly enjoyed them.



However the item that got the most comment were the **grilled lamb chops** (\$19). Frankly for the price the lamb chops look to be a bit on the thin side. However, the diner who ordered them could not believe how tender and tasty they were. He wanted others at the table to try one, until he realized there were only four on his plate. Ian Froeb, the Post-Dispatch Restaurant Critic, raved about the One-19 North lamb chops in 2010 when he was writing for the Riverfront Times.



There are several cautions about One-19 North. First the dinner menu is a Tapas Menu. It is somewhat limited and each item looks to be reasonably priced, but as you order three or four items your bill starts to get large, especially if you are drinking wine. Luckily I drink Coke...their bar Coke is pretty good and they refill the glass at no charge. My wife on the other hand likes to test the bartender with different bar drink orders. We are rarely there just for a meal and are often there for a music event where we meet friends and hang out for two to three hours.

Another note is your food is delivered not as you ordered it but when it is done in the kitchen. Your whole order is not likely to come out at once. If you waiter or waitress is busy another waiter might bring you order to your table asking "Who order the....?" They make it a point to get food to your table while it is hot and not to leave it sitting in the kitchen waiting on the rest of your order.

That said... if there is one downside to the One-19 North it can be service. While the kitchen staff has been a constant for four years, the serving staff has been transient, often consisting of several college students. On busy nights the service can seem less than stellar.

MUSIC: Sad News...We hear that long time jazz vocalist Gene Lynn likely will no longer be performing due to serious illness. Besides battling cancer Lynn was hospitalized last week with another ailment. Lynn, who is around 80, has been performing in St. Louis since 1960, had his own nightclub for 33 years and at one time his own local TV show. He was known as the "Black Frank Sinatra" but also sang with big bands plus did R&B and Motown. He most recently, up to a week ago, had been performing at Bartolinos on Hampton Avenue at I-44 often with Anita Rosamond and guitarist Randy Bahr.



February Bash...Rat Pack and much more at the One-19 North: We will have those photos in next week's newsletter.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT SASHA'S



From the sketch book of Diana Hoffmann.

Here the artist tries to hit a single note on the trumpet.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT JIMMY'S ON THE PARK: It was good to see Charley B back in action after being hospitalized for an emergency gall bladder operation in January while on vacation in Orlando. Charley B is singing with Joe Bayer on the sax and Mark Frederick on the keyboard.



Saturday at One-19 North: Jim Manley on the horn, Chuck Kennedy on the drum and Arthur Toney on the 88 key electric piano.



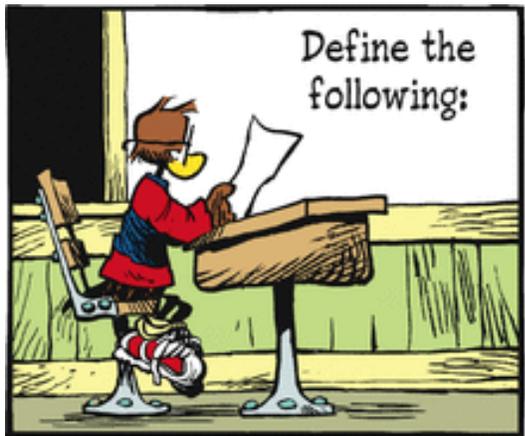
CARTOONS: Brian Williams proves he is the top newscaster for cartoonists.



BREVITY

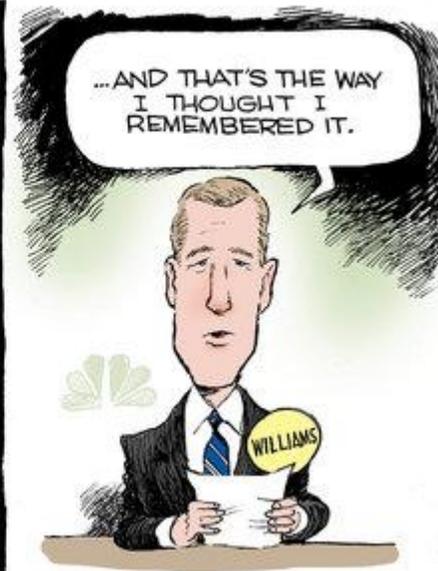
BY DAN THOMPSON





★ WAR STORIES WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS ★





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GREAT NEWS ANCHOR SIGN-OFFS

“...AND THAT’S THE WAY IT IS...”



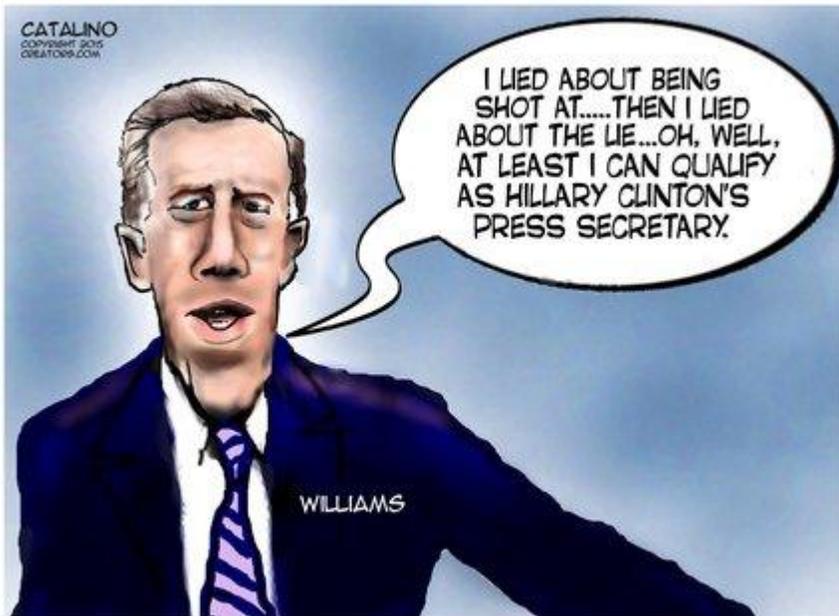
WALTER CRONKITE, 1980

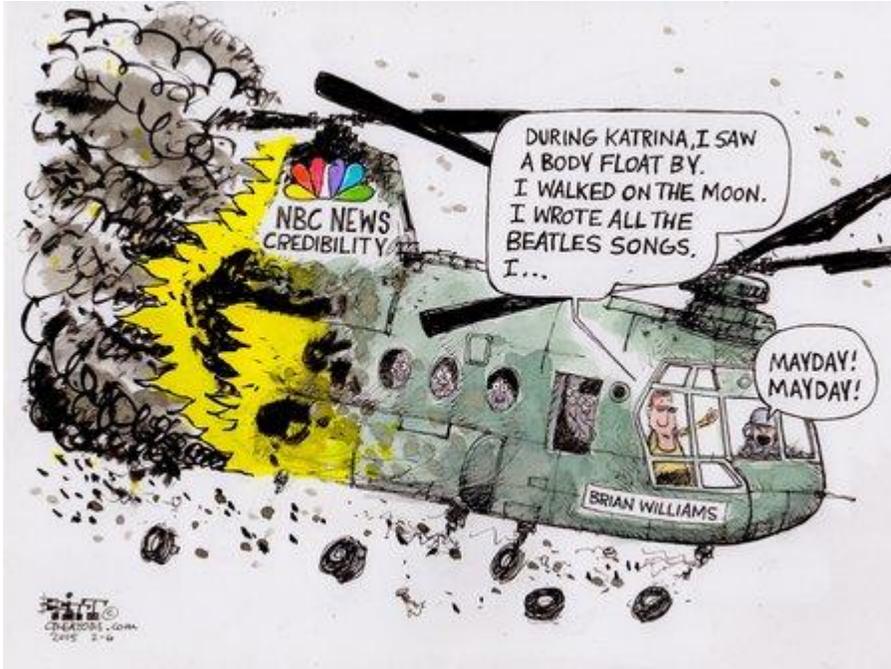


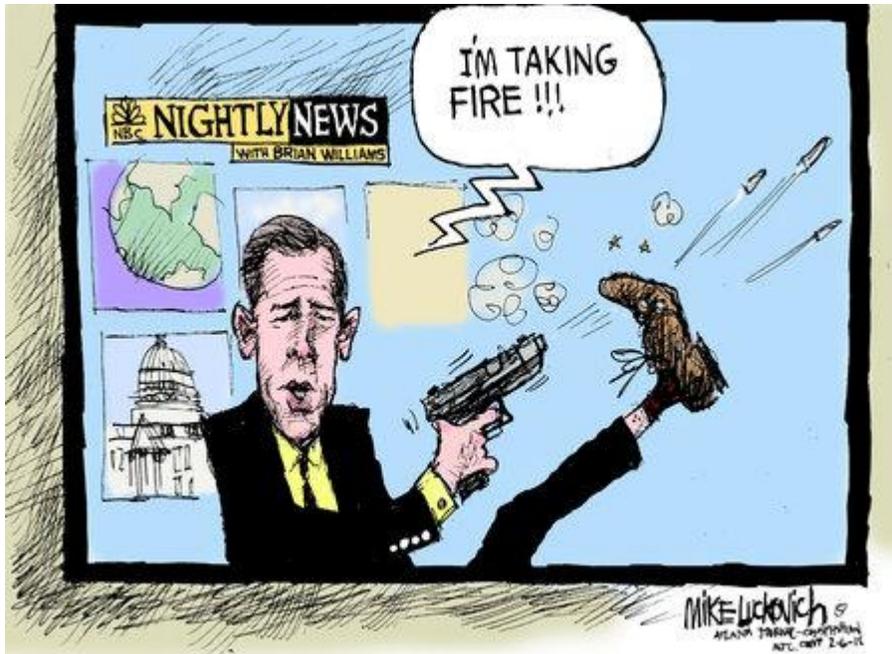
...WELL, THAT'S WHAT I'M AWARE OF, MEMORIES BEING FOGGY AND ALL, WITH EVENTS BLENDED AND CONFLATED AND WHO KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED BLAH BLAH BLAH....

BRIAN WILLIAMS, 2015







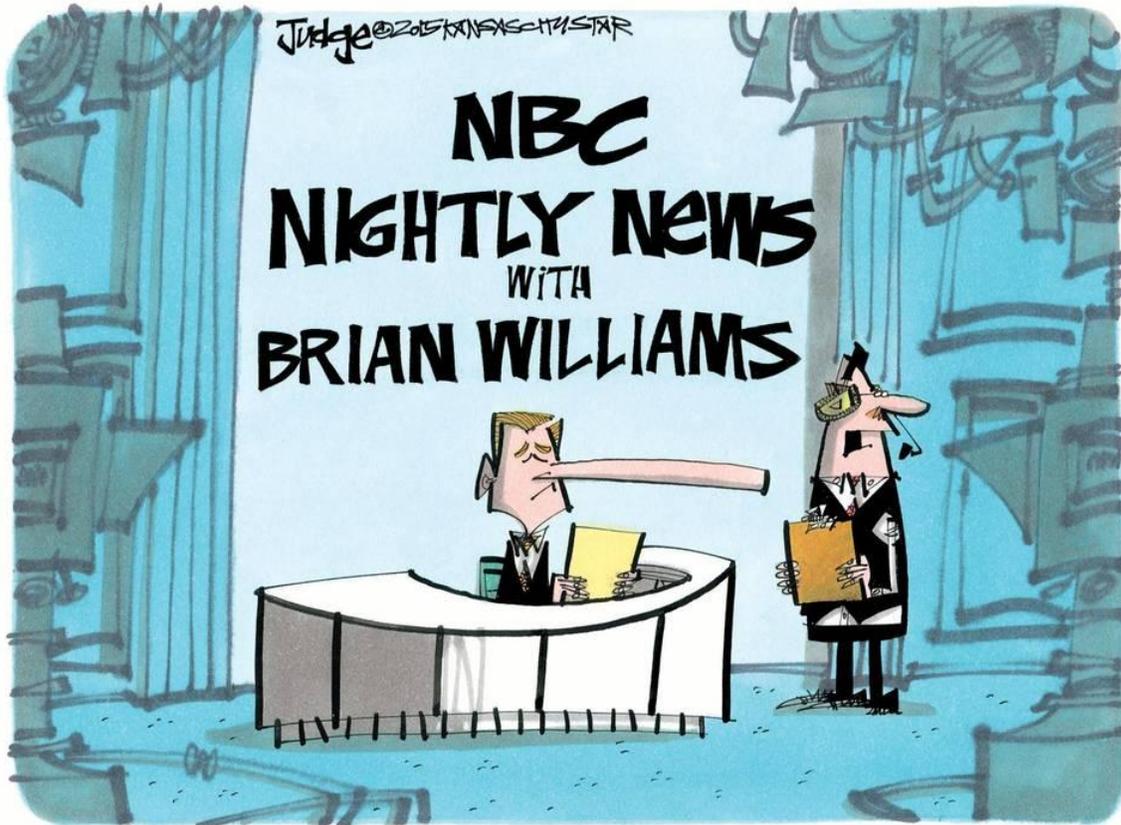


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"MAKEUP!"

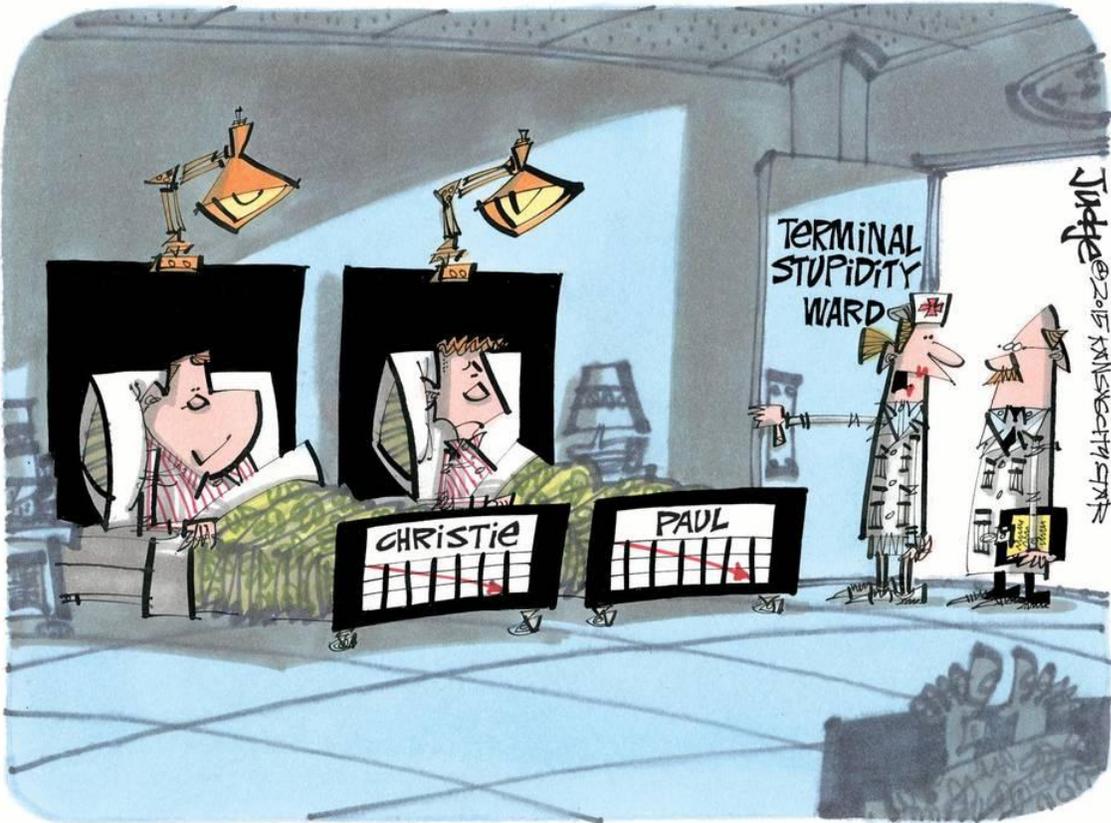




"Today my credibility was shot down by my very own RPG."







"IS THERE A VACCINE?"