

## EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 179 AND CHESTERFIELD 124



By John Hoffmann

May 24, 2015

**NEW LOGO BUT YOU STILL HAVE TO FOLLOW THE MONEY:** Our IT and Website manager created the original graphic of money raining on top of John Diehl.



Of course Diehl resigned as Speaker of the House and from the Missouri Legislature on May 14 when it was confirmed he was sex texter and possibly having sexual contract with a 19-year-old female college freshman intern. The money graphic will likely be a thing of the past. Nobody is going to be sending Diehl any money. So my website manager created this new image/graphic of Diehl:



However there is still a lot of money on the table. The April 15 campaign finance report that Diehl was required to file with the Missouri Ethics Commission showed he still had \$230,576 in the bank.

I'm sure for that money to go to other Republican candidates it has to be laundered so it doesn't look like it came from a sex pervert.

According to the Kansas City Star, Diehl was aware that the paper had the story by the middle of April. It will be interesting to see what money Diehl was receiving in April while he knew that a train with the name of Sex Scandal was on the tracks headed right for him. That report is required to be filed by July 15.

**Our suggestion would be for Diehl to split up that money and give it to State universities that have legislative intern programs to either fund the programs or provide scholarships to students in the programs.**

**WESTMINSTER LIGHTS VOTED DOWN 7-0 BY PLANNING AND ZONING:** The hearing on the Westminster proposal for lights and a permanent sound system at the football field was voted down 7-0 on Wednesday night at a marathon Planning and Zoning meeting that did not end until about 1:20am. Watching the final Late Show with David Letterman was not going to be a possibility. Actually the outcome was pretty much a known quantity and Westminster basically cost itself a lot of money and stole four to six hours from a 100 people's lives.

The Westminster Christian Academy proposals for a flagpole, a tennis pavilion and oh yeah... stadium lights and a permanent sound system for the football field that borders three subdivisions were on the agenda.



Frank Underwood did not represent WCA. Instead it was another attorney from the same law firm Husch-Blackwell, where John Diehl, the former speaker of the house and sex tweeter, is a partner. The 19-year-old college freshman who was sexting with Diehl

had used the code name of Frank Underwood for him. Instead attorney Craig Biesterfeld led things off.



Biesterfeld giving such a boring talk that Ald. Jon Benigas (sitting behind Biesterfeld) appears to be asleep.

Biesterfeld wasted no time bringing up that the city approved football lights for CBC football facility and pointed out that Westminster only wants to be able to use the lights 25 nights a year and not the 28 like the CBC agreement. (CBC which abuts no housing areas has violated this agreement and has leased out their field and lights to generate revenue. The city has refused to take action.)

Biesterfeld also dragged Principia into this by saying the Principia has lights too. Of course the football field which is near houses and subdivisions on Clayton road does not have lights. A soccer field in the middle of the 700 acre campus was given permission to have portable lights. There was no opposition from any subdivision because the soccer field was too far away.

**A good neighbor threat:** WCA was trying to paint itself as a good neighbor but Biesterfeld did make a threat that by excluding WCA from having lights while allowing others could be grounds for a lawsuit.

You have to wonder if Westminster isn't following the disgraced John Diehl by their choice in law firms. In 2008 it was Tim Tryniecki, of Armstrong-Teasdale (Diehl's former law firm) as the WCA mouthpiece. Now it's Biesterfeld with Hauch-Blackwell, Diehl's newest law firm.

**The next speaker was the new WCA Head of School Tom Stoner.** Stoner's rhetoric set off my Bullshit detector several times. However the next speak (Charles Waldren) set off my BULLY and BULLSHIT detectors at the same time.



Head of School Tom Stoner's bullshit was putting people to sleep, including alderman Jon Benigas sitting behind him in the light color jacket who appears to still be asleep.

Keep in mind the majority of the WCA opponents don't have lights and play their home games on Saturday afternoons, including Priory, Country Day and John Burroughs.

**Relationships and school experience is better on Friday nights!** Stoner tried to convince the P&Z members that Friday night football is fast way to build relationships and school experiences within their school community. I'm guessing that means that Westminster doesn't have a very good basketball team as losing teams don't foster and build relationships like winning football teams.

Stoner said they withdrew the proposal for lights in 2008 because they did not have the money to install them. This was complete BS. They had many to install the underground electrical conduit for the light towers in 2008. They withdrew the light proposal because they knew it would not pass due to neighborhood opposition.

"The lights on the field is an added reason for parents to send their kids to Westminster," said Stoner.

Stoner then listed how the football field lights are an added value to Town and Country.

- 1) Improves the reputation of the school and that improves the reputation of T&C.
- 2) Service of Students in community. (Does a community of millionaires really need community service programs. Shouldn't these students be headed either east to St. Louis or to North St. Louis County and provide community service to people who could use it?)
- 3) Employees add to the revenue base of city. (That is utterly false. Due to the location of WCA at Highway 40/I-64 on a one-way service road, it is very difficult to get to any retail areas in T&C. Employees get on I-64 and go home!)

4) 750 families relocated to be near the school. (That is an unbelievable statement. Sure some may have relocated, but "all 750 families?")

5) This proposal is essential to us. (The proposal failed 7-0 and will face a similar fate at the Board of Aldermen level if WCA asks for a vote there. Is the school going to shut down because this is essential? Will the student body be reduced with staff layoffs because this is so essential?)

**Stoner then introduced devil himself. Charles Waldren**, the WCA Director of Development appears to be a guy who is a very big bully and very full of B.S.



"We invited our neighbors to address the issues," Waldren told the P&Z. He didn't tell them that WCA refused to take questions and then turned off the lights in the room on their guests.

Waldren assured every one the lights would only be on 25 nights a year and only for athletic events. Waldren gave WCA a big pat on the back, saying how they reduced the number of nights for lights being used by three nights from the original request of 28.

Nearby residents would later read back to Waldren how WCA reported the lighted football field would be used for other activities such as concerts, religious events and other school events. Waldren got upset and said how that wasn't true and demanded to know where the residents got such information.

He would be told directly off the WCA website. He would try to explain that away saying that was something posted early on and it is different now.

Waldren tried to spin things by saying how WCA did not have a marching band. But he did not mention that they had a jazz big band that played in the stands during football games.

Perhaps the worst part of the WCA presentation was when a light, sound or traffic expert would be speaking and Waldren would interrupt them if he didn't like what they were saying and take over their presentation. This guy apparently is a total control freak. His actions completely cut the legs out from under WCA's experts.

**On the positive side neither God nor Jesus' names** were used once in the presentation.

**It appeared as if they were not going to use the bogus "heat issue" either. But I was wrong about that.** Two coaches toward the end of the night spoke and said how playing at night was a safety issue. The head football Corey Snyder said how it was safer playing games at 7pm that at 2pm in the afternoon.

Prior to this meeting on the Westminster Football calendar on the school's website the first week of August, football practices were at 3pm. I called the coach out on that after the meeting and the next day the calendar showed practice was "TBD" for the first week and 3:30pm the second week of August. This is before school starts and he could have had morning practice with a much lower heat index.

### **The Opposition:**

The Arlington Oaks subdivision led the opposition followed by the Brook Mill subdivision. Allen Allred, an attorney who can be a bit full of himself did a good job kicking off the opposition's side.



now appears to be awake.

Note that Ald. Benigas

Allred asked what has changed in the last seven years when WCA first came forward with the football light proposal. He then attacked WCA need for Friday night football to improve the school and academics.

"Does MICD (Mary Institute/Country Day) or John Burroughs need football lights to achieve their academics," asked Allred of WCA two conference opponents who don't have lights and are considered the top two private schools in St. Louis.

Allred, a lawyer with Thompson-Coburn, then went after WCA's lawyer.

"There is no Missouri case law that says Town and Country has to give Westminster Lights just because they made a mistake and gave them to CBC," said Allred who had children who graduated from WCA.

Dan Dorr of Arlington Oaks spoke next. Take a look at the WCA big wigs in the front row, ignoring Dorr completely. Head football coach Corey Snyder is in the blue jacket standing at the back wall. Benigas is still awake. Dorr said Friday night football, especially on the same night that CBC played one exit down I-64 would cause a hardship on the local police having to deal with the crowds and traffic control as fans from both schools traffic would be using I-64 interchanges.



**Jeff Chaney was next for Arlington Oaks and made two holes in the WCA presentation.**

Chaney said that WCA estimates made earlier how Friday night would football would not increase traffic is questionable. Another WCA expert claimed by playing games on Friday nights the attendance would increase from 700 to 925 spectators at the games.

"I believe a 32-percent increase in attendance would also be an increase in traffic," said Chaney.

Chaney then played a video clip of the Westminster Athletic Director Dick Spybey commenting on how Friday night football.

"I think the amount of people will go up 10-fold if games are on Friday nights," proclaims Spybey. Gee that would put it at 7,000 a game!



Jeff Chaney is at the podium making some strong points, but it appears as if we are losing Ald. Benigas again. Ald. Tiffany Frautschi and Ald. Lynn Wright are still wide awake at 11pm.

**Noise!** One resident after another from Arlington Oaks and Brookmill spoke about the sound now from the Saturday football games and the use of a portable PA system. "I can have all the windows and doors shut and I still know that it is third down and two yards to go," one resident said. "It is like being right at the football game," said another, "Even inside my house."

"Westminster has been our noisiest neighbor by far," said one resident. "There is no way to engineer the sound of screaming teenagers."

Two residents claimed Friday night football would result in huge crowds. That might be true at CBC against DeSmet, but a Westminster Christian versus The Priory game will not be drawing crowds like the Kirkwood-Webster Groves game or Hazelwood Center against McClure North.



If you look closely Charles Waldren has taken a definite look. All night none of the WCA would look at the opposition speakers.

**NOISE:** The WCA expert claimed that highway noise from I-64 reached the football stadium and some of the nearby houses. He claimed that the football noise was no louder than the highway noise.

An ear, nose and throat doctor from Arlington Oaks attacked the sound study. "He (WCA sound engineer) puts a decibel meter in a backyard. My ears and your ears are not decibel meters and we hear football games," said Dr. Rob O'Bert.



Dr. O'bert speaks and no one from WCA is paying attention with the exception of the last person in the row who appears to be praying.

A total of 13 people spoke in opposition of the lights and six in favor of the lights. Of that six two were students, two were employees and two were parents of WCA students.



Lisa Boren, a WCA parent, of Pebble Acres spoke in favor of the lights. "I find it delightful to be in a community that is active." Note whose seat is now empty. By 12:30 Ald. Benigas was long gone, but Ald. Frautschi and Ald. Wright are still present and awake.

**The Mayor:** Jon Dalton normally makes it a point to miss these Planning and Zoning meetings where regardless how you are going to vote, you will piss someone off. Dalton has an attendance record under 50% for P&Z meetings in general. In this case there were more registered voters in opposition than for the lights, so he gave a long winded speech before the vote.

"I want to thank you Dr. Stoner and your whole team for bringing this forward. You have communicated well," said Dalton as if he was speaking from the mount which I'm sure was pissing off Charles Waldren, who was acting like that was his job all night.

"There is no doubt that Westminster is a world class organization," said Dalton as he continued to kiss Westminster's ass before voting no.

"But we are bound by certain legal requirements. I was very anxious to hear what is different today to what was five years ago. (It was actually 7 years but facts never were important to Dalton.)

Dalton continued to Blah, Blah and Blah and at 1:05am I quit writing.

## **THE VOTE**



The Planning and Zoning Commission separated the request for the tennis pavilion and the flag pole from the football lights and permanent PA system. The flag pole and tennis pavilion passed 7-0.

The football lights and PA system lost on a 0-7 vote.

I had reports from several Westminster parents in the weeks before this vote how school officials were telling students how the lights would be approved and installed over the summer. Are these people this naïve or do they enjoy hurting their credibility with students?

**WHERE TO NOW:** It appears to me as if the leaders of WCA are smart they will fold up their tent. They could have had night football long ago if they had listened to me when I was an alderman and a couple of other aldermen who suggested they put the football field next to the commercial property they abut on the northwest corner of their property (formerly Savvis and now Century Link). They could have had the lights shining on an empty parking lot of an office building with the noise directed the same way. They said no! It would cost \$800,000 to \$1,000,000 more.

If they refuse to give up they will need to send the proposal to the Board of Aldermen, where after a defeat at the Planning and Zoning Commission, they will need a super majority to pass or 6 of eight votes. That is not going to happen. Once they are rejected by the Aldermen, then they can sue. They would not be a very good neighbor. They would be using money for arts or academics of students for lawyers. The city with a seven-figure deficit budget will have to increase that deficit to pay lawyers.

**"REMOVED" OR "STOLE" JUST A MATTER OF DEFINITION. SOME CHRISTIANS APPARENTLY DON'T LIKE THE FIRST AMENDMENT:** Back in 2008 and 2009 when the Deer Control Policy and lethal deer management was being approved, there were two different kinds of signs in Town and Country. One was the "NO Hunting or Killing" signs. These stayed put in peoples' yards until they were damaged by bad weather, knocked down by a deer or heavy snows. The other signs favored killing deer and said such things as "Bag a Buck in Town and Country."

Apparently the deer lovers did not also love the first amendment about free speech, a commandment about "Thou Shall Not Steal" or stealing laws. The pro deer hunting signs had a life expectancy of less than 24 hours. Back in 2008 the homeowners opposing football stadium lights next to their subdivisions had a similar problem with signs vanishing.



Apparently God must of have been telling Westminster Christian Academy supporters to steal signs. A number of them went missing in 2008, almost half of them that had been purchased.

Now there are new signs and a few of the old ones out along Clayton Road. They are again being stolen. One resident stopped on Clayton Road waiting to make a left turn reported seeing a member of the Westminster Cross Country team, stop their run on the Clayton Road sidewalk long enough to steal a new sign last week. Apparently if you think God is on your side those first amendment rights of others and the 10 Commandments in general should not get in your way.



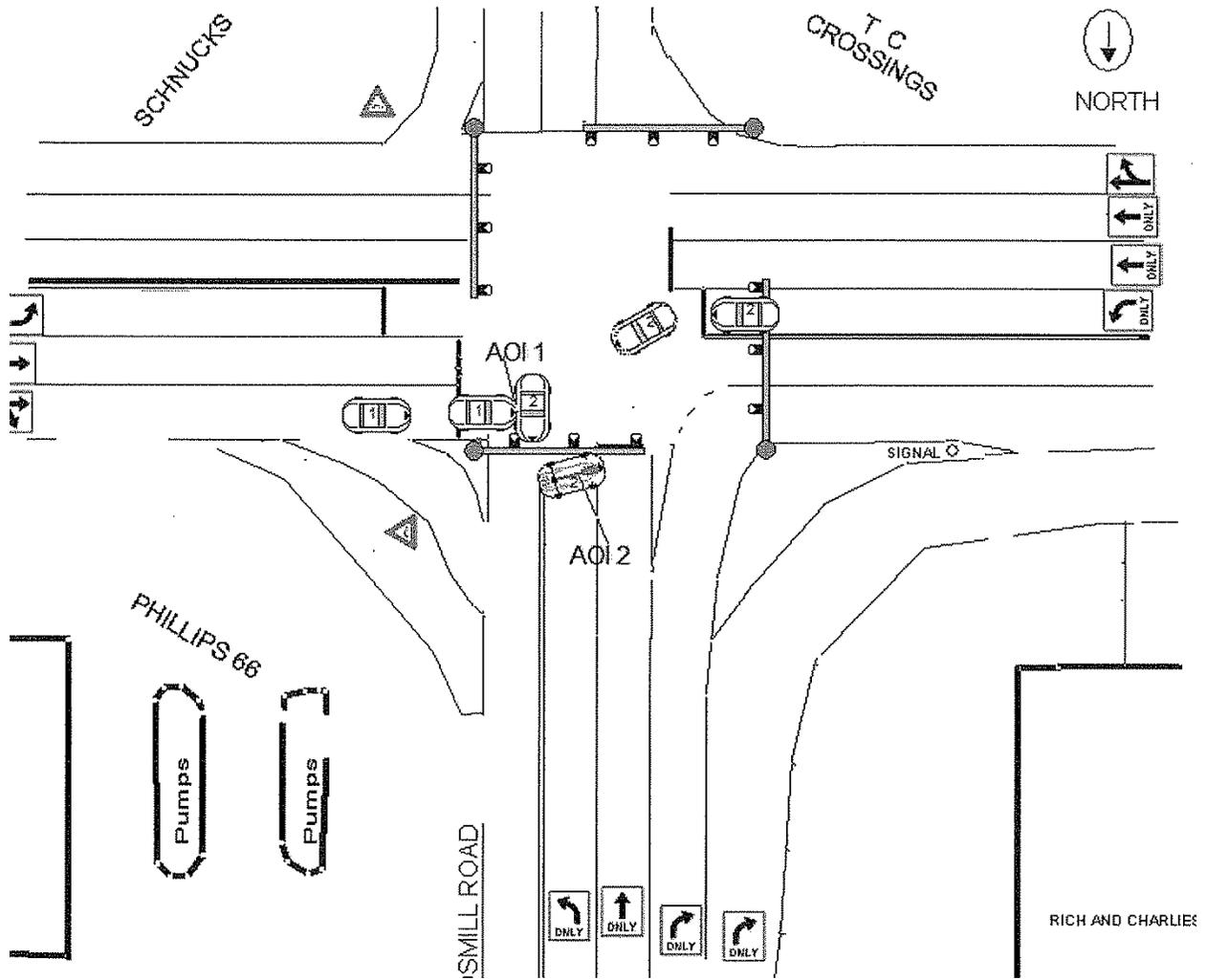
At the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting Charles Walden addressed the theft of the sign by a student while participating in a school activity.

"The track team had one zealous young man remove the sign, which he later returned."

**WHEELS UP!** That is something you expect to hear as part of take off with an airliner, but not a driving expression, especially on a Friday afternoon at Woods Mill and Clayton Road.

Normally if a Toyota Corolla is involved in an intersection accident the Corolla is the one on its roof. But in this case it was a Corolla versus a Toyota Yaris. The Corolla driver was west on Clayton and said she had a green light when entering the intersection. However a witness behind her said she entered on a yellow. The Yaris driver admitted entering the intersection on a yellow light turning left in front of the Corolla. The Yaris was the one that ended up on the roof.





**PASS A TAX INCREASE AND START WASTING MONEY:** Sara Dayley has left KSDK as a news reporter. (I have to admit that I have never seen her, but I quit watching KSDK after the Kirkwood HS incident.) Leaving KSDK is not a news story, since they are now the station with the lowest paid entry level staffers with reporters leaving weekly. But where Dayley is going is news.



She is going to the West Country EMS and Fire Protection District as a "community liaison and media spokesperson." WCEMSFPD just got a 30-cent per \$100 assessed valuation, tax increase thanks to the voters in Manchester and portions of unincorporated St. Louis County. They now have the highest tax rate in the area at \$1.26 per \$100 assessed valuation.

They claimed they had to have this tax increase to keep Fire Station 2 at Manchester Road and Mason Road open 24/7 and not lay off staff. I don't remember them saying once how they needed to hire TV reporters. It seems as if the voters might have been suckered. The tax increase passed with 52.5% of the vote. (Town and Country Alderwoman Linda Rallo's partner at the "Missouri Wonk" helped run that campaign.)

The salary range is \$60,000-\$70,000. The Fire District laid off a woman who had the job three years ago citing budget constraints.

Three people have announced they are leaving KSDK in the last week. Pretty soon KDSK will be hiring directly from college campuses and the graduates won't have to work in West Virginia, Montana or Hagerstown, Maryland before getting a job in St. Louis.

**WIRTH PROPERTY SUB COMMITTEE IS MISSING ONE IMPORTANT IDEA:** I was the only person who attended the Town Square Task Force Subcommittee at the Longview House as a member of the public. Only six subcommittee members were there when the meeting started at 7:10. Two more strolled in over the next 50 minutes.



A number of empty chairs at the start of the meeting.

I was chastised by chair Amy Anderson when I spoke up twice to correct false statements made by Skip Mange. I was told I could only speak at the end of the meeting.

80 minutes of meeting determined very little. Things the folks wanted included having a park like setting with playgrounds, benches, tables, a possible a water feature as part of a storm water basin. Everyone also seemed to want Straub's to expand and provide restaurant service.

While Trip Straub was not present, Larry Schiffer of Love Properties that owns Mason Village Center where Straub's is located was and made some strong points. Every time Alderwoman Amy Anderson or Ald. Skip Mange would say how the community wants to support Straub's, Schiffer would retort "Well then the community needs to shop there." (Of course Straub's charges as much as 20-percent more on everyday items compared to Schnuck's and Dierberg's.)

Schiffer said that Straub's was not going to expand or build a restaurant on the Wirth Property.

"Straub's has got out of the restaurant business for some time. They closed their restaurants at their Clayton and Webster Groves stores. They are not going to open one here," said Schiffer. He added they have table and chairs at other stores so you can buy something at the deli and eat it there, but no table service.

Schiffer also pointed out that Straub's has not seen an increased in sales volume at the Town and County Store in the last 10 years.

Schiffer also pointed out that small retail shops and restaurants would likely fail due to the market area. He pointed out exactly what I have been saying to those who want an ice cream shop. THERE IS ONE IN MASON VILLAGE next door to the Wirth Property and it is struggling.

**No to houses!** The subcommittee clearly does not want to see all the residents of Town and Country recoup some of the \$2.25 million spent to buy the land. They voted they did not want any part of the land sold for new houses. My advice is to be careful for what you wish for.

### **I POINT OUT A SERIOUS FLAW IN THE TASK FORCE AND SUB COMMITTEE**

**MEETINGS:** After 80 minutes the meeting seemed to be over. Amy Anderson looked at me and then the other 29 empty chairs and asked if anyone of the public wished to speak. Of course she used "plural" when singular would have been better,

I started out by telling the group how stupid I am. I then added it appears as if everyone wants at least part of the Wirth Property to be park space. I told them the Park

Department as exactly one full time maintenance worker and part time employee plus a summer season worker. I pointed out how Preservation Park is in total disrepair, how it took 15 months to fix a damaged roof in Drace Park.

Next I quickly informed the group with the purchase of the property in 2014 we finished with a \$2.5 million deficit. I told them the city budget so far in 2015 has a \$1.3 million deficit. I added how the budget director has projected four of the next five years the city will have a deficit budget. I then explained how the parks sales tax isn't just for the parks, but must be shared for storm water projects.

I finished by saying I have not heard at one of the Task Force or subcommittee meeting how the city is going to fund first the improvements to the property and secondly maintaining the property.

Amy Anderson was speechless and Skip Mange managed to sputter out, "You made some good points there." The meeting was then adjourned.

**EDUCATING AMY:** Amy Anderson continues to show she does not have much real world experience or knowledge

At the Town Square Task Force Sub Committee they discussed suggestions from public forums. One was to have a piazza. Amy stopped the discussion immediately and asked, "What's that?"

"They mean like an Italian piazza," one member told her.

She replied, "What's an Italian piazza?"

Clearly Anderson has never seen "Three Coins in the Fountain" or "Roman Holiday." If you show up to a trivia night and find Anderson sitting at your table, turn around and go ask for your money back.



**Naughty, Naughty:** Here is what Amy said at the beginning of that meeting. "We need to approve the minutes. I didn't send them out. That was naughty of me!" There were 23 days to email the one-and-a-half pages of minutes to the members. That is a good example of someone not exactly connected to their job.

**Three days earlier Anderson as chair of the Police Commission** began the meeting saying she had no idea that the police would check your house if you are away on vacation. This a common practice for police departments in wealthy affluent areas. The cops hate doing it. They mutter, "I got a college degree in criminal justice so I can be a security guard and pick up newspapers."



When I was the assistant police chief in Chevy Chase Maryland, I hired an officer from the Dallas PD, who was assigned to tactical anti-crime team that worked high crime areas. His wife, a Naval Lieutenant jg and a nurse had just been transferred to the Bethesda Naval Med facility about four miles from our police station.

He was a very good police officer. However he was not a very good vacation house checker. After sending him to a month long special academy class in Maryland Law he hit the streets. He excelled on the midnight shift. He lasted four days on the day shift.

At 11am one morning he walked into the police chief's office with his arms full of rolled up editions of the Washington Post. He dropped the newspapers on the chief's desk and said, "These are the last vacation house checks I will ever make." He then pulled his Beretta 9mm 15-shot semi-automatic handgun and I'm sure the chief had a good adrenaline rush (that was well deserved, he was more than a bit of a jerk). The officer then put the gun on top of the papers, took off his badge and put it next to the gun and walked out never to be seen again. Cops don't like doing "house checks."

Amy said since she didn't know about vacation checks by the police she wanted to promote them and get more residents to use them. After the meeting I told her about how it was not unusual for burglars to follow police officers in rich towns and watch what houses the cops stop at, pick up the newspaper and walk around shaking door knobs.

Then an hour after the cops are gone, the burglars come back and break into the house. This occurred in a town not far from Town and Country.

Frankly after being the chair of the Police Commission for over a year, I found it amazing that Anderson did not know what basic services the police department offered and then wanted to promote the one officers hate doing the most.

A couple of weeks earlier Anderson asked from the Aldermanic dais if it was common and proper for subdivision trustees to send her emails instead of written documents with a signature.

**In February Anderson, who claimed to be born and raised in T&C and having spent most of her life here**, said she has never been to the Straub's store in Clayton and added she has heard there is one in Webster Groves too. The first Straub's store ever was in Webster Groves in 1901. It has been in two different locations along Webster Groves' main business district street, Lockwood Avenue.

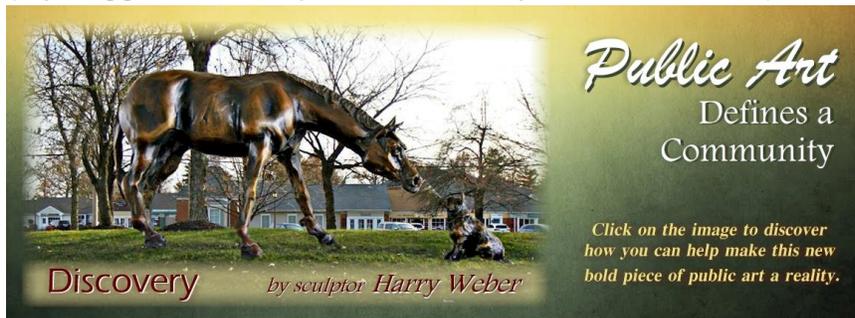
Apparently being a lifetime St. Louisian has not made Anderson aware there has been at Straub's store at the entrance to the Central West End on N. Kingshighway and Maryland Plaza since 1948.



**In January at a neighborhood meeting Anderson and Skip Mange** spoke to residents about the Wirth property and Mange gave a power point presentation and spoke of the "city being in talks to purchase 17 acres from Principia for a new city hall." Later when asked about this, Anderson denied anything about buying land from Principia was discussed. Anderson denied Mange ever said such a thing. A later meetings Mange admitted presenting a power point show at the meeting and discussing it. Lesson for Anderson...try not to lie.

**MEMBER OF ART COMMISSION WANTS TO CANCEL MAIN ART EVENT AND JUST WORK ON BEGGING FOR MONEY FOR THE HORSE AND DOG.** At Public Arts Commission on Wednesday May 13 two members made interesting proposals.

The first part of the meeting was about raising the \$139,000 needed for the Harry Weber full size sculpture of a horse and dog. To date they have only raised \$33,225. (My suggestion is to put some money on the Belmont.)



This is important to the Arts Commission, even if perhaps the community is sending a message they want their charity donations spent on something else.

Here are some of the moves being made and what some members considered.

1) Art Commission chair Ald. Lynn Wright said selective businesses would be sent letters asking for donations. "They say it takes seven times to remind people to make a donation," said Wright.

Suggestions from the Arts Commission:

2) Have a cocktail party at the Longview House with Harry Weber in an attempt to raise more donations. Invite people who already gave donations to thank them and maybe get them to open their pocketbooks again.

3) Hire a telephone solicitation company to call residents and ask for money.

4) Have a special ribbon cutting and lighting ceremony of Trova sculpture at Longview Park that many residents think looks like discarded TV satellite dishes that the city has painted black. It was decided this was a great idea, but they would wait until November at the end of Daylight Savings Time. They wanted another cocktail party and to invite people who already gave for the Dog and Pony Show "to again thank them" and hope for some more.

5) Member Mary Beth Wilson recommended cancelling the Plein Air Painting competition at this year's fall festival, the signature event of the Public Arts Commission since its inception and concentrate on seeking donations for the Weber sculpture from people attending the fall festival. This idea was shot down.

6) Raffle off the small demos that Weber did of the sculpture starting at \$100 per raffle ticket.



But the two suggestions that were not directly tied to getting cash for Weber sculpture were the highlights of the night.



First Bill Schawacker thought they should get large "Open Flags" to put in front of the Longview House out by Clayton Road when the art gallery is open. That will really give the Longview House that 1900 look.

But the suggestion I liked the best came from member Nan Kulkarni, who was tired of the city wasting money buying sandwich board signs promoting parks and art events placed up and down Clayton Road that are impossible to read when you are stopped at a red light, let alone when you are driving at 30 mph. The reason I liked her suggestion so much is because it might cause Fred Meyland-Smith's head to explode.



"What does it cost to have one of those electronic signs like at schools and churches we could put in front of the Longview House so people on Clayton Road would know what events are coming," she asked. Meyland-Smith hates LED signs and basically doesn't much like any sign.

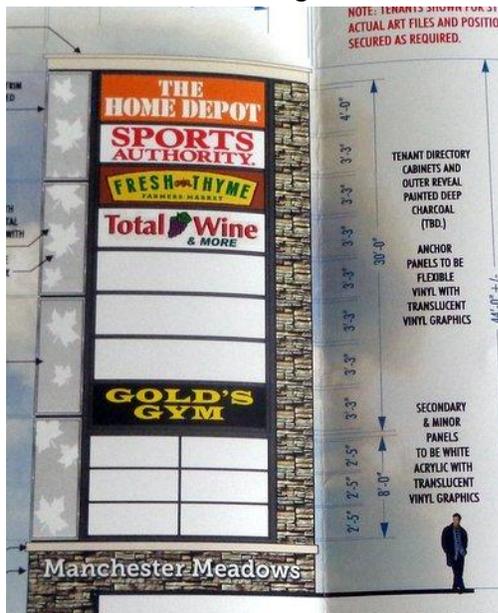
**jimmy johns REDUCES NUMBER OF WINDOW SIGNS AND GETS SIGN CODE VARIANCE:** The Board of Aldermen in Town and Country was taken back when the new Jimmy Johns made a sign variance request for 12 neon signs to be in the windows. At the May 11 meeting that request had been lowered to 3 neon signs.

The big problem is that drivers on Clayton Road have no idea that Jimmy Johns is located in the shopping center that includes Heartland Bank's mortgage center and Einstein Bagels. Only drivers on Woods Mill Road can see the sandwich shop. They need a lighted monument sign on Clayton Road to reach their potential customer base.





**MANCHESTER MEADOWS GETS TALL DIRECTORY SIGN APPROVED.** After several alderperson expressing concern over a 44-foot directory sign for Manchester Meadows at the April 27 Aldermanic meeting, the sign passed on an 8-0 vote at the May 11 meeting. Retail Properties of America, the owner of Manchester Meadows put on a display at the property showing interested alderpersons what the height would be in relation to other signs and buildings in the area.



Apparently five alderpersons were at the demonstration. This is a quorum and by law should have required a posting so the public could attend. That would of course mean the annoying presence of me. Skip Mange quickly shouted out during the meeting that only four alderpersons were present at a time so no posting was necessary. Do I believe Skip?...No! In an effort to be open and transparent this event should have been posted so they public could have watched the demonstration.

Town and Country has not yet reached that the level of true transparency. They need to start with Municipal Court but go on to items like this so an alderman won't have to claim that "technically" they did not violate the Missouri Sunshine Law. In spirit they did, but technically they didn't.

**LOOK NOW BEFORE THEY ARE GONE:** While realtors tell me there is a demand for ranch houses, I have to wonder if the demand hasn't been created by the elimination of so many ranch houses for McMansions. Here are a few that might not be around much longer.



This is a pretty ranch on South Topping Estates.

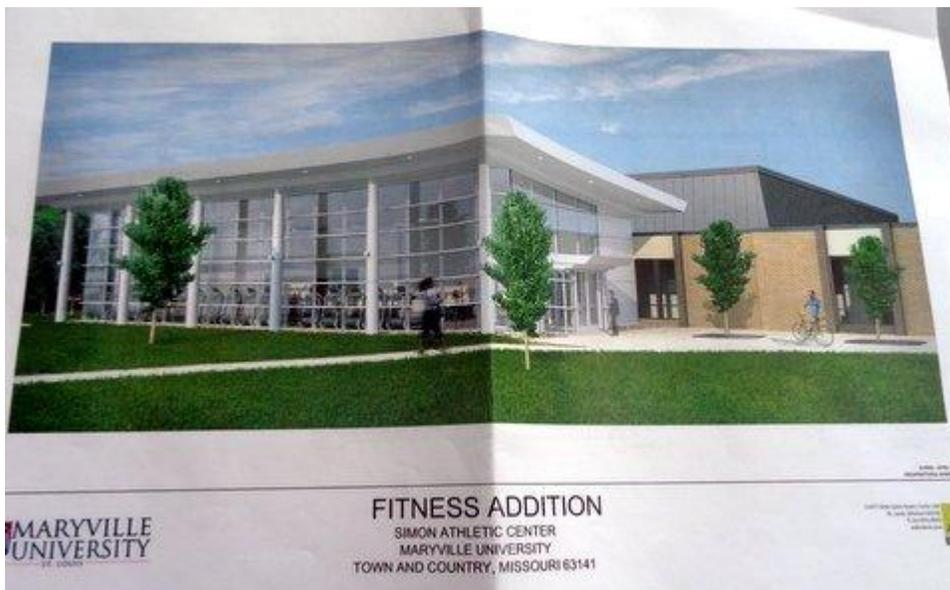


This is a classic 1960's style high-end ranch house with the circle driveway at the corner of Williamsburg Estates and Clayton Road,



This one is pre-World War II and possibly pre-World War I farm house on Topping Road. It will be gone soon.

**A SMALL ADDITION AT MARYVILLE:** Maryville University plans to add a fitness center to the front of the Athletic Building.



**UP COMING:** IN next week's newsletter we will have the story of Canadian Donuts and Coffee versus Fred Meyland-Smith. The Tim Horton Shop was approved at the corner of Clayton Road and Ballas by Planning and Zoning despite a NO vote from Fred.

# UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 124



**May 24, 2015**

## CHESTERFIELD POLICE AND CRIME ACTIVITY:



## POLICE STATS CHESTERFIELD April:

	<b>2015</b>		<b>2014</b>	
	April	2015 YTD	April	2014 YTD
Sex Offense	0	4	1	4
Robbery	0	5	0	1
Assault	8	68	11	58
Burglary (res)	2	9	3	8
Burglary (bus)	1	3	0	1
Felony Theft	11	76	17	64
Misd. Theft	35	135	27	124
Auto Theft	1	5	0	3
Bad Checks or Fraud	352	698	15	51
Vandalism	7	36	9	28
Drug Violations	10	31	10	36
<b>Arrests</b>				
Arrests Adults	108	487	178	610
Arrests Juvenile	10	50	28	71

**TRAFFIC**

DWI Arrests	10	50	25	67
Total Accidents	153	534	147	554
Injury Accidents	33	98	31	110
Traffic citations	732	3140	1112	3989
Written warnings	279	1358	487	1572
Parking Tickets	23	80	12	59

**OTHER**

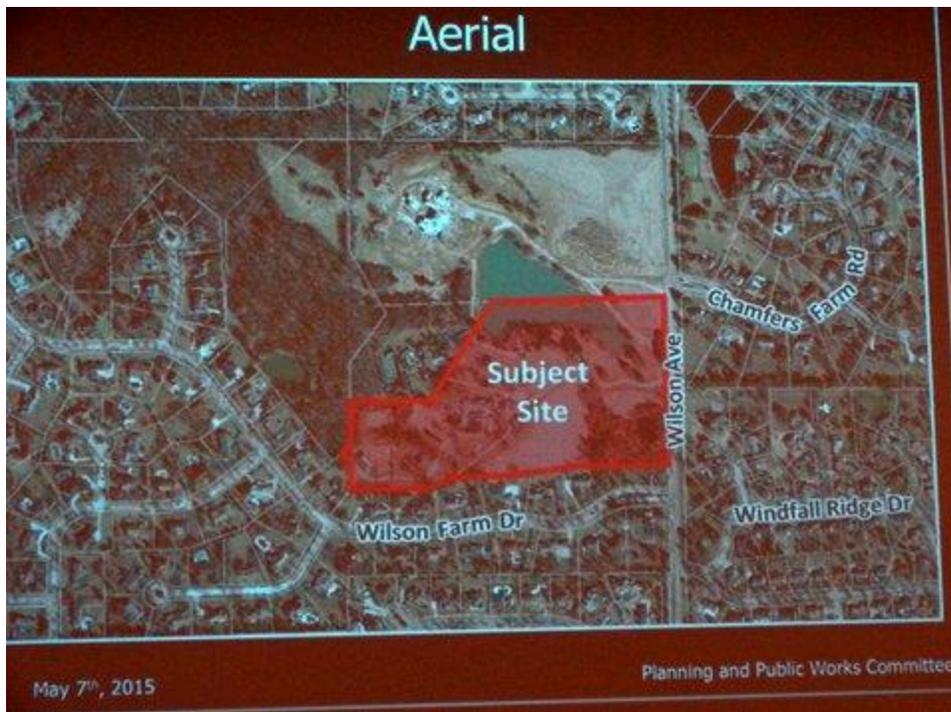
Radio calls	3289	16590	5020	18660
Alarms	120	510	113	483

The 352 fraud cases in April of 2015 compared to 15 in April of 2014 were almost all IRS tax return frauds.

**NEXT WEEK: DESPITE FIRE DISTRICT AND PARKWAY SCHOOLS OBJECTION TO CLOSING RIVER VALLEY DRIVE IT IS HEADED THAT WAY AFTER A VOTE BY THE PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.** Here is a link to a staff report. Four councilpersons decided to ignore a "Slow Approach" and voted to send the proposal to the full city council before one of the older subdivisions in Chesterfield is turned into an arterial road.

[http://www.chesterfield.mo.us/webcontent/Agendas/PlanAgendaDocs/05-21-2015\\_PPW\\_II.A-original.pdf](http://www.chesterfield.mo.us/webcontent/Agendas/PlanAgendaDocs/05-21-2015_PPW_II.A-original.pdf)

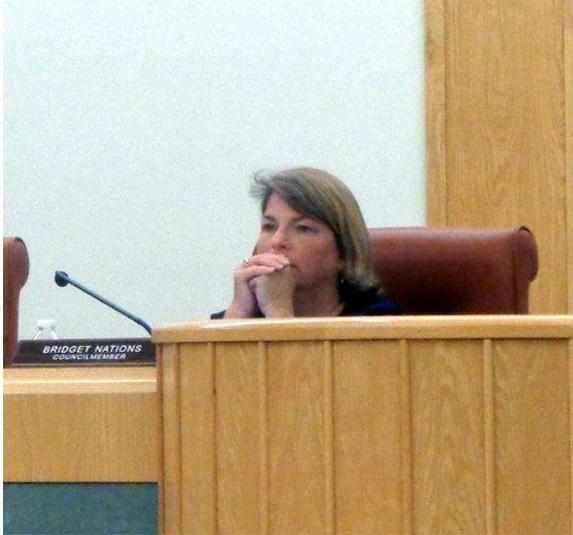
**PLANNED GATED COMMUNITY HOME PRICES TO START AT \$1.5 MILLION:** The Planning and Public Works Committee voted on May 7 to recommend approval of changing Fischer and Frichtel proposed subdivision from R-1 to Planned Unit Development. The gate community of 16 homes will be called Falling leaves Estates II located on Wilson Road and Wilson Farm Road. Prices for house are suppose to start at \$1,500,000.



**A CONFLICT OF INTEREST Number 1:** It was the first vote I was aware when new councilwoman Bridgett Nations had a clear conflict of interest. Nations is the Number 2 person at the Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce and the Director of Membership. At the Planning and Public Works Committee meeting on May 7 the 16-home gated community was a project by developers Fischer and Frichtel, which are members of the Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce. Not only does this appear to be a conflict of interest for Nations on paper, she did not help the cause by getting up and hugging the reps from Fischer and Frichtel and said how much "they were enjoying the house."

Clearly Nations needed to recuse herself on this vote. I find it a little disheartening that she won't do this herself and none of the other elected officers will ask her if an applicant is a member of the Chamber.

**Number 2:** On Thursday May 21 at another Planning and Public Works meeting, Nations voted to approve a plan submit by Caplaco, Inc. (Capital Realty), Dierbergs and Four Seasons Shopping Center for a drive through to be built next to the Mongolian BBQ Buffet for the relocation of Panera's. Dierbergs is a member in long standing with the Chamber of Commerce. Nations voted for the proposal along with Connie Fults while Nancy Greenwood voted against it.



**MEDIA WATCH:** Now we know what the Post-Dispatch's definition of the size of cities and town. In the front page of the Monday May 11, 2015 Post-Dispatch the headline read, "Tiny town grapples with loss of 2 police officers" The story was in connection with the shooting deaths of two police officers in Hattiesburg, MS.

Now we know that the Post-Dispatch considers a city of 47,500 covering 49 square miles with 675 city employees including 125 police officers and 115 firefighters, TINY! I'm waiting for a headline involving Charlack!



**POST-DISPATCH REPORTER WHO DID NOT ATTEND THE MEETINGS GETS ONE SIDE OF THE STORY:** Post-Dispatch reporter Jessica Bock claims the P&Z COMMITTEE not Commission turned down Westminster Christian Academy for football lights. She then proceeds to only give the Westminster side of the story. Some very lopsided reporting by the P-D with Bock only interviewing someone with WCA.

## **No Friday night lights, Town and Country committee tells Westminster Christian Academy**

By [Jessica Bock](#)

[Jessica Bock](#)



[jbock@post-dispatch.com](mailto:jbock@post-dispatch.com)

The athletic field at Westminster Christian Academy might stay dark after a proposal to add stadium lights and a public address system was voted down by a Town and Country committee.

The school was seeking a conditional use permit for the items. But after a lengthy meeting Wednesday night where a dozen residents spoke against the projects with concerns about sound and light, the Planning and Zoning committee unanimously denied the request. Three commissioners were absent.

Head of School Tom Stoner said the ability to host football games on Friday evenings, rather than during the day on Saturday, would build community at the school, and benefit all athletes, as well as provide safer conditions for those who typically play during higher temperatures. It also would give students a fun, safe place to socialize on Friday nights and coaching staff more time with their families on weekends, he said.

The Board of Aldermen could still approve the measures with a super majority vote. Based on a quorum of eight, the vote would need six in favor.

**SOMETIMES THE FINAL SCORE DOESN'T TELL THE WHOLE STORY:** I am the PA announcer for Webster University basketball and baseball. Before moving back to St. Louis I did PA for a college baseball team in Maryland and covered college and minor league baseball for a chain of newspapers. This means that the over 1000 minor league and college baseball games I have covered for newspapers, magazines and websites I have seen a lot of strange things. But what happened on Sunday April 26 was something I had not seen before. I have seen coaches run up scores against weaker opponents over the years and I always had great fun lambasting the coach for calling a timeout so his football team could score another touchdown with a 49-0 lead. Or the women's college basketball coach who had a 40-point lead against an opponent with no bench. The opponent only had five healthy players. She called a time out and put her starters back in so they could set individual scoring records against exhausted opponents. But things were different last April.

At the April 26 baseball game where the final score was 40-4, the winning coach was doing everything in his power to keep the score down but it just wasn't working.

Webster University normally has a pretty good team, reaching the D-3 College World Series in three of the last four years. Eureka College's baseball team has not fared as well. The college that graduated Ronald Wilson Reagan has not had a winning team in sometime.

On April 26 it was a doubleheader at Webster's home field, GCS Ballpark, the minor league stadium on I-255. The first game was 7-innings and Webster won 13-4. The second game was scheduled to go 9-innings, but there is a conference 10-run mercy rule after 7 innings.

Webster put up 11 runs in the first inning as 16 batters came to the plate. Head coach Bill Kurich made his first move of the game. In the top of the second inning he replaced seven of the nine starting position players with bench players. The bench players only scored four runs in the second inning and none in the third. In the fourth inning it was another four runs and the score was 19-1.



Head Coach Bill Kurich

By the fifth inning Eureka couldn't get Webster batters out. Kurich responded by pinch hitting for the bench players with pitchers who had not batted all year. That plan did not work as the pitchers got hits. Players who were hitting what should have been doubles were standing on first base as Kurich would hold runners at third base. 20 batters came to the plate and 16 runs were scored. It could have been worse if Kurich had not put up the stop sign while coaching third base,

In the sixth and seventh inning Kurich inserted pitchers on the infield in positions they had not played since high school. He also brought in to pitch a member of the junior varsity squad who had not pitched in a varsity game all season. The pitcher gave up three runs. However the new infielders did not make any errors and got hits in the bottom of the sixth inning as Webster scored six more runs to take a 40-4 advantage.

In the top of 7th inning Kurich put in another JV pitcher. This guy threw a shutout inning. The 10-run mercy rule turned into the 36-run mercy rule and the game ended after 6 1/2 innings.

### Team Score By Innings

<b>Team</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>Eureka College</b>	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	4	7	5
<b>Webster</b>	1	1	4	0	4	15	6	X	40	31

I am sure some people saw the final score of 40-4 in the paper and immediately thought that the Webster coach must be a huge jerk. It turned out to be the the furthest thing from the truth. The coach was using every trick in the book not to score runs and it just wasn't working.

**MUSIC** There is nothing like going to a former funeral home for some music on Saturday night. Nathalie's on Lindell one block east of the Cathedral used to be a funeral home. Nathalie's is open Wednesday through Sunday and has music on Friday and Saturdays. Last Saturday a 5-piece group (guitarist Randy Bahr is completely hidden in this photo) with Arthur Toney on the keyboard, Joe Weber on the drums, Jim Manley on the trumpet and Charlie B on vocals had the place packed.



Nathalie's is owned and operated by the folks who also own the Overlook Farms in Clarksburg, MO off of Highway 79 along the Mississippi river. The front dining area of Nathalie's is prim and proper with full linens and more. Even in the bar, if you order hot tea, it does not arrive as hot water with a tea bag.



Usually the music is the the Bar area, although there is a Showroom on the second floor that would be perfect for some larger acts with maybe a cover charge like at the old Finale nightclub.

The problem with music in the bar is the acoustics. A romantic night in the corner with some great music playing is not possible. It is too loud. Conversations are held during set breaks otherwise it is yelling across the table.

That said, trumpeter Jim Manley often has other musicians dropping by. We were sitting with trumpeter Bill Simpson and saxophonist Joe Bayer. Other drop-ins Saturday

included Dan Smith (center in below photo). Dan lives in Shrewsbury, but has been on tour with the "In the Mood" stage show. He had flown back from Boston to play in the orchestra for "The Rat Pack Show" at the Fox and was flying back to Boston on Monday to rejoin "In the Mood." Dan and others from the Fox stopped by for the last set at Nathalie's on Saturday night.



Left to right Greg Grooms, Dan Smith and Matt Biddles, the trumpet section of the Rat Pack Show at the Fox.

**SPEAKING OF RAT PACK:** On Monday there was a nice crowd including some well known guests at the Dean Christopher Rat Pack Monday Show at the One-19 North restaurant in Kirkwood. Mr. Cool has trumpeter Jim Manley laughing as he performs in front of a table for six with singer Anita Rosamond and friends.



**CARTOONS:**

# Speaker of the House of Cards



TO ALL MY RIGHT-THINKING  
"FAMILY-VALUE" CONSERVATIVES,  
I WILL CONTINUE THE JUST  
AND GLORIOUS FIGHT AGAINST  
SAME-SEX MARRIAGE.  
THE GAYS ARE DESTROYING  
OUR SANCTIFIED BIBLICAL UNIONS.  
P.S. WHAT ARE YOU  
WEARING?

5/16  
DARKO  
COLUMBIA  
DAILY TRIBUNE  
© 2015

THE  
DEVOLUTION  
- OF THE -  
POLITICAL  
SEX SCANDAL



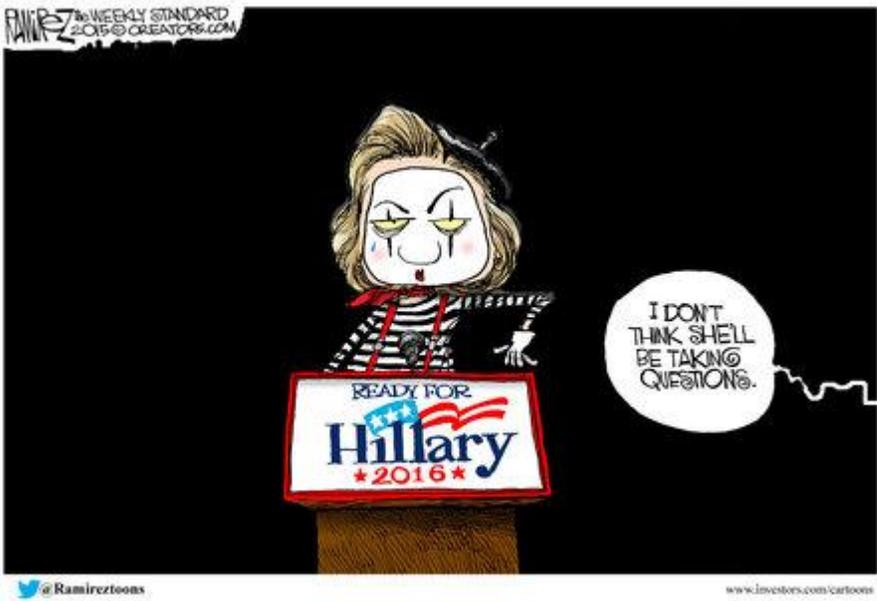
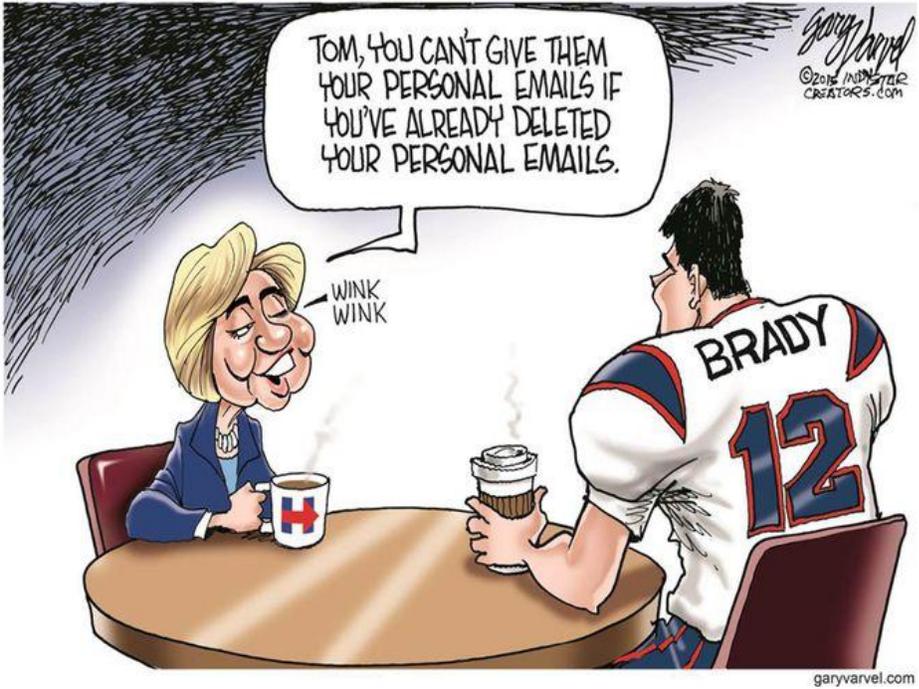
2015 AD,  
MISSOURI'S SPEAKER  
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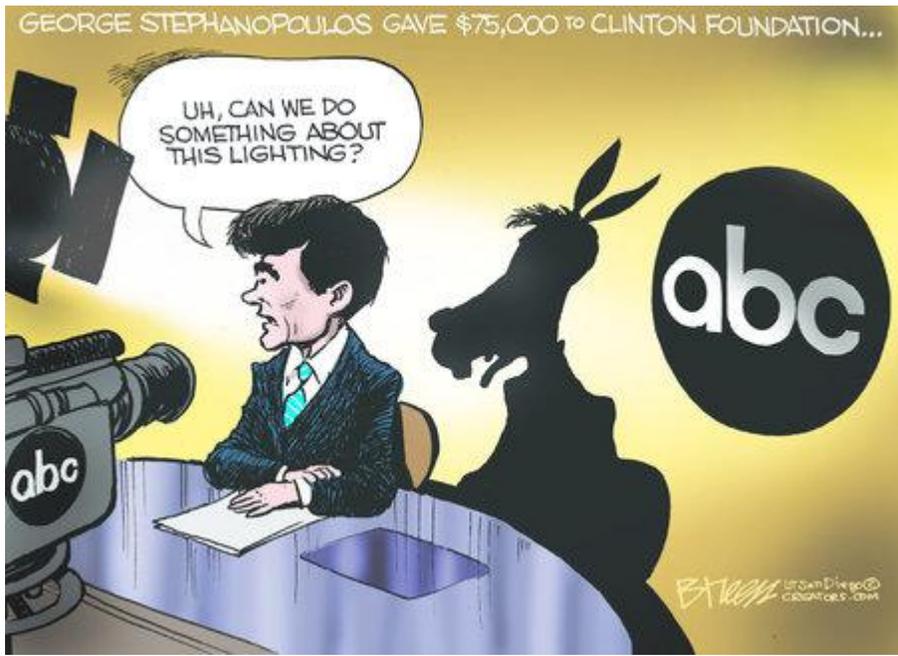
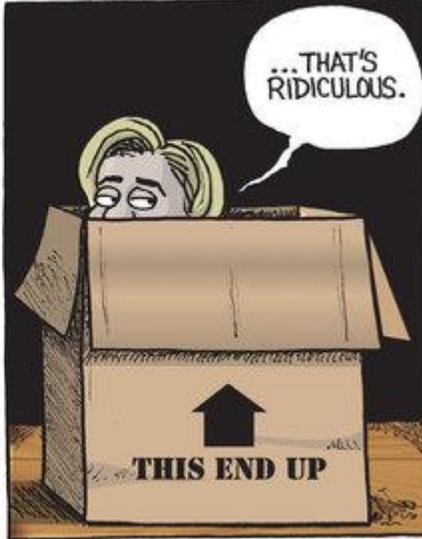
Mr. Speaker, you're  
so sexy. I'll miss  
u on spring break. 😘❤️

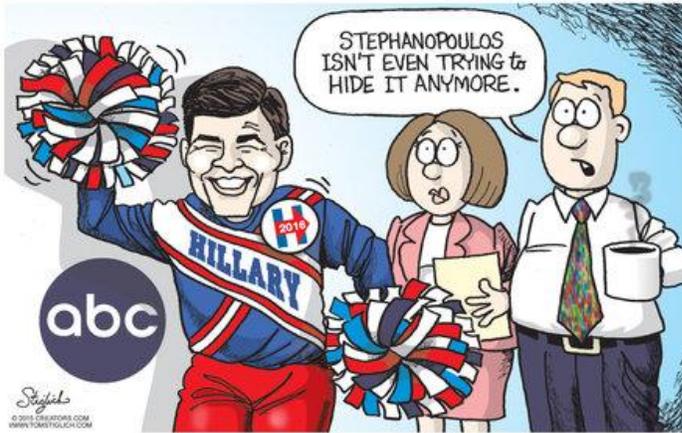
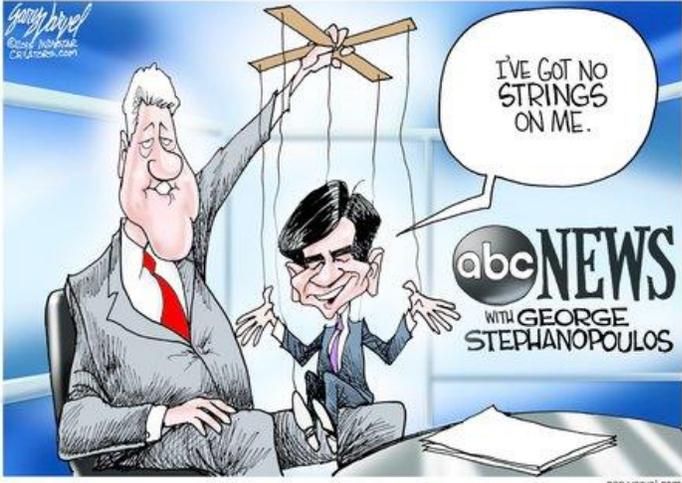
Yr ttly hot! Send a  
bikini pic!!! 😘

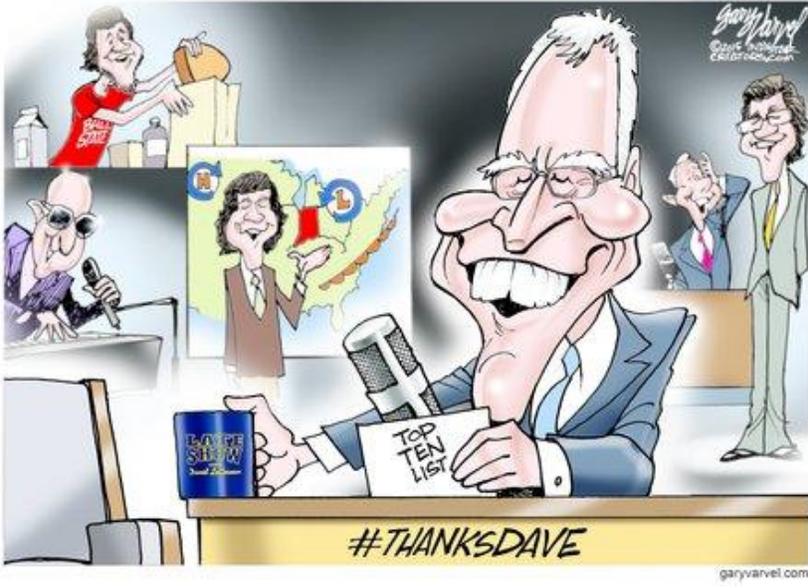


HORSEY  
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We'll miss you, Dave

