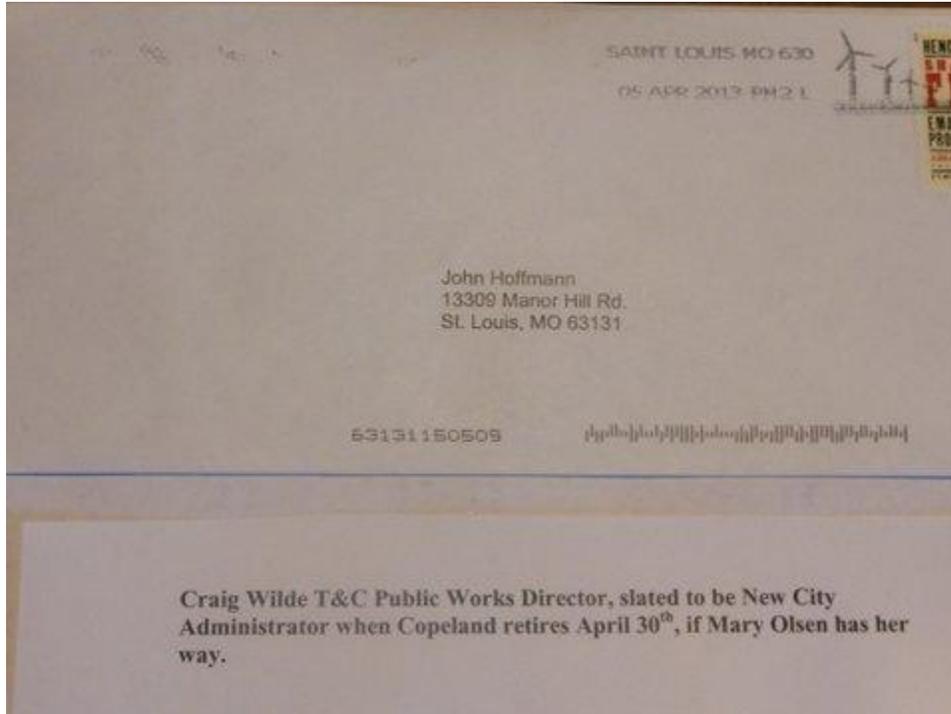


EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 80

By John Hoffmann

April 09, 2013

LOOK WHAT CAME IN THE MAIL: There was no return address and it contained just a slip of paper. If I didn't know better...I'd think it was a news tip.



The problem I see with this is that Wilde will be too hard to replace. Police Captain Pat Kranz has had the experience in the construction trades plus has handled the bids and spending on long range projects for the city's biggest department. He'd be perfect for the city administrator's position.

For those readers who need a scorecard to remember all the players...Mary Olsen is the admin aide (secretary) to the city administrator and the mayor.



City Administrator/Police Chief John Copeland indicated last year he would likely retire in 2013. During subdivision meetings earlier this year Mayor Jon Dalton indicated Copeland would soon retire. Copeland has 30 years in with Town and Country. Before that he was a police officer in Rock Hill and Frontenac. A number of people thought both jobs of police chief and city administrator created a conflict of interest.

DEER ACCIDENTS FOR MARCH: The number of deer accidents for March dropped slightly when compared with March of 2012. There were seven deer-vehicle crashes in 2012 and six in 2013.



Last month two of the dead deer were in Ward-3 and four of the accidents were in Ward-2.

Here are where the accidents occurred | March:

March 3	11:26am	Clayton Road E of Arlington Oaks
March 10	8:24pm	Mason Road and Featherstone
March 11	2:48am	Mason Road n of Clayton Road
March 27	10:33am	Topping Estates Drive
March 28	9:18am	Clayton Road and Williamsburg Estate
March 30	2:49am	Mason Road and I-64

Year to date for 2013 there have been 13 deer-car accidents. After the first quarter in 2012 there had been 20.

STREET REPAIR SPIN:

Mayor Jon Dalton called the proposal a "historic investment in our infrastructure that's very appropriate and overdue," according to an article by Mary Shapiro of the Suburban Journals.

http://www.stltoday.com/suburban-journals/metro/news/town-country-plans-citywide-street-improvement-project/article_1025530c-ce8a-5a4c-96aa-bf3d6022178d.html

This is an amazing piece of spin control and border line lying by Dalton. The reason he has to make a "historic investment in our infrastructure" is because he did not put routine annual street repairs in the budget for the last couple of years so he could tell residents what a great job he was doing with the budget.

Dalton didn't want to show any deficits in the past years. When this year started he had a \$2.4 budget deficit that is mostly road projects that he is hiding by telling residents that the General Fund is balanced...unfortunately the overall budget is not. That is about to change. Dalton toady, Tim Welby, the chair of the Public Works and Storm Water Commission, never raised a warning flag about the roads issue either.

DEFICIT TO INCREASE: Bill 13-18 in front of the Board of Aldermen is to increase the deficit by another \$3.6 million for road projects. That will bring the total deficit to \$6,000,000 for 2013. The money would come out of the general fund meaning Mayor Dalton could no longer claim that he once again has a balance "general fund." Again this was caused because Dalton in a quest to tell voters how he has had a balanced budget in past years put off routine road projects. It has caught up with him.

The city's reserve will now drop 32-percent in 2013 from \$18,670,000 to \$12,670,000. At Monday's Board of Aldermen agenda meeting, Dalton talked about how exciting this new project will be, still spinning something other than he just used up 32% of the city's reserve funds.

The good news is there is no way Craig Wilde can let contacts fast enough to spend all that money this year.

Look for the city to hand over about \$10,000 in free city services for the PGA event at Bellerive Country Club, that other communities get recouped from similar golf tournaments, all while the city has a \$6 million deficit.

EXPECT SOME DELAYS? I had to laugh when American Water warned West County motorists that they should "expect some delays along Manchester Avenue while they work for the next year on replacing miles of water mains. What does American Water think West County motorists have been doing for the last 35 years when driving on Manchester Road other than being in "delays." The press release should have read "Expect **Longer** Delays."

OTHER ITEMS: The Board of Aldermen also first read items which we already covered extensively in Ex-Alderman Newsletter 78 when they were before the Planning and Zoning Commission. The included the **Coopers Hawk restaurant** and wine store going into Town and Country Crossing where the bankrupt ice cream/custard store sits and the new 69 **Pulte Homes** subdivision going in next to the Target Store. Just where I want to buy a new house, abutting the Target Store parking lot!

\$135,000 MORE TO BE SPENT ON THE LONGVIEW FARMHOUSE: Here is something that needed to be done back in 2008 when Mayor Dalton decided to build the addition to the Longview Farmhouse. To keep project costs to appear lower than they really were some costs were separated from the project. Dalton showed the project coming in around \$1.1 million but when you added up all the costs, such as \$35,000 for power transformers, \$30,000-plus to make the patio safe and build a walkway, suddenly the total costs were at \$1.5 million.

Now the city is finally spending \$135,000 for all new windows and siding to the original farmhouse, something that should have been done back when the construction was done in 2008.

PARKING LOT THAT NO ONE WANTED GET FIRST READING : The final bill to fund the parking lot expansion that Skip Mange and Lynn Wright wanted, but no one else did was first read. The bill will be voted on at the next meeting. The Board of Aldermen ignored a lopsided number of people against the parking lot expansion. Ald. Skip Mange could barely contain himself in saying how most of the projected was funded by grants (generated by sales tax money from the region) but failed to mention the strong opposition to the parking lot expansion.

CONGRATULATIONS BARBARA ANN HUGHES: When I ran into Barbara Ann Hughes in January after she had filed to run for mayor I thanked her for filing and at least making Dalton do a little work before going on to do 12 consecutive years as a “phony-baloney mayor.” He will still be claiming to help people out of one side of his mouth after years of trying to kill people as a lobbyist for cigarette manufacturers plus stealing a widow’s business and property through eminent domain for an underfunded nightclub district in St. Louis. This does not even count the lawsuits against him for not paying bills.

I told Barbara she was going to lose and lose by a lot. Then she didn’t do herself any favors by listing her idiotic “save all the deer” policy on her campaign fliers. All the deer crazies know Barbara Ann’s position on saving Bambi...perhaps some voters who didn’t know her position on deer might have voted for her.

Anyway when I ran against Dalton, I managed just under 20% of the vote. Congrats to Barbara Ann as she got slightly more than 23-percent.

I’m still amazed at the people who gave Dalton money for the campaign. The guy is a partner at Lewis-Rice and on the board of directors of the exclusive (racist) Old Warson Country Club. He uses his position of mayor as a business development tool as a

“governmental affairs expert” (lobbyist) with Lewis-Rice. He should be paying for his own campaign.

CITY HALL EMPTYING OUT: Last week saw Patricia Keevin, an assistant to finance director Betty Cotner retired. Diana Kaufman who retired last year as the admin aide for the planning and public works departments only to come back and work part time has left for good now. Her last day was last Friday. With John Copeland allegedly leaving later this month, plus a member of planning department who quit two months ago after short stay with the city not to mention long time city clerk Pam Burdt retiring in March, soon you will need a scorecard to recognize all the new players at city hall.

New cop quits: In our October 18th newsletter we reported how Masood Kahn was finishing up his field training after being hired from the St. Louis Police Department where he worked three years. Kahn, who is originally from India, lasted a total of six months and quit. He moved to Chicago where he took a job with the Chicago PD.

This is almost as good as when we hired our lone park department worker with no police experience or training in 2008 and sent him to the eight month long police academy. He then quit a few months later when he determined he did not like being a cop.

HOW HAS SKIP NOT MOVED ON THIS LOG CABIN? Okay it is technically not in Town and Country, but it is just 10 or 15 feet out of the city limits. The log cabin on Bopp Road in Crystal Lake park. The road in front of the cabin is in Town and Country. The 2-bedroom cabin is listed with Dielman-Sotheby's for a mere \$625,000. I'm sure it would make a perfect addition to Alderman Skip Mange's “log cabin town” that he is trying to build at Drace Park.



The log cabin for sale at 2100 Bopp Road. Asking price \$625,000.

SKIP'S NEW JOB: Skip Mange, a Christian Scientist, has joined faculty of The Principia School and had to leave the dais twice on Monday night regarding Principia wanting lights on their soccer field. We are guessing that Skip might be teaching, "Collection of Log Cabins 101" a high school level course.

PATCHED UP: After losing \$100,000,000 in 2011 and costing AOL a profitable year, Patch.com continued to lose millions in 2012, but just not as much. All this caused large cuts. I'm sure Chesterfield and Town and Country readers have noticed how the patch.com sites could be renamed the patch.coma. They have little news and lots of reader surveys that don't cost anything. .

After getting rid of the part timers, freelance columnists and reporters Patch.com is now spreading their editors thin. When launched, a Patch.com editor was in charge of the community his site was attached to. Now in a cost cutting move editors are overseeing and producing content for two or three sites. Frank Johnson, who replaced Jean Whitney last September in Chesterfield is now also writing stories for the Ballwin-Ellisvillepatch.com .

That is why Frank was not doing any Chesterfield election coverage. On election night he was sitting until 12:30am at the Ellisville Mayoral Impeachment Hearing. Frank is apparently burning the candle at both ends as he referred to the impeachment as the **EMBEACHMENT HEARING** in one article. .



Sure I have three major typos in my 6,500 word story on the impeachment hearing, but I never referred an impeachment hearing to the beaching of a whale or pulling a boat onto a bench.

Anti-TIF politicians – Justified or not, candidates for Ellisville Council cast Paul's embeachment hearing and Tuesday's election as a referendum ...Frank Johnson April 5 Ballwin-Ellisville Patch.

MORE MICRO WAVES FOR WARD-4: We wouldn't want the swells who attend the Senior PGA event at Bellerive to have spotty cell phone service. To avoid that crisis the

Board of Aldermen passed a resolution to allow a portable cell tower on wheels to be installed at the country club from April 15 through May 28. Why the heck they need this for a month before the golf tournament is beyond me.

Lies: After reading the material provided by AT&T, Planning Director Sharon Rothmel told the Board in the agenda meeting that besides providing coverage for cell phone users at the golf tournament it make sure that 9-1-1 calls go through. This is untrue as 9-1-1 cell calls have a priority status and will get through.

The cell phone tower is not for “all cell phones” ...only for folks using AT&T cell phones. So if you have service with the nation’s most popular provider, Verizon Wireless, you are out of luck, not to mention service with the other carriers.

ELLISVILLE IMPEACHMENT UPDATE: While I was at the Town and Country BOA meeting, they were holding the final night of the Ellisville Mayoral Impeachment at the St. Johns Church on Manchester Road (to accommodate the large crowd). Former patch.com editor Jean Whitney was nice enough to cover what was advertised as the “closing arguments and public deliberations” for me. Unfortunately it appeared to be false advertising.

MAYOR IMPEACHMENT WITHOUT A WORD OF DELIBERATIONS: Mayor Adam Paul had left with about 200 Ellisville residents in attendance and almost three hours later he was impeached on such charges as making a 3-minute long telephone call to a relocation agent to discuss benefits for residents being displaced by a Wal Mart project.

The evening started off with closing arguments. Keith Cheung, the former Town and Country prosecutor (fired after being censured by the Missouri Supreme Court for improper conduct) waved the city charter amendment over his head and said the impeachment was not about Wal Mart, TIFs or Adam Paul. That is was about upholding the charter.

Soon to be former Mayor Paul’s attorney Chet Pleban was the most entertaining figure on the evening.

“The (impeachment hearing) started on April Fool’s Day and ended in a church. That is not lost on me,” said Pleban.

Pleban mentioned that Councilman Matt Pirrello’s comment on a KMOX talk show that Paul did not testify in his defense, which was a sure sign of a guilty man. (So much for basic rights afforded most Americans.)

“I have got news for you Mr. Pirrello. Innocent men tell their stories to honest tribunals and not to lynch mobs,” said Pleban.

Last week in the final day of testimony Ellisville City manager Kevin Bookout testified that he thought Paul was disrespectful to the council when he said “shame on you” to them reference some proposed legislation.

On Monday night Pleban called out the name of five of the councilpersons and then said, “Shame on you for not respecting Adam Paul and the people who elected him.”

Pleban finished the night early.

“Tonight is the championship game of the Final Four. I don’t know how that is going to turn out. But, I know how this going to turn out and I’m not going to stick around,” said Pleban. He then left followed by his partner Lynette Petruska and Paul.

Paul got caught by the media at the first floor lobby of the church auditorium.



Photos by Jean Whitney

“This is truly a David and Goliath story. I’m a 32-year-old man standing in the way of a \$11 million tax deferment,” Paul said.

This was supposed to be public deliberations. However there were no deliberations at all. Pleban had been saying for weeks that the council members had decided to

impeach Paul regardless of what the evidence was weeks earlier. In fact the city attorney who has been missing for over two weeks avoiding subpoena service to appear at the hearings wrote up a resolution over a month ago that the city council had found Paul guilty of all charges.

By 8:30 the votes were taken with no discussion. The verdicts were all 5-1 guilty with one exception. It was all over by 9:15.

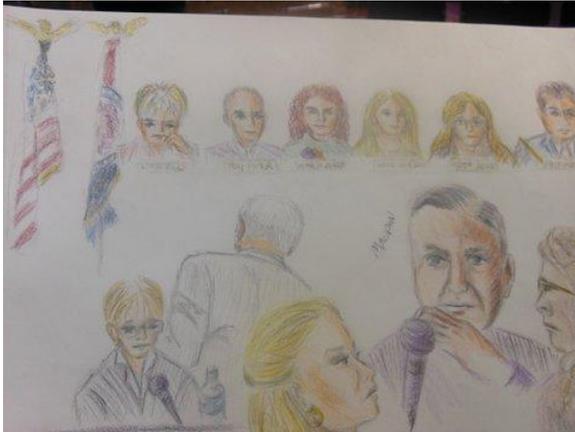


Michele Murray, sitting next to Matt Pirrello, shouted “guilty” into the microphone after each charge was read. Murray leaves office in a week due to term limits. Her seat is being taken by a Adam Paul backer. (by John Hoffmann)



(By John Hoffmann)
Councilwoman Linda Reel voted “Not Guilty” on all charges except one count that Paul allowed disruptive meetings.

FROM THE SKETCH BOOK: Sketches by a local resident of the first three days of the hearings:



SUSPECT IN ATTACK ON SMITTY'S WAITRESS STILL HAS NOT BEEN CHARGED WITH A FELONY...however, the suspect Jayne Baning has found time to make a threatening phone to the victim, Nancy Seaman, at her Chesterfield home.



Baning's Mug shot

In January, after being refused bar service because she was intoxicated, Jayne Baning used the stem of broken glass as a weapon. She struck waitress/bartender Nancy Seaman, who has worked at the popular restaurant for 23 years.

Nancy suffered a cut on her face from the side of left eye to below her mouth that took 81 stitches to close. She has under gone procedures to clear her sinus, reduce swelling under her eye and on Monday underwent extensive plastic surgery on her face.



During the attack Seaman lost so much blood she began to choke on blood flowing into her mouth. She still has dental surgery facing her in the future.

After the attack uniformed Chesterfield Police officers arrested Baning, but released her on a simple assault citation. When we began to inquire about the case, the ordinance violation charge was dropped and the case was assigned to a detective. The case is now at the County prosecutor's office waiting review and arrest warrant issuance.

The police are now also investigating the threatening phone call incident.

Seaman sued Baning in Circuit Court on March 12 for the January attack.

Seaman is still off of work and does not anticipate returning in the near future.

"All I want is to get my old crappy life back," Seaman told us last week.

A number of Smitty's employees and customers have begun a boycott of the Petromart Phillips 66 station on Clayton Road at Baxter Roads after Baning was hired as a clerk. If and when Seaman comes back to work Baning would be in violation of the restraining order as the gas station is within 500 feet of Smitty's.



On Sunday April 14 at 3pm there will be a benefit concert feature three bands that regularly appear on the weekends at Smitty's at the Ballwin VFW. Admission is \$10.

It would be nice if in the future a benefit could be held at Smitty's for Nancy. Anita Rosamond already said she would be happy to perform.



Always popular Anita Rosamond has offered to do a benefit for Smitty's waitress Nancy Seaman if Smitty's makes space available.

MUSIC AND FOOD:

It was an uncomfortable night last Friday at John Mineo's when the Doug Bert quartet played in the loft over the bar.



The upstairs AC was not working pushing the temperature PAST THE 80-DEGREE MARK. Meanwhile smoke from the outside patio fire pit was filling the loft area. After two hours everyone smelled like we had been in front of a camp fire on a weekend in the woods.

However, everything was nice and cool and without smoke on the first floor. That is where Dean Christopher will put on a floor show on Friday April 26 as part of a 40th Anniversary dinner starting at 7:30. Reservations are required and formal attire is requested.



ROUTE 66 JAZZ ORCHESTRA IN KIRKWOOD: The very entertaining Route 66 Jazz Orchestra will make their first appearance at the Kirkwood Station Brewing Co. at 105 E. Jefferson Ave at Kirkwood Road (Lindbergh) on Wednesday April 17 at 7pm. I'm hoping for a light agenda after the swearing in ceremony in Chesterfield that will allow me to scoot over to Kirkwood to catch the second set.



Wednesday April 17 @7pm

SAX NIGHT AT SASHA'S: Last Wednesday Saxophones ruled instead of the usual trumpets at Sasha's on DeMun in Clayton. Colleen Farquhar, in between gigs on Holland American and Seaborn cruise ships, along with Joe Bayer and Larry Johnson wailed with Jim Manley on trumpet and Chris "Luppy" Swan hidden from view on the keyboards.



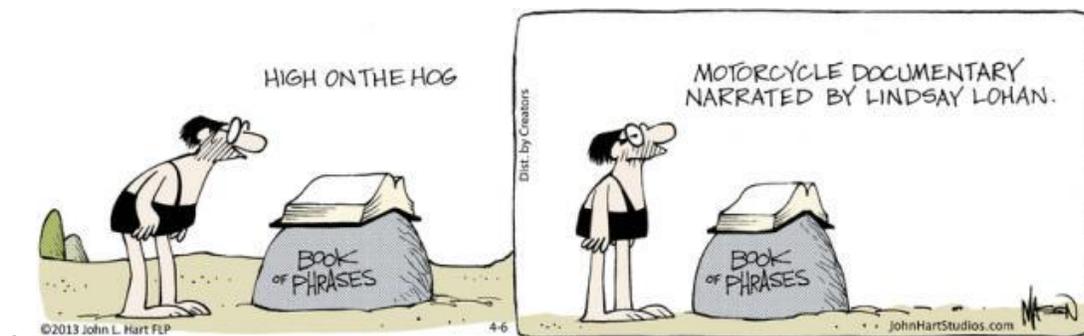
THANK GOD FOR MEXICO: Sure I was a little worried when I was at the Wal Mart in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico about to use my Visa card to purchase two six packs of Diet Dr. Pepper and a six pack of Coke Zero. Little did I know that my transaction was much safer than thousands of transactions being made that day at local Schnucks stores.

Two days after returning from a trip that included stops in Central America and the Antilles I was in the press box at GCS ballpark in Illinois doing the PA announcing for Webster University. There were three students and three adults in the press box, I was the only adult who had not had their credit card compromised from using it as Schnucks.

This just tells you the problem is a lot bigger than Schnucks wants you to know. I was lucky that I was nowhere near a Schnucks store for 16 days. Now I don't plan to be near one unless I have plenty of cash.

In 1970 when Schnucks was the #2 supermarket in town they swallowed up #1 Bettendorf-Rapp. You have to wonder how much this will hurt Schnuckendorfs. .

CARTOONS:





"Shhhh! You hear that ticking noise?
They're texting!"





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GREEN STAYS ORIGINAL WITH CARTOONS.COM



LIBTARDS

by Dixon Diaz

Republicans are racist, sexist, homophobic, gun-toting religious fanatics.



But you support the Muslims, who are racist, sexist, homophobic, gun-toting religious fanatics.



That's their culture. You have no right to judge them.



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