

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 87



June 06, 2013

By John Hoffmann

COMRADE MANGE AND HIS CHICKENS: The more I see of Skip Mange the more I realize he is not a Republican even though that is what he has claimed for a number of years.

Skip has never met a sales tax he didn't like. Democratic County Executive Charlie Dooley knows if he needs a tax hike make Skip the chair of a committee to recommend it. Skip is all for the recent Arch grounds sales tax as it would increase funding to the Municipal Parks Grants. He led the 9-1-1 sales tax...the one without a sunset provision. He headed a committee that showed County Parks needed other revenue sources after Dooley threatened to closed West County parks. Skip recommended another Parks tax.

But after what Mange did on Monday at a Conservation Commission meeting where the lone agenda item was Chickens and Chicken Coops...I'm beginning to think Skip is left of liberal Democrat. At that meeting Comrade Mange suggested his Conservation and Historic Preservation consider taking a SECRET VOTE on a motion before it.



Here is how the evening unfolded.

The commission sat around conference tables while Alderpersons Gussie Crawford, Chuck Lenz and myself sat in chairs on the west side of the room and Dirk Maas, the greenie leftist, Green team Commission member who lives on the grounds of Principia, sat behind Skip with a working a laptop throughout the evening.

Commission member Carolyn Moisson started things off by asking why the chicken issue was before the Conservation and Historical Preservation Commission to begin with.



The scene of the comedy show. also known as the Conservation Commission meeting.

“That’s a good question,” replied Mange who then explained how Mayor/Cigarette Lobbyist Jon Dalton assigned the item to the commission.

(However I always thought there was a connection with the Principia driven Green Team Commission which is stacked with Principia staffers and alum and Mange who is currently on the faculty of Principia.)

Mange then began the meeting with three possibilities of action.

1 Allow chickens with no restrictions

2 Have a list of restrictions. Mange then presented possible restrictions for chickens and chicken coops in Town and County. The list included the following:

- Private Non-commercial non-breeding*
- Maximum of four chickens*
- No Roosters*

No Free Ranging

Coops must be beyond 25 feet of property line

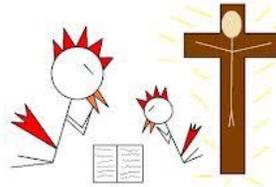
Coops cannot be more than 40 square feet

Restrictions requiring cleanliness and health standards

3 The third option would be not permitting chickens at all.

It was clear that Mange wanted chickens as he invoked the tired phrase of, “The name of the city is Town and COUNTRY after all.”

Mange also had a photo display of the chicken coop at Principia. Mange, again...as a faculty member of Principia, he explained to the commissioners that as an educational institution Principia did not need a special use permit for a chicken coop.



Here is the Principia Chicken Coop. We know Christian Scientists don't believe in medical care for humans, replacing it with prayer, but they are okay with giving local deer hysterectomies. Is it okay to treat chickens or do you teach them to pray? The last photo is a chicken receiving medical care.

Next the “Skip Show” was briefly stopped when commissioner and a former alderman Jim Havens spoke for three or four minutes why he is against chickens and coops on residential lots. Havens made a motion to simply ban chickens and coops. His motion was immediately seconded by Carolyn Moisson.

Then the comedy started with the discussion.

DISCRIMINATION:

“Wait you can't vote on this. You need to have public hearings and mail out survey cards,” exclaimed a very excited Mariette Palmer, who is always ready to spend as much tax money as possible on any issue.

Palmer also was upset over the fact you could not have roosters with the chickens.

“We have wildlife with ducks and geese that quack and honk. We don’t have to discriminate against roosters,” said Palmer. (You can’t make this stuff up!)



A possible victim of discrimination in the eyes of Mariette Palmer!

Albert “Dirk” Maas, who is not a member of the commission (but is on the Green Team Commission) put down his lap top, stood up and angrily demanded info from Havens and Moisson.

“I want to know what your objections are,” shouted Maas, who clearly had not been listening as both Havens and Moisson had explained their objections.

Hera Gerber then piped up. “I’m fascinated with all these cities that allow this. This is the first time I’ve heard about it,” she said. She apparently does not read the newspaper or background material and was asleep at the last meeting when they went over all this. Or perhaps she simply stays fascinated longer than most people.

“I grew up on a farm. My chickens were down in the barn,” said commission member Don Barr. “What about if someone wants bunnies,” asked Barr, referring to large outdoor rabbit hutches. Mange said if it was not a permitted use it would be prohibited.

Commissioner Sandra Murdock then asked, “How many people have requested to have chickens?”

Mange replied that Sharon Rothwell the city’s planning director says she has gotten a call once or twice a year. He then changed it to “Maybe four or five are interested in it. I’m sure if word gets around more people would like to have them.

It seemed as if Skip was trying to avoid the motion. I muttered under my breath, “There is a motion on the table do you think they are going to vote on it?”

Chuck Lenz then shouted out...“You have a motion you have to vote on!”

Mange replied, "I know. We are going to vote on it."

Mange then did something peculiar that he would repeat later in the evening. He got up and went over to Albert "Dirk" Maas. They whispered back and forth. It was as if Mange needed Maas' permission to continue. I'm not sure if there wasn't some secret Principia sign that got flashed.

Skip then announced they needed to vote on the motion to recommend to the board of aldermen to ban chicken and chicken coops on residential property. It was what he said next that was amazing!

"If you want we can do a show of hands. If you want to vote with a secret ballot we can do that."



This is the point where I now stopped wondering if Mange might not be a Democrat and thought he might be a Communist. I blurted out "Secret Ballot! Where are we?"

Comrade Skip then decided to have a show of hands. (That should be interesting in the minutes of the meeting.) The motion failed 2-6.

SIZE MATTERS: Skip and the commission then began to discuss coming up with a list of requirements and restrictions for chickens and chicken coops.

As they talked about the dos and don'ts they never mentioned the most important thing...what size of lot would be allowed to have them. Chuck Lenz and I both at about the same time shouted "What about lot size before you decide restrictions."

Skip then mentioned just one subdivision had lots under one acre in size. Chuck and I then mentioned three more. (I muttered, "This guy used to be mayor?") Members of the commission quickly thought one-acre or more should be the minimum size of a lot before you can have chickens. There was one exception Hera Gerber wanted it to be ½ acre lots.

Skip then excused himself again and went over to whisper to Maas, who lives in a house on the Principia campus with the lot in his name. The lot is between 1/3 and 1/2 acre. The commission was deciding that Maas and his buddies living in houses at Principia could not have their own chicken coops just the school could have one.

At another point they were talking about allowing “free range” chickens. Chuck and I laughed both saying if a chicken “free ranged” into our yards our dogs would make it a final trip to the range by that chicken.

“You people are nuts if you think chickens will stay in the yard and come back when called,” said Havens.

I almost fell out of my chair laughing when Chuck suggested (tongue in cheek only to a point) that perhaps chicken coop approval should also require approval of the coop by the Architectural Review Board. Yes the front has to have 40% masonry and brick and the roofs have to have architectural shingles.

Of course if you are before the Architectural Review Board you have to have a set of plans. I mentioned out loud “that some chicken scratching on a piece of paper would not cut it.” This only got one laugh.

Which chicken coop would meet Town and Country Standards?



It was also mentioned how chicken coops should have concrete floors to predators from digging their way into the coop and eating the chickens and also to keep mice and rats from getting in and eating the chicken feed. So there is a pleasant thought. The chicken coop next door could be helping feed vermin in the subdivision.

Finally after 90 minutes Skip announced he would write up a new list of requirements and restrictions for them to review at their next meeting. .

MORE LOG CABIN CAPERS: Skip had more announcements before the meeting was over. First he would be at Drace Park on Saturday from 9:30-to-11:30 to show people where he wants to put the log cabin he acquired that is currently in pieces

waiting to be reassembled. He still needs to raise about \$120,000 for put the cabin back together. He also would be showing the existing log house.

HOW TO SPEND MORE TAX MONEY FOR PRIVATE GROUPS THE SKIP WAY:

Mange then announced that the existing log cabin house where people used to live that had a bathroom and kitchen, is in need of updating. Since the city acquired Drace Park this log cabin has sat empty with water leaking into the basement and mold growing.

Skip's plan is to put in a new kitchen, bath plus heating and cooling system to the cabin and then let the Town and Country Historical Society move in. Keep in mind the Historical Society is not part of government and is a private group of people. Skip wants to spend \$100,000 so a private club he belongs to can move into a city building. The Historical Society is already given a room at the Longview Farm House in the city's main park for free. I have to believe this is both a conflict of interest and a waste of money.

Skip talked about getting a Parks Grant to do this work. Skips acts like Parks Grants come from the Money Fairy. In fact they come from area wide sales taxes.



Here is the log cabin where Skip Mange wants to put in a new bathroom, kitchen and HVAC system. The rear is an add-on. It seems if Skip wants to preserve history he needs to tear down the add-on. Install a hand water pump and build an outhouse fifty feet behind the cabin.

LOG CABIN NIGHT: Skip also announced that on Tuesday June 11 at 6:30pm he would be holding a town forum about where to put the newly acquired log cabin at

Drace Park at the Longview Farm House. (Why he isn't holding this forum at the pavilion at Drace Park...I don't know?)

Of course Skip still has to get a Parks Grant of more than \$100,000 to assemble the latest in his collection of log cabins.

I have trouble with folks like Skip and their historic preservation. Most of Town and Country was farmland. Those farms are gone. The city has preserved the Longview Farmhouse and two log cabins with a third waiting to be reassembled. What is there left to preserve?

Apparently no one likes my idea to preserve a 1950-1960 era ranch house with a Studebaker and a Packard in the garage, a push button GE range, a black and white Muntz TV and a Philco AM/FM console plus a record player with a Patti Page LP on the turntable and show people how the original residents of the incorporated Town and Country lived 60 years ago.



Of course I mention this as a joke and Skip is actually pushing on buying a 1950's style Frank Lloyd Wright house located behind Mason Ridge Elementary School during a year when the city has a \$6,000,000 budget deficit.

PRAIRIE WEEDS: If you have ever walked Drace Park you would have noticed on the south side of the park is a long section in the field that has been dedicated in the past for Prairie Grass. Every year, either late in the fall or early in the spring the section is cut low. The weeds are removed and the grass begins to grow again. Every year except this year!

The grass was not cut and the weeds not controlled. You now literally have to push aside the weeds to see any sign of Prairie Grass.

The brown stuff sticking up is the native prairie grass. Most of the green are weeds!



Parks director Anne Nixon again shows how she is an activity person and not a land management person. Unfortunately the majority of her parks are passive parks that need attention.

THE WAVY SIDEWALK: If you look closely at the new trail (wide sidewalk) along Clayton Road across from the pasture in Country Life Acres you will notice how the sidewalk takes a couple of dips. I inquired and learned the reason is something you are likely only to see in Town and Country. The homeowners asked for something unique or unusual with the sidewalk in front of their house and this is what they were given. I guess they will be happy, but how happy will the parent be when their 6-year-old on a learners' bike goes airborne and comes down on his chin while on the sidewalk. .

THE NEW WEST COUNTY EMS & FIRE DISTRICT: It appears as if the 10-Day long closing of the El Maguey restaurant in Manchester at the corner of Manchester Road and Baxter Road was because of the work of the excellent West County EMS & Fire Protection District.

The Mexican restaurant had a backed up sanitary sewer backup that had flooded the basement with several inches of raw sewage. Did the restaurant management close and begin disaffecting? No...they stayed open and had the teenagers on the staff try and clean things up. It wasn't working and it took an accidental sounding of a fire alarm at 7:30pm at the end of the dinner rush to finally protect customers.



The new district fire marshal Dan Bruno was called out and reportedly was amazed at what he found. Open containers of sauces and dishes on tables where raw sewage was floating by on the floor. Meanwhile employees were walking through the sewage and back up to the kitchen and customer areas. The fire district ordered the restaurant closed and called out the St. Louis County Health Department which took over.

The owner, Francisco Limon blamed the problem on an inexperienced manager. How much experience do you need to know that human feces on the floor is a big problem?

THE PAST: I have to say I have had my issues with the West County EMS and Fire Protection District since I moved back to St. Louis from the Washington, DC area in 2006.

I had no interest of getting into politics when moving back. That lasted for about two months. That is when West CO EMS &FD firefighters came knocking on my door asking me to sign a petition to get annexed into the fire district. The district had just signed a five-year \$17.5 million contract to provide fire and EMS service to Town and Country.

At the time the Fire District had an 85-cents per \$100 valuation property tax. Town and Country had no property tax and paid for fire and EMS service from its general fund.

In other words the firefighters wanting me to sign a petition to put an annexation election on the ballot wanted to cost me \$800 a year in new taxes and some of my neighbors thousands of dollars a year.

The Town and Country mayor, Jon Dalton, did nothing as this process took place. I finally found out why. Less than nine months earlier he had been on the payroll of the fire district as a lobbyist in Jefferson City. The same year he was on the fire district's payroll he signed a \$17.5-million contract with them and then stood by doing nothing as the fire district attempted to put higher valued Town and Country residences and businesses on their tax rolls.

It was clear the fire board and fire chief wanted to rob the residents of Town and Country. After firefighters had collected enough signatures bamboozling residents with speeches that contained few facts, a public hearing was still required before the matter could be put on the ballot in November,

By now there was a sizable opposition to this annexation attempt. To show their utter contempt for the residents the town hall meeting was held at 8 o'clock in the morning, hopefully guaranteeing a small turn out. It didn't work there was a huge turnout.

By August the Fire District had the annexation matter on the ballot. By now Dalton was no longer feeling the love of the residents and eventually in September convinced the fire district to take the annexation question off the ballot. Dalton then told the residents "Don't think this is going away."

For the next four years I wrote about how we were being grossly overcharged under the current contract and what a terrible job Dalton did giving his former employer \$17.5 million over five years.

Then in 2011 there was a new contract...it was much less than the last one. So apparently the citizens had been ripped off over the last five years. Jon Dalton gave himself a big pat on the back on the great job he did reducing the fire and EMS costs.

THE PRESENT: IN 2012 the fire district demoted the Fire Chief Dave Frazier. There was a great rumor for the reason, but it will be impossible to confirm so I'm not passing it along.

Then they hired Ernie Rhodes, III who had been fire chief in St. Charles. Early on I was impressed with Rhodes. At a public hearing of the St. Louis Boundary Commission, Mayor Dalton took to the microphone and explained why Town and Country should be

allowed to annex the very large area of business complexes on both sides of I-270 before the Des Peres City Limits.

Dalton's first reason was because the area was not in a city or a fire district and in the event of an accident or car fire no one will come. The property owners of the businesses pay the West Country EMS & FPD but that does not cover I-270.

This got Chief Rhodes to his feet. He was pissed, even if Dalton was the leader of Town and Country that provided one-third of the fire district's revenue each year.

He took the microphone and said what Dalton claimed was utterly false. The fire district has always responded to accidents and car fires on the section of I-270 and always will unless a city with a fire department takes over the area.



Fire Chief Ernie Rhodes

I next ran into Chief Rhodes at the fire district headquarters. I went there after I attended a Park Commission meeting where Alderwomen Lynn Wright was holding a discussion on the upcoming Art Wine and Music party to be held at the Longview Farmhouse. They were selling 100 tickets to the event.

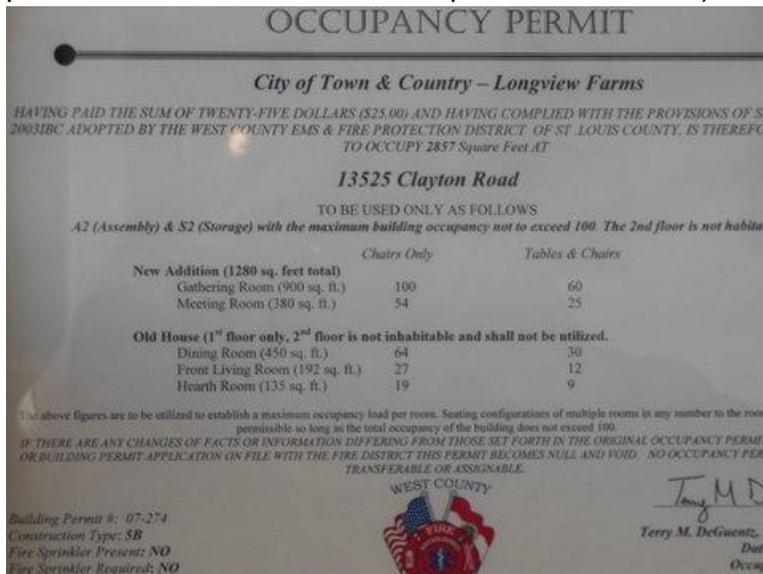
I pointed out that the fire marshal permit for the building only allows 100 people period. If the 100 ticket holders showed up at the same time as the staff, musicians, wine and food servers they would be way over the 100 person limit.

Lindsey Hodge, a Parks Department staffer was at the meeting and said she had received a wink from the fire marshal that 120 would be okay in the past at Longview.

The next day I was at the fire district and I spoke with Chief Rhodes. He said there were no such things as winks and nods and what is on the building permit is what the maximum occupancy for the building.

When I pointed out my conversation to city officials I was told it had been former Fire Chief Frazier who made the "wink and nod" comment.

(When the Longview House first opened the then fire marshal gave the place a rating of 150 and 80 for a partitioned conference room. The city building inspector Bob Bodley, a retired fire battalion chief, thought this was outrageous. I was an alderman at the time and having been a fire and arson investigator for 10 years, I also thought it was ridiculous. We arranged to meet the fire marshal at Longview for him to prove his occupancy rating. The day before the meeting he called and cancelled and a new permit was issued with the 100 person maximum.)



Now with the new fire marshal responsible for closing down a restaurant that was grossly unsafe with fecal matter floating in the area of dishes and open containers of sauces, I have a new respect for the command staff of the West CO EMS & FPD. I'm still suspect of the elected board of directors who are the same people reasonable for the annexation attempt.

I also have to wonder who in the right mind will ever walk into the El Maguey again.

SPLITSVILLE: Former Alderwoman and mayoral candidate Lynn Krause who lived at 1033 S. Mason Road is in the middle of a divorce action that was originally filed by her husband Terry last November. The house is in both of their names. In 2003 Krause lost in a run for mayor to David Karney by 179 votes.

Mrs. Krause is represented by Margo Green and Mr. Krause's lawyer is William Grant.



former Alderwoman Lynn Krause who in the past also taught cooking at area colleges.

WEST COUNTY POLICE TRAFFIC STOPS: For the second year we are breaking down the numbers and trying to show which departments in the West County are most likely to make DWB traffic stops. (Driving While Black). Also we will show you which towns where you should watch your speed when driving on an Interstate highway.

One of the last columns I wrote for patch.com last year was breaking down the annual police traffic information filed with the Missouri Attorney General's Office. I looked at the stats of Chesterfield, Town and Country, Ladue and Pine Lawn. The information breaks down traffic stops, searches and arrest by a person's race.

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/groups/opinion/p/the-tale-of-four-cities-and-traffic-stops>

Why did I start with Pine Lawn? While many complain about the disparity for West County police agencies that stop far more blacks than the local population rate, Pine Lawn has the most out of whack racial numbers.



Pine Lawn stops far more white people than they have in their population base according to census figures. In 2011 **23.4% of all traffic stops involved white motorists**. Only 1.3% of the population of Pine Lawn was white. The biggest reason for this disparity is because there is a small section of I-70 in Pine Lawn and the police department does speed enforcement (revenue collection) on I-70. While most of Pine Lawn is black, the department stops a lot of white motorists on I-70. Pine Lawn only has a population of 3,274 and 2,388 of driving age. 95% of the population is African-American.

In **2012 that number** (of whites stopped) **went up to 27.5%** traffic stops in Pine Lawn. If you go by these numbers alone, it is clear that Pine Lawn discriminates against Whites. Of course that would be stupid to do.

In 2011 Ladue the numbers are also very high. Only 1% of Ladue consists of African-Americans but 15% of all traffic stops involved blacks. It was the lowest percentage of blacks stopped in Ladue for a decade.



In 2012 the population remained the same with 95% of population being white. **In 2012 13.8%** of all traffic stops by Ladue Police were of black motorists. That is a reduction from 2011. Keep in mind that 21% of the St. Louis county population is Black, but I'm pretty sure that 21% is not driving through Ladue on a daily basis.

34.6% of all white motorists stopped, were stopped on I-64. 61% of all blacks stopped in Ladue were on I-64. When you are doing speed enforcement of cars doing 70 MPH or better, you really don't have much of a chance to check the race of the driver before chasing them down. Trust me on this one...I used to do it.

Interestingly Jonathan F. Dalton, Jr., the son of Town and Country Mayor Jon Dalton, being arrested for DWI twice in 2012 by the Ladue Police represented 9% of the police department total of 22 DWI arrests. Dalton, Jr. represented 13.3% of all whites arrested for DWI by the Ladue PD in 2012. 22 drunk drivers is an amazingly low number of drunk driving arrests for a city the size of Ladue.

Another interesting note was traffic stops by Ladue cops dropped by 1,064 or 28% from 2011 to 2012. The numbers of Blacks stopped between 2011 and 2012 dropped by 33%.

Overall Ladue's policing along I-64 dropped dramatically from 2011 to 2012. In 2011 the Ladue Police made 2035 stops on I-64. In 2012 the number dropped by 53%, when they made only 1082 traffic stops on I-64.

In Frontenac 18.3% all motorists stopped by the police were Blacks. 2.6% of Frontenac is made up of Blacks and 89% are white.



More interesting is that Frontenac with a much smaller amount of I-64 in the city limits than Ladue made a lot more traffic stops on the Interstate than Ladue did. In 2012 Frontenac made 2,044 stops on I-64. That is 53% more than Ladue made. 20.7% of motorists stopped on I-64 in Frontenac were Black.

Frontenac is like Ladue (besides being one of the wealthiest communities in St. Louis) as their overall traffic enforcement dropped from 2011 to 2012. They made 1,229 more traffic stops in 2011 versus 2012. That is a 26% drop in car stops. On I-64 the enforcement level dropped 21%.

DWI arrests in 2012 by Frontenac cops dropped by 2 from 66 in 2011 to 64 in 2012.

Town and Country cops are well known for doing traffic enforcement along I-64 and I-270. They have their own Traffic Unit, which I refer to as the “Revenue Cutters” that are on duty 16 hours a day.



In 2012 Town and Country Cops made 10,355 traffic stops. The white population is T&C is 86.5%. The black population is 2.6% and the Asian population is 7.5%.

In 2012 12% of all traffic stops involved blacks. That is a lower percentage than in Ladue and Frontenac. I think that has to do with the huge amounts of traffic enforcement Town and Country does on the Interstate highways. Keep in mind that the overall black population in St. Louis County is 21.2% and the overall white population is 71.9%.

Of all the traffic stops in 2012 by the T&C cops 84.6% were of white motorists. That is 1% less than the total white population in Town and Country.

Town and Country is also different from Ladue and Frontenac in another area. While Ladue and Frontenac traffic stops have gone down from 2011 to 2012...in Town and Country enforcement has gone up. In 2011 the police made 8,760 traffic stops. In 2012 they made 10,355, which is a 15.5% increase.

On the interstate T&C officers made 850 more traffic stops jumping from 6,300 in 2011 to 7,150 in 2012 for a 12% increase.

In 2012 83.4% of the stops on I-270 and I-64 were of white drivers. 974 Blacks were stopped on the Interstates for a 13.6% average. In 2011 84.1% of the highway stops involved whites and 13.1% were black drivers.

The other area where there is a huge difference between Town and Country and neighboring communities is the amount of DWI arrests Town and Country cops made 377 DWI arrests in 2012 down from 394 in 2011. Frontenac made 64 in 2012 down from 66. Ladue made 22 DWI arrests in 2012. Chesterfield made 91.

In 2012 14% of people arrested for DWI in Town and Country were Black. In 2011 it was 11%. Since so many of Town and Country's traffic stops are made on I-64 and I-270 these numbers are well under the county wide population numbers by race.

Chesterfield is four times larger than Town and Country in population and three times larger in area. However their overall traffic stop numbers are less than Town and Country. While Chesterfield officers will write traffic citations on I-64, they don't park and do speed enforcement on I-64. In 2012 T&C officers made 89% more traffic stops on Interstate highways than did the Chesterfield Police.



In 2012 Chesterfield officers made 9,564 traffic stops. Of that number 8,363 were of White drivers, representing 87.4% of all traffic stops. Chesterfield's population is

47,476. Of that 84.6% is white. In other words according to the rational of many liberals, Chesterfield was discriminating against Whites!

In 2012 the number of Blacks stopped for traffic offenses was 727 or 7.6% of all drivers. Blacks represent 2.6% of the population of Chesterfield. So if White and Blacks were both groups that were being stopped at a rate higher than their local population numbers, what group was catching a break?

It was Asians! People of Asian heritage represent 8.6% of Chesterfield's population, however only 3.3% of traffic stops involved Asians in 2012! In 2011 the percentage was just 3.1%.

In 2012 Chesterfield made just 91 DWI arrests. That is a huge number compared to Ladue's 22 DWI arrests but is just 24% of the number of DWI arrests made by Town and Country. The Chesterfield judge and prosecutor are now famous for not convicting people arrested for DWI, by handing out no-record probations.

Chesterfield again comes out with the best numbers among the West County police departments along I-64, if you believe in this legislative demanded collection of statistics. According to these numbers alone Chesterfield needs to stop more Asians and less White and Blacks for traffic violations, which is utterly ridiculous.

However, it is interesting to see which departments are making the most and the least DWI arrests. If you looked at Ladue's DWI stat's (22 arrests for 2012) you would have to believe one of two things. Either rich people don't drink much or former Ladue Police Chief Larry White was right when he said the mayor ordered police officers to drive drunk residents home and not arrest them for DWI.

SEARCHES: It was interesting to see that police found less contraband after doing searches of Black drivers and found a higher percentage of contraband when searching White drivers. This does give an appearance that a black motorist is more likely to get searched than a White motorist with less probable cause.



In Ladue only 45 searches were made after 2,783 vehicle stops in 2012. 55% of the searches were of white drivers and 38% of the searches were of Black drivers. 13.8% of the traffic stops involved Blacks.

In Frontenac there were 139 searches after 3,494 traffic stops in 2012. 54% of the searches were to White drivers and 42% involved Black drivers. 18.3% of all traffic stops in 2012 involved Blacks.

In Town and Country the police made 571 vehicle searches in 2012. 74% involved white drivers and 21% involved Black drivers, however only 12% of the traffic stops involved Blacks.

In Chesterfield 79% of vehicle searches in 2012 involved White motorists. 16% involved Black drivers, who were the subject of 7.6% of all 2012 traffic stops.

Realty Check: Keep in mind that 12% of Missouri population is Black and 50% of the Missouri Prison population is Black. Some “traffic stops” are related to immediate theft and shoplifting investigations, which are often driven by socio-economic and educational performance issues. There is a higher number of Blacks that fall into lower educational and economic standings which can result in more police searches.

A DIFFERENT LOOK



I did look at the stats from Rock Hill, a city without any Interstate Highway with a 23% population of Black residents. Rock Hill is also known as a speed trap. Rock Hill officers made 5,828 car stops in 2012. 638 involved Black drivers or 11%. 86% involved White drivers. The majority of the communities surrounding Rock Hill have large majority White populations and most of the Rock Hill traffic stops are on Manchester Road and McKnight Road. It is not a surprise that more whites are pulled over. I also have to believe that the residents who are Black in Rock Hill know that the city has a reputation as a speed trap and they don't speed until they are safely out of the city limits, just like the 68% of the Rock Hill population who are White.

CANCELLED: I got an email from one of the area's favorite singers, Anita Rosamond saying her gig on June 21 at John Mineo's has been cancelled by Mineo's. Anita will be at Smitty's the next day on Saturday June 22 from 3-to-6..



THIS WEDNESDAY AT SASHA'S : You never know who will show up and sit in at Sasha's on De Mun in Clayton with Jim Manley and Chris Swan. Here what you missed this week:



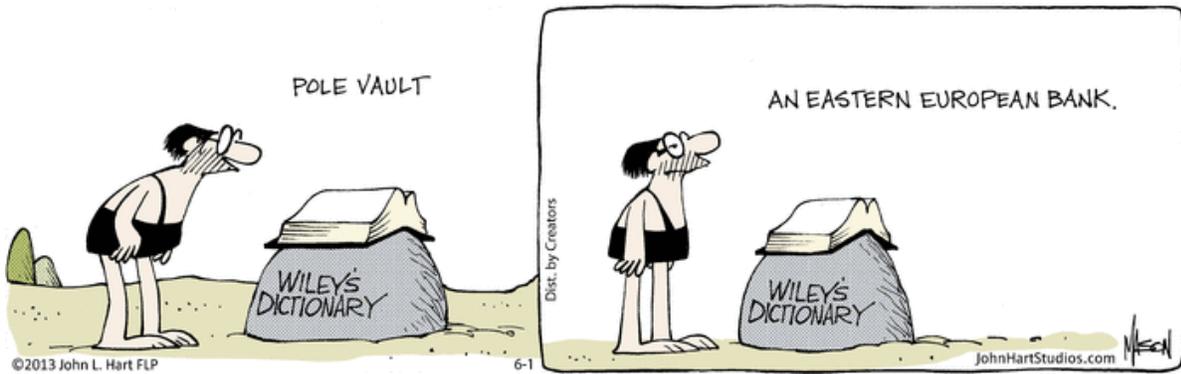
four trumpets and a sax.

SUMMER MEANS NO MORE VISITING MUSICIANS: Wednesday was the last night for musicians to sit in with Jim Manley and Chris Swan. With the front of Sasha's being open air in the summer, they have to keep the sound down due to apartments located next door.

Starting next week...it's only Manley on trumpet and Swan on keyboards...Kevin behind the bar!

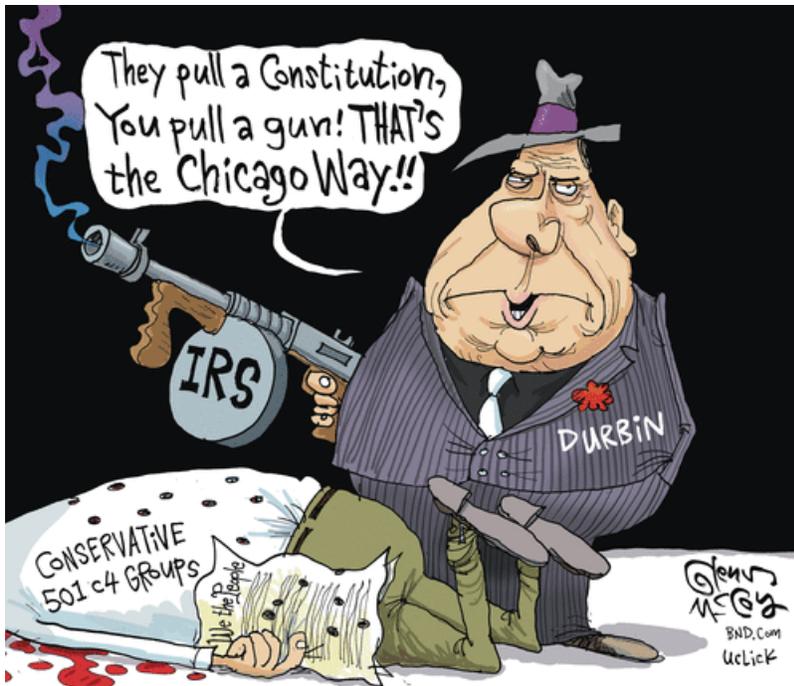


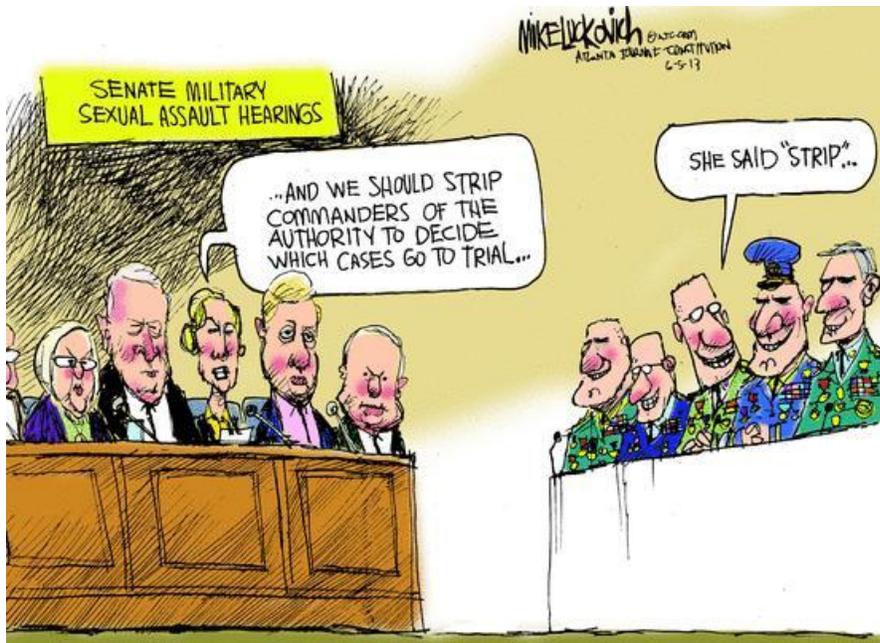
CARTOONS:

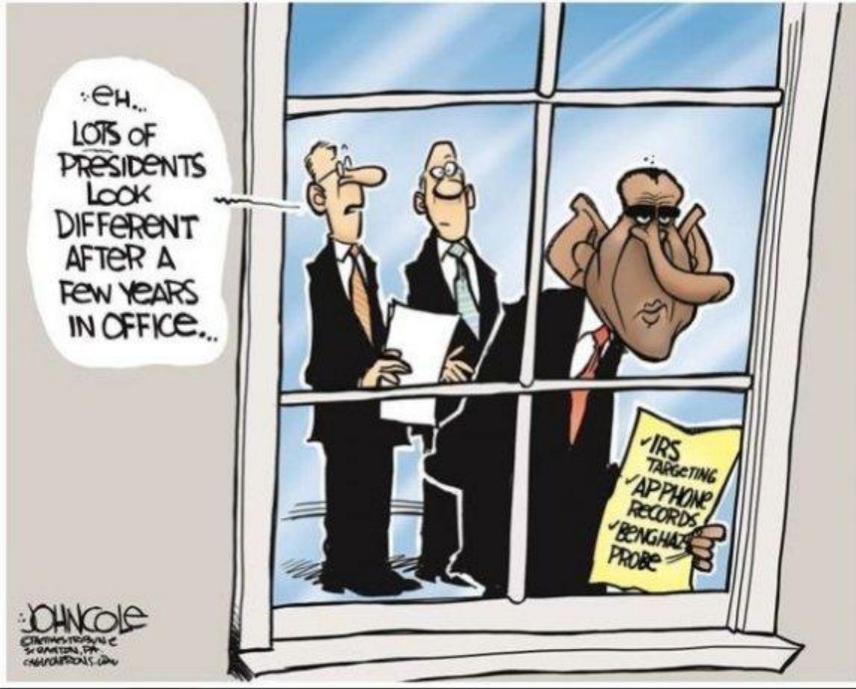




"Cindy, wait! Take my phone and get some photos for Facebook!"







OBAMA CLAIMS IGNORANCE



*I guess Clint Eastwood
called that one.*

