

UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 13

October 19, 2012

By John Hoffmann

THE BIG NEWS OF THE WEEK: Let's face it...how many people really care about local politics versus what going to be the newest restaurant in Chesterfield Valley?

The important answer is Buffalo Wild Wings in going into the vacant building that previously housed O'Charley's. On Monday night the city council voted to give Buffalo Wild Wings a full liquor license.

I was surprised, because if you look at Buffalo Wild Wings commercials, you would swear the only reason you go there is to eat hot chicken wings, drink beer by the picture all served by young women wearing clothes that are too tight and watch sports on very big screen TVs. Why pay extra for the full liquor license?

EDISON AVENUE ROAD WORK: The council also approved a contract to provide an asphalt overlay on Edison Road from Long Road to Baxter Road. The work should be done this fall and will take no more than four days, weather permitting. Much of the work may be done at night and would require closing part of the road.

The cost of the project is \$560,000 with \$221,000 coming from special grants.

FREE LAND WILL COST \$20,000. The city council voted to accept the donation of 188 acres of land that includes a 30 acre lake from the Monarch-Chesterfield Levee District. The East Wetlands is located behind where the Taubman Prestige Outlet mall is being built. As regular readers know, to keep the two outlet malls straight in my mind, I refer to them as the Missouri River Outlet and the Hockey Ice Arena Outlet Mall. This will be behind the Hockey Ice Rink Mall.

The free land will cost the city \$20,000, the price to do an accurate survey of the site.

THANKSGIVING BLACK FRIDAY SALES OKAY DESPITE FULTS' NO VOTE: Last year national stores in Chesterfield followed corporate instructions and opened on Thanksgiving night or at midnight or 3am. They were cited by the city for violating the ordinance that does not allow overnight retail hours.

This summer city staff recommended allowing stores special hours in lieu of the ordinance. The staff recommended overnight hours immediately before, or on the day of a Federal Holiday. This would allow special hours for the day after Christmas sales, 4th of July sales and Columbus Day sales.

However the council and Mayor Geiger didn't like the recommendation. Instead they crafted an ordinance that would allow overnight retail hours only on Thanksgiving night and the day after Turkey Day.

That ordinance passed on Monday with only Councilwoman Connie Fults voting no. Fults has been against any store being open 24 hours or into overnight hours. I am surprised St. Luke's Hospital Emergency Room is open 24 hours with Fults on the council.

"It was clear many residents did not want 24 operations. I feel when we start breaching that compromise it will only go downhill from there. Their voices were clear they did not want 24-hour operations," said Fults.

I'm guessing Fults is a "morning person."

CHESTERFIELD HAS GOTTEN THE MOST PARKS GRANTS, BUT ONE COUNCILMAN IS UNAWARE WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM:

The Council passed a resolution instructing the staff to apply for a Municipal Parks Grants Commission grant to add covers to bleachers at softball and baseball fields. The covers will provide shade from summer sun and will protect spectators from foul balls being launched from adjoining fields.

During the agenda meeting Councilman Derek Grier asked where the Municipal Parks grant money comes from.

I would normally think that was a good question, but in this case I was amazed that Grier was unaware that Chesterfield has received more grant money from the Municipal Parks Grants Commission which is operated by the St. Louis County Municipal League than any other city. Also I found it odd that an elected official was unaware of all the taxes his residents pay.



Councilman Derek Grier on Monday was unaware where Parks Grant money came from after Chesterfield has accepted \$1.7 million.

The grants commission is funded thanks to an area wide 1/10-cent sales tax that was originally called the Metropolitan Park and Recreation District and is now know as the Great Rivers Greenway.

In the first 12 rounds of grants being issued The City of Chesterfield has received eight grants totaling \$1,753,524. That is a lot of money for an elected official not to know where it comes from.

<http://www.muniparkgrants.org/>

TWO POLICE OFFICERS GIVEN AWARDS FROM MENTAL HEALTH GROUP:

Police Officers Greg Rupp and Kim Beckman received annual awards from the National Organization of mental illness. Both are trained Crisis Intervention Team officers who are taught how to deal with people with mental health issues. About half of the Chesterfield department has training in this area.

Beckman's award was for the year 2011 and Rupp's award was for 2012. Both officers recognized residents with mental health issues and obtain intervention, in one case through a court order.



Kim Beckman and Greg Rupp

Chief Ray Johnson mentioned there are 3000 CIT officers in the area and Chesterfield has won the award two years in a row. (One reason maybe that the lack of crime and heavy volumes of calls allows Chesterfield Police to spend more time on unusual cases.)

Officer Beckman is assigned to be at all City Council meetings, causing me to wonder if with his special training he is there due to mental health issues associated with elected officials or people who attend city council meetings.

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/articles/chesterfield-police-have-specifically-trained-team-for-mental-health-issues>

ARTS COUNCIL LEADER NOT A BASEBALL FAN Last Monday's City Council meeting and Game 2 of the National League Championship Series began at about the same time, 7pm. On the agenda was an update presentation from Stacey Morse, of the Chesterfield Arts, a group partially funded by the residents of Chesterfield was going to show a five-minute video presentation of the group's recent activities. Her computer was not working as she spent 10 minutes unsuccessfully trying to play the 5-minute video.

Next she spent another 10 minutes explaining how the College Student Sculpture contest was going to work. The first of seven phases saw students from five community colleges and universities from a 125 mile radius attend an overview. This included her description of a field trip for the students around Chesterfield.

Then she went on and on (this solely from the perspective of a baseball fan) how the five finalists would receive \$500 each (\$2,500) to continue to work on their presentation.

The winner would then get \$1,500 and a fabricator who is yet to be determined would get \$15,000 to produce the sculpture.

When she was done over 20 minutes had passed and the score was tied with each team scoring a run.

Last year while at a Town and Country Board of Aldermen meeting during the World Series I witnessed the Board of Aldermen approve a grossly oversized sign for a spa next to the Whole Foods store. As the spa's manager went on and on with her presentation, she was stopped and told everyone had heard enough and was ready to vote. She was clearly unaware that the local team was playing in the World Series. It was a unanimous vote for the oversized sign.

Luckily the next Chesterfield Board of Aldermen meeting is after the World Series is completed.

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

Appalachian Trail Road to be stripped and shoulders marked: Councilman Elliott Grissom brought up the complaint of the president of the trustees of the Shenandoah subdivision who along with other trustees did not want the city to put down center lane and curb strips on Appalachian Trial Road when the pavement work was completed.

Grissom said she told him that center lane stripping would make the street look more like a highway and encourage people to speed.

Susan Mueller, a city engineer said the city used double yellow lines for the center of the road and white lines for the parking area along Stablestone, a road similar to Appalachian Trail. Mueller said before and after speed surveys showed there was a 5-to-7 mph drop in speed with the double yellow lines on the road.

Councilwoman Connie Fults also brought up how there is an elementary school nearby and the stripping was a safety issue.

"I think the woman (trustee) is completely off base," commented Councilman Matt Segal.

The committee voted 3-to-1 with Grissom voting against it, to strip Appalachian Trail.

ZONING CHANGE FOR A CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC: The committee voted 4-0, agreeing with an 8-0 vote from the Planning Commission to forward to the City Council for approval to allow a chiropractic clinic to go into a retail area. The zoning change would be for Chesterfield Oaks is located on the east side of Clarkson Road north of Baxter Road.

\$5,000 plus labor to help Ameren clean up the butchering of trees on Schoettler Road. The committee voted 4-0 for staff to meet with Ameren about removing the trees that were “trimmed” to the point where they no longer resemble trees along Schoettler Road. Ameren has told city staff they would cut down the trees if the city paid for stump removal and provided traffic control. The additional cost to the city will be \$5,000.



\$21,000 In Replacement banners: The committee voted to recommend to the Council to approve \$21,000 for replacement street banners. It was said this is a regular three item.

SOLAR PANELS: There was a discussion about regulating solar panels. Kevin Neill, a young city project planner gave some background concerning state laws and county building codes.

Connie Fults began lamenting how the city could not keep an ugly homemade solar panel system from coming to exist in Ward-4. Several others agreed with her concerning the appearance of the solar array.

Planning and Development Services Director Aimee Nassif then took over and told the committee that the court case in Clarkson Valley has not been appealed and currently there is some question if cities can regulate solar panels.

We have reported in earlier newsletters about the case in Clarkson Valley. The Babbs wanted to put solar panels on their roof. Neighbors objected and the City of Clarkson Valley passed an ordinance outlawing the panels on the front side of roofs.

The Babbs sued in Cole County Circuit Court in Jefferson City, claiming no city in Missouri can pass laws or regulations that are stricter than the rules and regulations of the Missouri Public Service Commission. The Circuit Court agreed and forbid Clarkson Valley from enforcing its ordinance. The Babbs immediately put up their solar panels.

Currently in Missouri a municipality does not have the right to prohibit solar panels, Nassif told the committee. Connie Fults then suggested that a municipality may have the some control.

“All I ask for is for requirements for appearances and aesthetics. Make them have landscape buffers,” said Fults. “We should have rules on ground mounted units on small lots where it affects your neighbors.”

When she questioned the glare of roof mounted solar panels, it was pointed out to her that the panels absorb sunlight and are not designed to reflect it. Connie at times is really a glass half empty type person. Her case often seems to be beauty in the eye of the beholder over personal freedoms.

Mayor Geiger then mentioned the city needs to be ready to deal with two other issues; rainwater barrels and wind turbines.

The discussion then ended and the meeting was adjourned about 25 minutes before the first pitch of the Cardinals-Giants playoff game.

FORE! WITH A \$2.4 MILLION DECIFICT BUDGET FOR 2013, TOWN AND COUNTRY IS TO GIVE FREE SERVICES TO THE PGA AND BELLERIVE: CHESTERFIELD WILL JOIN T&C OFFERING COPS FOR FREE: At the T&C Police Commission meeting on Tuesday October 16, it was announced that once again the residents of Town and County and Chesterfield are going to be paying for police services connected with traffic control for a May 2013 PGA Seniors event to be held at the Bellerive County Club.

This is outrageous! It is not like a tornado hit or there was a flood and the police responded to road closures. Bellerive and the PGA are inviting 25,000 paying customers to a golf tournament. This is a private event they are selling tickets to and

they expect the citizens of Town and Country and Chesterfield to pay for additional police services to control traffic that the PGA and Bellerive have created.

When I was both a city police official and later the enforcement official for Montgomery County Maryland Transportation Department there was a PGA event annually in Potomac Maryland. The County provided police, transportation and public works services and the County was reimbursed for the all costs. They did not give away anything to the PGA.

What's the difference here? Are we too soft hearted or too soft headed?

Chesterfield Police confirmed they will also handle extra duties on the taxpayer's dime.

Politics as Usual: Allen Allred, a board member at Bellerive is also a member of the Town and Country Police Commission. He was also the former Missouri River Township Republican committeeman. Town and Country Mayor Jon Dalton, is a well known Jefferson City lobbyist, who has been listed in the past as a Republican lobbyist. Dalton is also the president of the highly "restrictive" Old Warson Country Club. It is no surprise that he is allowing police services to be put on the back of T&C residents.



Allred wearing golf shoes and a tight shirt at a recent Police Commission meeting. A blurry photo of the soles of Allred's golf shoes with plastic cleats.



Former Republican committeeman, Allen Allred.,



Town and Country Mayor & Mr. Republican
Jon Dalton

Of course Town and County, despite having a projected overall budget deficit of \$2.4 million for 2013 is going to give Bellerive free special police services for a private event.

But why is Chesterfield giving away free police services for a private event. Here is the response from the Chesterfield Police Department spokesman, Capt. Steve Lewis:

“Any officers we have assigned to assist with traffic direction on the public roadway is department time, anything within the grounds of the event itself is paid for by the PGA as secondary employment. At this time I don’t know that there is a set number of officers directing traffic, our traffic Lt. is coordinating this for our agency.”

Let’s face it, Chesterfield is full of Republicans.

St. Louis Police officers standing in the middle of the street and directly traffic into and out of stadium parking garages are not being paid by the city, but by the Cardinals. Do you think if you decided to have a party at your house and invited a couple thousand people, the police would be doing traffic control to parking lots for free?

Hunter Farms Not Being Used for Parking this Time: At past PGA events at Bellerive parking was allowed at Hunter Farms property on Ladue Road.

For this golf event parking will be at the Principia campus on Clayton Road and shuttle busses will be used.

In 2010 at the BMW Classic on duty police officers were directing traffic and helping motorists in and out of parking lots and onto the country club grounds. We were told of a fraternal club on Ladue Road in Creve Coeur that as a fundraiser wanted to operate a parking lot and shuttle people to Bellerive. They were not allowed by the POLICE to

stop and drop off ticket holders or enter the grounds. That doesn't sound like police working for the public but instead a private security detail.

Why should cities with budget issues provide services for free to a country club made up of millionaires for a golf event held by a multi-million dollar organization made up of professional athletes worth millions of dollars?

SO FAR THIS YEAR I WAS ASKED TO GIVE TO A DEMOCRAT AND NOW I'M TOLD I'M A REPUBLICAN, PROVIDED I CAN COME UP WITH \$10,000 or \$50,000.

Earlier this year I received two invitations to fundraisers for Claire McCaskill. I wrote two Patch.com columns about it. One was how when I was an elected official and my neighbor, a federal appointed official and I wrote to Claire's office on local issues, we never heard from her. But now I was hearing from her and she was asking me to spend between \$250 and \$15,000 to attend one of the fundraisers. The other column was how Claire, a Democrat, was fundraising like a Republican asking for big money instead of many small donations from the working stiffs.

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/articles/sometimes-i-think-claire-mccaskill-belongs-to-the-wrong-party>

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/articles/my-personal-politics-don-t-follow-party-lines>

MOST NOTABLE AMERICAN REPUBLICAN: Then I got a personal letter from Mitt Romney that has really opened my eyes.



Here is how the “personal letter opens”

Dear John,

“I am running for President of the United States and because you are one of America’s most notable Republicans, I want to personally let you know why.

It is simple, really...I believe in America.”

Now later in the letter on page two he gets to the part about money.

“Will you please join Romney Victory with a major gift? The first \$5,000 of your generous support will go directly to Romney for President...”

On page three there is the other part about money...

“Your contribution of \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$25,000 or even \$50,000 will help our entire Republican ticket this fall....

...with your gift of at least \$5,000 you will be offered exclusive updates and will be connected with a dedicated Romney victory staff member who will stand ready to assist you with up-to-the-minute election information.”

I was really surprised to find out that I am “one of America’s most notable Republicans.”

In Maryland you have to declare a party when you register to vote. The part of Maryland where I lived was a dark blue when it came to politics. Most people running on the Republican ticket could best be described as being “Whackos.” Half or more of the Democrats in state office were ethically challenged. There was a steady stream of elected officials and lobbyists being convicted of a variety of crimes.

Since I was a law enforcement official and later a journalist I did not want to be accused of being a partisan. Also I did not want to be associated with the “crooked” Democrats or the very honest and unbelievably liberal Democrats or the crazy Republicans. For 16 years I was officially registered as an “Independent.”

Since I returned to Missouri I have been described in feature articles in the Riverfront Times and the Post Dispatch as an “Independent.” However out here in Snoburbia if you claim to be independent for many hard core conservatives, that is the same as being a Democrat or worse.

However, since Mitt Romney has declared me “one of America’s most notable Republicans,” I hope to use that to maybe puff up a resume. Of course the St. Louis Riverfront Times named me St. Louis’ Best Newspaper Columnist for 2012 and I have not been able to use that for my advantage as of yet.

The Money: Apparently part of my role as “one of America’s most notable Republicans” is to give money. Mitt recommended that I give up to \$50,000, which is about the total amount of income my wife and I are currently making now as retirees and not as St. Louis’ Best (but unpaid) Newspaper Columnist.

I’m happy to get this letter because Claire McCaskill had only suggested I give \$15,000. I accused her of fundraising like a Republican. I owe Claire an apology. Republicans don’t ask for \$15,000 they suggest \$50,000. At least McCaskill’s request for \$15,000 included an invitation to a Saturday bunch at her Kirkwood home.

I know a number of Washington DC area realtors. I’m happy to vote for Romney in the hope of giving them some business with Obama people moving out and Romney people moving in. But the idea of giving a portion of my \$50,000 contribution to Missouri Republican candidates is unacceptable.

Todd Akin, a guy who in 2011 said during a radio interview that “God hates liberals” plus said student loans were like a stage-3 cancer (my wife went off college thanks to student loans), came out against school lunch programs, claimed women’s body will keep them from getting pregnant if legitimately raped, and is against anti-discrimination in pay, isn’t getting my money or vote.

If Peter Kinder gets part of the \$50,000 contributions isn’t he likely to be pressing the flesh in Sauget, Illinois?

Dave Spence seems like a good guy and a fine candidate who I might vote for. But I don’t think he needs any help from me.

Ed Martin already cost Missouri taxpayers \$1.5 million when he was Boy-Governor Matt Blount’s chief of staff. He fired a staff lawyer who gave him the correct legal opinion that the governor’s emails were public records. He then tried to destroy the emails. Next he slandered the lawyer by claiming there was porno on his computer. He was sued and lost a \$500,000 verdict with \$1,000,000 in legal fees for the plaintiff and defense lawyers. So he won’t get any more money from me.

Then there is State Rep. John Diehl. He is running unopposed but has raised over \$300,000 from lobbyists and special interest groups from coast to coast. He is in pocket of Smithfield Farms and both the new companies fronting for the old R.J. Reynolds Tobacco and Phillip Morris Tobacco companies.

So this Notable American Republican can't give Mitt \$50,000 for fear some of it would reach some of these sleazily Missouri Republicans. I have written before that I wished I could vote for all Republican candidates, but the quality of the candidates keeps making that impossible.

THE EXPENSIVE RACE AGAINST NO ONE...LET'S MAKE A DIEHL CONTINUES:

IN early August we reported how Missouri State Representative John Diehl of Town and Country, who now represents part of eastern Chesterfield, had gathered over \$358,000 for his reelection campaign.

It is tough running for election and it is especially tough for Diehl who has never had an opponent in either a primary contest or a general election. We wrote that a cynic might consider high dollar campaign contributions to a sitting official who is running uncontested more of a bribe than a contribution.



State Rep "Slick" John Diehl

SAY IT WITH A CARD WITH A CHECK FOR \$1,000: Prior to the primary election Diehl accepted \$1,000 from Hallmark Cards. The greeting card company might have been well advised not to give thousands of dollars to people who don't need it. Hallmark announced last week they are closing one of their larger facilities due to lack of sales spurned by the popularity of e-cards.

IT IS EXPENSIVE RUNNING AGAINST NO ONE: Despite raising \$341,782 after seven months in 2012, Diehl was spending money. At the end of July he only had \$264,990 on hand.

In the period from the end of July to the first of September, Diehl has had to file a new report. He collected another \$107,975 in campaign contributions to run against no one.

PORK: Keep in mind his district includes Frontenac, part of Town and Country and the Eastern edge of Chesterfield. Among contributors in August was Smithfield Farms, the pork producer. Diehl has received a lot of money from Smithfield over the years. Last year just before an important vote to take away land owners rights to sue factory hog farms for pollution Diehl received a four-figure donation from Smithfield. He received another one from the Missouri Pork PAC after voting for the bill.

Smithfield Farms owns two large hog farm operations in western Missouri. Oddly enough they don't own any hog farms in Frontenac, Town and Country or Chesterfield.

EXPENSES: For the second reporting period Diehl has claimed a \$25,000 payment to Chase Card Services. It was another \$25,000 to Chase Card Services in September. I have a Chase card which I pay off in full every month. I appreciate people like Diehl who carry large balances and only make partial payments. That is how the credit card company makes a profit and puts up with people like me who pay on time.

Diehl again listed expenses that include hotel stays in Kansas City, Branson plus New Jersey and several Southwest Airline flights. I still don't believe Southwest has any flights from Frontenac to Chesterfield. I also don't believe that the Kansas City Hilton Hotel is in his West St. Louis County District.

SPREADING THE WEALTH! In August Diehl also handed out \$500 checks to various other Republican candidates in Missouri races. One \$500 check went to fellow state reps. Sue Allen who also represents parts of Town and Country and Chesterfield got a \$500 Diehl check. Allen ran unopposed in the primary election and is also running unopposed in the general election. Diehl knows how expensive it is not to run against an opponent.

He repeated handing out \$500 checks to Republican candidates in September.

Another check went to Lt. Governor Peter Kinder. We just hope that Pete doesn't use that money to campaign at any East Side strip clubs as he has a history to do.

Within a month Diehl's bank account for his campaign against no one was at \$308,614. But when he filed his October report he was down to \$252,623 after spending \$77,541 in September against \$21,550 in new contributions. Like I said...It is expensive running against no one.

Here is just of sampling of the contributors to Diehl in August and September. We only listed those giving \$1000 or more.

\$1,000	David Steward 309 Wyndmore Ct Town and Country
\$3,000	Burns and McDonald Kansas City MO
\$2,500	Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce PAC
\$6,500	Anheuser-Busch St. Louis
\$1,000	Community Care of Lemay
\$5,000	Circle B Enterprises Sikeston, MO (Circle B operates low income nursing homes and high interest pay day loans to employees. Diehl's buddy T&C Mayor Jon Dalton has been a longtime lobbyist for Circle B.)
\$5,000	Fred Weber, Inc. Maryland Heights, MO
\$5,000	Friends of Tilley (donation from then speak of House Steven Tilley 11 days Before he resigned to become a lobbyist)
\$1,000	Physicians Professional Indemnity Assoc. PAC
\$5,000	Howard Wood Cequel III
\$1,000	Westphalia Hills (rural nursing home)
\$1,500	Missouri Chamber PAC
\$2,000	The Travelers Hartford, Connecticut
\$2,500	Missouri State Farm Agents PAC
\$15,000	Lewis and Clark Regional Leadership Fund
\$1,500	Eli Lilly
\$2,500	Smithfield Foods Smithfield, Virginia
\$1,000	Sprint-Nextel Phoenix, AZ
\$2,000	ANR Pipeline Houston, Texas
\$1,000	Emerson's Missouri Responsible Government Fund
\$1,000	Bank of America
\$1,500	Advocacy for Special Needs
\$1,500	Citizens for Healthcare Concepts
\$2,000	Coalition for Disability Rights
\$1,000	Reliant Care management, LLC
\$1,000	Benchmark HM, LLC
\$2,000	Larus Corp. Town and Country
\$5,000	Express Scripts
\$2,500	Major Brands

\$2,000 Midwest Long Term Care, Chesterfield
 \$5,000 Missouri Health Care Association
 \$1,000 St. Louis Association of Realtors
 \$1,000 CRI PAC
 \$1,000 Bernardin and Lochmueller Evansville, Indiana
 \$5,000 Super Market Merchandising
 \$5,000 Noranda Aluminum
 \$1,000 Penn National Gaming Wyomissing, PA
 \$1,000 Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Ridgefield CT
 \$1,000 Time-Warner, Charlotte, NC
 \$5,000 RAI Services Co (Reynolds Tobacco) Winston-Salem, NC
 \$2,000 Centene Management Clayton MO
 \$4,000 Altria Cleint Services (Phillip Morris Tobacco) Richmond VA
 \$1,000 Sterigenics Oakbrook, IL
 \$1,000 Michael Staenberg Attorney Clayton MO
 \$2,500 Home Building Industry PAC Creve Coeur

INTERLOCK DEVICE MAY BE KEEPIGN MCLAUGHLIN FROM HIS THIRD DWI

ARREST: We all know that it is that time of year again. The World Series is just around the corner, the beer is cold and baseball broadcaster Dan McLaughlin gets arrested for DWI. In 2010 Dan was so drunk he peed in his pants, before failing sobriety tests and then refused to take a breath test. In 2011 he had two accidents and could not figure out how to open the door to his GMC SUV when the cops pulled up. He again refused to take a breath test and was so drunk the arresting officer had to dial the phone for him when he wanted to call his lawyer (brother).



Well, it is that time of year again, but since May 15 when McLaughlin was given a hardship driving privilege, he has been ordered by Circuit Judge Robert Cohen to have on any vehicle he is operating an Alcohol Interlock device where the vehicle will not start unless he passes the in-car breath test.

NOW IS THE TIME TO GET FREE CHRISTMAS CONCERT TICKETS: One of the nice things about living in the Washington, DC area for 16 years was being able to attend the Army, Air Force or Navy Christmas concerts at Constitution Hall. We would have to stand in line in early November for the free December tickets, but it was worth it as the concert always made you feel good during a busy time of the year.

Returning to St. Louis we found out we could still hear the Air Force Band Christmas concert at the Scottish Rite on Lindell, without standing in line for tickets.



The Air force band of Mid America will hold its Christmas Concert at the Scottish Rite on Saturday December 8th at 7pm and Sunday December 9th at 3pm. For free tickets (up to four) simply write

Air Force Band Tickets
Scottish Rite
3633 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis MO 63108

Be sure to enclose a self addressed stamped envelope. If you write early enough a free parking pass for the garage behind the Rite will be included.

CARDIOLOGIST SPECIAL:



If you substitute fries for the green vegetable, Thursday's blue plate special at Smitty's, Chicken Fried Steak with mashed potatoes and milk gravy becomes a business development tool for area cardiologists.

CARTOONS:





"Oh, him? That's Frank. My parents made me take in a boarder to cover the cost of my car insurance."



DO YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH...

10/9



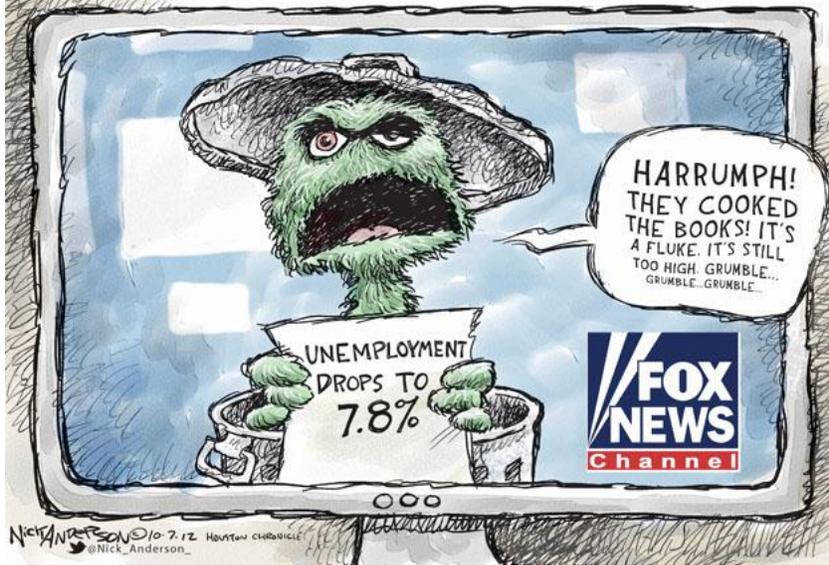
THE WHOLE TRUTH... AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?



UH... YOU DO KNOW I'M A POLITICIAN, RIGHT?



Oscar the Grouch lands a new gig quickly...



PRESIDENT ROMNEY AND HIS TEAM VIEWING LIVE VIDEO OF RAID ON BIG BIRD'S COMPOUND.

