

## UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 37



June 26, 2013

By John Hoffmann

**TWO FROM CHESTERFIELD AND ONE FROM BALLWIN ARRESTED FOR STEALING STREET SIGNS IN WARSON WOODS:** The Parkway School District needs to offer a course to students on local geography and politics. Recently several Parkway West students were arrested for breaking into cars in Town and Country. We wrote that the boys should have known city limits and the political realities of municipalities with their own police forces being more efficient than larger County Police forces before going out intent on breaking into cars.

The latest example is not from the Parkway Schools. At least one attends a private school. So apparently the issue is broader than I think.

On June 1 at 9:30 17-year-old Chad Hansen Younger of 15486 Country Mill Court while driving a white Chevrolet pickup truck and accompanied by a 16-year-old juvenile from Chesterfield and a 15-year-old juvenile from Ballwin was in Warson Woods, off Woodlawn Avenue.

I'm guessing at least one of the juveniles was named "Mark" because the boys were stealing "Mark Drive" street signs. According to the police report when the Warson Woods cops stopped the pickup truck Younger spontaneously said they had stolen some street signs.

The confessing didn't stop there. One of juvenile's then said he had taken the signs.

That juvenile was arrested, referred to the Juvenile Court for stealing. Younger and the other juvenile were released pending charge review. It was clear that Younger knew the other boy was stealing since he admitted it and also because he had driven him to two different "Mark Drive" street signs to steal them. A summons for stealing was later issued against Younger.

Here is the valuable lesson the boys needed to know before the night of June 1. You have a much better chance of getting caught doing something illegal in very small cities with their own police forces because they cops don't have much to do. Along those lines besides getting caught stealing street signs you have a greater chance of getting a ticket for illegal parking. Also if you plan to go into a residential community late at night to steal things, drive something a little less conspicuous than a full size pickup truck. That might fit in fine in Valley Park, but it is going to be noticed in Warson Woods.

## **A STAGE SHOW AT MONARCH'S JUNE MEETING...VERY**

**ENTERTAINING BUT A BIT LONG:** I had some trouble finding an agenda on the Monarch Fire Protection District website. Once it was finally posted on the website it appeared like it was going to be a regular dull meeting. But then the theater handbill arrived by email on the day of the meeting and things started to look more interesting.



**Monarch  
Concerned  
Taxpayers**

For Immediate Release

## **TAXPAYERS EXPECTED TO EXPRESS OUTRAGE ABOUT EXCESSIVE INSURANCE SPENDING AND ORDINANCE VIOLATION**

***Chesterfield, Missouri (June 20, 2013)- The Monarch Fire Protection District Board of Directors will hold a public meeting this evening at District Headquarters at 13725 Olive in Chesterfield. The meeting will begin at 7:00.***

***We have learned that several taxpayers, some of whom are members of Monarch Concerned Taxpayers, plan to question the Monarch Board of Directors about how and why they allowed the District's Workers' Comp Insurance rates to rise to among the highest in the State of Missouri. Monarch Concerned Taxpayers has become aware that insurance costs have more than doubled during the past few years. These costs, which are passed onto taxpayers in the form of higher taxes, are driven by excessive claims which, until recently, the Board did nothing to prevent.***

***The Board is also expected to be questioned about why one of its elected Directors is permitted to violate a specific ordinance of the District, while business owners and residents are required to follow all of its ordinances.***

***A large turnout of angry taxpayers is expected.***

**Contact:**

**Dick Barber 314-610-0820 or [dicktbarber@gmail.com](mailto:dicktbarber@gmail.com)**

**Rick Gans 314-581-2285 or [rick@rickgans.com](mailto:rick@rickgans.com)**

**Website: [www.monarchconcernedtaxpayers.org](http://www.monarchconcernedtaxpayers.org)**

**Twitter: [@monarchwatchdog](https://twitter.com/monarchwatchdog)**

Now this entire subject was covered last month in Unapproved Chesterfield Newsletter 33. [http://www.johnhoffmann.net/chesterfield\\_33.pdf](http://www.johnhoffmann.net/chesterfield_33.pdf)

In that newsletter I pointed out how newly elected director Jane Cunningham invited Steve Wicker of Daniel and Henry, which oversaw the Fire District's workers comp insurance. Wicker spent an hour talking about how Monarch had the second worst workers comp loss history in a large area region of fire Districts.

Wicker did not hold back and pointed out how Monarch was spending 5% of its budget on workers' comp insurance, due to the terrible claim history. It was spending twice as much on worker's comp insurance than the larger Melville Fire Protection District.

Wicker did a pretty good job of painting the problem that began getting worse and worse starting five years ago. He added that in the last year there was a big turnaround at Monarch and the work comp loss ratio improved dramatically. He added that it takes three years of a good loss ratio record to lower annual costs.

**THE CURTAIN OPENS:** First up at the Thursday June 20 meeting in the public comment section of the meeting was Richard Barber. Barber has experience in the employment and human resources business. He was appointed to the last district budget committee by Robin Harris. Each director appoints someone to the budget committee. In 2012 the board was considered to be a Union controlled Board.

Barber, a member of the group Concerned Monarch Taxpayers, immediately congratulated Jane Cunningham for being elected to the board of directors and then began to bash Steve Swyers.

Barber gave much of the same information that Wicker did a month earlier. The work comp insurance costs for the fire district went from \$378,000 in 2005 to \$1,200,000 in 2012.



Steve Wicker of Daniel and Henry speaking on the reason for the very expensive work-comp insurance in May.



Dick Barber painting much of the same picture at the June Monarch meeting.

The one piece of new information that Barber provided was that in 2008 58 of 125 Monarch employees filed work comp claims. That is a startling 46% of the workforce.

“This many people making work comp claims means fraud or abuse,” said Barber. “I was surprised how little the command staff knew about work comp claims. Their attitude was ‘turn it into the insurance company,’” said Barber, who pointed out with employees on work comp status the overtime hit \$500,000. The command staff that Barber spoke of was all fired by the “union backed” board in 2011.

Barber said the work comp problems seemed to get worse when the district’s HR officer quit and was not replaced. Instead the district hired an “education officer.”

I have to admit that it is unusual to find a government political subdivision with over 100 employees without a human resources manager.

**Acts Two and Three:** Next up were David Winchell who also stated he was grateful that Robin Harris and Jane Cunningham were now controlling the fire district. He briefly continued about the how awful the work comp situation has been.

Winchell was followed by Seven Boodty, who complained how on Election Day two Monarch firefighters were at every polling place. He went on about the firefighter union contributions to Cole McNary’s campaign. While taking a swipe at Steven Swyers and giving kudos to Harris and Cunningham he finished with, “Elected officials should represent the citizens and not union firefighters.”



This photo is of Steve Swyers at the start of the public comments.



This photo is at the end of the comments after each speaker bashed him. I was impressed as there was very little change in his skin color or his expression.

**FINAL ACT:** The finale of citizen comments came from former board president Rick Gans. Gans was defeated by Steven Swyers in 2011 4,330-to-3,830. Rick led off attacking the actions of the board for the last two years while Kim Evans and Steven Swyers had control.



Former fire District President reads from a prepared text with heavy criticism directed at Steve Swyers.

He then accused Swyers of violating Fire District ordinances by speaking directly with fire union representative without other directors being present or without reporting the conversations to the other members.

The thing that surprised me about Gans' verbal attack, was that Gans' candidate, Jane Cunningham won and the new board (I'm sure with some input from Gans) is making big changes. I have to wonder why he doesn't sit back and enjoy what's happening.

**THE CLIMATIC END:** Swyers then responded to the public comments.

“This whole thing is an orchestrated personal attacked,” he said.

Swyers then directed his comments directly at Gans and he had a point.

“Everyone of these years that got us into problems with work comp, you sat on the board! You guys have the right to say anything you want but have the facts. We have firefighters who are in a Union. You can’t not talk to them! This was like a kangaroo court.”

Swyers made a point. However he did not make a strong point in his rebuttal when he said, he is not a “union guy.” He said he has never been in a union and never worked for a company with unions.

That maybe true but his son is a union firefighter. He solicited former state representative Cole McNary to run against the clear anti-union candidate Jane Cunningham. The McNary campaign as we have reported then received most of its funding from Monarch firefighters and their union. So Swyers might not be a “union guy” but it is not hard to connect the “union” dots and not get to him at some point.

Dick Barber who lead things off ended up finishing the play. He did not like Swyers rebuttal and went back up to the microphone to take issue with Swyers.



“I got all my facts from the fire chief,” proclaimed Barber. “He (pointing to Swyers) has done nothing to get them (work comp loses) in check. Work-comp is a down and dirty business and you have to get down and dirty,” said Barber.

Speaking of the Fire Chief: Give credit where credit is due! Despite what many of us feel are Monarch Fire Chief Tom Vineyard's lack of qualifications, he did stop the soaring record of work comp claims in his first year on the job, dramatically reducing the number of claims in 2012.



Fire Chief Tom Vineyard

**THE NEW BOARD CONTINUES TO FLEX ITS MUSCLE:** After the 30 minutes of fireworks to start the meeting, Board President Robin Harris and Treasurer Jane Cunningham continued to tear down many of the changes made by the “pro-union” board of directors over the last two years.



After two years of having apparently pro-union motions passed, fire board president Robin Harris is turning the tables.

**First up was the issue of light duty.** Cunningham stated that the district owes employees as much assistance as possible when they are injured on the job. But off the job injuries were another thing for Cunningham.

“I cannot go along with people who are injured by their own making,” said Cunningham referring to motorcycle or skiing accidents. “Why are we making the taxpayers responsible for non-work injuries? Only when a person has burned off their sick days and other days off should they be consider them for light duty,” she said referring to those with off-duty injuries.



Jane Cunningham

“The one thing I know is the guys who are used to working 24-hour shifts, hate coming in here five days a week,” said Swyers, supporting employees.

Vineyard supported the current Light Duty program.

“I think the light duty program has been beneficial,” the chief said. “I think the claim the staff has been responsible for the problem is unfair,” he added.

Robin Harris then used the light duty issue to transition into **the need for a human resource manager.**

Harris and Cunningham voted, 2-1, to advertise to hire a human resources manager. Swyer stated he wanted a review of the entire administrative support staff first and voted against the motion.

**Professional Organizations were next on the chopping block.** Apparently during the 2-year “pro union” period the district dropped its \$1,700 annual membership with the Missouri Association of Fire Districts and signed up with the Missouri Association of Professional Fire Districts for \$3,000. Normally when you see the word “professional” in a trade organization name for fire districts or fire departments you can bet it has ties with the firefighters’ union.

Cunningham was also upset that the “Professional Fire District” group joined the firefighter’s union in supporting Senate Bill 216, which prohibits bans on firefighters from being politically active in city or fire district elections. Active duty firefighters still cannot run for fire district, state house or senate seats.

She is also upset with House Bill 307 which forbids elected fire district members in St. Louis County or Jackson County from holding other government jobs.

“The state has dictated to local fire districts on how to run things,” she said.

It sounds like former Republican State Senator Jane Cunningham is hoping the Democratic governor uses the veto stamp on a couple of Republican bills.

The board voted 3-0 to switch back to belonging to Missouri Association of Fire Districts and drop the Missouri Association of Profession Fire Districts. Chief Vineyard, a strong firefighter union supporter, was instructed to make the notifications.

**New labor Attorney!** Finally the board voted to hire a labor attorney. In the past the district had a labor attorney. But when the Evans-Swyers control board took over in 2011 they hired Chuck Billings as the district’s attorney. Billings was considered by some as a pro-union guy. He was allowed to take over the district’s union issues. The first thing the new Harris-Cunningham board did was fire Billings and hire Mike Bakewell whose hourly rate and retainer were much cheaper.



In one of my favorite photos of the year, Monarch Fire District Attorney, Chuck Billings at the first meeting after the elections that changed the makeup of the board from pro-union to anti-union. Billings concerned look was warranted. It was his last meeting before a vote was taken to replace him.

The board voted 2-1 to advertise for a labor lawyer to handle labor issues and negotiations.

“There are fundamental things we are not doing. We don’t have safety investigations after injuries,” said Cunningham who was also upset about a lack of testing for drugs or alcohol after incidents resulting in injuries or damages.

We have made fun of Jane and some of her statements and bills during her time in the Senate, but we have to admit that so far she has been pretty impressive as a Monarch Fire District board member.

**After 1 hour and 40 minutes** I vamoosed as I had promised to take my wife to dinner. Harris was only halfway through the agenda.

**THE DRUNK DRIVER SCRONED AND THE 2:30AM PHONE CALLS:** In our last Chesterfield Newsletter we included an email we received from Katie Huggard of Wildwood who was upset with our article on the lack of prosecution of DWI



defendants. I included my email back to her. I also commented that when I get complaints about my position on DWI prosecutions I have found that the people complaining have had past DWIs or have sons or daughters who have been arrested for DWI.

That was the case with Huggard who has had two DWI convictions. The no-record probation on her first conviction was revoked when she violated the terms of the probation.

She really did not like the fact that I posted her email and wrote about her public conviction record. Besides not liking what I wrote, she apparently did not like the emails sent to her by readers of this newsletter.

### **THE REST OF THE STORY...THE 2:30AM PHONE CALLS:**

**First the easy to find record:** Using just Casenet here is what we found:

|          |  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| 05/23/08 | Unknown traffic charge                       | Missouri Highway Patrol                     |
| 09/20/08 | Reduced to Illegal Parking                   | fined \$140                                 |
| 08/31/08 | Unknown traffic charge                       | Missouri Highway Patrol                     |
|          | Reduced to illegal Parking                   | fined \$200                                 |
| 09/07/08 | Unknown traffic charge                       | St. Charles County Sheriff's Office         |
| 12/17/08 | Reduced to Illegal Parking                   | fined \$550                                 |
| 09/07/08 | DWI  | St. Charles County Sheriff's Office         |
| 12/17/08 | Pled Guilty Suspended Imposition of Sentence | Probation 2 years                           |
| 12/02/10 | Probation revoked                            |   |
| 12/15/11 | Alcohol Interlock device ordered             |   |
| 07/01/11 | DWI  | St. Louis County PD                         |
| 11/30/11 | Pled Guilty                                  | Six Months Jail stayed 2 year SES probation |

11/30/11            2<sup>nd</sup> Alcohol Interlock device ordered

10/09/12            Unknown traffic charge            St. Louis County PD  
Reduced to Illegal Parking fined \$150

Katie is also being sued by the Touchette Regional Hospital . That case is pending.

**THAT BRINGS US TO THE PHONE CALLS:** This is taken directly from a portion of my written statement to the Town and Country Police:

On Wednesday June 19, 2013 at 11:01am I received a telephone call from a person identifying herself as Katie Huggard. She stated:

“Hi John! This is Katie Huggard. Do you know the penalties for slander?”

I told her I did. She replied:

“You need to take down what you wrote about me or I’ll sue you.”

“I don’t have time to talk to you right now Katie,” I said and hung as I was leaving for a doctor’s appointment.

*(a side note not in the police statement...when someone accuses you of slander for something you have written...you have to wonder about the quality of education they received from the University of Missouri where she claims on her facebook page to have attended)*

On Thursday morning June 20 at 2:21am my wife was asleep and I was at my office desk about to turn off my computer and go to bed when the telephone rang. Due to the lateness of the hour I quickly picked it up and heard:

“Hi John. This is Katie Huggard. I just got off work and I see you haven’t taken that down yet.”

I immediately hung up.

Within a minute the telephone rang again and again I immediately picked up the phone.

“John this is Katie Huggard we were disconnected.”

I stated, “Katie it is 2:20 in the morning if you call again I’m calling the police and filing a telephone harassment report.” I then hung up.

Within a minute the telephone rang again and I answered it.

“John this is Katie Huggard. Why haven’t you taken that down?”

I replied, “Katie I’m calling the police.” I then hung up however I did not call the police.

At 2:45am the telephone rang again and I did not answer it.

At 11:01am on June 19 my telephone caller ID showed the call from the person identifying herself as Katie Huggard was a wireless call from 314-591-4585.

The first three calls on June 20 at 2:20am, I picked up the phone so quickly that the caller ID did not record the call. The call at 2:45am however showed “wireless caller” 314-591-4585.

I called the Town and County Police and requested an officer stop by for a harassing telephone call incident. While waiting for the arrival of an officer, I check Katie Huggard’s facebook page. Apparently she had received emails critical of her comments in her email that was in my newsletter.

Here is what she posted on her facebook site:

Dear Ellisville, moronic unemployed bloggers from Chesterfield and everyone filling up my inbox... Stop being so interested in my life. Its not that interesting. Find a hobby that doesn't include sadism... Maybe try doing some good for others for a change. XO

Cpl. Chris Moore arrived at about 3:10 and I provided him with the details of this incident.

On Tuesday June 25 here is what Katie had on her twitter account:

1. **Katie Huggard**\_[@katiehuggard\\_22h](#)

[@McGrawMilhaven](#) I've got your next WC drama story... This moron John Hoffman, has been attacking my attorney for years, and now his clients

**FORMER CHESTERFIELD LAWYER CONVICTED OF KIDDIE PORN OUT OF JAIL AND LIVING AT A HIDEAWAY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY.** A recent check by zip code of the Missouri sex offender registry shows a new offender in Town and County. <http://www.mshp.dps.mo.gov/CJ38/OffenderDetails?page=0&column=name&id=88040740&lastName=Shklar&suffix=&firstName=Mark&middleName=Alan>

On October 1, 2007 Mark Alan Shklar was arrested for possession of child pornography. At the time Shklar was living at 959 Quail Meadows Court in Chesterfield. On November 14, 2008 he pled guilty to the charge. He had already been found guilty of a charge in Federal Court. He was sentenced to two years in the Missouri Department of Corrections.



Shklar is currently giving an address of 13332 Clayton Road. If you drove by that address you would swear it is a vacant lot. The address is part of the Wirth property which used to include an Amoco gas station, barn, farmhouse, which have all been torn down. However there is still a ranch house at the far end of the property that is totally obstructed from view by overgrown honeysuckle and other vegetation. While the house at the far back of the property is probably 1000 feet from a school, the property certainly isn't. It is almost across the street from the Principia tennis courts. Behind the tennis courts is the Principia day care facility. Shklar is forbidden from living within 1000 feet of a school with grades K-12.



Here is the mailbox for 13332 Clayton Road



This would be the main drive to 13332 Clayton Road



Here is a long distance shot of the car and a corner of the house at 13332 Clayton.

Shklar had collected over 24 videos of child porn when he was arrested. At the time of his sentencing in Federal Court Bill McClellan wrote a very interesting column about Shklar, a lawyer, and his sentence. I find it hard to have a lot of sympathy. The guy was a lawyer, so he should have known the risks. He wasn't just viewing child porn. He was downloading it!

<http://www.tmcnet.com/usubmit/2008/11/09/3771842.htm>

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch Bill McClellan column: Child pornography cases: Measuring the time for the crime**

Nov 09, 2008 (St. Louis Post-Dispatch - McClatchy-Tribune Information Services via COMTEX) --

On the morning of Halloween, Mark Shklar came into federal court in an orange jumpsuit, dressed as a prisoner. At least, it seemed like a costume.

He was, at least officially, still a member in good standing of the Missouri Bar Association. The middle rows in the courtroom were filled with his supporters, including his ex-wife and his 21-year-old son. Both spoke movingly on his behalf. So did a couple of attorneys. This is a good and decent man, they said. Then Shklar spoke. He said he was lucky to have family and friends like these. Then the judge sentenced him to 41 months in prison for possession of child pornography.

Carrie Costantin, the assistant U.S. attorney who handled the case, was almost wistful when I spoke with her later.

"The supporters are almost never there when these guys plead guilty," she said. "That's when we go into what they're really pleading guilty to. Instead, they show up for sentencing. It's like we're talking past each other."

Things were more graphic on the day in October when Shklar pleaded guilty. Costantin made it clear that Shklar had not inadvertently downloaded child pornography. He had sought it out on his computer. He had downloaded 24 such videos. The six mentioned in the indictment involved images of preteens.

Still, even on that day, Shklar did not seem like a monster. We spoke in the hallway outside of the courtroom. He was dressed casually. He carried a little plastic bag with his medications. He was ready to go to jail, where he would await official sentencing.

I had met Shklar some time earlier. He had been busted, but not yet indicted. He told me he was 58 and divorced. He didn't date. In the privacy of his apartment, he watched pornography. Eventually, he found child pornography. He mainly watched the adult stuff, but sometimes he searched out the forbidden images of children. He got everything through a file sharing service, so he rationalized that because he wasn't paying for it, he wasn't really supporting the industry.

One day there was a banging at his door. Armed men wearing helmets and visors pushed their way in. Shklar at first thought it was a mistake. He figured they must be looking for drugs. When they told him they were there to look for child pornography on his computer, he realized that the world as he had known it was about to change.

But he had not expected that he would automatically go to prison. Nor had he imagined that the feds could use the fact that he obtained the child pornography through a file sharing system as an enhancement at sentencing. File sharing translates into distribution.

He hired defense attorney Joel Schwartz. "This is the kind of case I hate," Schwartz said. "There is really nothing I can do for him."

Schwartz did as well as could be expected. Had the feds pushed the enhancement with the file sharing system, Shklar could have gotten 96 months.

After meeting Shklar, I started paying attention to these cases. I was surprised to learn that people generally get more time for possession of child pornography than they do for molesting a child. Costantin, who used to work as a county prosecutor, explained that to me. When a person is charged with molesting a child, the defense knows that the parents of the child generally do not want to subject the child to the trauma of testifying, so the defense has an advantage during plea negotiations. In child pornography cases, the defense does not want the jury to see the images or the videos, so the advantage goes to the government.

Perhaps the oddest sentencing I saw was in August when 77-year-old Roderick McArthur received a sentence of 151 months for possession of child pornography. He hobbled into the courtroom hunched over a walker. He was with his wife and daughter. He was given the severe sentence because of his record. In 1986, he had pleaded guilty to child sodomy after inappropriately touching a child. He was given probation. He came to the attention of authorities again in 2006 when a mall security guard spotted him in his car inappropriately touching himself. He was arrested for public indecency. He had a lewd drawing of a child in his wallet. Shortly thereafter, police searched his computer and found the forbidden images. Before his sentencing, McArthur told me he watched a lot of pornography, but no child pornography. He said he didn't know how those images got on his computer.

I am no expert on the "normal" sexual drive of a 77-year-old, but McArthur struck me as abnormal. But should his abnormality result in a life sentence in prison?

Of course, McArthur was the exception. Many of the defendants were closer to Shklar. He had no record. In fact, he had the opposite of a record. He seemed to be respected by everybody.

I talked to a police officer who investigates these things, and he emphasized the fact that these are not victimless crimes. These are real kids, he said. Imagine that this is happening on a stage in an illicit theater, he said, and the people who watch this stuff are all in the audience.

That puts it in a different light, I suppose, but a lot of these fellows wouldn't seek out the theater. They only watch because they can do it in the supposed privacy of their homes. The computer makes it easy.

In fact, as the marshals led Shklar out of the courtroom, I thought of "2001: A Space Odyssey." The computer, Hal, took over the spacecraft. I wish I had asked Shklar if he had ever seen that movie.

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**ELLISVILLE CITY ATTORNEY FIRED AGAIN:** The impeachment of Ellisville Mayor Adam Paul on non-existent charges such as making a phone to a relocation company to answer a resident's question saw more fallout on Wednesday. For the second straight week I resisted the pull of the Ellisville soap opera and stayed away from the meeting.

However, it became clear that reinstated Mayor Adam Paul had enough votes to get one thing done and not enough votes for another.



Ellisville mayor Adam Paul, a media magnet, was batting .500 this week.

Paul in a closed meeting was able to get the votes together to fire city attorney Paul Martin, who began putting together non-existence evidence to get rid of the new mayor shortly after he was elected on an anti-TIF platform in 2012. It wasn't the first time Martin had been fired in recent months. After the impeachment debacle in April, University City fired Martin as its city attorney.



Paul Martin fired for the second time from a city attorney job in three months.

**Mayor Paul's one defeat** was the vote for the issuance of TIF bonds. Paul normally has three votes of newly elected councilmen Mick Cahal and Gary Voss plus councilwoman Linda Reel. However on Wednesday Reel voted against blocking the TIF Bonds. Her reason was that she was afraid of being sued by the Sansone Development Company.

In April Sansone attorney John Hessel told the board they could be sued if they failed to issue the TIF bonds after making an agreement in 2012 with Sansone for the Wal Mart development on Manchester Road just west of Clarkson.



John Hessel, attorney for Sansone Development threatened to sue the Ellisville City Council if they don't vote for TIF Bonds for the Wal-mart project. Councilwoman Linda Reel looks on from the far right. Hessel is from the Lewis-Rice law firm, which also gives us Jon Dalton, mayor of Town and Country, a longtime cigarette lobbyist and a man who used eminent domain to steal the business and property of 83-year-old widow Opal Henderson for an underfunded nightclub district on South Broadway. Dalton and his group then delayed paying a \$1,000,000 jury verdict against them for under paying Henderson after taking her property. They finally paid after Henderson was forced to sue them in Federal Court.

Reel stated that she and her husband are retired and she could not afford to be sued individually or pay a judgment against her. Wa-lmat won this round through shear intimidation.



Normally they vote as a block. But on Wednesday Gary Voss (far right) and Mick Cahill (center) joined Mayor Adam Paul and voted against issuing Walmart TIF bonds. Reel stating her fear of being personally sued by Wal Mart's developer voted for the bonds, which passed 4-3.

### **MUSIC AND FOOD:**

**The Anita Rosamond Show** stopped at Smitty's on Saturday from 3-to-6. Once again Anita was pumped up and dancing on the chairs in her last set.



We hear Anita may be announcing some new venues for her act along Clayton Road and Manchester in the near future. She is scheduled to appear On Saturday July 6 from 2-to-5 at the new Marshall's restaurant in the old Chinese restaurant building in the Nationalway Plaza at Manchester and Hwy 141.

**ROUTE 66 JAZZ ORCHESTRA REGULAR SEASON ENDS WITH HUGE CROWD AT THE KIRKWOOD BREWERY:** The Route 66 Jazz Orchestra under the direction of Bob Boedges gave their final regular season concert at the Kirkwood Brewery on Wednesday night to a full house. The big band will be performing a free concert this August at the Kirkwood Amphitheater on Saturday August 17 from 7-to-9pm. The concert will feature selected charts from the entire season.

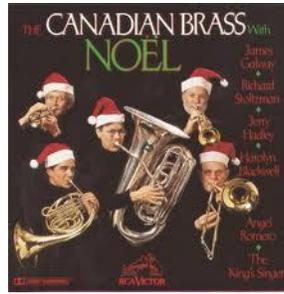


Valerie Tichacek on vocal in the first set.



Dean Christopher doing a Sinatra medley.

**COMING TO CHESTERFIELD:** The award winning Canadian Brass Quintet will be performing at Logan College Purser Center on Sunday July 7 from 7:30 to 9:30. Tickets start at \$25. The Canadian Brass isn't just a classical group. Some of their best selling work has included swing big band music and movie themes. After Chesterfield the group heads to Japan and then Italy and Germany on their world tour. For more information call 800-782-3344.

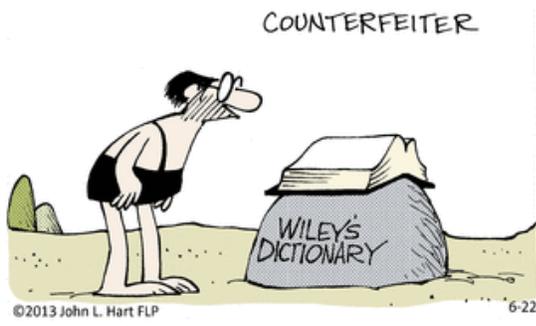


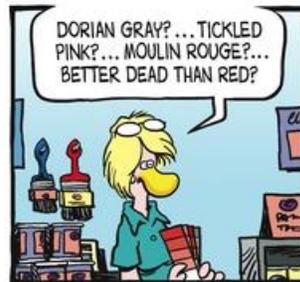
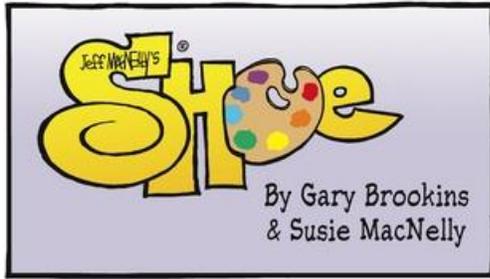
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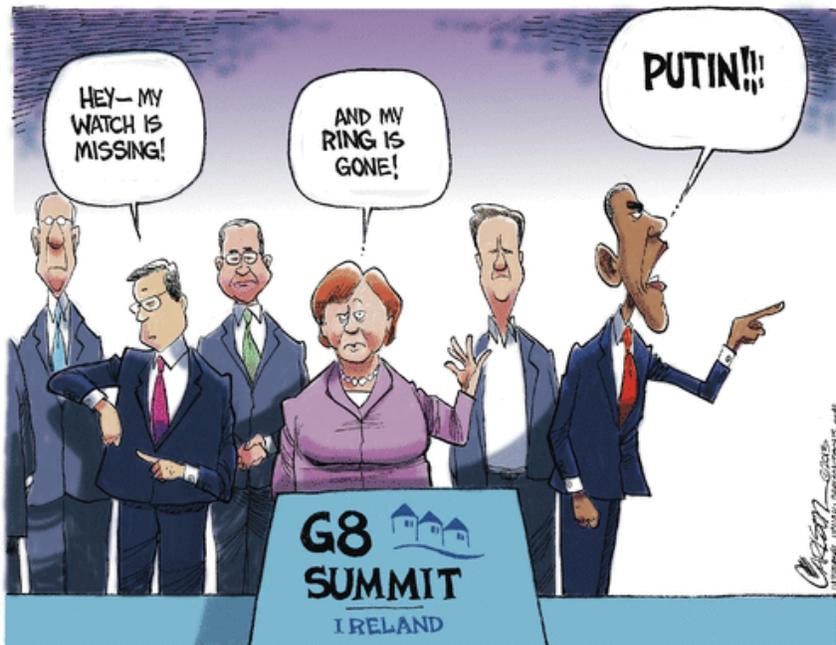
**CLOSE TO HOME**

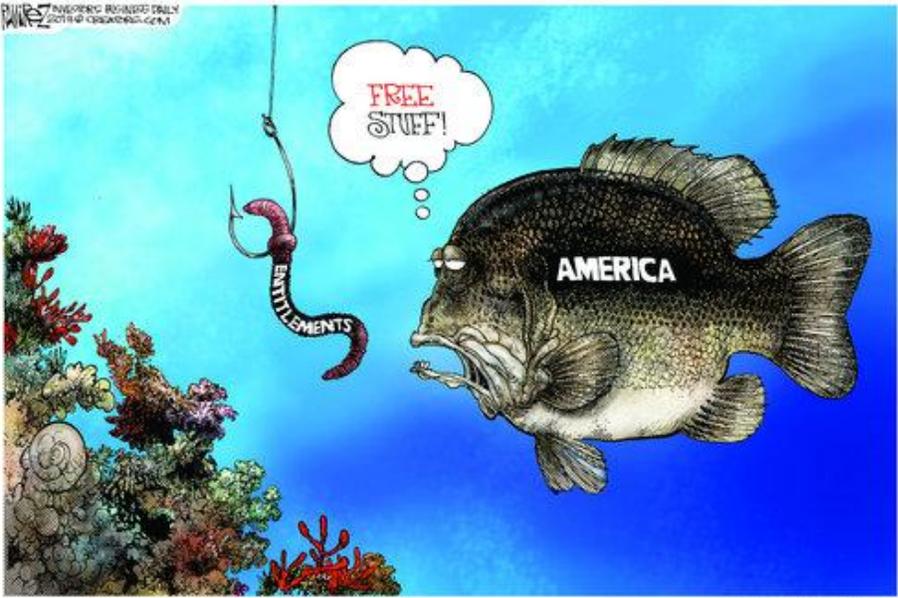
**BY JOHN McPHERSON**













**THIS WEEK ONLY SOME “EMAIL JOKES”**

**DOORMATS WITH A DIFFERENCE:** I would not normally post jokes I receive in emails. Too often many of them are way too politically incorrect for even me...but these sent from a friend in Ireland made me laugh.



