

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 151 AND CHESTERFIELD 96



By John Hoffmann

OCTOBER 29, 2014

FIRE DISTRICT APPEARS TO BE TRYING TO ENLARGE THE KINGDOM WHILE BEING LESS THAN HONEST WITH THE FACTS:



After hearing reports from the first few meetings put on by the fire district titled "Blue Print for 2025" I attended the one on Thursday October 16. There were only four citizens there. I was the only one from Town and Country and Alderwomen Gussie Crawford was the only T&C official at the meeting.

Midway through the 100 minute meeting, Ast. Chief Jeff Sadtler said the following, "You don't live in the fire district." This was directed at me as I was making so many comments at suggested future activities. Of course I remember a month earlier Fire Chief Ernie Rhodes inviting Town and Country Residents to these meetings. By the end of the evening Fire Chief Rhodes was clearly in my personal space demanding to know why I wouldn't give him a chance.

It became clear early on that the Fire District wants to expand its labor base with increased revenue on the backs of residents.

Bart Wexler of the Truman School of Public Affairs was the moderator and he appeared to be part of the management side and not that of the citizens.

RESPONSE TIMES: A map was shown that indicated 7-to-8 minute responses at the south end of the district off of Big Bend and in the north end of the City of Town and Country which is not in the district, but is served under a contract.

Unlike in 2006 when they wanted to build a new fire station off of Conway or Ladue Roads to serve an extremely small area, fire district officials said additional firefighters at the Town and Country fire station could improve response times.

I'm not sure how that would happen it is after all the same distance and the same type of vehicles. But this way they could increase union fire jobs.

I mentioned that they have four firefighters assigned to the fire truck (a minimum of three are required) and two on an ambulance and they send the fire truck with the ambulance on all EMS calls in case the 2-paramedics need additional manpower. Instead of sending the fire truck and leaving a large area uncovered for fire or EMS responses and increasing the chance of a wreck involving emergency equipment, why not just have one of the firefighter/paramedics on the fire truck go with the ambulance providing extra manpower. That way the same geographical area would be covered in the event of another EMS or a fire call.

Ast. Chief Jeff Sadtler then said due to sickness, vacations and training the fire truck has a crew of four less than 50% of the time. It was as if that was the final answer now let's move on. However, what about the 160 days a year they have four firefighters/paramedics on the fire truck...why not have three go out on the ambulance and keep the other three available for another fire or EMS call?



Ast. Chief Jeff Sadtler

It was clear at this point that the WCEMSFPD command staff's main interest was to increase the labor force and not think outside of the box on how to do more with what they have.

COMMUNITY PARAMEDICS: You and I think of paramedics on the fire ambulance, but the Fire District wants to hire a lot more paramedics to drive to your house and check on you for 30-days after you are discharged from a hospital stay. Again Ast. Chief Sadtler was trying to sell this program.

Basically they want to compete with Visiting Nurse and private nursing companies that hospitals contract. Is this a function of a fire district? I don't think so...but it is clearly a way from the WCEMS&FPD to hire more union employees and increase revenues.

DISASTER COORDINATOR: Next Chief Ernie Rhodes began bad mouthing the St. Louis County Disaster coordinators. Rhodes said if there was a major disaster, like an earthquake the County Disaster people would be overwhelmed. He said if the fire district was funded to be a disaster relief supplier it would be able to provide charging stations for cell phones. Yes that was the first thing Rhodes thought the community would need before food, water and shelter.

An area expert on disaster effects told me last week that if there was an earthquake or tornado that caused so much damage that you would prolong disaster services, cell phone service would not be available for all those cell phones Chief Rhodes had charged. The cell towers would be down or without power.

After the fire district got everyone's phone all charged up it would provide portable shelters...apparently Rhodes is counting on every school and church in the area to be devastated. Next he wants the fire district to provide 500 meals for three days and water to 500 people for three days.

LIE 1: I asked if individual residents in a wealthy area of St. Louis County should not be expected to take care of themselves and I said retirement and nursing facilities such as Mari De Villa have emergency generators. Sadtler said that the nursing homes like Maria De Villa did not have emergency generators. Other members of the command staff nodded in agreement.

On Friday afternoon October 24 I visited Mari De Villa co-owner and manager Fred Wieseban about their emergency generators. He stated they certainly did have such a generator and it is tested once a month.

"We have people on oxygen and other systems that require electricially," said Wieseban. "We have to have an emergency generator. The fire district is wrong."



We also checked with Cedars of Town and Country and Delmar Gardens and they both have an emergency generators for their facilities. They are required by law.

LIE 2 Salaries and Recruitment: At the meeting former Fire Chief Dave Frazier, Jr. now a deputy chief and part of Chief Ernie Rhodes command staff said it was harder to hire qualified applicants with experience. Frazier blamed the fact that the Fire District's pay is now in middle of pay for the "region."



I immediately took exception with that statement and asked what the average pay is for a firefighter/paramedic with WCEMSFPD. I was told \$80,000 a year. (That is not quite correct...it is actually \$81,604.)

I asked what he meant by being in the middle of the pay by the region. I said I knew Ladue, Frontenac, Glendale FF/PMs were all paid much less than WCEMSFPD. He said he meant nearby districts, like Creve Coeur and Maryland Heights. I responded that the region he is competing with is at least all of St. Louis County and I felt his employees were among the highest paid. He said I was wrong.

The next day I went out to learn what average pay for firefighter/paramedics in the area is. Some departments and districts don't post their salaries and a number of them would not tell me over the telephone and did not respond to written requests. But here is the list from the top to the bottom for medium pay for a FF/paramedic:

\$88,893 Metro West FPD
\$88,446 Maryland Heights FPD
\$84,053 Fenton FPD
\$82,209 Creve Coeur FPD

\$81,604 West County EMS and Fire Protection District

\$81,241	Monarch FPD
\$79,777	Brentwood FD
\$76,103	Des Peres PSD
\$70,706	Affton FPD
\$70,006	Ladue FD
\$66,998	Mid-County FPD
\$66,789	Olivette FD
\$65,537	Valley Park FPD
\$64,613	Kirkwood FD
\$64,548	Webster Groves FD
\$60,801	Frontenac FD
\$60,000	Eureka FPD
\$56,451	Mehlville FPD
\$56,414	Spanish Lake FPD
\$56,019	Glendale FD
\$52,460	Ferguson FD
\$47,201	Shrewsbury FD
\$42,712	Rock Hill FD

78-percent of the 23 fire departments and fire districts, where we we were able to determine average FF/PM pay, paid less than West County EMS & FPD. That certainly does not place the fire district in the middle of anything, but near the top of the list. Also keep in mind this salary list does not include overtime, just average base pay. Numerous firefighters with the these top agencies can clear over \$100,000 a year with OT.

THE CLOSE ENCOUNTER: Immediately after the meeting, I called the University of Missouri moderator Bart Wexler over and asked him if he was aware of the crap the Fire District pulled in 2005 and 2006. In December 2005 the Fire District signed a 5-year \$17.5 million contract to provide fire and EMS services to Town and Country. One month after that contract went into effect District Fire Chief David Frazier, Jr. filed a report with the Federal Emergency Management Agency dated February of 2006 detailing Fire District plans to annex the City of Town and Country, which they had just agreed to provide fire service for five years.

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo38804.pdf>

They used uniformed firefighters to go door to door to lie to residents and get signatures on a petition to place an annexation proposal on the November 2006 ballot.

All this is highly unethical using uniformed public safety members to conduct a political campaign. Wexler was nodding his head indicating that he was aware of it or he was listening, I'm not sure which.

By this time Fire Chief Ernie Rhodes decided he needed to be part of the conversation that he was not invited to participate in.



Ernie Rhodes

Rhodes got into my personal space and announced he was in charge now and wanted to know why I was bringing up this. I looked around the room and waved my arm saying that his entire command staff was behind it. He then again loudly wanted to know why I wasn't giving him a chance.

I pointed out that even by 2006 standards the annexation attempt and using uniformed firefighters in the campaign was grossly unethical. I continued that again more recently uniformed firefighters were at polling places during a fire district bond issue for new equipment.

Rhodes again said that was before he was hired in September of 2012. I again stated that his entire command staff thought unethical behavior was acceptable. Rhodes again said I was unfair by not giving him a chance.

Considering Rhodes command staff had just lied to me and other people in the room claiming the salaries were no longer the top in the area and that retirement center/nursing homes did not have an emergency generators, when they have top of line emergency generators and have for years...I have to be very suspect of anything the Fire District says.

Also while Rhodes was Fire Chief, Richard Rogan the president of the Fire District was arrested for soliciting sex from an undercover police officer posing as a 19-year-old college student in a prostitution sting. The Fire District's attorney did nothing to protect the residents and people served by the fire district by having an independent investigation of a person who was sworn to look after the welfare of citizens.

Instead the district's attorney, Charles Billings represented Rogan and made a plea deal in the case.

There is no way I can currently trust this fire district.

The next Blueprint for 2025 meeting is at 6 pm on Thursday October 30 at the Fire District headquarters on Henry Road.

STREETS FAILING IN NEW SUBDIVISION: Two weeks ago I took a drive through the Pulte Homes subdivision Town and Country Crossing that abuts the Target Store parking lot along Clayton Road. I was amazed to find that the streets Pulte had just built have completely failed and large sections were being replaced.

The home builder got the Board of Aldermen to relax the city's one acre and no front facing garage building codes so they can build cheaper homes overlooking a Target store. I have to wonder if they can't build a street, what kind of problems are in the construction of these houses. Town and Country Public Works Director Craig Wilde told me this was not unusual. After the streets are first put in construction trucks destroy them and they are rebuilt. Leading me to wonder what happens when fire trucks or moving vans, trash trucks drive across the same streets after the houses are built.



Here is a house with a view of the side of the Target Store and crumbling streets.



DALTON FRATERNITY BROTHER ARRESTED...HIDING MONEY AND REFUSING TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT:

Former Banker Shaun Haynes, who has been ordered by the FDIC to never again hold any job with a bank was arrested on Monday October 20 on the parking lot of Plaza Frontenac for Felony Contempt of Court. Hayes has run several banks into the ground with dozens of lawsuits filed against him and judgments in the millions.

The felony warrant was for hiding money and not paying child support to his former wife Sandra King, who now lives in Manhattan Beach, California. With the warrant being issued and Hayes arrested the Circuit Court Judge Douglas Beach opened the previously closed court file. When the divorce was first finalized Hayes was ordered to pay his ex-wife \$2,506,022. More recently another \$367,776 worth of judgments have been added. He was released from jail a week later when he made a partial payment of \$30,000.

Hayes, of 9 Fordyce Lane in Ladue apparently had formed a company called Fordyce Brown Enterprises to hide money from the courts and his ex wife. According to records

on Casenet none of the judgments ordered against Hayes since 1999 to now have been paid.



How does all this have a connection to Town and Country Mayor Jon Dalton? Hayes and Dalton were fraternity brothers at the Sigma Nu House at the University of Missouri. Dalton showed some of these same tactics when he moved to Town and Country when he didn't pay Mitchell Lighting and Midwest Carpet/Flooring for work done at his house. He also quit paying the Town and Country Rehab Clinic where he was being treated after an injury. In all cases the companies had to sue Dalton, who then used boiler plate counter suits claiming negligence by all three companies.



9 Fordyce Lane in Ladue.

Hayes has been as much as two years late in paying the real estate taxes on his mansion, which are now \$35,000 a year, but he is currently up to date.

UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 96



October 29, 2014

MONARCH DISTRICTS WARNS RESIDENTS RECENT MAILER WAS FROM FIREFIGHTERS' UNION AND NOT THE FIRE DISTRICT...NO TAX INCREASE IS PLANNED:

Wouldn't it be nice if a year could pass with Monarch firefighters showing up for work, doing a good job, collecting a large paycheck and not trying to stir or shape public opinion against elected officials.

With the April elections less than six months away and Monarch board president Robin Harris up for reelection I simply cannot see firefighters content with doing their job and collecting their big paychecks. Case in point is the recent mailers to residents from the fire union. This mailer has a survey that asks questions about tax increases and bond issues, none of which are planned by the Board of Directors.

Professional Firefighters of West St. Louis County
P.O. Box 242
Chesterfield, MO 63066

Dear Monarch Fire District Resident,

You have been selected, as part of a statistically valid random sample of registered voters, to participate in an important survey, designed to gather feedback about current fire district services and fire-related issues. The information requested in this survey will allow your local fire district to ensure the fire fighters and paramedics provide the best service possible. By gauging your sentiment of the fire district, we will know if your expectations are being met or exceeded and what you would like to see more of from this group of first responders.

This survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete, but the time you invest will influence decisions made about the fire district. You will also be entered in a drawing to receive one of three \$100 gift certificates to Target*

Please return your completed survey using the postage-paid envelope provided or you can complete the survey electronically by going to <https://www.survevmonkev.com/s/MFPD2014>

The survey data is being compiled and analyzed by Berry Organization & Leadership Development, LLC, a local company with expertise in evaluation and survey methodology. Individual responses to the survey are confidential, in that personally identifiable information will not be released to anyone outside of BOLD, LLC.

If you have questions about the survey, please email MonarchOutreach@Rmail.com. On behalf of the Professional Fire fighters of West St. Louis County who so proudly serve the residents in Monarch Fire Protection District, thank you for sharing your feedback.

Sincerely,

The Monarch Fire Protection District Firefighters and Paramedics

*A completed, mailed survey will enter your address into the drawing to receive one of three \$100 gift certificates. If you choose to complete the electronic version of the survey, you will be provided with the information to enter into the drawing upon completion.

If you have other adults that residents in your household who want to complete this survey, go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MFPD2014>

The four-page survey includes questions about satisfaction of each elected officials from Very Satisfied to Very Dissatisfied and how you receive "factual" information about the fire district.

I have to be a bit suspect of any survey whose email address is "surveymonkey.com,"

It will be interesting to see what warped union press release this survey will produce.

Here is what the District posted on its website concerning the survey:

Latest Blog Posts

[Mail Survey](#)

To all residents of the Monarch Fire Protection District:

The survey that you may have received in the mail from the Professional Firefighters is not an official communication from the Monarch Fire Protection District. The survey is from a firefighters union political action campaign committee.

The Monarch Fire Protection District does not endorse completing any survey that offers a monetary gift for its completion; and would not ask its valued residents to send correspondence outside of District boundaries.

COUNCILMAN SUGGESTS ZIP LINES TO GET ACROSS BUSY CHESTERFIELD STREETS: Councilman Dan Hurt, this year's chair to the Planning and Public Works Commission had asked city staff to include pedestrian enhancements around the core center of Chesterfield from Hilltop Village on Olive Blvd. south to Chesterfield Mall on Clarkson Road and areas both east and west of the main roads.



Hurt was hoping to see skywalks across busy streets from buildings to buildings or just across the street. Hurt so wants this to happen he was recommending more "enhancement fees" like TDD or CID sales tax districts to encourage developers to build them.

Some of the comments from committee members, staff and a councilman, who is a non-committee member, showed perhaps Hurt's vision did not have much support.

Services Director Mike Geisel: It is one thing to get the money to build them, but once built they (walkways and skywalks) are incredibly expensive to maintain.

Councilman Elliot Grissom: Based on the age of our population do you expect older people to use the stairs to walkways over streets?

Geisel: If you have stairs you also have to have an elevator per ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) and those are really expensive to maintain.

Councilwoman Connie Fults: Over by P.F. Changs we don't even have sidewalks. I don't see why we would have skywalks over streets that are easy to cross and still have areas (Olive Blvd. and Chesterfield Parkway) where it is almost impossible to cross.

Councilwoman Nancy Greenwood: I can't recommend it if it decreases open space or green space. (In theory a developer could use a skywalk or pedestrian footbridge against the percentage of open space or green space he is required to have.)

Councilman Mike Casey, who is not a Planning and Public Works Committee member but was at the meeting showed his opposition in an unusual way.

Casey: I would be a proponent for a zip line!



Casey in purple sweater.



Man wearing a tie on a zip line.

PROJECTS: Planning Director Aimee Nassif gave an update of upcoming on projects at the Planning and PW meeting.

RGA BUILDING: Expect a move-in to begin in the next 10 days at the RGA office building along I-64 near Chesterfield Parkway West.

LAND ABUTTING WEST SIDE OF SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS AIRPORT: 35 single family home lots are now planned for Wildhorse Creek Road next to the west side of the airport.

LOWE'S: (60 years ago if you wrote "Lowe's" people thought you would be writing about a movie theater.) The very large hardware, home supply and lumber store in Chesterfield Valley is asking to increase its outdoor storage and sales areas.

ARBORS AT KEHRS MILL: The controversial subdivision, that got approved after Councilman Mike Casey changed his vote, has broken ground as of last week. .

A CITY SHUTS DOWN ITS MUNICIPAL COURT: Earlier this year the tiny City of New Melle in St. Charles County shut down its police department and began to contract with St. Charles County for police patrols and responses. This month they have fired their court clerk and judge, closing down a municipal court with some of the highest traffic fines in the St. Louis area.



New Melle, a town of 477 residents in an area 1.6 square miles, was unable to keep police officers having, a high turnover on the 4-officer police force and used traffic fines to finance the police department and other city services. They plan to contract with St. Charles County courts to handle the city courts.

If you got caught doing 11 MPH over the limit, you would be paying a \$106 fine. An improper turn went for \$109, Improper Lane Use was \$113 and if your license plate light was burned out the fine was \$93. Portions of Missouri Highways D, F and Z are the the main roads in New Melle.

FOLLOW THE MONEY: STENGER VS STREAM: A week before the election we look at the campaign contributions in the County Executive race between Republican Rick Stream and Democrat Steve Stenger. We just looked at larger contributions of \$2,000 or more. While you might think the Republican Stream would be getting more contributions from the western end of Snoburbia it was actually Democrat Stenger that got the most money from Chesterfield and Town and Country.



Stenger got far more large contributions (\$2,000 or more) but Steam got the two largest cash contributions. Stenger received \$92,235 of contributions "in kind" (postage, supplies, rent, printing services, etc, but not cash) from the "McCulloch for Prosecutor Committee". His biggest cash contribution was \$30,000 from the painters union.

But that was nothing compared to the \$75,000 Stream got from Jane Cunningham's campaign account, which just about drained it. But his biggest contribution was \$100,000 from Rex Sinuefield. The \$100,000 did not put much of a dent in billionaire Sinuefield's account.

On October 1, Stenger had \$400,902 in his campaign account and Stream had \$155,068.

However in \$5,000 or more contributions since October 1, the Stenger campaign has taken in \$189,000, but \$100,000 came from Stenger himself. Steam has taken in \$98,000 in the last 25 days.

Steve Stenger: Just like all Democratic candidates Stenger received a lot of contributions from labor unions. To me that is no big deal with one exception. He accepted \$26,200 from the thugs associated with Firefighters Union Local 2665. Here are the contributions at \$2,000 of more accepted by Stenger in the third quarter.

\$2,000 Monarch Firefighters For Public Awareness
 \$2,000 Pattie Volker Lake St. Louis, MO
 \$2,000 COMPLETE AB TRUCK AND RV St. Charles, MO
 \$2,000 Doering Engineering, Inc. South St. Louis County
\$2,000 KTCO, LLC Chesterfield, MO (\$3,000 in 2014)
 \$2,000 Karpel Solutions Affton, MO
 \$2,000 Western Oil Earth City, MO (\$4,500 total for 2014)
 \$2,000 City-County Taxi Service St. Peters, MO
 \$2,000 EJ Land II, LLC Earth City, MO
 \$2,000 William Levinson Creve Coeur, MO (\$3,500 in 2014)
 \$2,000 FLOWER & FENDLER, INC Sunset Hills, MO
 \$2,000 F & F LAND COMPANY 1 Sunset Hills, MO
\$2,000 H. V. REAL ESTATE CORPORATION Chesterfield, MO
\$2,000 JDS Management Chesterfield, MO (same address of H.V. Real Estate)
 \$2,000 AFSCME (State, County and Municipal Employees Union) Jefferson City
\$2,000 MICKES GOLDMAN O'TOOLE, LLC Town and Country, MO
\$2,500 RGA REINSURANCE COMPANY Chesterfield, MO
 \$2,500 Donald W McNutt St. Louis, MO
 \$2,500 CARMODY MACDONALD P.C. Clayton, MO
 \$2,500 Friends of Bob Lowry Florissant, MO
\$2,500 FISCHER & FRICHTEL Chesterfield, MO (\$3,500 in 2014)
 \$2,500 RICHARD MILLMAN Ladue, MO (\$4,500 in 2014)
 \$2,500 MICHAEL IZSAK Richmond Heights, MO (Stenger Law partner \$6,000 in 2014)
 \$2,500 Daniel Thies Des Peres, MO
 \$2,500 PINNACLE LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC Sunset Hills, MO
 \$2,500 Lenny Kagan Kirkwood, MO
 \$2,500 JEFF PADOUSIS University City, MO (\$5,500 in 2014)
 \$2,500 Summit Management Group Clayton, MO
 \$2,500 APEX OIL COMPANY INC. Clayton, MO
 \$2,500 Laclede Gas St. Louis, Mo
 \$2,500 ROBERT ROTHSCHILD Clayton, MO (\$2,625 for 2014)
 \$2,500 Budrovich Contracting Co., Inc. Affton, MO
 \$2,500 MISSOURI PROFESSIONALS MUTUAL Creve Coeur, MO
 \$2,500 Keith Brooks Fenton, MO
 \$2,500 SEIU MISSOURI (Service Employees Union)
 \$2,500 Richard Camp Kirkwood, MO
 \$2,500 M JONES ENTERPRISES LLC St. Louis, MO
\$2,500 DEBRA HENTE Chesterfield, MO

\$2,500 CONCRETE STRATEGIES Overland, MO
 \$2,500 ATU COPE MISSOURI (Transit Workers Union) St. Louis, MO
 \$2,500 AAIC Collinsville, IL (design firm)
 \$2,500 STONE & ALTER REAL ESTATE Clayton, MO
 \$2,500 EVEN DOZEN PROPERTIES LLC Clayton, MO (\$5,000 in 2014)
 \$2,500 PRESTIGE CUSTOM HOMES, INC Creve Coeur, MO
 \$2,500 6033 BERKSHIRE, LLC Creve Coeur, MO
 \$2,500 KENNETH KRANZBERG Ladue, MO
 \$2,750 Gary Bess St. Louis, MO
 \$2,961 HARTNETT GLADNEY HETTERMAN, LLC. St. Louis, MO
 \$3,000 NATHAN MCKEAN (Breckenridge Materials) Brentwood, MO
 \$3,000 Mary Monteleone Marlborough, MO
 \$5,500 IUPAT POLITICAL ACTION (Painters Union) Hanover, Maryland (\$9,000 in 2014)
 \$3,500 LEWIS, RICE & FINGERSH, L.C St. Louis, MO
 \$3,500 CH2M HILL ENGINEERS, INC. Englewood, Colorado
 \$4,000 Club Fitness Weldon Spring, MO
 \$4,000 SUPER SYSTEMS, INC. Maryland Heights, MO
 \$5,500 Commercial Bank Maryland Heights, MO (\$14,000 in 2014)
 \$4,500 PAYNE FAMILY HOMES, LLC Olivette, MO (\$6,500 in 2014)
 \$5,000 Electricial Workers St. Louis, MO
 \$5,000 Steven Weber Frontenac, MO
 \$5,000 Fred Weber, Inc. Maryland Heights, MO
 \$5,000 MARIA SCHICK Clayton, MO
 \$5,000 DAVID DEMPSEY Ladue, MO
 \$5,000 JOHN BOMMARITO St. Peters, MO
 \$5,000 Peter Zes Creve Coeur, MO
 \$5,000 FRANK BOMMARITO Ellisville, MO
 \$5,000 THE KOMAN GROUP LLC St. Louis, MO
 \$5,000 HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP Clayton, MO
 \$5,000 Steven Stone Village of Westwood, MO
 \$5,000 STONE & ALTER REAL ESTATE Clayton, MO
\$5,000 MCBRIDE & SON PROPERTIES, INC Chesterfield, MO
 \$5,000 THE DEVEREUX COMPANY Ladue, MO
\$5,000 McKELVEY HOMES Chesterfield, MO (\$6,500 in 2014)
 \$5,000 Christopher Kempf Maryland Heights, MO
 \$5,000 Information Technologies Inc. Olivette
 \$5,000 Sally Stotts Oakville, MO
 \$5,000 IRON WORKERS POLITICAL EDUCATION FUND Washington, DC
 \$5,000 Carey & Danis, LLC Clayton, MO 63105
 \$5,000 Cory Bailey University City, MO

\$5,000 Valued Pharmacy Services of the Midwest Inc. Chesterfield, MO
 \$5,000 HULSEY & SUMMERS ENTERPRISES, INC. Brentwood, MO
 \$5,000 ARTCO FABRICATING USA, LLC South St. Louis County (\$5,675 in 2014)
\$5,000 BRINKMANN CONSTRUCTORS Chesterfield, MO
 \$5,000 National Hospice Management, Lemay, MO
 \$5,000 MARK J. GAERTNER, P.C St. Louis, MO (\$5,950 in 2014)
 \$5,000 THOMAS E. SCHWARTZ PC St. Louis, MO (\$5,900 in 2014)
 \$5,000 UNITE HERE TIP MISSOURI (Garment and Textile Workers) New York, NY
 \$5,001 SCOTT SIFTON FOR STATE SENATE Affton, MO
 \$5,500 SHEET METAL WORKERS INT'L St. Louis, Mo (\$15,500 in 2014)
 \$5,503 Joseph Treadway Mehlville, MO (\$21,285 in 2014)
 \$6,000 RIDGETOP MANOR Clayton, MO
 \$6,000 WILLIAM K. BUSCH BREWING CO., LLC Brentwood, MO
 \$6,072 KLAR, IZSAK & STENGER, LLC Richmond Heights, MO (\$36,336 in 2014)
 \$6,500 ALT Realty Solutions Wentzville, MO
 \$8,000 E.J.A. TRUCKING, INC. Affton, MO
 \$7,000 ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS, INC Ladue, MO
 \$7,500 UFCW LOCAL 655 Ballwin, MO
 \$7,500 W. RAYMOND BARRETT Des Peres, MO
 \$7,500 University Square Co. Clayton, MO
 \$7,500 Chad Roberts O'Fallon, MO (\$15,000 in 2014)
\$7,500 HOME ELEMENTS DESIGN, LLC Chesterfield, MO
 \$7,500 Terra Commercial, LLC Oakville, MO
 \$8,500 Craig Concannon Kirkwood, MO (\$21,001 in 2014)
 \$10,000 CDC-ELT Operations, LLC Des Peres, MO (\$20,500 for 2014)
 \$10,000 AUGUST BUSCH III St. Peters, MO
 \$10,000 THOMPSON COBURN LLP St. Louis, MO
 \$15,000 STONE, LEYTON & GERSHMAN Clayton, MO (\$20,000 in 2014)
 \$10,000 DOBBS TIRE & AUTO CENTERS High Ridge, MO
 \$10,000 CENTENE MANAGEMENT COMPANY LLC Clayton, MO
 \$10,000 HOME BUILDING INDUSTRY Creve Coeur, MO
 \$10,000 LEEHAR DISTRIBUTORS, INC Creve Coeur, MO
 \$10,000 CLAYCO Overland, MO
 \$10,000 Robert Blitz Frontenac, MO
 \$10,000 Civic Service Clayton, MO
\$10,000 J.M. MARSCHUETZ CONSTRUCTION CO Eureka, MO (\$20,001 in 2014
J.M. Marschuetz lives in Town and Country, MO
 \$10,000 Martin Green Ladue, MO
 \$10,000 RKB Brothers, LLC Sunset Hills, MO (\$16,000 in 2014)
 \$10,000 John Ross, Jr. Richmond Heights, MO

\$10,000 WILLIAM G COCOS Lemay, MO (\$19,500 in 2014)
 \$10,000 UA POLITICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE Annapolis, Maryland
 \$10,000 CLINT ZWEIFEL FOR MISSOURI Clayton, MO
 \$10,000 SIMMONS HANLY CONROY Alton, IL
 \$10,000 ONDER, SHELTON, O'LEARY & PETERSON, LLC Webster Groves, MO
\$11,000 JOHN BARDGETT & ASSOCIATES (Lobbyists) Chesterfield, MO
 \$12,500 PATTERSON PLACE, LLC
 \$13,100 Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri Local 2665 St. Peters, MO
 (\$21,600 in 2014)
 \$15,000 Mallard Group Richmond Heights, MO
 \$15,000 EASTERN MISSOURI LABORERS' EDUCATIONAL AND BENEVOLENT FUND
 (\$30,001 in 2014)
 \$15,000 LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION Sunset Hill, MO
 \$15,500 JEFFERSON BARRACKS MARINE SERVICE, INC
 \$20,000 Daniel Devereux Ladue, MO
 \$25,000 Clayco Overland, MO
 \$25,000 Murphy Equities Corporation Crestwood, MO
 \$25,000 I.U.O.E. LOCAL 513 Bridgeton, MO
\$27,500 MCBRIDE & SON Management Chesterfield, Mo
 \$30,000 CHIPPA Political Account (Carpenter's Union) St. Louis, MO
 \$92,235 McCulloch For Prosecutor Committee Kirkwood, MO

Contributions from Firefighter Union"

\$200 FENTON FIRE FIGHTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH
 \$250 MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF CAREER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS
 Jefferson City, MO (\$750 in 2014)
 \$300 CREVE COEUR FIREFIGHTERS O'Fallon, MO
 \$1,000 NORTH COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS PAC 16545 Centerpointe Dr. Wildwood,
 MO home of John and Deborah Schneider
 \$1,000 West County Firefighters Manchester, MO (\$1,350 in 2014)
\$2,000 Monarch Firefighters For Public Awareness
 \$13,100 Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri Local 2665 St. Peters, MO
 (\$21,600 in 2014)

Other contributions of interest:

\$1,000 Fitch Consulting, Inc. St. Louis County (Former St. Louis Co Police Chief)
 \$1,000 Timothy Fitch Fenton, MO (Former St. Louis Co. Police Chief)
 \$250 KEITH CHEUNG Ladue Municipal Judge
\$500 STOCK AND ASSOCIATES CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC. Chesterfield, MO

RICK STREAM: Rick Stream has the best looking resume including military service, a former member of the school board and a state rep. However when he voted for that stupid bill to make it illegal for local and state police to enforce Federal Gun Laws (which violates an oath most of them took) and even made it illegal for FBI and ATF agents to enforce some Federal guns laws in Missouri I figured it was impossible for me to vote for him. What a waste of time passing an unconstitutional law that could never overcome a court challenge at the lowest level of the judiciary. But after I saw all the money from Firefighters Local 2665 that Stenger accepted I might be able to change to mind.

Here is the money \$2,000 or money accepted by Stream in the third quarter.

\$2,000	The Koman Group	St. Louis, MO
\$2,000	Kenneth Suelthaus	Ladue, MO
\$2,500	Committee to Elect Ron Richard	Joplin, MO
\$2,500	Milton Rudi	Oakville, MO
\$2,500	Sam Fox	Clayton, MO
\$2,500	David Sindelar	Clayton, MO
\$2,500	John Qualy	Clayton, MO
\$2,500	Enterprise Holdings INC	Ladue, MO
\$2,500	Laclede Gase	St. Louis, MO
\$2,500	Husch Blackwell	Clayton, MO
\$2,500	Maxine Clark	Ladue, MO
\$2,500	Robert O'Brien	St. Chalres, MO
\$2,500	Ed Ryan	South St. Louis County
\$5,000	Thiry and 141 LP	Crestwood, MO
\$5,000	HTH Companies INC	Union, MO
\$7,500	August Busch III	St. Peters, MO
\$7,500	Roy Pfautch	St. Louis, MO
\$10,000	James McDonnell	Ladue, MO
\$10,000	Ann Scott	Clayton, MO
\$10,000	Jane Jokerst	Town and Country, MO
\$15,000	Dave Spence	Ladue, MO
\$20,000	Drury Development Corporation	Creve Coeur, MO
\$10,000	Friends of Tom Schweich	Jefferson City, MO
\$10,000	Centene Management Company LLC	Clayton, MO

\$10,000 Thompson Coburn LLP St. Louis, MO
\$10,000 Martha Fitz Ladue, MO
\$75,000 Jane Cunningham Campaign Committee Chesterfield, MO
\$100,000 Rex Sinquefield Westphalia, MO

BETTING AGAINST BOTH SIDES It was interesting to see some people or businesses give money to both candidates meaning they are sure to have backed a winner on November 5th.

The Carpenters Union gave Rick Stream \$1,000 and Stenger \$30,000.

Laclede Gas gave both candidates \$2,500.

Enterprise gave \$7,000 to Stenger and \$2,500 to Stream.

Normally a big Republican contributor August Busch III gave Stenger \$10,000 and Stream \$7,500. Meanwhile the, son, August Busch IV, who Busch III stupidly handed over the reins of the brewery to and who has been associated with two dead women including one in his bed, gave Stenger \$25,000 on October 24.

FOOD: Saturdays at Smitty's The neighborhood bar and grill with daily "blue plate specials," makes Smitty's a unique kind of West County restaurant. A cousin of my wife called Smitty's "A South St. Louis air-conditioned corner tavern" making reference to the places with "Air Conditioned" stenciled on the front window that used to be found on every other corner in South St. Louis.



Smitty's at the corner of Clayton Road and Baxter Road.

Smitty's is possibly most famous for their Wednesday fried chicken blue plate special that has the place filled with a wait for a table from 5:30 to 7:30. We don't go on Wednesdays, it is just too crazy, but the price is right...\$6.95 for dark meat and \$7.95 for white meat.

We used to be regulars on Thursday's Country Fried Steak night, but now make it out maybe once a month. The big complaint was always how the mash potatoes and white gravy were often cold and required a trip back for some time in the microwave. I now specify "hot mash potatoes and gravy" when I order. But when they come out hot they are very good. The mash potato side dish is only served on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Two weeks ago when my wife and I along with former Chesterfield patch.com editor Jean Whitney went out to Smitty's to see Anita Rosamond, we also decided to review lunch.

Jean and I got Pork Steaks, which normally come with cole slaw and baked beans. We substituted fries for baked beans and I got potato salad and Jean stuck with the cole slaw. We also ordered chicken tenders for everyone at the table to share.

Smitty's has maybe the best chicken tenders around. Over a year ago Smitty switched from frozen tenders to fresh ones that are lightly breaded at the time of your order. They are served with an ample amount of honey mustard sauce. These might just be better than Wednesday's fried chicken and they are available all week.



The pork steaks (\$9.95) arrived and were hot, moist, large and tasty. Once in a while you might get a pork steak with too big of a bone or a little too much fat. But on this Saturday there was nothing but tasty pork coated in a BBQ sauce but not smothered in it. The cole slaw was good. The potato salad was just okay, better than Miller's Crossing, but not as good as Charlotte's Rib or Lester's. The only pork steaks around West County as good as the ones served at Smitty's are at Charlotte's Rib.



My wife has never had a salad she didn't like at Smitty's. I find this strange at a neighborhood bar, but the salad's are always good. On Saturday she got a Greek Salad.



The next Thursday night my wife and I returned. The the place was packed. The blue plate special was Chicken Fried Steak. My wife ordered a bacon and cedar cheese burger (\$7.95). It was amazing how a neighborhood bar had an option for a side besides French fries, cole slaw, corn or mashed potatoes. My wife got zucchini and squash as a side. I got the chicken fried steak with double mashed potatoes and white gravy (the cardiologists' special for \$7.95).

Everything was perfect.



On Thursday Smitty's two sons worked the dining room as waiters while Michele worked the bar side and Smitty tended bar. On Saturday Allison was our waitress. She had a striking resemblance actress Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting who plays Penny an aspiring actress who also waited tables at a Cheesecake Factory on the TV show "The Big Bang Theory." She admitted that some customers do call her "Penny."



Allison aka Penny



Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting as "Penny"

The one drawback at Smitty's is there are no overpriced desserts. In fact there are no desserts at all. Booze, soft drinks and American comfort food, plus some good salads you can buy at Smitty's, but no desserts.

APPLE WARS: In the 1960s there used to be gas wars where gas stations across the street from each other would keep lowering gas prices.



This month there seems to be a Honey Crisp Apple war going on. First Schunks began the Honey Crisp season just after Labor Day selling them at the end of the season price of \$4.99 a pound, before reducing them to \$3.99 a week later, the same price as Dierbergs,

Then in October Dierbergs at their Des Peres Superstore had the Honey Crisps on sale for a month at \$2.99 a pound. Wal-Mart finally got them in and priced them at \$2.46 a pound. For the last week the Schnuck's store in Town and County has had them on sale for \$1.99 a pound.



MUSIC: Last Saturday we attended a dean Christopher cabaret show that drew 265 people. Below is Dean and part of the band from my wife's sketch pad.

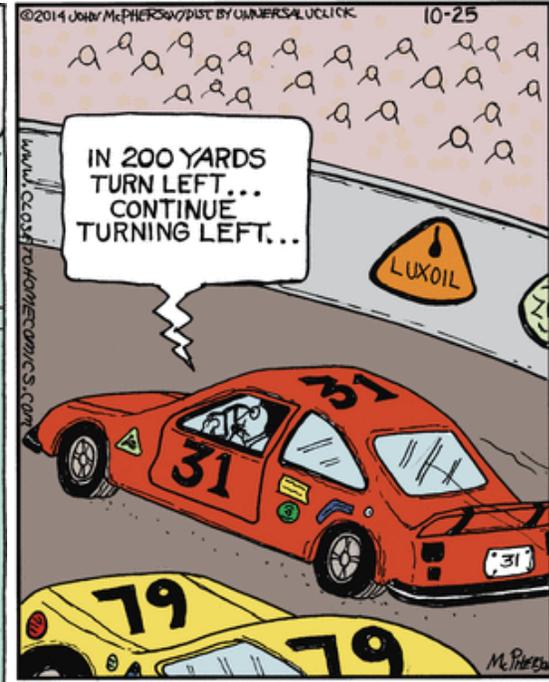
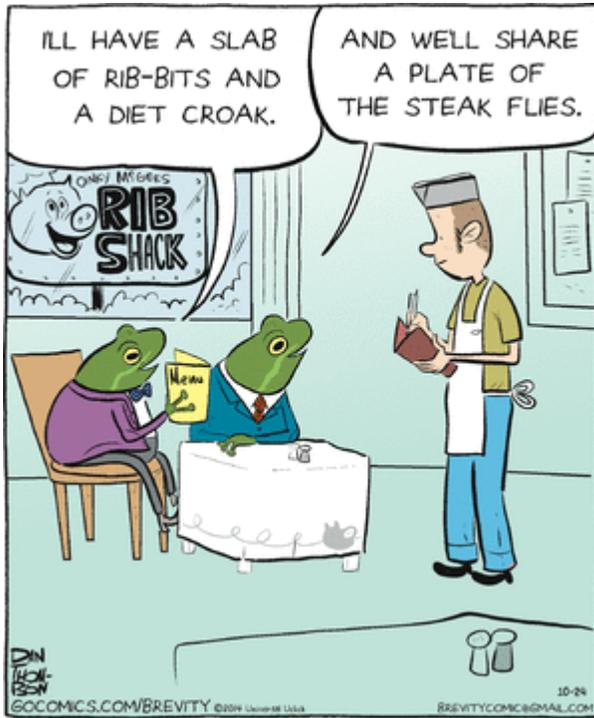


TWO NIGHTS LATER: It was Rat Pack Monday at the One-19 North. There was a very good crowd but it was not like the show in September where there was no more room and people were turned away. Monday featured Jim Manley on trumpet, Chuck Kennedy on drums, Chris Swan on the keyboards and Dean Christopher behind the mic.

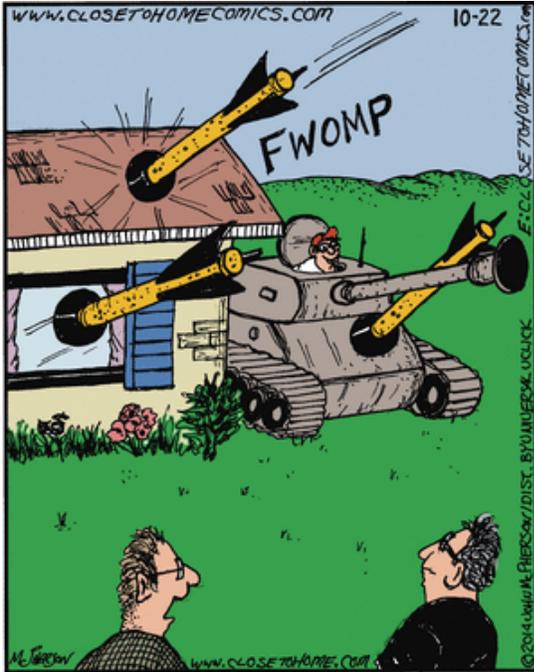


Dean went from \$25 (included dinner, show and dancing) on Saturday night to free at the One-19 North in Kirkwood on Monday and will appear with a five piece group on Halloween at the Ozark Theater in Webster Groves from 8-11 with a \$15 cover charge.

CARTOONS:



GPS for NASCAR drivers.

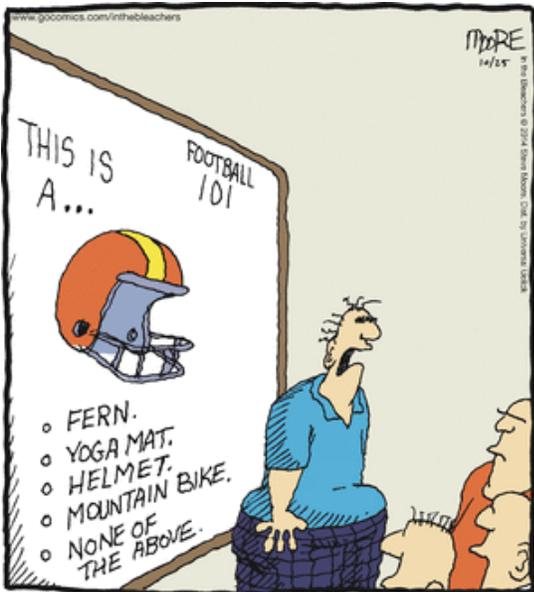


"Nerf toys have certainly evolved since we were kids."

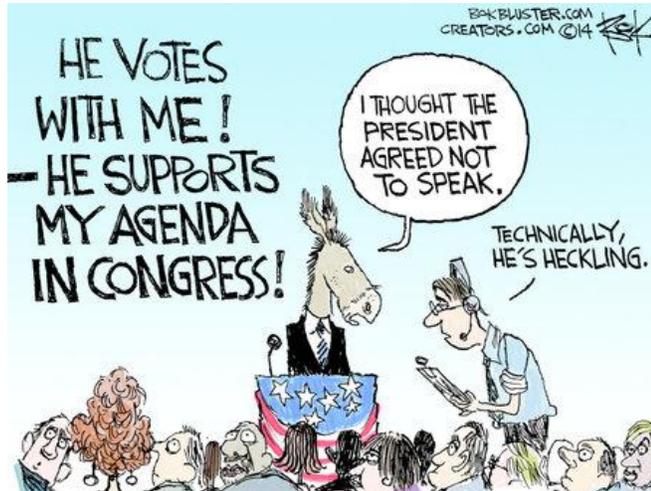


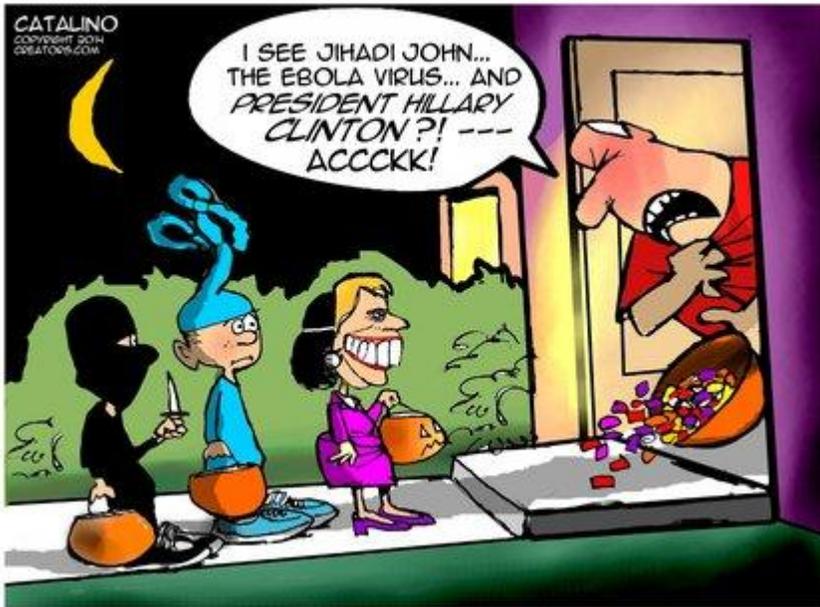
"When I heard you say, 'in-ground pool,' I had a very different image in my head."

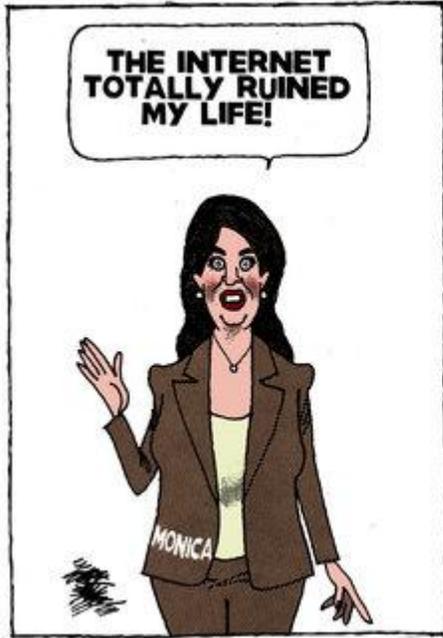
Another UNC Class



"Really? Anyone? Just, you know, take a wild guess ..."





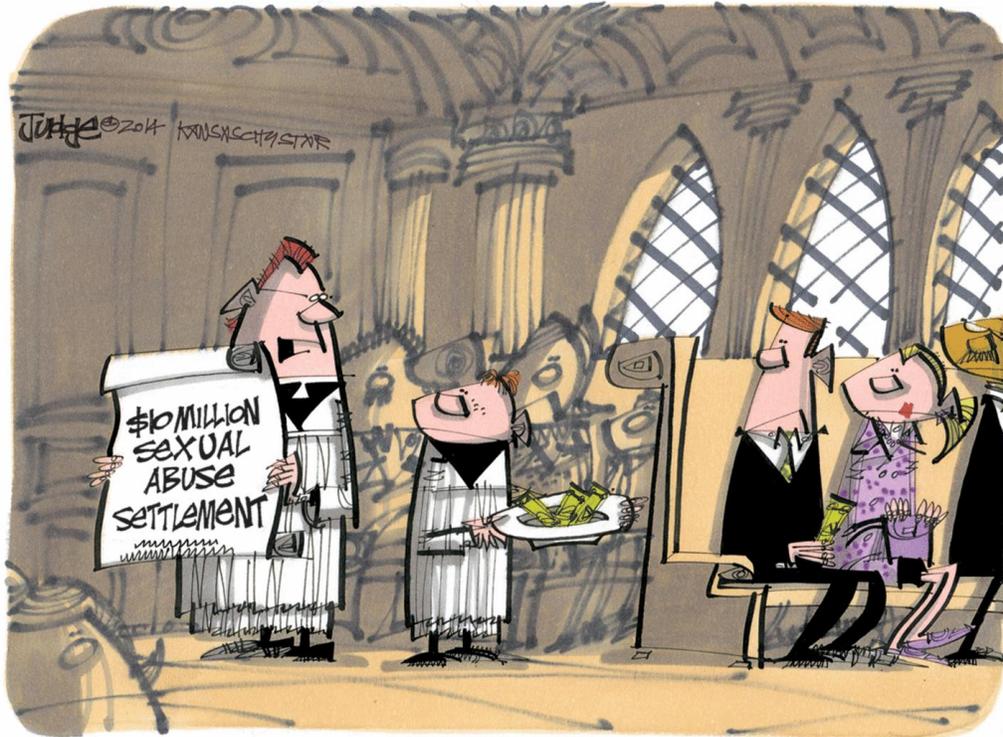


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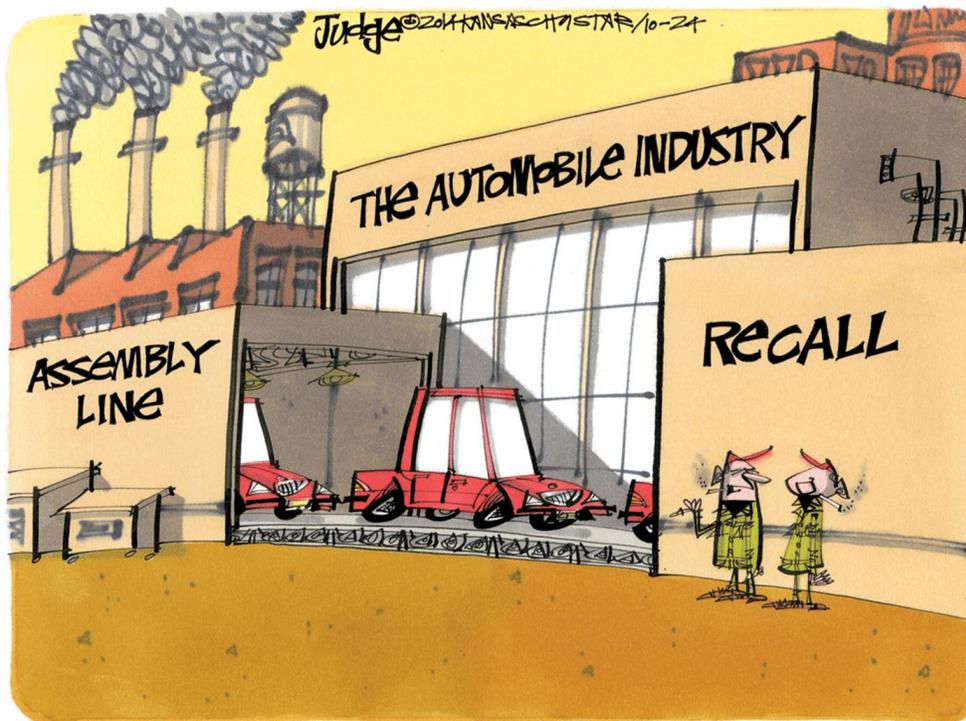


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