

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 171 AND CHESTERFIELD 116



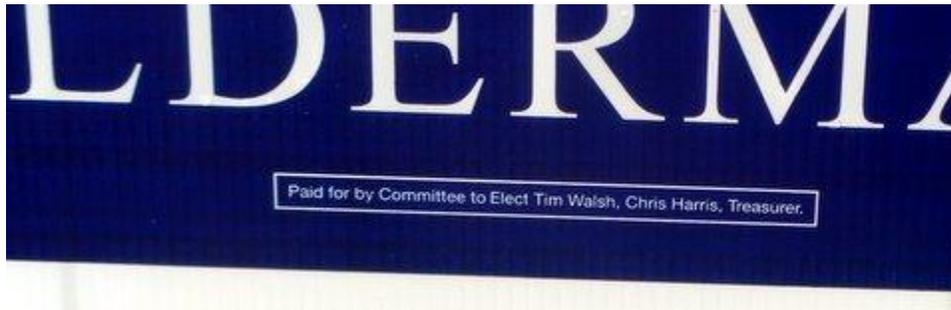
By John Hoffmann

March 29, 2015

AS USUAL IT IS THE LAWYER WHO CAN'T FOLLOW THE LAW: The Missouri Ethics laws and regulations required candidates who had existing committees to file a campaign financial report by February 25. For candidates who had not accepted any money they had until March 8 to form a Campaign Committee and file a report. The only way around this requirement is not to spend over \$1,000 in your campaign.

We checked on March 9 and found that Town and Country Ward 2 Aldermanic candidate Tim Walsh, a lawyer for developers had not formed a committee.

On March 24 Walsh put up campaign signs that indicated he did have a committee.



I checked with the Missouri Ethics Commission website and found that Walsh had not chosen the most transparent method to file required forms. Candidates can file with the Ethics Commission and the information is available online immediately. Or in St. Louis County they can also file at the Board of Elections. To review those records you would have to drive to the Elections' office in Maplewood and file a request to review the file.

I then checked with the St. Louis County Elections Board and found the Walsh did file a Committee Formation Report, five days after the deadline, but did not list any contributors.

Apparently this is another case of a lawyer finding it impossible to follow the law.

I DON'T NEED NO STINK'IN ORDINANCE OF A SITE DEVELOPMENT

PLAN: In the agenda meeting before the final vote on the site development change for Town and Country Crossing Center that would allow a drive through restaurant Alderwoman Linda Rallo reminded fellow alderpersons that by approving the changes allowing a drive thru restaurant if the first restaurant (planned coffee shop) went out of business the board could not stop any other type of drive through from going in.

Mayor/Cigarette Lobbyist Jon Dalton immediately spoke up. "Not in my mind," piped up Mayor Jon Dalton, who missed the prior meeting when the board members who showed up were told that was exactly the case. The Board of Alderman still has some say over sign variances and special use requests. This appeared to be another case of a lawyer saying to hell with a law they were about to pass.



We don't need no stinkin badges and Mayor Dalton don't need no stinkin site development ordinance.

NEW CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: On March 10, 2015 Mayor Jon Dalton registered a new lobbying client with the Missouri Ethics Commission. Dalton is now lobbying the State Legislature and Senate for The Coalition for Responsible Ground Transportation, a trucking industry group. Now let's see...there are two Interstate Highways that cut through Town and Country and carry lots of truck traffic. Do you smell a possible conflict of interest here?

On March 23, Dalton registered as the lobbyist for the City of Hazelwood. A city in North St. Louis County could have many political positions that might not be in the best interest of Town and Country. Does Dalton work for his paying client or the citizens in Town and Country? My vote goes to the paying client.

For 10-years Dalton has been the lobbyist for the St. Louis County Municipal League. That job is ripe with conflicts especially since Town and Country is a "Point of Sale" sales tax city and many of the Muni League cities are in the "Sales Tax Pool" and want to stay that way.



Once again it is time for the Dalton Two-Step.



THE GROWING DEFICIT: A bill was passed on Monday March 23 that amended the 2015 budget to increase the use of reserve funds to add Charter Communications fiber service to the firehouse and Longview Park. The total costs are \$13,553. The total budget deficit under Mayor Dalton and the Board of Alderman has now grown to **-\$1,263,862**. (Keep in mind the deficit may fall late in the year if some public works construction projects come in under budget.)

Here is the budget deficit to date:

2015 Town and Country Budget Deficit revised 03/23/15

-\$1,230,929	December 31, 2014... 2015 proposed budget*
* includes \$25,000 after budget was approved by the Finance Commission for Beautification Grants added to budget by Mayor Dalton	
<u>+ 17,580</u>	February 9, 2015 Increase in Police Holiday Pay by adding w more paid holidays (GF)
-\$1,248,509	
<u>+ 1,800</u>	March 9, 2015 Increase in funds to Board of Elections for April City election (GF)
-\$1,250,309	
<u>+ 6,960</u>	March 23, 2015 Increase in IT contractual service Capital Improvement Fund
-\$1,257,269	
<u>+ 1,111</u>	March 23, 2015 Building equipment/repairs & maintenance Capital Improvement Fund
-\$1,258,380	
<u>+ 450</u>	March 23, 2015 Other repairs (Capital Improvements Fund)
-\$1,258,830	

+ 5,032 March 23, 2015 Service Contracts (Parks and Storm Water Fund)
-\$1,263,862

BACK TO THE QUARRY: The couple wanting to build a new home at 1120 Weidman Road left the last Architectural Review Board meeting muttering. Naseem & Farhat Shekhani's plans met code, but were not to the the liking of the ARB. They were told to add more masonry to the sides and rear of the home they would like to build. Is there a problem when you met the government requirements but are told by the government you must spend more money?



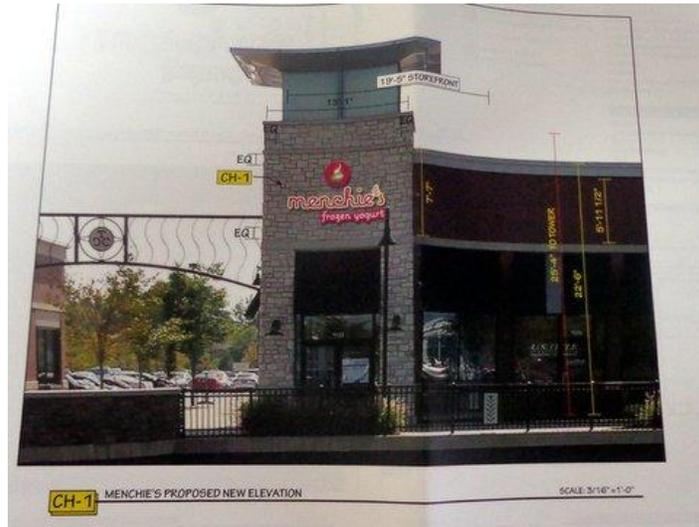
FIRST THERE WAS EUGENE'S AND NOW THERE WILL MENCHIES:

I was on the T&C Board of Aldermen when I guy applied for signs for his Eugene's Frozen Custard Store in the new and 60-percent vacant Town and Country Crossing Shopping Center. The recession had been going strong for a year. The store's front was not near the parking lot but facing a lake and Clayton Road. This guy said he had always dreamed of owning custard stand, despite having no experience in the food business.

The place did not last 18 months. The owner walked away from it leaving the chairs, tables and equipment.

A year later another place facing that lake went under, Five Guys Burgers, which served fairly tasteless burgers, but very good hand cut French Fries. The fact the President Obama had gone to the one in the DC Virginia suburbs, probably didn't help them in heavily Republican West County.

Now a new place is coming to face the lake in Town and Country Crossing. This time it is Menchie's Frozen Yogurt. Since it is NCAA bracket time, I feel like I should start a pool on how long before Menchie's finds itself out of business at the bottom of the lake next to Eugene's.



COFFEE WITH A COP: Anytime you try comedy some things work better than others. Here is an example. March 20 was unusual for me. At 8:15 I was dressed. After being a guest on the 8:35 segment of a local radio talk show, I left the house and went to FiveBucks...er I mean Starbucks at the Mason Village Shopping Center, where they were entering "hour two" of "Coffee with a Cop."



The first thing that got my attention was bad marketing. The city promoted "Coffee with a Cop" on the website and with a sign in the window of Starbucks, but what didn't they do? They didn't put a marked police car on the parking lot as a last minute reminder. There were two unmarked police cars there.

I went in, got in line and then when it was my turn I said, "I'm here for "Coffee with a Cop" do I get the police discount?" The woman taking my order laughed and then said, "The police chief made us quit giving that several years ago." I asked who was running this Starbucks, the suits in Seattle or the local police chief.

Next I took my roll and ice water to what appeared to be the "Coffee with a Cop" table. There sat Police Chief Pat Kranz and next to him was a detective. I immediately complained. "I thought this was supposed to be "Coffee with a Cop" not "Coffee with the Police Chief." Pat gave it right back and said, "Hey I'm still a cop and pointed to the detective and then pointed to Officer Gorman across the table from him. "There are cops here," he said.

Next I bitched that there was no "Police Discount" on the beverages. Pat Kranz said retired Police Chief John Copeland got rid of those some years ago. I immediately came back with how I was behind a Town and Country cop at the counter of McDonalds a few years ago. The police officer ordered a \$1 double cheeseburger and a \$1 Coke. We then had to wait for a manager to come and punch in the code for the "Police Discount" on a \$2 order.

Chief Kranz said that Colleen Schoendienst who owns the McDonalds was asked to stop giving "police discounts" and refused saying it was her restaurant and she could charge anything she wanted. People who own places that deal with lots of cash and are open late at night are happy to sell food at cost to police officers whose presence provides a certain degree of security.

No Town and Country police chief has apparently ventured into unincorporated St. Louis County to cut off "half-off cop meals" as I occasionally see one or two Town and Country cars at the Arby's on Manchester Road.

5 minutes later it was my final attempted joke of the day. It was an accusation of false advertising. "Hey I thought this was supposed to be Coffee with a Cop, you are drinking a tea (Chief Kranz) and he has some fruit drink (pointing to the detective). They both pointed to Officer Gorman who brought his own giant coffee cup that was full of java. Getting no laughs on that one I said good morning and headed to the door.

ELECTION COMPLAINT...PROBABLY FROM AN ELECTED OFFICIAL WHO IS UNAWARE OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT:

It has been well known for seven or eight years that Town and Country has been instructed by the city attorney had to enforce the city's sign ordinance when it comes to political or religious signs. This is the result of a number of State and Federal appeals court rulings that such ordinances are ILLEGAL. Cities cannot pass laws that restrict citizens' non-commercial political and religious speech, including putting signs on their property, as long as the signs don't create safety concerns, such as view obstructions for motorists.



Tiffany Frautschi had placed a magnetic sign with her name and "for Alderman" on her mailbox on Mason Road. Someone called in a complaint to the city claiming she had an illegal sign place up before 14-days prior to the election. A city staffer who would not reveal who the complaint was made by, said the person was told the city does not enforce the sign ordinance section on political or religious signs. At the time her opponent Tim Walsh was not in town. This led me to believe the complaint was most likely Alderdope Tim Welby, who apparently joins Alderman Fred Meyland-Smith (who in the past has tried to stop church signs from going up) in violating citizen's first amendment rights. It would be nice if aldermen would not wait for a revision of the sign code (in the works for 7 years) and elminate the section on political and religious signs.

According to reports, Welby was going door-to-door with Walsh. It was Welby doing all the talking, bad mouthing Frautschi. It appears as if Frautschi isn't running against Walsh, but is actually running against Welby who isn't on the ballot.

THE YARD SIGNS 2015 TOWN AND COUNTRY EDITION:

Ward 2:



Both Frautschi and Walsh went with the smart use of highlighting just one name to get easier recognition by passing drivers. Frautschi wins the top grade using red on a white background having her first name jump off the sign.

Ward 3



Meyland-Smith's sign is brilliant. For people who don't know Fred for the pretentious, windbag he really is... a guy who will have a cashmere sweater tied around his neck while wearing a yellow shirt, white slacks and saddle shoes on a spring Saturday, "Fred" jumps off the sign and makes you think of a regular guy, like Fred Flintstone and not some guy with a hyphenated name.

Meanwhile Mary Steward's sign is the worst I have seen in years. At 30 MPH all you see is blue on top of red. You cannot read a single word. She also has the election date on the sign, making it impossible to reuse for reelection if she wins. This sign is a total waste of money. As I am sending this newsletter out I understand that Mary is putting up all new signs.

WARD 2 CAMPAIGN FLIER: I received the first campaign flier from Ward 2 candidate Tim Walsh. It was very odd. Tim and his committee don't have a clue about political fliers and how you have to design them so people will at least look at them before throwing them away. On fliers you use bullet points and express ideas you don't do speeches, unless you are Tim Walsh.

**Tim
WALSH**
ALDERMAN

1077 Kasha Drive • Town & Country, MO 63011 • (314) 681-6603

A vote for Tim Walsh is a vote for:

- Representation by a long-term Town and Country resident
- Experience serving Town and Country on municipal and neighborhood boards
- Preservation of acre-zoning and our "hidden gem"
- Active leadership in the future of the Wirth/Town Center property and Manchester Meadows
- Prudent and responsible fiscal management
- Improving Ward 2's storm water management

I would love to discuss these and other issues with you!

(314) 681-6603 or
timforalderman@yahoo.com



Local
Private Customer

KIMBERLY

1077 Kasha Drive
Town & Country, MO 63011
(314) 681-6603

WALSH

Dear Ward 2 Neighbors,

My name is Tim Walsh, and I am excited to be a candidate for Ward 2 Alderman in the April 7th election. In this election, you have a choice. A vote for Tim Walsh is a vote for a long term Town and Country resident, a candidate with proven commitment to Town and Country, seven years of service on the **Town and Country Board of Adjustment (since 2008)**, and **five years on our subdivision Board of Trustees (including three years as Board President)**. For my family, Town and Country is HOME. Since moving to the area at age fifteen, Missouri, St. Louis, and now Town and Country, have been home! We moved into Thornhill Estates in 2007, and although we had previously admired Town and Country, we never truly appreciated the essence of Town and Country. Yet, after moving into Thornhill Estates, we referred to our neighborhood, community and Town and Country as St. Louis's "hidden gem." The "hidden gem" to us referred to protection of acre-zoning and enforcement of ordinances that preserve a comfortable buffer between "close by" and "convenient" commercial areas and the interconnected neighborhoods that make our City great. Few other municipalities are as conveniently located to major highways, jobs, and commerce centers, and also provide subdivision options with neighborhood pools, walking trails, access to great community parks and residents that care.

I am passionate about safeguarding our community and want to serve Town and Country on the Board of Alderman. I am honored to have served in Town and Country and neighborhood leadership positions that trained me to respect our ordinances and community standards while exploring options to enhance our City. Now, as a candidate for Alderman, I vow to preserve the community I love, to develop sustainable standards for future generations, and to manage our finances through sound fiscal policy. I promise to be your voice, your vote and your connection to what we all want in our HOME.

**PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT TIM WALSH,
CHRIS HARRIS, TREASURER**

Let's Review Tim's claims:

1. That he is a long time resident. Tim and his attorney wife moved her from Chicago in late 2007 or early 2008. Does seven years make you a long time resident? I think I would have skipped making this statement.

2) That he is experienced serving Town and Country on municipal boards and neighborhood boards. Walsh missed 40-percent of the meetings of the Board of Adjustment he served on. He is on my neighborhood's board of trustees. He was for allowing golf carts on the streets that the majority of residents were against. He missed

the meeting where it was decided to change due dates for annual assessments, which is going to cost homeowners an extra \$125 in double billing.

3) Prudent and responsible fiscal management. See above about the \$125 in double billing.

4) Improving Ward 2's storm water management. More money on projects from the city's storm water fund has gone to Ward 2 than any other ward. For one year I was the chair of the Public Works and Storm Water Commission. The storm water project system was created so politicians like Tim Walsh could not influence where projects were on the list. A point system, based on immediate need to protect homes, out buildings and land, was devised. Depending on how many points a project earned is where it went on the list without any involvement of politicians.

On the flip side: On the other side of the flier, who can read this small print? This flier is as bad as Mary Stewart's yard signs.

SOLAR PANELS BEING INSTALLED AT CITY HALL: The controversial solar panels that will not make a return on the investment until 2026 or 2027 and may have to be taken if the roof is replaced on schedule are in process of being installed at City Hall. The panels went up on the police department's car port behind the building last Wednesday.



GOOSE ALERT: Frankly geese are a pain in the ass. They have Type-A personalities, they poop everywhere and are happy to take up squatter rights any where they like. It was nice to see the that Eagle Bank, which houses a contract Post Office, on Manchester Road at Manchester Highlands Blvd has put up signs warning bank and postal customers of possible dangers waddling your way.



UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 116



March 30, 2015

THIRD SEX OFFENSE...THIRD CASH FINE...43-year-old MAN SAYS HE EXPOSES HIMSELF BECAUSE HE WANTS TO HAVE SEX WITH BEAUTIFUL WOMEN. ON SUNDAY HE PLAYS MUSIC AT HIS PARENT'S CHURCH:

It had been 18-years since Marlin Antonio Brimm had been arrested in St. Louis County for exposing himself, when he was arrested by Chesterfield Police on October 1, 2014 and charged with Indecent Exposure. This time it was at the indoor pool of the Westmont Apartment at 15670 Westmeade Drive. It occurred at 8:36 am. Apparently Brimm is an early riser in more than one way.



Brimm who lives in Hazelwood, was at the indoor pool area of the apartments. A member of the apartment complex's cleaning staff reported that she had just finished vacuuming the rugs near the ladies' restroom she she saw Brimm sitting in the pool area with a towel across his lap. When she looked at him, he made eye contact. He raised the towel, stood up exposing himself. The victim went to report the incident to a supervisor.

Brimm put on a black "workout suit" and left the building, however he was being followed by the manager of the apartments, who had been warned by police to look for a black male who had been exposing himself at health clubs, hotel and apartment workout areas. Chesterfield Police had taken a similar report on September 23. She followed Brimm as he ducked behind a building as a police car was driving by. She flagged down the car and Brimm was arrested. Here is the victim's statement to detectives:

"I was coming out of the woman's restroom from cleaning it and he was peeking out of the men's restroom door It seemed really odd to me so I told B [redacted] the maintenance man and S [redacted] the maintenance man so I kept on cleaning the office area and when I vacuumed the rug outside the indoor pool area I looked up and saw him sitting down with a towel across his lap and once he saw me he stood up and exposed himself. I turned to go down the hall and then I ran to the leasing office and told my boss T [redacted]. T [redacted] called 911 and we chased after him until the police came I did notice his penis was small and didn't have a lot of hair. I observed him through the glass doors and he didn't seem aroused as he stood up he made eye contact with me and made no effort to cover himself up."

Here is what Brimm had to tell detectives after his arrest (his name is blacked out in this copy of the report):

Upon arriving, Detective Graham Murphy, DSN 253 and I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. He was read the Miranda warning and chose to waive those rights as recorded on form CPD 39-A. We asked [REDACTED] to tell us what happened and he stated he was sitting on the edge of the pool at the above location. He was not wearing any clothes, but that he had a towel on his waist and that occasionally, he would use the towel to wipe his face and arms. [REDACTED] stated that he was simply wiping his face and did not mean to expose himself. [REDACTED] stated that he would go to different gyms and hotels looking to have sex with different "beautiful" women. He said the act of exposing himself was in an attempt to arouse the opposite sex, with the "ultimate goal" of having sex with them. [REDACTED] told us that once he felt that he was disturbing someone, he would leave the area. [REDACTED] stated he would go to bars and meet different women. Those women would allegedly give him cards to the hotel that they were staying at. After receiving those cards, he would travel to those respective hotels and attempt to locate the females. Once he was unable to locate the female, he would get frustrated and attempt to get another female to have sex with him. He would do this by exposing his penis to those females in an attempt to "arouse" them. Detective Murphy proceeded to ask [REDACTED] about a separate incident that occurred in the city of Chesterfield; case number 14-4846. See my supplement to that case for further.

Cell phones found in Brimm's car had images of partially naked women and women changing where the women appeared not to be aware they were being recorded. Brimm told detectives that he also had "urges" to take videos of unsuspecting women. Detectives believe they also had evidence that Brimm had taken some of these videos of women when he worked at a retail store in Frontenac. That evidence was turned over to Frontenac Police detectives.



Here is Brimm from a 2012 photo of the Grand Opening of new shoe department at the Sak's Fifth Avenue in Frontenac Plaza.

In Chesterfield Brimm was charged with two counts of Indecent Exposure.

The other case occurred on Tuesday September 23 at 7:45 pm Brimm was at the Peachtree Apartments on Peach Hill Drive. A woman reported he was outside the workout room for 30 minutes wearing just a workout jacket and a towel.

She continued that he then entered the gym and started a conversation with her eventually asking her she she would help him in his workout. At this point she said she was frightened and immediately left the gym.



The gym at the Peachtree Apartments.

After his arrest on October 1, Brimm told detectives that it was him at the Peachtree Apartments and that he planned to have the woman hold his ankles as he did sit ups and then expose himself.

The case was "jury demanded" by Brimm's lawyer and sent to the Associated Circuit Court in Clayton. Of course there was no jury trial

Chesterfield prosecutor Tim Engelmeyer, who after three years of reviewing Chesterfield cases we are convinced never bothers to read the police reports, dismissed the best case which occurred at the Westmont Apartments. In that case Brimm actually exposed himself and was immediately arrested afterwards.

Brimm on Janaury 8, 2015 pled guilty to the weakest of the two cases, the one on September 23, 2014. Judge Joseph Dueker took the plea. Brimm was fined \$500 and paid the fine on January 22.

There are only four municipal courts in St. Louis County which file their cases in casenet, where all cases in state courts must be filed. Town and Country and Chesterfield continue to hide their cases from public view, so I don't know how many other cases have been filed against Brimm. But we did find two other cases filed in state courts by other municipal officers.

On 11/17/1995 Brimm committed Sexual Misconduct First Degree in Webster Groves. He pled guilty on 09/26/1997 before Judge Patrick Clifford. He was sentenced to two days in jail and fined \$300.

On 08/26/1996 Brimm committed Sexual Misconduct Second Degree in Clayton. On 02/19/1997 he pled guilty before Judge Dennis Quillin and was fined \$500.

Brimm's parents run the Agape Family Christian Center in Belleville, Illinois.



Brimm's parents, Pastor and Ast. Pastor Brimm

Ministerial Staff

Minister Wardell C. Brimm, Pastor-Teacher

Minister Rosalind Brimm, Assistant Pastor-Teacher

Apostle Jannie Brady

Minister Sheridan Cruise

Minister Jerry W. Phillips, Jr.

Minister Harold D. Smith

Brother Marlin A. Brimm, Operations Administrator

Musicians

Brother Marlin A. Brimm, Minister of Music & Pianist

CHESTERFIELD LOOKING FOR NEW CITY ATTORNEY...HEGGIE APPOINTED TO ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT BENCH: Rob Heggie was third on the list of three sent to Governor Jay Nixon for the opening on the St. Louis County Associate Circuit Court, but ended up being the one picked last week.

Heggie had been Chesterfield's City Attorney for just under 10 years. He is expected to be at Chesterfield's only April meeting on April 20. Another member of his law firm could fill-in until Mayor Bob Nation makes a nomination to the City Council for a

permanent replacement. (Our only suggestion is that they should look somewhere other than Curtis, Heinz, Garrett & O'Keefe...they are still having some serious PR problems.)



CHESTERFIELD ACCEPTS AS STREETS TWO LONG DRIVEWAYS TO OUTLET MALL DESPITE SOME SALES TAXES GOING DIRECTLY TO THE SHOPPING CENTER: At the March 16th meeting of the Chesterfield City Council, the Council voted to accept Outlet Blvd and Premium Way as city streets.



If you look at the above map it appears that in reality these are just driveways to popular Premium Outlet Mall off of Olive Street Road. Why would the city want to the expense to maintain these drives to this shopping center.

After the meeting I asked Mayor Bob Nation about this and he first responded that the shopping center pays a lot in sales taxes. I immediately responded how 54-percent of those taxes go into the County Wide Sales Tax Pool that the City is suing Missouri to stop. Plus the city gave the shopping center of Community Improvement District sales tax where it swipes one-cent on every dollar in sales to pay for construction and maintenance of the shopping center for 20 years.

City Administrator Mike Herring then said the streets connect with other streets outside of the shopping center. Connecting streets might be on the planning board but it isn't happening now. Outlet Blvd. stops in a dead end before it reaches any other street. Premium Way goes directly into the shopping center. (Look on the above map)

The shopping center has managed to maintain these streets from the last year-and-half since the center opened and puts a portion of sales tax revenue directly into its pocket. I don't think the city needed to take over these streets at this time and to do so was a disservice to residents.

COUNCILWOMAN CONNIE FULTS SOFTENS ON HER STAND ABOUT LOWES' HOURS:

It appears as if Connie Fults is backing down a bit on her stance about operating hours at the Lowes Home Improvement store. Lowes currently opens at 7am and wants to open for contractors at 6 am like Home Depot does 1/4 of mile west.

Here is what Connie Fults said in February during a Planning and Public Works meeting:

"Before anything was built (after the 1993 flood and as Chesterfield Commons was being planned) everybody who has come in here knew the rules. I don't want to go back on our word to the residents (homeowners behind and over the west end of the shopping center)," said Fults.



Connie Fults



At the Thursday March 19 Planning and Public Works Committee Fults was not as inflexible.

"It (Lowe's) is directly behind homeowners," said Fults on why she did not want Lowe's opening hours to move from 7 am to 6 am.

"I need to get some clarity on what you just said," said Mike Doster, a development attorney representing Lowe's.

"If the material is already paid for and is to be picked up at 6 am I can compromise on it," said Fults.

This confused me because a contractor swiping a credit card at 6:10 doesn't really generate that much noise. It is the loading of trucks that makes noise. Its diesel engines idling that make noise. It is people yelling at each other that makes noise. Paying for the material the evening before is not going to decrease the noise level. I asked Fults after the meeting why she seemed to have softened her stance.

"I'm willing to let them take a shot at it," she said.

THE MEETING IS OFFICIALLY ADJOURNED. IT IS NOW TIME FOR THE SECRET MEETING! You can't have a quorum of elected or appointed city officials and discuss city business without holding a meeting that is open to the public. The Chesterfield Planning and Public Works Committee is made up of four councilpersons. Chairman Dan Hurt, Connie Fults, Elliot Grissom and Nancy Greenwood were present for the March 19 meeting, along with representatives and a lawyer from Lowes. At about 6:30 Dan Hurt adjourned the meeting. The city staffers

and the people from Lowes left the room. Councilwoman Nancy Greenwood left. Mayor Bob Nation and Councilman Mike Casey had left before the adjournment.

The only people left in the room were Dan Hurt, who had not moved from his chair, Connie Fults and Elliot Grissom. They gathered around and talked for 10 minutes. They were not filling out their brackets. They continued to discuss restrictions in the Chesterfield Commons for Lowes.

Three of the four members were present made a quorum and they were discussing city business. How did I know? I stood at the door and eavesdropped. They were holding a secret meeting, with a discussion that should have occurred in public and in front of interested parties. Hurt and Connie Fults often will talk about enforcing city codes to the letter of the law. That is fine and can be expected from elected officials. However the same elected officials should be expected to know the open meetings law about should be expected not to violate it.



FOLLOW THE MONEY FIREFIGHTER'S UNION: Kelley Miller's largest contributor in her race to unseat Robin Harris was a retired Monarch firefighter who lives in Illinois and gave her \$750. However we have written that the firefighter union groups normally "officially" contribute late in the election so their candidate cannot be labeled as being in the pocket of the firefighters' union.

That is clearly happening now in the Monarch Fire District race. Current Board president Robin Harris, who in the last two years has tried to rein in the excesses of the firefighter's union, has raised campaign contributions and reported all of them. Miller reported \$900, \$750 coming from retired firefighter Dave Houston of Tamaroa, IL.

Well it appears as if the faucet has opened. On March 19 West County Firefighters of Manchester, MO gave \$15,000 to Professional Firefighters of Central St. Louis County, PAC. It is all unopposed union backed candidates again in the Manchester area, so money appears headed to the Monarch race. All the firefighters with both districts are members of Local 2665.

We understand that recent mailers sent out by firefighter's union were urging people not to vote for Harris. This way Miller can say she is not being backed by the fire unions.

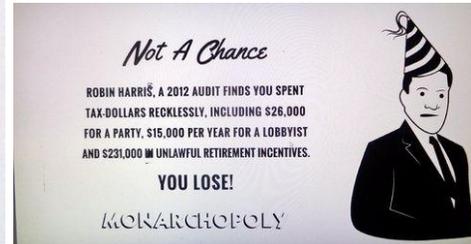
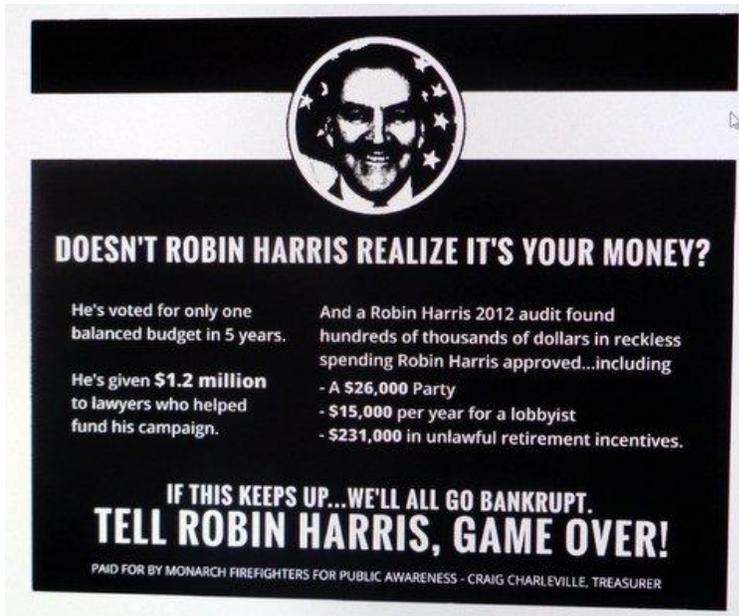


We would be shocked if most of that money does not go toward Kelley Miller directly or indirectly. That is enough for three mailers. And mailers with lies attacking Harris are being sent out daily by Monarch firefighters for Public Awareness.

MONARCH FIREFIGHTERS SEND OUT FLIERS FULL OF LIES. MONARCH BOARD PRESIDENT IS SMEARED BY UNTRUTHFUL FLIERS MAILED TO VOTERS BY MONARCH FIREFIGHTER GROUP: For most of my adult life I have worked with firefighters. First as a police officer, I responded to medical emergencies and fires. I have helped do CPR and fight fires. Next I was an arson and fire investigator working off duty for insurance companies and responding to fire scenes throughout the Midwest. I later taught fire investigation courses for universities, states, the Army and foreign countries. Finally I used to write articles in leading fire management magazines here and in England.

Other than the time I watched striking University City firefighters allow a business to be destroyed by blocking firefighters from nearby communities from putting out a small blaze in 1978, I have never been more embarrassed by actions of firefighters than what some Monarch firefighters are doing now.

The group Monarch Firefighters for Public Awareness are sending out mailers with blatantly FALSE information about Monarch Board President Robin Harris. Let's examine some of these.



1) **Lie:** He voted only for one balanced budget in 5 years.

Truth: During the time Kim Evans was Monarch Board President and Steve Swyers was secretary, Harris was treasurer. Evans was having a sexual relationship if a member of Local 2665 and Swyers' son is a member of Local 2665 with another area Fire District. The board at this time was considered a Pro-Union board. Harris voted against budgets year after year that were full of waste and extravagances for union firefighters. Harris voted against Pro-Union bloated budgets. He voted for the balanced budget that he and Jane Cunningham proposed for this last year. Harris and Cunningham have been considered "Pro-Taxpayer" board members.

2) **Lie:** He's has given \$1.2 million to lawyers who helped his campaign.

Truth: Charles Billings, who at the time contributed money to Jane Cunningham's opponent Cole McNary was fired after Cunningham was elected and Harris became President of the Fire District. The work went out to bids and Billings was 20-percent higher than the firm hired. Much of the \$1.2 million went to defend the district in lawsuits filed by Local 2665, many of them with courts and Missouri Commissions that found the cases had no merit. It was the union that created the \$1.2 million in legal fees.

3) **Lie:** Robin Harris approved...a \$26,000 Party \$15,000 for a lobbyist \$231,000 in unlawful retirement incentives.

Truth: As the District treasurer Harris had to approve checks for inflated and extravagant expenses voted for by Evans and Swyers. Harris consistently voted against the \$26,000 party and according to the minutes was shut down by Kim Evans

and Steve Swyers when he questioned the expenditure. Here is the link to the August 2011 minutes where Harris complained about the expenses and voted against even making a down payment for a hotel ballroom for the party. (Start on or about page 32)

<http://www.monarchfpd.org/docs/2011minutes/08-16-11.pdf>

Here is a portion from those minutes where Harris voted against even booking a hotel ballroom for the party that Swyers and Evans approved.

Virginia L. Long
Court Reporter
314.603.2287

39

DIRECTOR EVANS: Thank you.

Okay. I will make a motion to accept check number 30313 to the Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center in the amount of \$1,000.00, which is a deposit for the banquet to be held on September 11th, 2011.

Do I hear a second?

DIRECTOR SWYERS: Second.

DIRECTOR EVANS: Any discussion?

(No response.)

DIRECTOR

EVANS:

Any

further

discussion?

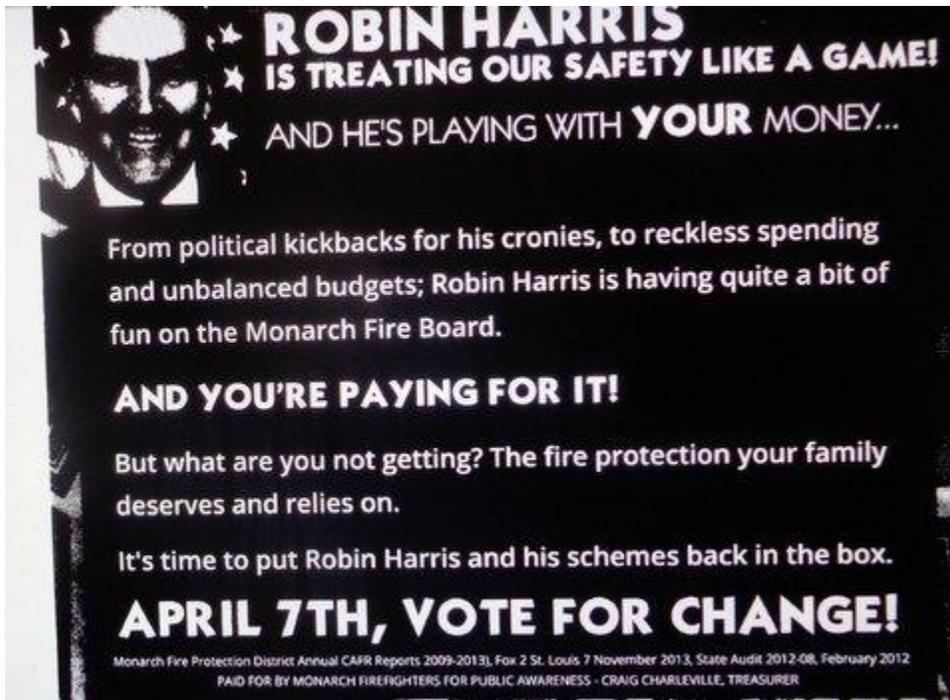
(No response.)

DIRECTOR EVANS: I'll call for the question. All in favor?

DIRECTOR SWYERS: Aye.

DIRECTOR HARRIS: Nae.

DIRECTOR EVANS: Aye. The motion passes two to one. Thank you.



LIE: Political kickbacks for his cronies

TRUTH: Robin Harris is a former military pilot and currently is a senior pilot with Delta Airlines. His cronies are other pilots at Delta Airlines. I have not seen any evidence of Harris giving any kickbacks to his crony buddy pilots.

SOURCE: The lying firefighters of Monarch cite at the bottom of postcard their misinformation is from a 2009-2013 audit of the Fire District. During this time Harris as the only Pro-Taxpayer member of the board was in the minority. The Board was controlled by Pro-Union directors Kim Evans and Steve Swyers. Those two even hired Tom Vineyard, a very pro-union person, as chief, even though he came from the old Wellston Fire District, where there was just one fire station with no ambulance service.

Harris did not take over control of the Fire Board until April of 2013 when Jane Cunningham was elected. All the claims by the union were all caused by the pro-union board members. Harris a reform President of the Fire District has bought new equipment across the board without raising taxes or floating bond issues.

REBUTTAL: Here is the written rebuttal by Robin Harris to the Monarch Firefighters for Public Awareness untruthful mailers.



Robin Harris

I wanted to touch on a number of issues tonight. This information is public record and documentable. It is not taken from rash comments made by someone with an agenda.

First, I wanted to ask Steve if he was surprised that a \$26,000 banquet he and Kim Evans provided to the union firefighters was blamed on me.

Then, I want to ask Steve to take ownership of that event in 2011 and set the record straight. I would only agree to a small, inexpensive event of less than \$1,000 as had been done in the past but Steve and Kim Evans moved forward with a large, costly affair.

If need be, I can jog your memory.

Next I want to address the fact that as treasurer, I had to pay District funds to cover the expenditures made by Kim and Steve. They obligated the district to paying for an extravagant event so the district had to pay or be faced with legal action.

Second, I want to defend Rick Gans, Kim Evans, Steve Swyers and Jane Cunningham against the reckless claim that Monarch has not had a balanced budget for years. As anyone familiar with the Missouri Statutes knows, the District

must, by law, pass a balanced budget each year. During my six years on the Board we have done so.

Every year the Monarch Board passes a balanced budget. The Board has also maintained a reserve of about 40% of the operational budget. I believe this is among the very highest levels of reserves in any fire district and comparable to the City of Chesterfield. The bond issue that burdened Monarch when I joined the Board has been paid off and retired.

Third, I want to speak out against the irresponsible comments which imply that Monarch does not get the equipment needed to maintain the highest levels of safety.

I will borrow from Steve Swyers, who phrased it so well. Each year when the Board reviews priorities for expenditures, we weigh each request against a simple ruler. If something is needed for safety or service, we approve it. If something is nice to have, like the \$1,000 plus recliners requested for firefighters to use while watching TV, often, like the recliners, the item is not purchased.

In the last six years, the Board has replaced all frontline ambulances; by year's end we will have replaced 80% of our frontline fire trucks; and we replace staff vehicles as needed. I personally directed the District's upgrade so all firetrucks and ambulances would be ALS in my first year here. That is Advanced Life Support which is the highest standard.

I directed staff to evaluate and then acquire medical equipment which has improved the survival rate in cardiac events by 40%. We recently upgraded other critical medical equipment so our paramedics would have the best to assist the victims of accidents, injury or health related events.

The protective equipment worn by our personnel has been upgraded in several aspects in the last six years. Several of them have expressed their appreciation for the improvements to me.

Fourth, in late 2013 and early 2014, Monarch negotiated with the public employees Union to obtain a good Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy. The Firefighters union fought for months against the safety that a good Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy provides for the citizens (and even for members of the union). Finally, the union said they would not oppose the Policy.

Then the union started quibbling about the policy. The first time anyone was tested under the Policy, the union filed a class action grievance against the District.

In February, a member of the union, who drives emergency vehicles, failed a drug test. Can you guess what the Firefighters union did? They rushed to the defense of a drug user, simply because this person was a member of their union.

The Firefighters union may claim they are all about safety but they have a soft spot in their heart for drug users who drive emergency vehicles.

Last, I want to note, the Board has made these many improvements to safety, service and reliability without additional taxes. Three and a half years ago Steve Swyers said we could not operate without a one million dollar tax increase on homeowners.

Not only have we continued to operate, we have enhanced safety and service.

The current Command Staff generated a long range plan in less than six months when the previous chief and assistant chief did not manage to develop one in a two and a half year period. This Board and this staff are planning for the future while avoiding unneeded tax increases. If someone tells you differently, they either want to misguide you or they simply don't know of what they speak.

If you look around West County, you will see most of the fire districts have either recently passed or are currently asking for tax rate increases and/or bond issues. Only two have not; Mehlville and Monarch. Monarch and Mehlville stand out as keeping costs in check while maintaining or improving service.

I will end with a simple comment. If you want to know whether the Monarch Board is being responsible to the residents and businesses don't listen to hype, remember public records document that taxes have dropped and our monetary reserves are among the highest while safety, service and reliability have improved.

POLITICAL SIGNS CHESTERFIELD: On the same day we went out and photographed signs of all the Town and Country candidates in contested in races, we also drove neighborhoods in Chesterfield's Ward 1 looking for signs from the three candidates running for the council seat and the two for the fire district.

WE could only find signs belonging to the incumbents, Nancy Greenwood and Robin Harris.



Greenwood's signs were perfect...just her first name. Nancy is easy to remember and hard to confuse with Harvey Rosenberg and Jim Brown, her opponents.

Robin Harris' problem is that both he and his opponent, Kellie Miller have first names that could belong to either a man or a woman. Harris smartly has his last name in the large letters on his signs.

We anticipate that Miller will have signs going up. However, I doubt if many will be in yards. I have to think the Local 2665 members will be placing them illegally in highway right away areas and medians.

MEDIA WATCH: IT IS NOT A PERSONNEL ISSUE...IT IS A PR ISSUE, JUST LIKE BRIAN WILLIAMS WAS TO NBC: Joe Holleman of the Post-

Dispatch broke the story how a news production assistant, Jana Marie Gamble at KSDK has been active in planning and participating in recent protests in Ferguson and Clayton.

She also sent an email to Post-Dispatch reporter Steve Giegerich, saying the importance of the march "has been amplified as an extension of the Ferguson crisis and murder of Michael Brown by Darren Wilson."

KSDK station manager **Marv Danielski** said he was just made aware of the situation Monday. "I'm still trying to get the details, and it is a personnel matter. So there's not much I can say," Danielski said Monday morning.



KSDK has fallen to third place over all. Last year they created a lockdown and area police response to Kirkwood High School when they thought it was a good idea to have an assignment editor wander the halls of the school and then report on the lack security, when in fact police officers from five different agencies responded to the school on a report of an intruder.

Now they have a newsroom employee sending emails to other local news organizations calling former police officer Darren Wilson a "murderer" after his actions were determined to be lawful and reasonable by a grand jury, the FBI and the U.S. Justice Department.

As a production assistant Jana Gamble gets to post photos to KSDK's news website. She has every right to protest and use her First Amendment Rights, but KSDK has an every right not to have her as an employee. With the Kirkwood High School debacle and now an employee organizing protest marches for the station to cover, clearly KSDK needs to change its slogan from "First in News" to "Creating News for You."

When KSDK Station manager Marv Danielski said it was a "personnel matter" it could not have been further from the truth. It is a "Public Relations Nightmare" issue, a "Credibility" Issue and a "Losing Trust with Viewers" issue. Maybe KSDK can have Brian Williams do some vacation relief anchoring.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION! It is sad when the local daily newspaper doesn't know where things are. In the Saturday March 20 edition of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch the following location was given for a story of a St. Louis County police officer shooting himself at the police firing range when he was drawing his pistol for his holster. The Post-Dispatch claimed it happened in Chesterfield. It's too bad that the County Police firing range is nowhere near Chesterfield! The range is located off the I-44 service road near the Beaumont Boy Scout Reservation in unincorporated St. Louis County between Valley Park and Eureka.



I asked a Chesterfield Police spokesman if he had any idea how the Post-Dispatch could be so far off in terms of the location of the incident. "I wouldn't know. I don't read the Post-Dispatch was his reply.

CLEVELAND-MIAMI SHARON REED STILL NEEDS SOME HELP AROUND ST. LOUIS: Basketball star LeBron James' former girlfriend Sharon Reed is still new to St. Louis and clearly does not have that much interest in St. Louis news. If she had she would have known that the first woman police chief in St. Charles County was in charge of the Wentzville Police. She maybe should have known that Police Chief Lisa Harrison had sued several city officials and the county prosecutor for sexual harassment. But if Susan had just read Saturday's Post-Dispatch she maybe would have at least seen the headline. Instead, during a Sunday March 22 newscasts she repeatedly said how the St. Charles MO police chief had resigned.



Sharon from her Cleveland TV days doing a story naked. Now in St. Louis only the top of her breasts are exposed.



RAT PACK MONDAY IS ON MARCH 30: Entertainer Dean Christopher joins Jim Manley and Chris Swan at the One-19-North on 119 N. Kirkwood Road at 7:30 for two hours of fun. Get out of the house on a Monday for a change.



SATURDAY MARCH 21:



WEDNESDAY MARCH 25: In the second set Jim Manley at Sasha's got to take a break as college students sat in for four numbers:



Kwanae Johnson on the sax



Meredith



Unknow trombone player



Kyle Allen

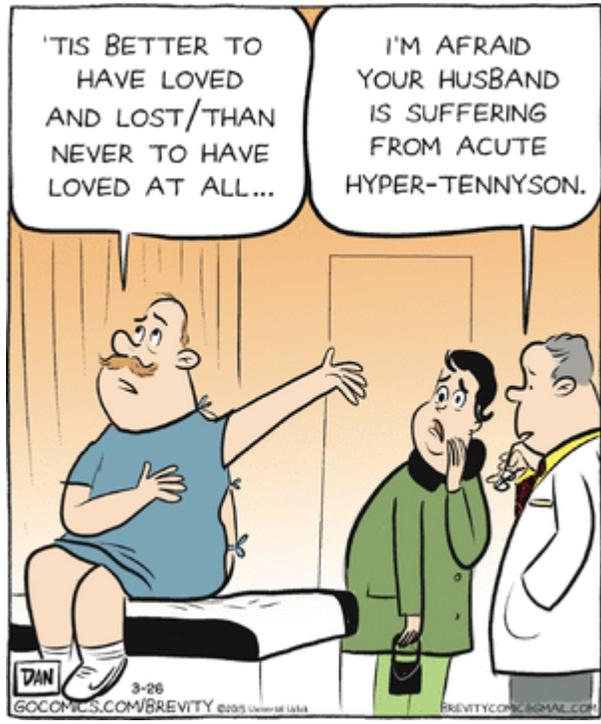
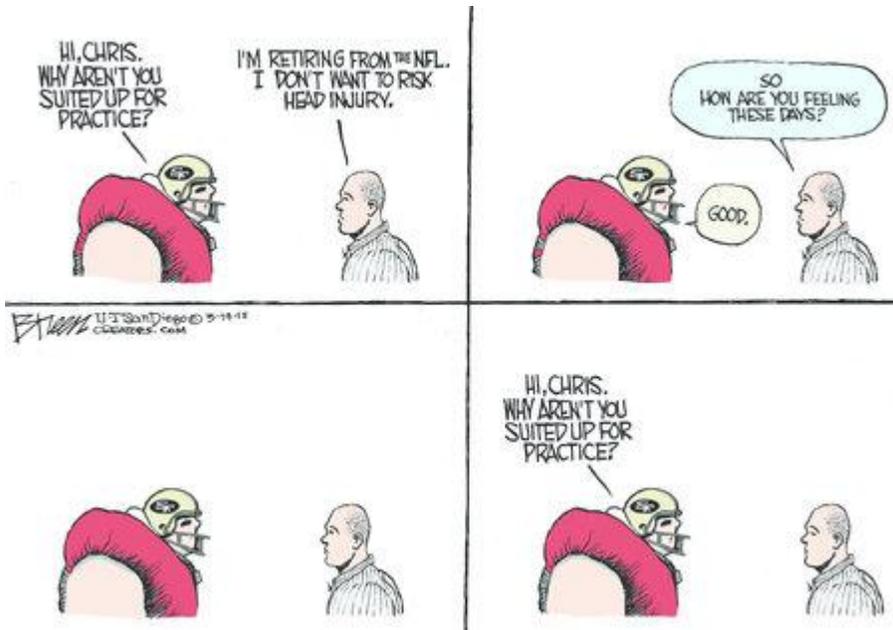
CARTOONS:

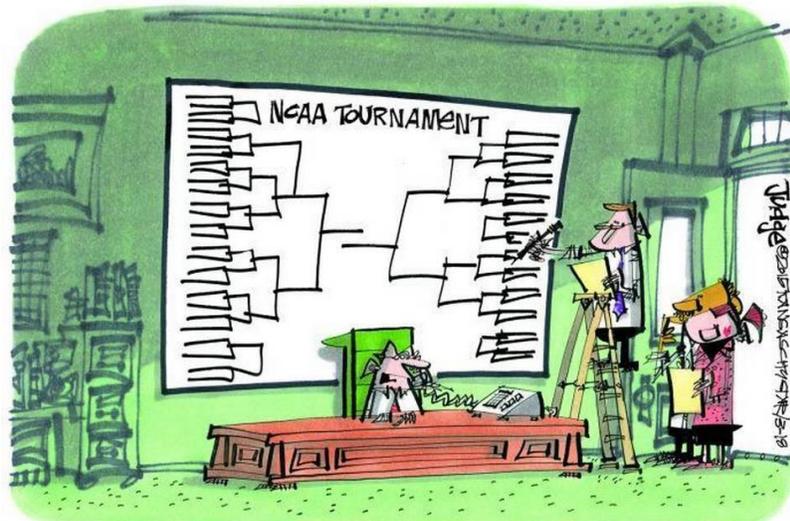
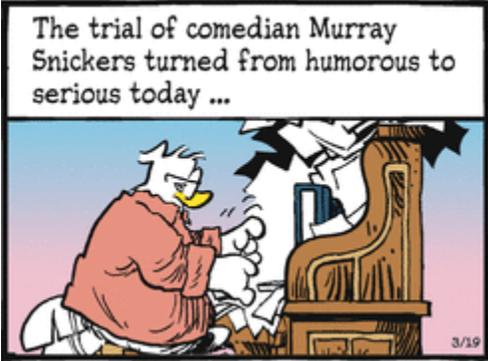




"YOU WERE WEAVING ALL OVER THE ROAD, YOU BLEW A 0.2 ON THE BREATHALYZER AND YOU CAN'T WALK A STRAIGHT LINE... CONGRATULATIONS, YOU APPEAR TO BE SECRET SERVICE MATERIAL."







"WE'LL GET YOU THAT REPORT ON POSSIBLE REASONS FOR LAST PRODUCTIVITY IN THE AMERICAN WORKPLACE JUST AS SOON AS WE GET OUR BRACKET FILLED OUT."





When GPS systems go bad.

