

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 176 AND CHESTERFIELD 121

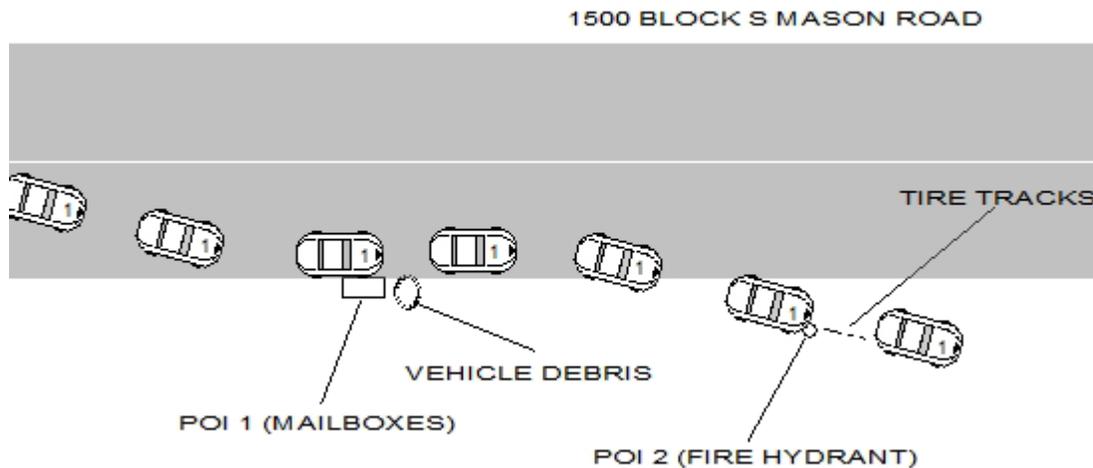


By John Hoffmann

May 3, 2015

DRUNK DRIVER TAKES OUT MAILBOXES AND FIRE HYDRANT ON S. MASON ROAD

On Thursday night April 23 at about 8:43 a 2006 Hyundai Sonata was being driven north on Mason Road in the 1500 block just before where the new three home subdivision is being built. The vehicle swerved right for no apparent reason leaving the road and striking mailboxes for 1524 and 1536 S. Mason Road and then striking a fire hydrant.





The driver of the Sonata was 24-year-old Adam Kickham of 12715 Clayton Road. Kickham is eligible for the April honesty prize. According to the police report this is what he said when asked why he drove off the road:

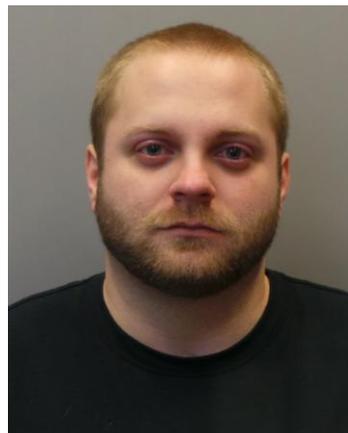
DRIVER 1 STATED HE HAD A LITTLE TOO MUCH TO DRINK AND COULD NOT PROVIDE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION. THE FRONT PASSENGER MIRROR OF VEHICLE 1 WAS LOCATED AT THE FIRST POINT OF IMPACT (MAILBOX). FRESH TIRE TRACKS WERE LOCATED IN THE SOIL FROM THE SECOND POINT OF IMPACT (FIRE HYDRANT) TO THE AREA WHERE VEHICLE 1 BECAME DISABLED AND CAME TO A STOP.

From the police report the the cause of the accident was listed as: Alcohol and Drugs.

Kickham's father, Carl L. Kickham has a prior DWI. In 1996 Carl L. Kickham appealed a drivers' license suspension in connection with a DWI arrest.



Dad with a 1996 DWI



Son with a 2015 DWI

Here are some photos from Adam's facebook page. Do you think this was the first time he drove home drunk?



CITY IN TALKS WITH MISSOURI BAPTIST UNIVERSITY TO TAKE OVER TENNIS COURTS AT PRESERVATION PARK: At the April 20 meeting of the Town and Country Parks and Trails Commission Anne Nixon told members that City Administrator Gary Hoelzer was in talks with Missouri Baptist University to take over the tennis courts at Preservation Park. When the park was first built the rear area where the baseball field, practice soccer field and track are located was sold to neighboring CBC High School. A rear section of the campus of Missouri Baptist University abuts the CBC property.

The driveway and rear parking lot are owned by CBC, everything to the west is owned by the City. However there is an agreement that CBC would maintain the tennis courts and have first rights to courts for the school's tennis team and PE classes.

Due to funding and other cash issues CBC has no longer been able to maintain the courts. They have patched cracks, but over the years we have seen weeds growing out of cracks. The courts need to be rebuilt.



Springtime, summer or fall these tennis courts are in awful shape.

The fact the the city administrator is talking with Missouri Baptist University is a good sign. It would be a better sign if he could get Missouri Baptist to buy the city's portion of Preservation Park and allow residents to use the tennis courts when not being used by the University or CBC.





Here is the two sided problem facing the city on the six tennis courts at Preservation Park: They could sue CBC to maintain them, which would mean rebuilding them.

But they know that CBC does not have the money to do that or respond to a lawsuit. It is expensive running an all boys Catholic High School with top football program.

CBC could beg out of the agreement and give everything back to the city. However, the city does not have the money to rebuild six tennis courts. (There is a \$1.2 million deficit, budget but there is a still a reserve that surely will be drawn on for some park use on the Wirth Property and for the very secret proposed purchase of 17 acres from Principia for a new city hall.)

WHAT'S THE POINT? THEY PAINT THEM BLACK AND NOW WANT TO SPEND MONEY TO LIGHT THEM AT NIGHT. A CONTINUATION OF THE BATTLE OF TWO COMMISSIONS: If you remember about a month ago we reported that members of the Green Team were discussing a list of goals. One of them was to plant tall native prairie grass at parks and the city hall property. Two members commented that perhaps the prairie grass could hide the Trova sculptures at Longview and City Hall.

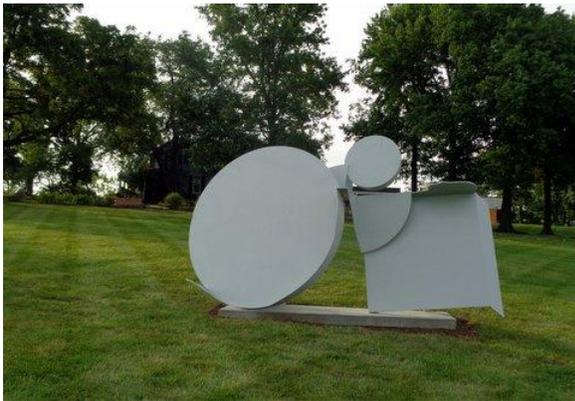
After installing the white sculptures that some residents thought were discarded TV satellite dishes, the city painted them black.

Now at the April Parks Commission meeting it was announced that the city (at a time when there is a \$1.25 million deficit budget) was going to up light the sculptures that they painted black.

Let me get this straight...it will be dark out and the city is going to pay money to light something that is black that you can't see in the dark even if it is lit.

This is a typical Parks Department move because it makes no sense. This is almost as stupid as having a two day BBQ cookout and concert event at the Wirth property on Clayton Road without having parking and assaulting nearby residences with 48 hours of smoke plus two nights of rock concerts. The city administrator put the nix on that almost as soon as it was announced by Parks Director Anne Nixon.

The only reason I can figure to up light things that are black is so the deer don't run into them on their way to a nighttime buffet of plants around the Longview Farmhouse.



The discard satellite dish sculptures at Longview. The original white color could be viewed by people looking west. Now painted black this is all that eastbound motorists can see of the sculpture on a sunny day. Think of what the view would be like at 10 o'clock at night.

Here is the Trova on the lawn at City Hall.



Exactly what good is lighting something this black for viewing by motorists on the service road or heaven forbid I-270 at night.

FROM DAMAGE TO REPAIR...A MERE 1-YEAR 3 MONTHS: It was interesting to see that the roof to the restrooms at Drace Park is on the repair list finally, 15 months after it was damaged in a February 15, 2014 wind storm. The unrepaired roof continued to lose shingles on days with heavy wind. It is interesting on how many want to see part or all of the Wirth property made into a park while the city can't maintain property at both Drace Park and Preservation Park.



Damage as seen in 2015



More damage including shingles blown on the lawn in 2015

PARKS DIRECTOR SAYS MAYOR WANTS A TEXAS A&M BONFIRE. At a recent Parks Commission meeting Parks Director Anne Nixon said that Mayor Jon Dalton liked the bonfire at the Falls Festival that was moved to the Wirth property and that he wanted a bigger one in 2015. She said the mayor said he wanted it Texas A&M size.

Now it is tough making fun of people trying to be funny, but this time it is easy . Texas A&M was famous for its bonfires before the football game with University of Texas. However even a dope like me was aware that in 1999 the Texas A&M bonfire collapsed and killed 12 students, badly burned 70 others and they have not had one since. A member of the Parks Commission whispered this to Nixon. Perhaps Dalton and Ms. Nixon should drop the Texas A&M mentions at public meetings. Or if Mr. Dalton has to say how he wants a bonfire the size of the Texas A&M fire, Ms. Nixon could ask him how he wants her to handle the dead.



THE TOWN SQUARE TASK FORCE MEETING: Mayor Dalton's Town Square Task Force sent out post cards to every house in town inviting homeowners to come to a forum. About 45 people showed up on Thursday April 23 to give their opinions on what to do with the 8.8 acres of the Wirth property on Clayton Road just east of Mason Road. There were eight tables and someone from each table reported the top hopes for the property would be.



Ten minutes before the start of the meeting it did not look like many people would show up., but by 7:35 there were 40-to-45 people in the room.



Make the water retention area a lake. Have tables and chairs and a place for Food Trucks to park so you could grab a quick bite or have ice cream. (You would never have a large enough crowd to draw food trucks. They show up in Forest Park, at the Clayton Art Festival, 4th of July events, on Washington Avenue and large sporting events. They don't show up at small suburban neighborhood parks.)

Have a fountain and a nature walk. (There is one of those literally 1/2 mile to the west. It is called Longview Park. It has a fountain and a nature walk. There is a 499 acre nature walk one mile down Mason Road. It is called Queeny Park.)

Seasonal markets with a farmers market, pumpkins and Christmas trees. (I guess in March you could sell dyed eggs and boxes of marshmallow Peeps for Easter.)

Make it a stopping place for all those people who ride their bikes on Clayton Road. (These people don't want to stop for stop signs and red lights. I don't think they would be stopping at the Wirth property. Their goal is to ride 20 miles as fast as possible while pissing off as many motorists as possible. Also I don't think these people eat solid foods judging from the skin tight apparel they wear.)

Have a community wading pool. (Do you need eight acres for a wading pool? Plus it is will sit empty and drained from late September to late May.)

Some place to take the kids for ice cream. (The guy at the Subway Shop in the Mason Woods Village Center has been selling ice cream for some time.)

An amphitheater for music! (I'm sure the neighbors would love four hours of a Grateful Dead tribute band at the amphitheater.)

Have ice cream parlors with fountains, like the Pevely Dairy one in Webster Groves and Clayton. (The person wasn't aware that the one in "Clayton" across the street from the Famous Barr parking lot was actually in University City. Also Pevely Dairy closed these down in the late 1950s because they were not profitable.)

A pub, a pizza place or burger place! (There is a place called Duffy's 2-miles down the road that fills all three needs.)

Have a U-shape of small shops, like hardware stores, bakery shop, etc. Give it an Old World New England or Door County Wisconsin feel. (There is a very good reason why there are no longer small hardware stores in communities any more. They don't have the inventory to bring people in and they can't compete against Ace

Hardware, let alone Home Depot, Menards and Lowes. Also there is a bakery in the Straub's store next to the property and two more west at the Schnuck's and Whole Foods stores.)

Have small lots with small houses. (So much for the motto, "The City of One Acre Lots.")

Someone on the actual Task Force wanted to have a **Mini San Antonio River Walk** that would include a sports bar. (To have a River Walk you need a river to start with, or at least a creek. There is already a storm water issue that has plagued the subdivision to the rear of the property that has to be fixed, as any improvements to the Wirth property will create more storm water runoff. Let's not add a "river.")

THE DENNIS BOLAZINA PLAN: Ald. Skip Mange, chair of the Task Force introduced city Planning and Zoning member and architect Dennis Bolazina to the audience and said Bolazina with his background had an interesting plan.



THE CITY HALL MOVE RETURNS: Bolazina said that to have a true Town Square you needed a building that drew people to the area. He said that was normally a government building, like a courthouse. He then went into what we have been reporting for almost a year, how Principia would be agreeable to sell the city land across the street and next to the firehouse that the city could use for a new city hall.

"We need to think of both sides of Clayton Road. With a city hall we now have a reason for people to come there," said Bolazina. (Of course the biggest number of people coming to City Hall would be those from outside the area who attend Municipal Court after getting a traffic ticket on I-270.)

Dennis then went on to say with destination buildings on both sides of the street, there would need to be traffic calming devices. He suggested cobblestones. (This is an awful idea. Cobblestones are a huge pain in the ass for cops who have to drive over the area

repeated times, paramedics in ambulances leaving the nearby fire station, school bus drivers and snow plow drivers.)

Several people people objected to the idea of the city hall moving. Then one asked Mange if the city hall needed to more. Manage replied there were space issues between the police and city staff currently at the building.

Here is a plan no one came up with: Sell 6 one acre or 3/4-acre lots to a home building for \$400,000 each. Then give back up to \$100,000 to the developer to help in the cost of a water retention system to stop the flooding of property on Kings Glen. This way the city would recoup the \$2,250,000 spent to buy the property and make a \$50K profit.

The gathering place: This has been a catch phrase. However, before the city decides to build a combination retail and park area, keep in mind in 2008 the city spent \$1,500,000 to build the addition onto the Longview Farm House that is 1/2 of a mile away. There are lots of gathering places at Longview Park, but sadly there are no sports bars or ice cream shops. However, the question must be asked...how many gathering places should the city build along Clayton Road? Drace Park is less than 2 miles to the east and makes a fine gathering place. Maybe a sports bar could open in one of Skip Mange's rebuilt long cabins. No... that won't work...all the running water has been removed. Skip wanted it realistic to 1850, so I guess a sports bar would simply have live bare knuckle boxing. Basketball was 40 years away, football was nowhere on the horizon and baseball was still morphing from the game of rounders.



It was interesting to see Mason Ridge Elementary School Principal Mike Schmerold at the meeting sitting at one of the tables.



Frankly instead of the city buying land from Principia for a new city hall, Parkway Schools needs to buy 15 or 20 acres from Principia and rebuild and relocate the 60-year-old Mason Ridge Elementary which is now located at what is now an amazingly dangerous intersection of Mason Road and I-64.



WITHOUT A RESOLUTION CONWAY ROAD GETS CLEANED UP BY NEIGHBORS. At the April 13 Board of Aldermen meeting Linda Rallo was ready to introduce a resolution for the city to provide some safety help as residents pick up trash along Conway Road on the Saturday after Earth Day. Rallo wanted a city pickup truck with flashing lights or a police car to protect people picking up trash on the two lane road. Mayor Dalton suggested that it be withdrawn as they needed permission from St. Louis County since it was a County controlled road.

Where there is a will there is a way: Rallo and her neighbors picked up trash anyway, after City Public Works and services Director Craig Wilde provided Rallo with reflective safety vests and a warning sign. Rallo reported there were 16 large bags of trash picked up from the roadway and the crew even did trash pick on Mason Road.

SWEARING IN FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY WENT MUCH NICER THAN FOR CHESTERFIELD: First of all the Town and Country swearing in of newly elected or reelected alderman is handled all at once by the city clerk. None of the theatrics as in Chesterfield with an ethically challenged municipal judge making a grand appearance from a side door wearing his robe. The only thing missing in Chesterfield was a live music intro for the aging hippie judge Rick Brunk.



The cake and cookies was held after the meeting in T&C, not during a 15 minute break like in Chesterfield. There was only one item that slowed things down and unlike in Chesterfield and it did not involve elected officials sniping at each other or the mayor. There was a sign proposal that was a bit over the top and I say that as a former aldermen who favored more signs for Manchester Meadows and Town and Country Crossing. (We will report on the sign issue in our next newsletter.)

Biggest Smile: That had to belong to newly elected Tiffany Frautschi.



A PREDICTION THAT CAME TRUE: About two weeks before the April election someone familiar within the Town and Country political scene felt that Frautschi was going to win easily in Ward 2 and then made this prediction.

"Linda Rallo will no longer sit next to mayor Dalton, but the two youngest women on the Board of Aldermen, Amy Anderson and Tiffany Frautschi would be right next to Dalton." They were 100% correct and Fred Meyland-Smith remained at the far end of the dais.

THE CROWD THAT DID NOT EVEN STAY FOR COOKIES AND CAKE: Literally half of the Board of Aldermen Chamber was full of supporters of Tiffany Frautschi. They filled the north side of the room, but did not stick around for the cake and cookies. After Tiffany was sworn in, she got a hearty round of applause and then everyone filed out of the building.



UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 121



May 3, 2015

CORRECTION: Boy we haven't had to make one of these for a while. Last week I wrote how Councilwoman Nancy Greenwood was the lone person to vote against allowing Brinkman Construction to violate the city's Tree Ordinance by clearing over 30-

percent of the trees from the proposed 31-home subdivision at Clayton Road and Schoettler Road. I was wrong. The vote was 6-2 on March 17, 2014 with Bruce DeGroot joining Greenwood in voting to uphold the 30-percent ordinance.



Brinkman starting to removed 83-percent of the trees from the corner property.

THE SWEARING IN: Last week's newsletter was getting too long with all the controversy during the regular Chesterfield City Council meeting and forced me to move the swearing in ceremonies back to this week's letter.

The most dangerous man in Chesterfield gives oaths of office: Municipal Judge Rick Brunk made a grand entrance into the council chambers to give an individual oath of office to all four elected or reelected councilpersons.

Brunk who refuses to give actual convictions to dangerous people who appear before him in Municipal Court if they have hired an attorney and is happy to reduce serious driving charges to \$500 parking violations, gave a speech saying how much he enjoys swearing in the council. Our only hope is that for a change the council might be smart enough to vote not to retain him when his term expires or better yet ask him to resign.



The Judge Whisperer, Rick Brunk



Nancy Greenwood



Bridget Nations and company



Dan Hurt and wife



Bruce DeGroot

After the swearing-in was done Mayor Bob Nation gave a proclamation to outgoing councilman Derek Grier, "The Boy Councilman" apparently tried to look older by growing a beard in November. Despite Grier endorsing Nation's opponent, Matt Segal, a fellow person who works with developers, Nation had kind words for the "Boy Councilman."

Grier then gave a five-minute rambling speech about how great Chesterfield and the city's staff is. It was actually a good speech. It reminded me of Bill Murray's closing speech in the movie Scrooged.



Grier's remarks spawned all four of the just sworn in council people to request to make remarks. They were all shorter than Grier's marathon remarks. One of them also provided me with the biggest laugh of the night.

Dan Hurt is apparently color blind. Here is what Hurt said in his remarks about the greatness of Chesterfield:

"We are strong because of our diversity."

I laughed out loud. I just watched four all white elected officials get sworn in and all had their family bible with them. They then joined the four other all white councilpersons on the dais. I looked around the room and all the city staffers present were white, including three police command officers and a patrolman. If there was a non-white in the 60-percent filled council chambers I didn't see them.

Yes it was a very diverse picture as Hurt said, if you count men and women and three Boy Scouts present as being diverse. Maybe Hurt meant it was diverse because there were Baptists, Catholics, Lutherans, Presbyterians and Methodists in the crowd.

THE EXTRA LARGE PRINT BIBLE: Three councilpersons being sworn in carried small black covered family bibles up for their swearing in.

The one exception was Bridget Nations, whose family Bible had to be the extra-extra jumbo large print edition. She could have hired a teamster to carry it in for her or maybe used a wagon. Instead the job went to a daughter.



THE PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: The day after the new council was sworn in and loud attacks were made against Mayor Bob Nation in the regular meeting, the Chesterfield Planning and Public Works Committee met. These meetings normally start promptly at 5:30 unless there is a major accident on I-64 that had gridlocked traffic. There was no accident on Thursday.

AWOL: Committee members Connie Fults (chair), Dan Hurt and Nancy Greenwood were there plus non-members Councilmen Mike Casey and Bruce DeGroot were also present. Missing was Bridget Nations who had been sworn in as a new councilwomen 22 hours earlier. Connie Fults waited an extra minute and then started the meeting.

Five minutes later Nations showed up and after taking some kidding made the following comment:

"I'll quit my job so I'll never be late again," she sarcastically said.

Maybe this was something that Nations should have thought about before she filed for the council. Of course since she works for the Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce as Director of Membership you would think she would not want to miss a Planning and P&W meeting since her votes could help members of the Chamber. Actually that is a good reason she should not be on the Planning and Public Works Committee at all. The appearance of a conflict of interest hangs over the room every time she walks through the door.

I would think that if Nations went through with her threat to quit her job, there would not be much impact on her after her husband and former Chesterfield Mayor John Nations got a \$75,000 raise as the CEO of Metro Transit, making his annual salary \$325,000. He is now making more than the Vice-President of the United States, the Speaker of the House and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Also, taxpayers like me are helping to pay for their membership to the Missouri Athletic Club through transit taxes. Nations negotiated a membership to the MAC in his salary package.



Bridget Nations pulls out a chair after arriving late for her first committee meeting as a councilperson.

SNIDE REMARKS: Mayor Bob Nation often attends the Planning & P-W meetings but was not around on Thursday. This caused several comments. After the committee

decided what members would be liaison to what commissions or boards, Bruce DeGroot muttered, "Don't you need the mayor to decide those?"

This was in reference to the night before when as mayor Nation followed the city ordinance and named the councilpersons to four main committees, instead of letting the council members and president pro tem of the council do it.

Later in a discussion of the need to rent large cranes to replace HVAC units on the roof of City Hall, Dan Hurt commented, "Why can't we use a helicopter? The mayor is a pilot."

Of course the mayor was an Air Force large jet pilot and later an airline pilot.

During the same discussion the committee was told if there was a partial failure of AC units only the detention facility (police holdover) and the IT room would have cooling. This caused Mike Casey to comment that city administrator Mike Herring should be the first to go without A/C. That was followed by Hurt saying he thought maybe it should be Police Chief Ray Johnson's office. Neither comment seemed funny. Also why do you want to take shots at two top city staff leaders who have been with the city since it was formed 27 years ago?



The smart ass remarks trio from April 23 Planning & PW Committee meeting. Mike Casey in the purple sweater, Bruce DeGroot and Dan Hurt.

CHESTERFIELD PARKWAY EAST PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE: The cost to build a foot bridge over Chesterfield Parkway East is set at \$2,750,000. There has already been set aside \$425,000 for the project. The city is anticipating on receiving a \$900,000 Federal Grant for the project.

So another \$755,000 is needed for construction and \$84,000 is need for a engineering contract. That money needs to come out of the reserve fund. The committee voted to recommend for the Council approve the request.

CITY HALL HVAC: Chesterfield's Services Director Mike Geisel presented a proposal that called for the immediate replacement of the eight A/C Units on the roofs of city hall. Geisel reported that the current system is five years beyond its life expectancy. He added if one unit goes down there is just enough capacity to cool the police holding cells, which is the top priority followed by the IT room.

"If there was a total failure it would take us 12 weeks to replace the units," Geisel said.

The recommendation for \$600,000 from the budget reserve was passed 4-0 by the committee and passed along to the full city council. This was not in the regular 2015 budget. Geisel claimed a \$600,000 item that you need once every 15 years is not something that should be be placed in an annual budget. (I could not disagree more!)

The most interesting fun fact of the evening was provided by Mike Geisel who said it costs \$200 an hour to cool or heat the council chambers for a City Council meeting or Municipal Court.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MEETING, CHESTERFIELD DEVELOPMENT

UPDATES: Often the highlight of the Planning and Public Works meetings is the Project Updates by Planning Director Aimee Nassif. Aimee usually uses a power point and puts these up on a screen. Instead of paraphrasing her remarks, here are her power point slides:

St. Luke's Expansion plans.

WARD 1



St Luke's-Amended Site Development Concept Plan for main and northwest campus and Section Plan in for medical office building (106,000 sq ft) on NW Campus were recently approved at Planning Commission. NW Campus Improvement Plans are also under review.

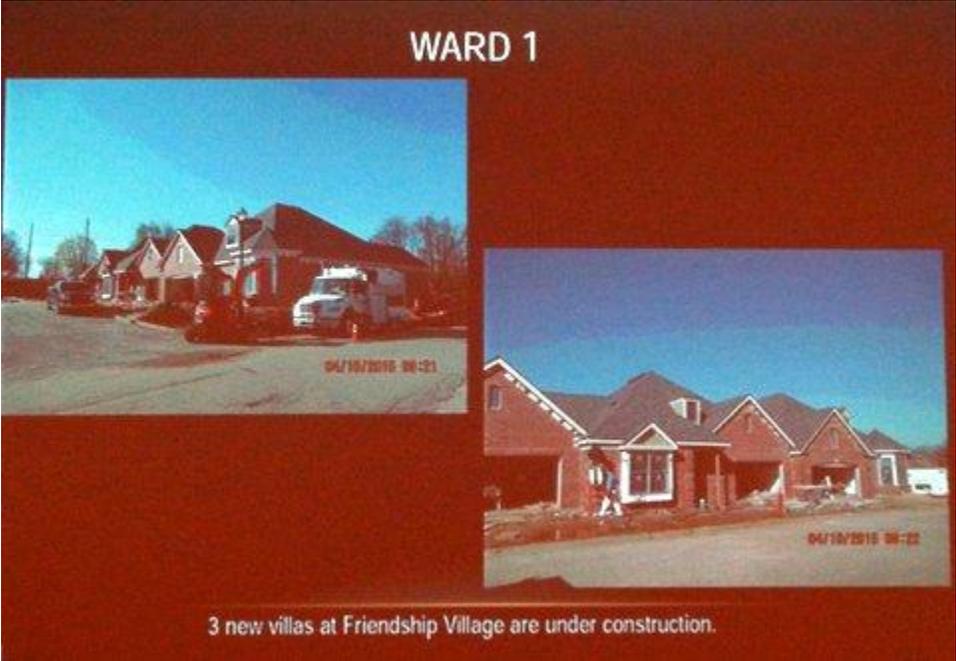
Monsanto Campus Chesterfield Parkway West

WARD 1

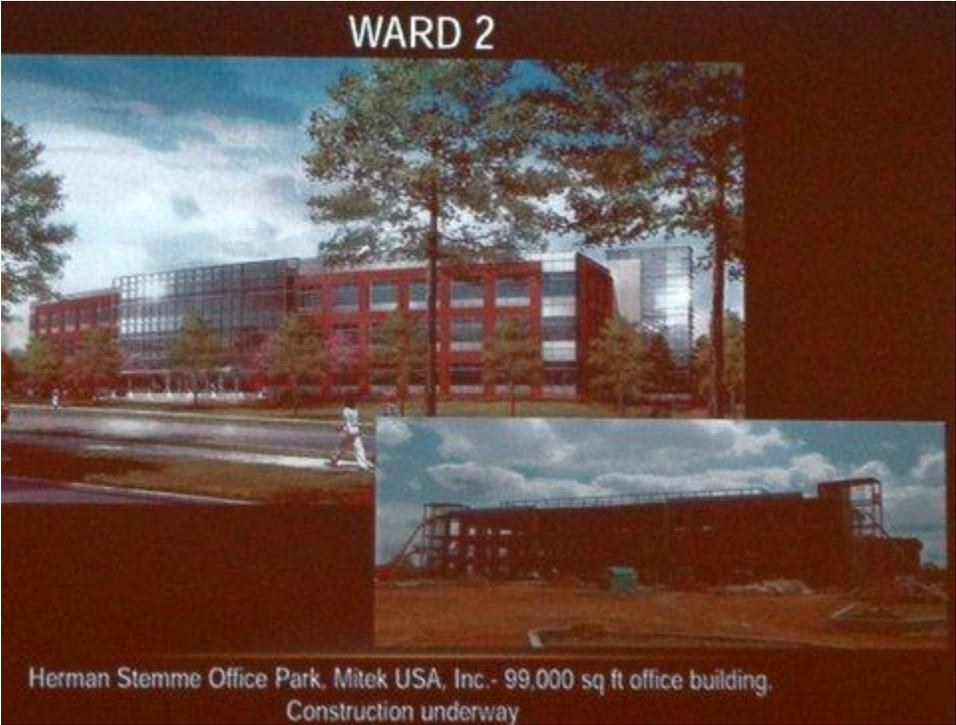


Site grading and construction is underway for the parking garage, greenhouse, and technology building on Monsanto's campus.

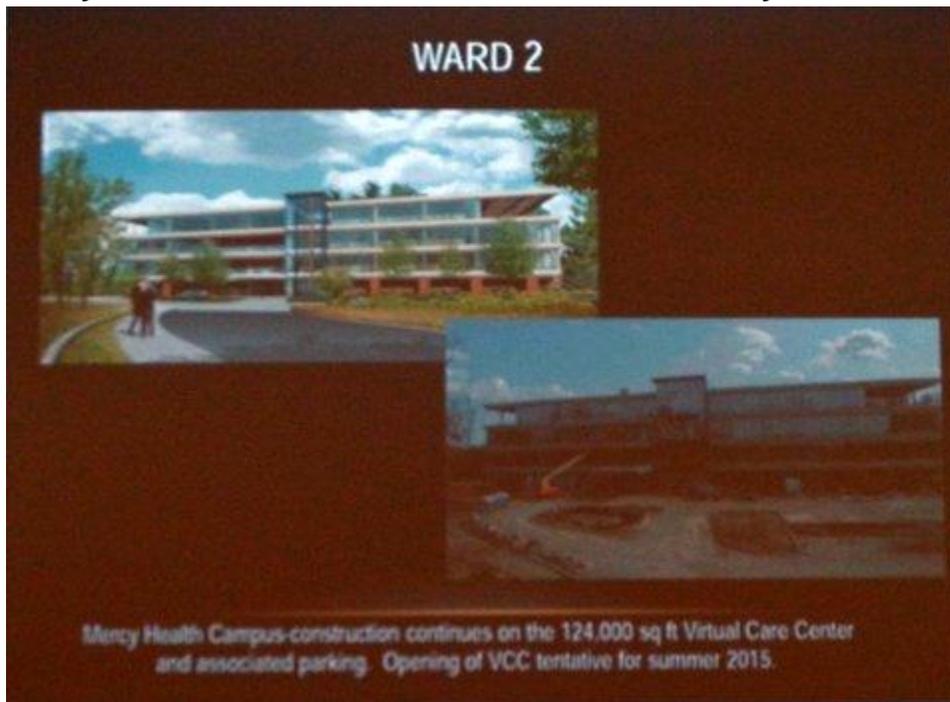
More Units at Friendship Village



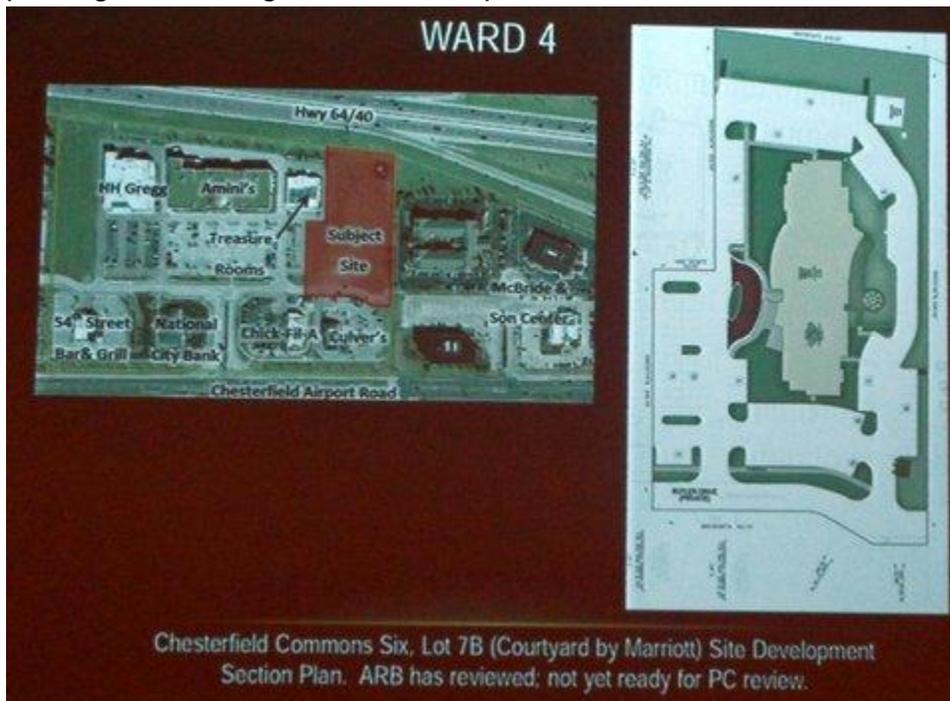
Herman Stemme Office Park Swingley Ridge Road



Mercy Health Virtual Health Care South Outer Forty



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT: This hotel will offer some great views of either the dumpster and back doors to Chick Fil-a and Culver's, traffic on I-64, McBride and Sons parking lot or a huge Islamic Mosque...no wait that is Amini's.



Burlington on Olive by the Premium Outlet Mall

WARD 4



Burlington – Lot 5D-2, 55,000 square foot clothing retail building. Construction underway.

WARD 4

Cavender's Boot City- Lot 1C, Site Development Section Plan under review

Gander Mountain – Lot 1H, Site Development Section Plan under review.

Gas Mart – Lot 1A, Improvement Plans and Site Development Section Plan have been approved. Site grading has been permitted.

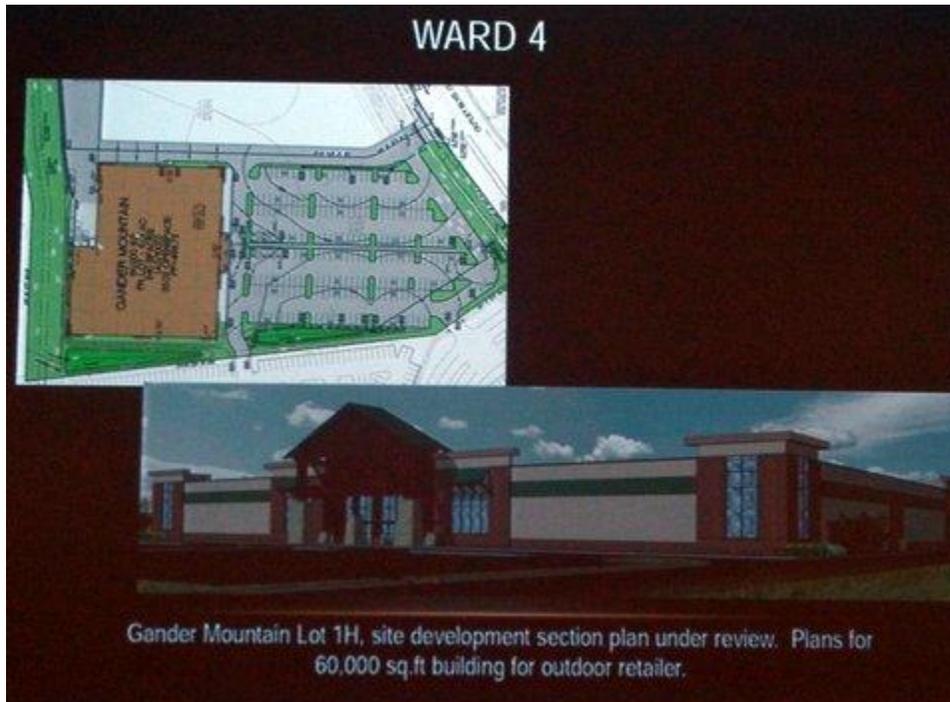
Burlington – Lot 5D-2, construction underway.

Premium Outlet- Lot 2, 79,000 sq.ft. addition Amended Site Development Section Plan has been approved.



Development within the Chesterfield Blue Valley Development

Gander Mountain Outdoors Store



WE ELUDED TO THIS EARLIER BUT WE HAVE TO WAVE A RED FLAG: Newly elected Chesterfield Councilwoman Bridget Nations appears to have a **GIANT CONFLICT OF INTEREST**, that should force her to leave the dais and not vote on maybe 40-percent of the planning and development issues.

Nations is the number-two person at the Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce. She is also the director of memberships. She is trying to get companies and retail stores to join the Chamber of Commerce and keep the ones which are already members.

However as a Councilwoman she will have to vote on such things as liquor license renewals that involve Chamber members or planning and zoning issues that involve either chamber businesses wanting to move to a new development or developers who are members of the Chamber wanting to build the projects.

She will also have to vote on public works projects that could have a positive or negative impact on Chamber members. She will have to vote for funding of projects or entertainment functions co-sponsored by the City and the Chamber.



Before signing her oath of office as a councilperson Nations should have signed her resignation from her job at the Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce.

MUSIC: END OF A 25-YEAR SATURDAY TRADITION? AFTER 25 YEARS ANITA ROSAMOND IS NOT SCHEDULED FOR A SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT SMITTY'S FOR THE REST OF 2015: We saw Anita Rosamond in Creve Coeur at Il Bel Lago last week and learned that after 25-years of playing to packed Saturday afternoon SRO crowds at Smitty's Bar and Grill on Clayton Road at Baxter Road in Chesterfield the Saturday shows might be over. Anita told us she does not have anything booked at Smitty's for the rest of 2015.

Anita's last performance at Smitty's was on a snowy February Saturday that kept the usual large crowd down. But she still had them up and dancing.



Anita on the keyboard with dancers up on the floor. Vocalist Jerry Moser always a big hit with the Smitty's crowd joins Anita.

The Smitty's crowd has always been an older group, with lots of Buicks and Cadillacs in the parking lot. The fans would often come an hour before Anita would start playing just to get a good table. They would then stick around for up to three hours. Everyone ordered lunch and maybe a drink. The place is normally almost empty at 3 pm on a Saturday, but when Anita was playing it was hard to get in the door.

Don Schmitt stopped booking weekend music acts in the evening after the smoking ban went into effect. He didn't need music to bring people in. His kitchen staff continued to produce very good food at reasonable prices brought plenty of people through the door. But Anita continued with her Saturday afternoon shows.



Anita's last Smitty's show in 2014 was jammed packed and included people making recording to send to friends who couldn't make it,.

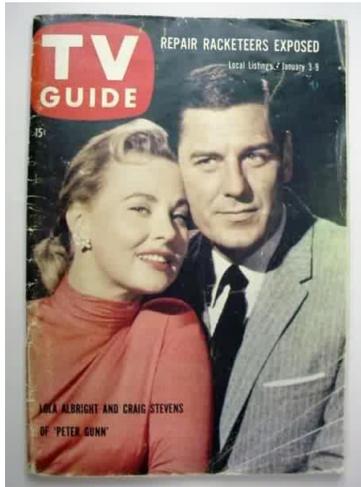
In the evening Anita's audience while not in the 20-to-30 age group is younger.



Here is Anita singing a duet with Milissa Laves while Bob Gelman plays the trumpet. Earlier Anita had so many women up dancing that the wait staff at Il Bel Lago had to delay delivering food and drinks until the number was over.

TWO MORE SIGNS YOU ARE GETTING OLD: So Instead of being the public address announcer at GCS Ballpark for Webster University Baseball games, I went to Washington U to watch Webster U play the Bears. I'm sitting behind the plate next to a man from the suburbs of Philadelphia whose son plays for Washington U. I think we are about the same age. We are having a nice chat, when he asks which player on Webster is my **GRANDSON!**

After the game driving home I am thinking about how old I must look and I punch up the CD player for some music. The CD in the player is songs arranged by Henry Mancini and sung by Lola Albright. Then it hit me...I am old! Lola Albright played the nightclub singer Edie Hart on the Peter Gunn TV detective series that ran from 1958 to 1961.



Lola Albright and Craig Stevens Henry Mancini, Craig Stevens and Lola Albright

Here is a link to a YouTube video of Lola singing a song from Peter Gunn show that normally featured Albright singing one jazz number a show plus Mancini's Emmy Award theme.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4jFd0XYYb0>

FOOD: It was suppose to open before Thanksgiving, but that didn't happen until April. Now Jimmy Johns is open on the northeast corner of Woods Mill and Clayton Roads



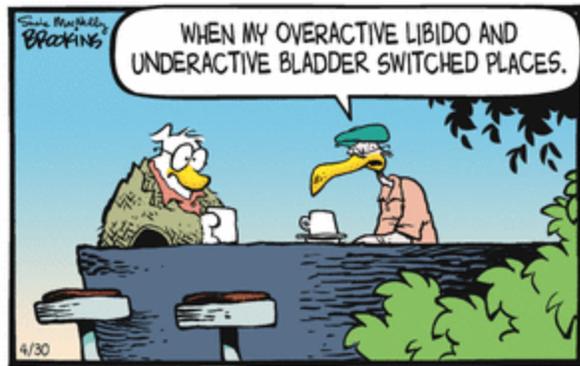
CARTOONS: They are not all Hillary cartoons this week.

Well...it **FINALLY** happened



It Took 70 Years...

If you don't get it, ask an adult...







"AND WHICH ONE IS DR. OZ?"

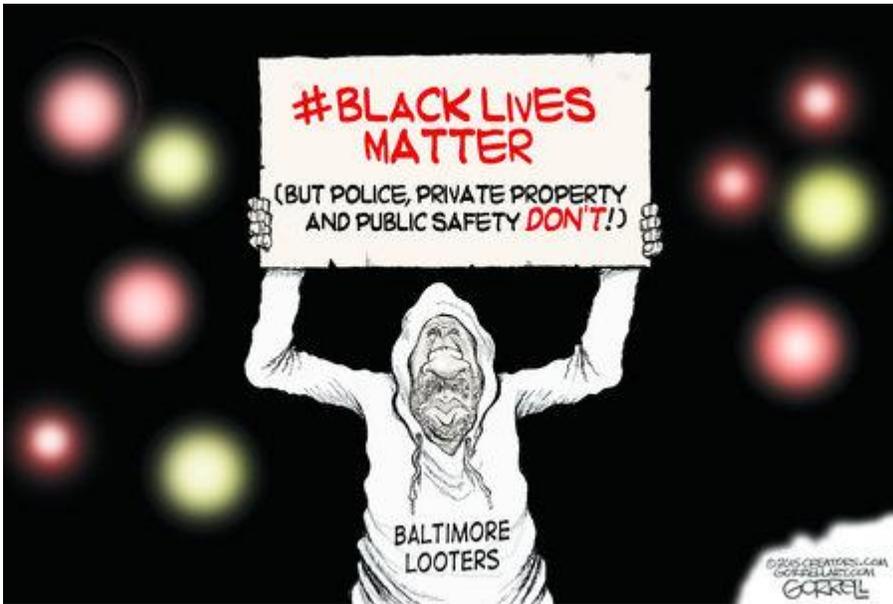


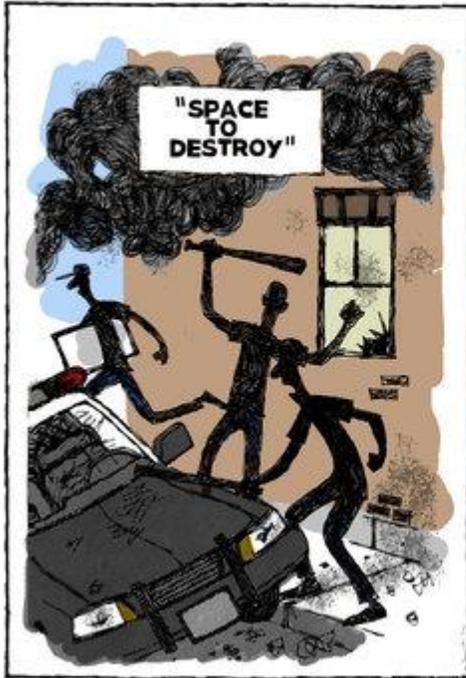
WRONG ANSWER TO
CIVIL UNREST



RIGHT ANSWER

Nike Lukovich
Atlanta Journal-Constitution
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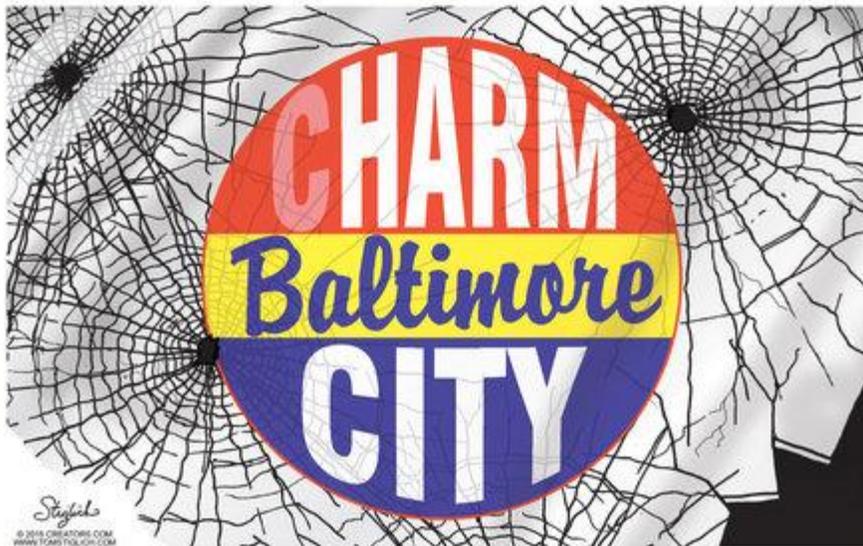
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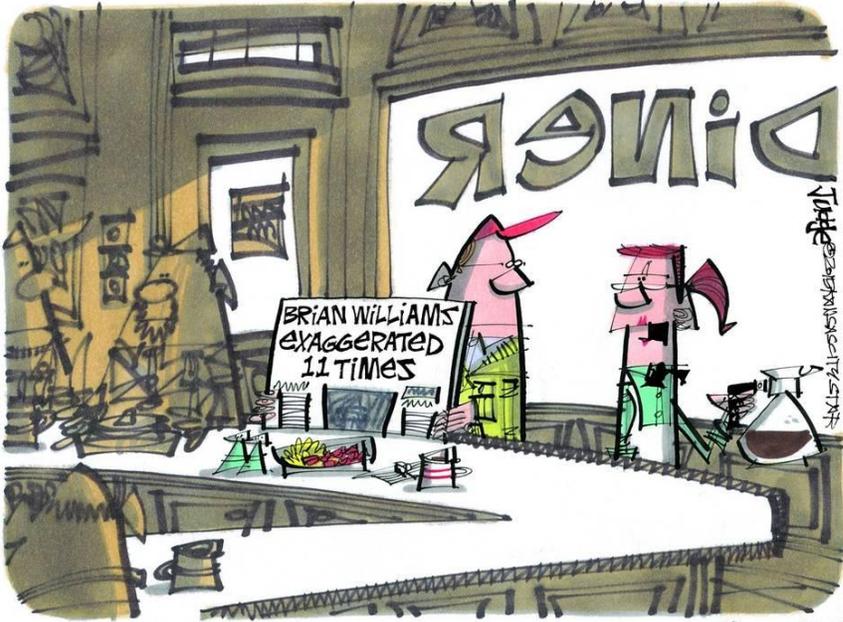


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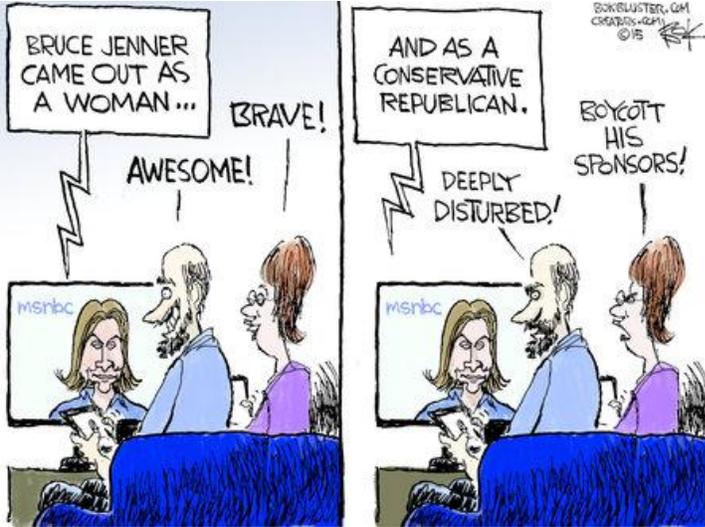
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"JUST WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS... A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE?"





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The CHESHIRE CANDIDATE

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