

EX ALDERMAN NEWSLETTER 189 AND CHESTERFIELD 134



By John Hoffmann

August 17, 2015

FERGUSON SHOOTING AT POLICE OFFICERS RESULTS IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AND CHESTERFIELD SENDING MORE OFFICERS: At 11:30 on Sunday night August 9 when County Police officers took heavy fire while sitting in their police cars in Ferguson a call was put out for more officers.

Two were sent from the overnight shift in Town and Country. That dropped the city's coverage to below minimum standards forcing the city to call in one officer in the middle of the night on overtime. Chesterfield sent four officers to Ferguson for four hours.

In Chesterfield Capt. Steve Lewis had guessed there might be trouble and planned for the one-year anniversary of Michael Brown shooting by assigning four special operations officers on a normally quiet Sunday night shift, so the deployment to Ferguson did not affect regular Sunday patrol levels.



We also learned that the Webster Groves officer who was shot in November while on duty in Ferguson along with a County officer has not returned to duty. The Webster Groves officer had replaced a Chesterfield officer on a front line in Ferguson in response to protests plus more looting and burning after the Grand Jury decision not to indict the Ferguson police officer in the shooting of Michael Brown.

It was less than an hour after relieving the Chesterfield officer when the Webster Groves officer was shot. After these shootings the County Police took over handling protests and disturbances along West Florissant Road.

TOWN AND COUNTRY CRIME AND POLICE ACTIVITY:

The following activity was reported by the police Department during the month of **July**:

Officers responded to a total of **1728** calls for service and wrote a total of **229** reports, Including:

83 Vehicle Crashes

50 Criminal Reports (**18** stealing)

20 Driving While Intoxicated arrests (**0** Felony, **3** Misd, **17** Ord)

30 Misc Arrests (Traffic, Fugitive, Failure to Appear charges, etc)

450 Traffic citations issued (**279** speeding)

MISD DWI'S

-Schaefer, Cole W/M 21 yoa from Paul Simon Dr. Waterloo, IL (sent state due to out of venue)

-Boyer, Jason W/M 41 yoa from Beatrice Ave. St. Louis, MO (pending lab results-will go state for out of venue) (DWI-Drugs)

-Radinskaya, Yevgeniya W/F 25 yoa from Highland Oak Dr. Ballwin, MO (sent state due to prior offender) (1 prior conviction and 1 prior contact pending in court)

2015 Police Activity Town and Country YTD Jan-July

563 Vehicle Crashes

389 Criminal Reports

117 Driving While Intoxicated arrests (4 Felony, 7 Misd, 106 Ord)

275 Misc Arrests (Traffic charges, Fugitive charges, Failure to Appear charges, etc)

3,167 total traffic citations issued

2,283 speeding

36-YEAR OLD ARRESTED FOR FELONY STEALING AFTER BEING CAUGHT FOR BREAKING INTO CARS: 36-year-old Kevin Chandler of Foristell, Missouri was arrested by Town and Country Police on Monday August 10 at 11:56 am after stealing from unlocked cars on Topping Way and Topping Woods.



Kevin Chandler

The Town and Country Police provided the following account of events that led to Chandler's arrest:

Chandler went down one side of Topping and back up the other rifling through unlocked vehicles. One home had a surveillance system and on Sunday night they called to report a suspicious vehicle. Officers viewed the recording and put out the best possible vehicle description based on the quality of the video. We had multiple units in the area logging plates and one of them noticed an unoccupied vehicle matching the description so he copied down the plate.

The following morning our detectives began tracking down the plates, identified Chandler as the suspect, and then began looking for him. They located him at a trade school he was attending and he was arrested. He cooperated and police recovered approximately \$4,000 worth of property from our two victims.

We also recovered other miscellaneous property but we do not have any other victims at this time. Every vehicle that was entered was unlocked.

At this point police do not believe Chandler is a suspect in any of our previous thefts from vehicles.

Chandler has an impressive criminal record that includes:

05/31/96 Forcible Rape St. Charles County 09/05/97 Guilty 5 years Prison
Forcible Sodomy
Sexual Abuse
Third Degree Assault

03/19/97 Possession of Marijuana St. Charles County 90 days jail
 10/07/04 Op Vehicle w/o License St. Charles County 10 days jail
 10/07/04 Assault on Law Enf Officer St. Charles County 9 months Jail
 Resisting Arrest
 Felony Drug Possession
 12/31/07 Burglary Arnold PD 01/26/09 Guilty 4 years prison
 Possession of Burglar Tools
 01/07/08 Stealing Over \$500 St. Peters PD 9/12/08 Guilty 4 years prison
 Stealing Over \$500
 Stealing Over \$500
 09/06/08 Attempt Stealing Over \$500 St. Peters 9/12/08 Guilty 4 years
 Felony Property Damage
 12/01/10 Felony Leaving Scene of Accident Lake St. Louis 5/16/11 Guilty 4 years
 08/10/15 Stealing Over \$500 Town and Country PD Pending

TOWN AND COUNTRY REVEREND GET YEAR AND A DAY FOR TAX FRAUD: The Thornhill subdivision has taken over from Mason Valley for the most felons in a Town and Country subdivision. Alfred Mason Brown, 63, pled guilty to felony Income tax Fraud in May of 2015 for failing to pay \$80,000 in income taxes for three years. On August 11, 2015 he was sentenced to 1 year and a day in Federal prison.

Brown is the pastor of the Church of Jesus Christ located at 2705 Potomac Ave in St. Louis. He has lived at 13224 Thornhill Drive in Town and Country for 15 years, including when he pled guilty to his first felony in 2003.



Brown's home high on a high across from the Thornhill subdivision pool and tennis courts at 13224 Thornhill Dr.



This is the rear of the Church of Jesus Christ in St. Louis and the day care entrance.

In 2002 he was arrested and charged with 19 counts of Medicaid fraud. He pled guilty on 12/11/2003 and was sentenced to four years in prison, but was immediately given a 5-year probation term.

Besides criminal acts Brown and his wife Gwendolyn, who is the director of the church day care center because Brown as a convicted felon can't run it, have a number of civil judgments against them.

- 04/09/07 \$35,445 to Daimler Chrysler judgment unsatisfied
- 02/19/08 \$3,810 to Velocity Investment judgment unsatisfied
- 06/05/08 \$3,555 St. Johns Mercy judgment unsatisfied

Brown has not paid his personal property taxes for 2013 or 2014 on a 2005 Hummer. He currently owes \$959 in car taxes to St. Louis County. He is current on his real estate taxes.

For the other criminals from the Thornhill and Mason Valley subdivision go to our website and click on "Gangs of Town and Country."

WHAT LOOKED LIKE A RIGHT TURN LANE HAS TURNED INTO A POSSIBLE TRAFFIC TICKET: We original wrote a couple of months ago how the County Highway Department had turned the shoulder area of EB Clayton into a right turn lane to go south on Mason Road. It sure looked like that. But wait a minute...in August County Highway returned and painted slash stripes on what looked like a lane that prohibits traffic. We went to Town and Country Director of Public Works Craig Wilde and asked what had happened.



May



August

While Clayton Road is a City road, at the intersection of Mason Road it is under County control because Mason is a County Road (which connects with I-64). Craig said the County Highway Department originally did want to turn the shoulder into a right turn lane to go south on Mason. A study of the pavement strength at the edge of the road showed it would not be able to withstand the weight of trucks and buses.

The County originally painted a solid white line on the edge of the road thinking that it would keep people from making right turns. Many people including me thought it was a right turn lane with the white line at the east end being a stop line.

This caused the County Highway Department to return and paint the slash stripes.

ANOTHER WESTMINSTER FOOTBALL LIGHTS MARATHON: It was more than evident that the folks at Westminster Christian Academy wanted to create a record for a lawsuit as soon as the Board of Aldermen vote down the same proposal for stadium

lights and sound system that the Planning and Zoning folks voted down 7-0 in May. WCA keeps telling everyone what good neighbors they are. They are about to prove it by costing the City of Town and Country tens of thousands in legal bills.

Charles Waldron led the presentation again for WCA but was slightly less arrogant and not as much of a bully as he was in May. He did not interrupt his experts' presentations this time.



Charles Waldron began a repetitive 2 hour presentation.

It was a night of sitting through the same presentation these people made in May that was so unpersuasive that it could not get one vote from the Planning and Zoning Commission. They played up the safety factor in having games at 7 pm in August and September instead of 2 pm on a Saturday.

During a questioning period Alderwoman Linda Rallo asked if it wasn't true that August practice times have been at 3 pm, the hottest time of the day. The sad reply was that most practices were not in pads (shoulder pads). But they were during the hottest part of the day. At one point when pressed on their 3 o'clock practices, they claimed they are only having one-a-day practices and not two-a-days. They also mentioned there was a concern that the heat will keep grandparents away from Saturday games. At some point someone loudly suggested for the safety of the players and their grandparents WCA should drop football.

Beside the heat issue WCA speakers brought up the importance of giving students Friday night school activities, how Friday night football increased the overall school experience and how it would increase revenue for Town and Country and T&C businesses. (I have no idea how WCA will increase revenue for T&C business. The campus is located on an exit to I-64. Students with cars and fans will be jumping on I-64 after games and will be out of Town and Country within minutes.)

Just in case things were not getting repetitive enough, Westminster sent up Richard Ward, a feasibility developer. Ward simply repeated everything that was already said several times, adding 10 minutes to an already too long presentation.



Ward was so repetitive that even the WCA supporters got out their smart phones and iPads. City attorney Steve Garrett is either saying a prayer for Ward to shut up or was about to fall into a coma.

REAL ESTATE LADY: They did add two speakers. The first was Ann Reynolds, a real estate appraiser from Webster Groves hired by WCA. She stated talking about matters she knew nothing about, such as how West County Technical High School had a football team. West County Tech was originally on the campus and they did not have any kind of a football team. There was merely a track and an athletic field so the high school kids learning to work on machines and repair cars could get their PE credits to graduate from high school. The field was rented out to pee-wee and other kid football teams.

She claimed she did a survey of homes near high school athletic fields and found no loss in value. It was a very lame presentation without many details.

The lawyer: One of the highlights of the night was Carrie Hermeling, an attorney with Husch-Blackwell who was representing WCA. She is a partner and is listed on Husch-Blackwell website as handling the same type of real estate cases as Sex Texting former Speaker of the House Sleaze Bag Husch Blackwell partner John Diehl.

She acted like she was in front of a judge and jury. She introduced 35 "exhibits." It was clear that she was putting together a foundation for a lawsuit against the city when the lights are voted down. Included in the exhibits are the Conditional Use Permits to CBC for football stadium lights. The CBC CUP is the one the city has refused to enforce the section of "28-days a Year" light operation provision and is likely to bite them in the ass.

She also included the CUP for The Principia School to use lights for their soccer camps, located in the middle of their 360 acre campus away from any houses, and the CUP

issued by the City of Creve Coeur for De Smet High School's football lights.



It was so obvious what she was doing that even city attorney Steve Garrett sat upright and either listened intently or nodded off. We aren't sure which.

One person in the audience commented "Her **disingenuousness** was on full display."

She also read a very long letter from Tripp Straub, of Straub's Grocery Stores. Straub lives in Town and Country and has kids who go to WCA and was out of town on vacation with the family.

The fact that she read this letter would become very amusing a little later in the night.

First Cross examination: At the end of the first round, 2-hours and 10-minutes from WCA, several board members asked questions. Linda Rallo was the first to go after WCA weak link, Richard Ward and asked him where he got his data who giving WCA lights for Friday Night Football would increase the level of public safety, health and welfare of Town and Country.

"I see it improving," muttered Ward offering no data.

Rallo followed that up with, "How do you define a nuisance?" Ward had claimed that the city can't deny a CUP because 80 foot high football lights and sound systems are not "nuisances."

"It's a legal term. I guess I should have done more research," he said.

The Opposition: After a 15-minute bathroom break for everyone and especially the court reporter, people from the subdivisions of Old Woods Mill Manor (Brookmill) and Arlington Oaks put on their speakers.

Speakers from Old Woods Mill talked about a selling point for their subdivision is there are no street lights and football lights would make a big impact. They also talked about hearing the PA from Saturday games inside their homes. A petition was presented representing 85-percent of the 150 homeowners who opposed the lights and new sound system.

Then Allen Allred, a lawyer with Thompson-Coburn spoke. I have made fun of Allred before at police commission meetings, but this night he was pretty impressive. He presented a petition of 29 out of 30 homeowners on Arlington Oaks opposing the lights and new sound system.

However his best remark was how half of WCA conference opponents play Saturday football. He went on to mention how Ezekiel Elliott, a 2013 graduate of John Burroughs, which is in the same conference as WCA and does not have lights. Allred said how Elliott was the leading rusher for Ohio State in the National College Football Championship game over Oregon and won the Sullivan Award as best amateur athlete in America. (In his senior year in high school he scored 44 touchdowns, the most in the region, while playing mostly Saturday afternoon games.)

Allred mentioned that both Mary Institute/Country Day School and Burroughs have no football lights, are in the same conference as WCA and are considered two of the top academic schools in the region. Apparently the Saturday football experience has not hurt their students.



Allred speaking to the Board.



Former John Burroughs student Ezekiel Elliot scoring a TD in the National College Championship game.

I OBJECT YOUR HONOR...SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP: Gary Hesser of Arlington Oaks spoke and mentioned that what he had heard from WCA people that it was okay if he was annoyed. That noise and lights are not a nuisance but an annoyance. But he said if he was annoyed week after week or night after night, it is a nuisance.

He then started reading a letter to the Board from a neighbor who could not be at the meeting. Carrie Hermeling immediately shouted 'OBJECTION! HEARSAY!'



Jon Benigas then grveled her down and said this was not a court. She replied that she was just making a record. Of course she took almost five minutes reading a letter from Trip Straub and that apparently wasn't hearsay. Her status immediately changed from lawyer to bitch.

A REPEAT FROM MAY: You might think that WCA would have learned a few lessons from their May presentation, but apparently they didn't. They used the same sound expert who gave a poor presentation in May and again in August. At the P&Z hearing Dr. Rob Obert, a resident in the Arlington Oaks subdivision who is also an Otolaryngologist and Audiologist with BJC spoke for residents. He tore apart the WCA presentation on noise in May and did the same job in August, but this time he added that he had patients at the Delmar Gardens Retirement facility next to the WCA football field and they have expressed concerns about the lights and increased noise WCA wants.



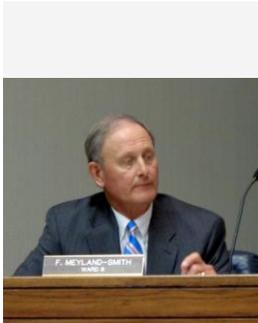
Dan Dorr of Arlington Oaks who is a bit of regional private high school sports authority was happy to point out to Real Estate appraiser Ann Reynolds that she did not know what she was talking about when it came to the history of the property since West

County Tech never had a football team and the field was merely rented out to pee wee groups.

Jeff Chaney of Arlington Oaks, who is a real estate broker and whose wife is a realty agent finished off Ann Reynolds pointing out the problems with all of her points. Chaney also mentioned when the property was developed by WCA they could have put the football field away from house and next to commercial buildings and a highway. Waldron then spoke up and said they did not have the money to do that in 2008. Chaney then pointed out that they did have the money to build a baseball field next to the commercial property.

Finally a number of people spoke in favor of WCA getting the lights. It was a repeat from May, often with the same people speaking. They either had kids at WCA or worked there.

LAWYER ENCORE: Alderman Fred Meyland-Smith, a person who I usually describe as being a windbag or gasbag had the last words but was interrupted. Jon Benigas did a good job getting the WCA lighting expert to admit without his notes he didn't know how large the light assembly on top of each 80 foot high pole would be. (70 square feet)



Benigas at agenda meeting

Next Meyland-Smith addressed Mr. Tom Stoner (who the WCA insist on referring to as "doctor" but since he can't write a prescription, we will refer to as "mister").

"I think you are selling your institution short by tying core values to what time of day athletic events are held. This is somewhat frivolous..."

That was as far as Meyland-Smith got before this from WCA lawyer Carrie Hermeling:

"I'M GOING TO MOVE TO STRIKE THAT NO PROPER FOUNDATION!"

A response from Benigas was swift and included a banging of the gravel telling Hermeling to keep quiet. It was amazing that Hermeling was trying to silence elected officials commenting at a public hearing on her client's proposal.

St. Louis is a Baseball Town: Former Cardinal pitcher and Town and Country resident Andy Benes with ties to WCA spoke toward the end of the night. Most everyone in the room, whether city staff, with WCA or from opposition subdivisions were about comatose. However when Benes spoke, saying much the same as others in favor of the lights, people seemed to pay much more attention. (Except City Attorney Steve Garrett)



NO VOTE TAKEN: This was a public hearing. The matter was first read and then continued to August 24.

My suggestion: If I was still on the Board of Alderman I would want to continue this several times to make sure all the alderpersons had a chance to wade through the 35 exhibits field by attorney Carrie Hermeling. WCA can't sue until the Board votes down the project. Why start incurring legal expenses in the current budget year. Why not wait until the money is budgeted for this in 2016.

LINDA RALLO SENDS LETTER TO REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE FOR COLE M McNARY TO GO ON BALLOT TO REPLACE JOHN DIEHL: Keep in mind that back in 2008 Linda Rallo had briefly filed to run for State Rep but was told by Republican leaders that they would be backing John Diehl. She withdrew and later became Rep. Cole McNary's chief of staff.

After redistricting had forced McNary out of the statehouse he first ran as the Republican nominee for Treasurer in 2012. In the statewide race he lost to Clint Zweifel.

He next with the backing of the firefighters union ran against former Missouri State Senator Jane Cunningham for the Monarch Fire Protection District. He denied he was the candidate of the firefighter's union. However he accepted over \$20,000 from firefighter union groups just before election that didn't have to be reported until after Election Day.

Cunningham easily beat him, but by running against longtime Republican stalwart Cunningham, McNary pissed off the Republican power base because he forced Cunningham to spend \$75,000 from her Senate campaign war chest to defeat him. That money would have likely gone to other Republican candidates, as Jane has inferred her 6-year term on the Fire District Board might be her last elected office.

Now Rallo has sent a letter to the Township Republican committee members urging them put Cole McNary on the ballot for disgraced John Diehl's seat.



Rallo



McNary



Plocher

The other person that is known to be interested in Diehl's seat is Dean Plocher, a Clayton lawyer. He has been Diehl treasurer's for a number of years. I'm still suspect of the electronically filed second quarter finance report filed a day late on July 16 claiming Diehl as Speaker of the House received no campaign contributions for all of April and two weeks into May when his sex texts with a 19-year-old college intern hit the front pages across the state.

Plocher, a Des Peres resident, has apparently resigned as Diehl's treasurer. The front page of Diehl's Ethic Commission report show Plocker resigned and the treasurer's address reverted back to Diehl's home address on White Stable Road. However the resignation apparently was after the questionable July 16 filing claiming no contributions.

Plocher is also the embattled City of Pine Lawn's municipal judge. Pine Lawn is famous for relaying on court fines to finance the city's operation.

CHANGES AT DRACE PARK: We noticed that all the plants had been removed from the front entrance to Drace Park at the parking lot. We wrote park Director Anne Nixon what would be going in. See her answer under the photo.



Hi John,
The plan in that bed is to highlight the historic and natural theme of the park. The old wagon we have will be refurbished and go in the center of the bed. The Anthony water spirea that are there will be separated and used. In addition, prognase viburnum, arborvitae, little blue stem, and itea will be planted.

Anne Nixon, CPRP
Parks & Recreation Director
City of Town & Country
Phone: 314-434-2128

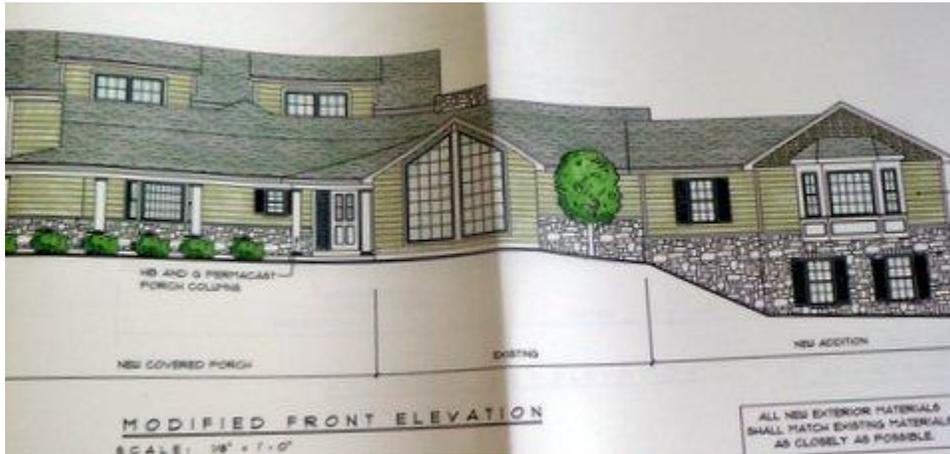
REAL ESTATE: WHEN DOES THE "NEW LISTING" SIGN NEED TO BE CHANGED INTO "NEW PRICE?" As of August 14th the home at 1337 S. Mason Road had been on the market for 63 days. Maybe, just maybe it is no longer a "New Listing" as the sign

proclaims. With an asking price of \$4,900,000 perhaps the next sign should be "New Price."

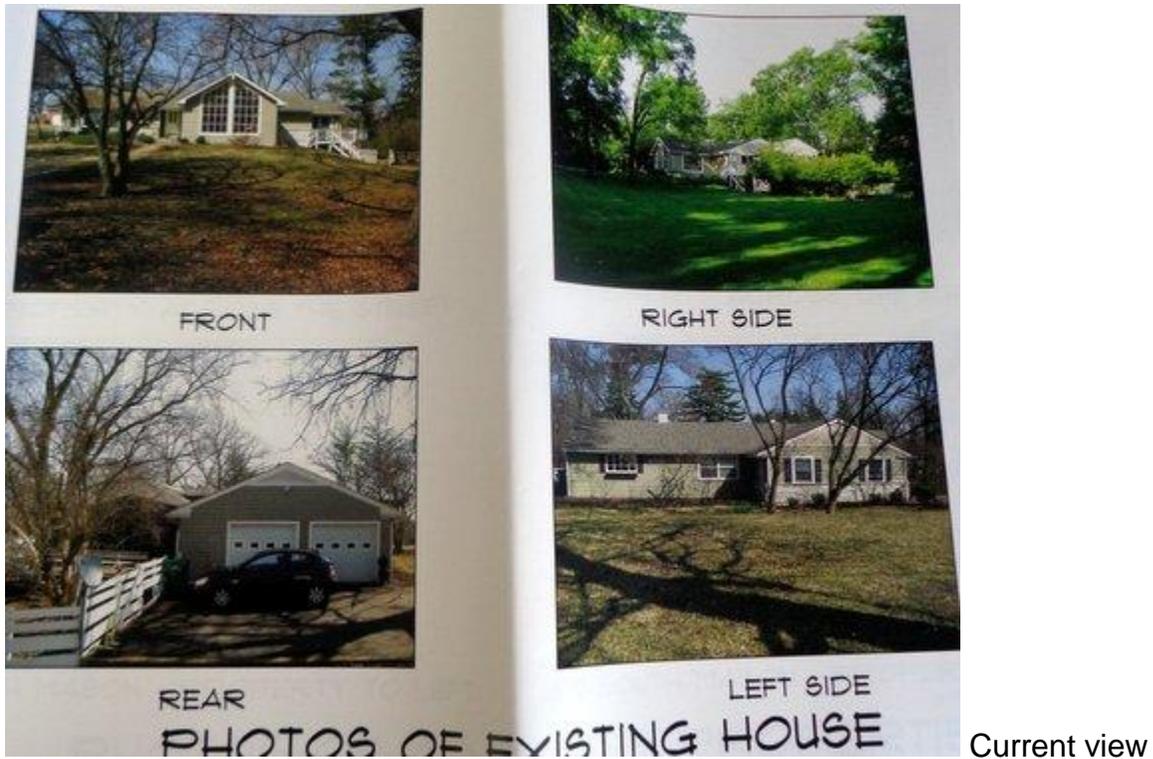


MARIS

Here are the remodeling plans for 1866 S. Mason Road.



Proposed changes.



UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 134



August 17, 2015

BURGLAR BACK TO PRISON FOR FIVE MORE YEARS: James P. Chandler was arrested in November for a string of daytime burglaries stretching from Ladue to Creve Coeur to Chesterfield. Warrants were issued and in February he was indicted by a grand jury.

Here is the information the Chesterfield media officer, Capt. Steve Lewis sent me at the time of the indictments:

Yes we received warrants on him for Burglary 2nd and Stealing Over \$500.00 The suspect was the guy who burglarized several jurisdictions, his M.O. was to use a rental truck/vehicle and break into homes during the daytime. I believe he was or will be charged in at least 3 other jurisdictions. We did recover property belonging to our victim relative to the burglary. Our burglary occurred on 10-30-2014 between 9:00am – 1:00 pm.



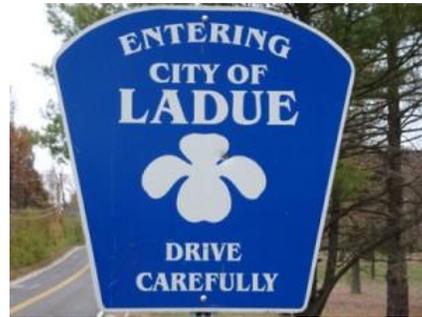
James P. Chandler

An old adage and my police adage collide in the arrest of Chandler. There is a century old adage for criminals that you go where the money is to steal. Then there is my police/criminal adage that you should not steal in a town with a low crime rate because the police have plenty of time to put a case on you. That was certainly the case with James Chandler. (If you break-in to house of rich people in the west end of the City of St. Louis your crime is behind several overnight homicides, a number of robberies and assaults and a number of burglaries for overworked police detectives to investigate. You go to Ladue, Frontenac, Town and Country or Chesterfield to commit the same crime the police detectives will dedicate all their time and energy to your work.)

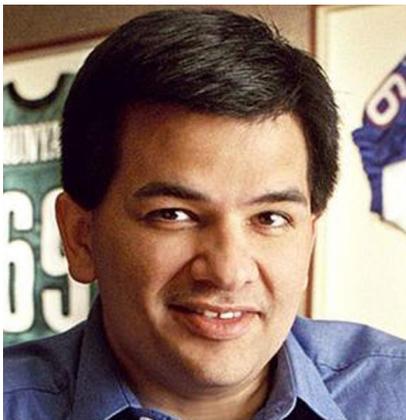
James Chandler had been committing a number of daylight burglaries in central Snoburbia, especially in Ladue. Burglary was not new to him. He served seven years in prison from 1992 to 1999 for burglaries. On October 20, 2014 he pled guilty to a burglary in Richmond Heights and was sentenced to five years in prison, but was immediately placed on a 5-year probation term, despite having served two other prison terms (the other one for Assault).

Within days he was back to work as a burglar.

On Monday November 10, 2014 at 9:56 am when the Ladue Police received a call from a resident at 10076 Litzsinger Road that someone was breaking into their house there was a quick response, because there had been a number of other recent daytime house break-ins, several where witnesses reported seeing a rental truck at the scene.



The 49-year-old male homeowner, Football Sports agent Ben Dogra, heard someone ring the front doorbell at 9:50. He thought it was a delivery and would be left at the door. He saw a black/male and a white car in his driveway. But a few minutes later he saw him again at the back of the house looking into windows and then trying to force open a bedroom door to a patio. That's when the call to the police was made.



Ben Dogra

Ladue Police Officers Lo and Tom Norman were the first to arrive at the 12,000 sq foot house located well off the road on a 3 acre lot. (The house was bought in 2011 by Dogra for a reported \$4,000,000.)



10076 Litzsinger Rd



rear view of 10076 Litzsinger

They immediately found the white 2013 Nissan Altima with California license plates that was owned by the Hertz Rent-a-Car Company. They also observed a startled James Chandler walking from the back of the house to his car.

Chander was carrying a portfolio case. He claimed he was looking for landscaping work. Officers noted that he was not wearing work clothes but casual clothes and his car contained no tools that would be used by a landscaper.

A search of the portfolio case being carried by Chandler revealed a pair of gloves and a pry bar. Chandler suddenly changed professions from landscaping to welding saying he used the pry in connection with welding.

Chandler came up with three different stories why his car was moved from the front of the house to the side of the house. He did say he went to the rear of the house because "sometimes people answer the backdoor."

Chandler claimed he came to the Dogra home because he had done work at other nearby homes. However he could not give the addresses or the names of the homeowners at the "nearby homes." (If you count daylight burglaries as work, in fact he had been working at nearby homes.)

Two Ladue Detectives were now on the scene and Chandler was arrested for Attempt Burglary First Degree and Possession of a Burglar Tool. In the rental car was a backpack with jewelry, a watch with "Sigma Chi Fraternity" engraved on it and pawn shop receipts.

At the police station detectives interview Chandler and he continued to lie, contradict earlier statements and claim he had only once been arrested and it was for assault. I suppose Chandler must have thought the Ladue Police would not check his arrest record. But they did and found it included:

- Armed Robbery
- Assault (felony)
- Burglary (several times)
- Stealing
- Auto Theft
- False Impersonation
- Robbery
- Drug Distribution
- Armed Criminal Action

Also in the backpack was the rental agreement for the car from Hertz at Lambert Airport. The rental agreement was in the name of Elizabeth Austin, She had rented Hertz cars twice in recent weeks. The rentals coincided with daytime burglaries in Creve Coeur, Frontenac and Chesterfield.

Detectives from Ladue, Chesterfield and Frontenac went to interview Austin. While Chandler lived in the tiny town of Country Club Hills along Lucas and Hunt Road, Austin lived in Ferguson.

They found her walking near her apartment.

Some things you can't make up: Austin, 42, told the detective that she met Chandler a month earlier. They were dating and each had young children.

She said they wanted to take the kids to Chuck E. Cheese, but neither owned a car. They decided they would rent a car, but then saw that U-Haul pickup trucks rented for as little as \$19.95 a day so they decided to rent the U-Haul twice. Each time Chandler kept for it a few extra days. She later rented the cars and let Chandler drive them.



Let's load the kids in the pickup truck and go to Chuck E. Cheese!

There were several burglaries involving a U-Haul pickup truck according to witnesses.

Austin, who does not have a criminal record, told detectives that Chandler told her he was in the landscaping business. She admitted that she thought it was strange that he did not have any tools, a truck or clothes associated with landscaping.

During the Ladue detectives' investigation into Chandler and recent burglaries they felt he was a possible suspect in the following burglaries:

- Upper Ladue Road Ladue
- Waverton Drive Ladue
- Radnor Rd Huntleigh (served by the Frontenac PD)
- Frontenac Woods Lane Frontenac
- Timberlake Manor Parkway Chesterfield
- Princetowne Drive Creve Coeur

At the time of Chandler's arrest detectives also seized his Verizon cell phone. Elizabeth Austin confirmed the phone number he had been receiving phone calls at.

Using a cell phone tracking search engine detectives found Chandler was making or receiving cell phone calls off the closest cell towers to each home that was burglarized, including one less than 1/3 mile away from the Frontenac burglary.

Within two hours after the cell phone was in the area of the West County burglaries Chandler was back in Ferguson at Austin's apartment making and receiving phone calls.

Police recovered some property taken in the burglaries including from Timberlake Manor.

JUDGMENT DAY: On July 23, 2015 Chandler's probation on the 5-year prison term for the 2013 Richmond Heights burglary was revoked and he was sentenced to 5-years in prison. Also on the Ladue burglary cases Chandler pled guilty and he received a 4-year prison sentences. The Chesterfield case was apparently dropped in a plea bargain.

Bad Year for Victim: The last 12 months have not been kind to the victim of this crime, Ben Dogra, is a lawyer who turned pro sports agent specializing in NFL football players. He represents Adrian Peterson with the Minnesota Vikings who was suspended for a year after being charged with child abuse/assault in Texas for disciplining his 4-year-old son by beating him with a tree branch. During the summer of 2014 through the spring of 2015 Dogra reportedly lost half of his clients.

WHO IS REALLY, REALLY LOOKING AFTER YOUR TAX DOLLARS? | think this picture says it all: At a recent Chesterfield pre-City Council Agenda Meeting I snapped this photo of Councilpersons Dan Hurt and Nancy Greenway. Do you notice anything unusual about the photos?

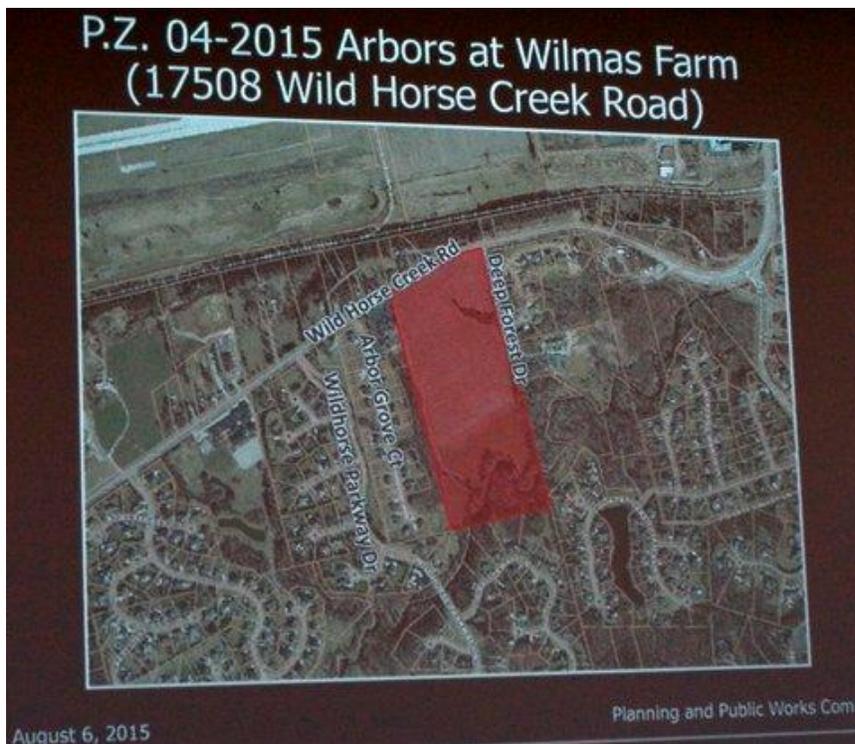


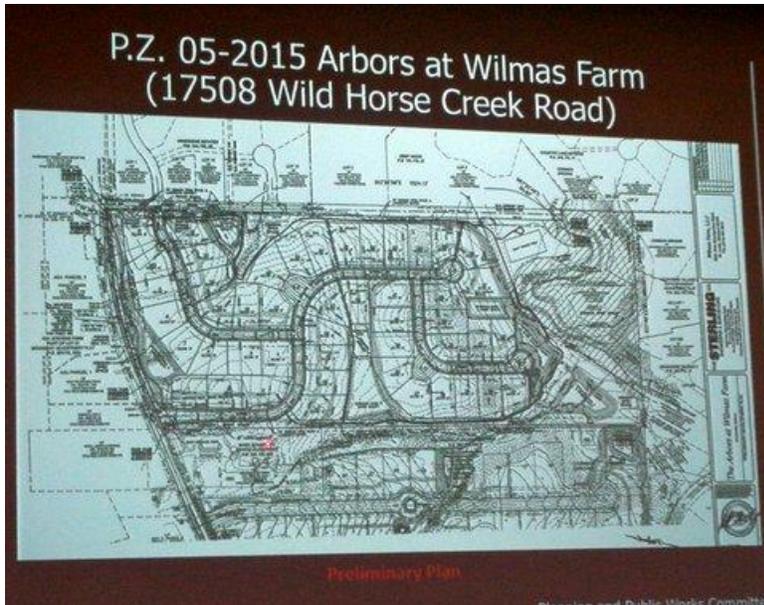
Nancy poured herself a cold glass of iced tap water in a plastic cup. Dan opened the refrigerator under where the pitcher of tap water sat and took out a small plastic bottle of

water. A 2013 University of Michigan study showed that all bottled water including the large jugs in offices is 300 times more expensive than tap water. **However small bottles of water are actually 2,000 times more expensive than tap water.** Also drinking bottled water at the table instead of tap water was City Administrator Mike Herring.

At a recent Monarch meeting I saw bottled water being used extensively, especially by Director Rick Gans who questions many routine purchases by staff and payments.

DEVELOPMENT OF 47 1/2 ACRE LOTS APPROVED IN COMMITTEE FOR WILD HORSE CREEK ROAD: The Chesterfield Planning and Public Works Committee approved the Arbors at Wilmas Farms at 17508 Wild Horse Creek Road. The proposed subdivision plan now moves to the full City Council. The new subdivision will include landscaped buffers instead of simply wild growth acting as a buffer. The developers, McBride and Sons, are also including walking trails, a playground and an athletic field as part of the subdivision.





CITY TO USE GRANT MONEY TO BUILD COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS STATION AND CONVERT MORE PUBLIC WORKS TRUCKS TO CNG. This graphic pretty much tells the whole story.

CMAQ Grant

- Total Project Cost of \$1,400,030, of which \$1,120,023 would be reimbursed through the grant.
 - \$1,048,030 for the CNG Station (City cost \$209,606)
 - \$352,000 for truck upgrades to CNG (City cost \$70,400)
- **TOTAL NET COST TO THE CITY \$280,006**
 - **13 VEHICLE UPGRADES**
 - **CITY OWNED FUELING FACILITY**
- \$350,000 WAS IDENTIFIED IN CAPITAL REPLACEMENT FUND STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Chesterfield plans to spend \$1,400,300 to a new CNG Filling Station and more conversion of city vehicles to CNG. However the majority of the money will come from grants. In the end the city will pay only \$280,006.

For being in a strong hold of right wing Republicans, these grants have liberal Democrat written all over them. They are CMAQ Grants or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grants provided by the Federal Government through the Federal Highway Administration. On the State level the grant money goes through MoDOT.

The new CNG filling station will be off of Edison Road at the city's public works complex.



Chesterfield shows what a talented staff can do to utilize grants to save money and promote clean air. It's too bad that poorer cities that really need to save money don't have staff like Chesterfield's that can obtain grants like this one.

MONARCH FIRE BOARD MEMBER JANE CUNNINGHAM MAKES PRESENCE KNOWN OVER UNIVERSITY CITY OUTSOURCING EMS AMBULANCE SERVICE:

On August 3, 2015 the University City Council after a very long meeting with many vocal persons present voted 5-2 to outsource the ambulance service to a private company, Gateway Ambulance. This is another loss for Firefighter Local 2665 at U. City where their candidates lost in the last municipal election and some members were suspended for posing for a campaign ad photo in University City uniforms.

There will be two Gateway ambulance crews stationed away from firehouses (probably for their own safety) to respond to calls. The privatization of ambulances might save U.

City \$500,000 a year. No U City firefighter paramedics will lose their jobs. But 12 vacant positions will not be filled.

Councilman Stephen Kraft, a physician felt that the fact firefighter/paramedics were working 48 hour shifts while Gateway paramedics would only be working 12 hour shifts would help avoid "fatigue" errors in service. The 48-hour shifts are something that the fire union has pushed as it gives members longer periods of days off.

(As a former police department command officer, I'm against 12 hour shifts over the fatigue factor, let along 48-hour shifts.)

Monarch Fire Protection District Board member Jane Cunningham spoke before the vote. On Thursday a Post-Dispatch editorial lambasted the outsourcing contact and used the fact that Cunningham spoke at the meeting as a reason it was bad. I emailed her and asked her for her impressions of the meeting. Here is her response:



My impressions:

- 1) I had never been inside the City Hall which was built in 1904 for the fair I think. It was beautiful and well maintained.
- 2) The residents who were calling to keep their present union paramedics, all had hand-held signs which was a tell-tale sign that the union had recruited them and furnished them with the signs.
- 3) The audience repeatedly shouted out comments or questions and tried to act like council members.
- 4) Mayor Welsch did a good job of keeping order and being fair to all, even allowing some, including Kurt Becker, more time than the already generous 5 minutes each to speak.
- 5) Everyone who wanted to, spoke. The hearing went on for almost four hours. It was funny to me that many who spoke called for the council to allow a public forum, apparently unaware that was just what they were participating in. When I spoke I thanked the council for this generous public forum.

6) Council Member Stephen Kraft, a medical doctor, presented studies that showed the obvious - that medical personnel who had been on duty for 48 hours were far less effective and far more prone to mistakes than someone on a 12 hour shift. The firefighter/paramedics in U-City have 48 hour shifts and the private ambulance company has 12 hour shifts.

7) Council Member Crow, on the union side, was clearly prepared with his questions and they were effective. But I found it funny that he complained about not getting the information until last Thursday afternoon and therefore had not had adequate time to review it. That was over four days. Heck, governments are not required to notice up meetings until 24 hours before and in the legislature, I often had minutes to be ready for presentation of a bill on the floor. Four days is an eternity.

8) It was disappointing that Steve Giegerich (Post-Dispatch reporter) did not report on the comments by Greg Pace, who was the resident volunteer consultant. He had more specific information on the proposal than anyone.

9) One resident, referring to me, chastised the council members for being friends with a "conservative" with a tone like that was next to criminal.....so much for liberal tolerance.

10) I was asked to attend by a city council member. Local office holders who are really out there to represent the taxpayers, look to me as an advisor and spokesperson for their cause just like the firefighter/paramedics look to Kurt Becker to defend them. I am getting more and more calls, even out into St. Charles County and beyond.

Jane Cunningham



There is an issue of having private ambulances. One of the ways to finance this is to have Gateway bill patients' insurance companies for the service and the patients themselves if they don't have insurance. University City is already doing this. However,

most cities and fire districts won't go after residents without insurance who can't pay. After all at least for residents it is already tax supported.

There has been months of calm at Monarch with a new command staff in place and a 100-percent pro-taxpayer board of directors. Often the only members of the public at meetings are Jim Erikson of West Magazine and me. I just wonder if Cunningham's appearance in University City will cause someone with the Union to take a non-issue and create it into a media event in retaliation.

SEXUAL PERVERSION OF FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC AT MONARCH ONE OF THE FIRST PERSONNEL ISSUES FACED BY JANE CUNNINGHAM. Jane Cunningham was elected to the Monarch Fire Protection District against a union candidate of Cole McNary playing the role of "just another Republican" who received tens of thousands of dollars from the firefighters union weeks prior to the election that didn't have to be reported until after Election Day. Most thought Jane and Board president Robin Harris would face the wrath of the union which they did until Harris was reelected. But the first case Cunningham almost had to deal with was very odd to say the least and was avoided at the last minute by a resignation.

A citizen reported to the fire headquarters that there was a Monarch firefighter in uniform performing a sex act on a sadomasochist X-rated sex website. Apparently his deviant specialty dealt with using latex.

This would have come before the Board by July of 2013 in a dismissal hearing if the employee did not resign first. We confirmed this from several sources, but since it was a personnel matter and did not involve litigation I was unable to obtain a name.

I could not find anything on the web and frankly didn't try too hard as I did not want my computer flooded off beat sex websites.

FIRE HYDRANTS IN DES PERES: You might remember the photo we ran of the fire hydrant in front of the Schnucks in Des Peres that was installed backwards, making it very difficult for a pumper truck to hook up to it. It was facing a parking space. Apparently this is a pattern in Des Peres. I found another one on the west side of the West County Center, again facing parking spaces away from an easy pull up and connect for a fire truck.



In front of Schnucks



In front of Bravo and McCormick & Schmicks

MEDIA WATCH: ON August 6 it was another single and very long editorial in the Post-Dispatch. This one was yet another one on race relations.

Editorial: The region is awash in black-white disparities, but good efforts are underway

It was another editorial on race in the Post-Dispatch. All this would be great but the three editorial writers at the Post-Dispatch are all white. So when I see editorials on race I have to wonder where they are getting their inside info from.



Tony Messenger



Kevin Horrigan



Deb Peterson

I don't know about you, but I miss the old Globe-Democrat and Post-Dispatch editorial pages that had two or three editorials every day. They were shorter, much easier to read and you might see a series of them over the weeks making points and keeping a subject alive. Now the P-D has has one very long editorial every day which often are rather laborious to wade through.

KMOV HEADLINE IS TOTALLY MISLEADING:



BREAKING

Two Chesterfield Petco former employees charged in dog death

There is a PetCo Store in Chesterfield on Clarkson Road. However contrary to a headline on KMOV's new website two employees have not been charged there for killing a Golden Retriever after leaving it in a drying box and forgetting about it. Those two former PetCo employees were charged in Chesterfield VIRGINIA, nine hundred miles away. Perhaps a better headline would have been "Two Virginia Petco former employees charged in dog death." Some internet editor at KMOV should join the two dog groomers from Virginia and be a "former employee."

MORE NOTES FROM THE DIEHL SCANDAL. When I got back after being out of town for three weeks at the first of July I mentioned to some people how I was happy to see that the John Diehl sex scandal was still alive and in the papers. I quickly learned how many people don't follow local politics when I got this response, more than once:

"Do you mean John Beal, the roofer guy?"

If some of the public is confusing John Beal with John Diehl I think Beal needs to cut some new radio spots. Here is one tag line that came to mind.

"This is John Beal the roofer not John Diehl the former Speaker of the House who sent sex texts to teenage coed interns. We are too busy putting on new roofs to send sex texts."



MORE FAKES AT DIERBERGS: Last week we ran a photo of Dierberg using real crab legs to decorate a plater in the Deli Case of chicken breast stuffed with fake crab. However Dierbergs forgot to include on the sign that the crab was fake or imitation.

This week we noticed they used real crab legs again. This time it was Alaskan Crab Legs on the edge of a platter of objects claiming to be "Breaded Maryland Seafood Crab Cakes." Not only don't the cakes contain any crab, the staff put out Alaskan crab legs which are very different in appearance and size from Maryland Bay Crab Legs.



MUSIC: The sign no longer says Jim Manly Duo, but it says " Jim Manley and Friends" at Sasha's in Clayton.



Here was some of the crowd this last Wednesday.



A favorite with Anita Rosamond fans, Jerry Moser followed by famous St. Louis lounge and club singer Al Ox

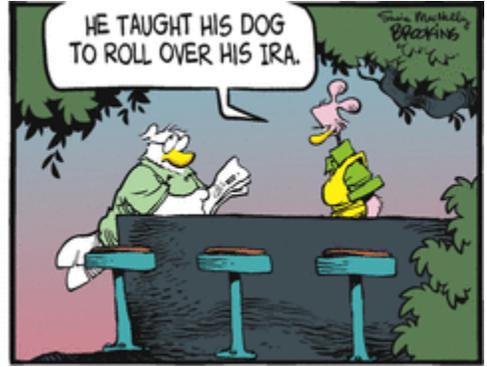


Vocalist with Route 66 Jazz Orchestra and Wack-A-Doo, Valerie Tichacek sings for the second week, with Joe Bayer on sax, Brian on the horn, Luppy on the keys and Snarlin Arlen on the drums.



Jazz trumpeter Russ Macklem from Toronto was in town and performed the big finish with Jim Manley and Brian. They did the Billy Strayhorn, Duke Ellington classic but in honor of Russ, they did the Canadian version. Instead of "Take the A Train" they played "Take the Train, Eh."

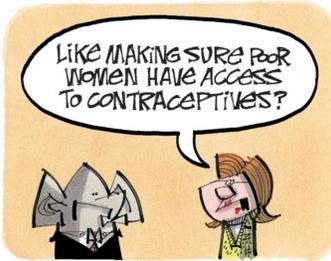
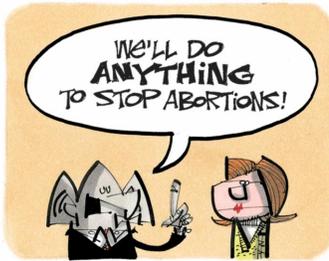
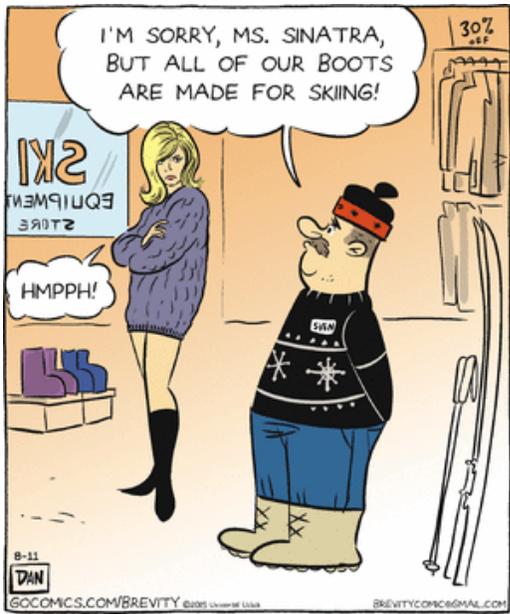
CARTOONS:



"MOM! It's me, Zoey, from 35 years in the future! I'm 42 now and people think I'm 60! Slather me every day with SPF 30!"



"Well, I'm the one who is getting up four times a night to go to the bathroom, so I say the toilet is going here!"



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SAVE THE CHANGES ON THIS
TOP SECRET DOCUMENT
BEFORE I LOG YOU OUT?



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HILLARY AGREES TO TURN OVER EMAIL SERVER



CATALINO
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MRS. CLINTON,
YOUR PASSWORD
HAS EXPIRED.



McPhee
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"WELL, YOU DID ASK FOR MY PERSONAL SERVER."



NIKE LUKOVICH
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EXPECT
ANOTHER
POLL BOUNCE...

