

UNAPPROVED CHESTERFIELD NEWSLETTER 34



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By John Hoffmann

WEST COUNTY POLICE TRAFFIC STOPS: For the second year we are breaking down the numbers and trying to show which departments in the West County are most likely to make DWB traffic stops. (Driving While Black). Also we will show you which towns where you should watch your speed when driving on an Interstate highway.

One of the last columns I wrote for patch.com last year was breaking down the annual police traffic information filed with the Missouri Attorney General's Office. I looked at the stats of Chesterfield, Town and Country, Ladue and Pine Lawn. The information breaks down traffic stops, searches and arrest by a person's race.

<http://chesterfield.patch.com/groups/opinion/p/the-tale-of-four-cities-and-traffic-stops>

Why did I start with Pine Lawn? While many complain about the disparity for West County police agencies that stop far more blacks than the local population rate, Pine Lawn has the most out of whack racial numbers.



Pine Lawn stops far more white people than they have in their population base according to census figures. In 2011 **23.4% of all traffic stops involved white motorists**. Only 1.3% of the population of Pine Lawn was white. The biggest reason for this disparity is because there is a small section of I-70 in Pine Lawn and the police department does speed enforcement (revenue collection) on I-70. While most of Pine Lawn is black, the department stops a lot of white motorists on I-70. Pine Lawn only has a population of 3,274 and 2,388 of driving age. 95% of the population is African-American.

In **2012 that number** (of whites stopped) **went up to 27.5%** traffic stops in Pine Lawn. If you go by these numbers alone, it is clear that Pine Lawn discriminates against Whites. Of course that would be stupid to do.

In 2011 Ladue the numbers are also very high. Only 1% of Ladue consists of African-Americans but 15% of all traffic stops involved blacks. It was the lowest percentage of blacks stopped in Ladue for a decade.



In 2012 the population remained the same with 95% of population being white. **In 2012 13.8%** of all traffic stops by Ladue Police were of black motorists. That is a reduction from 2011. Keep in mind that 21% of the St. Louis county population is Black, but I'm pretty sure that 21% is not driving through Ladue on a daily basis.

34.6% of all white motorists stopped, were stopped on I-64. 61% of all blacks stopped in Ladue were on I-64. When you are doing speed enforcement of cars doing 70 MPH or better, you really don't have much of a chance to check the race of the driver before chasing them down. Trust me on this one...I used to do it.

Interestingly Jonathan F. Dalton, Jr., the son of Town and Country Mayor Jon Dalton, being arrested for DWI twice in 2012 by the Ladue Police represented 9% of the police department total of 22 DWI arrests. Dalton, Jr. represented 13.3% of all whites arrested for DWI by the Ladue PD in 2012. 22 drunk drivers is an amazingly low number of drunk driving arrests for a city the size of Ladue.

Another interesting note was traffic stops by Ladue cops dropped by 1,064 or 28% from 2011 to 2012. The numbers of Blacks stopped between 2011 and 2012 dropped by 33%.

Overall Ladue's policing along I-64 dropped dramatically from 2011 to 2012. In 2011 the Ladue Police made 2035 stops on I-64. In 2012 the number dropped by 53%, when they made only 1082 traffic stops on I-64.

In Frontenac 18.3% all motorists stopped by the police were Blacks. 2.6% of Frontenac is made up of Blacks and 89% are white.



More interesting is that Frontenac with a much small amount of I-64 in the city limits than Ladue made a lot more traffic stops on the Interstate than Ladue did. In 2012 Frontenac made 2,044 stops on I-64. That is 53% more than Ladue made. 20.7% of motorists stopped on I-64 in Frontenac were Black.

Frontenac is like Ladue (besides being one of the wealthiest communities in St. Louis) as their overall traffic enforcement dropped from 2011 to 2012. They made 1,229 more traffic stops in 2011 versus 2012. That is a 26% drop in car stops. On I-64 the enforcement level dropped 21%.

DWI arrests in 2012 by Frontenac cops dropped by 2 from 66 in 2011 to 64 in 2012.

Town and Country cops are well known for doing traffic enforcement along I-64 and I-270. They have their own Traffic Unit, which I refer to as the “Revenue Cutters” that are on duty 16 hours a day.



In 2012 Town and Country Cops made 10,355 traffic stops. The white population is T&C is 86.5%. The black population is 2.6% and the Asian population is 7.5%.

In 2012 12% of all traffic stops involved blacks. That is a lower percentage than in Ladue and Frontenac. I think that has to do with the huge amounts of traffic enforcement Town and Country does on the Interstate highways. Keep in mind that the overall black population in St. Louis County is 21.2% and the overall white population is 71.9%.

Of all the traffic stops in 2012 by the T&C cops 84.6% were of white motorists. That is 1% less than the total white population in Town and Country.

Town and Country is also different from Ladue and Frontenac in another area. While Ladue and Frontenac traffic stops have gone down from 2011 to 2012...in Town and Country enforcement has gone up. In 2011 the police made 8,760 traffic stops. In 2012 they made 10,355, which is a 15.5% increase.

On the interstate T&C officers made 850 more traffic stops jumping from 6,300 in 2011 to 7,150 in 2012 for a 12% increase.

In 2012 83.4% the stops on I-270 and I-64 were of white drivers. 974 Blacks were stopped on the Interstates for a 13.6% average. In 2011 84.1% of the highway stops involved whites and 13.1% were black drivers.

The other area where there is a huge difference between Town and Country and neighboring communities is the amount of DWI arrests Town and Country cops made 377 DWI arrests in 2012 down from 394 in 2011. Frontenac made 64 in 2012 down from 66. Ladue made 22 DWI arrests in 2012.

In 2012 14% of people arrested for DWI in Town and Country were Black. In 2011 it was 11%. Since so many of Town and Country's traffic stops are made on I-64 and I-270 these numbers are well under the county wide population numbers by race.

Chesterfield is four times larger than Town and Country both in population and area. However their overall traffic stop numbers are less than Town and Country. While Chesterfield officers will write traffic citations on I-64, they don't park and do speed enforcement on I-64. In 2012 T&C officers made 89% more traffic stops on Interstate highways than did the Chesterfield Police.



In 2012 Chesterfield officers made 9,564 traffic stops. Of that number 8,363 were of White drivers, representing 87.4% of all traffic stops. Chesterfield's population is

47,476. Of that 84.6% is white. In other words according to the rational of many liberals, Chesterfield was discriminating against Whites!

In 2012 the number of Blacks stopped for traffic offenses was 727 or 7.6% of all drivers. Blacks represent 2.6% of the population of Chesterfield. So if White and Blacks were both groups that were being stopped at a rate higher than their local population numbers, what group was catching a break?

It was Asians! People of Asian heritage represent 8.6% of Chesterfield's population, however only 3.3% of traffic stops involved Asians in 2012! In 2011 the percentage was just 3.1%.

In 2012 Chesterfield made just 91 DWI arrests. That is a huge number compared to Ladue's 22 DWI arrests but is just 24% of the number of DWI arrests made by Town and Country. The chesterfield judge and prosecutor are now famous for not convicting people arrested for DWI, by handing out no-record probations.

Chesterfield again comes out with the best numbers among the West County police departments along I-64, if you believe in this legislative demanded collection of statistics. According to these numbers alone Chesterfield needs to stop more Asians and less White and Blacks for traffic violations, which is utterly ridiculous.

However, it is interesting to see which departments are making the most and the least DWI arrests. If you looked at Ladue's DWI stat's (22 arrests for 2012) you would have to believe one of two things. Either rich people don't drink much or former Ladue Police Chief Larry White was right when he said the mayor ordered police officers to drive drunk residents home and not arrest them for DWI.

SEARCHES: It was interesting to see that police found less contraband after doing searches of Black drivers and found a higher percentage of contraband when searching White drivers. This does give an appearance that a black motorist is more likely to get searched than a White motorist with less probable cause.



In Ladue only 45 searches were made after 2,783 vehicle stops in 2012. 55% of the searches were of white drivers and 38% of the searches were of Black drivers. 13.8% of the traffic stops involved Blacks.

In Frontenac there were 139 searches after 3,494 traffic stops in 2012. 54% of the searches were to White drivers and 42% involved Black drivers. 18.3% of all traffic stops in 2012 involved Blacks.

In Town and Country the police made 571 vehicle searches in 2012. 74% involved white drivers and 21% involved Black drivers, however only 12% of the traffic stops involved Blacks.

In Chesterfield 79% of vehicle searches in 2012 involved White motorists. 16% involved Black drivers, who were the subject of 7.6% of all 2012 traffic stops.

Realty Check: Keep in mind that 12% of Missouri population is Black and 50% of the Missouri Prison population is Black. Some “traffic stops” are related to immediate theft and shoplifting investigations, which are often driven by socio-economic and educational performance issues. There is a higher number of Blacks that fall into lower educational and economic standings which can result in more police searches.

A DIFFERENT LOOK



I did look at the stats from Rock Hill, a city without any Interstate Highway with a 23% population of Black residents. Rock Hill is also known as a speed trap. Rock Hill officers made 5,828 car stops in 2012. 638 involved Black drivers or 11%. 86% involved White drivers. The majority of the communities surrounding Rock Hill have large majority White populations and most of the Rock Hill traffic stops are on Manchester Road and McKnight Road. It is not a surprise that more whites are pulled over. I also have to believe that the residents who are Black in Rock Hill know that the city has a reputation as a speed trap and they don't speed until they are safely out of the city limits, just like the 68% of the Rock Hill population who are White.

(This originally appeared in the Town and Country Ex-Alderman Newsletter #86)

PARKWAY WEST STUDENTS ARRESTED FOR CAR BREAK-

INS: In ten days in May the Town and Country Police on three separate occasions made a total of five arrests in connection with a recent rash of car break-ins. Four of the suspects were students at Parkway West High School.

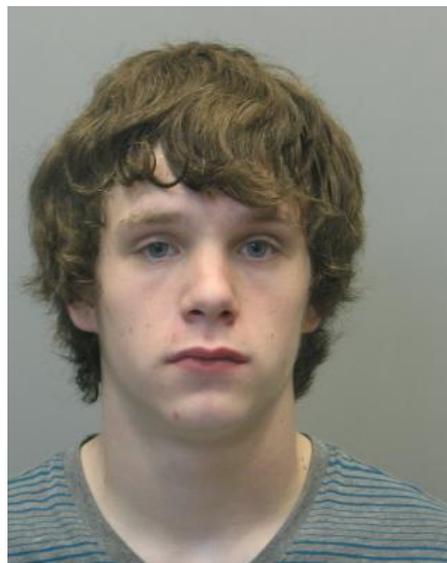
On Saturday morning May 18 at 4am a Town and Country officer on patrol interrupted two persons breaking into cars at the Willow Bend apartments off of Woods Mill Road. (Town and Country's only apartment complex.) 4am for officers working a 12-hour shift is often a prime time for a nap in a park or behind a church so kudos to the officer, who not only interrupted the theft but then had to participate in the foot search to find the suspects who fled.

17-year-old Kyle Wrozier of Glen Meadow Drive in Ballwin was arrested in the Village Green Apartment complex in Chesterfield located behind the Willow Bend Apartments.

17-year-old Zachary Palesch of Rue Montand Drive in Ballwin was arrested hiding under a parked car in Willow Bend. Stolen property was recovered.



Wrozier



Palesch

On Sunday morning just after midnight May 19 two juvenile teenagers were stopped and arrested on Devonworth Drive after being found with two GPS units they had just stolen from parked cars in Ballwin.

The four students from Parkway need to brush up on their geography skills. They need to know where the unincorporated areas of St. Louis County, with only a few police officers assigned to large patrol areas who answer calls most of the night, stop and where the wealthy municipalities with large police forces and low crimes rates with officers patrolling all night start.

The first arrest was on May 9 made by Town and Country detectives based on information provided by patrol officers who viewed a suspicious vehicle on Ballas Road near the Town and Country and Des Peres city limits.

28-year-old Reginald C. Wilson of Berkley was arrested in connection with felony thefts connected to car break-ins at Charter Commons and Town and Country Crossing in April. Police Chief Pat Kranz told us that Wilson was also a suspect in car break-ins in Des Peres, Frontenac and areas of unincorporated St. Louis County.



Reginald Wilson of Berkley.

We checked with the Chesterfield Police and learned there had been no arrests related to car break-ins during the same period.



MODOT TO END CELL PHONE TRAFFIC INFO: The end of May marked the end of MoDOT's 5-1-1 service. It actually was the second end of the service. It first ended on January 31, 2012 and then came alive again.

I was there until January of 2012. I was an editor for Navteq, which was owned by Nokia, the cellular telephone company in Finland. We provided traffic information to local radio and TV stations and websites. We also had a desk at the MoDot Traffic Management Center at Hwy 141 and I-64, where I worked. We ran the 5-1-1 system which I always thought was more dangerous than helpful. It provided traffic info to cell phone users. Each call would require a couple of prompts also. The service was directed at motorists. Yes, as accidents due to distracted driving soared, the State of Missouri provided a service that distracted drivers!

Nokia made a nationwide decision to get out of the traffic reporting business. That killed 5-1-1 on January 31 2012. MoDOT put it back up and it will kill it again on May 31. It was sometimes averaging as few as 100 calls a day.

(This originally appeared in the Town and County Ex Alderman Newsletter 86)

WAITING FOR STEVE SAVARD TO DO THE BOSS-HIJACK SKETCH: Every time I see Chesterfield resident Steve Savard on KMOV anchoring a newscast while wearing his dark wide pinstripe suit I keep waiting for the Boss-Hijack sketch to start.

The Boss-Hijack sketch was central to the plot in a wonderful 1982 movie starring Peter O'Toole and Mark Linn-Baker. The movie produced by Mel Brooks and directed by Richard Benjamin was set in 1952 and involved a live television variety show, modeled after Your Show of Shows.

Joe Bologna played Stan "King" Kaiser who was the star of the variety show and insisted on doing comedy sketches making fun of underworld crime boss Karl Rojack.

Rojack sent a group of goons to beat up Kaiser if he did another "Boss Hijack" sketch. Bologna wore a ridiculous blue wide pinstripe suit with huge shoulder pads.



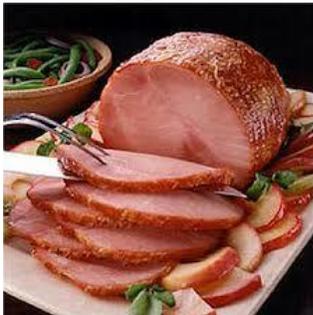
Actually Savard is a TV rarity. He is actually from the St. Louis area. That is a huge plus for me for someone who is working the local new biz. He should actually know where things like city limits and major intersections are located. He went to Parkway North H.S. Plus he played college football as a linebacker. Finally he has big shoulders...all the more reason to unload that pinstripe suit...or...do the Boss Hijack sketch.

NOW DIEHL'S BIGGEST CONTRIBUTOR BOUGHT BY THE CHINESE: Smithfield Farms has given John Diehl a lot of money over the last few years. Regular \$1,000 contributions plus more big contributions through the Missouri Pork PAC. All to get Diehl and fellow Republicans to forget about property rights so dear to us conservatives and pass legislation restricting Missouri property owners from suing hog farms for repeatedly polluting neighboring property with hog waste. Smithfield even remembered Diehl and other GOP office holders with free hams at Christmas.

Last Wednesday it was announced that Smithfield is being bought for \$4.72-billion by Shuanghui International, a meat processor best known for distributing tainted meat two years ago and tainted baby formula in 2008. Connect the dots below...



I just have to wonder after the Communist Chinese company buys Smithfield Farms, will Diehl still get his Christmas ham?



CHESTERFIELD PRACTICES GOOD GOVERNMENT THE REAGAN WAY: On January 20, 1981 Ronald Wilson Reagan said it; "government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem."

The Chesterfield City Council followed the Reagan way on June 3 and cancelled their regular meeting, showing that less government is good government. .

This Wednesday at Sasha's: Here was what you would have seen at Sasha's on DeMun in Clayton this last Wednesday.



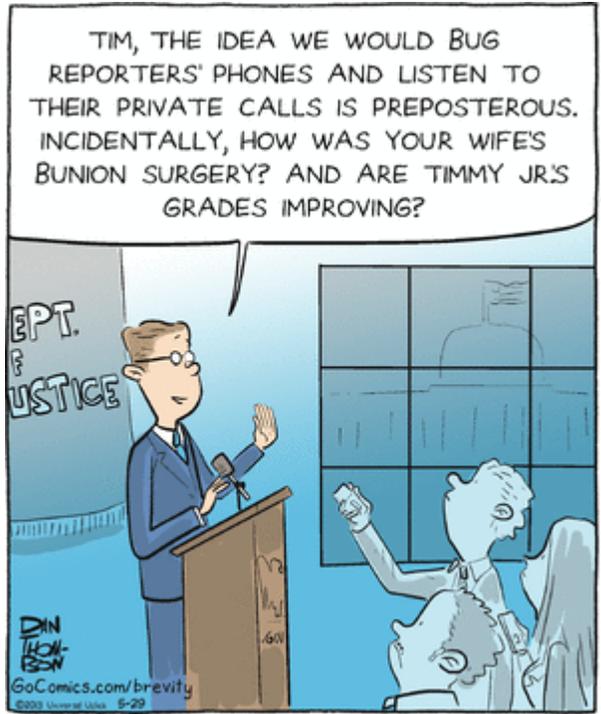
One of St. Louis' top sax players, Larry Johnson Jim Manley on trumpet and Chris Swan on keys and vocals on Lullaby of Birdland.

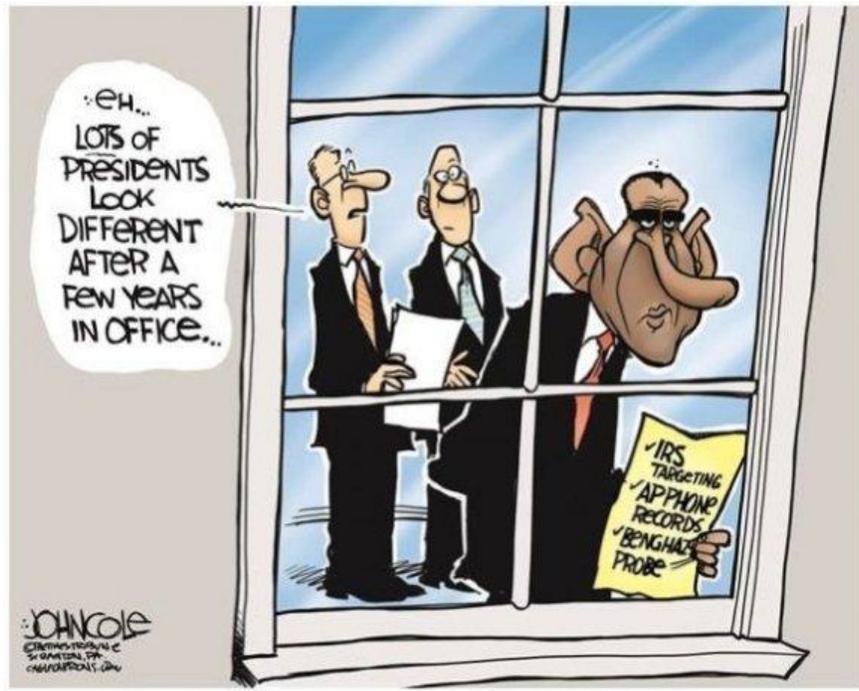


Larry Johnson and Joe Bayer on sax, Rev. Scott Standifer on trumpet and Chris Swann on keys.

CARTOONS:







OBAMA CLAIMS IGNORANCE



I guess Clint Eastwood called that one.

