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Green Dragon Gazette



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Ameren's Version of "Social

By Abigail Adams

CORRECTIONS: Green Dragon Gazette, a digital newspaper of Missourians, by Missourians, and for Missourians, puts its corrections on the front page! **Yes, we know we are incredibly late with this month's issue, but we promise to do better next month.** Between all the illnesses, movings, and internet access problems, it hasn't been easy! We are, after all, still just mere humans...

Send your news, unknown or little known facts, enlightening history, and best way and time to contact you, to adamsabigail1800@yahoo.com We are Missouri-centric--we will be in touch!

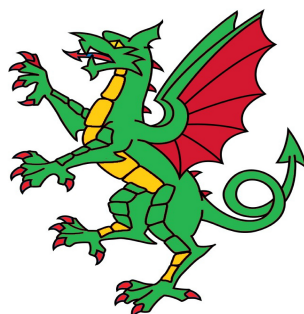
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"When the debate is lost, slander becomes the tool of the losers."
Socrates

The final ranking on the Locke & Smith finalists went like this: Senate 1) Will Kraus, 2) Andrew Koenig ,3) Jill Schupp, 4) Bill Eigel and John Rizzo (tied); House 1) Mike Moon, 2) Nick Marshall, 3) Tom Hurst, 4) Jeff Pogue, 5) Judy Morgan.

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Justice?"



Green Dragon Gazette is a digital "e-news-paper of Missourians, by Missourians, and for Missourians. Monthly, we will fill these few pages with stuff you never knew about the goings-on in Missouri, about your economy, your health, your family-only matters, your privacy, your security, and your government, and the history of much of the above and the pickles we have let ourselves get into because of it all. It's news, it's truth, but with a twist.

MO, Did Ya Know?

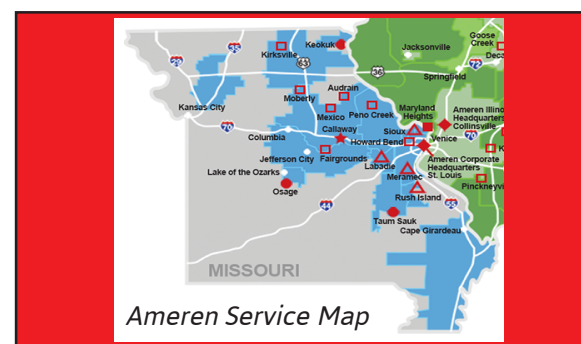
MO, Did Ya Know? is a regular feature of each issue, and is a gathering of information and news not widely known around the state.



MRA's new T-shirts (front and back)

The Missouri Republican Assembly (tag line: "The Republican Arm of the Republican Party)" recently launched its "Pledge The Platform" 2018 Campaign to remind 2018 Missouri candidates that there actually is a GOP platform. We think the photos above are pretty much self-explanatory...

Remember the spin story about the lone Democrat winning a district that went for Trump in 2016? He is likely to remain lonely when he gets to the state (More MO Did Ya Know on Page 2)



SB564: Utilities, Money And Corruption

By Abigail Adams and James Coyne

SB564, a bill passed in the senate now goes to the house that would cost every electric customer in Missouri, and would do so for years to come. It is a prime example of the worst of our politics: A government-sanctioned monopoly uses money extracted from we the people, via our utility bills, to lobby against everyone else's interests. Who can afford NOT to pay their electric bill today without more off-grid options? Our state representatives have had a great deal of pressure from electric company lobbyists, and received many dollars in political contributions from the companies that employ them: Ameren and its subsidiaries. The day after the bill passed the senate, AEE stock went up 3%.

One of the few good guys, Senator Rob Schaaf from St. Joseph, has cried foul and done his best to blow the whistle on this ugly business. Many senators who favored it did not even realize what was in the bill until it was too late. Guess "we have to pass the bill to...find out what is in it."

Probably one of the biggest fouls is how it weakens the Public Service Commission, which is supposed to be PROTECTING utility customers from the Big Utilities. That will be convenient. The resi- (Continued on Page 3)



More MO Did Ya Know?

(Continued from Page 1)

house. He is only one out of 4 Democrats that actually won in the total of 4 special elections held in February.

Where did all the ads during the Super Bowl go this year??? Seems way more movie and TV shows were advertised than any other thing, but supposedly all of the players stood during the anthem. We even saw a LOCAL CAR DEALERSHIP commercial in the second half of the second quarter! A mistake???

A local news report in January said the Robert E. Lee School administration is still moving ahead with a name change. Guess no one cares...or did they just do like the Columbia city council and not give a FLIP about what their constituents want (standing room only with the opposition and they are still going ahead with a duplicative bike path!)

One County Central Committee got it right! Their "values plank" says in part: "In accordance with our charter and by-laws, (Article II (d)) the Christian County Republican Central Committee seeks to "recruit and vet candidates" for elected office that best reflect the morals and values of the Republican Party. To this end we present a modified version of the Missouri Republican Party Platform as the Christian County Central Committee Platform. We invite all candidates who wish to be presented to voters as Republicans in Christian County to weigh in on these planks and give the Committee and the citizens of Christian County some insight to how candidates would implement such values into the offices that they seek. This is not a test, but a measure of how well a person's individual beliefs and actions fit within the scope of Republican values. After each plank there is a question to be filled out by every candidate. If more room is needed, we understand completely, so feel free to add additional pages as needed. This form is intended to be publicly seen by voters." **BRAVO!**

Fun 2nd Amendment Facts: 1) The A in AR-15 is the first letter of its brandname, and the R stands for Rifle. 2) FBI: "Over 98% (!)" of mass shootings have been in GUN FREE ZONES! We've been played...



Disinformation: Foreign and Domestic

By James Coyne

Spying on other countries and concealing it is a common and expected practice. We listen in on any private conversation of a foreign leader we can, and they spy on our leaders. Friends even spy on friends. We fake a little outrage when we catch them doing it, but everyone knows it is part of the game.

We get as much Intel about the plans and assets of other countries as we can any way we can and they do the same: placing agents who pretend to be someone they are not to get information or to spread false information to confuse our adversaries. It is disinformation.

This all goes on, of course, out of the public eye. It is, after all, spying. We know it and we accept it because it is necessary to protect our nation. In fact, we pay these people to do exactly that job and we regard them highly for doing it. They are patriots on the front lines, and they are our team.

The problem is when they start to believe they are their own team. Not our servants at all, but our masters. If our will is counter to theirs, then we the people become the enemy.

When this well-developed craft of spying and distorting the truth to best ones enemies is turned against we the people, it is truly frightening. It is the root of a police state.

We find ourselves at exactly this dangerous precipice. Our national police – FBI, Department of Justice, CIA - have come to believe they are accountable to no one. They lie to, and withhold information, from the elected representatives tasked with their oversight on a regular basis. They tell them with a smirk that the information they seek for investigations is lost or destroyed. No one is ever fired or held accountable.

They have knowingly used manufactured falsehoods (Steele dossier) to obtain warrants to spy on American citizens (Trump and his campaign employ- (Continued on Page 4)



Instruction or Indoctrination?

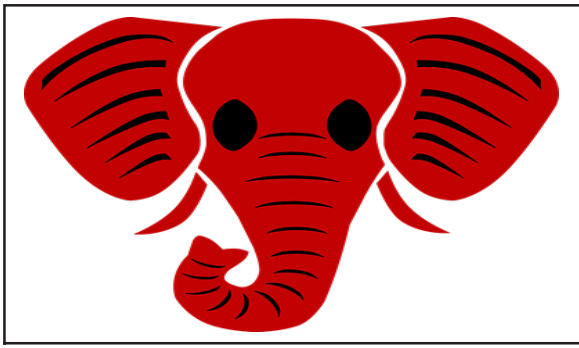
By Mart Staggs

There is a huge difference between instructing a child and indoctrinating a child. The Parkway School District of West County in St. Louis boldly proclaims: "All personnel, time and resources will be allocated responsibly and flexibly, based on mission-related needs of students and financial reality of the district."

The part of the mission to "allocate funds responsibly" is a worthy goal. But are they upholding their mission statement? Parkway's budget for 2017-2018 school years, listed under Diversity Expenditures, was \$1500 paid to BJC Health, promoting GSA (Gay Straight Alliance). GSA was asked to teach sexual behavior and how to connect students with each other to 'effect change.' The goal of the California-based GSA is to "assist student leaders in organizing groups to promote the LGBTQ community." They "provide resources such as workshops, written materials, and advice." The website explains students can find a "safe space" to report problems with forming groups and find how to fight back when faced with opposition.

Wait--there is more. The \$4000-plus White Privilege Conference defined the concept for students: "White Privilege exists when one group has something of value that is denied to others simply because of the groups they belong to, rather than because of anything they have done or failed to do. Access to privilege doesn't determine one's outcomes, but it is definitely an asset that makes it more likely that whatever talent, ability, and aspirations a person with privilege has will result in something positive..."

An "Education Equity Consultant" from Leadership Racism Institute set them back \$18,640. On its website, the first name that appears is Angela Davis. For those too young to know who Angela Davis is, she was a well known Communist, "educator," writer and lecturer. Her main focus is "minority oppression," and her Communist rhetoric is well known and troubling at the least. Also on the website is their definition of racism: "...a (Continued on Page 4)



The Rantings of a Separatist

By Ike Skelton

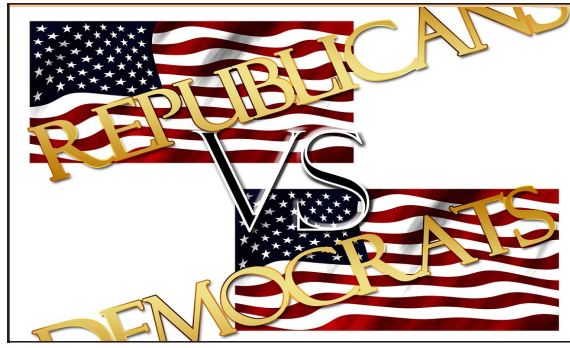
Why should we have to call this Republican legislator (aka bozo)? Yes, I know "how it works" in this, of course. If you are a Republican, shouldn't you automatically support this issue? Why do you have to be told? Why would you do the liberal-leaning/progressive "Republican" thing? Certainly not every Republican is going to fully support the platform, but shouldn't a large majority? Maybe even an overwhelming majority? For if not, why are ye Republican?

Don't REPUBLICANS support facts about sexuality instead of the intellectually-challenged position of the LGBTQWTH "community"? Don't REPUBLICANS support traditional family values instead of the twisted, sick definitions of family promoted by NAMBLA members?

Today, news reports that the Republicans and Democrats in DC have reached a "compromise" on the country's budget...the first in, how many years? Eight? Ten? Guess what? They are going to spend over \$300 billion more than now, and have extended the debt ceiling to, I believe I heard, 2019? Why let a little thing like...say...a 22 trillion dollar debt clock get in the way of the midterm elections? Republicans, the President, and many Democrats led by Chuck Schumer, applaud this as bipartisan... not everybody wins...blah blah BLAH.

Don't REPUBLICANS support smaller government and less spending? Certainly not every one of them. But, say it with me, shouldn't a lot of them support LESS spending? Maybe even a majority should support the party platform and smaller government? Shouldn't they? If not, then why are ye Republican?!

State officeholders are chumps....largely. Granted, not EVERY Republican is bad. But they argue over bathroom issues and can actually be swayed, from time to time, by voter interaction--so we do our duty and make a phone call...it is vital. Sometimes they cave, sometimes not. And, as many of us know, on election day, not a single incumbent gets "hit." Not a bad gig--just an "R" by your name will get you a third of the vote.



The Rantings of a Separatist

(Continued from previous column)

But lots of heartache "standing tough."

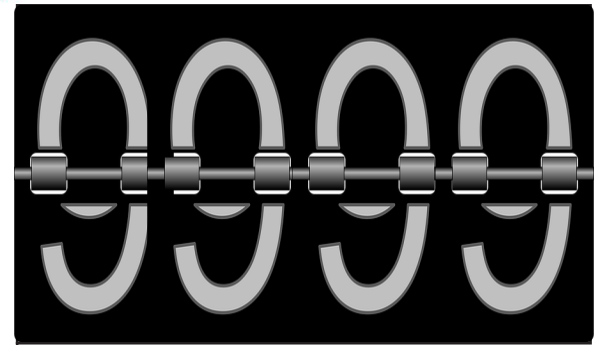
Federal officeholders do it right. Republicans cry and cry about spending, debt, and big government. Democrats cry about military overspending and domestic under-spending. Some do easy things to appease a portion of us, like rescinding uber-liberal policies of their predecessor whilst making those more impressionable believe he has done something bold and big. Some claim nobody gets all they want but they got a lot supporting this grand compromise, while they pandered to the special interest paying the most to their respective party's candidates. Many pad their own pockets in various ways...how DOES one spend their entire life "in public service" and retire a multi-millionaire?

We call and we call, and they talk and talk, providing empty pander, knowing we have little to "offer"...but votes. And votes hurt...not that they are worried about losing, really; but more about that look of weakness....maybe next time that big donor won't see them as worth the investment, and the candidate may have to work a little harder to make a buck.

So what happens? "Leadership" happens. No, not an actual "leader"...silly civilian, "leadership." That is, Paul Ryan and Nancy Pelosi (et al). THAT type of leadership. You see, many Republicans in "conservative" districts and those ultra-liberal Democrats will need some "cover" over this budget deal.

Leadership counts heads, makes deals, hands out promises...and viola! Those Republicans needing cover can vote no because they know there are enough Democrats to carry the bill! And back home? Oh, they stood tough all right... but the government marches on anyway.

The Republican Party stands for nothing anymore. Time and time and time again we discuss the "whys" and "hows," and "What we need is"....and sadly, the progressives march on. We worked hard, fought the good fight, but we didn't get what the Party claims is right. At what point does it begin to be insanity?



SB564: Utilities, Money And Corruption

(Continued from Page 1)

dential customers' "cap" on rates in this bill is HIGHER than for businesses, and would allow discounts to new big businesses of up to 40%! Guess who picks up the difference on that? But, as if all this was not bad enough, the bill would allow 3 important game-changers: 1) your total bill would not be capped—just the RATE; 2) utilities would be able to charge you for depreciation, which is currently not allowed (depreciation is the tax write-off of any equipment or assets expected to have a useful life of more than one year—and WHY should we pay for a utility's tax write-off??); and 3) the "cap" would allow money spent by the utility over and above the utility's limit to be charged to customers later, AND to charge them INTEREST, after the caps expire! Large industrial electric users oppose it—it will raise their rates and reduce their earnings. Consumers Council of Missouri estimates electric customers will see increases of up to 20% yearly. The legislature is supposed to cap electric rates in this bill—without knowing the costs of future generation.

So, wow. How did we get here? Senator Schaaf followed the money, no doubt. Utilities are monopolies protected from competition by the government, and are allowed to earn 9.5% return on their investments—two to three times what unprotected businesses struggle to earn. Ameren can afford to pay its top executive over \$6 million a year, \$35,000 (last year) in lobbying expenditures, dozens of lobbyists, and contribute close to a million dollars to the campaign coffers of sitting Missouri senators (we have not calculated the amount they have donated to sitting state representatives. Spire and Ameren are two of the biggest donors of Missouri Chamber of Commerce—and MCC supports this bill! This mess has been pushed by Ameren and the other utilities for years. Senator Schaaf's final word on this is, "if you want to pay more for your electricity, do nothing. They will laugh all the way to the bank. Otherwise, call your state representatives and demand they kill this bad bill."



Disinformation: Foreign and Domestic

(continued from Page 2)

ees) and then used these falsehoods or slanted ill-gotten intelligence to smear their political enemies. They used that false dossier and illegal warrant to justify almost 2 years of investigation of that same political enemy (Trump) by a special prosecutor (Mueller). They conducted a raid on the home of a political target (Manafort) with the thinnest of pretense to intimidate a man and his family while they rifled through their personal items in the middle of the night.

Justice apparently is not blind - but rather drunk on its own power. I fear 2 things. First, that this corruption is so deep and their power so absolute that it will never be cleaned up. The deep state will get worse, not better.

Second, that half the country will see this as a political fight and not an attack on our constitutional rights. If I hate Trump and what he stands for, then anything that can be done to destroy him or anyone around him is a good thing, no matter the method or who gets hurt in the process.

The raw unchecked power used to vanquish your enemies today will certainly be used against you tomorrow. I hope that we can see past political divisions and remember how precious and fragile our freedoms and rights as individuals in a free nation truly are. We need each other to survive the onslaught. I need you to protect my rights, and you need me to protect yours. History shows us liberty can be snuffed out overnight. Once gone, it may never be won back again. Together, let us never allow that to happen.

"If election processes are not carefully considered, the voting public can have a process that yields an elected official that does not represent the majority of voters. I want a government that represents the majority of voters."

Representative Dan Stacy (R-31), author of HB1345 and HB1346 which would change the laws on primary elections to ensure a more representative outcome.



Word(s) of the Month:

"Social Justice"

The Word Corner

By Merryman Wagnel

Merriam-Webster's primary definition of justice is "the process or result of using laws to fairly judge and punish crimes and criminals." By this understanding, specific laws must be violated and the offender is to be held to task by way of independent courts and to be treated in a similar fashion as any other offender of that exact same law.

Wikipedia's definition of "social justice" is as follows: "Social justice is a concept of fair and just relations between the individual and society. This is measured by the explicit and tacit terms for the distribution of wealth, opportunities for personal activity and social privileges." (Note: I did not find definitions from any other sources)

In the definition "social justice" where the word tacit is used instead of the word specific, the Oxford Dictionary defines tacit as "understood or implied without being stated." This allows for a fluctuating or indefinite meaning—as it is unlikely that two or more people will have the same thought at the same time, and even more likely that their thoughts will vary. Note also the term "redistribution of wealth." That is a very Socialist concept, wherein the force of government is used to take from one group of citizens for the benefit of another. The fundamental purpose of government is to protect the Life, Liberty and Property of EVERY citizen. The concept of redistribution perverts the base function of government and begins the inroads that will make that government unjust. If the citizen has achieved their wealth through completely legitimate means, then to deprive him or her of that wealth to give it to another, would in itself be unjust and far from any semblance of the type of "social justice" as most people today would "define" it.

The two terms are not at all the same. There is a significant difference, even though in many circles they are treated as though they carry the same meaning. When the very specific word Justice is confused with the opinionated derivation "Social Justice," we all lose much of exactly what social justice supposedly



Instruction or Indoctrination?

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complex system of beliefs and behaviors, both conscious and unconscious; personal and institutional. They result in the oppression of people of color and benefit of the dominant group. It is a system grounded in the presumed superiority of the white race. A simpler definition is: Prejudice + Power = Racism"

Should schools spend their money on academics or on controversial subjects that may not reflect the views of parents or that violates their freedoms? What do you think? Are students being instructed and taught *how* to think? Or are they being indoctrinated and taught *what* to think?

BREAKING NEWS:

If HB1630 passes, a minor cannot get married without parents hiring an attorney and getting a court order from a judge. But a female minor can have an abortion with just one parent's signature!

Department of Mental Health's Missouri Student Survey (aka Safe and Drug Free Schools and Community survey) has been given to children as young as 11 with inappropriate questions about having sex and changing their sex. The parents of children in Bourbon schools are not too happy.

The next 2 Vitae Foundation events will be held in mid-Missouri. March 19 - Jefferson City - Keynote Speaker: Kirk Cameron. April 30 - Columbia - Keynote Speaker: Tucker Carlson. See their web-site for more information and to register.

"In light of plant-based proteins and laboratory grown food products being pushed by animal rights extremists and others, we feel it is absolutely critical to act now to protect beef nomenclature," said MCA Secretary David Dick, who presented the resolution in the National Cattlemen's Beef Association Agriculture and Food Policy Committee in Phoenix. "We are not opposed to technology or plant-based proteins. We are absolutely opposed to these products using traditional beef nomenclature, which confuses consumers and weakens the value of the products we produce."