

**Renaming Robert E. Lee School-Part 2**

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Green Dragon Gazette



**Think Democracy Is Good? Wait, What?**

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# The Many Ways Missourians Get The Shaft

*By Abigail Adams*

**CORRECTIONS:** Green Dragon Gazette, a digital newspaper of Missourians, by Missourians, and for Missourians, puts its corrections on the front page! **LAST ISSUE IN THE LAST MINUTE NEWS FLASH, we mistakenly wrote: "Move detailed analysis next issue." It should have read, "More detailed analysis next issue."** So this issue, we must deeply apologize for our terrible typo error!

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

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**"Where an excess of power prevails, property of no sort is duly respected. No man is safe in his opinions, his person, his faculties, or his possessions."**  
*James Madison, 1792*

## The Shaft



*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.



As reported in last issue's **NEWS FLASH**, United For Missouri had released their 2017 scorecard on legislative voting. In case you missed it, out of 33 MO Senate members, only 10 scored above a D in their voting records on economic issues, with only 3 getting an A--the other 7 got C's! Of 162 House members, 59 of them (14 Republicans, 45 Democrats) rated an F and 27 more got a D (26 Republicans, 1 Democrat). So 86 (53%) and 10 (30%) of them voted to keep Missouri economically disadvantaged. Why? Check on yours at: [www.unitedformissouri.org](http://www.unitedformissouri.org) For more, See **"Beneath The Latest MO Sheep's Fashion,"** Next column



### Beneath The Latest MO Sheep's Fashion

*By Abigail Adams*

Missouri Republicans should be outraged. Many of them already are. Democrats on the other hand, are surely very proud of their 2017 voting records. No doubt they will get elected without difficulty in 2018—they just won't get their agenda into law since they are in the minority.

Might Republicans turn Democrat in the November 2018 election? Will Missouri Independents swing Democrat next time? It all remains to be seen, but if things don't change in the "House of the Rising Republicans," 2018 may go very badly for them. Even the senate seems to have lost its way recently. They used to be the body of reason in law-making. These days, not so much.

The big issue seems to be the Republican Party platform. Why have one if you are not going to follow it? Is it merely to placate and lull to sleep Missourians who usually vote Republican? Yet, those considered the "good guys" of the house and senate try to follow it. The rank and file party faithful do. And, they expect the people they elect to office and send to Jefferson City to follow it as well. "Where's your principles?" they ask. Worse yet, the question "Do you even have a SPINE?" gets thrown at

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## More MO Did Ya Know?

In the state of Missouri, 2 school board members are elected in local elections held in early April of each year. But did you know that if only 2 people declare a candidacy for school board for those 2 seats their names do not even have to appear on the ballot?! Only if 3 or more people run for school board will any names be required to appear on the ballot! See "How To Not Have A Say In Your Child's Education," next column.

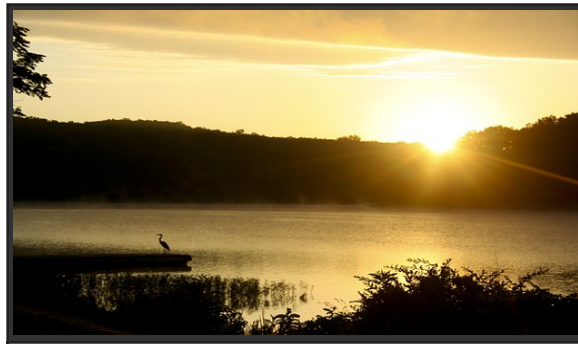
Missouri is one of 8 states where sanctuary cities are banned by law. Wonder if that means city councils "acting like" it is a sanctuary city in Missouri could be turned in to the county sheriff to be arrested? Then again, who enforces the laws if the county sheriff won't?

**Word on the street is that the top three priorities for the 2018 legislative session are going to be:** economics, education, and adoption/foster care issues. It will be a surprise if much of anything else gets passed. After all, it has already pretty much been decided.

**The latest data for Missouri shows a dramatic reduction in abortions: from 19,482 in 1985 to 5,415 in 2013.**

The pre-filing period for proposed bills to be introduced in the 2018 legislative session opened on December 1. The rush to file had 30 of the 33 current sitting senators submitting 271 bills and a little over half of the 163 current sitting representatives pre-filing another 302 bills. In fact, from 11 a.m. to close of business on the day prior to this issue's publication, another 32 bills were pre-filed, on everything ranging from designating a clubfoot awareness day and an official Missouri tree to another attempt at a Medicaid explosion and establishing failure to identify as an offense! And, of course, a whole load of nonsense in between, as well as some very good things that are unlikely to ever see the light of day (such as laws fixing some bad laws on political candidates, elections, and voting). In future issues, we will attempt to keep you posted.

"Fire, water, and governments know nothing of mercy." Attributed to an Albanian proverb



## How To Not Have A Say In Your Child's Education

*By Abigail Adams*

Are school board elections and the way school board members operate once elected, all rigged? If not, there are some pretty suspicious activities that surround it. First, about filing for a school board seat...if you don't know that the window for filing to run for school board starts in the middle of the holiday season (December 12th this year) and is all over by the middle of January (the 16th in 2018, to be exact). Add to that that you cannot file during the school district Christmas break or if it is closed due to inclement weather, and that gives maybe 2 weeks for one to file--if you are lucky.

If you run, and if you win, then you are required to go to school board member training. The Missouri School Boards Association is the ONLY entity allowed by state law to administer the training. Why? Because the state says so. You are mostly taught how to follow the leader(ship) of the school administrator and the party line of the administration.

Likely you won't be able to ask questions about what you see or hear in school board meetings, you won't be able to talk to anyone about it outside of the board meetings, and you won't be able to talk to teachers or students, visit schools or audit any classes--because you might learn something that the administration does not want you to know. Surely you would misunderstand it all.

Still, in a matter of 2 years (3 years at the most) of getting the right people on the school board, and keeping your own notes and your powder dry until then, good people with good sense could absolutely take over a school board. It is, after all, what scares the daylights out of administrators statewide.

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"Evil never moderates itself, it never takes a step backward, it is only stopped by good men who are willing to push back against it. If good men and women stand by and pretend that they don't see it and allow it to progress unopposed, then it will only grow stronger and be harder to stop at a later time." Raymond Kish

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## Don't Erase History at Robert E. Lee Elementary School

*By Joan Rawson*

**In Part 2 we explore the truly important matters at Robert E. Lee Elementary School, and Columbia Public Schools in general.**

Lost in all of this effort spent on the standards of historical figures is the far more relevant standard of education of Lee School itself. According to ratings on the website homefacts.com --used by many parents considering moves to other school districts across the country, the past eight years of math ratings at Lee for all students were as follows: C+ (2009), C (2010), C (2011), C- (2012), C- (2013), C (2014), B- (2015), C+ (2016). If nothing else, Lee has reached consistency in imparting math skills to its students. Academic achievement at Lee shows a consistently massive "achievement gap" across demographic groups as well. Where is the outrage surrounding these shameful failures? Countries that take education much more seriously would be conducting severe inquiries of the education bureaucracy, which would likely lead to dismissal, or worse, of the culprits responsible.

Instead of facing the obviously disturbing truth, the Columbia education establishment simply repeat that "we have excellent schools"--as if it were true. Unfortunately, this "truism" is simply false. Columbia does not have excellent schools. It does not have good schools. In fact, it would be too generous to say Columbia has mediocre schools. Despite being the seat of Missouri's flagship university, many district schools consistently perform far below state standards in math, science and literacy.

It is so rare to hear Board members mention actual academic scores when referencing academic performance. Instead, we hear about funding-related matters such as: days missed, graduation rates, free lunches given, and so on. Rarely, if ever, are actual test scores clearly shown on CPS school websites.

Given the obvious direction the Board is (Continued on Page 4)





## Class Warfare

By Everyman

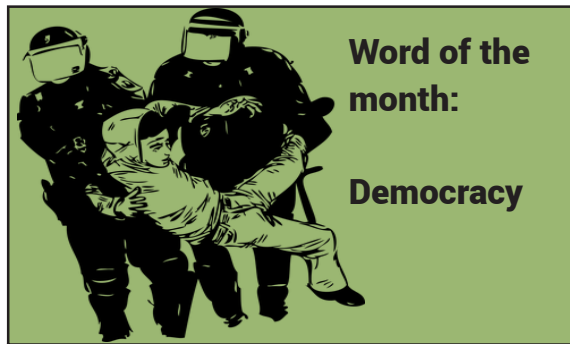
Allow me to explain the Marxist Ideology that has changed the world. It will take less than 5 minutes, because there is not much to it, and yet it is the basis of almost every political argument. Understand this basic point of view and you recognize when it is rolled out – over and over again - to incite division and class warfare in America: We all are in one of 2 groups: the Bourgeoisie (the ruling class) or the Proletariat (the masses “oppressed” by the Bourgeoisie).

Marx and Engels viewed all of human history as a fight between the haves and the have-nots. Your identity is: a member of the few who “have everything,” or, a member of the many from whom all was “stolen.” The “system is rigged,” “you are getting screwed,” and as an individual, there is nothing you can “do about it.” If you are not angry, you don’t “get it.” The solution? Get even! Rise up with your fellow proletarians – smash the gates and take over – “for the common man!” Then we can march boldly into a workers' paradise. The 99% win! The political arguments heard every day contain this continual “call to war” – just change the names or the topics.

This view of the world is fueled by a basic evil in human nature itself. To envy is to covet what someone else has and you do not – and, in fact, to hate them for their wealth and to want to take it from them by force. That human flaw is precisely why its promise of “Social Justice” has seduced millions.

The last hundred years has shown us this always ends very badly. The new collective oppresses individuals and murders millions. The Russian Czar is traded for the Soviet Union – the Chinese emperor for the peoples republic – the German parliament for the national socialist workers party. Yes, Hitler's plan was an offshoot of socialism.

While the Marxist/Socialist **solution** is a disaster, in many political systems in the world, they have a point on the **problem**. In many instances political systems  
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## The Word Corner

By Merryman Wagnel

This regular feature is dedicated to the idea that words can truly mean something, and that there actually is right and wrong--not relativism only.

### Democracy

Democracy may aptly be defined by its Google search: “a system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically via elected representatives.” Synonyms: representative government, elective government; self-government, government by the people; republic, commonwealth  
Usage: “freedom of speech is essential to democracy” Note the synonyms. Similar Google searches yield the following.

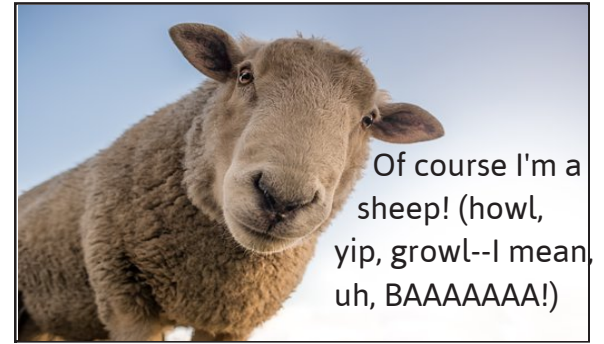
Republic--“a state in which supreme power is held by the people and their elected representatives, and has elected or nominated presidents rather than a monarch. Archaic: “a group with a certain equality between its members.”

Commonwealth--a group of sovereign states and their dependencies, associated by their own choice and linked with common objectives and interests.

Our founders were well aware of Democracy and found it to be abhorrent. Their reasoning was as follows: 1) it is a tyranny of the majority; 2) none have ever lasted more than 200 years; 3) it always ends violently.

A Republic in the modern sense is a democracy, but the commonwealth meaning, combined with the Archaic, gives a clue. Our Republic was a collection of sovereign states that gave up only “Few and Specific” powers to form a central government. In the Senate, the States had their representatives to protect the individual States' interests until 1913 and the 17th Amendment, at which time we became a functional Democracy.

Note that democracy is a tool used by the Left. It is used to divide the people from one another to gain and hold power over them. This is why the Bill of Rights is under attack. It is one of the few things left that unites us--much like the National Anthem used to do.



## Beneath The Latest MO Sheep's Fashion

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them a lot—well, maybe not to their faces. The Springfield-based Locke and Smith Foundation review legislation every session and grade it on the impact the passed legislation has “on economic circumstances of the individual and the governments (local, state, and federal), and (on the) increase or decrease in the size, scope, and power of government.” Recently, the foundation released their scorecard results, and it doesn’t look very good for the Republican legislators Missourians have sent to Jefferson City. The scorecard is extremely tough--once you get past the top five contenders for their annual award, scores drop quickly to the low 40% range in the House and to the high 30% range in the Senate.

The winners in the House and Senate of the 2017 Locke and Smith Award will be announced in January along with their scores. The contenders are as follows, and are given in alphabetical order:

House of Representatives--  
Tom Hurst (062-R), Nick Marshall (013-R), Mike Moon (157-R), Judy Morgan (024-D), and Jeff Pogue (143-R)

Senate--  
Bill Eigel (23-R), Andrew Koenig (15-R), Will Kraus (8-R), John Rizzo (11-D), and Jill Schupp (24-D)

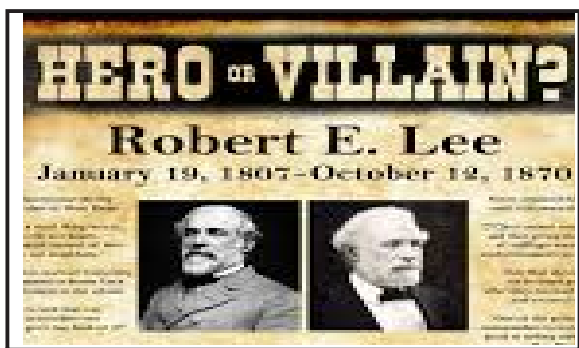
## Happy Holidays?

By Mart Staggs

The holidays should remind us of happy children and families. All children should be in secure environments, and the question in front of us today is how does our state of Missouri measure up in adoptions? The research is very clear: there is no national or state standard for reporting this information.

However, research uncovered from the National Council for Adoption showed there were 110,373 total adoptions in the U.S. in 2014. In 2014, there were 1,636 Missouri adoptions, and of those, 432 unrelated infants were adopted. No information on how many still wait.





**Don't Erase History at Robert E. Lee Elementary School**

(continued from Page 2)

going--to the inevitable renaming of the Lee school, it is certainly aligned with the regressive socio-cultural tide. For those who value the education of their children over obsession with the latest political distractions and political correctness, the choice is clear—charter schools for any and all. Indeed, engaged parents are looking for innovative alternatives to a frustrating decay of what passes for conventional wisdom in the current educational establishment—no matter the names on the sign out front.

**The Coming Structure of Charter Schools?**

*By Abigail Adams*

Besides facilitating the recent ouster of now former Commissioner of Education Margie Vandeven (see **Breaking News, Last column**), Governor Greitens also intends to make Missouri an unrestricted charter school state. That is bad news for parents and students, because charter schools will be required to give Common Core-aligned (aka Missouri Learning Standards) assessments. These assessments will NOT be measuring academic gains in learning.

Instead, they will be measuring the way more important things--attitudes, values, dispositions, and beliefs of even the youngest of your children. The goal is to further indoctrinate your children into "human resources" ready for the "global work force," will do so by inventorying, monitoring and controlling all activity; and will continue to convince them that America is, and always has been, 'bad.'

And if you think you currently hold no sway over your local school board with your opinions and wishes regarding the education of your children, try telling the equivalent of IBM's board of directors how they should build their computers and write their computer programs for businesses and governments to use.

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"Power does not corrupt men; fools, however, if they get into a position of power, corrupt power." George Bernard Shaw



**Class Warfare**

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are rigged, and if you are part of the underclass there is no chance to ever get out of your dilemma.

Luckily that is not our system—yet. We still tend to value each individual, not any group we may be part of. We believe the individual has an intrinsic right to be whatever he or she wants to be, and he or she needs to let his or her neighbor have the same right. There is no set class structure, no groups, and people can become rich or be rich and go broke. They can change their fortunes and their lives, work as often as will and fate allow. In America, you can be as big as you can be, and where you start doesn't matter.

Do not buy into the rehashed socialist tripe—not even a little. Not only is their solution a soul-crushing disaster, but the problem they point to does not exist in a free people that truly offers everyone equal rights and equal opportunity. Our job is to hold America to her principals and not allow ourselves to be divided or made envious of each other like the social war mongers want us to be.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL READERS!**

From all of us to all of you! We think **Calvin Coolidge (1872-1929), 30th U.S. President (1923-1929),** said it best:

**"Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas."**

And, he also said (emphasis ours): **"A government which lays taxes on the people not required by URGENT public necessity and SOUND public policy is NOT a protector of liberty, but an instrument of tyranny. It condemns the citizen to servitude."**

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***BREAKING NEWS:***

***THE GOOD:***

The Governor has appointed 3 new Clean Water Commission members, giving them a majority on the board. They are: Mansfield cattle farmer Stan Coday; Stotts City owner of Kleiboeker's Clover Creek Farms, John Kleiboeker; and Pat Thomas, who is chief of staff for Republican Senator Brian Munzlinger, who sponsored the bill that former Democrat Governor Nixon vetoed because opponents said members of the public don't have the expert knowledge to make sound decisions on the issues. The Clean Water Commission, grants permits to large factory farms.

***THE BAD:***

The Governor's office has been found to be skirting the Missouri Sunshine Law, which says that government records are to be available to the public upon request (well, IF you can afford the conveniently exorbitant copying charges, that is). Instead, the Governor's staff has been found to have cell phone apps that allow text messages to delete immediately. You may recall some of the fights over the archiving of government emails in the past, since those are considered to be government records as well.

***THE UGLY:***

"DING DONG, THE WITCH IS GONE!" is the sentiment of many on the Missouri education scene still fighting to rid Missouri of Common Core (now known as "Missouri Learning Standards"), since the Governor has indirectly managed to fire Commissioner of Education Margie Vandeven, head of the corrupt regime known as the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (aka DESE). The department, under Vandeven's rule, made the decision not to report the 2016-2017 End of Course (EOC) assessment results in Algebra I and English II. That, other apparent "cooking of the books" on school scores, lying to Missourians concerned about the education of Missouri children, and perhaps even breaking Missouri law, is likely what sealed her fate. DESE employs nearly 2,000 state employees to monitor, direct, and coerce 517 school districts in the state of Missouri, many times over objections of parents and over the heads of local school boards.