



The reliable information source

“QUERULOUS, BALD, BLIND, CRIPPLED, and TOOTHLESS”

Very cruel and demeaning words that Benjamin Franklin's grandson spoke to President John Adams.

This, after the sedition act was signed into law in 1798, resulted in his imprisonment. For criticizing the government, 25 editors were also imprisoned, and their news papers shut down.

President Adams' support and signing this act into law attributed to his losing a second term. The act automatically expired and Thomas Jefferson pardoned all those convicted.

Chief Justice William O. Douglas said; “The Alien and Sedition laws constituted one of our sorriest chapters... Suppression of speech as an effective police measure is an old device outlawed by our Constitution.” Yet, the **controlling members of Jefferson Hills Council**

continue to employ similar tactics. A member of the Recreation Board made **comments** on Facebook, not agreeable to council members Khalil and King, and they verbally attacked and humiliated her at a council meeting. She understandably resigned.

A letter was sent, by a resident, to the editors of various publications, providing comments and opinions as to the proper management of the K9 program, the community value of a K9 program, why an investigation of just the K9 program should **not** be done by a Private Investigation firm, and the reason to do a complete performance audit of the entire Police Department. But, due to council's domineering attitude, another lawsuit was filed against the borough, which

could have been avoided. Being limited to space, the letter was brief and written in a summary fashion. Mr. Khalil then decided to take 4 months to analyze and spin comments made, calling the resident a **LIAR.** The letter did not directly mention or criticize any individual council member, but apparently it was Mr. Khalil who was chosen to attack and call names, employing the same tactic as he used with the aforementioned Recreation Board member.

Furthermore, Mr. Khalil, has solicited the media to assist in his vendetta. Here is a quote from the Thursday, June 16, Daily News; *“Khalil encouraged the media to continue to ‘challenge’ All (Patrick All) regarding his statements.”* See <http://www.vumore.org> on the internet.

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We heard the rumors throughout the community but didn't know if they were believable or not. Well, rest assured they are true; Beth has decided that it is time to seek a Jefferson Hills Council seat.

Almost everyone in the surrounding area knows the Weiss / Greb names from Weiss Meats and Elliott's Back Street Barbeque. Both provide excellent products and services. But more than

that, the families are life long residents and staples of the community. Anyone with children knows Shawn Greb, Beth's husband, and his contribution to youth sports and recreation.

Beth was not on the ballot in the May primary election, because she is registered **INDEPENDENT**, and not a member of the two major parties. She has decided to team up with common sense

c a n d i d a t e s , Mike D'Alessandro and Joe Skrinjorich, also staples of the community, for the upcoming November election.

The strongest form of construction is the **triangle**, and Beth provides the connecting third side .



"We heard the rumors throughout the community but didn't know if they were believable or not."

Jefferson Hills' Best Kept Secret

Michael Kulish III, son of Helen and Michael (Doc) Kulish has been selected to the elite Pittsburgh's Finest 50.

These are the 50 most outstanding eligible single men and women, chosen based on their professional success and contribution to the community.



It's not easy being selected to this group of young people, especially how Michael goes about his work, without splash and fanfare, in a very quiet and unassuming fashion.

Being chosen comes with additional responsibility, though. Each is committed to

raising a minimum of \$2,500.00 in contributions for Cystic Fibrosis. The \$2,500.00 is just the minimum, but we can help raise much more and propel him to #1 among this group of 50.

It would serve our community very well, in addition to supporting a most worthwhile cause.

So, here is how we can all get behind our neighbor, Michael Kulish III:

1. Go online to <http://www.cff.org/LWC/MichaelKulishIII> where you can make a donation in his name.
2. Attend a fund raising event. You are cordially invited to

attend a social fundraising event at the **Shiloh Grill, located on Mt. Washington at 123 Shiloh Street on Thursday, August 4, 2011 from 6:00 – 9:00 PM.** Complimentary appetizers will be served with a cash bar featuring Happy Hour discounts.

3. Go online to <http://www.jeffersonhills.us> to printout a form and send a donation directly to Michael. Here you will be able to get more information.

Oh, Michael, along with the other 49, will be featured in the August issue of *Whirl Magazine*.

"...50 most outstanding eligible single men and women, chosen based on their professional success and contribution to the community."

Jefferson Hills' Community Day - Eliminated.

It is indeed a very sad state of affairs whenever a Community is no longer even capable of funding and managing an event for the citizens to just get together for a family day of fun, relaxation and neighborly socialization. What's worse is these type events are mainly delegated by borough officials to Volunteers, with little funding required.

What happened?

The volunteers, organizations, and

mechanisms in place, which conducted such events, gradually deteriorated over the last several years, due to council's overwhelming need to control every aspect. They effectively drove the volunteers to resign. Furthermore, many of the participating vendors need this event to raise funds to provide additional

services for the community—like the volunteer fire companies, sports organizations, churches, etc.



One consolation is that some of the TJ organizations participate in Pleasant Hills Community Day, and the residents can partake of the parade, entertainment, food, games, and the great fireworks display. Pleasant Hills is doing something right!

1. Lawsuit against Council President, Mayor and Borough.

A Jefferson Hills Family filed a lawsuit in federal court against Council President Chris King, Mayor Michael Green, and the Municipality of Jefferson Hills. (Sources; South Hills Record, Tribune-Review and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, June 6, 2011).

In a 2009 dispute over noise, Mr. King approached Robert Stough, Jr. about the noise he allegedly was making with a car. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Stough Sr. approached Mr. King about his

irresponsible behavior. Mr. King became violent and threw Mr. Stough, Sr. to the ground, where he hit his head and was rendered unconscious.

According to the various articles, the family feared for his life, and immediately called 911.

Prior to this incident, Mr. Stough suffered two brain aneurysms, which the lawsuit stated was known by Mr. King. It further stated, when police arrived they refused to file charges, because they did not witness the alleged incident.

The news articles stated that former Police Chief, Martin Reagan, reported King's alleged interference to the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office. He was told a case would begin, charges filed against King, and he would be removed from office. The lawsuit further stated that Chief Reagan informed Mayor Green, and was told to **"back off."**

The original News Stories may be found at each of the aforementioned publication, or see www.vumore.org on the internet.

"In the news articles, it was alleged that "Mr. King did not want any formal charges brought because it is an election year..."

This incident was known in 2009, but not publicized, respecting the wishes of the Stough family. "

2. K9 Lawsuit against Borough, Council and Maple.

Police Officer, John C. Gawlas filed a lawsuit against the borough, council members, and former Police Chief Jack Maple. (source; Tribune-Review)

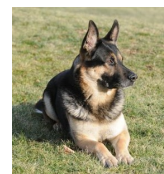
As reported, the suit claims that a three month investigation

conducted by Corporate Security and Investigations, Inc. (CSI) was intended to harass him, and to humiliate him once released to the public.

This litigation will be another added cost to

the taxpayers, due to mismanagement of a K9 program.

The original news article may be found at the Tribune-Review, or see www.vumore.org on the internet.



3. \$100,000 annual Police Dispatch Savings not realized.

In 2005, Police Dispatching was turned over to Allegheny County 911. It was to save the borough \$100,000 annually. At the council's July 2010, Agenda meeting, Mr. John Roundtree, Radio Systems Coordinator for

Allegheny County Emergency Services "advised in all the municipalities that changed to County 911, none of them still employ dispatchers. Historically, when the County has taken over 911 operations of

a municipality, they have assumed responsibility for their radio channels."

"In 2013, any existing radio systems have to be "narrow banded", which means completely re-engineered.

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If Jefferson Hills retains their existing radio system, they will have to either reprogram all the radio technology or replace it. He advised the County expended approximately \$40,000 by adding air conditioning to the tower, adding technology at the Municipal Center and replacing the

radio transmitter.” (source July 2010 JH Council Agenda Meeting)

Reported in a July 13, 2010 Daily News Article, Council President King, said; *“We continued to have dispatchers because they were an asset to the borough.”* He also said, *“We don’t want to let people go.”*

See the Newspaper

articles and the Agenda Minutes on the internet at www.vumore.org.

“The facts speak for themselves, as to the need for an all inclusive performance audit of the Police Department, and corrective action.”

Council Critical of Right to Know Requests.

Act 3, Pennsylvania’s Right to Know Law was signed on February 14, 2008 by the Governor, effective January 1, 2009.

Every citizen has the right to request information. There are procedures to be followed, and the borough may charge a reasonable fee to help defray costs.

Section 1308 of the Act **prohibits** a limitation on the number of records that may be requested or made available for inspection or duplication.

Part 2 under this same section **prohibits** the requesting party to be questioned as to the purpose or motive for requesting access to the records.

Council members King and Reynolds, have been critical of this provision of the law. Both King and most recently Reynolds have been critical of citizens submitting Right to Know requests, because of the cost to the borough. They never mention that the borough charges a fee for the documents, to defray costs, though. In

fact, at **25 cents** per document, it is another source of revenue. Local office supply and copying establishments charge **10 cents** per copy.

Mrs. Reynolds may consider her statement, at a recent council meeting, a good campaign issue for herself, but this council has to learn that this information is public, and it really belongs to the taxpayers. **Council’s actions must be transparent.**

“...this council has to learn that this information is public, and it really belongs to the taxpayers. Council’s actions must be transparent. Besides, it is not legal to campaign on borough property at taxpayers’ expense.”

Solicitor Issues Threat for Requesting Legal Bills.

In April of 2009, Mr. Adams, Borough Solicitor, made a number of phone calls to a citizen regarding submission of a Right to Know Request. Then, he followed up with a registered letter threatening legal action, for requesting copies of his legal bills, which he submitted to the borough for payment.

In his letter he attempts to take on the personage of an independent citizen

and not the Borough Solicitor. Of course the letter is on his law firm's letterhead, and any invoice submitted for payment to the borough from any vendor should be made available to any citizen properly making such a request, in accordance with the Right to Know Law.

In addition, he states what he thinks the intention is as follows: *"You are a current candidate for Borough Council. I understand*

the timing of your recent RTKL request with the upcoming Primary Election is no coincidence."

The law is very clear in stating the "request need not include any explanation of the requester's reason for requesting or intended use of the records..." PA Act 3, Chapter 7 Procedure, Section 703.

see www.vumore.org on the internet for a copy of the letter.

More Solicitor Threats and Accusations.

At the June 13, 2011 council meeting a resident stated that borough solicitor Mike Adams called his home, and left a threatening message. These threatening messages were heard by his wife, children and grandchildren. As reported in the Daily News on June 16, 2011,

and should be included in the council's official minutes, *All told Adams "Do not call my home." "Do not use my name falsely in any of your slanderous publications,* "Adams responded, *"You should get yourself a good lawyer."*

Well, the borough solicitor again issued threats, but really never explained what he considers false and slanderous

publications.

see www.vumore.org on the internet to reference the Daily News article. The council meeting minutes were not available at the date this Newsletter was published.

"Adams responded. You should get yourself and good lawyer."

Khalil Unethical & Illegal Practices

At the May 9th regular council meeting, Mr. Khalil gave a political campaign speech, using the venue of the borough building.

This had nothing whatsoever to do with borough business, is unethical and illegal. In addition, the related costs must be reported to the County on his

campaign finance report. Campaign financial reports may be found for all candidates at the Allegheny County Election Division web site at <http://www.county.allegheny.p.a.us>. Once there, go to Election Department and to Financial Reports. Find out, by candidate

and committee, who is contributing, and how and where the money is being spent for all those signs, poll cards, mailings, etc...

The audio of his political speech may be requested by email to jhwatcdog@comcast.net

Councilman Khalil Conflict of Interest

“If Councilman Khalil is unable to avoid conflicts of interest so that the borough’s business may be conducted in the fairest and economical manner, then he should resign.”

Councilman Khalil is a Real Estate Salesman, and much of the borough’s business now deals with property and real estate developments. In that regard he has inside information and an unfair advantage over other Real Estate entities.

Since he has been on council, he only abstained from two votes, which were unrelated, and there is no evidence that he ever recused himself from participating in issues or discussions that were in conflict.

Councilman Khalil’s Call to Resign

If Councilman Khalil is unable to avoid conflicts of interest so that the borough’s business may be conducted in the fairest and economical manner, then he should resign his position.

Likewise, if he is unable to accept others opinions, criticism and suggestions, not in agreement with his thinking, without becoming vindictive, he should resign. The community needs governance,

volunteers, and citizens to participate in a positive manner to effectively conduct borough business and make the needed improvements and advancements.

Over Crowded Schools and Roads

Council denied the proposed 140 new home Washington Square sub-division off of Gill Hall Road, and possibly rightly so. Residents expressed concerns because of the added number of school students, and traffic on Gill Hall Road.

conflict of interest.

Developers purchasing and investing in property, and in the community should knowingly be doing so in compliance with a comprehensive plan, laws and ordinances. Then there is very little reason for denial and resultant costly lawsuits.

Bruceton from Cochran Mills or down West Bruceton from Pleasant Hills, with both routes potentially being inconvenient.

The developer of the adjacent Jefferson Estates sub-division was required to commit to an access route over a new road and bridge connecting the two developments. This quiet family and retiree oriented neighborhood cannot be expected to safely sustain the volume of traffic to 420 new homes. It is an extremely poor plan that is unacceptable. **Yes, these new developments add to the tax base, but officials must responsibly plan and provide for the needed services.**

With all the residential development over the past several years, hasn’t this all been coordinated and properly planned out by the School District and the Borough? The increased tax revenue base is nice, but there is much more planning required, such as sewage, playgrounds, parks, recreation for children and adults, police and fire protection, snow removal, etc.

If the basis for denying the Washington Square sub-division is adding more students to the schools and increasing road traffic, wasn’t the “cat already let out of the bag?” Consider The Hunters Field sub-division, off of West Bruceton; this development is estimated to be approximately 420 new homes. Two children per home will be 940 added students and two cars per home will be 940 cars on the roads, daily.

See www.vumore.org on the internet to reference the Daily News article.

Council Member Mr. Khali, a Real-estate Salesman, seemed to take a lead on this issue where he should have recused himself and abstained from voting because of a potential

There currently are only two ways to access Hunters Field; up West

“This quiet family and retiree oriented development cannot sustain the volume of traffic to 420 new homes. It is an extremely poor plan that is unacceptable.”

Budget Concerns, yet Council Wastes Tax Dollars

A Private Investigation Firm to investigate a K9, cost taxpayers \$80 per hour. With the new budget adopted in January, 2011, council eliminated funding for the K9 program in order to save money. In the January 13, 2011 South Hills Record, Mayor Michael Green said. *"Council is trying to keep your taxes from going up, the cost has to be controlled."* In that same article, it was reported that a Private Investigating Firm will be hired at \$80 per hour to investigate if any

misuse of the program occurred. Isn't this a contradiction? To date Council will not reveal the total cost of the investigation. Why? The resulting litigation will just add to the waste.

Council Hires another Administrative Employee. The Daily News reported on June 14, 2011 that Council appointed a community relations coordinator at \$15 per hour and will work 18 hours per week. **Why?** It would seem that this function

should easily be handled by the Borough Manager or any of the other administrative personnel.

See www.vumore.org on the internet to reference the Daily News article.

"Council is trying to keep your taxes from going up, the cost has to be controlled."



Marcellus Shale Legislation—Senators Pippy, Kotik and White

The following are excerpts from **Senate Bill 1100**, introduced by **Senator Pippy**, and others. If passed in Harrisburg, this bill will allow drilling in local communities whether the citizens want it or not. It takes control out of the hands of local officials, and the citizens.

§ 2501. Model municipal ordinance.

(a) Purposes.--The purposes of this section are as follows:

- (1) To optimize the development and use of this Commonwealth's oil and gas reserves by increasing reasonable consistency in zoning and other municipal regulation.
- (2) To foster expeditious and efficient handling of municipal oil and gas permitting procedures.

(c) Adoption of provisions.--

(2) The model zoning ordinance shall do all of the following:

(i) Authorize oil and gas development as a permitted use by right in all zoning districts except residential districts. The commission may develop a model zoning ordinance that allows oil and gas development in residential zoning districts by conditional use or special exception with conditions dependent on the isolation distances achievable in each residential district.

(ii) Authorize natural gas compression stations:

(B) as a conditional use in all other zoning districts.

(4) Nothing in this subsection shall limit or preempt a county or municipality from action pursuant to the act of October 4, 1978 (P.L.864, No.167), known as the Storm Water Management Act.

(d) Effect of model ordinance.--An ordinance adopted by a county or municipality to regulate oil and gas shall not contain 20110SB1100PN1328 - 27 -more stringent standards than the model ordinance adopted by the commission.



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***The drilling industry is depending on our
ignorance, indifference and complacency.
GET INVOLVED with MARCELLUS SHALE!***

YOU DECIDE!

Efforts by private citizens in making suggestions, asking questions, requesting information, and constructive criticism, all to achieve positive results, have been road blocked and stymied. Council has dismantled boards that have been moving in a positive direction, such as the recreation board, and the economic development commission. Let's not forget the termination of the K9 Program, Auxiliary Police, Citizens Police Academy, and Community Day. Funding for youth sports has been eliminated, and the fields once maintained by the borough now costs youth sports \$3,000.00 annually, for just cutting grass. **That's a lot of balls!** There's nothing for seniors or any plans for a community center.

It's been years, but Council has still not been able to figure out where or how to build a needed salt storage facility and a maintenance garage to protect the winter road salt and all the expensive equipment.

Let's face it; since the control of council changed in 2008, we have seen a rapid decline in borough services, increased costs, and lack of respect for the citizens. But you decide. What positive results have you experienced in the last couple years? Don't consider the repair work to Coal Valley Road between Routes 885 and 837 or some new playground equipment at Beedle Park; council had nothing to do with that. And, of course do not consider the recent repair of a few roads because the November Election is fast approaching. So, do we now have a much better borough?

Indeed, changes are needed.

This council is **not transparent**, and the citizens do have the **Right to Know**. **It is our Borough!** A variety of tactics are employed to restrict criticism and to control what is published to the citizens. These tactics include intimidation, threats of legal action, and even influence of what is written by several of the newspapers. But, it is virtually impossible to control the internet, and direct communication between people.

So you can help, by forwarding this to your neighbors, friends and relatives in Jefferson Hills. If you know of anyone not having internet access, you can just print it out and make sure they receive a copy. This newsletter has no set publication schedule, but if you would like to express your opinions or comments in future issues, please submit them by email to JHWatchdog.com@comcast.net.



Also, go to <http://www.jeffersonhills.us> for more information.

"Let's Build Our Community"



Please email comments and suggestions to JHWwatchdog@comcast.net.
If you prefer **not** to receive these emails, please return an email to JHWatchdog@comcast.net,
with "**no more**" in the subject line.

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