

FINGER LAKES TIMES

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"The First Amendment ensures that all points of view may be heard; it does not ensure that all points of view are equally likely to prevail."

— **Michael McConnell, U.S. appellate judge, 2006**
Community Media Group

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Waterloo Town Board made right decision for the town

To the Editor:
Thank you Waterloo Town Board for taking the facts and coming to a sound decision for all 7,642 Waterloo taxpayers. It is good to know that you are being careful with our tax dollars and properly representing all of our interests. It is also refreshing that the local system, while painstakingly slow, is functional.

ANTHONY CRISTALDI
Waterloo

Casino, clay mine will help area's economic health

To the Editor:
I have been in the business world for over 30+ years. I own a small financial business in Waterloo and work with small and medium businesses in the area. Some of these businesses have been struggling over the past few years primarily due to young people moving away looking for viable work and the retirees becoming fewer each year. We need to grow this region if we want our area to be economically stable in the future.

Currently, we are one of the lowest per capita (52 of 62) regions in the state. We rank 56th of 62 in population and households. Over the last 25-plus years, Sylvania and the Seneca Army Depot have closed their doors. Goulds Pumps has streamlined its workforce and the New York Chiropractic College is smaller than Eisenhower College.

The "naysayers" on the landfill, clay mine and now the casino want to preserve the area. For who? In 20 years the population will continue to decrease without a solid business base. The school districts have become our biggest employers, and they are even under state scrutiny as financial aid diminishes and will face consolidation. I also believe any new business needs to be monitored and regulated. Same as all business. Let our legislators and regulators do their jobs.

I stand behind the clay mine expansion project as long as it is regulated. I stand behind making the Wilmot Resort & Casino proposal a reality in Seneca County, as long as it is regulated. I believe that the casino project will assist in bringing more tourism and business to our area as well as people who may decide to live here or establish businesses here. Conservatively, the 1,500 construction jobs and 1,500 permanent jobs that Wilmore is proposing, outweigh the less than

100 opponents voices. I want to see positive economic growth and stimulus from a business that cares about its neighbors, and I believe that the Wilmot Casino & Resort project will do just that. Much of the money workers make as a result of these projects will be put back into area businesses.

Their success in securing the rights to open a casino and resort will be a direct benefit to our business and our futures. It is important that these as well as other new businesses be evaluated and monitored to help grow the Finger Lakes region and specifically Seneca County. Please support Pro-Business.

STEPHEN C. SPENO
Waterloo

Newark mayor candidate has ideas, asks for support

To the Editor:
It is the caucus season in Arcadia and Newark, and Republicans will be gathering Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Newark High School. I am asking for your support at the caucus, and want to be your mayor for the next four years. The current mayor, Peter Blandino has, to his credit, demonstrated that the job requires 24/7 availability. I am prepared to take on this task.

If nominated and elected I will be approachable and return phone and email inquiries on the same day. I also will offer a "Meet with the Mayor" time when residents can visit my office and discuss any village issue. Monthly village meetings will be changed with time for public comment at the beginning of the meeting as well as at the end.

As mayor I will involve all board members in appointments and hiring of all new employees. Openings for zoning, and planning board members will be advertised to the public. An independent ethics committee will be appointed to handle issues that may come up.

Tired of seeing trash along our streets waiting for the refuse truck that is two days away? I have a solution and our code enforcement people will be given the tools to deal with it.

Would you support a ban on any new conversions of single family homes to apartments? Let me know and we will deal with it. Other communities do.

I offer a simple, fresh approach but cannot continue without the Republican nomination. Attend the caucus on Aug. 12.

JOHN M. ZORNOW
Newark



EMD fun

Empire Farm Days kicked off its three-day run yesterday — in case you are wondering why no hotel rooms are available for miles around. Whether you are interested in the latest farming technology or are just looking for some wholesome family fun, you'll find it at Rodman Lott and Son Farms in Seneca Falls.



Stolen passwords

In what is becoming almost commonplace, a collection of Internet user-name and password combinations have been stolen — maybe as many as 1.2 billion — this time by a Russian crime ring.

Elemental corruption in NY

Remember the periodic table of elements in your chemistry book? H for hydrogen, L for lithium, etc. Maybe we ought to add one: NY for corruption.

We should. It is elemental. Just like oxygen and nitrogen. We could fit it into the chart next to gallium because it takes gall to practice it before our eyes. It galls us to read about it.

We read about it last week. The governor had set up the Moreland Commission to dig into corruption in the state, but when it dug into his backyard he changed his mind. When it dug near his cronies, he shut it down.

And we read that maybe the Independent Party endorsed him in return for no-show jobs.

Now pick yourself up from the floor. I know this is horribly shocking news. It crushes you to imagine that there is a smidgen of corruption in this state.

My modest proposal is to end this. Not to end the corruption; nobody could end that. It is, indeed, as elemental in the state as the oxygen and nitrogen we learn about. My proposal is to end the innocence.

We should teach kids about New York corruption. We teach them about Niagara Falls and the Erie Canal. How about a semester devoted to New York's long and glorious history of corruption? Maybe forget about the history: How about current everyday corruption?

For instance, there are hundreds of no-show jobs in the state governmental machine, maybe thousands. Guys who work for the political parties get appointed to them ... as a reward for their work for the party.

The jobs usually have mish-mash names. The Director of Inter-Departmental Relations. The Supervisory Assistant to ... You get the idea.

They get paid. They collect benefits. But they do no work, at least not for government. Their only work is for the party machines.

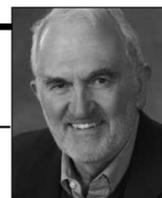
I chatted with one from Syracuse at a political barbecue. He had a few too many beers, and I was an innocent. I asked him what he did for a living. He gave me his job title. Okay, but what exactly did the job entail? "Oh, a little of this. A little of that."

Okay, but what did he actually do for the government? What responsibilities did he have?

He dodged a few more questions and finally admitted, "Well, you know, I'm not really

TOM MORGAN

Tom ... As In Morgan



sure."

Truth was that he got paid by the state to do what the party bosses told him to do. And what they told him to do had zero to do with government. Or with his job title. He did party work.

These guys pull down good money. They have nice careers. But you won't see this type of career listed in your high school guidance counselor's office. Your college jobs advisor won't tell your son to look for this kind of work.

Maybe we should change that. We should be proud of this corruption. It has kept this state at the forefront of corruption for generations. It has launched the careers of many district attorneys. We should stitch "Pay to Play" onto the state flag.

The subject reminds me that humorist Will Rogers said we should have sympathy for politicians out of work because they just wanted to get back in on the graft.

It reminds me that some people think we should look for more candidates like Bloomberg and Rockefeller because they are too rich to be bought.

It reminds me of the old lines: He may be a crook but he's our kind of crook ... the best politicians money can buy.

It reminds me that sure, we want to fight corruption. Sure, we love to see politicians land in jail. But nailing a few corrupt pols is like swatting flies on the back porch. You get a few, but the supply never ends.

This state deserves more respect. We deserve more recognition. We should push for NY to be added to that periodic table of elements. Corruption. New York. Elemental, my dear Watson.

From Tom ... as in Morgan.

Find Tom on Facebook. For more columns and for Tom's radio shows (and to write to Tom): tomasinmorgan.com

Bennett Chattanooga Times Free Press



Congress goes on vacation.

What's on your mind?

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Make yourself heard

Here are the local addresses, phone numbers and websites of federal and state representatives who serve the Times' readership area. The best way to contact representatives is by going to their individual websites and clicking on Contact for further directions.

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Governor

Andrew Cuomo

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Website: www.state.ny.us/governor

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Charles E. Schumer

Democrat
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Fax: 202-228-3027

Kirsten Gillibrand

Democrat
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Includes Yates County, Seneca County, eastern Ontario County (including

Geneva) and much of the Southern Tier.

State Senate

Tom O'Mara

58th State Senate District
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Bath, NY 14810
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Fax: (607) 776-5185
Website: www.nysenate.gov/senator/thomas-f-omara
Includes Yates, Steuben, Schuyler and Chemung counties, plus part of Tompkins County.

Michael F. Nozzolio

54th State Senate District
Republican
119 Fall St.
Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Phone: (888) 568-9816
Fax: 568-2090
Website: www.senatornozzolio.com
Includes all of Seneca and Wayne counties, part of Ontario County (including Geneva and Canandaigua) and part of Cayuga County.

State Assembly

Robert C. Oaks

130th Assembly District
Republican
10 Leach Road
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assembly.state.ny.us
Includes Ontario County and Varick and north in Seneca County

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Phone: (607) 776-9691
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Includes Yates and Schuyler counties, Romulus and south in Seneca County and parts of Steuben and Chemung counties.

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E-mail your letters!

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