

OPINION

COMMENTARY | STATE SEN. TOM O'MARA, R-BIG FLATS

State investment key to future of local roads

No single advocacy group has been more recognizable at the Capitol in recent years than New York’s local highway superintendents and all of the men and women working for local highway departments to maintain and improve our local roads and bridges day in and day out — and never more than on those days like recently when another winter storm hits. Last week in Albany nearly 700 “Local Roads Matter” representatives from the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions, and statewide, turned out in force. This year’s rally was cancelled because of the snowstorm that was forecast to hit counties along the State Thruway’s north-south corridor especially hard, but that did not stop us from delivering the message to Governor Cuomo and legislative leaders. Assemblyman Phil Palmesano and I have been at this work since 2013. We have steadily built bipartisan support within the Legislature for a more fair, equitable and stronger state commitment to local roads, bridges and culverts. This year we gained the

support of 142 senators and members of the Assembly, or nearly 70 percent of the Legislature’s entire membership. Beginning with the 2013-14 state budget, our efforts have helped increase funding through the CHIPS program and its funding formula by more than \$200 million, or upwards of 40%. Together with the PAVE-NY and BRIDGE-NY programs established two years ago, significant funding increases are being delivered to counties, cities, towns and villages throughout New York State. It’s making a difference. Regionally, for example, aid percentage increases since 2012-13 have ranged from 50% to 55%. This year we call for increasing state base aid for the CHIPS by \$85 million to a total of \$523 million. We also seek the restoration of a \$65-million “Extreme Winter Recovery” allocation enacted last year but not included in the governor’s proposed 2018-2019 state budget. A stronger state-local partnership is the key. Now more than ever, New York State must support a steady, strong, multi-year strategy to

address local transportation infrastructure and help build a local transportation system that our communities, motorists and taxpayers deserve. Local governments face increasingly difficult fiscal constraints due to the tax cap and long-stagnant state aid to municipalities. State investment in local transportation is fundamentally important to local economic development, job creation, motorist safety and property tax relief. New York State County Highway Superintendents Association (NYSCHSA) Charles “Skip” Vezzetti said, “The reality is that local highway departments still need a significant state aid boost to effectively address the daunting financial challenges to maintaining their vast ailing and aging transportation infrastructure.” State Association of Town Superintendents of Highways President Bernhard Meyer added, “New York’s local transportation system is the backbone of our

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OTHER VIEW | NATASHA R. THOMPSON PRESIDENT & CEO, FOOD BANK OF THE SOUTHERN TIER AND JOEL BERG, CEO, HUNGER FREE AMERICA

School breakfast expansion can help fill the local hunger gap

The Southern Tier is so bucolic, it’s easy to forget we have a serious poverty and hunger problem here. One out of six people in the region live below the meager federal poverty line. 41,000 school aged children qualify for free or reduced priced meals at school, and, last year, the

Food Bank of the Southern Tier distributed about ten million meals throughout our six-county service area. Statewide in New York, more than 2.5 million people, and more than 700,000 children, live in homes that can’t always afford enough food. That means that one in six children in the state face

the threat of hunger. Child hunger not only is a moral blot on our society that devastates the physical and emotional well-being of children, it makes it nearly impossible for children to effectively learn. To be schooled, you must be fueled. To be well-read,

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LETTERS POLICY

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The assault smart phone

To the Editor,
In 2012, 322 people were murdered by use of rifle (FBI data).
In 2012, 3,328 people were killed in distracted driving related accidents (Edgarsnyder.com), many of which were a result of using a cell phone - I think 10% would be a low guess - that's 333 people.
With the ever growing features and functions of the smart phone, the odds of death by use of cell phone while driving will logically increase. For those of us who drive an automobile, we are unknowingly being assaulted and we ourselves may be assaulting others without even thinking about it.
Those who use cell phones while driving are shooting invisible bullets at others and themselves.

Stretch your mind and think about this for a while. Then, consider why are we not implementing laws restricting ownership of cellphones or at least smartphones? Or, pushing for laws that would require manufacturer's to implement measures that would disable phone functions except for 911 when those phones are inside a vehicle?
It will save lives so, why not?

Some are thinking I am an idiot for suggesting this comparison to rifle deaths and the associated gun control debate, but it is the same premise. The only difference is that owning guns is a Constitutional Right and owning a cellphone is not.
Please continue debating this comparison with all those who want to implement some type of gun control laws. Most everyone owns a cellphone but very few will ever give them up.

Charles Wells, Corning

A look at Rule of Law

To the Editor,
Democrats charge questioning the FBI and DOJ jeopardizes America’s “Rule of Law”?
Not questioning those powerful institutions threatens the “Rule of Law”!
The dark deep state has forced me to defend a crude, crass President Trump.
Corruption and incompetence by far trump crude and crass.

Democrats accuse President Trump’s concerns of FBI and DOJ malfeasance and corruption in the Russian Collusion investigation as trying to derail the investigation. They say it threatens effectiveness of those agencies, thus jeopardizing the “Rule of Law”.
Logic dictates corruption in the FBI and DOJ are far greater dangers to the “Rule of Law” than questioning powerful institutions of our government. To place them above questioning and reproach for misguided perhaps criminal action would establish a nest for tyranny. J. Edgar Hoover on steroids!
Russian Collusion, it appears the DNC spear headed by Hillary Clinton made a Preemptive Strike against President Trump accusing him of “Russian Collusion”, which they engaged in to defeat Trump. Failing, the Clinton mafia is out to destroy his presidency, a direct attack against the U.S. Constitution!
Clinton’s Democrat Party accuses Trump of behaviors Hillary has actually engaged in, given a pass by Obama’s deep state FBI and DOJ! We see top leadership FBI’s Comey, McCabe, Andrew Weissman, Lisa Page, Peter Strzok, DOJ’s Loretta Lynch, Rod Rosenstein, Bruce Ohr and Sally Yates up to their eyebrows in dishonesty, obtaining FISA Court warrants to spy on the Trump campaign and presidency.
Special prosecutor Mueller’s Russian investigation has engaged in questionable behaviors with his deep state allies.
Democrats and media avoid looking at these issues making them accessories to the corruption of these rogue government officials. Unfettered power to our guardian institutions of law places heavy hands on the scales of justice. “Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely!”

Karen Biesanz, Corning

Don't leave libraries behind

To the Editor,
Public libraries and library users across New York State were dismayed to learn that Governor Cuomo’s 2018 Executive Budget calls for rollbacks in library support even as library use continues to grow.
We applaud the governor’s plans to boost state education aid by 3 percent, but we find it hard to accept that libraries, which provide essential lifelong learning resources and opportunities for millions of New Yorkers, are being left behind.
The governor’s cuts would leave library funding at Year 2000 levels, far short of what Education Law mandates. Libraries in the Southern Tier of New York would be hit particularly hard.
The governor’s budget would reduce construction aid to local libraries by 42 percent, slash aid to our library system by \$49,863, roll back central library aid by \$6,939 and reduce operating support as well.
Here at the Southeast Steuben County Library, we go the extra mile to

more radiated fracking waste from PA.
Consider the 15 superfund sites in Steuben, 28 in Chemung, and 16 in Allegany County. Then think about the 400,000 landfills in America and you know toxins are widespread.
Experts have told us there are high levels of radioactivity at Hakes. The radiation doesn’t stay there. It gets in the air, endangering our lungs, and may seep into our aquifer, the source of our drinking water.
Toxic leachate from the dump is sent to ill-prepared treatment plants which send it, untreated, into connecting rivers.
You can take a step to prevent suffering by contacting the DEC before March 19 when its public comment period ends: Ms. Kimberly Merchant, NYS DEC - Region 8 Office, Division of Environmental Permits, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon, NY 14414, Phone: 585-226-5400, Fax: 585-226-2830, E-mail: hakesSEQR-hearing@dec.ny.gov.

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Gerald J. Furnkranz, Millport

Landfill needs to be closed

To the Editor,
Instead of shooting ourselves in the foot, let’s ask the NYS DEC to deny the requested expansion of Hakes Landfill or, better yet, close it.
We don’t need more contamination and yet Hakes wants to take in

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OBITUARIES

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Kathleen Anne Zarek



Kathleen 57-went to be with her Lord and Savior on Feb. 12,2018-following a battle with cancer. She was a beautiful, amazing and adventurous women-who followed her dreams. One of which was to live in Reno, Nevada. She loved to cook and sew, making beautiful quilts. She had a great passion for gardening-especially flowers. She was born in Corning, N.Y. to Killian and Anne Zarek. Her education included many years at Savona Central School and her graduation from Haverling High School in Bath, N.Y.. She attended college at theUniversity of South Carolina and graduated with a degree in Health Education. She was predeceased by her father Killian Zarek and several wonderful Aunts and Uncles. She is survived by her loving children, Jason Delisi, Wilson,N.Y. - Anthonena Delisi, Reno, Nevada. Her mother Anne and step father Daniel Smith, Dundee,N.Y.. Her sister Stephanie(Mark) DiMaggio and son Adam, Columbia, SC. Her brothers Gregory(Melanie) Zarek and daughter Rhiannon, Corning, NY. -Matthew (Laura) Smith, Port Au Prince, Haiti. Her Uncle and Aunt, Walter and Barb Prossick, Campbell, NY. and several close cousins. Condolences and memorial

contributions may be sent to Matthew Smith-Haiti missions-5725-2 Marina Dr. Sebastain, Fl. 32958

Jean A. Perry Smith



Addison, NY | Jean A. Perry Smith, 87, a resident at Corning Center for Rehabilitation, formerly of Tuscarora St., Addison, passed away on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at Corning Center. Jean was born in Corning, NY on November 14, 1930, the daughter of Samuel J. and Alice Beardsley Perry. She was a graduate of Addison Central School. On November 10, 1951, she married Harry J. Smith. Harry preceded her in death on August 23, 2008. Jean worked for a short time for Corning Glass Works following high school. She also was a secretary for Sisto Lumber Co. in Addison. The most rewarding part of her life was the role of homemaker and loving wife, mother and grandmother. She was a longtime sales representative for Avon Products. She was a representative for over 40 years and loved selling and interacting with her customers and was routinely named to the annual Avon President's Club for outstanding service to Avon. Jean was a member and Past Matron of the Woodhull-Tuscarora Chapter 273 Order of the Eastern Star as well as a member of the former

Rathbone Grange. She is survived by her sons and daughters in law, Ronald and Debbie Smith of Elkland and Brian and Kristina Smith of Addison, her grandchildren, Jesse (Michele) Smith, Jake Pratt (Krystina Gold), Courtney (Craig) Deats-Cascio, Andrew Smith, Benjamin (Cassidy) Smith and Chloe Smith, great grandchild, Sydney Deats-Cascio along with several nieces and nephews. Beside her husband Harry, Jean was preceded in death by her sisters, Waneta Reagan and Jody Conroe. Friends may call on Friday, March 16 from 2-4 and 7-9 pm at the H.P. Smith & Son Inc. Funeral Home, 1607 Main St. Woodhull, NY. Funeral services will be held there on Saturday, March 17 at 11 am with Rev. Brian Diffenbacher officiating. Burial will follow in Addison Rural Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to Tanner's Paws, 117 W. Market St., Corning, NY 14830.

LeVaughn Winifred Lancaster

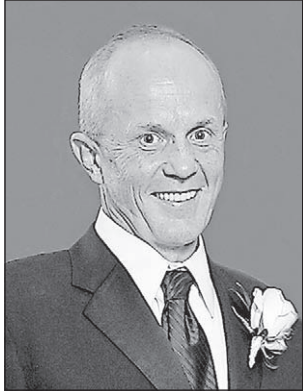


LeVaughn Winifred Lancaster, 95, died Thursday, March 8, 2018 at Magnolia Gardens in Southern Pines, NC. LeVaughn Winifred Ives Lancaster was born in Peekskill, New York

on June 15, 1922 to the late Harold and Ruth LeVaughn Shute Ives. She graduated from Peekskill High School in 1940 and married Richard Edward Lancaster of Tarrytown, NY that same year. They set up housekeeping and started their family of two children, Joan Elaine born in 1941 and son Edward Martin born in 1945. When this stay-at-home mother's children grew older, LeVaughn tried her hand at working outside the home. To the delight of her children and her children's friends, LeVaughn became the lady who weighed, measured, and sold chocolates and confectons at Woolworth's candy counter. After her job with candy, she went on to follow her interest in flowers. LeVaughn attended a Floral Design School in New York City and became a professional Flower Designer. She pursued her career in Peekskill and Ocala, Florida upon her husband's retirement from General Motors in Tarrytown. As a cradle Episcopalian, she was an active member of St. Peter's Church in Peekskill, Grace Episcopal Church in in Ocala, Florida, Christ Church in Corning NY, and Grace Church in Millbrook, NY. The latter churches reflect her moving to New York to be near her daughter after becoming a widow. She was preceded in death by her older brother Kenneth Ives and her husband of 46 years, Richard and their son Edward M. Lancaster. Survivors include her daughter, Joan Lancaster Vargo Vogel (Robert) of Pinehurst, NC, Grandchildren Shawn (Sue) Vargo of Painted Post, NY, Richard Vargo of Corning, NY and Julia Vargo of Hammondsport, NY, Christopher (Kimm) Vogel of Yorktown Heights, NY, Peter (Tanja) of Pound Ridge, NY and Lisa (Gilbert) Bauer of Cornwall, NY, daughter-in-law, Mary Lancaster of Apache Junction, AZ, brother-in-law, John Lancaster of Cortlandt Manor, NY, sister-in-law, Dretha Lancaster of Summerfield, FL, and sister-in-law Shirley Siciliano of Sun City West, AZ. There are twelve great grandchildren all of whom live in New York. Memorial contributions may be made to any location of The Salvation Army. LeVaughn will be laid to rest with her husband in the Hillside Cemetery in Cortlandt Manor, NY. Online condolences may be made at www.bolesfuneralhome.com. Boles Funeral Home is serving the family.

best slalom water skiers in the family. He was a stand-out on the athletic field at Corning West High competing in wrestling, football, and lacrosse which he continued playing beyond the age of 40 in the summer box lacrosse league. Terre was incredibly passionate about his son Kelly's sporting events over the years, never missing a Corning West or Bucknell lacrosse game. Professionally, Terre built a very successful 40 year career in the construction field working at Keuka Construction, Welliver McGuire, Armada Hoffer, Fahs Construction, and most recently Matco Electric. He is predeceased by his father, James, and is survived by his son Kelly Scott (Erica) Hogue and grandsons, Hayden, Alexander, and Carson Hogue of Atlanta, GA; mother, Elizabeth Hogue of Corning; daughter, Jenna Hogue of Conklin, NY; brothers and sisters, James (Karen) Hogue of Corning, Michael (Lisa) Hogue of Corning, Kathryn (Noah) Davis of Dallas, PA, Kelly (Kevin) Clarkon of Painted Post, Chris (Jean) Hogue of Big Flats, Kerry (Jeff) Gush of Horseheads, and Josh (Carrie) Hogue of Painted Post; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and one aunt. A celebration of Terre's life will be held at Keuka Lake this summer. Terre's family entrusted his care to Haughey Funeral Home, Inc. in Corning. Memorial donations may be made in Terre's name to www.nationalalmssociety.org/donate.

Terrence P. Hogue



Terrence P. Hogue, age 61, of Corning, NY died Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at Chemung County Nursing Facility in Elmira. Born February 2, 1957 in Corning, Terre was the son of James and Elizabeth (Kelly) Hogue. He was a graduate of Corning West High School (1975) and attended Corning Community College. Terre loved spending his summers at Keuka Lake where he enjoyed boating, fishing and maintaining his reputation as one of the



DEATH NOTICES

James S. Adams

James S. "Jim" Adams, 78, of Lindley, died Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at home. Calling hours are 4-7 p.m. Monday and 10-11 a.m. Tuesday at Carpenter's Funeral Home, 14 E. Pulteney St., Corning. Services will be held there at the conclusion of calling hours at 11 a.m. Tuesday. Burial will be in Coopers Plains Cemetery.

Sidney B. Packard

Sidney B. Packard, 88, of Campbell, died Friday, March 9, 2018 at the Bath VA Medical Center.

Calling hours are 4-6 p.m. Friday at Campbell United Methodist Church, 8516 Main St., Campbell. Services will be held there at 3 p.m. Saturday. Arrangements are with Phillips Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Corning.

Ronald D. Treat

Ronald D. Treat, 75, of Cameron Mills, died Friday, March 9, 2018 at home. There are no calling hours or services. Burial will be in Woodhull Cemetery. Arrangements are with H.P. Smith and Son Funeral Home, Woodhull.

O'MARA

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state's well-being." New York State Association of Counties Executive Director Stephen J. Acquario sums it up this way, "We rely on our local roads and bridges to get to work, to school, and back home again. State investments in local roads and bridges are investments in economic development and safety. We applaud Senator O'Mara and Assemblyman Palmesano for their consistent fight

for more local road and bridge funding in the State Budget, and we are proud to stand with our county highway superintendents who work, day in and day out, for better, safer roads in our communities." This year's budget adoption process gets underway in earnest this week when the Senate and Assembly adopt our respective versions of New York's final 2018-2019 state budget. The stage is being set for final negotiations that our coalition hopes will produce another positive year for local roads and bridges.

LETTERS

From Page A4

serve our patrons. When our doors open, we are there to help job seekers

with resumes and we are there to provide one-on-one assistance with computers and mobile devices. Our story times and early literacy programs are a mainstay for young families. Our classes,

workshops, writers groups, book talks and special programs are attended by people from all walks of life. We want to thank our local Assembly and Senate representatives who

realize the importance of libraries, and I want to thank all members of the Assembly and Senate who voted to reinstate the funding last year. We urge them to do the same as the budget process

continues this year. Governor Cuomo, please reconsider the library cuts in your budget to ensure this very important work can move forward in our ever-changing world, because libraries empower

New Yorkers to meet the challenges of the future. Respectfully, Mary Ann Thomas President, Board of Trustees Southeast Steuben County Library

INVESTMENTS | BENJAMIN F. EDWARDS & CO. AND DAVID W. DAVIES

Funding a college education: The Basics

Ensuring that your child gets a college education is one of the most generous gifts you can give as a parent. Many who have decided to send their kids to school still may not be familiar with the different methods of helping cover those expenses. Here are some basic terms and explanations to help orient you on this subject. Financial aid – That's the broad category of money offered by the government or other institutions to pay for tuition and room and board. Sources of financial aid – The money comes from the federal government, state governments, colleges and universities themselves, private organizations, and banks and lending companies. Grants – Grants represent money given to a student that does not need to be paid back. They are usually based on a student's financial need: That is, a student from a low-income family is more likely to receive a grant than a student from a wealthy family. Usually these come from state or federal government agencies or the schools themselves.

Scholarships – Like grants, they don't need to be repaid. But typically a scholarship is given as a reward based on a particular aspect of a student's performance. Athletes get scholarships at some schools. Other students can win scholarships from private institutions based on their membership in an ethnic or religious group or because their parents work at a company that helps fund the education of employee children. Loans – Unlike grants or scholarships, loans need to be repaid. Some loans have a low interest rate – these usually are from the federal governments. Others, like those from banks, tend to have higher rates. While loans with high rates may be necessary, they cause the biggest problem for students after graduation. If a student cannot afford to pay them off quickly, the high interest rate becomes a financial drain on the college graduate. Work-study programs – Students can help pay for school by doing work for the college or university while enrolled there. Usually colleges attempt to minimize the number of hours a student has to put into the work so

they have enough time to study. Net price – This is the actual cost of what a student would pay to go to a given college when all of the financial aid dollars are deducted from the listed price of the school. Sometimes a school can look more expensive than another based on published prices, but not actually cost more once the financial aid is included. So, for example, if a college charged \$30,000 for tuition and room and board, but the student received \$20,000 in financial aid, the net price would be \$10,000. A school that charged \$25,000 for room and board, but only was able to provide a student \$10,000 in financial aid would end up costing \$15,000 in net price. FAFSA – This stands for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, and it represents the standard by which most financial aid decisions are made. January 1 of the year your student wants to go to college is generally when you can first submit a FAFSA. Because financial aid often goes to those who request it first, you'll want to be sure to complete it as close to the deadline as possible. Be sure that you help

your student complete the form or have someone else who's familiar with it do so. It is quite common for students to make mistakes filling out the form – even simple things like using a nickname for themselves instead of their birth name. Those mistakes cause delays and may mean that a student doesn't receive the financial aid that otherwise would have been awarded. This article is provided by David W. Davies, Managing Director – Investments at Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. in Corning, NY, and was prepared by or in cooperation with Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. The information included in this article is not intended to be used as the primary basis for making investment decisions nor should it be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell any specific security. Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. does not endorse this organization or publication. Consult your investment professional for additional information and guidance. Benjamin F. Edwards does not provide tax or legal advice. Benjamin F. Edwards & Co., Member SIPC and FINRA 2016-1632