

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A two-part letter for Liberals

To the Editor,

Part 1: I was shocked to hear Libby Whitehouse question her own sanity. I've questioned it for quite some time.

When I read of her contention that party candidates use dirty and possibly illegal tricks to stay in power or gain power; I naturally assumed that she was referring to the Clintons. Those saints from Arkansas who are the only politicians who truly coluded with the Russians.

And Libby whines about questionable campaign donations to buy special considerations. That was the sole purpose for the existence of the Clinton pay for play Foundation.

Ms. Whitehouse, while you are traveling in all those countries to cleanse the toxins from within, please visit France, where they celebrate everything that you espouse. While you are there, please apply for asylum. Your easy ways to reduce our environmental impact are the very reasons that France is in total chaos.

Part 2: Liberals in our New York State senate do not condescend to hide their social superiority while they position themselves as paragons of virtue and bastions of morality.

How old should an abortion survivor be allowed to live before

its mother can kill it.

The dancing Dems should rewrite this new legislation to address this issue. Perhaps wait til the unwanted children register to vote; then depending on their chosen party affiliation, decide then whether or not to kill them.

Walls are immoral; but infantacide is hunky-dory.

You Libs promote open borders so murderers and rapists can pass freely into this country; but you cannot wait to murder helpless, innocent infant citizens.

You hypocrites should be really proud.

Tim Forester Campbell

VA workers are life savers

To the Editor, As a long-time resident of Bath, I feel that it is my obligation to tell all of your readers of my experience during my recent three month stay at the Bath VA. While very very ill, the staff of nurses and care providers: RN's, NA's, CAN's, Social Workers, Therapists and Dr. Tallman at the Bath VA were amazing! The professional men and women in the Hospice Unit will never be forgotten, as they did their job above and beyond their call of duty around the clock, 24-7 and I loved all of them! They provided me with such great care, courtesy, love and nurturing. They literally

saved my life!

After my stay there, I can honestly say that I feel better than I have felt in years and I owe it all to the caring staff there. The residents of Bath and its surrounding areas are extremely fortunate to have the Bath VA Hospital and the care that they give to our military veterans. I also received care from the Hornell Home Care Agency, who is still helping me at home. They also deserve so much recognition. They also have been very professional and courteous during my recuperation. I highly recommend them to anyone needing at home care services. Thank you to my daughter and son-in-law Roger and Julie Santacroce, son and daughter-in-law Jeff and Heather Heil, and my super great god daughter, Lou-Anne Bogardus Holmes. I'd also like to thank all my friends for all the cards, telephone calls, flowers, well wishes, and prayers! **Ralph W. Heil Former U.S. Marine Bath**

Mr. Reed, you're being watched closely

To the Editor,

On February 23rd, Congressman Tom Reed came to Groton.

Reed said that he supports and is proud of the 2017 Trump Tax Cuts, which, as a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, he helped

create. He claims to be a "fiscal conservative"--but if you read the criticisms of those tax cuts and the careful analysis by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) you'd know that this is just pure political posturing on his part.

The tax cuts are irresponsible. By 2028 due to the huge loss of tax revenues from the wealthiest corporations and individuals (83% of the cuts go to the wealthiest 1%) a fiscal crisis will occur, according to the CBO, as JUST the interest expense alone from our national debt will have built up to equal 100% of our gross domestic product (GDP).

Routine deficits of over one trillion dollars per year have begun as a result of those cuts. Our national debt is currently 22 trillion dollars. By 2028 that will have increased by 9 trillion more.

How much debt can we accumulate before interest rates increase enough to staunch all growth and create a recession?

Only 17% of the tax cuts go to working and middle class taxpayers. The vast majority of Reed's constituents are working and middle class. He was representing the top 1% when he put the tax cuts together. Why? Anything to do with campaign contributions from the wealthy?

Recently, Reed has been appointed Republican House leader on social security issues.

Oh No!

If he creates tax cuts to the detriment of the vast majority of his own constituents, won't he do the same to the elderly? Claiming to be a "Problem Solver", Reed talks a good line and keeps his fingers crossed that we aren't watching too closely.

Dorothy Pomponio Groton

Reed out for Trump and himself

To the Editor,

Thomas Jefferson once wrote, regarding political parties, "If I could not go to Heaven but with a party, I would not go there at all." Clearly, this forefather's view is not held by Tom Reed.

Tom Reed has replaced principled leadership and defending the constitution with his own political ambitions and an unflinching party loyalty to an unprincipled President. His latest example is the support for Trump's emergency resolution to build the wall along our southern border.

Tom, after he threw the Constitution under the bus, had the nerve to appear on CNN stating he wished the President had not acted as he did, but he (Tom) was introducing legislation to give Congress more oversight over Presidential emergency resolutions in the future. As if he were a true conservative

dedicated to preserving and protecting the constitution.

Right. But Tom did get his photo op.

Tom has also betrayed his conservative supporters by voting for the massive tax cuts, disproportionately for the wealthy.

Fiscal conservatives are lamenting the trillions more in deficit spending and wondering what are our grandchildren going to do.

And it doesn't stop here. Tom is a huge supporter of Trump's tariffs -- not only completely politicizing America's trade, but leading to record trade deficits! Of course this glosses over the fact that all revenue bills (including tariffs) should originate in the House (not with the President).

But we know Tom loves Party more than the Constitution.

I have been a registered Republican for almost 50 years. I intend on remaining a Republican, confident that the party will someday return to a principled leadership supporting the Constitution and reasonable, conservative economic policy.

However, this will not happen if our unprincipled President and his supporters (Tom Reed) remain in office.

Trump and Tom have to go.

Bruce Graf Corning

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

Tourism, not garbage trucks

It was a fantastic first day of spring on the floor of the New York State Senate last week -- especially for the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier regions.

That was because, for the second consecutive year,

the Senate unanimously approved legislation to stop the construction of what would become one of the state's largest waste incinerators at the former Seneca Army Depot in Romulus, smack in the heart of the

Finger Lakes region.

The difference this time is that the state Assembly has also approved the measure, known as the "Finger Lakes Community Preservation Act," and now it goes to Governor Andrew Cuomo to be signed into law.

The signs are that the governor will approve it and, consequently, block the project. The new law would prohibit the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) and others from issuing a waste-to-energy permit for a proposed trash incinerator under specific conditions.

I have appreciated the opportunity to co-sponsor the legislation and join legislative colleagues including local Assemblyman Phil Palmesano, Senator Pam Helming, Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb and many others to fight for its enactment.

Most of all, however, it's a credit to the dozens of local governments and

school boards, and hundreds of environmental organizations, winery owners, farmers, business and community leaders, and concerned citizens who have worked tirelessly to lead the charge against the proposed incinerator. To say the least, it has been an impressive coalition and an effective grassroots effort.

The president of one leading advocacy group, Joseph Campbell of Seneca Lake Guardian, said, "The Legislature has come together in a bipartisan fashion to protect the Finger Lakes from this toxic incinerator. A broad coalition of environmental groups, businesses and local and regional governments support this bill because the proposed incinerator would harm the environment and threaten the growing winery and tourism industries. We urge Governor Cuomo to sign this bill so we can put this outrageous proposal behind us and go back to growing the

Finger Lakes economy."

Carol Doolittle, a member of the New York Wine Industry Association and co-owner of Frontenac Point Vineyard, highlighted the importance of this action "to protect our environment and the tourism livelihood of thousands of small businesses... The focus should be on reducing waste, not sending it to rural New York, where it will negatively impact residents as well as people who travel here to enjoy the beauty of the land. Landfills and incinerators are not beautiful. If they were, the waste would be disposed of where it is generated."

There is no questioning the risk this project posed to the quality, health, and overall safety of many communities across the Finger Lakes region and, don't forget, the Southern Tier.

The coalition against the Circular EnerG project expertly made the case that an incinerator of this magnitude would spew toxic ash

resulting from the burning of a range of solid wastes. The variety of chemical outputs released would make it difficult to comply with emissions and toxic waste limits. In other words, siting a trash incinerator in the center of the Finger Lakes region, with its associated air and ash pollution, would damage local tourism as well as the wine and agricultural industries.

It's also critical to note that the incinerator would require the daily delivery of more than 2,500 tons of trash -- transported by heavy truck after heavy truck -- traveling across Southern Tier and Finger Lakes roadways and throughout area communities.

The scenario was troubling, to put mildly. As I said on the floor of the Senate last week, we want to be known for our wine and our tourism, not for our landfills and garbage truck traffic.

Governor Cuomo should swiftly sign this legislation into law.

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