

# OPINION

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### COLUMN

## Make back to school a success

The time of year is upon us once again, when we begin to transition back in to the routines of a new school year. Each new school year comes with excitement, frustrations, fears and sometimes the unexpected. It is important for parents to begin to plan ahead to help students with an easy transition back into their school routines and out of summertime habits.

Some tips for families are to be going back to set bedtimes and wake up times that are similar to, or the same as those that will be expected during the school year. This will help children get back into the habit before the first day and will begin to be more rested and ready to begin their new year. Another tip is to begin working on time management and expectations of schedules. Don't over extend yourself or your children with sports, activities, etc. as rest, relaxation and family time are so important to child development.

During the school months families often times will find it harder to coordinate family time, especially family dinners together. Numerous studies, such as the one

from The National Council on Substance Abuse and Addiction (CASA) at Columbia University, report that family dinner time improves communication between parents and children, it brings them together emotionally and most of all it has a direct impact on the potential for substance use in the future of the child. Eating family dinners at least five times a week drastically lowers a teen's chance of smoking, drinking, and using drugs. Teens who have fewer than three family dinners a week are 3.5 times more likely to have abused prescription drugs and to have used illegal drugs other than marijuana, three times more likely to have used marijuana, more than 2.5 times more likely to have smoked cigarettes, and 1.5 times more likely to have tried alcohol, according to the CASA report.

A few other tips for parents is to know where you child is, who they are with and get to know the parents of your children's friends. This is important not only for peace of mind but also for the safety and well-being of your child.

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### GUEST VIEWPOINT

## A dangerous combination

Donald Trump and Tea Party Congressman Tom Reed: They're a dangerous combination for our district - and for America.

Let's be clear. Tom Reed has hitched his wagon to the Trump campaign. Reed is Trump's chosen New York cheerleader and rather than standing up to Trump's hate-filled rhetoric and bigotry, he is eagerly embracing it. Shame on him. He doesn't represent my middle class values because of his hate-filled rhetoric, because he takes money from and caters to monied special interests. Here is a quote from a recent editorial printed in a local newspaper. "Donald Trump is giving new meaning to 'bully pulpit' ratcheting his irrational campaign rhetoric to new dangerous lows". Even going as far as suggesting his supporters could assassinate Hillary or the judges she might appoint! Tom Reed is complacent in the hate and fear mongering spewed by Trump and his surrogates "words matter" and Tom Reed's early endorsement of Trump speaks volumes!

I agree with Republican Congressman Richard Hanna who is supporting Hillary Clinton for president. Hanna said in a letter

posted on Syracuse.com "I found him profoundly offensive and narcissistic but as much as anything, a world class panderer, anything but a leader".

He characterized Trump as a "Flawed" candidate, who is ill-informed on the issues! This is who our current congressman Tom Reed endorsed early and supports for president of our great nation!

I recently received a deceptive glossy flyer in my mail from Congressman Reed promoting himself. It said in small print "This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at TAXPAYER EXPENSE". Congressman Reed is using our hard earned tax dollars to promote himself! We need someone with integrity representing us in Congress, that's why I am supporting John Plumb for congress.

This election is very important. We must restore sanity back to Congress, and bring real leadership to our district. That's one reason why I am voting on November 8 for Hillary Clinton for president and John Plumb for Congress.

— Jim Carr is the chairman of the Chemung County Democratic Committee. He lives in Millport.

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### COLUMN

## More jobs best way to honor Labor Day

It's fitting that we can recognize this Labor Day shortly after the announcement of a new Amtrak-Alstom contract being signed, sealed and delivered, a contract that will create 400 new jobs at Alstom's Hornell facility and at least another 350 across the Southern Tier and Upstate region.

Big news for Hornell, the Southern Tier and Upstate. And most of all for Alstom in Hornell, whose workers will build the next fleet of modern, high-speed trains as part of Amtrak's \$2.5-billion program to upgrade its Northeast Corridor's Acela service and expand capacity by 40 percent.

The new contract represents a major development in the future of the nation's transportation infrastructure. Vice President Joe Biden, a longtime proponent of passenger rail service, noted the seriousness of the Amtrak upgrade, stressed its importance to job growth throughout the Northeast Corridor (where one out of every three American jobs are located) and urged the nation to understand the "essential value of a rail system that's modern throughout the whole country."

This understanding bodes well for Alstom, Hornell and the Southern Tier rail car industry overall moving forward.

As a member of the State Senate Transportation Committee, I can



TOM O'MARA

tell you that it bodes well for the simple fact of the potential long-term foundation of manufacturing it promises for the region. The creation of 400 manufacturing jobs at Alstom simply can't be overstated. It's vitally important to the Southern Tier economy, for Alstom's workers and their families, and to the entire Hornell area. It represents a timely foundation of manufacturing on which we can continue to build job growth in Steuben County, across the region and throughout Upstate. It's a powerful testament to the quality of Alstom and its local workforce.

Simply put, this job creation contract makes a major difference for the future of economic development, and to workers and families across the region. Enormous credit goes to the significant incentives offered by Governor Andrew Cuomo, Empire State Development and the Hornell Industrial Development Agency, which were critical to strengthening Alstom's competitiveness in order to win this contract. Same goes for the team of local, state and federal leaders, including Congressman Tom Reed,

whose commitment and perseverance made such a difference.

Importantly, it truly complements an exciting new project I've been pushing, together with Hornell IDA Executive Director Jim Griffin, to establish a regional "Rail Car Manufacturing Center of Excellence" headquartered in Hornell. Recognizing and building on the history of rail in Hornell, we envision this new Center of Excellence, which has been given the green light by the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council (REDC), as a place to keep training future workers in the cutting edge of rail car manufacturing, to offer education at the high school level for the next generation of workers, and where industry suppliers can come to learn and stay abreast of how they can best provide the goods and services the industry needs.

We're excited about the Center's promise and potential. It's another reason for optimism.

That's also true for our continued work with the Hornell Chamber of Commerce's CSS Workforce NY program. For several years, again working closely with Jim Griffin, who also serves as the President of the Hornell Chamber of Commerce, and with my local legislative colleagues Assemblymen Phil Palmesano, Bill Nojay and Joe Giglio, we've secured hundreds of thousands of dollars in state funding

for this fantastic initiative which has provided a valuable on-the-job training and placement program assisting the economically disadvantaged, veterans, displaced workers, and the unemployed and underemployed throughout Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben counties.

Chamber President Griffin has said of the program, "The continued support of Senator O'Mara allows us to assist local businesses find new employees and encourages them to create new jobs. The Chamber has provided on-the-job training for over thirty years and has one of the best records in transitioning trainees into full-time unsubsidized employment."

So there's much to highlight within the transportation sector across the Southern Tier, and it's all cause for hope: The new Alstom contract and its economic spin-off benefits regionally. A solid foundation of job training and education. And let's not forget the increased state support for our local transportation infrastructure.

As many of you know, Assemblyman Palmesano and I have built an ever-growing coalition of legislators, local highway superintendents, county executives, mayors and other local leaders to keep the state's attention focused on the "Local Roads Matter" campaign.

SEE O'MARA, A5

### ANOTHER VIEW



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Climate change will continue

TO THE EDITOR | The Pilgrims tried cooperatives and many of them starved to death. They then assigned each to their own parcel of land and shazaam .... There was a surplus. Was it magic of individualism? Have you readers of The

Leader - all 32 of you - noticed that Ruth Young and Darrin Robbins never fail in their diatribe to segue into the same left-wing litany. Alternative energy is neither sustainable nor necessary. The global warming ruse is based on computer models with inputs coming directly from Al Gore's bowels. These computer

models include no inputs from the earth's sole source of heat, the sun.

Alternative energy corporations have two things in common. They are heavily subsidized by the taxpayers and they are not sustainable. They are the epitome of "crony capitalism."

The climate of this planet has changed

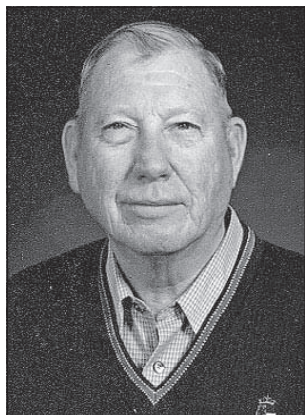
incessantly for billions of years and wackos from any political persuasion are not going to rewrite that history. "Climate change destruction being felt across our country" is going to continue, regardless of Crestwood and/or Ruth Young.

Tom Forester Campbell

# OBITUARIES & BUSINESS

## OBITUARIES

### Richard G. 'Dick' Wolverton



Penn Yan: Richard G. "Dick" Wolverton, age 83, of Penn Yan, NY passed away Friday September 2, 2016 at Geneva General Hospital, in Geneva, N.Y.

Friends are invited to calling hours from 5:00-7:00 pm Tuesday (Sept. 6) at the Baird Funeral Home, 36 Water Street, Dundee; where his funeral

service will be held at 7:00 pm with Pastor Jeff Childs officiating. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 am Wednesday (Sept. 7) at Hope Cemetery, in Corning, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Penn Yan United Methodist Church 166 Main St. Penn Yan, NY 14527 or to Ontario-Yates County Hospice Assoc., 756 Pre-Emption Rd., Geneva, NY 14456.

Richard was born October 22, 1932 in Tyrone, NY, the son of the late Silas and Arlena Thompson Wolverton. After graduating from Painted Post High School in 1951; he served in the U.S. Navy as an aircraft mechanic from 1951-1955. On Dec. 22, 1956 in St. Petersburg, FL he married the former Patricia Anne Kirk. He continued his education, earning a degree in Mechanical Engineering

from Alfred Tech in 1958.

"Dick" as he was known by many, was a Mechanical Engineer, for 35 years retiring from Dresser-Rand, in Painted Post, in 1995. He has lived on the shore of Seneca Lake for 17 years, wintering in Swansboro, N.C. for 10 years; previously living in Coopers Plains. Mr. Wolverton was a member of the Penn Yan United Methodist Church, a Life Member and Chaplain of the Campbell American Legion. In his spare time, he enjoyed bowling, loved woodworking, but time spent with family was treasured most.

He is loved and will be forever missed by his wife of 59 years Pat Wolverton at home; 1 son Brian K. (Maura) Wolverton of Rock Stream, NY; 2 daughters Carol A. (Scott) Johnston MD's of Jacksonville, NC, Janice "Jan" L. (Jeffrey) Taylor of Cary,

NC; 5 grandchildren Aaron Johnston, Rachel (Tom) Brader, Rebekah Johnston, Renee Wolverton, and Jessica Taylor; a sister Lucille (Keith) Gorton of Painted Post, NY; and several nieces and nephews.

He was pre-deceased by a sister Doris Laskey of Winthrop, ME in 2015.

Online condolences can be sent by visiting <http://www.bairdfuneralhome-undee.com/>

### Ruth D. Wilson

Corning, NY - Ruth D. Wilson, 92, of William Street, Corning, NY, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, Sept 2, 2016, at Absolut Care in Painted Post, NY.

Ruth was born January 23, 1924, in Oxford, NY. She is preceded by her parents, Sylvester and Margaret (Harrison) Rucker and nine brothers and sisters.

She is survived by nieces Junietta Brooks, Dyann George, nephews Edward White and Dwight Rucker. Ruth also has many great nieces and nephews, and great great nieces and nephews, and God daughters Nita Baldwin and Adrienne Wheeler. Ruth graduated from Oxford Academy High School and continued her education to become a dietitian. She retired from IBM Corp. in Endicott, NY, where she had been a zone analyst. Upon retirement, about 30 years ago, Ruth moved to the Corning Painted Post area. She became highly involved in her church, in hospitality, singing and playing the guitar - where ever there was good food, you know she had to be involved! In addition, she took on a position job coaching and eventually working in a flower shop.

Ruth had many friends from her churches, and

those that had the privilege to know her received an unforgettable blessing. She was a faithful member of her church, Faith to Face Ministries of Corning NY. Every morning she would start her day by saying, "Lord, what adventure are you and I going on today?" One of those adventures was at age 90, she compiled and published the book *Memorable Quotes*.

A celebration of Life service will be held on Tuesday September 6, 2016, at Faith to Face Ministries, 35 Tuxill Ave., Corning, N.Y. at 11:30 AM, with Bishop Dr. Mark Vaughn officiating. The family will receive friends from 11:00 to 11:30 at the church. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the Faith to Face Ministries building fund at the above address.

Acly-Stover Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

## DEATH NOTICES

### Elsie V. Drake

Elsie V. Drake, 97, formerly of Sabinsville, Pa., died Friday, Sept. 2, 2016.

Calling hours are 10-11 a.m. Tuesday at Kenyon Funeral Home, Westfield, Pa.

Services will be held there at the conclusion of calling hours at 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Burial will be in Sabinsville Cemetery.

### Andrew R. Luke Jr.

Andrew "Andy" Richard Luke Jr., 80, of Mansfield, Pa., died Saturday, Sept. 3, 2016 at Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pa.

Calling hours are 4-5 p.m. Thursday at Buckheit Funeral Chapel and Crematory, Inc., 637 S. Main St.,

Mansfield, Pa.

Services will be held there at the conclusion of calling hours at 5 p.m. Thursday.

Burial will be in Whittneyville Cemetery, Charleston Twp.

### Dean Bartholomew

Dean Bartholomew, 82, of Geneseo, formerly of Addison, died Friday, Sept. 2, 2016 at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester.

Calling hours are 5-8 p.m. Friday and 1-3 p.m. Saturday at H.P. Smith & Son Inc. Funeral Home, 1607 Main St., Woodhull.

Services will be held there at the conclusion of calling hours at 3 p.m. Saturday.

Burial will be in Addison Hill Cemetery, Tuscarora.

## O'MARA

From Page A4

After five years, beginning in 2008, when state support for local roads and bridges remained stagnant, the state's recognition over the past several years, and especially this year, of the importance of local transportation infrastructure and parity in statewide transportation funding will continue making a significant difference for our local governments, local economies, local property taxpayers and motorist safety locally and statewide. In fact, a recent Politico analysis of the state Department of Transportation's (DOT) five-year capital plan found that the state "plan to spend more than \$1 billion over the next five years upgrading roads and bridges throughout the Southern Tier... The money for the economically struggling

Southern Tier is the most earmarked for any upstate region."

We will continue working with Governor Cuomo, our legislative colleagues and local highway superintendents and leaders across this region and statewide on this vitally important challenge and priority. But this year's budget marks an important move forward. Every additional dollar of state support means a dollar less that our local property taxpayers have to pay. It's also an important investment in economic growth and job creation throughout the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions, and all across New York. We'll keep working and building on it.

— *State Sen. Tom O'Mara represents New York's 58th Senate District, which includes Steuben, Chemung, Schuyler and Yates counties, and a portion of Tompkins County.*

## EDITORIAL

From Page A4

Getting to know friends' parents is important so that you both can be on the same page when it comes to rules, expectations and safety especially as they get older and may be spending more time without adult supervision. Clearly established rules and expectations by both families encourage cooperation and we often see fewer issues around alcohol and underage drinking. If your child is invited to a friend's house, no matter how old they are, it is ok to call the family where they will be and ask questions such as who will be there, what activities might they be doing, and others.

As children get older they are more likely to encounter or be in a situation where drugs or alcohol are present and even be offered a chance to try

these things. Be proactive and talk early and talk often with your child about your expectations around use but avoid lecturing. Let them know that you want what is best for them in life and that substances are not going to help them reach their potential. Talking to kids about drugs and alcohol can seem overwhelming; however you can contact Steuben Council on Addictions to receive a free packet of information on how to have these conversations with you child as well as other tips for parents on back to school, substance abuse and more. They can be reached at (607) 776-6441 and you can find them on Facebook. You don't have to feel alone!

— *Steuben Council on Addictions is a program of Substance Free Living, which is a service priority for Catholic Charities of Steuben.*

## TRAVEL



Tourists takes a selfie by the statue of revolutionary hero Ernesto "Che" Guevara on Friday in Santa Clara, Cuba. For travelers without relatives in Cuba, it costs about \$200 each to fly from Fort Lauderdale to Santa Clara. RAMON ESPINOSA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# A journey of hope

New air links offer promise in Washington and Cuba

By Michael Weissenstein  
The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Cuba — The first off JetBlue 387 were the TV cameramen, the U.S. secretary of transportation and the airline executives.

As the tropical sun beat the tarmac, the VIPs traded congratulations on the arrival of the first commercial flight from the U.S. to Cuba in more than 50 years. Away from the cameras, a small but potentially more important group made its way through Santa Clara's single-terminal airport: a pair of backpackers from Oregon and a book editor from Chicago and his 16-year-old daughter — the first U.S. tourists on the newly reestablished flights.

By December, the four will have a lot of company, with some 300 direct flights a week scheduled from the U.S. to 10 cities across Cuba. America's biggest airlines and the Obama administration hope the planes will carry hundreds of thousands of U.S. travelers, both Cuban-Americans visiting family and sightseers who will turn the largest island in the Caribbean back into a major U.S. vacation destination.

For U.S. airlines it's a chance to move into an untapped market less than an hour's flight from Miami. For Cubans, it means waves of demanding but high-tipping Americans could transform the landscape in cities like Santa Clara that have been off the well-trod tourist track for now.

"The best tourist there is, is the American tourist," said 25-year-old Liban Bermudez as he sold 16-year-old Sophia Compton a pair of handmade leather sandals from his stand off Santa Clara's main plaza. "They're the ones that buy the most."

For President Barack Obama, the reestablishment of commercial air links with Cuba is the last major chance to make a key part of his foreign policy legacy irreversible before he leaves office.

In the year since the U.S. and Cuba re-established diplomatic relations, government ties have grown quickly, generating a string of bilateral agreements on issues from environmental protection to public health. Commerce remains stalled by the 55-year-old U.S. trade embargo on Cuba, and the difficulty of doing business in the island's largely closed and centrally planned economy.

The restart of commercial flights on Wednesday means 10 U.S. airlines including American Airlines, Delta, United, Southwest and JetBlue suddenly have hundreds of millions of dollars in business due to U.S.-Cuba normalization.

The Obama administration finalized the last of the new routes, 20 a day to Havana, the same day Flight 387 touched down in Santa Clara. A requirement that the airlines start service within 90 days means all the new Cuba flights will have to be running a month before Obama leaves office.

Pure tourism remains illegal under U.S. regulations that allow 12 categories of travel to Cuba including religious and sports activities and educational travel promoting "people-to-people" contact. For Americans without family ties to Cuba, the most popular form of travel has been on tightly focused educational trips organized in conjunction with the Cuban government. The Obama administration lifted that group requirement in March, leaving Americans free to travel to Cuba as long as they can credibly describe their trips as educational.

As a result, the ban on tourism has become effectively unenforceable, something that many more Americans are likely to realize now that they can instantly book travel on

commercial flights instead of expensive, inconvenient charters.

The four travelers on Flight 387 without relatives in Cuba paid about \$200 each to fly from Fort Lauderdale to Santa Clara. They spent Wednesday seeing Che Guevara's tomb and sites from Cuba's 1959 revolution. Then Stephen Compton and his daughter Sophia headed to Havana. Keane Daly and Taimairie Locke boarded a bus to the colonial city of Trinidad and the waterfalls and beaches of Cuba's central southern coast.

"I've traveled to 30-35 countries and this is probably one of the friendliest places I've been to," Daly, a 25-year-old University of Oregon geology graduate student, said Saturday evening. "I was expecting maybe some hostility but it's actually the opposite. People are really excited about Americans coming to Cuba."

Most of the non-official passengers on Flight 387 were Cuban-Americans — among the nearly 400,000 who already visit family in Cuba each year.

The number of U.S. travelers without family ties to Cuba is already on track to at least triple to 300,000 this year.

Strapped for cash as subsidized oil from Venezuela dwindles, the Cuban government is welcoming the wave of visitors and struggling to update infrastructure that's already overwhelmed. It's pushing to build new hotels, but demand will outstrip supply for years to come. The government has also given Aeroports de Paris, the French company that manages Paris' airports, a concession to take over Havana's Jose Marti airport, where passengers can often wait hours to get their checked bags. But renovation of the airport isn't expected to start in earnest until next year, well after commercial flights being arriving there from the U.S.