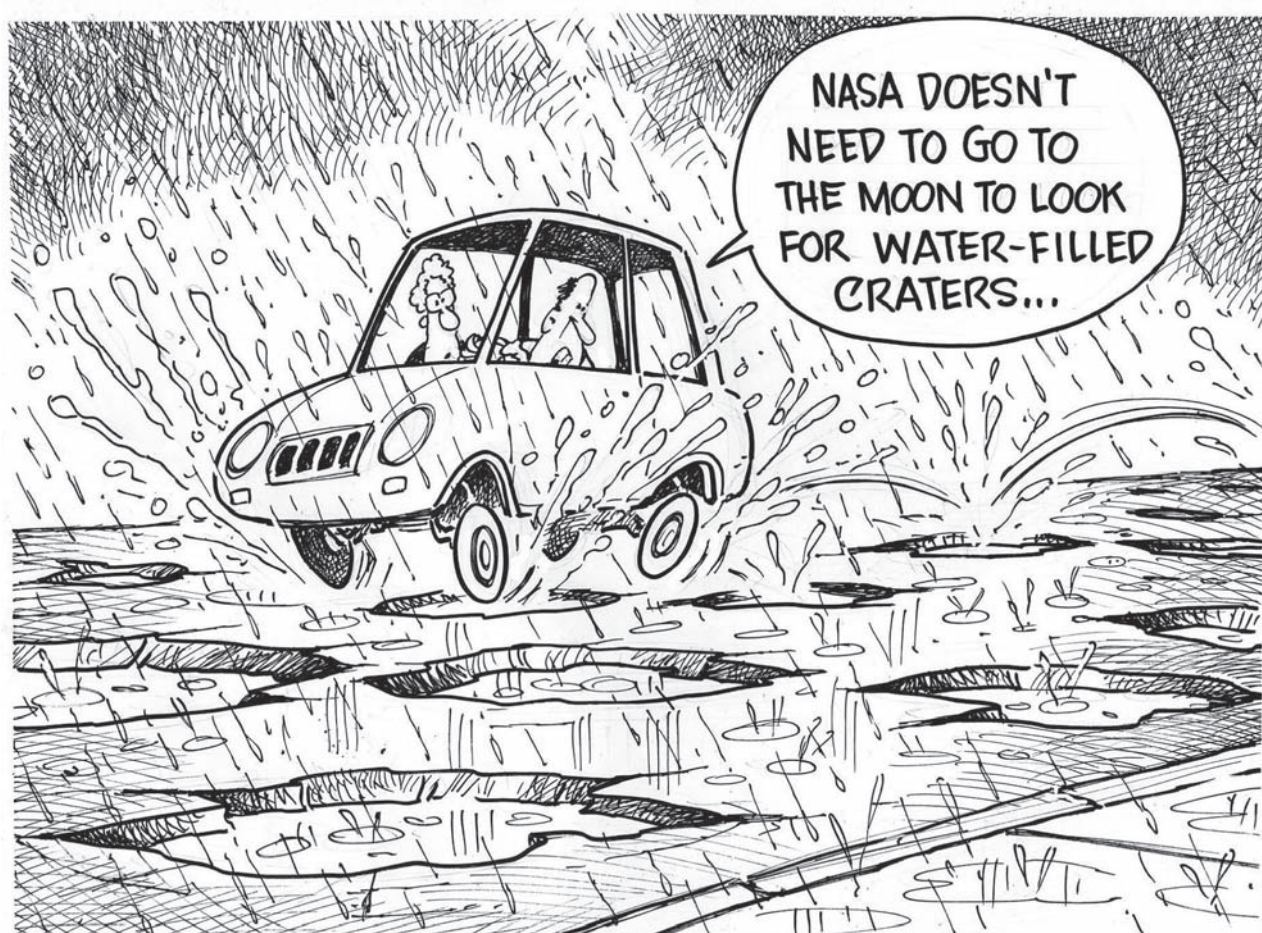


OPINION

ANOTHER VIEW



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Socialists will come for your guns

To the Editor,
Socialism kills. Anyone who knows anything about history should be able to see this. Wherever socialism has been tried, it fails. Why should the current crop of socialists think any different? They don't. They only know that complete control and power come with it. But only for themselves. What would any socialist takeover be without total civilian disarmament. Nothing. It's not hard to see that's what they're heading for. Disarming law abiding citizens, with no criminal or mental health record does nothing to promote public safety. Federal statistics prove this. Anti gun zealots don't care where the crimes are really taking place, or what kinds of weapons are used in their commission. It's amazing to me

that the former U.S. President said terrorism should be blamed on economic conditions in foreign countries. What about here? Liberal controlled cities, and states have higher than average rates of crime. Poor economic standards? Crime is a socio-economic problem. A cultural problem. Not a gun problem. New York City has seen an increase of sixty percent in shootings since bail reform was initiated. How, you might ask. With all that gun control. Persons who commit crimes will do it no matter how many laws are on the books. We can't legislate morality. I vehemently support a second amendment sanctuary county ordinance. We cannot afford to wait and see what some future politician has in mind when it comes to our safety. The right to keep

and bear arms shall not be infringed.
David L. Sutfin, Hornell

The impeachment conspiracy

To the Editor,
Democrat's dirty deep state's plan to impeach Trump existed long before his election. House Judiciary Committee's impeachment hearing enlisted constitutional law professors pontificating high crimes and misdemeanors. Three recruited by democrats, republicans allowed one. Harvard's Dr. Feldman, Stanford's Dr. Karlan, and North Carolina University's Dr. Gerhardt, exhibited cravings for Trump's head. Snarky democrat prejudices against Trump, raised cautionary red flags revealing education industry's leftist indoctrination techniques. Dr. Jonathan Turley, impartial, liberal Democrat shunned by Democrats, like liberal Democrat legal scholar Alan Dershowitz's judicious approach to impeachment, branded them persona non grata. Judiciary Committee hearing followed similar "Holier Than Thou Inquisitions" like the "Intelligence Committee". Witnesses testifying witnessed nothing, bias gossipers spreading Democrat's hate driven character assassinations. Democrat's notorious liars Nadler and Schiff, leading vigilante mobs to lynch Donald Trump. Mimicking

obliterating of supreme court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's reputation. Like the old west, hair trigger lynching motivated by blind-hate filled anger. Speaker Pelosi declaring necessary haste, branding Trump an immediate national threat, stalled "Articles of Impeachment" to the Senate for a month. House having failed, drama queen Pelosi wanted Senators to conduct an investigation, after decreeing conclusive proof of Trump's guilt. Manipulation to extend their fishing expedition. Investigations underway over three years, Democrat's worldwide dragnet for a crime, to bring down Trump. Beginning with Obama's DOJ and FBI investigating Trump's "Russian Collusion" and Hillary and her DNC commissioning fictitious "Dossier", during Trump's campaign, slandering him. Illegally, igniting warrants, spying on Trump's campaign. Deceptively sparking special council Mueller's overplayed investigation resulting in nothing. Deception master Schiff digging into dirty deep state for sleazy "whistle blowers", bolstering his deceptions. Deep state Democrat's maniacal over non-politician and non-swamp member winning the election. Trump's success exposes corruption and incompetence Washington has wallowed in for decades. The beat goes on.
Gerald J. Furnkranz, Millport

Wearing orange and delivering message



Tom Omara

The State Capitol will turn orange this week.

I'm referring to the annual arrival of hundreds of local highway superintendents and highway department employees in the halls of New York government, from every corner of our region and state, clad in their bright orange T-shirts to deliver the message: Local Roads Matter.

It is simply one of the most consistent, vocal and important advocacy efforts that legislators see in Albany all year. I look forward to it.

Since 2013, local Assemblyman Phil Palmesano and I have organized a bipartisan group of colleagues to lend legislative support.

In 2019, Dennis S. Davis, then-President of the County Highway Superintendents Association, said,

"Our legislative supporters, particularly Senator Tom O'Mara and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano, are to be commended for their efforts on behalf of the people of this state. The hard reality is that local highway departments need a significant boost in the level of state investment to effectively address the daunting financial challenges."

The Chair of Rebuild NY Now added, "Rebuild NY Now will continue advocating for infrastructure investments in New York, and thank you to Senator O'Mara and Assemblyman Palmesano for leading the charge in demanding action for our critical infrastructure needs."

We have proudly helped lead this charge because the need is undeniable. Among others, the state comptroller issued a report in October 2017 estimating that locally owned bridges alone needed nearly \$28 billion in repairs.

An earlier comptroller's report called 32% of New York's local bridges deficient and 40% of local roads fair or poor, and worsening.

Keep in mind, municipalities maintain 87% of the roads in the state and 52% of New York's

18,000 bridges. Forty-eight percent of the vehicle miles driven in the state are on local roads.

The Local Roads Matter campaign has made a difference. Over the past seven years, funding through the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) has increased by over \$300 million, or approximately 40%.

Together with the PAVE-NY and BRIDGE-NY programs established in 2016, significant increased state support has been delivered to New York's counties, cities, towns and villages.

Nevertheless, it demands constantly getting back into the ring. It's an outright brawl competing for resources with a Governor and, especially now, a Legislature whose priorities are New York City-oriented. That's just a fact.

Consequently, every year, we renew the fight. It is one of the time-honored requirements of our legislative process: Keep making the case. Keep delivering the message. Keep working at it, session after session.

Here at the start of a new decade, Governor Andrew Cuomo touts that "New York State is forging ahead with the nation's most aggressive \$275 billion infrastructure program."

In response, our Local Roads Matter coalition once again this week will raise our collective voices for an even stronger state-local partnership.

Our opening letter to the governor and legislative leaders reads, in part, "We believe that New York State's investment in local transportation infrastructure must be a foundation of the nation's most aggressive infrastructure program in order for this program to achieve its envisioned goals...CHIPS is the key difference for local communities, economies, governments, motorists and taxpayers throughout the Empire State, and we should no longer ignore this fact."

On Wednesday, a Local Roads Matter rally turns the Capitol orange.

You might hear us all the way back home in the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes - and we will once again do our best to make the governor and the downstate legislative leaders hear us too.

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