

# OPINION

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### WEEKLY COLUMN | SEN. TOM O'MARA

## Heroin crisis knows no boundaries

We know now that this battle against heroin and opioid addiction is going to be long, drawn-out, and difficult -- not to mention heart-wrenching and tragic. The more I continue hearing from local citizens and local leaders -- and the more we continue the work of the Senate Task Force on Heroin and Opioid Addiction, work that's now in its third year -- I'm not sure we're facing any other work that's more complex or challenging.

At a task force hearing on Long Island late last week, we heard more testimony and it drove home the point, for me, that this crisis of addiction knows no boundaries.

So we have a great responsibility to soldier on. We've certainly lost too many lives -- good, decent, promising young lives -- in the Southern Tier, the Finger Lakes, on Long Island and all across this state and nation. So our work now becomes to grab hold of the statewide desire to save lives, and to determine the best strategies for save more and more of these lives.

That's the work driving our task force and we've started to build a foundation that we firmly believe can be successful but that needs constant, steadfast attention and reinforcement.

The bipartisan Senate task force was created in 2014 at a time when local police departments and addiction centers locally and all over New York were pointing to the alarming rise in the availability and use of heroin.

First and foremost, it's important to keep hearing directly from the local front lines in fighting this statewide heroin crisis, like we did in late February in Yates County and last week on Long Island. This local input and community



TOM O'MARA

involvement, which has been reflected in actions we've taken over the past several years as well as in the recently enacted 2016-17 state budget, helps us target the necessary responses and keeps our strategies as up to date and effective as possible.

Heroin is devastating lives on Long Island as much as it is in Penn Yan, Hornell, Ithaca, Elmira and many other places throughout the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions. So I was grateful for the opportunity last week to share the perspective of the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes in our battle with heroin and opioid addiction. Equally important was the chance to listen to more and more firsthand experiences and suggestions for how best to respond and help all of our communities move forward.

It can't be stressed enough. The local input we're receiving will help our task force build on and strengthen the state-local partnership that's going to be critical to putting in place the most responsive combination of law enforcement, awareness and education, and treatment and prevention. We intend to stay informed about the range of complex challenges posed by heroin including addiction prevention and treatment options, drug-related crimes, and other community and public health and safety impacts.

It's making a difference. There is hope. The new state budget includes \$166 million in funding to continue

SEE CRISIS, A5

### GUEST VIEW | ASSEMBLYMAN PHIL PALMESANO

## Self-worth not measured by state tests

This month, children in grades 3-8 across our region and state are taking mandatory Common Core standardized testing. I just wanted to take a moment to send a quick message to our parents, teachers and children.

First, to our parents, thank you for your continued advocacy and passion, ensuring your voice is heard regarding your children's education. Thank you for realizing and understanding it is our involvement as parents with our children, helping them with their homework, listening to their concerns, communicating with their teachers, and being watchdogs to ensure they are provided with future opportunities and the best



PHIL PALMESANO

education possible so they can achieve their goals and dreams, whatever they may be.

Second, to our teachers, thank you for all you do each day to help bring light and energy into our children's lives. It is your caring, your time, your effort, your hard work, and your dedication to your students that will make the impact and difference in helping them learn and grow, not how they perform on these tests. Please know that many of us recognize a high-stakes

standardized test does not measure that relationship between you and your students in the classroom or the success and growth you have achieved with your kids over the course of the school year. Thank you for the commitment you have and will continue to show our kids.

And finally, to our children, please know that you are bright, intelligent, incredible kids. Your success, your future and your self-worth are not, and never will be, measured by how you perform on these standardized tests. You are more than a test, and I hope you never forget that. Set big goals, always believe in yourself, and fly toward your dreams.

We certainly need to continue to improve the education our children

receive. I am all for that. But I will say now what I have said before, if we want to reform and improve the education our children receive, then we first must treat parents as our partners, our teachers as professionals, and ensure our children's self-worth is not measured by how they perform on a high-stakes standardized test. Thank you all for what you do to help our children grow and learn.

— Assemblyman Phil Palmesano, R-Corning, represents the 132nd Assembly District, which includes the majority of Steuben County, all of Schuyler and Yates counties, and portions of Chemung and Seneca counties.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Congrats on retirement to Chief Trentanelli

TO THE EDITOR — After 16 years as Chief of Police, Chief Trentanelli has decided to retire from law enforcement.

His career has been a long and honorable one. The position of Chief of Police is a difficult one but one that Trentanelli has handled well. I agree with 1st Lieutenant Spaulding when he says that the Chief is one of the hardest working most energetic men that he's ever met. Manager Ryckman is losing a great department head who has had a tough job. I remember when his hair was dark and that is no longer the case. As for me, I've gone from being "the retired Police Chief" to "a retired Police Chief". I believe that in the history of the police department there has never been two living retired Chiefs.

Good luck Sal and enjoy your well deserved retirement.

Dick Faulisi  
Corning

#### Volunteers drive transportation program

TO THE EDITOR — April 10-16 is National Volunteer Week, and the Institute for Human Services, Inc. (IHS) would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteer drivers who support our Coordinated Transportation Services program.

These dedicated volunteers provide transportation throughout Steuben, Allegany, Livingston and Cattaraugus counties for a variety of clients. They make it possible for those without transportation to access medical care at area doctors, dentists, clinics, pharmacies and hospitals. They also help people with food-related trips to grocery stores and food pantries, as well as initial trips to human service agencies to access benefit programs.

Our rural location can mean hardship for residents who do not have vehicles or access to public transportation. The IHS Coordinated Transportation volunteer drivers give generously of their time and personal vehicles to ensure that people in need

of transportation are able to access essential services. They provide safe, accessible transportation with courtesy and friendliness.

Our volunteer drivers exemplify the theme for National Volunteer Week — "Celebrate Service." These individuals do not seek recognition. They simply want to make a difference.

We extend our sincere thanks to those individuals who are taking action and working to solve significant problems in our community.

Allison Pierce,  
Director, Coordinated Transportation Services  
Institute for Human Services, Inc.

#### Advocating Corning Aquifer analysis

TO THE EDITOR — We are lucky to get our drinking water from an aquifer. Such water tends to be the purest. But aquifers can get polluted in several ways. Rain and snow-melt percolate into aquifers through layers of sand, gravel and rock. While this process may help purify water, some contaminants may slip through this natural filter.

There are many potential sources of pollution resting above the Corning Aquifer, ourselves included. I will suggest only a few. Lately we've heard the news about the need for soil remediation in Corning's Houghton Plot. That area was an industrial toxic waste dump years ago. Hotel construction has been delayed in Corning because the state Department of Environmental Conservation halted work after manufacturing waste was discovered at that site. Remediation removal is pending. There are other potentially hazardous waste sites such as the Hakes landfill and three toxic superfund sites located above the aquifer. (The inactive Erwin and Edward Allen landfills and an Ingersoll Rand plot in Painted Post.) Two clothes cleaners sites are on a remediation list. Could dangerous waste be leaching into our aquifer?

We are somewhat protected by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Municipal water is tested as per state regulations and, when found unsafe by those standards, violations are reported. Annual drinking water quality reports are available. But we must

remain vigilant, so that regulations are enforced and new ones are added as needed. Circumstances change and now there is concern about the impact bulk water sales may be having on our aquifer. The NYS Supreme Court's Appellate Division ordered Painted Post to halt such sales. To proceed, the village would need to have an environmental review conducted. The Town of Erwin continues its bulk water sales.

Our aquifer has been classified as "potentially stressed" by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, which means it is approaching or has exceeded the sustainable limit of its resources. According to Mr. Todd Miller, a hydrogeologist recently retired from the U.S. Geological Survey, who spoke at a public forum in Corning in February, it would be beneficial for us to have a comprehensive Groundwater Flow Analysis done. All of the municipalities using the Corning Aquifer could join together to do this. For our own health, we need to safeguard the health of our aquifer.

Karen Biesanz  
Corning

#### Trump offers hope, common sense

TO THE EDITOR — The political cartoon about Donald Trump sure was, "Another View". Trump supporters get so sick of people saying he's a sexist, bigot, racist and that he encourages violence and division. What proof is there? He doesn't want illegal aliens to come in illegally, so that makes him a racist? Well, there are plenty of us that don't want the extra expense or danger of them either. Sexist, because he treats women the same as men when giving a response? He has hired women to run projects for decades and pays them well. The only hate I see are the paid protesters that come to his rallies. When they're asked questions on why they're there, they are clueless. They are the violent ones.

There were no seeds of HOPE, PATRIOTISM or COMMON SENSE. That's what he is sowing in the minds of many Americans. Hope that our president is

on our side.

That he will stand up to our enemies and put American safety and well being ahead of everything else. Common sense in dealing with our economy and jobs, taking care of our vets before illegal aliens, cutting waste in our budget, the list goes on. Many people are coming out to vote because they feel he is a real patriot, which in turns makes us feel patriotic. There has not been a candidate since Reagan that has inspired so many people, and made us feel we have a say in how our country is run. It's time we the People take back our country, and many of us feel only Donald Trump can do that for us.

Teresa Stockton  
Prattsburgh

#### 'Dangerous' opinions not grounded in evidence

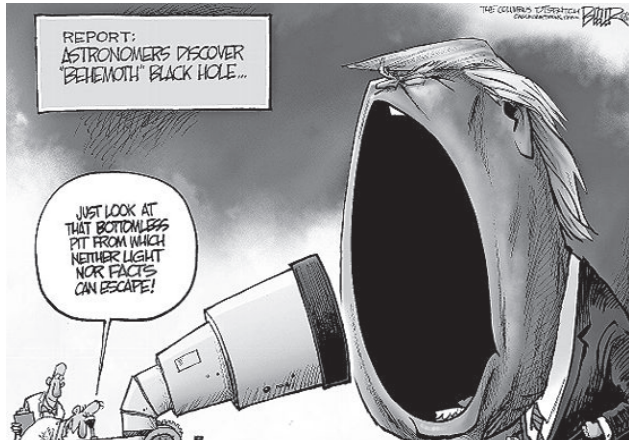
TO THE EDITOR — I am writing in response to To The Editor, Sunday, April 3, "Trump the best choice for president" where point #1 addressed President Obama as Ayatollah.

It is a huge disappointment to see blatant misinformation printed in The Leader without the minimum of an Editor's note. Opinions that are not grounded in evidence are dangerous, and not worthy of reproduction in print. This is not simply act of free speech but this is altercating intended to persuade readers to accept the points that follow. In this case, it is preying on readers' by casting President Obama into a false role and discrediting his actual role as the leader of the United States, elected through a democratic process, not once but twice.

Instead of addressing the additional five points, Mario L. Lecuona, M.D., chose to put a spin ahead of the arguments, compromising his credibility and reasoning. Sadly, such methods of persuasion have been used to discredit the many U.S. citizens who are minorities. Over decades, American minorities have served this country honorably, including the Navajo code talkers, Tuskegee airmen, women in the military (WACs, WAVES, SPARs), and -- yes -- Muslim Americans.

Susan St. John-Jarvis,  
Caton

### ANOTHER VIEW



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# OBITUARIES & BUSINESS

## OBITUARIES

### CAROL E. AUSTIN

Carol E. Austin, age 87, of Campbell, passed away on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at Steuben Center. She was born on January 5, 1929 in Corning, the daughter of William C. and Laura (Smith) Brew Sr. She married Walter F. Austin on February 14, 1948 in Corning. He predeceased her on January 10, 2007.

Carol graduated from CFA in 1946 and also graduated from the Dermal Way School of Beauty Culture of Elmira in 1947. She was a member of the Campbell United Methodist Church and the Robert N. Austin American Legion Post #1279 Auxiliary for 65 years. At the Legion, she had served as President and attended several district conferences and county meetings. Carol was employed by the G. Donald Platt Insurance Agency in Campbell for 14 years and also served as Deputy Town Clerk to Mr. Platt who was Town Clerk of Campbell. Upon the death of Mr. Platt in 1969, the agency was purchased by Callahan and Hooley, Inc. of Corning. Carol retired from Callahan and Hooley on May 1, 1994 following 25 years of service. After retirement, she enjoyed spending time with her husband, family, and friends at their seasonal residence, "The Pond" on King Hill Road in Campbell.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, James and Linda Austin of Campbell; son-in-law, Joseph Conaway of Campbell; brother, Kenneth Brew of Corning; grandchildren: Todd (Tessa) Conaway of Middlesex, NY, Julie (Kevin) Knaak of Winter Haven, FL, and James (Jessica) Austin Jr of Campbell; great grandchildren: Brie Crooks, Austin Conaway, and Sean Conaway all of Middlesex, NY, Allie Austin of Campbell, and Kody Knaak, Keegan Knaak and Kalab Knaak, all of Winter Haven FL; great-great grandchildren: Blake of

Rushville and Kaizley Knaak of Winter Haven, FL; and several nieces and nephews. Carol was predeceased by her husband, Walter F. Austin; daughter, Janice Conaway; sisters: Shirley B. Phillips and Priscilla B. Carpenter; brother, William C. Brew; and sisters-in-law, Eloise Brew and Janice Brew.

It was Carol's wish that there be no calling hours. A private graveside service will be held at Hope Cemetery in Campbell at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing may make donations to the Campbell United Methodist Church, 8516 Main St., Campbell, NY 14821.

To leave kind words or to share a memory, please visit [www.PhillipsFuneralHome.com](http://www.PhillipsFuneralHome.com)



### LORETTA CROWE

Loretta Crowe, a long time Corning resident, passed away Saturday, March 5, 2016 at her daughter's home in Maine. Burial arrangements were handled by Chapel Knoll cemetery.

Loretta née Dorn was born in 1924 in Elkland, PA graduating from Elkland high school and Rochester school of nursing. She was a nurse at Corning Hospital for twenty-nine years, retiring in 1989 from a career to which she was devoted and which she truly loved. After retirement, Loretta enjoyed

her time as a 10-year-long volunteer at the Corning Senior Center.

She is survived by her daughter Betsy (Herb) Hunter, cherished nieces and nephews and loving friends.

We will forever remember Loretta's laughter, kind words and gentle, caring spirit.



### LAURA M. DONLEY

Laura M. Donley, age 90, of Hornell, NY and formerly of Bath, NY died Thursday, April 7, 2016 at the Hornell Gardens. She was born May 10, 1925 in Pulteney, NY the daughter of John Q. and Eva Mae (Krisner) McLoud. Mrs. Donley had worked as a Nursing Assistant at the Bath VAMC. She was a member of the Centenary United Methodist Church in Bath. She loved gardening around her home and cooking for her family.

She is survived by her grandchildren, Corben Smith and Angela Abbott and Kyle Smith; two great grandchildren, Shilia Abbott and Leann Abbott several cousins, several nieces and nephews and close friends, Marilyn Murphy, Lori Barber and Ellie Castrilli.

She was predeceased by her husband Walter Donley in 1974, two daughters, Alice Smith and Gail Russell, son-in-law, Robert Smith, brother John McCloud Jr.; two sisters, Hazel Wilcox and Mary McLoud and her loving companion, Clarence Jimerson.

Family and friends may call on Monday April 11th from 12:00-1:00 pm at Fagan's Funeral Home, 31

West Morris St., Bath, NY. Funeral services will follow at 1:00 pm on Monday at the funeral home with Reverend Eleanor Collinsworth officiating.

Burial will be in Rose Ridge Cemetery, Naples, NY.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Laura's name may be made to the American Diabetes Assoc., PO Box 2680, North Canton, OH 44720 and the American Cancer Society, 1316 College Avenue, Elmira, NY 14901.



### RONALD W. KECK

RONALD WAYNE KECK, age 72, a lifelong resident of the Millerton community, passed away at home surrounded by family, Wednesday morning, April 6th, 2016.

Ron was born in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania on April 9th, 1943. He was the son of the late Robert Henry and Margaret Leigh (Houseknecht) Keck. Surviving is his loving wife of 36 years: Marie (Park) Keck; children: Brian (Nancy) Keck of Millerton, PA, Annette Keck (Lyle Westfall) of Dundee, NY, Nancy Catalfamo of Central Square, NY, Bryan (Lori) Hunt also of Central Square, NY; six grandchildren: Megan Keck, Robert Druker III, Michelle and Matthew Catalfamo, Grace and Kamryn Hunt.

Ron was the founder of Keck's Food Service Inc. of Jackson Summit, PA in 1964. He took great pride in the company and the many people that shared his vision. Even after retirement he enjoyed various aspects of the business. He

was a brother of the Masonic Lodge #373 of Tioga, PA. He enjoyed classic cars and his membership in the Glen Regional Corvette Club. He loved the game of golf, sometimes spending his winters in Florida. Ron appreciated steam engine history and model trains.

Family and friends are invited to gather at the Olthof Funeral Home, Inc. 1050 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elmira, NY on Sunday April 10th, 2016 from 3:00PM to 6:00PM and again on Monday, April 11th from 11:00AM to 12:00PM. Funeral services celebrating Ronald Wayne Keck's life will follow the calling hours at 12:00PM. Reverend Douglas Hodge will officiate. Interment will be held at a time convenient with the family in the Jackson Center Cemetery, Millerton, PA.

Those wishing, please make memorial donations to the Millerton Fire Company, 16 North Rd., Millerton, PA 16936 or to the Millerton United Methodist Church Food Pantry, 5443 Main Street, Millerton, PA 16936. Ron's guestbook may be signed at [www.olthof.com](http://www.olthof.com).



### CONNIE R. PADDOCK

Connie R. Paddock, 62, of Reservoir Hill Road, Addison, passed away at home on Thursday, April 7, 2016 following an extended illness.

Connie was born in Woodhull, NY on May 4, 1953, the daughter of the late Lawrence F. and Mildred E. (Mack) Paddock. She attended school in Woodhull until transferring to Addison Central School while in high

school. Connie graduated from Addison High School in 1971.

Connie was employed by Corning Inc. for over 35 years. She retired as a cleaner at Sullivan Park. She had held numerous jobs throughout various Corning facilities in the area. She was a deeply devoted grandmother and great grandmother. Connie loved to babysit and look after her family. She also loved animals. She was a great advocate for the SPCA as well as for the Steuben ARC.

Surviving Connie are her children, Renee Leonard (Greg Fonseca) of Corning, Mark (Tammy) Leonard of Smyrna, TN and Edward Howlett of Addison, her grandchildren, Nicole Whitehead, Heather Whitehead (Robert Cushing), Brooke Leonard (Jason Sowersby), Jamie Lippincott, Samantha Leonard, Mark Leonard II, Elizabeth Howlett and Edward Howlett Jr., her great grandson, Colton Whitehead, her brothers, Keith (Darlene) Paddock of Austinburg, PA and Frank Paddock of Jasper, her former daughter in law, Dianne Leonard and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her son, Rodney L. Leonard Jr. on June 30, 2007, her brother, Louis Paddock and her sisters, Loretta Paddock and Carol Whitehead.

The family will receive friends on Monday, April 11, 2016 from 4 to 6 PM at the H.P. Smith & Son Inc. Funeral Home, 1607 Main St. Woodhull, NY. Funeral services will follow there at 6 PM with Rev. Brian Diffenbacher officiating.

Burial will be made in Woodhull Cemetery. Memorials in Connie's name may be made to ARC of Steuben, One ARC Way, Bath, NY 14810.

On line condolences and memories may be shared at [www.hpsmithandsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.hpsmithandsonfuneralhome.com).

## INVESTING | DAVE DAVIES

# Revisiting basic investment strategies

In light of the recent market volatility it seems like a good time to review some basic tenets of successful investing:

Dollar Cost Averaging – if a person were to invest the same fixed amount of money every week, month or year in a given stock or mutual fund over time, a phenomenal truth will soon become evident: The average cost per share will be less than the average price per share. Given the "normal" historical volatility of prices, i.e. their rise and fall in prices, that set dollar amount invested will buy more shares when the price is lower and fewer shares when the price is higher. If you are in the accumulation stage of life it is a good practice to set aside a certain percentage of your earnings regularly (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc). You can establish a periodic investment plan that would automatically buy shares of a stock or mutual fund on a regular basis – thus taking advantage of the benefit of Dollar Cost Averaging, i.e. buying more shares per dollar invested when prices are lower, and buying fewer shares per dollar invested when prices are higher. However, Dollar Cost Averaging does not assure a profit and does not protect against losses in a declining market.



DAVE DAVIES

Dividend Reinvestment Plans – under such a plan distributed dividends would be used to buy additional shares of the same stock rather than be paid out as cash. Many brokerage companies have such plans for which they charge no commissions. The more shares you have, the more dividends you'll get. The more dividends you get, the more new shares you would buy. This process would continue and there would be ever more shares, paying out ever more dividends, purchasing ever more shares, etc. A sweet deal, especially at times like these when cash taken and deposited in savings or money market accounts are paying historically low rates on balances. A program such as dividend reinvestment is akin to dollar cost averaging and might make sense for long term investors looking to accumulate and grow their assets, or wealth. Keep in mind that not all companies pay dividends, as companies are under no obligation to do so.

Compounding – We've all heard the answer to the question "What would one penny, a single cent, be worth if it doubled every day for a month?" The answer is \$5,368,709.12! And that is achieved through the miracle of compounding. Of course there is no known investment that will double your money every day, but there is a simple formula for determining how long it would take to double your money at a given rate of return: The Rule of 72. The Rule of 72 simply states that if you know the annual percentage rate of return you can earn, that number divided into 72 will tell you how long it would take to double your money. For example, if you could earn 3% on a certificate of deposit, dividing that percentage, 3, into 72, gives the answer of 24 years. Conversely, if you had a given amount of money to invest and wanted to know what rate of return you would need to earn in order to double your investment in 10 years, you would simply divided the amount of money, for instance \$10,000, into 72, and the answer is 7.2%. You should note that this rule of thumb does not consider the potential impact of taxes or inflation.

While none of these

strategies can guarantee that you will make money as an investor, being aware of them could help you make more informed decisions on where, or how, to put your hard-earned savings or investment dollars to work. Also, remember that all investments are subject to risk, including the possible loss of principal. You should not construe this information as rendering tax or legal advice. Therefore, you should consult your tax advisor in order to understand the tax consequences of any product or service. – This article was provided by David W. Davies, Managing Director – Investments at Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. in Corning, 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 2015-0091 Exp 01/31/2018

## DEATH NOTICE

Nancy L. Moore, 76, of Bath, died Friday, April 8, 2016 at home.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday

at the First Presbyterian Church of Bath.

Arrangements are by Bond-Davis Funeral Home of Bath.

## CRISIS

From Page A4

enhancing and expanding the state's heroin and opioid addiction prevention, treatment, recovery, and education services. This budget allocation mirrors actions the Senate proposed in its one-house budget resolution in early March. It's not enough, but it's a strengthening – and it's not the end of this effort. Far from it. The Senate will be acting on other measures before the end of the 2016 legislative session. And when the session ends, we'll keep working. There can be no let up on combating heroin.

The budget also includes funding to maximize the availability of drug collection programs in communities statewide, including to local law enforcement agencies. The program will include the purchase and distribution of tamper-proof drug collection boxes to reduce the risk of addiction through the safe and responsible disposal of opioid pharmaceutical drugs – another critical part of the overall strategy.

The abuse of prescription drugs is directly tied to and in many ways responsible for the burgeoning heroin epidemic. It's incredibly important to do everything we can to complement and support the efforts of our local law enforcement

leaders to combat prescription drug abuse, which includes their annual participation in National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day (Saturday, April 30th this year) and other initiatives to encourage the collection and disposal of unused prescription drugs.

According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an estimated 70 percent of people who abuse prescription painkillers obtained them from friends or relatives who originally received the medication from a prescription which they didn't use at all. The problem is particularly acute among young adults and teens.

On National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on April 30th, law enforcement agencies across the region will establish drop-off centers to allow anyone to anonymously dispose of unwanted prescription drugs. A listing of local collection sites can be found on the DEA website, <http://www.dea.gov/index.shtml>.

We can't thank local law enforcement and our emergency responders enough for their ongoing leadership in this overall effort to combat prescription drug and heroin abuse.

– State Sen. Tom O'Mara represents New York's 53rd Senate District, which includes Steuben, Chemung, Schuyler and Yates counties, and a portion of Tompkins County.