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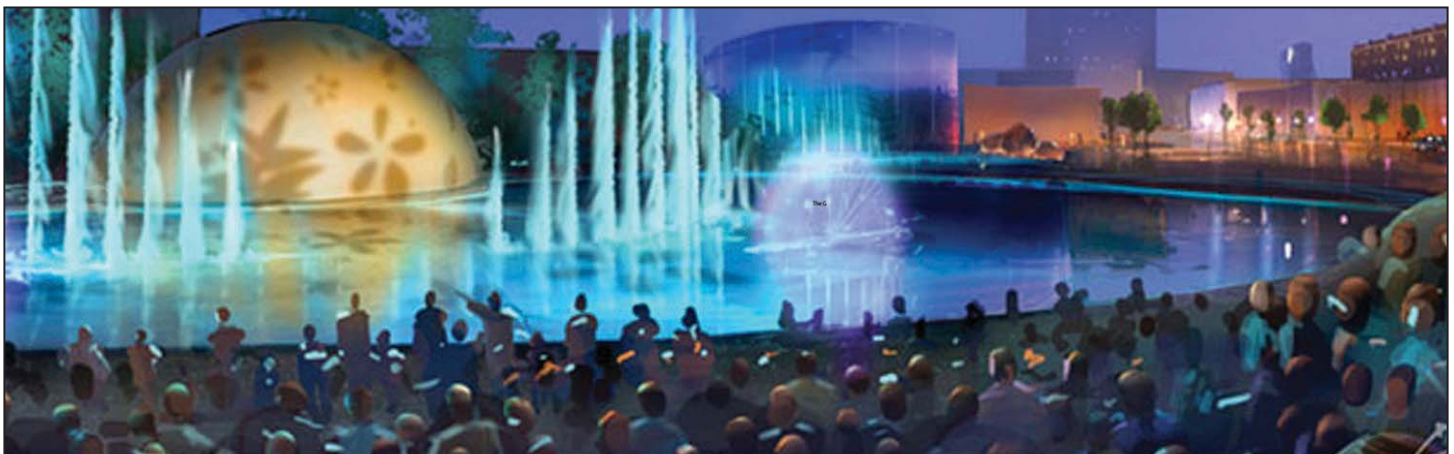
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Cuomo's State Park "Lodge" a Mockery of Olmsted plan



Behold the Niagara Lodge (on right). Described as having "breathtaking views of the Falls and State Park" can only mean that the new hotel is slated for Goat Island, not DeVeaux, Whirlpool or Devil's Hole State Parks.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo's controversial proposed "lodge" on Goat Island in the Niagara Falls State Park has been scaled up in size, according to design sketches posted by USA Niagara this week.

USA Niagara is a subsidiary of Empire State Development, the state development agency charged with "encouraging growth and renewal of the tourism industry in the City of Niagara Falls," according to its mission statement.

According to www.niagaraexperiencecenter.org, a website maintained by USA Niagara, and updated this week with this new information, "The lodge will feature three stories of guest accommodations, 250 rooms in total, with a wraparound veranda offering breathtaking views of the Falls and State Park... Additional features of the lodge include an elegant main dining hall, smaller private dining rooms and a family health spa with a swimming pool and 'green roof.'"

At 250 rooms, the lodge is far larger than what Governor Cuomo and USA Ni-

agara president Christopher J. Schoepflin have told the public recently.

Schoepflin said, "The lodge the governor envisions would have 75 to 100 rooms – a very boutique property."

The news of a 100-room lodge on Goat Island caused an outcry of opposition decrying it as not in keeping with Olmsted's plans.

The first mention of plans for a lodge on Goat Island came in a never-acted-on, 2014 USA Niagara Development Corp. Request for Proposals (RFP) which called for developers to consider proposing retrofitting the small, historic Calvert Vaux Carriage House on Goat Island into a "small inn."

If built on Goat Island, it would be the first overnight accommodations ever developed in the Niagara Falls State Park, and a plan that was specifically opposed by Frederick Law Olmsted who designed the park and whose name is invoked in the state's advertisements for the park.

Flach to Challenge Virtuoso



Jeff Flach (left) with Niagara Hub's 'Soapbox' host Craig Avery.

Tony Farina

A decorated Iraq war veteran and the owner of the Gorge View Hostel has announced his candidacy for the 6th District Niagara County Legislative seat now held by Democrat Dennis Virtuoso.

Jeffery Flach, who has the full support of Niagara Falls City Republican Chairman Bill Carroll, returned to Niagara Falls in 2014 after leaving active military service as an army major.

Flach, 46, said in the announcement of his candidacy that "transparency lets both residents and decision-makers clearly see how resources are being allocated as well as the direct result of those allocations. By prioritizing transparency,

we remove the distractions of ignorant debates and replace them with informed discussions on how to realistically solve problems based on available resources."

Flach, who earned two bronze stars while serving in Afghanistan and Iraq, has a master of science degree from the University of Texas in El Paso.

In his announcement, Flach cited what he said was his success with transforming Red Lounge Hostel, a 140-year-old building, into one of the city's highest customer-rated accommodations in just under three years.

Contacted Wednesday night, Virtuoso, who had been rumored to be considering retiring from the legislature, said he plans on running again this year.

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Goat Island lodge's long journey from "Small Inn" to huge Tourist Resort

James Hufnagel

It started out small, then got bigger, much bigger, thanks to the efforts of USA Niagara.

First brought to light in a largely-overlooked 2014 USA Niagara Development Corp. Request for Proposals (RFP) that called for bids to retrofit a small building on Goat Island in the Niagara Falls State Park as "a signature dining facility, an outdoor recreation outfitting facility, and/or a small inn," Gov. Andrew Cuomo's proposed "lodge" for the state-owned and operated park has been scaled up to, according to information recently obtained by the Reporter, a sprawling tourist attraction and resort destination in its own right on the former Olmsted preserve.

The RFP, titled "Outdoor Recreation Programming and Related Facilities" and available on-line, calls for applications from vendors in a position "to establish, operate, and maintain a program of outdoor recreation activities and associated capital/real estate facilities in New York State Parks... along roughly 11 miles of waterfront on the Upper and Lower Niagara River in Niagara Falls, New York. The intent of the effort is to expand the amount/types of activities and experiences available to tourists and local residents in order to assist in growing visitorship and extending stays in the City of Niagara Falls, as well as to enhance the quality of life here."

Consisting mostly of the standard boilerplate tourism industry promotion language used by government officials in their never-ending attempts to address the perennial problem of the city of Niagara Falls not effectively capitalizing on the eight million tourists who come here every year, the USA Niagara document that calls for the Calvert Vaux Carriage House on Goat Island to be converted into a "small inn" didn't receive any winning bids.

It quite possibly didn't receive any bids at all, since of the nine programmatic activity areas listed in the RFP, ranging from "Trail Sports" and "Rappelling and Rock Climbing

Activities" to "Zip Line Tour," the only activity to be rated "highly controversial" is the "Adaptive Reuse at Niagara Falls State Park: Available Park Buildings" plan which of course comprises the "small inn" concept. All of the others are rated "Non-controversial" to "Moderately controversial."

It's striking that as long as two years ago, USA Niagara intuited that, under the euphemistically-named category "Assumed Complexity," any overnight lodging located in the Olmsted-designed Niagara Falls State Park would prove "highly controversial."

USA Niagara is a subsidiary of Empire State Development, the state development agency, and as such, is the primary entity charged here with "support and promotion of economic development initiatives in Niagara Falls by leveraging private investment and encouraging growth and renewal of the tourism industry in the City of Niagara Falls," according to its mission statement.

One of USA Niagara's flagship projects intended to enhance tourism and jumpstart the revitalization of Niagara Falls is the Niagara Experience Center, the "the primary (heritage) interpretive center for the Falls, and the best place to experience the story of this extraordinary natural wonder," which has been in the works seemingly since the falls were just a trickle over the gorge at Lewiston. In this role, USA Niagara maintains a website for the Niagara Experience Center.

Breathtakingly, the "small inn" from two years ago, buried deep within a USA Niagara RFP, has morphed into a huge hotel/spa/outdoor events center as described on the Experience Center website. The narrative reads:

"The family-oriented Niagara Lodge will raise the bar for visitor accommodations in and around Niagara Falls. It is conceived of as a "grand lodge" for the 21st century, merging the heartwarming, rustic grandeur of the Old World lodges in America's National Parks with contemporary design updates and state-of-the-art guest amenities. The lodge will feature three stories of guest accommodations, 250 rooms in total, with a



Fast Forward: Depicted on USA Niagara's "Niagara Experience Center" website, the Niagara Lodge resort footprint on Goat Island is massively larger and more ambitious, containing numerous amenities such as spa/salon and amphitheater, dining rooms and pool.

wraparound veranda offering breathtaking views of the Falls and State Park. One of the lodge's most impressive interior features is its 'Great Hall,' a multistory atrium with exposed wooden rafters, a dramatic stone fireplace and a floor-to-ceiling wall of windows. Additional features of the lodge include an elegant main dining hall, smaller private dining rooms and a family health spa with a swimming pool and 'green roof.'"

Note that while this USA Niagara-host-

ed website cites "250 rooms in total," USA Niagara president Christopher J. Schoepflin is quoted in a Buffalo News article of three weeks ago as saying, "The lodge the governor envisions would have 75 to 100 rooms – 'a very boutique property.'"

So from 250 rooms, the lodge has strategically shrunk to 75-100 rooms. Is it to mushroom to 1000 rooms when built on Goat Island in a couple of years?



Two years ago, the Calvert Vaux Carriage House on Goat Island in Niagara Falls State Park was to be repurposed as a "small inn," according to a USA Niagara RFP document.



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Delaware North assured of Niagara Lodge thanks to Campaign Contributions to Cuomo

James Hufnagel

Eight - by some accounts, nine - million tourists visit Niagara Falls State Park every year.

They access the world-famous attraction from two directions on a dedicated roadway, park on one of 1,500 parking spaces, tour Cave of the Winds and ride Maid of the Mist, dine at Top of the Falls restaurant, pavilion Snack Bar or one of four food booths scattered around the park, purchase souvenirs at one of two gift shops, perhaps thumb some quarters into the coin-operated binoculars perched next to the grand waterfalls, and then get back into their vehicles and leave without any need or reason to enter and spend money in the city of Niagara Falls next door.

Meanwhile, the city of Niagara Falls suffers from some of the highest rates of per capita poverty (US Census), violent crime (FBI) and taxation (The Tax Foundation) in the state.

New York State (read: Albany) has successfully captured the parking, gift and souvenir sales, restaurant and food service and other assorted small fees from operations in Niagara Falls State Park, extracting nearly \$20 million in tourist dollars every year, accruing to the state instead of the local economy.

Now they want more.

With the announced plan by Gov. Cuomo to build a "lodge" on Goat Island in the park, which in reality has been revealed to be a huge hotel with pool, dining rooms, spa/salon and amphitheater, it's clear that now the state wants to compete with the overnight lodging market that's just getting a foothold downtown. And you don't need a crystal ball to know who



The 358-room Yavapai Lodge, operated by Delaware North, overlooking the Grand Canyon, may serve as a model for the proposed Niagara Lodge.

he has in mind to operate that "lodge".

Top of the Falls and other amenities in the park are run by multinational casino/sports venue/hotel and restaurant conglomerate Delaware North Companies of Buffalo, NY, pursuant to a \$10.2 million agreement with State Parks, commencing on July 1, 2002, to operate food, beverage and gift shop concessions in the Niagara Falls State Park, with a contract end date of Dec. 31, 2121.

What a tidy little package it would make for Gov. Cuomo to extend Delaware North's lease on the park in 2121 just in time for the grand opening of the Niagara Lodge.

Not to mention payback for the \$25,000 a plate private fundraising dinner that Delaware North owner Jeremy Jacobs, Sr., hosted for him at Jacobs' opulent East Aurora estate on September 10, 2014, the day after his victory in the Democratic primary, and the numerous other campaign contributions that the billionaire hospitality magnate has made over the years.

As it turns out, Delaware North appears to be a perfect fit for running the proposed hotel/resort complex in Niagara



In a lawsuit against the United States of America, Delaware North attempted to retain some of the historic place names of Yosemite National Park, after having been booted out of the same. The 302-room Tenaya Lodge is still operated by them, however, located outside the park gates.

Falls State Park, given that they already have extensive interests elsewhere at similar locations. In fact, the "Parks and Resorts" division of Delaware North administers facilities at upwards of 18 national and state parks, including Yellowstone, Sequoia, Grand Canyon, Shenandoah and Kings Canyon National Parks.

They operate exclusive, upscale resort hotels at Geneva-on-the-Lake (Ohio), Harrison Hot Springs (British Columbia, Canada), something called Peaks of Otter Lodge (Bedford, Virginia) and the swanky Gideon Putnam Resort at Saratoga Springs, NY.

The Gideon Putnam contract was awarded to Delaware North on July 7, 2007 by then-State Parks Commissioner Carol Ash, winning over 20 competing firms.

Six months before that, on Nov. 1, 2006, and one week before election day, Jeremy Jacobs Sr. made his maximum \$2,000 campaign contribution to gubernatorial candidate Eliot Spitzer. On the very same day, with the polls predicting a certain landslide for Spitzer, Alice Jacobs kicked in another \$2,000. Then Charles Jacobs came up with a \$2,000 donation to seal the Spitzer victory. Also on Nov. 1, and not to leave anything to chance, Joan Jacobs chipped in with \$2,000. Kimberly Jacobs, \$2,000 on Nov. 1 to buy even more democracy. Lisann Jacobs, \$1,000, maybe she was a little short that day. Back on track with Louis Jacobs, \$2,000. See a pattern yet? Margaret Jacobs, \$2000. Altogether at least \$15,000 that came in as separate donations from eight different members of the Jacobs family on the same day, one week before Spitzer's certain victory.

According to a Nov. 18, 2014 article in Buffalo weekly The Public, "In the three months prior to his election, (Cuomo) received a series of \$5,000+ contributions not only from Jeremy Sr. and his wife Margaret, but also from every one of their six children (Jeremy Jr., Lisann, Louis, Charles, Margaret Reichenbach, and Katie Robinson), plus five of their children's spouses (Alice, Bruce Platt, Joan, Kimberly, and John Reichenbach)."

Also, from The Public, "In 2010,

the Jacobs family did not bother to bundle smaller contributions to Cuomo — Jeremy and Margaret just cut him twin \$50,000 checks."

Thanks to powerful billionaires like Jacobs and corrupt politicians like Cuomo, the best the young people of Niagara Falls have to look forward to is flipping burgers at some "Niagara Lodge" in Albany's park.



Unlike Frank Zappa, Delaware North actually did "Move to Montana." The Pine Lodge at Whitefish, Montana.



Kalaloch at Olympic National Park in the state of Washington has 10 lodge rooms, 6 motel rooms, 4 suites, 40 cabins and 6 duplex cabins. Wouldn't this look just grand on Goat Island?



The Yellowstone Park Hotel. "By adding the 66-room Yellowstone Park Hotel and the 103 rooms at the Gray Wolf, Delaware North now owns 292 hotel rooms in West Yellowstone."



The 337-room Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia, Canada. Is this what the Niagara Lodge is destined to look like in the once-beautiful and natural Niagara Falls State Park?

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LUNCH SPECIALS

Source Says Maziarz Never Had Debit Card; But Staffers Did

The New York State Attorney General is said to be looking into expenditures from the account of former State Senator George Maziarz after his campaign treasurer, Lauren M. Jacobs, filed an amended financial disclosure report with the New York State Board of Elections on Feb. 6.

Attorney Kevin A. Szanyi filed civil suit against Jacobs on behalf of The Committee to Elect Maziarz State Senate, which prompted the recent filing.

Jacobs' report covers the years 2009-2013, detailing \$151,370 in unitemized spending, and lists 751 previously unreported transactions totaling \$151,000.

These newly detailed expenditures are mainly broken down into two categories: About 590 purchases made with a campaign debit card and about 158 reimbursements of expenses paid through Maziarz's personal credit card.

A source with direct knowledge of the campaign expenditures says Maziarz never had possession or used the campaign account debit card but that his staff did.

The debit card was used by someone to make purchases at Target, Best Buy, Barnes & Noble, Pier One, Michaels Crafts, A.C. Moore, Christmas Tree Shops, RadioShack, Wegmans, Rite Aid and Walgreens, BJ's Wholesale Club, gas stations and restaurants in Niagara County and northern Erie County between 2009 and 2013.

Maziarz's charge card was used to pay for fundraisers, restaurants, hotels in Albany and Manhattan, a rental car in Florida, and someone's DirecTV bill.

State law restricts what campaign contributions can be spent on.

The question remains: Was the money stolen from the Maziarz campaign fund?

Was the spending illegal?

A forensic audit by Freed Maxick showed checks made out to "cash" from the campaign account and endorsed by Alisa D. Colatarci-Reimann, Maziarz's former chief of staff, and Marcus R. Hall, his former office manager.

Some checks were made out to Jacobs and her husband and daughter, Colatarci-Reimann; Hall and his wife; and staff intern Andrew Norris.

The forensic report indicated \$82,674 in undocumented checks on the campaign account, as well as \$126,753 in debit card purchases at stores and businesses.

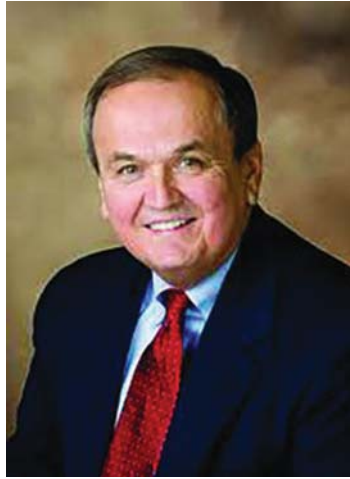
It showed Colatarci-Reimann received \$24,134 in checks not reported on filings with the Board of Elections, plus \$315 for use listed as "Alisa Colatarci - Kids."

Jacobs received \$3,255, plus \$2,340 listed as "Lauren Jacobs - Kids," while her husband Francis Jacobs received \$2,150, according to the report.

Hall, another staffer, received checks totaling \$6,933.

Rodney O. Personius, Hall's attorney, said Hall got checks from the campaign account to reimburse him for out-of-pocket expenses related to office operations and to provide money for petty cash to operate the office.

The latest state inquiry represents the fifth investigation into this same account. The Moreland Commission to Investigate Public



George Maziarz

Corruption investigated a number of legislators and found that large unitemized payments from debit cards, and checks made out to "cash" came out of Maziarz's account. It went no further since the Commission was shut down in April, 2014 by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

The US Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Preet Bharara, began investigating and examined Maziarz's account.

In 2014, Maziarz's former chief of staff, Colatarci-Reimann, and former office manager Hall were subpoenaed to appear before Bharara's grand jury.

Amid the federal investigation, Maziarz announced he would not seek re-election to the seat he held for 19 years.

Colatarci-Reimann and Hall resigned two days before Maziarz announced in July, 2014 that he would not run for re-election for what would have been his 11th term.

No charges resulted from the federal investigation.

The Niagara County DA took up the task next and no charges were filed there either, but their files were transferred to the Erie County DA, which was reportedly investigating, but now have reportedly stopped to allow the state to complete its investigation.

Last September, the Committee to Elect Maziarz State Senate filed a petition against Jacobs, demanding she file reports explaining more than \$209,000 in undocumented expenditures and account for a shortfall of \$120,566 in the fund.

Her Feb. 6 filing purports to have done that.

Now it will be scrutinized.

Sources close to the investigation say that Jacobs has been cooperating with federal prosecutors since 2014 and now with the AG's Public Integrity Unit.

Maziarz's attorney Kevin Szanyi said the former state senator "wants to get to the bottom of this."

Multiple sources with knowledge of the campaign fund say that Maziarz was victimized by either theft or sloppy banking practices by his staffers.

A source intimately familiar with Jacobs' role says she is absolutely innocent of wrongdoing.

State Grand Jury Focusing on Maziarz

Tony Farina

I reported last October that the State Attorney General's office was focusing squarely on the campaign account of former State Sen. George Maziarz and the former senator himself, and we have now learned that subpoenas have been issued in that investigation and evidence could be presented to a grand jury as soon as later this month.

Sources familiar with the probe say that Maziarz, who has consistently denied any wrongdoing in connection with his campaign account that once totaled more than \$1 million, is among the targets of the grand jury investigation and there may be others.

When Maziarz announced in July of 2014 that he would not seek re-election in the 62nd District after 19 years, he said it had nothing to do with reports that federal investigators had expanded their corruption probe into his campaign account, adding that "I will be completely exonerated because I have done absolutely nothing wrong."

Sources say the state probe is focusing on campaign transactions from the former senator's account dating back to 2009 and totaling more than \$151,000, as contained in an amended spending report filed last month with the state Board of Elections by his former treasurer, Lauren Jacobs. It includes many thousands of dollars in transactions charged to the former senator's debit card.

As I reported last October, in addition to the un-itemized spending that first raised questions in the eyes of federal and state in-



George Maziarz

vestigators, the state attorney general's Office of Public Integrity is reportedly also focusing on whether Maziarz was able to steer money from his campaign account to undisclosed recipients through a third party, possibly leading to charges of false filings, according to legal sources.

Niagara County District Attorney Caroline Wojtaszek recently withdrew from investigating Maziarz, citing the close relationship her husband, former Niagara County Republican Chairman Henry Wojtaszek, had with Sen. Maziarz for much of his senate career. The case was assigned to Erie County District Attorney John Flynn who, according to our sources, has been asked by the attorney general's office to let them complete their investigation before doing anything himself.

Prominent defense attorney Joseph LaTona, who has long represented Maziarz, could not be reached for comment Wednesday night.

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USA Niagara promotes Niagara Lodge with images linked to Delaware North

James Hufnagel

If there were any remaining doubts in anyone's mind that the proposed Niagara Lodge on Goat Island in Niagara Falls State Park is earmarked for Jeremy Jacobs' Delaware North worldwide empire, what follows should dispel them.

Two images portraying the embattled hotel/resort have been posted by local economic development agency USA Niagara at its Niagara Experience Center website.

Several other images depict the Niagara Experience Center, but it's the two hotel images that are most significant.

The images were created by a company called BRC Imagination Arts of Burbank, California.

According to its website, BRC "is an experience design and production agency that 'Turns Brands Into Destinations'. For over three decades, many of the world's most iconic brands and cultural institutions have asked us to bring their stories to life and create unforgettable memories for their guests."

Among BRC's dozens of clients are Cleveland's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame,



These two images of the controversial Niagara Lodge, appearing on a USA Niagara website, were created by Delaware North partner BRC (note logo on bottom right).

the Grand 'Ol Opry, the Cirque De Soleil, Abbey Road Studios, the Empire State Building Observatory, Knott's Berry Farm, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Naples Botanical Garden and the Kennedy Space Center.

Clearly, Niagara Falls State Park will soon be added to that list, if USA Niagara, Delaware North and BRC have anything to say about it.

A March 29, 2016 document on the BRC website is titled, "THE SHUTTLE LAUNCH EXPERIENCE - KENNEDY SPACE CENTER," and subtitled "Attraction Concept, Design & Overall Creative Direction by BRC Imagination Arts in association with NASA - Kennedy Space Center and Delaware North Companies,



Parks & Resorts."

Members of the 41-person BRC team that collaborated with Delaware North in creating the Kennedy Space Center attraction included the following job titles: Project Manager, Creative Director/Production Designer, Media Director, Concept & Story, Concept Art Director, Music Composer, Visual Effects Supervisor, Lighting Designer, Concept Artist, Storyboard Artist, Interiors Designer, you get the idea. Twelve Delaware North staffers, 8 of which are identified as either Directors or Managers, are listed. Scores of astronauts are listed as consultants.

To summarize: A subsidiary of a New York State government agency, USA Niagara, has utilized two watermarked im-

ages created by a private company, BRC, which has worked previously and closely with Delaware North to establish a major (1.5 million visitors a year) tourist attraction, the Kennedy Space Center, to promote a controversial hotel project in the Niagara Falls State Park long before any official public hearings or comment periods have been held on the matter.

Delaware North, USA Niagara, or both, engaged BRC to create images of the future development in the state park.

Again, USA Niagara, a government agency, on one of its official websites, slyly adopted and displayed the work of a private company with a direct interest in the outcome of the Niagara Lodge issue.

Forgive us for saying so, but it certainly appears as if BRC and Delaware North are way ahead of us on this game.

Was BRC paid for the two images? What else has BRC, or Delaware North for that matter, done to lock down the Niagara Lodge contract, with the behind-closed-doors cooperation of USA Niagara, that the public is, as yet, unaware of?

Other than make large campaign contributions to Governor Andrew Cuomo, that is.

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Lots of Mystery Surrounds Goat Island Lodge Plan

Tony Farina

What did Sam Hoyt say to Dennis Virtuoso last Tuesday in a phone call to convince the Niagara County legislator from Niagara Falls to pull his resolution opposing Gov. Andrew Cuomo's controversial plan to build a world class lodge on Goat Island?

Well, true to form, Hoyt, regional vice president of super-secretive Empire State Development, could not be reached to give his side of the conversation, but according to Virtuoso, Hoyt asked him to pull his resolution from consideration at the legislature's regular session because the lodge plan was as good as dead and there would be three or four site proposals to come and aggressive public input.

So Virtuoso tabled his resolution and a text to Niagara Falls Council member Kristen Grandinetti from a Cuomo aide, probably Hoyt, quieted opposition at last week's council meeting when she said the governor had backed off a Goat Island lodge and more locations and proposals would be forthcoming.

As everybody now knows, the efforts last week to stifle public opposition were successful to a point, but the next day Hoyt's boss and Cuomo's top economic development chief, Howard Zemsky, said Goat Island remains a possibility for a lodge along with three other state parks.

So what does it all mean? We know that Empire State Development (Cuomo, Zemsky, Hoyt) and USA Niagara are as slippery as a wet Goat Island rock.

Transparency is not a word in their vo-



Gov. Cuomo sizes up the share of tourist dollars that will accrue to downtown Niagara Falls businesses after his Niagara Lodge is built in the state park, as his state development honcho, transplanted Brooklynite Howard Zemsky, looks on.

cabulary and last week's shenanigans to muffle political opposition is an example of the dirty tricks they employ to mislead the public, whether with the Hamister Hotel fiasco or a lodge on Goat Island.

You can't believe them or trust them, as Virtuoso and Grandinetti found out last week.

In the larger scheme, what's going on with this save-Niagara Falls lodge plan being pushed by Cuomo in a state park that would be a bonanza for the developer who gets the deal and a real blow to downtown Niagara

Falls businesses that hope to lure tourist dollars, not lose them to a tax-exempt lodge and the favored developer.

There are lodge designs on the Niagara USA website that are strikingly similar to other plans by a company that does work for mega-political contributor and developer Delaware North. Could Delaware North, a company that tops \$3 billion, be the developer that Cuomo favors for the lodge, a company that has been a strong contributor to the

governor who will be seeking a third term next year?

And does anyone really believe that Goat Island, in all its pristine beauty, is off the table? Think of the concession value for a 100-room or more lodge on Goat Island with people likely staying for three or four days and never visiting downtown Niagara Falls to shop, dine, or sightsee? It would be virtual gold mine for the developer who would be forever grateful to the political forces that delivered the prize.

Not jumping to conclusions, mind you, just saying what a lot of insiders are thinking about the Goat Island lodge. Given the secrecy that governs the state's development agencies, it may be some time before we know the whole story. But it is clear from Zemsky's remarks contradicting what Hoyt told Virtuoso that Goat Island is still in the game.

State Sen. Robert Ort and Assemblyman Angelo Morinello have joined the chorus of political opposition to a Goat Island lodge and even Mayor Paul Dyster has wavered from the Cuomo line, although we'll see how long he holds up if the governor stays the course.

Anyway, for what it is worth, Virtuoso plans to file his resolution opposing a Goat Island lodge at the March 21 legislature meeting, although unless something happens soon in the way of RFPs from the state, the public could be in the dark on what's next. But something is coming, you can sure, in the wake of Zemsky's remarks last week that the state has not given up on a state park lodge and Goat Island is still in play.

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WATER BOARD COUP SEEMS PLANNED TO RAM THROUGH UNION CONTRACT?



Nick Forster has assumed command of the water board - but most likely temporarily. Will it be long enough to get new contracts for union members and will it increase water rates for residents?



Ted Janese questions process.

Did the Niagara Falls Water Board meet illegally to carry out their reorganization of the body? And are Water Board customers about to get hit with an expensive new labor contract?

Last Thursday's Dyster Administration-engineered coup on the Niagara Falls Water Board has left members of the board's former majority crying foul, and pointing to violations of state open government laws that have left the actions of the new politically-tinged majority shrouded in secrecy.

A meeting held the morning after the coup is raising questions. That organiza-

tional meeting, held Friday at the city's water treatment facility with the board's new majority the only members in attendance — along with their new attorney, who one would expect to be fully-versed in state open government rules — apparently was held in near-total secrecy.

Members of the former majority were not notified of the meeting. Neither were members of the public.

That has left one board member questioning the legality of the board's actions and raising the specter of public scandal.

"I can tell you: the New York State Open Meetings Law is there to ensure that

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Kendra McClain, happily hired.

Services and Human Resources James Perry, Director of Financial Services Kendra McClain and attorneys David Sanchez and Nicholas Amigone III — were sprung on the board's former majority.

Janese says that no proper vetting process occurred for the new hires and as a result, the Water Board had to add an extra individual to the payroll to cover holes in the new management team's résumés.

"I was never even apprised of all potential candidate names until Thursday night's meeting," Janese said.

"How did they identify these candidates? When did they interview them? Did they post the jobs? Did they give anyone else a chance to apply?" Janese demanded. "It certainly raises a lot of red flags."

The Water Board coup came just days after Mayor Paul A. Dyster and the City

Council installed new board members Nicholas Forster and Daniel O'Callaghan.

Forster, who also chairs the Niagara County Democratic Party, which seems mired in permanent minority status outside Niagara Falls, and O'Callaghan were joined in their majority by former county legislator Renae Kimble, who had been appointed by former Assemblyman John Ceretto.

The swift speed of the coup has led to questionable procedures being followed during the hiring — and raise doubts about the legality of the entire hiring process. According to eyewitness accounts from the Thursday meeting, when the board hired its new management team, the board approved contracts. However,

(continued on next page)

Water, water, everywhere, And all the boards did shrink; Water, water, everywhere, Nor any drop to drink. The very deep did rot: O Christ! That ever this should be! Yes, slimy things did crawl with legs Upon the slimy sea.

(Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

izquotes.com

government agencies act in the public's interest," said local attorney Ted Janese, one of the five Water Board members and a member of the former board majority. "Secret meetings to spend public dollars undermine the public's trust, and point to the potential for gross corruption."

The Friday meeting put the finishing touches on Thursday night's coup, where Water Board Executive Director Paul J. Drof, Director of Infrastructure Norm Allen, Director of Administration and Contracts Anthony Hahn, and the board's attorney, John J. Ottaviano, all got the axe.

Janese pointed to the abrupt firing of top Water Board employees as both costly and "a clear violation of their contracts," but said he was even more concerned about the hiring process used to bring new Water Board employees on board.

The new hires — Executive Director Rolfe Porter, Director of Administrative

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Gretchen Leffler chose to vote with the old majority.

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Was Water Board meeting legal?

(continued from previous page)

no contracts actually had been written at the time.

Janese has requested copies of the contracts, but has yet to be provided them, he told the Reporter Wednesday night. He also hasn't been provided résumés for any of the new employees, with the exception of Porter.

"We don't know who was interviewed. The job was clearly never advertised. And strangest of all, contracts were approved that didn't even exist," Janese said.

What's more, according to Janese, the board's new appointees are seriously lacking in basic certification requirements to do their job, not exactly a first in Paul Dyster's Niagara Falls.

"No member of this new leadership team has an operators' license," Janese stated. "That resulted in an extra \$30,000 having to be added to the budget line to keep an individual with an operator's license on hand."

There are also quid-pro-quo allegations swirling which involve a new written contract proposal supplied by the union representing Water Board employees just days before the coup, and an address by Forster at a Water Board meeting held at the end of January, where he admitted to meeting with union members to discuss their lack of a contract prior to beginning his term on the board.

Forster then introduced a resolution at that January meeting — his first — that would have eliminated rules in the Water Board By-Laws that preclude board members from contacting individual employees about board operations.

Representatives of the United Steel Workers, Operating Engineers Local 463, Bricklayers Local 3, IBEW Local 237 and the Painters and Glazers submitted new contract demands — including significant retroactive pay increases going back to 2010 and 4 percent annual increases for the next five years — upon the

appointment of Forster and O'Callaghan. This written proposal comes after seven



Paul Drof is gone.

years of deadlocked talks.

Despite the coup, which certainly seems to have the union seal of approval, and the union demands, there are doubts whether the new majority will actually be able to enact lasting policy. Since Kimble is a holdover awaiting replacement by the nominee of new Assemblyman Angelo Morinello, the tenuous majority will cease to exist as soon as Morinello's pick is approved by the New York State Assembly.

Under state law that established the Water Board a decade and a half ago, the board consists of a mayoral appointee, an appointee of the City Council, an appointee of the state senator representing the district (in this case, Janese, appointed by Sen. Robert G. Ort), an appointee of the local Assemblyman (currently Kimble), and a gubernatorial appointee.

No doubt Forster, O'Callaghan and Kimble were counting on that last member, Gov. Andrew Cuomo's appointee Gretchen Leffler, the board's former chairman, to vote with them. That did not occur.

With Leffler and Janese awaiting a new Assembly appointee, Forster's quasi-majority could very quickly be returned to minority status, and its actions overturned. Of course, this also raises troubling concerns about the delays in that appointment's approval by the Democrat-controlled Assembly, which seems to be dragging the appointment to a near-standstill, no doubt to give the Forster majority time to approve contracts.

Meanwhile, the board's former attorney, among those ousted at last Thursday's meeting, said he is "disappointed" by the new board majority's actions.

"I have 30 years of municipal and public authority law experience and am proud of the 10 years I served as Water Board legal counsel," Ottaviano said when contacted by the Reporter. "I've served both Democrats and Republicans and never had a problem until now."

Ottaviano declined to comment on whether laws were broken by the new board majority.

Niagara Falls Jokes

Delaware North owner and billionaire Jeremy Jacobs was visiting his restaurants and food stands in Niagara Falls State Park when he decided to go for a drive through the city of Niagara Falls. He drove past a vacant lot where there was a small group of children who were eating the grass in the lot because they were so hungry.

Jacobs had his limo driver pull to the curb and he rolled down his window and asked a woman, who was watching over the children, "Why are they eating grass?" She told him that many people in the city of Niagara Falls were poor because all the tourists who come here every year eat in the state park instead of restaurants and diners in the city.

Jacobs pondered this for a moment, then told the woman, "Then I insist that as many children as will fit climb into my limousine and come with me to my estate where they will eat their fill!"

"Thank you, sir, from the bottom of my heart!" cried out the woman.

"Oh, no problem," said Jacobs, "The gardener called in sick yesterday and the grass is several inches tall."

On the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of the city of Niagara Falls, Gov. Cuomo came to give a speech, which went like this:

"Niagara Falls residents... Let's look at the amazing accomplishments here in the city of Niagara Falls since I became governor. For example, here sits Maria. Who was she before? An impoverished homeless woman. And now? She has a job doing laundry at the Hamister Hilton.

"Or look at Jamal. He was the poorest man in this city, had not even a bicycle to get around on. And now? He is washing dishes at the Niagara Lodge! Or even look at Paul. He was a professional student, a lowlife beer guzzler, and such a spineless sycophant as to make even me want to sick up. Nobody trusted him. And now he's your four-term mayor!"

Q: Where do water board members go to

resolve their disputes?

A: The settling chamber.

Seth Piccirillo kept a pet parrot in his office, and one day told Mayor Dyster's some bad news. "Somebody stole my pet parrot!" he complained.

"Well, why don't you report it to the police?" asked Dyster.

"I did," said Piccirillo, "I just wanted you to know ahead of time, the parrot and I disagree on just about everything!"

A boy asks his Niagara Falls grandfather: "Grandpa, is it true that in 1978 there was an accident at Love Canal?"

"Yes, there was," answered the Grandpa and patted his grandson's head.

"Grandpa, is it true that it had absolutely no consequences?"

"Yes, absolutely," replied the Grandpa, patting his grandson's second head.



The world is ready to give up its secrets if we only know how to knock, how to give it the necessary blow. The strength and force of the blow come through concentration.

--

Swami Vivekananda



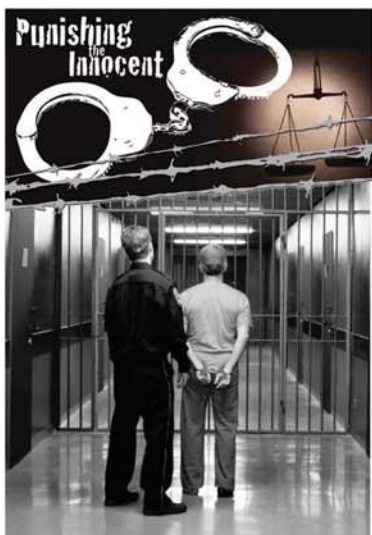
"Such was the will of the Father that his Son, blessed and glorious, whom he gave to us, and who was born for us, should by his own blood, sacrifice, and oblation, offer himself on the altar of the cross, not for himself, by whom "all things were made," but for our sins, leaving us an example that we should follow his steps."

St Francis of Assisi

WERE YOU WRONGLY ACCUSED BY THIS MAN?



**Former Assistant US Attorney
Anthony M. Bruce**



Upon information and belief, court records, document review, and eyewitness testimony, Anthony Bruce suborned perjury, obstructed justice, deceived the courts, recklessly and blatantly disregarded evidence that pointed to innocence, lied by omission and committed outright fraud and perjury as a regular pattern of conduct during his notorious 38 year role as an assistant US attorney and sent an unknown number of innocent people to prison. This heretofore 'dirty little secret' was known by a certain number of people in the legal community and Bruce barely escaped being disbarred and prosecuted in the past.

Up until now, no one had the temerity to publicly challenge this allegedly 'villainous bully' until Frank Parlato, who claims to have been falsely accused by Bruce, brought Bruce's alleged misconduct to light in a series of articles in this publication. Bruce's alleged blatant prosecutorial misconduct in the Parlato case has prompted other defendants and lawyers to contact Parlato who now has a growing body of evidence that the conduct Bruce showed in his case was not singular. Other victims are and will be going on record in coming articles. Were you or your family victimized by Bruce too?

BE NOT AFRAID: If you were a victim of Bruce join the ranks of victims who are fighting back and contact us. Your inquiry will be kept confidential. Your name will never be used without your written permission. Our goal is to prevent prosecutorial misconduct which so often occurs but goes unpunished. It can only be stopped when there is a consequence for prosecutorial misconduct. Absolute power corrupts. Prosecutors have virtually no checks and balances on their conduct unless the people themselves stand up for justice. Contact Parlato at **716-990-5740** or email **news1926@gmail.com**. All calls and emails kept confidential.

"When we neither punish nor reproach evildoers, we are not simply protecting their trivial old age, we are thereby ripping the foundations of justice from beneath new generations." *Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.*

Contact Parlato at **716-990-5740** or email **news1926@gmail.com**.
All calls and emails kept confidential.

Roscetti For City Court Judge Event Draws Crowd



Alex Roscetti... campaigns for his father



Kassie Klejdys, Alan Roscetti, Timothy Sootheran ...at event for Alan Roscetti



L-r Jerry Wolfgang, Bill Carroll, Sam Archie ...at meet and greet for Alan Roscetti

A meet-and-greet event for Niagara Falls City Court candidate Alan Roscetti was held last Monday at the Buffalo Wing Joint and P. U. B. on Niagara Falls Blvd.

A turnout of Niagara Falls residents show that Roscetti has a strong following in this city.

Among the prominent political figures in attendance were Niagara Falls City Republican Chairman Bill Carroll, Lewiston GOP Chairman Jerry Wolfgang and Republican city council candidate Sam Archie.

Providing plenty of entertainment was young Alex Roscetti, the candidate's toddler son, who gave it his all for his father and had plenty of fun in the process.

"It was a fun night and it is always good to get together with people and let them know I'm running for city court to serve them," said Roscetti, a Niagara County public defender and a private attorney at his father James Roscetti's law firm.

Melissa Morinello, campaign adviser to Roscetti (and daughter of former Judge, now State Assemblyman Angelo Morinello) said there will be future events in the coming weeks to give people a chance to talk to Alan, and folks can check out Alan's Facebook page and his website, www.voteroscetti.com, for information.

ELECT ALAN JAMES ROSCETTI
for
NIAGARA FALLS CITY COURT JUDGE

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

VOTE

OBSTRUCTIONIST OR CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRAT - WHICH ARE YOU?



**J. Gary
DiLaura**

**The Right
Side**

We have pretty much been a two party Republic for quite a long time. The beautiful part of our system is that it is a constitutional republic versus a democracy! That means that even though the majority or winning party rules, under the Republic, the winning party MUST provide the same rights to all because of our Rule of Law. The ruling party must honor our Bill of Rights and our Constitution! If we were a democracy, the elected, ruling party would only provide the losing party the rights THEY want to provide! The Constitution and our Rule of Law would be gone and we would be a Socialist Nation, by definition and by

fact! The Democrat party has been hijacked by the "progressives" and are letting them steal your country! Thank goodness many of you stepped up the past election and replaced 1,040+ Democrat seats in the country!

In my opinion, MOST Democrats believe in the Republic, the Constitution and our Rule of law. Most Democrat party leaders do not! The leaders want a new order, a Socialist America, a much bigger government financed by the wealthy right, not the wealthy left.

Look at just some of the laws the Dem leaders push... legalize pot... choose which bathroom you want to use... choose your sex...give illegal, criminal aliens sanctuary... create sanctuary zones where Federal law doesn't apply...no private gun ownership...teach Islam in schools...allow Sharia law in Muslim communities! I simply do not believe that main stream Constitutional Democrats want that for America? Would you want your little girl in a bathroom when a gender challenged male walked in? I think not but if you continue to remain silent and don't "slap your Democrat leaders across the face, hard" with your votes and your outrage you could completely lose everything! My guess is most Democrats believe in fundamentally, the same Rule of law as Republicans but because their leaders are not truthful, they are being duped!

Their leaders are....Barack Hussein Obama,

still the leader of the party, who is still pushing for "change". Even if you are not sure or don't believe he is an Islamic Muslim (which he is) you cannot deny that he's a radical "progressive/socialist"! Then there's Pelosi, Reed and Ribbon Cutter Schumer. Following them are Maxine Waters, Debbie Wasserman Schulz, Dianne Feinstein, Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders and last but not least, Hillary!

There are also two Muslims who were elected to the House, as hard as that is to believe, Keith Ellison and Andre Carson!

I am dying to ask Rep Keith Ellison and Rep Andre Carson of Indiana if they believe in the separation of Church and State because a "Muslim" cannot believe in the separation of Church and State!

It amazes me that NOT ONE of the press corps, that claims to be our "watchdogs", has asked these two elected Congressmen how they can possibly believe in Islam with one Supreme leader and NO separation of Church and State (the foundation of Islam), and our Constitution with the separation of Church and State (the foundation of America), at the same time?

The point I'm trying to make is this; what has made this country so great is every 4 years we elect a President and we are the only Nation in the world that has a peaceful transition from one leader to

another if a new leader is elected...up until now! For the first time in modern history and maybe all of our history, a handful of losers won't accept they lost, won't let go because their Socialist, non-Constitutional leaders keep stoking the fire! They are determined to OBSTRUCT, for the sake of obstructing, destroy, lie, cheat, steal, burn, riot until they get their way!

In other words, they are proving, to the entire world, that what I say is true, they do not believe in our Rule of Law anymore and want a new "Socialist America"! If that's not what you want as either a Democrat or Republican then stand up and support your new and duly elected President!

All Americans must support our new President as he tries to protect our way of life instead of "changing" our way of life, like Obama and a handful of others want. We don't want our Constitutional Republic changed into a Socialist Democracy.

If I were President Trump I WOULD allow Obama Care to collapse and let the Democrat leaders explain why a totally Democrat law, with no input from any Republicans, failed, leaving millions with NO health care!

Fortunately for you, President Trump won't allow anyone to go without health care, so support him!

WHY PRESIDENT TRUMP CALLS THE PRESS DECEITFUL... BECAUSE THEY ARE!

The creators of our Constitution recognized the necessity and power of the press as an integral part of our free society. The Constitution never gave the press access to the White House, the presidents did! The press was first given a work space around 1902 but concentrated mostly on what

Congress was doing until around 1950.

President Teddy Roosevelt gave the press their first "press room", although they were still primarily covering Congress. Roosevelt used the press and courted them to what he wanted printed. If he didn't like what they wrote he kicked them

out and courted another one who was friendly to the President! It was an honor for a reporter to be allowed access to the White House and a bigger honor to speak with the President! If the president didn't like a reporter, he was gone! Consequently, the news media's sent their best reporters to the White House!

In 1934, under President Franklin Roosevelt, the West Wing was gutted and a work area for the press was created with desks, phones, and telegraph. The press working areas were moved all over due to the increasing demand for access because of the growth of the media, by 1934 numbering in the hundreds.

From the time of Woodrow Wilson to WWII, credentialed press reporters hovered around the President's desk in the oval office shouting questions to the President! Around 1950 Harry Truman had enough of the oval office press conferences and moved them to the Indian Treaty Room. There was never enough room!

With today's 24 hour news stations, even a major paper or TV station won't survive without access to the White House! Their competitors will bury them!

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS NOT JUST A "RIGHT"... IT'S A "RESPONSIBILITY"!

The press has a right to freely report the news but it also has a responsibility to the American people to report the news fairly and objectively without cutting, personal, reporter comments and most important of all, honesty! The President has the right and the power to cancel press credentials if he believes a news media is broadcasting phony news and is trying to undermine the office of the President!! If a reporter or editor wants to influence our Rule of Law and change the face of America, then drop your purse, man up and run for office, instead of slinging all the crap you can find without any named sources, at a man who put his everything on the line for what he believes! He put his life, money, business, family on the line!

What does a dishonest reporter risk? A handful of back stabbing, wannabe Nobel, Pulitzer Prize "whining" reporters who never had a real job in their lives, try to undermine the President because of their agenda! Do you think Matt Lauer/Chris Mathews would take offense if another reporter printed that an unnamed, anonymous source reported that he's a pedophile?

The power of the press is unquestionably great but so is the President's. The difference is, the

President is elected and the press is not! The President is obligated by oath, by law and by moral conviction to tell the truth and defend our country. Apparently, the press is NOT!

In my opinion, the UNELECTED press, whose only goals today are to become rich and famous, have no obligation to tell the truth. If they did, CNN, Matt Lauer, Donna Brazile would all have been fined, fired or charged with a crime for giving questions and answers to a candidate before the Presidential debate, all in an attempt to "influence a Presidential election", like they say the Russians did!! The lack of outrage, by the left, tells me that it is common place with their party!



The press has bastardized their power to the point of outright corruption and is trying to become the 4th branch of government...Executive, Legislative, Judicial, and Press!

If the press doesn't like the choice "We the People" made, again... man up and run for office! Quit trying to overturn, undermine, dethrone or otherwise disrupt our Rule of Law! I say it's time to take press credentials away and let's see who suffers more, CNN, Washington Post, NY Times or the President! Let's see how long they last reporting "second hand" news!

As an FBI Agent working in NY I saw firsthand, many times, how the press makes things up to suit their purpose. Hoover had a policy of "no comment" and it was certain "death" to any Agent who violated that rule! I worked many high profile cases from bank robberies to hijacking to kidnapping where we were lead stories and front page news and event synopses were prepared by the Agents, given to the front office and an official release was made. The only resemblance between what really happened and what the news media's actually reported, was accidental! They believed they had to fill in the gaps and fill they did! That was some 40 years ago and the reliability of the major media has gone down since then!

The only "checks and balances" we have on the Press is the President's ability to ban them from first hand info. Neither the courts nor law enforcement can get the names of their sources! They are out of control!!! What's the sense of letting them have the news first hand if they're going to make it up anyway? Second hand should be good enough... hand in your press credentials and ask Hannity what was said!

That's MY opinion!!!





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How Long Does It Take to Get Out of Shape?

Colder temperatures and fewer daylight hours make it more difficult to stay active and motivated. But how long does it take to actually get out of shape? It varies from person to person, but most experts agree that it's pretty simple: you either use it or you lose it.

After a few days

No change. A day off gives your body time to recover and grow stronger, so don't worry about missing a day here or there. In addition to preventing overtraining, which can lead to injuries, rest days can also bring a much-needed mental break.

After one week

Cardio fitness starts to decline in the form of a slightly lower VO2 max – a measure of the lung's ability to do work – meaning you might be a little more winded than usual doing a task you're used to. During this time, blood sugar and blood pressure levels also begin to rise.

A week off won't cause huge drops in muscle strength or cardio ability, but it could signal that you're falling out of your regular routine.

After two to three weeks

This is when most people start to notice losses in strength and endurance. Cardio fitness levels decrease about 10-20 percent. Muscular strength tends to stick around a little longer, but a few weeks off can still lead to a 20-25 percent loss in strength. A layoff this long may also negatively affect your mood, stress level and even the quality of your sleep.

Consider some indoor and outdoor activities to maintain your fitness level during the winter months. If you've been inactive this winter, remember to start slow – trying to lift or run as much as you did before could lead to injury and even more time off.

- Get in a workout at home with simple bodyweight exercises that don't require equipment.
- Workout programs on DVD and Blu-ray are available for all fitness levels.
- Go for a walk or jog around the neighborhood or explore some local hiking trails.
- Find an activity the whole family can enjoy, like sledding or ice skating.
- Participate in a winter sport like skiing, snowboarding or snowshoeing.



Obituaries & In Memoriams

HOWARD F. REUSE

Entered into rest February 25, 2017



REUSE - Howard F. Of Amherst, entered into rest on February 25, 2017. Beloved husband of Meta Reuse; devoted father of Peter Thomas, Robert William and Michael Friedrich Reuse; loving son of the late Wilhelm and Josephine Reuse; dear brother of Margaret (Gnter) Toepfel; also survived by relatives and friends. Relatives and friends may visit

the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME, (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr. on Thursday from 3-8 PM. A Funeral Service will be held at Crossroads Lutheran Church, 4640 Main St., Amherst on Friday morning at 10 o'clock. (Please assemble at church). Interment White Chapel Memorial Park. Mr. Reuse was a member of the Local Union 112 and was a Boy Scout Troop Master at Greater Niagara Frontier Course. Online condolences may be made at www.lombardofuneralhome.com

NORMAN A. PLOWE SR.

Entered into rest February 27, 2017



PLOWE - Norman A., Sr. Of Amherst, entered into rest February 27, 2017, beloved husband of Evelyn K. (nee Mendolera) Plowe; devoted father of Kim Michael (late Sue) Plowe, Norman Plowe Jr., Daniel (Laurie) Plowe, Tara (John) Beck and the late Kristen Plowe; cherished grandfather of Heidi (Carly), Daniel, Zachary, James, Samantha, Madelyn, Lucas, Ja-

cob, Adam and Troy; fond great-grandfather of five; dear brother of Ronald, Peter, Allyn and the late Arnold, Eugene, Donald and Randy; also survived by relatives and friends. Relatives and friends may visit the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd., near Eggert/Sheridan Dr., on Friday from 4-7 PM. Funeral Service will immediately follow. Norman served with the US Merchant Marines and the US Marine Corps during the Korean War. Online condolences at www.lombardofuneralhome.com.

FRANCIS V. PAHL

Entered into rest February 26, 2017



PAHL - Francis V. Of Pendleton, entered into rest February 26, 2017; beloved husband of Maria K. (nee Proulx) Pahl; devoted father of Aimee R. Pahl and the late Jason M. Pahl; cherished grandfather of Nicolas Pahl; loving son of the late Rupert and Jacobine

Pahl; dear brother of Rupert (Janet) Pahl and the late Joseph (late Katherine) Pahl and Doris (late Ben) Cintorino. Relatives and friends may visit the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel) 885 Niagara Falls Blvd., near Eggert/Sheridan Dr. on Saturday from 10-2 PM for a gathering in Francis' memory. Funeral service will immediately follow. Francis served in the National Guard. Online condolences at www.lombardofuneralhome.com

To place an obituary, death notice or an in memoriam, please call 716-534-0771 or send email to WNYObits@gmail.com with your name, number, notice and photo of deceased (optional).



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