

letters

to the Editor

Reynolds

(Continued from page five)

Davis, the Democratic millionaire who is running against Reynolds, is elected, it would spark an epidemic across New York State and would eventually lead New York into a welfare state.

Keep fighting, Tom.

JJ Klimek,
University at Buffalo
undergraduate student
Amherst

Explanation sought for involvement

Rep. Tom Reynolds' attempt to explain to his constituents his actions in connection with the resignation of former representative Mark Foley of Florida leads to this question: will he also write a letter explaining his longtime support and connection with former representative Tom DeLay of Texas, who resigned under pressure after being indicted in his home state?

Robert Buyer
Garrison Road
Amherst

THINHAIR?

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Main Street lights poorly timed

I am writing about traffic congestion on Main Street through the Village of Williamsville. This is my 13th communication with your (Department of Transportation) over the last 15 years. During this time, traffic flow has substantially deteriorated.

On Monday, Sept. 25, it took me 27 minutes to move 1.9 miles from Main and Evans, to Main and Lamarck. The problem, as I see it and have brought up 13 times, are poorly timed signals at Park Club, North Forest and Union Roads. They simply do not stay green long enough for traffic to flow. Each time I bring this to you and your department's attention, you promise to send a crew to look at it, and nothing happens. It only gets worse.

In September 2005, when I discussed this with you, yet again, you told me a complete study and reworking of the system would be completed in the spring of 2006. Nothing happened. The deteriorating traffic situation has led to incidents of "road rage" I have never previously observed. I realize there is increased volume on Main because of construction on both Sheridan and Genesee streets, but poor signal timing has only exacerbated the problem.

More importantly, these tie ups are both time and fuel inefficient. No more promises to send a crew to look at it, or to do a study, it's time to fix it and now.

Paul Eberz
Evans Street
Williamsville

Have the decency to resign

Along with the parents and grandparents of our community, I'm deeply saddened by the news that Rep. (Mark) Foley, R-Fla, was sending salacious e-mails to young pages of Congress.

This made so many of us feel betrayed. Not just by Foley, but also by the congressional leadership that was well aware of the situation for more than a year and did nothing to fulfill their obligation to protect these young people from this predator.

Why didn't the leaders of Congress go to the proper authorities with this terrible problem? Was it because Foley, at this period in time, contributed \$300,000 to the Republican Congressional Committee? The chairman of this committee denies that this contribution had anything to do with it. Who would be naive enough to accept that answer from a professional politician?

I submit that after many people in this session of Congress had to resign in disgrace, the leadership was determined to cover up this disgraceful page situation to save their own jobs rather than protect the young people in their care.

The Department of Justice should fully investigate this whole sorry mess, and anyone who participated in this coverup should have the decency to resign.

Francis A. Kennedy
Williamsville

Political games hide the facts

After viewing a local news broadcast, I was amazed at the remarks of Sen. Hillary Clinton in reference to Rep. Tom Reynolds. She wants answers? How soon we forget. Sen. Clinton made a lucrative deal selling her book rights a day before taking office; she couldn't do that once she took office.

How about those top secret papers that ended up on her table in the private wing of the White House? She wondered (sure) how they got there. What about the president of the United States and his Monica escapade?

But more important, the president of the United States, lying under oath. And not being held accountable for it. What about the hundreds of thousands of dollars we, the taxpayers, dole out for her houses, her Secret Service vigils, her flights in Air Force One, so she can campaign, dear God, for president? Remember these things? Isn't this calling the kettle black? We deserved answers and never got them. I certainly do not condone Rep. Foley's actions; they are despicable, and his resignation was appropriate.

Rep. Reynolds' impeccable character, integrity and veracity is above reproach. His dedication to young people and his family, as a father and grandfather, and as a congressional leader, is flawless. Shame on us if we allow dirty politics to cloud our good senses.

Mrs. Clinton should be embarrassed using this situation to her political advantage.

Jo Anne I. Skorka
Amherst

I am proud of our congressman

Those who are blessed to live in Amherst, Clarence, Snyder and

all the communities that make up the 26th congressional district have every reason to be proud to re-elect Thomas Reynolds based on his record of achievement, not the near hysterical hype of a Floridian congressman's shameful and repugnant conduct. Enough of the political name-calling, and let us concentrate on facts.

Laura Bush put it succinctly and beautifully when she said, "Tom understands that America faces challenges too important to be reduced to just politics. President Bush has an ambitious agenda for the rest of his time in Washington, and he takes his responsibility to the American people very seriously."

Ending our dependence on foreign oil, reforming our immigration system, rebuilding the Gulf Coast, and keeping our country safe from terrorism are not easy tasks, but they're absolutely vital goals. To accomplish them, we must have serious national conversations, conducted with civility and respect. And Tom Reynolds is a thoughtful and positive part of that dialogue."

Mr. Reynolds is always forthright and honest. He answers every question with candor, and it is time to stop the political witch hunt and concentrate on what is best for our nation and the 26th district. Mr. Reynolds is the man with a great record. He will never let us down. He is a true leader. I am proud of our congressman.

Marshall Wood,
chairman, Amherst
Republican Committee

Reynolds efforts are what matter

The gossip bent in the political race in the 26th District has to stop. There are important issues that Congress has to struggle with to protect us and keep the economy rising.

The truth of Rep. Thomas Reynolds' miniscule role in the Foley scandal is simply stated with a quote from the Florida editor of the St. Petersburg Times. Foley lies well. He wrote in part, "... given the seriousness of what could be implied in a story, it was critical that we have complete confidence in our sourcing. After much discussion among top editors at the paper, we concluded that the information we had on Foley last November didn't meet our standard for publication. Evidently, other news organizations felt the same way. Since that time, we revisited the question more than once, but never learned anything that changed our position."

Mr. Reynolds did the right thing, and when a colleague lies and seems to be a convincing liar, we cannot expect anyone to be clairvoyant. Let us not forget the 2,300 jobs saved by the work of our experienced congressman, who saved the Niagara Air (Reserve) Base, and the jobs protected at Amherst Systems with more than \$74 million of federal aid that aids our national defense, jobs and the local economy. This is proof of jobs saved and created, not a slogan. The 26th District is much better off today than it was before Reynolds went to work to save jobs, protect our seniors and serve every constituent. Let's concentrate on facts, not rumors and empty three-word slogans that are meaningless. Reynolds has earned re-election the old fashioned way. He earned it.

Dorothy Merrill
Williamsville

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