

Another Letter to the Editor

What The Heck Is Government For? 'You Didn't Get There On Your Own'

The recent Obama speech given in Roanoke, Virginia on July 13, 2012 provides an insight into the head of our current President. In the campaign stump speech, President Obama declared:

"If you've been successful you didn't get there on your own. Ya did not get there on your own". He reasons, "I'm always struck by people who think 'well, it must be because I was just so smart'. There are a lot of smart people out there! 'It must be because I worked harder than everybody else.' Let me tell you something—there are a whole bunch of hardworking people out there!"

"If you are successful, somebody along the line gave you some help. There was a great teacher somewhere in your life. Somebody helped to create this unbelievable American system that we have allowed you to thrive. Somebody invested in roads and bridges. If you got a business, you did not build that. Somebody else made that happen. The Internet did not get invented on its own. Government research created the Internet so then all the companies could make money off the Internet. The point is that when we succeed, we succeed off of our own initiative, but also because we do things together. There are some things just like fighting fires we do not do on your own. I mean imagine if everybody had their own fire service. That'd be a hard way to organize fighting fires. So we say to ourselves, ever since the founding of this country, you know what, there are some things we do better together. That's how we funded the GI Bill, that how we created the middle class, that's how we built the Golden Gate Bridge, the Hoover Dam, that's how we invented the Internet, that's how we sent a man to the moon. We rise or fall together as one nation and as one people. And that's the reason I am running for President, because I still believe in that idea. You are not on your own. We are in this together."

If you watch the video of the speech he almost missed saying "we succeed off of our own initiative" as he said it very fast just to get the words out. My thought about this is that if everyone is in this together, why is it that he is requesting that some people be more in it together than others? Why is it that only the successful need to be in it together? Why aren't the less successful being asked/compelled to be in it together as well? Or is it that their part of the Obama togetherness vision of America is that they provide receiving part?

Obama says his words were taken out of context of the speech but then you have Elizabeth Warren who used to be a senior person in the Obama administration who was either the inspiration for

this sentiment or the two are simply cut from the same cloth. In a 2011 speech she gave while running for the Massachusetts Senate she said:

"Nobody in this country got rich on their own. You moved your goods to market on the roads that the rest of us paid for. You hired workers the rest of us paid to educate. You were safe in your factory because of police forces and fire forces that the rest of us paid for. You didn't have to worry that marauding bands would come and seize everything at your factory and hire someone to protect against this because of the work the rest of us did. Now look, if you built a factory and it turned into something terrific or a great idea, God Bless, keep a big hunk of it, but part of the underlying social contract is you take a hunk of that and pay forward to the next kid that comes along."

What the heck is government for if it does not provide the basics of road infrastructure, police and fire safety, among other things? No one disputes everyone in society benefits from these basics.

To Liz Warren it seems that the social contract only applies to those who have been successful. What part of the social contract does she ask the less successful to provide? If everyone has access to the same benefits of the government basics, why do successful people have to pay forward more than others? She did say that successful people had the benefit of more roads, police or fire than anyone else, so exactly why must they be compelled to pay forward and no others are asked to do anything but receive?

Both of these social-justice, anti-capitalist politicians (Bill O'Reilly label) demonstrate a simultaneous disdain for self-reliance/responsibility and an appreciation for success. They feel that people owe a great deal or most of their success to the government rather than their own self-reliance. I do not recall the government helping me when I was sacrificing family time meeting business objectives. They appreciate successful people, but only because without them there would be no one to pay the "big hunk" of their success into the social contract. They simply do not get that the more government confiscates the rewards of success, the less people will be willing to make the sacrifices/take the risks to be successful. If you want to know why our economy's recovery has been such a failure, re-read this letter. If we have another four years of Obama, it will clearly be better to be on the unsuccessful side of the social bargain.

Richard Sauerwein
Westfield

Newark Museum to Present 'Angels and Tomboys'

NEWARK - The hopes, dreams and fears of girls in the 19th century will be explored in an exhibition opening at the Newark Museum on Wednesday, September 12.

Featuring masterworks by John Singer Sargent, Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer, Cecilia Beaux and William Merritt Chase, "Angels and Tomboys: Girlhood in 19th-Century American Art" explores the numerous ways artists not only reflected, but helped shape cultural and artistic visions of girlhood in the 1800s.

"While girls were typically portrayed as innocent, passive and domestic throughout the 19th century, the exhibition investigates compelling and alternative female images including tomboys, working children and adolescents," said Mary Sue Sweeney Price, Museum Director and CEO.

Among the themes that are explored are Victorian attitudes towards the nature and nurture of children; the association of girls with fashion, health and home; and the impact of the Civil War on families.

Organized by Dr. Holly Pyne Connor, Curator of 19th-Century American Art at the Newark Museum, the exhibition is comprised of more than 80 works from the museum's renowned American art collection and from other major institutions across the country. The exhibition is on view through January 7, 2013, and then travels to the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art from February 16 to May 26, 2013, and to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas, from June 28 to September 30, 2013.

Major support for the exhibition and accompanying catalogue has been provided by Johnson and Johnson; National Endowment for the Arts; Robert Lehman Foundation, Inc.; Newark Museum Volunteer Organization; and Friends of American Art at the Newark Museum and, in part, by a grant from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism. The exhibition is also supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

The exhibition begins with the subject of childhood androgyny by displaying portraits of little boys and girls dressed in similar clothing, revealing Victorian attitudes about raising children and a desire of parents to view their children as sexless. The concept of the "Child of Nature" is presented with scenes of girls immersed in lush, country settings. During a period of increasing urbanization and industrialization, girlhood was viewed as a natural

and spontaneous state while rural youths were viewed as healthier, happier and purer than their urban counterparts, curator Dr. Connor explained.

Further works deal with energetic and adventuresome tomboys, a new feminine type that emerged after the Civil War and provided alternate behavioral models that are still relevant today. Working girls appear in the prints of Jacob Riis, the pioneering social photographer, and provide a dramatic contrast to cheerful images of street children, domestic servants and rural laborers by contemporary artists.

Paintings of readers address the new educational opportunities that became available to girls for the first time as they went to high school and then on to college. In the final gallery, psychological portraits depict moody teenagers during a period at the end of the 19th century when doctors began to recognize that adolescence was a unique stage in human development, defined by emotional turbulence, and tremendous physical growth and maturation.

Narrative paintings by Lilly Martin Spencer, the most important female artist of the mid-century, address her deeply felt views on home, family and the nation during and after the Civil War, while the genre works of Eastman Johnson, John Rogers and Edward Lamson Henry examine issues of race and reconstruction.

Among the artistic highlights are images by Edmund Tarbell and Chase of their daughters dressed up for their portraits or captured unaware in the household; full length portraits by Chase, Frank Benson and Frank Duveneck; and enigmatic and disturbing girlhood images of family members by Chase, Eakins and Seymour Joseph Guy, which reveal the complexity of the artists' personal responses to the young girls who model for them and who inspired some of their greatest pictures.

"While individual works are analyzed in depth, they are also placed in a rich social, artistic and historical context, which provides multiple avenues for a greater understanding and appreciation of 19th-century girlhood," said Dr. Connor.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a major catalogue, co-published by the Newark Museum with Pomagranite Communications, Inc., which includes five illuminating essays by respected scholars in the field of nineteenth-century American art and culture.

For more information, visit www.NewarkMuseum.org.

MOVING SALE!

7/28 and 7/29, 9-4, A/C
1896 North Gate (@Martine)
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NY Medical College Announces Grad

VALHALLA, N.Y. - New York Medical College announced that Matthew Schoenfeld of Scotch Plains graduated at the college's 153rd commencement on May 31. He was awarded a medical degree.

Matthew was also awarded with the Dr. and Mrs. David Harrison Scholarship Award, Eileen H. Pike, Ph.D. Memorial Award in Microbiology and a Citation for Scholarship - Alpha Omega Alpha.

He is the son of Jane Fitter-Schoenfeld and Marc Schoenfeld of Scotch Plains.



DePaul University Announces Grad

CHICAGO, Ill. - DePaul University announced the following local area resident was among its 113th graduating class this summer: Laryssa Borkowsky of Westfield.

Union Catholic to Present A Midsummer Night's Dream

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Union Catholic Performing Arts Company will be presenting its summer show, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Friday and Saturday, August 3 and 4, at 7 p.m.

Emily Dzioba of North Plainfield, Class of 2014, is directing the show, and it is the first time a current Union Catholic student is taking the lead.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or on www.showtix4u.com and are \$5 for students/senior citizens and \$10 for standard tickets.

Presented in a non-traditional setting of modern day New York City, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* tells the tale of three different groups of characters, all with interlocking stories. Demetrius and Lysander both want to marry Hermia, but she only has eyes for Lysander. Unfortunately, Hermia's parents want Demetrius for a son-in-law. Helena, Hermia's best friend, has fallen in love with Demetrius. Hermia and Lysander plan to flee from the city under cover of darkness but are pursued by an enraged Demetrius

and a pleading Helena. In Central Park, unbeknownst to all of the mortals, Oberon and Titania, the King and Queen of the faeries, are having their own troubles. The plot thickens when Oberon's head mischief-making fairy, Puck, runs loose with a flower which causes people to fall in love with the first thing they see upon waking. Throw in a group of actors preparing a play also tromping around the park, and the complications become fantastically funny.

The show's cast includes Danielle Gruskiewicz, Class of 2012 of Keasby; Meredith McAna, Class of 2012, of Edison; Sidney Dick, Class of 2014, of Plainfield; Will Marsh, Class of 2014, of Rahway; Gabrielle Pais, Class of 2014, of Union; Cassie Weaver, Class of 2014, of Carteret; Kate Carolan, Class of 2015, of Linden; Maria Cohen, Class of 2016, of Elizabeth; Neill Lynskey, Class of 2016, of Cranford; Rebecca McQuade, Class of 2016, of Colonia; Kaitlin Waldron, Class of 2016, of Colonia and Alexandra Williams, Class of 2016, of Gillette.



WELCOME ABOARD...Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich, left, swears in new sheriff's officers during a recent ceremony in Elizabeth. The new officers, pictured, right to left, are: Alexander Gonzalez of Elizabeth, Nelson Agurto of Roselle Park, Sergey Zonn of Fanwood, Bryan Frew of Scotch Plains, Andrew Horan of Kenilworth, Raul Ramos of Plainfield, Rigoberto Gonzalez of Elizabeth and Mazhar Elwardany of Plainfield. The new officers, all U.S. military veterans, will be filling current vacancies in the Sheriff's Office.

Recent Home Sales

For more info see:
<http://clerk.uci.org/UCPA/DocIndex>

Westfield: 6/25/12

Alexander H. and Rebecca Watson to Kevan W. Levinson and Erica L. Strassler, 20 Sunnywood Drive, \$1,191,500.

Stanley P. and Charlon C. Clark, Jr. to Kenneth and Jennifer Davidson, 132 Stanmore Place, \$612,000.

John P. and Jennifer C. Conneely to Michael S. and Jennifer T. Jordre, 751 Crescent Parkway, \$698,020.

Robert and Mary Aquilina to Franco and Rita Lasagni, 260 Walnut Street, \$317,000.

In-Town Condominium Construction Co., LLC to Theresa Santulli, 111 Prospect Street, \$831,000.

Sharon Wright to Xinhui Tang and Yanan Xiao, 905 Union Street, \$742,500.

Kay C. MacRae to Anant Iyer and Hima Bindu Subramanyam, 45 Manitou Circle, \$610,000.

Andrew and Frances Straus to Nicholas and Kathleen M. Stamou, 301 Grove Street, West, \$695,000.

Russell G. and Adeline A. Parsell to Rocco and Erin Ramano, 900 Columbus Avenue, \$252,000.

Leonard and Kimberly A. Palumbo to Matthew and Dana Gewirtz, 736 Tamaques Way, \$830,000.

Westfield: 7/2/12

Linda and Gary R. Schader to Jonathan and Jamie Sherry, 645 Raymond Street, \$611,000.

B & J NJ Holdings, LLC to Vasu Kengeri and Denise Edwards, 702 Shackamaxon Drive, \$750,000.

Dominic R. and Joan J. DeVito to Ryan and Jenifer Brennan, 222 Wells Street, \$585,000.

Gregoire Sulmont and Puspasari Rastrawan-Sulmont to Virginia Maria Garcia, 1049 Coolidge Street, \$470,000.

Jordan Most and Laura Ruttenberg to William E. and Tanya K. Bronsteen, 908 Stevens Avenue, \$925,000.

William J. and Joan K. Corbet, Jr. to S. Colin Neill and Bernadette M. Houston, 5 Eastgate Square, \$569,875.

Howard and Linda Rinn to Daniel and Deborah Hoffman, 809 Knollwood Terrace, \$885,000.

Melanie Stokes and Et Als. to Nikolai Cherenkov and Inessa Vinokurov, 136 Marlboro Street, \$320,000.

Scotch Plains: 2/17/12

R. Edwards and E. Cohen to Patricia A. Mullane, 1110 Raritan Road, \$665,000.

Anthony and Melissa Cartinella to Marissa Basile, 1622 Ramapo Way, \$480,000.

Mathew and Jane Lembecke to Jon Randall and Meghann Entee, 1429 Sylvan Lane, \$450,000.

John R. and Joan F. Shanebrook to Allen I. and Phyllis Rubel, 256 Throwbridge Drive, \$595,000.

Alton McCoy to Francesco and Michael De Luca, 2496 Plainfield Avenue, \$325,000.

Charles Bradford Gates to William S. and Cathrine J. Hoffman, 2220 Concord Road, \$432,000.

Stephen Castalos to BWR Partners LLC., 2362 Waldheim Avenue, \$515,000.

Marion B. and Black Whitty to Union Holding Group LLC., 1111 Hetfield Avenue, \$160,000.

William and Cathrine Hoffman to Leanna Amorim-Vieira, 2419 Mountain Avenue, \$349,900.

Jonathan S. and Carrie Ann Kahana to Leisha J. Shorey, 28 Riga Court,

\$365,000.

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to Edward B. and Dina M. Schenone, 2405 Rose Street, \$205,000.

Calpurnio Salomone and T. Salomone to R-Iaione Companies Inc., 3 Azalea Court, \$245,000.

Jeanne Roos to Edward C. Morelli, 2042 Church Avenue, \$ 270,000.

Scotch Plains: 3/1/12

Ralph Felmeister to CNJOS Properties LLC., 2086 Dogwood Drive, \$325,000.

Ethel Eysmann to Needle Point Homes LLC., 6 Scotchwood Glenn, \$475,000.

Jean Cadet and Yvonne Wright to Roberto and Claudine Tariche, 2 Whilshire Run, \$699,000.

Douglas and Linda B. Squires to Heather A. and John J. Livernois, 1277 Woodside Road, \$525,000.

Bernardo and Fabiana Messercola to Christine Scillieri, 2420 Seneca Road, \$890,000.

1765 Realty Company LLC. to SKMK LLC., 1765-1767 East Second Street, \$595,000.

Norbet A. Medenbach to Brendan E. and Jaclyn A. Lepkowski, 328 Montague Avenue, \$345,000.

Jefferey B. Lehrer to Paul J. and Kristen L. Paparella, 980 Raritan Road, \$565,000.

Gina Addeo to Alfredo and Alainna Simon, 2 Carri Farm Court, \$1,075,000.

Scott N. and Dianne L. Pryor to Kevin and Nicole Sharkey, 2442 Allwood Road, \$360,000.

Scotch Plains: 4/18/12

Jon and Alexander Lombardoni to Merrill Tenenbaum, 607 Donato Circle, \$345,000.

Fanwood: 3/22/12

Thomas Wempe to Ennio and Isabel Bozzetti, 21 Mary Lane, \$217,000.

Edwin and Charlotte Jenkinson to Peter Wahl, 150 Farley Lane, \$309,900.

P. Campanile and K. Campanile to Mathew and Karen Hoffmann, 191 Paterson Road, \$375,000.

Martin and Virginia Jennings to Jefferey and Victoria Gal, 10 Deborah Way, \$375,000.

Henry A. Mazzuccato to Mark David Evans and S. I. Tumay, 7 La Grand Square, \$335,000.

Castro A. and Maribel Toro to James and Dana Castronuovo, 465 North Avenue, \$379,000.

Elizabeth Madden and Steven C. Branch to Omer J. and Arsa A. Riaz 4 Shasta Pass, \$417,000.

Jacuelin O. La Rode to Haibo Hu and Meng Yeng, 136 South Avenue, \$190,000.



Clark University Announces Dean's List

WORCESTER, MA - The following local resident was named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Spring 2012 semester.

Stephanie G. Korunow, a resident of Westfield.

To be eligible for first honors, students must have a grade point average of 3.8 or higher, of a maximum of 4.3 (all A+s).

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