

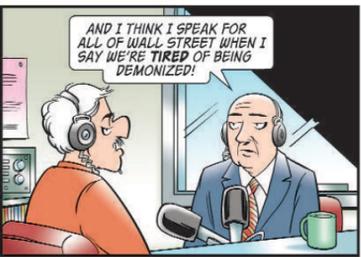
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DOONESBURY

by G.B. Trudeau



Quote of the Week

"The New York grape, grape juice and wine industry is a major economic engine for the state of New York. Wine is the ultimate value-added product with huge economic multiplier effects for many affiliated industries." — **Jim Trezise**, president of the New York Wine and Grape Foundation on a new study that showed the local wine industry impacts the state economy by \$4.8 billion.

Do your own casino research

Residents can find readily available answers to their questions

The following was put together with very little time or effort. With computer access you could compile this information yourself. It accurately describes how a little research and some common sense will allow people to look past the scare tactics and make an informed decision about how a casino would *really* affect them. Where possible, local data was used to be as accurate as possible.

• **No lower property values**

MIKE DAVIS

Guest Appearance



A recent conversation with a Farmington assessor revealed the taxable value for the entire town in 2001, prior to the racino being built, was \$394 million; in 2013 it is \$734.5 million. Farmington's property

value has increased a whopping 46 percent (only \$22 million of which can be attributed to the racino itself), while the towns of Tyre and Junius went from \$79 million to \$104 million, just 24 percent, during that time. Our property values increased half as much as an area with a casino.

• **No increased crime**

A February 2012 article in the "Middletown Press" says everything you need to know. The article has fairly recent data on Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun both of which have seen a decrease in crime.

If they have seen a decrease, why would Tyre see an increase? Chances are we won't. You can verify this at www.middletownpress.com/general-news/20120226/casinos-and-crime-crime-rates-have-fallen-around-foxwoods-mohegan-sun-2.

• **No dangerous traffic**

Literally hundreds of trucks use this exact same route to get to Petro daily, and have you seen this exit on Black Friday? These have equated to nothing more than a minor

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Those unique white deer need our help before it's too late

DEE CALVASINA

Guest Appearance

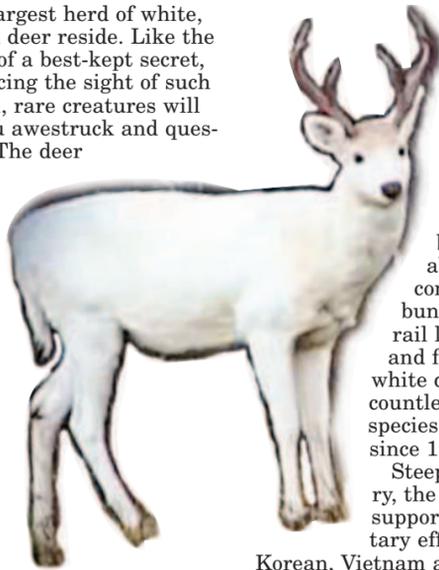


Have you ever had that moment when you've been blessed with something so special, so rare, that you know it may very well never again present itself? That awe-inspiring instance when heart, mind and soul are swept up, causing a sharp inhale and a step backward ... moments so rare they cause us to pause and reflect on our relationships to others, nature, the animal kingdom and even the planet?

Such moments can regularly be witnessed when traveling the Finger Lakes. Drivers will pull alongside the road, risking life and limb, in the 55 mph zone between Seneca and Cayuga lakes near 11,000 acres of wilderness wherein the

world's largest herd of white, whitetail deer reside. Like the whisper of a best-kept secret, experiencing the sight of such beautiful, rare creatures will leave you awestruck and questioning. The deer will humbly allow onlookers a photo before roaming onward, leaving one to wonder ... did I really just see that?

Living on the grounds of WWII-birthed Seneca Army Depot, the herd of roughly 200 white deer is a genetic variation of their brown counterparts. Nowhere on the planet is there known to be as large a



white herd, and we have been blessed with them right here in our own backyard. Interspersed between abandoned concrete bunkers, miles of rail lines, roads and fencing, the white deer and countless other species have thrived since 1941.

Steeped in history, the Depot also supported the military efforts of the Korean, Vietnam and Cold wars along with the first Desert Storm. The landscape almost breathes essences of the courage and strength put forth through the numerous efforts

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GEORGE WILL

Washington Post Writers Group

GOP choosing candidates more wisely

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — In today's unforgiving politics, both parties often think: "If at first you don't succeed, don't darken our door again." Ken Buck, however, had another idea.

In 2010, he peeved national Republican leaders by seeking the Colorado party's Senate nomination against a candidate preferred by those leaders. He won the primary but maladroit campaigning erased his mid-October lead against Democrat Michael Bennet, who won the election — and now is chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Last Wednesday, Buck complicated Bennet's task of helping Democrats retain control of the Senate.

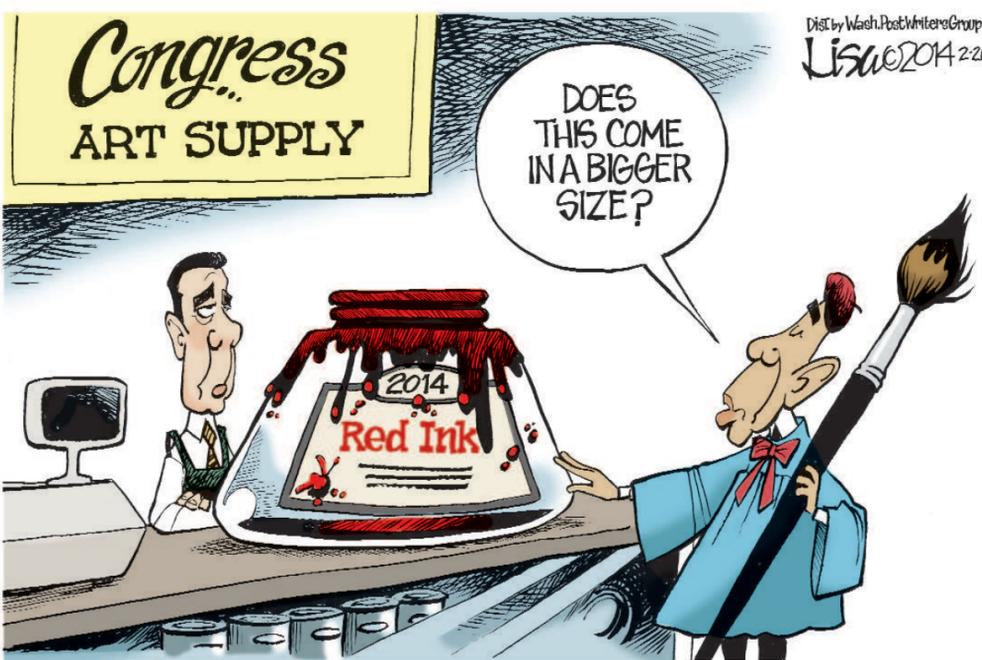
Until then, Buck had been seeking the Republican nomination to run against incumbent Sen. Mark Udall. Buck's motto might have been, "If at first you don't succeed, so what? Neither did Mickey Mantle." (In 1951, the Yankees sent Mantle back to the minors.) Buck is a sizable fellow whose bulk and demeanor say "football," but his persistence is not testimony to an inordinate love of, or skill at, the blocking and tackling of politics.

"Your parents," he says, "warn you not to brag about yourself or beg, and what you do in politics is brag and beg." You seek contributions to finance advertisements proclaiming your excellence. It speaks well of him that this does not come naturally. But speaking well, as that is understood in politics — circumlocutions serving tactical reticence — is not his forte.

Winston Churchill said Secretary of State John Foster Dulles was a bull who carried his own china shop around with him. Buck, a former Princeton football player, brings to politics an NFL linebacker's negligible interest in subtlety, and a prosecutor's — he is one — tenacity and pugnacity.

Before a 2010 campaign event, when questioned about Barack Obama's citizenship, Buck, speaking near a tape recorder, laughingly said to someone, "Will you tell those dumbasses at the tea party to stop asking questions about birth certificates while I'm on

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Man who lost dog doesn't deserve to get him back

To the Editor:
To the man who lost his dog in the Edwards Road/Steele Road area and was so happy when you found him that you swore at him, told him you had been looking for him for 45 minutes and then proceeded to

hit or punch him in the head several times as the poor dog crouched to the ground as you were dragging him by his collar since you did not have a leash: I want to tell you that you will not ever get your dog back again if he comes here; I will keep him.

In fact, many people that I told said that they would love to have him. This dog is an

unneutered yellow Lab with a collar with shamrocks on it, and I hope that everyone who knows you have this dog reads this. You should be so ashamed of yourself.

Your dog is a very nice dog and maybe if you would get him neutered, he would not run off. Also, maybe if you were nice he wouldn't run away. I

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