

The world would be a better place if you ran for office!

One of the clearest lessons of the 2018 elections was that when more good people run for office, more good people are elected. Simple as that. And that's the idea behind the NYSUT Candidate Pipeline for our members.

The 2018 election results demonstrate the power of the Pipeline. One NYSUT Pipeline candidate won as an underdog in a key State Senate district, helping create a decisive pro-education majority in the Senate. Two other Pipeline candidates (one a challenger and the other an incumbent), won in the State Assembly, and four other Pipeline candidates won local office across the state.

From your local school board to city hall to Albany and beyond, you can make a difference by running for office!

NYSUT Candidate Pipeline 2.0: Regional Calendar

Dates are subject to change. Please contact your Regional Political Organizer for additional information.

Capital District

- Session Dates: #1 February 6; #2 February 13; #3 February 27; #4 March 6; #5 March 13; #6 March 20
- Time: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
- Location: NYSUT Capital District Regional Office, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY, 12110-2455
- Regional Political Organizer: Randy Gunther, (518) 231-8199, rgunther@nysutmail.org

Nassau

- Session Dates: #1 March 11; #2 March 18; #3 March 25; #4 April 8; #5 April 15; #6 April 22, 2019
- Time: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
- Location: NYSUT Nassau Regional Office, 1000 Woodbury Road, Woodbury, NY, 11797
- Regional Political Organizer: Jeff Friedman, (516) 670-7834, jfriedma@nysutmail.org

Rochester

- Session Dates: #1 February 28; #2 March 7; #3 March 14; #4 March 21; #5 March 28; #6 April 4, 2019
- Time: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
- Location: NYSUT Rochester Regional Office, Union Place, 30 North Union Street, Rochester, NY, 14607
- Regional Political Organizer: Paul Hypolite, (937) 207-5337, phypolit@nysutmail.org

Southern Tier

- Session Dates: #1 February 28; #2 March 7; #3 March 14; #4 March 21, 2019 #5 March 28; #6 April 4, 2019
- Time: 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
- Location: NYSUT Southern Tier Regional Office, 305 Vestal Parkway West, Vestal, NY, 13850
- Regional Political Organizer: Ian Phillips, (315) 406-4386, iphillip@nysutmail.org

Tarrytown

- Session Dates: #1 February 27; #2 March 6; #3 March 11; #4 March 18; #5 March 26; #6 April 5, 2019
- Time: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
- Location: NYSUT Tarrytown Regional Office, 520 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591
- Regional Political Organizer: Mike Grubiak, (914) 391-8850, mgrubiak@nysutmail.org

Western NY

- Session Dates: #1 February 13; #2 February 27; #3 March 13; #4 March 20; #5 March 27; #6 April 3, 2019
- Time: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Location: NYSUT Western NY Regional Office, Centerpointe Corporate Park, 270 Essjay Road, Williamsville, NY 14221-8276

YOUR HEALTH CONNECTION

By Frances S. Hilliard, RN, MS
Professor Emerita, Nassau Community College

Several recent studies looked at the risks and benefits of taking low-dose aspirin (81 mg), and the results have called into question the current thinking on this practice. For individuals with known heart disease (especially those who have had a heart attack) or those who have had certain types of stroke, daily low-dose aspirin shows a positive effect on the prevention of another serious event. In these cases, low-dose aspirin therapy is definitely recommended.

However, taking aspirin to prevent a first heart attack or stroke is somewhat controversial. The studies showed that in these cases, daily aspirin may do more harm than good. Complications can include bleeding from the gastrointestinal tract or elsewhere, sometimes severe enough to require hospitalization and blood transfusions.

Low-dose aspirin therapy is a complicated issue. If you are in good health, you probably will not benefit from daily aspirin. In all cases, the decision to take daily aspirin should be thoroughly discussed with your primary health care provider.



MOVIES NOW AND THEN

By Ann Fey



THE INSULT (2018), directed by Ziad Doueri, opens with an encounter between two men. One is washing off with a hose the little balcony on a second-floor condo, which he owns and lives in. The other man is below examining a broken drain pipe that is spilling water on the damaged pavement below. He is the foreman, supervising the replacement of the street surfaces, employed by the local government services. The worksite, where the paving laborers will be working, is threatened by the broken drainpipe. The foreman, Yasser, requests the pipe be repaired. Tony, the homeowner, refuses, so Yasser has it repaired at no cost. An angry Tony smashes and destroys the drain. In a verbal battle, Yasser uses a common vulgar epithet. Tony demands that he apologize, and Yasser refuses. Game on! Tony reports the incident to the local authorities, makes a formal charge in the local Justice Court, and sets off a story that soon becomes a very interesting, impressive, and ultimately moving courtroom drama.

At this point readers might well be picturing this incident set in some relatively local area. But Lebanese director Doueri, has set the scene in Beirut, Lebanon. There is a strong relevance in this film to a local, American subject that looms large in current American awareness and concern: the fate of the refugee. Yasser, a highly credentialed engineer, is a Palestinian refugee. Tony is a native of Lebanon, a member of the political Christian Party, currently in power. Tony's complaint causes Yasser to be arrested.

The court sequence begins, with three judges presiding, and a small audience in the courtroom. It goes on for days, with tension between the two sides mounting. The audience grows to full house capacity, and then standing-room only. The court has been closed to reporters, but through leaks to the outside, the media picks up and splashes the story throughout the city. Loud crowds gather outside, pop up political banners wave. Inside, legal argument and emotion fill the discourse, as lawyers for each side are committed, clever, and effective. There are no real "Perry Mason moments," but there is a generally balanced "Law and Order" tenor to the treatment of the situation in which the technically legal guilt of the accused individual must be examined by formal court standards, while the larger moral issue, in this case racial and religious hatred, looms in the larger society. Tony becomes more impassioned, abrasive, angry. Yasser seems calm, resigned, sad and stubborn in his unbreakable determination not to apologize for his insult. The lawyers for the opposing sides are revealed to be closely related, but far apart on their views on their country's immigration attitudes. Logic and emotions fill the discourse as actions of each side seem clever and effective.

Tony and Yasser encounter one another outside the courtroom in a few unexpected and striking scenes, one especially notable, and not easy to quickly understand, that can be described here without too strong a "spoiler" effect: Yasser can't start his

car. Tony, passing by, goes over, and in a quick move under the hood, fixes it. The men have no dialogue, no eye contact. Yasser drives off. Viewers of the film seem to discuss this scene most. Speculation on the feelings of the two men goes to the core of the film.

The circumstances and experiences of the families and friends of the main characters add interest and depth to the plot. High angle shots of Lebanon and scenes of life in the city add scale and some degree of universality to the central theme of racial and religious differences. Background music keeps things urgent, almost too constantly. In several scenes, radios, tv's and loudspeakers blare out raving divisive speeches from the Lebanese politician Bachir Gemayel, who calls for his party to get them out, lock them up. In a quick, almost metaphoric shot on the steps outside the courthouse, three justices stand back expressionless, inactive, as they observe wild demonstrations.

An interesting revelation in this film concerns the Lebanese village of Damour, a peaceful little agricultural, banana-growing place, only twenty minutes from that Beirut courtroom. What happened in that village adds an OMG moment to our understanding of the two men. The story closes directing the viewer's attention and emotions and possible understanding squarely on both men. Lebanon submitted this film for consideration to the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts, and it has been nominated for the Best Foreign Film of 2018 Award.

RC39 Website

Check out RC39 website <http://rc39.ny.aft.org/> where you can read recent NYSUT RC39 newsletters in color, AFT and NYSUT news releases, and much more.

Suffolk Community College Emeritus Professor, in Retirement, Remains a Prolific Writer.

Larry Epstein, a retired Suffolk County Community College English professor, taught courses in writing and journalism as well as courses on Jewish Thought and the Holocaust. He is the author of such Jewish-related books as *The Haunted Smile: The Story of Jewish Comedians in America*, *At the Edge of a Dream: The Story of Jewish Immigrants on New York's Lower East Side, 1880-1920*, *Zion's Call*, *The Basic Beliefs of Judaism*, *The Dream of Zion: The Story*, *A Treasury of Jewish Anecdotes* and so many more. He has written a variety of other books including *Mixed Nuts*, about American comedy teams, as well as over a hundred articles on Jewish subjects for such places as *The Jerusalem Post*.

Larry's newest book, *The Dead Don't Talk*, is a murder mystery. The main character is Danny Ryle, a political fixer on Long Island. From a parking ticket to a damaged romance, Danny is there to make things right. But then he is asked to solve an old murder. Danny first seeks help from his father—a retired hit man. There are suspects galore. Seeking clues, Danny travels take him across Long Island, from the Hamptons to Old Field, Setauket and Port Jefferson Station, searching for the comforting taste of doughnuts, avoiding attempts on his life, looking for love, and all the while trying to investigate a mystery no one could solve. Danny has to deal with an ambitious politician who wants to run for president, the world of art, and a boss who makes his life miserable. Armed with his brains and the help of two associates, Danny struggles to survive in the rough and tumble world of 1982 life.

Other mysteries by Larry are *Targets*, *The Zero Commandment*, *Thou Shalt Not Kill Twice*, *Back to Life: A Hollywood Historical Mystery Novel*, *Chaos: A Tale of Murder and Conspiracy*, *Abandoned: A Mystery in Nazi Germany*, *Bloodlines: A Mystery About Murdering the Weak*, *Exiles: A Mystery in Paris*, and *The Gallery of Missing Husbands*.

The Gallery of Missing Husbands was featured in the July/August, 2016 issue of the NYSUT RC39 newsletter.

To see more titles by Lawrence Epstein and to find out how to purchase many of his books go to <http://www.lawrencejepstein.com/>.



Larry Epstein

RC39 needs member participation

RC39 President Pete Herron

The RC39 newsletter is by and for its members. All members are encouraged to submit (email preferred) an article. The article can be a creative writing piece, something on a retiree issue (union, health insurance, pending legislation, etc.), travel, hobbies, volunteer activities, or whatever you think would be of interest to RC39 members.

RC39 needs new leadership. All RC39 deliberations are done by email. Members can request to be placed on the RC39 officer email list. Everyone on the list will be able to participate in all email discussions. Only elected officers will be able to vote. This is a great way to learn what is involved in being a RC39 officer.

You can contact me at rc39pete@optonline.net, or 98 Rocky Point Landing Rd., Rocky Point, NY 11778. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Retiree Council 39 Board of Directors

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Send your comments, suggestions, and inquiries to NYSUT RC39 Officers, 98 Rocky Point Landing Rd., Rocky Point, NY 11778 or rc39pete@optonline.net.

RC39 Newsletter is looking for comments, suggestions and articles from its members.



Send your comments, suggestions, or article to Peter Herron at rc39pete@optonline.net or mail to 98 Rocky Point Landing Road, Rocky Point, NY 11778. Your article will be published when space is available. RC39, NYSUT, and AFT news will be given priority.



Address Change

Do not let a new address keep you from receiving NYSUT RC39 newsletters. There are three ways to update your address. Contact NYSUT Member Records at 1-800-342-9810 ext. 6224. Send written changes to: NYSUT Member Records, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110, or e-mail changes to memberec@nysutmail.org. If you are a snowbird, give Member Records a few weeks notice to change its address records each way.

Have you paid your voluntary RC39 contribution for 2019?

If you have not sent in your voluntary NYSUT RC39 annual contribution, now is as good a time as ever. Just send your check along with the form below to the RC39 treasurer. It is your contributions that enable RC39 officers and delegates to represent you at NYSUT conferences and meetings.

Retiree Council 39 Voluntary 2010 Participation Fee form

Name _____ e-mail _____
 Address _____ Phone (____) _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip code _____
 College retired from _____ Year of Retirement _____
 Please check amount of your voluntary participation fee: \$25 _____ Other \$ _____
 Send your check, made out to NYSUT RC39, along with this completed form to:
 Ms. Joan Prymas, RC39 Treasurer, 141 Montgomery Street, Ilion, NY 13357