

# THE DAILY RECORD

WESTERN NEW YORK'S SOURCE FOR LAW, REAL ESTATE, FINANCE AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE SINCE 1908

## Electoral anesthesia

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On Election Day, I had surgery.

I thanked my doctors for rendering me unconscious for Election Day, and told them I couldn't think of a nicer thing anyone could do for me other than anesthetizing me, thereby sparing me hours of agony.

As I have said before in this space, I truly was sick of all of the political ads, regardless as to which party was running them. I went on to mention that if we continue to allow cesspool-mentality attacks on all candidates, our society would continue to be in grave jeopardy.

If I had my way, I would have hired a great anesthesiologist over a year ago, and would have been rendered unconscious for the entire 21 months leading up to Election Day.

As it winds up, my health insurer went ballistic and came up with some stupid excuse for denying me almost two year's worth of anesthesia. Back to searching for a point to this column...

In my last column, I expressed the fact that I felt the producers of the Extreme Home Makeover had given everyday Americans an opportunity to help others and to offer hope where none previously existed.

Similarly, when the Nov. 4 votes were finalized, we saw the

nation's reaction to our new President-elect. The time-worn, overused concept of throwing the word "hope" around during every campaign soon evolved into the true meaning of the word "hope."

Just as the family in Geneva and the young people whom they have helped over the years have now found a reason to hope, a reason to do what's right, and most importantly, believe that they can actually make a difference in their lives so, too, did our great country have hope on the day after Election Day.

While I'd like to take credit for intending to do so, it was just by luck that I realized two recent columns could now be cobbled into a third, involving the hope our country now has — the absolute imperative that we clean up our methods of campaigning and the belief that, despite the atrocities of one agonizingly unending administration, the voters can't be fooled forever. Hope springs eternal not only in Geneva, N.Y., but across the globe.



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