



Bryon Ackerman

Behind the scenes of local news



Bryon Ackerman

Oneida County reporter

Bryon shares the insider's view of local news and issues.

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Did Richard Hanna plagiarize the CATO Institute?

Posted Feb 23, 2011 @ 09:35 PM
By BRYON ACKERMAN

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A recent story on NBC News' First Read website examines the issue of whether U.S. Rep. Richard Hanna, R-Barneveld, plagiarized the CATO Institute for **a commentary on the Patriot Act** he submitted to the Syracuse Post-Standard.

The story shows that both Hanna and **Julian Sanchez** of the CATO Institute used the terms "lone wolf" and "tangible thing" in making very similar points about the Patriot Act.

To read the full story, go to this link:
<http://firstread.msnbc.msn.com/news/2011/02/22/6109156-plagiarism-or-unethical-behavior>

It's certainly an interesting topic considering that the campaign of now-former U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri, D-Utica, often tried to tie Hanna to the CATO Institute and that Hanna denied a true connection to the group when I asked him about it.

This is what I wrote in October for an **Election Ad Watch**:

"A May 15, 2008, biography of Hanna on WKTV's website addresses whether Hanna is a member of the CATO Institute:

'He is a sustaining member of the CATO Institute, having traveled to Russia as part of an international study group,' the WKTV story says of Hanna.

But in September this year, Hanna told the O-D he had been officially considered a member of the Cato Institute only because he subscribed to the organization's newsletter. He used to read the newsletter but doesn't buy into all of the institute's ideas, and he no longer subscribes to it, he said."

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Utica man charged under recently enacted choking law —
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BREAKING NEWS: Injury reported in N. Utica roll-over crash —
<http://tinyurl.com/45wg57v> about an hour ago

Herkimer County Coroner Daniel J. Enea returned home this week after being deployed to a coroner's office in Penn.
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Memorial service for Joe Corr takes place on Sunday. Plan to go?
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Comments (11)
MoVa315
10 hours ago
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Great public relations! This is turning out to be a mess, just like the whacks that the people elected across the country last year (Walker in Wisconsin, Kasich in Ohio, etc.). Fortunately, it has awoken the people and showed them that the grass isn't always greener on the other side. It's waking up the Democratic base and even giving good Republicans buyers remorse. In the latest national poll, 61% oppose the Wisconsin law while only 33% agree. Democrats and Independents overwhelmingly oppose it and even over 40% of Republicans oppose it.

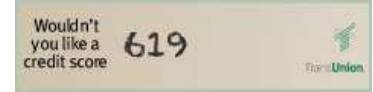
I simply can't wait for 2012. Arcuri needs to make a comeback. Conkling did it after he lost to Kernan, and he went on to be a U.S. Senator.
MoVa315
10 hours ago
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29 yrs old	38 yrs old	47 yrs old
30 yrs old	39 yrs old	48 yrs old
31 yrs old	40 yrs old	49 yrs old
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Furthermore, this should definitely be a print article. It's getting national attention, it should be in the news within his district for sure.

keithf
4 hours ago
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Plagiarism seem to be quite an overcharge if Sanchez says he assisted on the piece. 'Ghost written' might be appropriate.

I'll admit the sensationalist headline worked. It got me to read the column & the MSNBC piece.

overtaxed
4 hours ago
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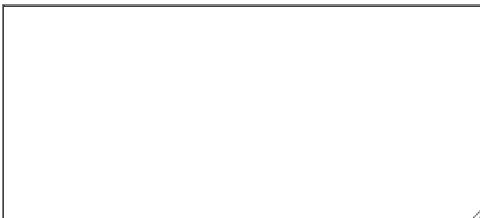
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Interesting, it seems that if it is found this is plagiarism then that would qualify Hanna to be Vice President. We currently have an admitted plagiarist as VP (Joe Biden) and no one seems concerned but the writer of this article and some liberal nit wits are trying to make a story out of this.

Where is the story about Joe Biden, anybody trouble by Joe bidens plagiarism .
How about all the tax cheats lead by Tim Geithner in the Obama administration. This story belongs in the trash and the writer should be writing for the Huffington propoganda site not the UticaOD.
It is a true shame the OD has chosen to publish this story. All one has to do is listen to the Democrats every day and listen to their talking points. One Democrat after another will use the exact same key terms regarding a situation.

kettle
3 hours ago
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Just as we suspected - OD writers not understanding what plagarism is. And Democrats using a sensational headline to call for Arcuri to make a comeback? Are you kididing? The cry should be for good candidates, not political hacks, no matter what the party.

Garbage man
3 hours ago
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It would seem that if this were indeed true, Hanna would be more than qualified to be an anchor on the MSNBC network. A network were unverified and truth stretching stories are the norm.

Let's move on to the news that impacts all of use - the middle east is on fire - Brent Sea Crude reached 119 dollars a barrel in Europe this morning, gasoline is surging, taxes are rising to feed the government beast, and commodities such as wheat, corn, and soybeans will impact our tables shortly.

Whether or not Hanna was a ghost writer or copied a few words is a story for the campaign in two years not something to become hypoxic about now.

overtaxed

2 hours ago

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This article provides the true intent of the UticaOD, and that is to promote a political agenda of their favorites. The OD ignores negative stories about their favored politicians, prints comments from politicians without investigating the truth of them yet will run a story like this which is worthless.

eastutican

2 hours ago

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as usual, the salient point is lost in the comments: what, exactly, has Hanna's relationship to Cato been? well, once he says he is a sustainer, another time just on a mailing list. a BIG difference and alot more important than the pishy 'plagiarize' nonsense.

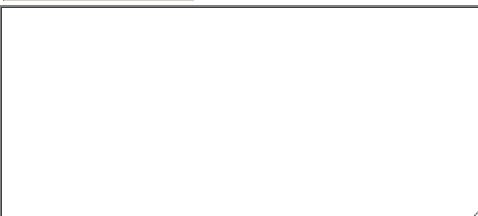
I dont think that the OD does much beyond press release journalism, not particularly impressed by the writing and there is no editing (in any sense of that function) but c'mon ... Ackerman did the earlier, more important reporting. it ended up meaning nothing. this plagiarizing nonsense as an Arcuri launching pad for yet another rematch between these light weights? we would be better served by reporting on the redrafting of congressional lines ... and better served if we were represented by someone from Syracuse. this area is so drained of talent that we cant even field credible congressional candidates. Arcuri was a joke and Hanna doesnt have a clue, much less humor value.

overtaxed

1 hour ago

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AND what is Obama's relationship to Acorn and to Bill Ayers and to AFLCIO and to the Public Unions?

And why does the head of AFL-CIO meet with Obama 2 to 3 times a week when there are Obama cabinet members who have not met with Obama in 2 years?

Let's get important news, we don't need the paper to start the Arcuri election campaign..

longtimer

1 hour ago

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Boy did I fall for that headline too. One thing is for sure, we fall for this divide and conquer thing every time. 'Lousy Democrats', 'damn Republicans'. We all have our favorites but all of this character assassination stuff, and that is what this appears to be, would make good comedy if it were not so tragically tearing the country apart.

I have actually heard the lone wolf term used regarding this provision many times over the past few months so perhaps it was the CATO Institute who plagiarized it. Who knows and who cares? I am not condoning plagiarism but this is a real stretch in my mind and much noise about nothing. As Gman pointed out there are real issues to deal with and this is not one of them.

jteal

3 minutes ago

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Bash bash bash. Both sides. Different day... different story. We all work so well against each other.

In the words of JFK Jr. 'Must be a slow news day'.

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