

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:34 PM
To: 'mdolan@lohud.com'
Cc: 'jfenster@lohud.com'; 'cyale@lohud.com'; 'gtroyano@lohud.com'; 'tbauer@lohud.com'; 'gstern@lohud.com'; 'svenugop@lohud.com'; 'ncutler@lohud.com'; 'adelgado@lohud.com'; 'Fscandale@lohud.com'; 'mlungariel@lohud.com'; 'cwilson2@lohud.com'; 'jcampbell1@gannett.com'; 'jspector@gannett.com'
Subject: Are you satisfied with Gannett/Journal News' reporting & website pertaining to the April 24th Mayer-Killian special election? And will the Editorial Board be making an endorsement, as well?
Attachments: 8-10-17-open-ltr.pdf; 2-2-18-presentation-albany-delegation-final-corrected.pdf

TO: Gannett/Journal News-LoHud News Director Mary Dolan

I have received no response from you – or from any of the Gannett/Journal News cc: recipients – to my below April 13th e-mail pertaining to the April 24th special election between Shelley Mayer and Julie Killian, which had stated:

“notwithstanding the importance of the race, it appears that the Journal News has done NO examination Ms. Mayer’s years of ‘public service’ in the attorney general’s office, as counsel to the Democratic Senate conference, as assemblywoman and, since December 2017, as chair of the Assembly Committee on Oversight, Analysis and Investigation. I have significant **first-hand knowledge** – and a mountain of **primary source EVIDENCE** to offer with respect thereto – and with respect to Ms. Killian, exposing the indefensible, posturing deceits of each” (bold in original).

Nor has your www.lohud.com website been adjusted to enable your subscribers or other website visitors to see for themselves the Journal News’ superficial reporting of the contest between Ms. Mayer and Ms. Killian and your postings of photos, videos, and letters. Indeed, you have not even made the FULL video of the Journal News’ own April 10th forum/debate between the candidates easily accessible – including by any link in Mark Lungariello’s April 13th article "[Julie Killian, Shelley Mayer supporters clash at news conference](#)", posted essentially simultaneous to my below April 13th e-mail. Nor is the full April 10th video or the full video of the April 9th forum on gun violence accessible from Jon Campbell’s subsequent April 16th article: "[Millions of dollars pour into Shelly Mayer, Julie Killian race](#)"—which conceals the simple fact, particularized by the e-mail chain beneath my below April 13th e-mail, that Killian and the Republicans needed NO MONEY to defeat Mayer. All they needed was to use their “bully pulpit” to “whistle-blow” about the EVIDENCE which my below February 8th e-mail to them identified and offered.

So as to bring a measure of transparency to how Gannett/Journal News actually discharges its “watch-dog” function of enabling its subscribers and other readers to make informed electoral judgments about the competing candidates, beginning with their anti-corruption, good-government rhetoric, and to ensure that any editorial board endorsement may be informed by relevant facts, CJA’s website, www.judgewatch.org, now expands and makes more accessible our webpage pertaining to the April 24th Mayer-Killian special election for George Latimer’s vacant Senate seat, including via our “Latest News” top panel. Here is the webpage, directly: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2018/latimer-vacant-seat.htm>, with its included link chronicling the “press in action”, leading off with Gannett/Journal News’ corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism, here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/press/gannett-mayer-killian.htm>.

By the way, have you informed your readers – either in your print edition or via your website – of this week’s line-up of FOUR debates between the candidates that appears on Killian’s website:

http://www.juliekillian.com/final_forum_and_debate_schedule_come_cheer_me_on. And where is your coverage of the first two of these, on April 16th, and yesterday, April 17th?

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
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914-421-1200

P.S. – My below April 13th e-mail may have mistyped the title of Nancy Cutler’s April 10th piece from which I eventually found the full video of the Journal News’ April 10th candidate forum/debate. It is: “[Watch live tonight: Senate District 37 Killian, Major join us for a conversation](#)”.

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 3:25 PM
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Subject: Gannett's Journal News/LoHud website -- & reporting of the 37th Senate District contest between Shelley Mayer & Julie Killian

TO: Gannett/Journal News-LoHud News Director Mary Dolan

This follows up my phone conversation this morning with your “storytelling coach” Jordan Fenster, who picked up the phone when I called the newsroom (914-694-5077) and who, by the end of the conversation, suggested I e-mail you and also speak with “visuals coach” Carrie Yale.

The reason for my call was two-fold: First to express frustration, as a subscriber, with the Journal News website, www.lohud.com, where, in order to find your news coverage of the April 24th special election between Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer and Julie Killian for the 37th Senate seat, it is necessary to do a “search”. Second, to point out the incomplete results that come up upon entering the search terms that are the most logical: “Shelley Mayer” and “Julie Killian”.

Searching “Shelley Mayer” produces 23 results and searching “Julie Killian” produces 16 results – and neither furnishes the full videos of the two events whose videos are each “recommended”: the April 10th Journal News debate between the candidates and the April 9th student-sponsored forum between the candidates on gun violence. Indeed, the so-called “recommended” videos, accessible from those full name searches, are, respectively, less than six minutes and just two minutes – and consist of nothing more than self-serving posturing by the candidates. As for the Journal News’ own news articles about these April 9th and 10th events: Colleen Wilson’s article “[Senate candidate forum on gun violence draws mixed crowd of teens, community members](#)” and Mark Lungariello’s article “[Killian, Mayer meet in state Senate debate](#)”, they are not among the search results.

In speaking with Mr. Fenster, he found Mr. Lungariello’s article, but only by searching the last name “Mayer”, which produced 44 results. It also comes up upon searching for “Killian”, which produces 27 results. However, neither of these last name searches produces Ms. Wilson’s article. As for the full videos – which is what I was most interested in -