

# THE EVENING The Tribune

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## Anticoncussion activist on NFL star's brain damage

Former boxer Ray Ciancaglini, who has been fighting for anti-concussion legislation more than 40 years, said "I feel badly for Tony Dorsett with his diagnosis of chronic traumatic encephalopathy. His stardom will probably bring more attention to so-avoidable life-deteriorating and demoralizing concussion disorders. This journeyman boxer has been promoting the cause for years and has made a lot of noise but preventing debilitating concussions is a tough road. I can't thank (those to whom he addressed the memo) enough for your help during this crusade.

"If news media seek a star to carry this important message, they now have him. It may help make this important campaign more visible.

"I'm saddened by this unfortunate news for Mr. Dorsett but it should have the same beneficial impact with news media that Michael J. Fox had for Parkinson's Disease. I always keep these athletes in my prayers, as I know from too personal experience where their quality of life is headed."

Note: A prized possession in A-E's hut is a



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signed boxing glove from Ray as thanks for a story about the former boxer's spell-binding and important anti-concussion message to Jasper-Troupsburg students last spring. If you ever have a chance to hear this inspiring speaker at a school or one of his Concussion Education Seminars, cancel everything else and go. You'll thank A-E for that advice.

More Congressional intellect

This story from Correspondent Richard: Two engineers were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking at its top. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing.

"We're supposed to find the height of this flagpole," said Sven, "but we don't have a ladder."

The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a couple of bolts and laid the pole down on the ground. Then she took a tape measure from her

pocketbook, took a measurement and announced "Twenty one feet, six inches" and walked away.

One engineer shook his head and laughed, "A lot of good that does us. We ask for the height and she gives us the length!"

Both have since quit their engineering jobs and are currently serving in the United States Congress.

Surprise: Federal government rushes to spend your tax dollars

Before Congress upset world markets pretending to be financial ostriches, The Department of Veterans Affairs bought \$562,000 worth of artwork the week before the last day of the federal fiscal year. If you read, you know about the VA's tattered reputation. Half a million in artwork should burnish that, right?

Don't forget the Coast Guard spent \$178,000 on "Cubicle Furniture Rehab" the same day. "This string of big-ticket purchases was an unmistakable sign: It was 'use-it-or-lose-it' season again in our nation's capital," the Washington Post reported. "All week, while Congress fought over next year's budget, federal workers were immersed in a separate frantic drama. They were trying to spend the

rest of the budget before it was too late. The reason for their haste is a system Congress set up that, in many cases, requires agencies to spend all their allotted funds before Federal fiscal year end. If they don't, the money is gone" from their budgets. Stating the obvious, "There's gotta be a better way," doesn't make A-E a financial genius.

More taxpayer dollars at work

Federal authorities are investigating three senior Navy intelligence officials as part of a probe into an alleged contracting scheme that charged the military \$1.6 million for homemade firearm silencers that cost only \$8,000 to manufacture, court records show.

The three civilian officials, who oversee highly classified programs, arranged for a hot-rod auto mechanic in California to build a specially ordered batch of unmarked and untraceable rifle silencers and sell them to the Navy at more than 200 times what they cost to manufacture, according to court documents filed by federal prosecutors.

*Al Bruce of Canisteo writes a weekly column for The Evening Tribune.*