

**MORE NEWS****SPORTS****Big finish pushes ValleyCats to final**

Tri-City scores 11 runs combined in the seventh and eighth innings to beat Auburn and reach the New York-Penn League championship series./C1

**REGION****Schenectady OKs sales tax deal**

Council passes a controversial deal that the budget director says will cost the city millions in prospective revenue./B1

**REGION****Colonie Police seek jewel thief**

Someone has taken items worth tens of thousands from homes in Loudonville./B1

**BUSINESS****Kodak plans to cut 1,000 more jobs**

Rochester-based company says it will lay off more employees this year as it tries to emerge from bankruptcy./D1

**NATION****Teachers strike**

Chicago educators walk out over job security and evaluation disputes./A4

**BUSINESS****Go get a job**

Panel at Tech Expo says local schools can offer instant credibility in a nano market./D1

**SPORTS****Murray ends major drought for British**

Andy Murray beat Novak Djokovic for the U.S. Open title, the first Grand Slam win for a British man since 1936./C1

**NL Industries focus of new health study**

Exams set for people who were near former uranium weapons plant

**By Brian Nearing**

ALBANY — A long-sought health study on hundreds of workers and neighbors of a former uranium weapons plant is set to launch this fall, according to the state Health Department.

The study will focus on up to 500 people who worked at or lived near the NL Industries plant on Central Avenue, and the first participants will be signed up

**Rush hour was crawl hour**

Work delay shuts half of Twin Bridges at peak time

**By Tim O'Brien**

A construction delay that kept the northbound side of the Thaddeus Kosciuszko Bridge closed for the morning rush hour Monday is not expected to be repeated during five other weekends of similar roadwork, a state Department of Transportation spokeswoman said.

Steel plates on the Twin Bridges took longer to install than anticipated, causing the northbound

lanes of the bridge to be closed to all traffic until after noon Monday. For the evening commute, a single northbound lane was again closed as crews tried to secure a steel panel to the bridge deck.

"I do advise commuters to continue to find alternate routes while construction is ongoing, but we don't expect this type of problem going forward," DOT spokeswoman Carol Breen said before

the evening lane closing.

Work on replacement of the northbound deck is planned for five out of the next six weekends, with no roadwork set for the Columbus Day holiday weekend. Traffic will be steered into one lane in each direction on the southbound side of the bridge.

Next spring, the southbound lanes will be closed on a series of weekends while the deck is replaced as part of a \$29 million

Please see TRAFFIC A8 ▶

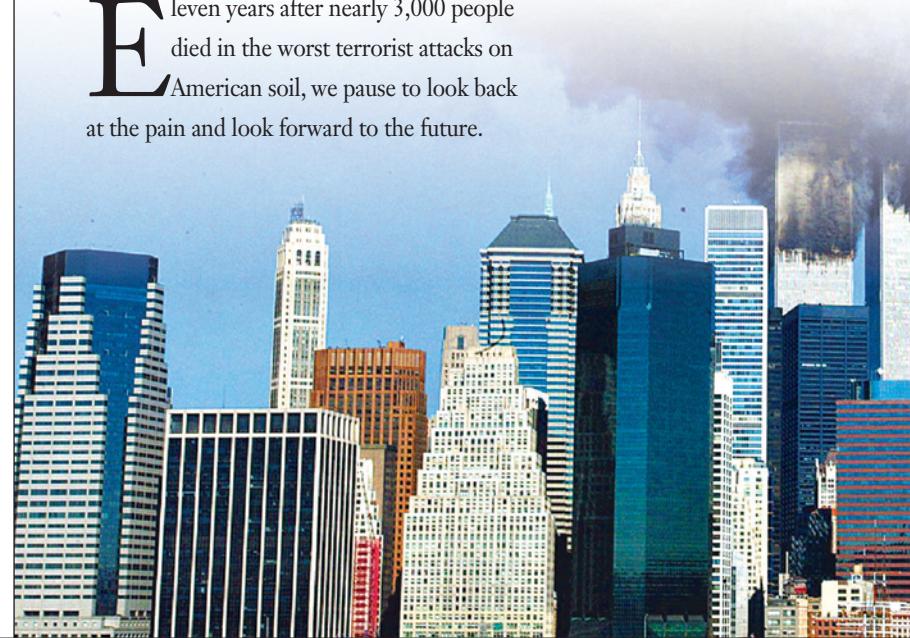


**TRAFFIC WAS** rerouted from I-87 northbound in Colonie to Route 7 east to Route 9 north due to an unexpected construction problem on the Twin Bridges. Officials don't expect big problems Tuesday.

**AMERICA REMEMBERS**

PAUL BUCKOWSKI/TIMES UNION

**UNION COLLEGE** students planted 2,000 flags to mark the 9/11 anniversary. "This is an event that defined our generation in particular. It will stay with our generation and change the way we view the world," said student Nick D'Angelo. **Story/B3**



**A3 ►** Museum funding agreement is finally reached.

**A3 ►** 9/11 remains volatile political issue.

**A6 ►** Passengers of Flight 93 honored.

**A7 ►** A decade after his death, family learns of father's final moments in note.

**B3 ►** Events around Capital Region reflect on 9/11.

**Under scrutiny, JCOPE speaks**

In unusual move, panel confirms probe amid questions over Lopez

**By Rick Karlin**

ALBANY — Under pressure from the media and many of the elected officials who appointed them, the members of the Joint Commission on Public Ethics on Monday took the unprecedented move of acknowledging that an investigation was moving forward.

But beyond saying that JCOPE members had unanimously voted to start a probe, Chairwoman Janet DiFiore offered no details about the target or scope of the investigation — although it's widely understood to be an examination of the sexual harassment charges against Assemblyman Vito Lopez and the circumstances surrounding the Assembly's decision to sign off on a \$135,000 settlement with two of his alleged victims.

JCOPE's very acknowledgment of an investigation, however, runs counter to past practice at the 9-month-old watchdog entity and its predecessor, the Commission on Public Integrity, in which members steadfastly maintained they were prohibited from even saying they were conducting an investigation.

Monday's vote comes days after news reports suggested JCOPE was investigating the allegations against Lopez, the embattled Brooklyn Democratic boss, but not the involvement of Assembly Democratic Majority Speaker

Please see **JCOPE A8** ▶

**Emotion at sentencing**

SKIP DICKSTEIN/TIMES UNION

Ron Chaplin, center, reacts to a Crosier family member and is restrained by his wife, Deb, second from right, during Scott Chaplin's sentencing Monday for the murder of Rosemary Ellsworth Crosier. **Story/B1**

after mid-October. Work on designing the study has been going on since the spring of 2011.

Health Department spokesman Peter Constantakes said urine and blood samples from study participants will be checked for the potential presence of both depleted and total uranium. Results from urine tests will be shared with individual participants, he said.

Advocates have been pushing the state for decades to study the health of people in and around the plant, where depleted uranium

Please see **STUDY A8** ▶

**Kindlon, Conners deny leaking data**

Social Security numbers part of FOIL request sent to comptroller

**By Robert Gavin**

ALBANY — The campaign manager for Lee Kindlon asked Albany County Comptroller Michael Conners for information on payments made to District Attorney David Soares' staff — six months before the same data appeared on a local blog Thursday along with the staffers' Social Security numbers.

On March 2, a Freedom of

Information Law request was emailed to Conners from Eddie Ayala, the manager for Kindlon's campaign for district attorney. Records show Ayala sought "any and all additional payments" to Soares' staff between Jan. 1, 2007 and Feb. 29, 2012.

"I believe these records are in the possession of the comptroller's office," Ayala wrote. "I wish to have access to these records reserving the right to make copies of any and all."

That information — along with the Social Security numbers

Please see **BLOG A4** ▶

**INDEX**

Corrections	<b>A2</b>	Opinion	<b>A10</b>
Crosswords	<b>B9,D5</b>	Scoreboard	<b>C6</b>
Business	<b>D</b>	Sports	<b>C</b>
Calendar	<b>B2</b>	State	<b>A3</b>
Classified	<b>D4</b>	Stocks	<b>D2</b>
Comics	<b>B8</b>	Weather	<b>B2</b>
Obituaries	<b>B6</b>		

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Check out who was at all of the biggest summer events in the Capital Region in our Seen galleries.

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