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ARGUS-CHAMPION
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What's the difference?

Political differences can be a good thing, like when they spark healthy debate and generate public interest. Those differences, however, can also interfere with the democratic process.

We hope it is not merely political differences that are keeping the Sullivan County government and its delegation from getting the job, i.e. budget, done. However, it seems likely it is.

When the Democrats took the majority last November at the national, state and county level, we knew we were in for a shake-up, at all levels. At the county level, Democrats running for county commissioner ran on a platform that included taking a "deeper look" at Genesis (some calling for the immediate removal of the private company), and strengthening relations between the commissioners and the delegation.

Well, they got one right. Genesis is gone. The second item on the agenda, however, has not been addressed. It may even be out the window.

We don't take issue with the delegation chairman and others getting down to brass tacks about the county's money and how it's spent. We want to know, too. We do wonder if the ways to get the means were a little less extreme and less hostile toward the opposition, would the process not be stalled as it is now?

No matter what differences separate the county delegation at this time, it's beneficial to no-one to have commissioners, state representatives and county managers walk out of meetings in a huff, or in protest.

We implore those who feel the need to walk out to find another way to make your opposition known. And to those who won't listen to the opposition and are cracking down on dialogue, please open the floor and let others be heard.

Let's get some work done.