

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Enjoy It While You Can

It's no longer speculation ... the United States Geographical Survey, through Nixon's office, released information last Tuesday that spells out that there is oil as close as thirty miles off Long Island in the Atlantic. This find is reported to be richer than the oil in the Gulf Coast and far larger in scope than the oil fields off California. Drilling for these deposits could be as early as this summer. It appears that it is imminent that the administration will sign the papers allowing the drilling to begin.

Terrible Danger

We might as well face the fact that is drilling is going to take place without fail-safe methods to control accidents and fires that result in oil spills. This may very well be the last summer all of us will have an opportunity to walk on oil-free beaches. This may be the last of the good fishing years. Oil spills do kill the marine life that is necessary for the production of sea life.

One fact which has not been brought up is that these oil deposits lie directly in the area that is considered to be the marine nursery of the ocean, an area that has yielded part of the world's food production. A couple of accidents and this will cease to be. The oil that is safely under the floor of the sea will be spread across this hatchery and will do its destruction. There will be no tomorrow for this area. Forget about your vacation to the mountains this year. Spend it here at our own seashore. It may be the last one you will truly be able to enjoy. And why not?

For Your Sake, Wake Up!

Supervisor Barraud was heard to utter, There go your sidewalks, while Karen Gatto, a resident of Medford, was speaking at the Brookhaven Town Board meeting on the ward system last week.

Karen had gone to this Board meeting to thank the various public officials for the help they had given a committee she headed to get sidewalks built in the area where she

lives. She became incensed at the shenanigans of the Town Board in defranchising the people in relation to the ward vote system, and she spoke her piece. The price it appears she will pay for this exercise of free speech and her audacity to say anything unkind about the Machine's maneuvering is that there will be no sidewalks built in Medford.

The group she represented had requested that the Town Board establish a sidewalk district to build sidewalks beside the streets adjoining the school. The property owners in this area would be assuming the full burden of these sidewalks. They were willing to go to this expense to protect their children. There have been 13 accidents, including one death, involving school age children between six and 12. The parents were concerned enough to spend the time and the energy and were willing to pay for these sidewalks to protect their youngsters.

Now, unless Mr. Barraud changes his mind, these youngsters will not have sidewalks because a woman in the Town of Brookhaven had guts enough to exercise her Constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech.

What kind of town is Brookhaven where children can be punished and subjected to a dangerous circumstance because a woman ... a mother ... had the nerve to speak out against the Machine? What kind of men are running Brookhaven Town? It's appalling enough that politics are played with summer jobs for youngsters, but when politics are played with their lives we think it's time that the residents of this Town take a good, cold, hard look at themselves and re-evaluate themselves and what kind of monster they have caused to grow up around them. And why not?

Bad Politics

Politics can be good when it works to the advantage of the public. Politics can be very bad when it works to the disadvantage of the public.

We have an example of very bad politics that is being used to take credit away from one man but in reality is going to hurt an awful lot of people. Bill Bianchi, the Assemblyman from the Third District, is an oddity in Suffolk County. He is a

Democrat. Bill is on the Environmental Committee in the Assembly. He worked hard on putting together a bill to protect the Carman's River from development. This is one of the last fresh water rivers left unspoiled on Long Island. The bill is reported to be a very good one. In fact, the Chairman of the Environmental Committee commented to this effect. The bill is going to hurt no one but is going to preserve an irreplaceable part of our heritage for generations to come.


The Chairman of the Environmental Committee refuses to allow this bill out of Committee to be acted upon and thus, signifies its death. Bianchi has charged, and we concur, that this bill is not being let out because he is a Democrat, and the Machine does not want a Democrat from Suffolk County getting credit for something good. They would prefer to see this bill die and the people and the environment hurt than have a Democrat win a small victory.

Politics is very good when it serves the people. Politics is very bad when it hurts the people. We have the kind of politics we have in Suffolk County because this is what we deserve. And why not?

The Meat Boycott

The meat boycott has been over for a week now. Prices on the wholesale market for beef haven't changed materially. There is very little likelihood that they will in the near

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SUFFOLK LIFE

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EDITORIALS -
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future. The meat boycott in theory was a good idea, but in practicality it's like trying to put out a raging forest fire with a garden hose. There are just too many factors to be considered that have influence on prices that the boycott could not and would not affect.

On the positive side ... what this week of abstention has done for most of us has been to get us to take a good hard look at what we have been eating in the past. There are few of us in any income level who have paid an awful lot of attention in the past to how or why we have been eating the way we have. We took our meals for granted. There were very few foods that if we felt like them, we didn't obtain. Foods our parents would have made two and three meals from we would make one meal from; the leftovers placed in the refrigerator and maybe used but more often than not part of them would be thrown out. In our complacency and apathy we lost a lot of the joy of eating, of tasting real home-cooked meals, made with imagination and developed with culinary creativity. Many of us this past week have been once again exposed to "making do", and this experience has re-awakened some of our taste buds.

More Interesting Fare

We believe the average American in the future may end up eating less "convenient" foods but a lot more enjoyable meals. This overall effect will, in the long run, put pressure on your meat market and cause some prices to come down.

The farmer has gotten a bad name out of this boycott. As he is the source, people have been quick to point the finger of guilt at him for rising prices. He is probably in the worst position to put a lid on rising prices. The tractors and other farm equipment he uses cost more money, he is paying higher taxes on his land, and the seed and fertilizer is costing him more. Automation has helped his labor problems and made him more productive, but the help that he does have has to be more knowledgeable and better educated, and this is far more costly.

If we take a look at our own Long Island farmer ... what he gets for a pound of potatoes and what a pound of potatoes is sold to the retail consumer for, you can see that at his end he can do little to reduce prices. This past year, which was one of the first good years in the past decade, farmers received an average of \$3.00 per 100 pounds of potatoes. It cost him, excluding his own family salary, better than \$2.00 to grow his 100 pounds,

which means he had approximately thirty-three per cent gross margin of profit and had to take his overhead expenses plus his own salary and then a profit, if there was one, out of this small margin. At the same time the cents per pound potatoes he was selling at the wholesale level were being retailed in the market for better than 10 cents per pound. In other words, he received thirty per cent of the final selling price, and the operators and middleman and finally retailers in between received seventy per cent of the consumers' potato purchase price.

More Production

One thing has happened that has received little national publicity which we are sure will drive down prices of foodstuffs in the coming year. President Nixon has reduced the total of subsidies or grants paid to large farmers by two-thirds for not using the land for production. This will save the Federal Government over one billion dollars and will encourage these farmers to utilize the land for increased production that they formerly had been paid to keep barren. This increased production will create a greater product to meet the demand and should result in a lower cost on the wholesale markets and thus, be reflected to the consumer in his purchases.

The effect of the consumer boycott, people readjusting their eating habits and this reduction of the farm subsidy should all have their effect in the coming year in reducing the cost of food. We believe what reductions will occur will come gradually, and hopefully they will continue into the future. And why not?

Happy Easter

All of us here at Suffolk Life wish all of you, our readers, a happy Easter and a joyous holiday.

This is a religious season for both Christians and Jews, as the Passover season coincides with the Christian Resurrection. As we partake in our religious services, we ask all to thank God for the peace that seems so near at hand here in 1973 and ask for His guidance to keep us out of further wars. And why not?

PORT JEFFERSON
The North Shore Republican Club will MEET; on Wednesday, April 18th, at 7:30 pm; at the Port Jefferson Yacht Club.

SOUTHAMPTON
The Suffolk County Southampton Group of La Leche League is having their next MEETING on Wednesday, April 18th at 7:30 pm

at the home of Mrs. Susan Colledge, 283-0071.

APRIL 21

SHIRLEY
The North Shirley Civic Association will MEET; at the Community House on West End Avenue on Saturday, April 21st, at 8 pm.

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this week

APRIL 17

SAYVILLE
Sayville PTA is having their MEETING; on Tuesday, April 17th, at 8:30 pm; at the new Junior High School on Johnson Ave. Come and see their new facilities.

APRIL 18

MEDFORD
The Eagle Drive PTA, Medford, is having a program entitled, "MEET YOUR SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES"; on April 18th at 8 pm in the cafeteria of the school. Refreshments will be served.

MILLER PLACE
The Miller Place Senior Citizens Club is having a WHITE ELEPHANT SALE; on Wednesday, April 18th, at 11 am. Admission is free and refreshments will be available. To be held at the Miller Place Firehouse on Miller Place Road.

MILLER PLACE
The Miller Place PTA will hold a MEETING; on April 18th at 8 pm; at the Primary School. All members of the community are urged to attend and express their ideas and suggestions on what they would like the PTA to accomplish and do in the coming year. Elections will also be held.

PATCHOGUE
The Patchogue-Medford High School G.O. is presenting "ELEPHANTS MEMORY" in concert on April 18th in the school gym. Tickets are \$3 for public and \$2.50 for Patchogue G.O. For information, call 289-2300.



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David J. Willmott, Editor

District 2 Budget Hearing and Vote

This publication has complained repeatedly that the Central School District No. 2 annual budget hearing and vote was held on the same night with no prior hearings or information of any degree released to the taxpayers beforehand. This year, the school board has had a preliminary hearing and will hold a formal hearing on Tuesday evening at 7:30, May 1, in the auditorium of the new high school. The following day the vote on the candidates for the board of education, the budget and other propositions will be held. Voting hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. We must congratulate the board on this move. They are giving everyone in the district an opportunity to question, to find answers, and to come to rational conclusions before they vote. They have made the hours for the voting longer to accommodate the various schedules of the residents. They have made a definite attempt to bring the school board closer to the taxpayer, and for this they are to be congratulated. Suffolk Life will take no position on the school board candidates or the budget. We do hope that each and every resident of this town from this school district turns out and finds out the facts for themselves firsthand, and then votes according to their convictions and their ability to pay the taxes to finance continuing education in the town of Riverhead. And why not?

Klein vs Brookhaven

John Klein, County Executive for Suffolk, has made his position well known on shoreline erosion. He is definitely and firmly against spending any taxpayer's money to fight Mother Nature. He has strongly stated that he wants to see all building and construction stopped on shorefront properties that are at all in danger of being eroded away. He has asked each town to deny building permits or zoning variances for property that is subject to natural damage from the elements. Brookhaven town board, at last Tuesday's meeting, totally ignored Klein's request and went ahead and granted building permits in

areas that are seriously in jeopardy. After the jetties were constructed along Dune Road, residents whose property was to the west of this construction threatened to sue the county for damages to their properties that they alleged was being caused because of the existing jetties, and that the construction of new ones had not been built in their particular area. We feel that you will see in the coming years a number of taxpayer suits against the town and county governments for the failure to provide protection for these homeowners. We do not feel that the government has any responsibility to protect these homes as the people who have built on the teeth of the Atlantic should assume full responsibility for their actions. By the same token, granting further building permits for construction which will cause further erosion is foolish and is endangering the general public. We hope Klein is able to find the means to put some teeth in his request and to forcefully cause the cessation of building along the dunes. It is obvious that with towns such as Brookhaven, you are not going to get voluntary cooperation. And why not?

Overwhelming Support

Your support for our request for voluntarily paid subscriptions has been absolutely overwhelming. Right now we have boxes of subscriptions that we do not have the personnel to even open, but hopefully we will be able to rectify this within the coming week. We have tried our darndest to give you a meaningful and independent newspaper. The subscription revenues raised in the past have in part allowed us to finance our news department. Funds being raised by the voluntary sale of subscriptions will be used to fight the discriminatory and unconstitutional law passed by Brookhaven Town aimed at stopping the hand distribution of Suffolk Life. If there are any additional funds raised over and above the legal cost, you can be assured that those funds will be used to expand, both in quality and quantity, our news product. We ask each of you who receive Suffolk Life to voluntarily pay \$2.50 per year for a subscription. There are few newspapers of any kind that you can

buy for less than a nickel a week. It costs us almost five cents whether by hand or through the mail, to send you a copy of the paper each week. We know there are some people who would prefer not to pay for a paper that they can receive free of charge. We still want them to receive Suffolk Life and will do our darndest to make sure that they do. If you can and if you will, we would appreciate your sending in your annual subscription-of \$2.50 for the paper. Also of great importance, both paid and free subscribers are asked to please continue to tell the advertisers that you saw their ad in Suffolk Life and for those that are not advertising that you would read this paper for both its news content and its advertising messages. Again, thank you for your fantastic support. And why not?

Live and Let Live

People move to this area to find peace and quiet. Sometimes they are not as selective in the site that they choose for their home as they should be. They build in an area that has disadvantages and then try to get the town to correct these disadvantages. Last week at the Southampton town board meeting, residents were complaining vigorously about the noise caused by commercial auto racing at the Westhampton Drag Strip and the Bridgehampton Sports Car

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I SUPPORT AND WANT SUFFOLK LIFE

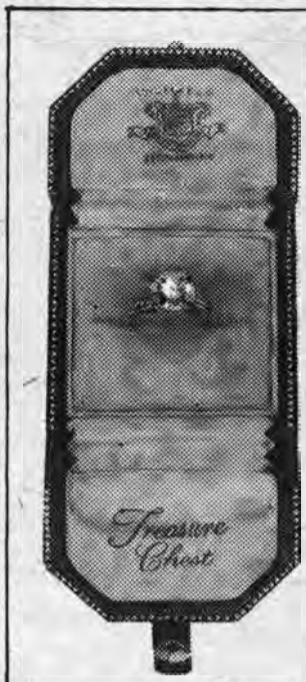
- Enclosed is my \$2.50 annual subscription fee.
- I want Suffolk Life delivered to my home on a voluntary basis.
- Please discontinue delivering Suffolk Life to my home.

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... a house full of braids

1 - 9' x 12'

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Long wearing nylon pile braid rugs.

Ideal for accenting your living room, dining room,
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— EDITORIAL —

The Great Clam Robbery

At 2:30 Friday afternoon, April 13, an anonymous figure slinked into town offices and delivered an envelope addressed to the town clerk. Presumably it was a message of communication from the town board of the following Tuesday morning's meeting. On Sunday morning, Riverhead residents read in the Daily News that they were about to be robbed of their hard clams and this great robbery had the blessing of the State Conservation Department who it turns out, were the deliverers of the message to the town board. The State Conservation Department had given permission to two commercial clamming firms to dredge the creeks and bays surrounding the Huckabuck Indian Island area of hard clams. These clams were to be transported from these waters to the Town of Islip where they would be replanted for thirty days and then harvested and sold commercially. The town was to receive \$2 a bushel from these commercial outfits. Clams are bringing, on the wholesale market, up to \$38 a bushel right now. The waters surrounding Indian Island have been declared polluted because of the duck farms, but there is many a resident who has made more than one meal out of these clams and never suffered the least for it.

this week

APRIL 24

GREENPORT
High school students interested in the health-medical fields should be advised that the spring course for new Junior Volunteers will be held at Eastern Long Island Hospital on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 24 and 25. Applications should be made through the school nurse, guidance counselor, or by calling Mary Bess LaFreniere at 765-5445.

APRIL 26

WESTHAMPTON BEACH
The Woman's Soc. Christian Service are having a **RUMMAGE SALE** at the Beach Methodist Church, Mill Road, Westhampton Beach, on April 26th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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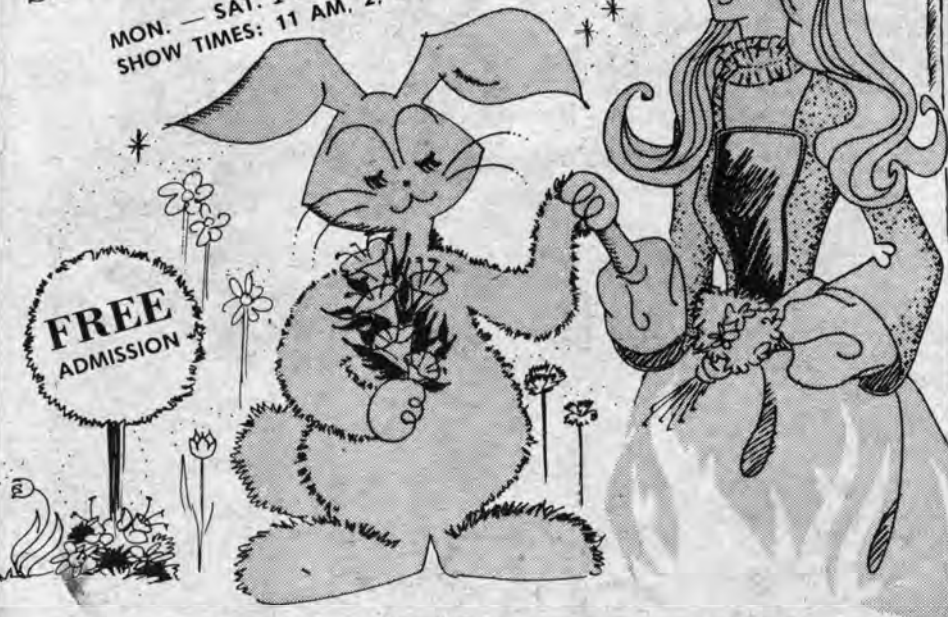
Protest Clam Robbery

Riverhead residents appeared all day Monday and Tuesday and at the town board meeting Tuesday night complaining bitterly about these clams being stolen from them. They wanted to know why these clams could not have been removed from these so-called "polluted" waters and replanted in purer waters in the Riverhead portion of the Peconic Bay where they could be dug by our own clambers and by the residents. Naturalists and conservationists further contend that the headwaters at the mouth of the river where these clams are being dug, are breeding grounds and that the nursery clams the size of a pinhead are picked up by the currents and outgoing tide and replenish the clam beds throughout

the Peconic Bay area. By removing the clams from the mouth of the river, the Conservation Department is causing one of the last clam nurseries to be ruined for the outlandish profit of two commercial clam companies from Islip. The town board authorized the town attorney to seek a show-cause order halting this destruction at Tuesday night's board meeting. Hopefully, when this editorial is published, these companies will have stopped from digging these clams. We recommend strongly that all residents of this area write immediately to Assemblyman Duryea and Senator Giuffreda, your New York State representatives protesting the Conservation Department's action. Their address is the Assembly Building and the State Office Building, respectively, Albany, New York. And why not?

MUSICAL Puppet Show

SPRING HAS SPRUNG!! LIVE ON STAGE
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SHOW TIMES: 11 AM, 2, 4 & 7 PM



ABRAHAM & STRAUS, MACY'S, MARTINS, SEARS AND OVER 100 FINE STORES. SHOP EVERY NIGHT TO 9:30 P. M. (Closed Sundays)
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At the intersections of Jericho Tpke. (Rte. 25) and the Smithtown Bypass (Rte. 347)

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7 FOOT KITCHEN

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- All base and hanging cabinets
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- Same set finished \$40 additional.

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"The bad news"

Ward Vote Petition Denied

By Virginia Shields

David Weisberg, attorney, announced to the press that he and Donald Leo, attorney, had both received "the bad news" that their petition on behalf of John Randolph, and others, calling for a show cause why a revote on the ward system should not take place within thirty days, had been answered by Judge John Scillepi, but not as they so wished. New York State Supreme Court Judge Scillepi felt that the proposed revote in November, 1973, would be the answer to the petitioners' request for a revote. An immediate revote was unnecessary. To the judge, there was no way to show that the original petitions for the ward vote had clearly intended that the ward system be established or rejected in time for the 1973 elections to the Town Board of Brookhaven.

"Keep up good work"

That speech by a representative of the Letter Carrier Union against the litter makers who destroy the neighborhood, is nauseating. Why is there no concern about the real litter makers who destroy the neighborhood with two or three cars, commercial vehicles and boats parked on the lawns, together with children's toys and miscellaneous junk? There should be a law against this practice, and rigidly enforced by inspections by the police on their regular patrols.

Everyone who owns a home has a time honored right to the undisturbed possession and quiet enjoyment of his property. A neighbor who has no pride of ownership and maintains his property in a junkyard condition not only destroys the appearance of the neighborhood but its monetary value.

Yours very truly,
Name Withheld
St. James

Dear Dave:

Enclosed find \$5 to cover my subscription and also for someone else who would want a subscription but possibly could not afford to do so. Keep up the good work.

Richard Stranbro
Stranbro T.V.
Mastic

EDITORIALS from page 3 F

letters

Even Nixon reads Suffolk Life

Dear Mr. Willmott:

It was heartening to receive your thoughtful message approving of our efforts to hold Federal spending within reasonable limits.

The new budget proposes a leaner Federal bureaucracy, increased reliance on State and local governments to carry out what are primarily State and local responsibilities, and greater freedom for the American people to make for themselves fundamental choices about what is best for them.

Should the Congress cause the total budgeted outlays to be exceeded, it would inescapably face the alternatives of higher taxes, higher interest rates, renewed inflation, or all three. I oppose these alternatives; with a firm rein on spending, none of them are necessary.

Our goal must not be bigger government, but better government -- at all levels. Our progress must not be measured by the amount of money we put into programs, but by the accomplishments which result from them.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will continue to need your support to hold down government spending so that we can keep taxes and prices from going up. I am confident that by working together we can do this and thus chart a new course for America -- a course to make our new era of peace a new era of progress.

With my best wishes,
Sincerely,
Richard Nixon

"With you 100 percent"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I have just read the March 26th issue of Suffolk Life.

I am with you 100 per cent.

Circuit. We can sympathize with these residents as we are downwind of the Westhampton Drag Strip, about a mile away as the crow flies, and the noise is obvious. Our own home is two miles away, as the crow flies, from the Riverhead Raceway. When the wind is right, you'd swear those stock cars were right in your own back yard on Saturday nights when they're racing. People in the Bridgehampton area have weekend-long races to contend with -- motorcycle, stock car and sports car races. In this area, the races are normally over by five o'clock, affecting the days, but not the evenings. A lot of people find racing a form of relaxation. They love the sound of those revved-up motors and the deafening roar of the engines accelerating and the screeching of brakes. They are entitled to their sport the same as the residents are entitled to reasonable peace and quiet. To close down all race tracks is not practical. To place controls as to the hours and the days that they can race is. We hope that the town board is not buffaloed into making an unreasonable decision on this matter and will come up with a solution that will be amenable to all parties. And why not?

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