

# Willmott's and Why-Not's

By David J. Willmott, Editor

## Why Lie ?

The county executive and his partners in deceit have continually told untruths with respect to the development of the Westhampton airport facility. To put it more bluntly, they have lied. They have stated that this is going to be a general aviation airport -- that it is not going to be a jetport. Every aviation expert who we have talked to regarding the promises of officialdom has roared with laughter. They say, "Look, if this is going to be a general aviation facility, why do you need to extend the runways? Where are the corporate jets that can't get off the ground in the distance provided by existing runways? Only your very big commercial jets need that extra runway length. You don't go into this kind of expense unless you expect heavy traffic from the larger jet aircraft!"

So this is the situation we have now -- and possibly the biggest battle the residents of this area will ever have to fight. We are going to have a VERY big jetport in Westhampton. It will be huge, but nobody knows yet who is going to use it. We have spoken with airline officials who say they want no part of it because they can't get the passengers out there and the air-traveling public will raise hell if they are left off 80 miles from their destination. No airline, to our knowledge, has committed itself to using this facility, yet the county is proceeding pell mell to spend our money (and our childrens' money) to build this super facility. Meanwhile the MTA watches and waits while Suffolk develops her airport, until sufficient progress has been made, then she will proceed to begin construction on the super-highway extensions, rail links, etc., etc., etc., bringing, finally, our worst nightmares to reality.

The county executive dreams of Suffolk County airport being an air-freight terminal. He may dream, but reality tells you that our big export out here is Long Island potatoes and cauliflower, and you don't ship these vegetables by air because of their bulk -- it is impractical to do so. Most of our imports are also too heavy and bulky to be shipped in by air. The commercial facilities that need air-freight in quantity are all located in the west-end, which is serviced by Kennedy, LaGuardia and Newark airports.

There are two fundamental factors, both of them overriding and perfectly justifiable, that should prevent, for all time, the creation of a large, commercial jetport facility in Westhampton: (1) The people simply don't want it (with a vengeance); (2) There is just no economic justification for it. Having to face these two irreconcilable obstacles our dishonest, irresponsible and utterly outrageous politicians must act in secret to build this white elephant as a monument to their mediocre leadership.

Good people of the east end, you have a jetport at your back door -- here and now! If you don't like it, you have only yourself to blame. The hour is terribly late. Extreme public pressure, of the most vehement kind, is the only thing that may turn the tide. Turn out in force at the next public hearing on this matter, sign petitions, write letters, make phone calls, compose poetry, songs and slogans, picket the county center, cultivate your personal and horrendous hatred of this project as you would a prize rose and, lastly, scream your head off at your elected officials in person -- because if you don't NOW, you and we, all of us who love this area, have had IT forever! And why not?

## Big Doings This Weekend

There will be two big annual affairs in Riverhead this weekend. First, starting Thursday will be the biggest sale event of the year. It's the 8th Annual Riverhead Sale Days, sponsored by the Riverhead Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants Division. This annual event is what all smart shoppers look forward to. The merchants of the town take their biggest and final mark-downs of the season for this event. It is not uncommon to find this year's top fashion merchandise being offered at half of what it was priced at a scant month ago -- famous name brands included. This year's sale is really packed with outstanding values. You can find everything from top to bottom in men's, women's and children's wear, drugs and jewelry and home furnishings. We advise you to shop early for the best bargains. The sale starts Thursday at 9 a.m. and runs through to Saturday at closing time.

The other big event of the year that you should not miss is the very famous 13th Annual Riverhead Rotary barbecue. This is one of the biggest barbecues held in the state, and it is so because of the tremendous fun, quality and value that is offered. The biggest feature is the carnival type rides that the kids can go on free of charge. The affair is held at the picturesque picnic grove on the Grumman property in Calverton. The grove is hushed and cool, there is music for your enjoyment, and you are treated to a fine chicken barbecue with all the trimmings. Beer, soda and fresh clams on the half-shell are also available.

There is plenty of free parking, and the service is fast. You can save \$.50 on each ticket by buying in advance. Adult tickets are only \$3.00 and children are \$1.50. At the gate, tickets are fifty cents more. They are available from any Rotary member or at the Suffolk Life office in Westhampton.

All proceeds from this affair go to support the community, educational, scholastic and club projects. None of the funds are used to support any of Rotary's own affairs. So you see, you not only get a great entertainment value, but you also are helping the community at the same time. See you there! And why not?



## SUFFOLK LIFE

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton, N.Y. 288-3900

Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 - or Box 167 Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Total circulation: audited and verified to be in excess of

**62,000 WEEKLY**

Published every Wednesday in five market area editions  
Northern Brookhaven...14,116 South Fork...12,204  
Southern Brookhaven...13,770 North Fork...8,883  
Riverhead/Westhampton...16,212

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

Sherman B. Chace - Advertising Manager  
John McKay - Production Manager  
Tim Stalker - News Editor

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In Suffolk County . . . . . \$1.00 per year  
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### GENERAL INFORMATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion thru the Letters to the Editor column. All letters must be signed with author's signature and address. We will withhold names on request and assign a nom de plume.

NEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS - Readers are welcome to submit ideas of interest and photographs for consideration of publication. All news and photographs become the property of Suffolk Life upon submittal and can not be returned for any reason.

ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

## Humans Fight Back

There's a movie playing called "Little Big Man". In it the Indians look upon themselves as humans and all others as something else. They believe in this manner because they are in touch with reality, with the real world. They appreciate what God has given them, and they see no sense in distorting it. The period of history depicted in this picture is about 100 years ago. Today, a similar struggle is going on right here on the east end. The humans, the residents of the east end who value the quality of life out here, are fighting those who don't. The "don'ts" want to concrete everything over and turn it into a commercial enterprise. They are after the fast buck and can't see the trees for the forest. In fact, they can't even see the forest except from the seat of a bulldozer.

When the humans get up enough courage to fight back, they are called "aginnners" by the "don'ts". This is a very effective name. In most cases it causes the humans to retreat into their shells and quit fighting. Nobody ever points out that to be against something you have to be committed to something else. You therefore are, in reality, "forers" and not "aginnners" that you have been called, and those who are calling you (the real "forers") "aginnners" are really the "aginnners", so things in the long run end up being equal.

Well, the humans who are "forers" and the "aginnners" have been fighting lately, and nobody has been crawling back into his shell. They have awakened. In Shirley they are fighting the expansion of the Mastic airport. They are for keeping their homes and their way of life. On the north shore they were against the town expanding its docking facilities against the law in Mt. Sinai harbor. They were for the law and its protection of this natural harbor and its valuable ecology. In Riverhead they are against a big unneeded shopping center and 1,460 units of low-cost housing. They are for proper planning and doing what is right and keeping the taxes down. In Greenport they are waging a battle to find out about a deep sea port that the village officials think they should have. The villagers want to know how it is going to affect them and their future. In Montauk they are fighting against having the area resemble Queens' door-to-door houses. The residents are for keeping part of Montauk green and natural -- the way it was when many of them moved there originally. In Southampton they are against building a high school of about the same size as the one in Riverhead and East Hampton which is costing one-third to fifty percent more. They are for expanded facilities which are adequate for the education of their children at a price they can afford.

We are sure that those who call these people who don't roll over and play dead "aginnners" don't realize that they are really "forers". Most important, they are like the Indians who value the quality of life available to them out here and want it protected from those who are somewhat less than human. And why not?

## Primary Registration

### Deadline

This Saturday, August 14th is the last day you will be able to register to vote in the political party primaries. To vote in a primary you must be a registered member of a specific political party. Participation in primary voting is the most basic form of government. Here is where it all begins. If you are of one political faith or another we encourage you to register in that party and exercise your right to vote.

## Old Fashioned Country Auction

It will be like going back fifty years this coming Saturday. The Westhampton Rotary Club is sponsoring its first old-fashioned country auction on Main Street, opposite St. Mark's Church Westhampton Beach. It will be an all-day affair with thousands of items coming under the gavel. The members of the club have scoured the area for donations and have come up with a great variety of items - some beautiful, some practical and some nonsensical. Antique lovers will find many interesting things that have come from some of the older homes in the area.

The affair will benefit the Hampton Hospital Fund - a project that is most worthy. The Westhampton Rotarians are fully competent to give us a truly fine auction. Mark it down on your calendar. This Saturday, August 14 from 10:00 AM on. See you there! And why not?



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## You May Win

Here we are with back-to-school time just around the corner. With less than a month to go before public schools open there is much to be done. To make it a little easier for you, starting this coming week, we will publish a guide to help you shop for all your school needs more efficiently. We will try to bring to you the vast selection and availability of merchandise out here to fulfill your every shopping need.

As a bonus we have arranged with many of the leading stores of the east end to give you the chance of having part of your shopping paid for by them during our great eastern Long Island Back-To-School Shopping Spree. When you visit one of the participating merchants fill out the coupon he will give to you and put it in the receptacle provided. You may win some of the \$1,500 in gift certificates that will be given away over the next three weekends. Then, as we enter the fourth week of back-to-school shopping, you may also be the winner of the grand prize - a \$500 scholarship that has been donated by the participating stores and Suffolk Life. This scholarship may be used for any school, college or trade school. It can even be put away for future education as was done by last year's winner. As a bonus grand prize, to commemorate our tenth year of publishing Suffolk Life, we will give away a brand new TV. To make the contest even more interesting, if you are a paid subscriber to Suffolk Life it will be a color television.

At this point you are probably saying nobody gives anything away for nothing, but in this contest we are. This is your local store's way of saying "Thank you" for shopping with them and that they appreciate your business and loyal support. It is our way too of saying "Thank you" for shopping the pages of Suffolk Life and for saying that you saw our advertisers' ads in our paper.

So go ahead and fill out the coupons. It costs you nothing, and there is no obligation of any kind. Just go into any participating store that is listed in the ad on page ten of this week's paper and enter the contest. You never can tell, you may be a winner. In the various contests that we have sponsored over the years there have been over 7,000 winners. And why not?

## Big Weakness

Eastern Long Island is basically made up of the five eastern towns and the eastern portion of Brookhaven Town. Each area is a little bit different but each is similar in its makeup of people who share many of the same needs and aspirations. Until the county was reapportioned there was regular communication between the town governments because the supervisors of each town met every two weeks on county business. Since reapportionment there have been few meetings between these town governments, yet many things that a town does can drastically affect its neighbors. The leaders of one town do not hear what their next door neighbors are planning until they read about it in the newspapers or some concerned citizen, living on the borderline between two towns, reports it. In many instances it is too late to alter a course of action even when such action is warranted.

This is one of the valid reasons for having a separate county with its own form of government. The county could set up a line of communication between the various towns. The possibility of a county is off in the future, but the need for common communication between towns is now.

It would be relatively easy for a monthly meeting between supervisors and the chairmen of the planning boards to be established. Common problems and plans could then be discussed and actions coordinated intelligently. Such an unofficial body could do much to insure that the growth of our area remains smooth and to eliminate the possibility of one town pursuing a course of action that would do harm to another town. Though unofficial, such a body could give credence to a unified spirit of the east end without any town having to relinquish its local jurisdiction. Keeping the lines of communication open between towns could only lead to good.

We recommend that all candidates in the coming election make this a plank of their platform. And why not?

## Animals At Large

This editorial is a plea to our summer visitors. It's been great having you enjoy your summer with us. We are sure you have found eastern Long Island to be all that you hoped it would be. Many of you will be packing up and going home right after Labor Day. We don't want to appear as if we are rushing you, but there is something you must attend to before you leave that many have not attended to before. We refer to the pets that you have acquired over the summer. Whether it be the puppy that is now almost a dog or that cuddly kitten that now looks like an alley cat, you must decide now what you are going to do with them.

Unlike the stories you have read about the kindly farmers, they do not have room for one more. So don't drop your pet off somewhere thinking that it will find a home somewhere. A lot of people have the feeling that animals can fend for themselves. They can't, and to cast them out in a hostile world, after you have given them love and food over the summer, is nothing short of cruel.

What has happened in the past is that, a few days after you abandon your pet, it tends to go wild. First it becomes a scavenger, eating out of garbage pails and taking food where it can. There is a good chance that it will die an agonizing death from starvation. If your dog is a hardy type it may band with other dogs into a pack. These packs run down and kill deer and farm animals and have been known, on more than one occasion, to attack children. These are the mangiest and meanest looking animals you have ever seen. Most of them are nothing more than skin and bones and appear to be totally frightened and desperate. In the end, if disease and starvation don't get them a farmer's or landowner's bullet will. The most merciful thing that can happen to them is that they will be captured, put in the pound and gassed to death after five days.

As you must see, it is not humane or merciful to turn your animal loose. If, for any reason, you can't take your pet home with you, either take it to one of the shelters or to the local veterinarian for humane disposal.

As we said, it has been great having you out here, and we're not trying to rush you off, but now is the time to give serious thought to this problem. Do both the pet that you love and those of us who live here a favor, please don't abandon these animals. And why not?

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## Our Tenth Birthday

It was ten years ago this week that Suffolk Life was first assembled on a kitchen table. A lot of newsprint has passed through the presses since then. In the decade since our birth Suffolk Life has grown to be the largest and strongest weekly newspaper in Suffolk County. This has happened only because of your constant support and encouragement.

In 1961 we saw the need for a total saturation circulation medium of advertising that would bring buyer and seller together. Suffolk Life was primarily designed to do this job. It has done it well. Today we carry more advertising in the eastern Long Island market than any other daily or weekly medium. Advertisers know that they get the results they want through Suffolk Life. Whether the advertiser is a householder wanting to dispose of a baby carriage or a large department store that must communicate its message with its buying public on a sustained weekly basis, regardless of who or what everyone sells through Suffolk Life.

In the beginning we were not so presumptuous to feel that we would ever become a full-fledged newspaper. Ours was more of a magazine format. Our news consisted primarily of you at your affairs, a few columns, letters to the editor and editorials. As time passed we learned that our readers looked to us to bring them more and more background information on important issues. All of a sudden we were thrust into the position of defending rights and of having to come up with the necessary background information to substantiate our claims. Today we find ourselves with one of the largest professional newsstuffs of any weekly on the east end. We still publish photos of you doing your thing and going about your life here in Suffolk, but we have implemented this with meaningful news and comment.

Suffolk Life is not dependent upon legal advertising for its existence. Legal advertising is that public notice type of advertising that political parties place with certain media as patronage. When legal advertising becomes the basis of their financial existence many publishers have found that they no longer control their papers and lose the right to call the shots the way they see them. The end result is that the political party, handing out this patronage, gains a big voice but the people lose theirs.

Suffolk Life is politically independent. We have no political party affiliations. Our staff is made up of people of all political persuasions. Our basic philosophy lies in the simple belief that individuals can do better for themselves than government can do for them. Some say that this is the basis of conservatism; we prefer to call it independence. We believe that if a newspaper is going to be of service to its readers it should present all sides to an issue. We try to do this. Editorially we take strong stands, not so much to convince people that we are right, but to make them think and form opinions of their own. We welcome and print letters of opposition to our beliefs. Articles are also published to present opposing viewpoints. This is our basic concept in news handling. This is the way we intended the paper to be, and it has not changed. We intend to keep it that way - a forum for our readers' - their paper.

In mid-September we will publish a special tenth

anniversary edition outlining more fully our growth, changes, what we have accomplished and what we have not. We will show you how the area we serve has changed both in pictures and in print. We will tell you our story and yours. Many of the businesses that make up the commercial and financial community, here on the east end, will be joining with us to tell their story also. It has been an interesting decade full of changes; it should be fun to recap it for you.

We would be remiss if we did not point out that it is because of you that we are able to be writing this on our tenth anniversary. Words cannot adequately express our thanks to each and every one of you for the vital part you have played in our development. Your loyal readership and support have given us the impetus to grow and develop. Every time you respond to an ad and remember to say you saw it in Suffolk Life, that is a step forward for us.

Again may we say thank you for all you have done to help us grow. We intend to make our next ten years even more productive and informative for you. A great paper you deserve. And why not?

## Errors Hell!

John V. N. Klein pressed the panic button last week and took off after Suffolk Life for having the audacity to present the fact that the county is planning to create a jetport at Westhampton. He charged, in his emotional press release, that there were errors and misstatements but failed to mention even one. He went on to say, "This means no jets, no jetport, no major expansion of any kind. Period."

Come now, Mr. Klein, why perpetuate this fraud? Is it not a fact that under the Air Force's tenancy the base was a jetport? Is it not a fact that jets are flying in and out of there right now? Is it not a fact that the Dixon Speas plan, commissioned by the county legislature under your leadership, calls for and outlines a jetport? Is it not a fact that you kept this report locked up and failed to make it available to the local news media and local leadership so that those who would be most affected could study it? Is it not a fact that you plan to not only repair the runways but to extend them under your capital improvement plan? Is it not a fact that it would be silly for the county to acquire more land for a buffer zone for a general aviation facility - more land, in fact, than the Air Force felt was necessary for their jetport when nuclear devices were not only stored there but also installed on aircraft? Is it not a fact that you are spending 2½ millions of our dollars to expand and ready this facility for major traffic?

You obviously feel that we are either blissfully ignorant out here in the east end or you subscribe to the infamous political theory that if you tell a big enough lie often enough and loud enough people will start to believe you. Admit it, your bluff has been called. You and Super Lee and the other members of the legislature know that if you called this project by its right name it would face heavy opposition. You called it a general aviation field and hoped the people would be lulled into believing that only piper cubs would be flying out of it. To top it all off, as we go to press we learn that you, fearful of facing the music, are going to cancel the public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, August 24th.

cont. on page 9