

D'Amato Comes Through

A freshman seldom accomplishes much, except create the impression of hard work. Senator Alphonse D'Amato, although the freshman Senator from New York, has done more than create the illusion. He has delivered, for Long Island, particularly Suffolk, more notably the Southwest Sewer District.

He won an impressive victory on the floor of the United States Senate that will allow Suffolk County to use leverage leasing to stabilize the rates for the homeowners in the Southwest Sewer District. Without this victory, homeowners faced real estate sewer tax increases that would have more than doubled their current taxes in 1983. With the passage of the D'Amato amendment, taxes will actually go down about 25 percent from those they paid in '82.

D'Amato even had to go up against the leadership of his own party and the Treasury Dept. in pushing the bill. He gained 11 Senate co-sponsors. It

was a hard fight and he was victorious.

The measure is now in the house where passage is anticipated. Governor Carey, Thursday, signed the enabling state legislation into law that was needed for New York State.

The whole system works on the premise that the municipalities enter into a long-term lease with tax paying corporations. The tax paying corporation enters into this agreement so that they may take advantage of the depreciation write-offs against earned income.

The deal is good for everyone and it enables municipalities, through refinancing, to take advantage of depreciation write-offs that they normally would not be able to and therefore, reduce the overall cost and stabilize taxes.

We congratulate D'Amato for his work.

And why not?

Acting With Responsibility

The court recently ordered the reinstatement of a police officer who had been discharged in the Town of Riverhead. The discharge came after officers of the department had conferred with the town officials, outlining their fears and concerns about the officer's stability.

The court this past week ordered the officer reinstated, but assigned to light duty where he would not be armed. Evidently even the court felt there was a need to protect the welfare of the public from possible ramifications based upon the officer's ability to serve. The Town is expected to appeal the courts' decision.

This situation is frightening because, in effect, the court has said the town cannot discharge a police officer if it feels he is incapable of fulfilling his duties, and concern for the good of the public. If municipalities accept this court-

ordered dictate, they will be reluctant to discharge cops with alcohol, drug and psychiatric problems. Leaving these officers on the force armed with a license to kill is a danger to society.

We are all human, we all make mistakes. Some, because of mental disorders or addiction, have good judgements clouded. When you arm a man and give him a badge, there never should be any question as to his ability to make a split second decision.

We believe the Town acted responsibly in the initial decision. They would be remiss in not appealing the court's decision. There is no such thing as "light duty" for a police officer. Even if he is not armed, he has access to a weapon, has a badge and uniform, and all the power that goes with it.

And why not?

Now Within The Law

Joseph Margiotta, Republican leader of Nassau, was convicted of fraud some months ago. His attorneys appealed the conviction and last week he lost that appeal. At the heart of the case was a principle much bigger than Margiotta himself: Are political leaders responsible for their actions?

Under the law, up until this unprecedented judicial challenge, powerful political leaders were free to sell the power of their influence to the highest bidder. Suffolk Life has editorialized vigorously in the past for the enactment of legislation that would bring political leaders under the same restraints as public elected officials. The legislation had been introduced on various occasions, then bottled up in committee, never to be

voted on.

What the legislature has been too cowardly to enact itself, the court has done. They have brought the actions of every political leader under the dictates of common law. If Margiotta's conviction is taken to the Supreme Court, and it sustains the lower court's findings, political leaders will no longer be able to sell the trust that citizens place in democracy.

It has been practice for some political leaders to enrich themselves, as well as their friends and heavy contributors, by offering special consideration, contracts and unusual patronage. The court has put an end to this practice.

Every political leader is now on

notice if they enter into an agreement that substitutes the good of the public for the benefit of the powerful, they will be subject to the possibility of

heavy fines, imprisonment and a loss of their rights as a citizen. It's about time!

And why not?

They Never Give Up

Almost three years ago, the voters of Suffolk County threw out the old guard and brought new people into government. The voters were fed up with the shenanigans surrounding the Southwest Sewer District. The cost of that project had jumped from \$249 million to over a billion dollars, and it was still not operational. The man who took the brunt of this was former County Executive John V.N. Klein, a protege of Smithtown Republican Leader Nicholas Barabato.

When Peter Cohalan took office, his first priorities included the completion of the Southwest Sewer District, and cleaning up the scandal that had surrounded the project. One of his first moves toward this end was to fire the engineering firm of Bowe Walsh, putting the sewer project under the responsibility of then Commissioner of Public Works Rudy Kammerer.

The sewer district finally started operations this past year. Because of the tremendous cost overruns, residents of the district faced unprecedented increases in real estate taxes. Alternate ways to finance the project were sought out.

The federal government, in an attempt to get our economy moving, had passed legislation allowing corporations to sell their accumulated depreciation. This concept was carried over to municipalities. The M.T.A. was one of the first to take advantage of this legislation, selling some of their rolling stock to private investors, and then leasing the stock back on a net-net lease, leaving the private investors with tax write offs against earned income from the depreciation on what had been the municipality's property. This gimmick, or loophole, allowed municipalities to bail themselves out.

County Executive Cohalan's office

started looking into the possibility of using this mechanism to reduce the tax impact for the residents of the Southwest Sewer District. John Klein, the former county executive, an attorney and reportedly a lobbyist for a New York City brokerage house, became involved in trying to put a package together. Klein was a natural. He had been up to his neck in the sewer project, and knew the in's and out's of county government.

The package was well on its way to being put together when members of Cohalan's staff began to ask questions. When they learned the cost of the "package" to the county would be approximately \$20 million, Cohalan's staff got outside, independent consultants involved.

One of Cohalan's staff had substantial prior experience in dealing with brokerage houses, specializing in municipal financing. He learns the following: If the county brings in a number of brokerage firms, the cost of the package could be reduced substantially, perhaps as much as half. Other firms had not participated, the staff member learned, because they felt Suffolk was locked up politically, that open bidding on the package would not take place.

Cohalan's people invited proposals from other firms. When they came in, they were much lower than the \$20 million that had been the predicted earlier cost. It now turns out the county stands to save anywhere from \$3 million, a conservative estimate, to as high as \$10 million.

If Cohalan's office wasn't staffed with honest, capable people, the taxpayers of the Southwest Sewer District, and indirectly, the residents of Suffolk County, would have gone for needless millions of dollars.

Won't it ever end?

And why not?

Letters to the editor

Dear Mr. Willmott:

In reference to a letter published in your July 7th issue, "Is there no control over these builders?" The writer obviously does not remember a time when he settled into this community to start raising a family of his own. Was there no control on his part to buy a house or erect a fence or create another "eyesore" on the land? I agree that the border of trees should have been left along the park-

way. I also invite the writer to take a drive through our "ugly development" someday and see how hard these "individual" homeowners are working to build a safe and comfortable community for our families, just as he did, not so long ago.

Sincerely,
E. J. Smith
Ridge

USPS 098-300

SUFFOLK LIFE

VOL. 21 NO. 50

NEWSPAPERS

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900 Classified Ads 288-5000

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

Suffolk Life is published in 19 market zone editions every Wednesday.

North Fork Riverhead
Hampton East
Mid Hampton
Westhampton
Moriches
Mastic, Shirley

Patchogue
Medford
Holbrook, Holtsville

Sayville
Oakdale
Ronkonkoma

Cantaraech
Selden
Coram
Rocky Point
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We Don't Feel So Good

It is almost a year since the campaign for Brookhaven Town government was in full swing, a campaign in which the Republicans featured the slogan: "Feel good again about Brookhaven Town." The Republicans were victorious, but now, a year later, we are not particularly feeling good about the government of this municipality.

There are too many signs the town government is going back to business as usual under the old guard. Too many signs that political favoritism still exists at the expense of the public. Too many signs that too many officials are more concerned about what they can do for themselves rather than what they can do for the public.

In another year, voters in Brookhaven will again go to the polls, where they will have an opportunity to pass judgement about the politics in the administration of this municipality. This gives Brookhaven

officials a year to clean up their act to avoid the voters taking their revenge.

We say to the leaders of the Republican Party: If you hear rumors of possible scandal, ask the District Attorney for a full investigation.

We say to the town board: Eliminate your personal perks, cut back on the needless amenities you have given yourselves, town employees and others of special privilege. Monitor carefully your departments and boards, where you may well see signs of special consideration to the developers at the expense of the public. Be suspicious of all contracts. Probe deeply, look carefully, insist on total integrity and public benefit.

Do this and you may start feeling good about yourself. And the people who supported you to put you into positions of trust may begin feeling they can trust you again.

And why not?

straight time and, in some cases, overtime. In fact, because of the high cost of providing these services, the town has had to charge non-profit organizations for police coverage if it is requested to handle traffic control or crowds.

It is morally and ethically wrong for these officers to send out a solicitation for contributions creating the illusion that they are volunteers in need of charity. It is even worse that they tie in the contributions to the awarding of plaques.

The contributions they asked ranged from \$60 to \$500. For \$100 to \$500 you can become an honorary member of the P.B.A., which gives you a certificate or a silver or gold plaque, depending upon the size of your donation. The P.B.A. is careful to state that no privileges or immunities whatsoever are implied. But we doubt many people seriously consider giving a contribution in the amount of \$500, which entitles them to a plaque for their car, who do not expect to receive special consideration. Does the P.B.A. seriously expect us to believe a car with that very special plaque, pulled over for a traffic violation, will receive the same treatment as do those without the plaque? We wonder what kind of pressure would be put upon a police officer who dared to offend a large contributor to the P.B.A.?

We are incensed with this money hungry grab by the P.B.A. If the police were volunteers, as are the firemen and ambulance corps

members, we would be using this column to encourage you to support this organization. They are not.

The organization that is making the appeal is the cops' union. As a union they hire the best legal talent and negotiators they can find to extract the last dollar out of the taxpayers at contract time. They have every benefit you can imagine under their contract, up to 180 days cumulative sick time, liberal accident and death benefits, full medical coverage, 20 year retirement, clothing allowances, and a host of other special considerations not granted most government workers, and rarely given in private enterprise. There is no doubt in our minds that contributions given to the P.B.A. could be called upon and used to hire bigger and better negotiators and legal talent to beat the town into submission in giving even more in the future.

We not only encourage, we demand, that the Southampton P.B.A. call off this fund drive. Return to the unsuspecting their contributions with a letter of apology.

Cops should not be beggars, never placed in jeopardy of having to give special favors to anyone because they contributed to a police union. The membership of the P.B.A. should examine the quality of their leadership who dreamed up this insult to the police force and the integrity of the individual members. It is a disgrace.

And why not?

Unprecedented Greed

Depending upon whom you are talking to and how they calculate the benefits, the Southampton Town Police Department is alleged to be the best paid local police department in the United States of America.

Southampton Supervisor Martin Lang, after the signing of the lucrative contract cops received last year, which Lang had opposed, offered this scenario: "We pick up the cops in their skivvies at the town line, transport them at the taxpayers' expense through the town to their duty station, clothe them from their shoes to their caps, pay them a 365-day salary for doing 200 days of work, and throw in a host of other benefits that make being a cop one of the most lucrative jobs in the Hamptons." Lang had a right to complain, considering the terms of the contract. But this was a negotiated contract between the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association and the town board which was mutually agreed upon.

The P.B.A. is the union of the police. Not satisfied with what they had extracted from the taxpayers through a negotiated contract, the P.B.A.

recently had the unmitigated gall to send out, to the very same taxpayers who are footing their bills, a solicitation for donations. This is pure unadulterated greed, and a shameful disgrace to the officers of their department!

Traditionally, during the summer months, volunteer firemen and volunteer ambulance corps make fund drives to support their needs. These are legitimate requests that provide funds for the extras for these departments. The men and women who man these departments undergo hundreds of hours of training and are ready on a minute's notice, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to be of service to their community. They do not receive one cent in compensation. Their time is volunteered, as are their services.

On the other hand, the cops are highly paid union members. Performing their duties, cops volunteer not one moment of their time for the betterment of the community. If they are on traffic patrol at bazaars or carnivals, or other legitimate fund raisers, they are receiving at least



Patrolmen's Benevolent Association
TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON No. A06245
P.O. DRAWER P • HAMPTON BAYS, N.Y. 11946

Date _____

I, _____ wish to assist the PBA towards the accomplishment of their goals by voluntarily making the following contribution. Participation in this appeal is a pledge to respect all laws of the United States and the State of New York and to support law enforcement in every way possible. No privileges or immunities what-so-ever, are implied.

Name _____
Address _____
Hamlet _____

- Honorary Member Gold Plaque \$500.00
- Honorary Member Silver Plaque \$300.00
- Honorary Member Certificate \$100.00
- Sticker \$ 75.00
- Booster \$ 60.00
- Other \$

Readers' Opinion

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Re: your article "stop wasting our resources" I couldn't agree with you more! On both counts!

Let's hope fishermen learn that each fish counts — and that conservation starts at home!

As to the longliners — let's hope they are stopped before nothing is left.

Keep up the good work!

Robin Lehman

Dear Mr. Willmott,

I am writing in regard to the July 21 Issue on Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant. I live in Coram with my family and indeed I am worried. It frightens me to think of all the seemingly impossible scenarios that could occur with a nuclear accident.

Most of us learned plenty about trusting officials with the Three Mile Island incident. When it comes down to it, there is no one to trust but your own instinct. Hell yes, I'd run. I'd pack a few things and the kids in the car and head for that infamous parking lot... the Long Island Expressway! Is there

another way off this island? Of course we would move at a snails pace for hours, perhaps days, tangled in this mess that LILCO has dreamed up for us... a real "power" play with innocent lives at stake.

And who among us.... yes.... whowill take the schools of children, the hospitalized, the seniors in our communities, the destitute and homeless... who will evacuate them or has LILCO decided their fate!

It is an impossibility to even conjecture that those who must evacuate, could... SAFELY.... let alone cope with the possibility that the whole of Long Island would just up and leave. And even if.... and I say "if" it could be done safely.... who decides who is more important... are we not all equally human, and deserving of life, or shall there be the privileged few?

The catastrophic proportions of an accident are too much for me to be complacent, and sit back calmly while LILCO endangers the welfare of my family.

I say keep Shoreham from going on line. Sincerely,
Teri-Gwen Tromba

USPS 098-300

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VOL. 21 NO. 52
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Westhampton	Oakdale	Port Jefferson
Moriches	Ronkonkoma	Three Village
Mastic, Shirley		



Total circulation audited and verified in excess of 194,000 Circulation Weekly

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Balanced Budget and Flat Tax

President Reagan has proposed, and the Senate has passed, a constitutional amendment that is currently before the House requiring a balanced budget. To become law, the amendment will have to be ratified by at least 38 state legislatures.

The law states, rather simply, Congress can spend no more money than it takes in. It's a very simple economic principle that guides all of us in our personal financial planning, as it does private businesses which must make a profit to survive. This amendment, in reality, is a Federal cap on spending, similar to the famous Proposition 13 passed by the voters of California, utilizing that state's I & R mechanism.

For the past two decades, the Congress of the United States has spent money it did not raise through taxation to cover its shortfalls, then it went into the open market and borrowed against tomorrow by selling Treasury Bonds. This competition for money or capital is what has forced interest rates up and is keeping them high. When sufficient taxes were not raised to either meet current expenses or repay these bonds when due, the Federal Reserve issued additional paper money, backed by nothing more than thin air, creating inflation, making the buying power diminish.

Although Reagan has shown the leadership, Congress has refused to back on spending. Every project is held sacred and, as a result, the U.S. is in a precarious financial position. Only those who hold gold are solvent. The rest of us who use paper money are dealing in blank checks that can collapse at any time.

The constitutional amendment requiring Congressional spending not to exceed actual revenues except at time of war is a bitter tonic this country badly needs.

We encourage our readers to write to their Congressman to support passage in the House. We would hope

that citizens throughout the U.S., upon passage, will demand their State Legislators immediately introduce and pass the measure in each of our 50 states.

It's tragic that our elected officials in Congress have refused to recognize their fiscal responsibilities, doing no more than we are asked to do as individuals in society: Keep our spending within our means. Be this what it may, if it takes a constitutional amendment to put restraints on Congress, then a constitutional amendment must be.

President Reagan also is contemplating a universal flat tax. Our tax system, set up in the early 1900's, is based upon a progressive system of income. In theory the more you earn the higher percentage of your income you pay. Inflation has pushed most average wage earners into the higher brackets, even though their buying power has remained stagnant or dropped. The rich have avoided paying an increased share in taxes through numerous loopholes, deductions, shelters and other legal avoidances of taxes.

Rare is the person who is stupid enough to allow his income to be taxed without first consulting and planning his income in such a way as to reduce his tax burden. The call for a flat tax somewhere between 13 and 19 per cent would be for a pure tax, with almost no loopholes to crawl through. Everyone would end up paying a flat fair share of their income in taxes. They could not avoid paying taxes by forstalling their earnings or sheltering them against tax liabilities.

This system is much fairer to all concerned and, in the long run, would put the incentive back into working, investing and making America productive.

Reagan's plans are based upon fairness and common sense. They must be implemented.

And why not?

Sportfishermen turn out

The top fish in the recent Three Aces Mako Tournament was 288 pounds. That weight shocked angling experts who were estimating it would be much heavier. Based on its size and girth, the shark should have weighed approximately 341 pounds, according to information compiled after much study of sizes and weights of sharks caught.

A member of a shark research group, in dissecting the shark, found good reason why the shark was very obviously underweight: a longline hook, thought to be Japanese, was found lodged in the body cavity. There were signs internal organs had been damaged by that hook.

Experts theorized the shark had somehow become snagged on the hook which, after the heavy mono broke, somehow worked itself into the body cavity, causing the internal damage and the lack of normal weight growth.

If this fish had not broken loose and had been brought to the side of the longliner, it probably would have been dead. The Japanese, by law, are not allowed to take sharks. They would have been forced to return the fish to the water.

Longlining is one of the most wasteful forms of fishing man has ever devised. The Japanese and the Koreans have perfected this method,

and use it to catch yellowfin, big eye and bluefin tuna within our 200 mile limit, by permit from the State Department. Sportfishermen and conservationists have been pressuring federal officials to rescind the Japanese permits.

Tonight, August 18, at 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Riverhead, there will be a hearing on a proposed federal regulation which would prohibit foreign fishing vessels from longlining for billfish within 100 miles of the coastline. Studies of the effects of longlining on the populations of white and blue marlin, sailfish and swordfish caused the National Marine Fisheries Service to offer this proposal which, incidentally, is in effect in Japanese waters.

If the proposal is approved, each foreign fishing vessel will have an American observer aboard to insure the release of hooked billfish. Fines of up to \$500 will be imposed if the fish are killed.

This proposal will not bring the tuna, marlin and sharks under a fishery management plan, but at least will offer some protection to end the wanton, wasteful slaughter of these prized sport and food fish.

We urge all sportfishermen to turn out this evening. Make your voices heard in support of this proposal.

And why not?

It Can Pay to Be Honest

They say that every man has his price. The huge returns to be made out of trafficking drugs has proven to be the price some otherwise honest people cannot resist. We have heard of instances where people have made as much as a half million dollars for making one trip running drugs into the mainland.

The federal government in a coordinated effort, utilizing the armed forces, drug enforcement agencies, custom officials and other resources at their disposal, have made it extremely difficult for traffickers to use the waters off Florida which have traditionally been a haven for drug smugglers. The waters off New Jersey and Long Island have, in increasing instances, been used to run drugs ashore.

Custom officials recently announced a campaign to enlist the aid of average citizens to help combat

this growing menace in our area. They may offer citizens who provide information about drugs or contraband being run ashore an award depending on the value of the seizure, to a possible maximum of \$50,000.

These rewards will be paid in cash. The names of the informants will be kept absolutely secret. Custom officials feel that if honest citizens are vigilant and it is worthwhile for them to become involved, they will. These rewards could range up to \$50,000, a nice bit of change in any pocket.

It can pay to be honest, keeping a sharp ear and eye out. Not only are the rewards lucrative financially, but you also can be helping to wipe out a menace that has ruined more people's lives than all the auto accidents combined. If you happen to come upon information or observe drug traffic, call this number: 800-522-5270.

And why not?

Letters to the editor

"One-issue voting is hurting America"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

In the Hampton East Edition of July 14 Winfield S. Freeman Jr. seeks to defeat George Hochbrueckner for election in the 2nd Assembly District unless he changes his mind and votes in favor of the Death Penalty. The Death Penalty is really a cop-out for those unwilling to think seriously on the many important issues that beset us. However,

One-Issue voting is hurting America. Sim-
plistic remedies never solve any important
matters. It is unbecoming a citizen in the
greatest democracy in the world to be a one
issue voter.

Sincerely,
Peter Comerford
Sag Harbor

USPS 098-300

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Willmotts and Why-Nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

We Need Your Request

We hope you enjoy receiving Suffolk Life. To continue to be eligible to distribute Suffolk Life to you via Second Class United States mail, we must have a formal request that you want the paper sent to you each week. A new regulation that goes into effect October 1 requires that all publications wishing to be mailed under second-class mailing privileges must either have a paid subscription list, or a request from readers to have the publication delivered to their home.

Suffolk Life is sent to you on a voluntary paid basis. Each year we ask all of our readers to voluntarily pay \$4.99 for their annual subscription to the publication. Thousands of our readers voluntarily do pay for their subscription.

The funds raised from subscriptions are used to help maintain and build our news product. People who pay for their subscriptions demonstrate they care about the quality of news they receive. These funds have enabled us to train many new young reporters, many who have gone on with a solid foundation to daily newspapers where they have excelled.

These funds allow us to investigate our readers' problems, present a forum for their views and opinions, publicize your club and organizational events both before and after the happening.

It is these subscription funds that allow us to have a reporter at school, village, town and county meetings, learning about laws and rules and regulations that will affect your quality of life.

These subscription funds pay for

the space taken up by news as well as the distribution cost of bringing this news to your home. It costs us on an average, 30 cents per week to bring a copy of Suffolk Life into your home, and more than \$15 to deliver this publication into your home on an annual basis. The postage and distribution cost alone is close to the \$5 we ask you to pay for your copy of Suffolk Life.

Needless to say, it is our desire that every one who receives Suffolk Life pay for it during the year. If you have not paid for your annual subscription for 1982, won't you do so now? For whatever reason, if you choose not to pay for your subscription, but do want to continue receiving Suffolk Life, will you please clip the enclosed form and send it back to us today? We must have at least 50 per cent of our receivers sign and verify that they wish to continue receiving Suffolk Life in order to be eligible to be mailed as a second-class publication.

It is of the utmost importance that we receive this reply back immediately. Replies will have to be processed and computerized by October 1 to fill the requirements for the post office.

We enjoy publishing Suffolk Life for you. Our entire staff endeavors each week to make your newspaper personalized, interesting, informative and enjoyable. We hope you appreciate our efforts and will respond by either paying for an annual subscription or, at least signing the required form and mailing it back to us immediately. Thank you.

And why not?

Help A Helping Hand

Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck is in financial trouble. The camp is unable to do more to allow all children to have a special vacation. It's a health care camp for physically handicapped youngsters, kids who are not eligible and not able to go to normal camps, take part in normal activities.

The camp is run by the small Moriches Rotary Club. It's a gigantic project for a club of this size. The camp plays host to 210 physically handicapped children each summer. The kids visit for two week periods of time. The wee ones come first, the middle-age children second and during the last two weeks of August, kids through their teen years are the special guests.

The camp has been able to work

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miracles. They have gotten kids who had never uttered a word to speak. They have helped kids who can barely move to propel themselves. There is a special beautiful spirit of love and of giving at this facility. The camp is run by Dave Rogers, a public school teacher who devotes all of his free time year round, and his entire time during the summer, to the development and operation of the facility.

One of the most heart touching moments we had ever experienced was at this camp. Coming toward us up from the lake was a boy in a wheelchair. He did not have use of his arms or legs, but his eyesight provided the guidance for the sightless boy who was pushing the wheelchair. Both had learned to pool their resources, help each other enjoy what otherwise would have been an

impossible vacation.

The camp is funded through the fund-raising efforts of the Moriches Rotary Club and by donations from other surrounding clubs and some individuals. The camp needs financial help at this moment. They are appealing to other than Rotarians for whatever aid they can give.

If you can afford a dollar or two, or more if your means allow, please consider helping. Help the helping hand that has helped so many in such a very special way.

You may send your donations to Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck, Box 677, Chet Swezey Road, Center Moriches, New York 11934. You will feel good about helping those less fortunate than yourself.

And why not?

Readers' Opinion

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I can see in many low or average income areas of Long Island how neighborhoods begin to deteriorate. Many Long Islanders do not earn high incomes, but that does not make them uncaring about the areas they live in. They live in the areas that they can afford and try to keep their neighborhood well kept. They may not be high income people, that is no disrespect to them, but they do work hard and care for what they have. What they have is theirs, they've earned it through their labors, it belongs to them and they have a right to their own neighborhood.

Now we come to the problem. Welfare! Welfare recipients are being dumped in these neighborhoods and from all outward appearances I have seen, no social workers are ever present to inspect the conditions of the homes that these people are put in, how these people care for the living quarters that they are given, or the kind of people that are being moved into these neighborhoods. But, welfare pays the high rents, fuel, electric, etc. and never do they seem to question what the American taxpayer is paying for.

Many of these so called needy families always seem to have enough money for beer. Many women have children with as many fathers as they have children. Many of the men seem to be healthy enough and young enough to work. Many of these welfare people don't give a damn about their neighbors. They have teenage children who play loud music day and night, drink beer, get stoned, race up and down the streets, the parents have no control over their children. They cause disruption in the neighborhoods that they live in, and yet the hard working tax-

payer has nothing to say about it. It is the hard working taxpayer who should have everything to say about how they want their neighborhood kept, what kind of neighbors are being forced on them, and where and why our tax money is being spent. We pay for this, this is our money, we want our money to work for us and produce what we all work for, our own home, our own neighborhood and our own way of life.

How did we, the American taxpayer allow it to get out of hand? Was it the politicians, social workers not doing their jobs? I don't know the answers, but thank God, we are Americans, we can and will do something about it. We are taxpayers and have a right to make it right again. We, all Americans, owe it to ourselves to be happy in the best country in the world.

I am not opposed to welfare, tragedy strikes us all, especially the low and average wage earner, but the taxpayer, the hard working families of America, they are the majority, not the minority, and as long as they are paying for their fellow citizen's welfare, they have a right to remain in their own neighborhood as they would like it and live in the peace and quiet that they all work so hard for.

We are Americans, our elected officials work for us, we do have something to say about our country, our lives, our homes and neighborhood.

We are Americans, we can, we will, make our lives worth living as we choose it. We do pay for it heavily with our taxes and we want what we pay for.

"An" American, just one of many Shirley

USPS 098-300

SUFFOLK LIFE

and Suffolk County Life
NEWSPAPERS

VOL. 22 NO. 2

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900 Classified Ads 288-5000
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published in 19 market zone editions every Wednesday



Total circulation audited and verified in excess of 194,000 Circulation Weekly

Suffolk Life is an Official Newspaper of: Town of Southampton; Town of Islip; Surrogate Court, County of Suffolk; Rocky Point School District; Patchogue-Medford School District; Suffolk County Life published weekly each Wednesday, is an Official Newspaper of: Town of Islip; Town of Riverhead; Town of Brookhaven; Village of Port Jefferson.

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Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County: \$4.99 per year; Outside Suffolk County: \$17.00 per year. Newsstand single copy sales: 25¢ per issue. Suffolk County Life: In Suffolk County \$4.99 per year; Outside Suffolk County \$7.99 per year; newsstand single copy sales: 25¢ per issue.

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