

## Another NRC Fiasco

It has long been charged, and evidence continued to support that charge has continued to mount, that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is little more than an echo for the utilities rather than a regulatory agency that acts to protect the public. New evidence to bolster that fact came into focus this last week.

The NRC, by a vote of 3 to 1, approved the full power license for the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant which, investigation has revealed, was constructed in close proximity to a major fault which poses fears about earthquakes and, in one of two reactor buildings, wrong plans were used which caused vital parts of the building to be put in backwards.

Much of this came to light after the NRC gave the plant the go ahead for low power testing. That, above all else, is an indication of the extent the NRC is involved in the inspection of nuclear plant construction. They have admitted time and again they do not have the capability to inspect more than about one per cent of any plant, and rely upon the integrity of the utility constructing the facility. That's like putting a dog that loves meat in charge of guarding the roast beef on a low counter.

Our guess is the vote would have been 3 to 2 on the Diablo Canyon license, but for one fact: Victor Gillinsky, an outspoken critic of NRC pro-nuclear activities, was not appointed when his term ran out

earlier this year. His replacement was, strangely, zipped into place without the usual Senate confirmation. With that in mind, we'd bet a bundle that he will become a part of the NRC's pro-nuclear group.

With a new study being bantered about by the NRC which downplays the dangers of radiation from nuclear plants, an administration that is strongly pro-nuclear, and Congressman Bill Carney, who is pushing to have Shoreham go on line, even though the majority of his constituents are opposed, the handwriting is on the wall. Already LILCO's allies are claiming the new NRC study shows that evacuation is not a problem. They now are trying to claim a 20-mile zone is not needed. Before they're through that zone will shrink, if LILCO and its allies have their way, to no more than three miles. Of course most of these allies, except for a local group concerned more about finances than radiation, live far beyond even the 20-mile radius, so it's easy for them to be brave with other people's lives.

A public outcry, directed at our federal officials, and that includes Congressman Carney who is seeking reelection this November, is the only way the public can be protected from an unneeded and controversial nuclear power plant. If you are concerned about Shoreham and haven't joined the fight against it, the time is now.

And why not?

## Positive Approach- Designated Driver

My Dad before me, as I have with my kids, encouraged us when we went out to either not drink ourselves if we were driving or to pick one of our buddies as a non-drinking driver.

In my case, my Dad had just given a group of us this lecture before we proceeded on to one of our hangouts. Two of us chose not to drink that night. We saw the flashing red lights on the way home, stopped, and one of our

friends who had been at the bar with us was in several different pieces. My Dad's lecture and this tragic testimony to drinking and driving had a great impact upon us. After that, one of us was always designated as the driver and we managed to make it through our turbulent teens and twenties without serious accidents.

The carnage on the roads caused by drinking and driving has commanded

the attention of just about every sane person. Our government has responded to the outcry by developing tough anti-drinking-driving campaigns. The police have resorted to setting up road blocks in areas known to be frequented by drunk drivers. Also, they have increased patrols both during the day and at night and these have resulted in an increased awareness by both the young and the old that the police are serious and if you drink and drive, you stand a good chance of being nailed.

The bars and discos in the Hamptons have felt the effects. The crowd count is off. Both in their interest and in the interest of keeping their patrons

alive, Southampton bars have developed a program called "designated driver." Designated drivers are given a button identifying them. Those wearing these buttons are given, by the bar owners, all the non-alcoholic beverages they care to drink, free. It is the bar owners' hope that the program will catch on and the kids will continue to party, but when it comes time to depart for home, a member of their group will be sober and able to chauffeur his charges home safely.

This is a positive program that deserves the support of the community.

And why not?

## Good Move Islip

The multi-levels of government which control our lives have been a constant source of problems because of continued bickering over authority and jurisdiction. The upper levels of government look down at those below them, and repeatedly come up with various regulations and mandates which, too many times, represent little more than passing the buck. Unfortunately, we don't mean dollars, because these mandates are seldom accompanied by the finances needed to implement them.

A prime example is the matter of landfills, a plan devised many years back by the state Department of Environmental and Conservation to handle waste. When incinerators were being mandated out of existence because of pollution woes, the state decided digging a hole and burying the garbage was the way to go and instructed local towns to begin that process. The trouble was the state did not take into consideration the problems of leachates into the water table and the creation of methane gas. When those problems developed, the state simply applied a new mandate: no more landfills, resource recovery and, here we go again, incineration is the "new" way to go.

Ruling by edict and not with cooperation, the state made the rules but provided no dollars. And the towns, faced with increased garbage collections, running out of places to put it and without the necessary finances to solve the dilemma, have been running around in circles trying to work their way out of the situation. Joint facilities, multi-town operations, and a host of other schemes have been bantered about. "It's your problem, solve it," has been the state's attitude.

One town, Islip, moved last week in a direction that will not solve the entire problem, but will certainly put the state on notice that if the state wants to play tough, Islip will play that game as well. Islip banned state and county garbage from its Hauppauge landfill.

Bravo!

According to Islip Commissioner of Environmental Control Thomas

Hroncich, "The only help the state offered us was to give us the advice to ship our garbage off Long Island," Hroncich said last week. "And we have simply told them to do the same thing."

Thus, garbage from state facilities within the county will be collected with no place to put it. Other towns indicate, and we hope they stick firm and together, they will support Islip and refuse the use of their landfills for disposal.

Now let's see what the state will do. Will they establish their own plant in the county? Or will they simply bend the rules now that their own ox is being gored.

The first reaction from state officials has been to call a meeting to discuss Islip's action. Perhaps the state will be a little bit more understanding now that Islip has put some of the problem back into the state's own lap. Perhaps now, at long last, the state will seriously cooperate with local towns to resolve, in a meaningful way accompanied by the necessary finances, a lasting solution rather than just dumping the problem back on the towns' shoulders as they have before.

We think Islip Town has taken the right tack, and we hope other towns get just as tough. It's high time we got DEC officials out of their ivory offices and into the trenches to meet their responsibilities with action, rather than simply trying to regulate them away onto someone else's shoulders.

One way to do this is for all towns to stick together, backing Islip's lead. If every town in Suffolk County shut its landfill to state use, where would they put the garbage from the state university, the state hospitals, the state office building, the motor vehicle offices, etc.?

We think Suffolk's ten towns should make the state worry about its own garbage unless and until they come up with a way to resolve the overall problem of garbage disposal in cooperation with the towns they seek to govern.

And why not?

## SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

and Suffolk County Life

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## Readers' Opinion

To the Editor:

It is my understanding that a LILCO ratepayer does NOT have to pay an estimated bill. The consumer can insist on a meter reading. As a ratepayer, this is going to be my way of protesting the high cost of LILCO electricity, and the Shoreham plant.

Name Withheld  
Riverhead

P.S. I would like my name withheld if this letter is printed. I am not a member of the union, nor an employee of LILCO, but as a consumer I do fear reprisal from LILCO.

## LILCO Workers Used and Abused

A tentative agreement reached late last week between LILCO management and striking union employees seems headed for approval as this is written. In the first of two votes, the members of one union approved the terms of the agreement, with the second union slated to vote on the terms later Monday. That tentative agreement, which calls for an 18 month wage freeze, with some minor benefit changes, is basically the pact offered by the union 29 days ago prior to the start of the strike.

What has happened during the past 29 days is that the loyal workers of LILCO have been without income, and then lost benefits, while the company has continued to operate with sales as usual but without the cost of its labor force. LILCO chairman William Catacosinos got everything he wanted. He dropped his labor costs for this year by almost 15 percent, which is exactly what we think he wanted to achieve all along.

The workers got zip for their strike, which has surely created a rift in the once loyal spirit of these dedicated workers who stood firm in the past in support of their company even in the face of anger hurled at the utility for its escalating electric rates brought about by top management's mismanagement. But Catacosinos will now probably try some magnanimous public relations gestures in an attempt to heal the family's wounds and then announce to the public that everything is wonderful in the LILCO family once again. But the scars of this callous attitude by LILCO toward its loyal employees will not be washed away with words. Catacosinos will have to prove in some meaningful ways, if he can, that there really is some concern on the part of management for its employees. Until now, management's

sole dedication appears to be filling its own pockets at the expense of the employees and its ratepayers.

We are somewhat amazed at the actions of the management of the unions in this matter. LILCO's financial condition has been a matter of public record and debate for some time. In our view, it would have been more prudent for the unions to have kept negotiations going rather than encourage their workers to strike, working to come up with the best deal they could, hoping to recoup at a later date with either new management or a new company.

Catacosinos and the management of LILCO may have won by buying time that the labor savings of the 29 day strike afforded them, but they may well be the losers in the end. How much of the company spirit will the workers have knowing that they have been used and abused by both the union and management. What will be the productivity record of what was a loyal workforce which now knows it is nothing but a pawn in the big corporate gamble Catacosinos has been playing with workers, the ratepayers and even the stockholders.

What effect will all of this have on LILCO's emergency evacuation plans which call for the utilization of LILCO employees to control evacuation procedures. Will LILCO's employees put company loyalty over the welfare of their own families for a company that has proved during the past 29 days it cares little about its employees?

LILCO's situation, brought about by bad decisions made by top management has reached a new low. We doubt it can ever be reversed. New leadership through new management is desperately needed now.

And why not?

## Not Fair Governor!

The one thing we have been totally impressed with about Governor Mario Cuomo is his dedication to fairness. We were, therefore, very surprised at his recent veto of a bill that would have reimbursed localities for the cost of housing prisoners in local jails after they have been convicted and sentenced to do time in state penitentiaries.

Upon sentencing to state prisons, convicts become wards of the state. They are supposed to be transferred immediately to state prisons. Because of over-crowding and also the cost to the state of housing prisoners, a condition has developed where prisoners are not transferred from municipal or county facilities expeditiously. Sometimes it takes weeks, and we even heard of instances of delays of months before the state would accept its prisoners.

In the meantime, the county and local municipalities must shoulder the

burden of housing these inmates. This burden has resulted in severe over-crowding conditions at local jails. Federal judges have demanded that the conditions be eliminated, and that new jails be built costing millions of dollars the local taxpayers cannot afford. Both Nassau and Suffolk counties have been threatened with contempt action because they have been unable to comply with the orders of these federal judges. It's easy to be concerned about the human rights of prisoners and order solutions if you don't have to pay the bills.

The wardens of both county jails have long argued that the over-crowding could be reduced if the state would take the convicted prisoners as they are sentenced. Stalling in accepting these prisoners, causing them to remain the responsibility of the local prisons, places a huge financial burden on the localities.

We have read statistics indicating

costs up to \$500 per day to correctly house, care for and guard a prisoner. The longer the state leaves prisoners in county jails, the less of a burden on the State Treasury.

The bill Cuomo vetoed would have required the state to pay only \$15 a day to the end of the year for housing these prisoners. Of course, the reimbursement fee was ridiculous but, at least the principle was right and the fee could have been raised by sub-

sequent action by state legislators. It would have set a precedent to be followed. The state would be acknowledging its responsibility and a fair solution could be obtained.

It was not fair of Cuomo to veto this legislation. If we are going to be one big family of government the state cannot strongarm its weaker or smaller cousins and expect to have cooperation and harmony within the family.

And why not?

## Outten The Lights

The Public Service Commission of New York State is expected to decide today the fate of a rate increase by the Long Island Lighting Company that seeks an additional \$281 million, 20 per cent increase over the current rates. LILCO's rate hike has already been sanctioned by the administrative judge who heard the case, the PSC staff has voiced support, and we would be astounded if the PSC commissioners don't echo these views.

The PSC's track history has shown that supposed regulatory body to be nothing more than an echo of utilities' requests, not only repeatedly approving rate hike requests but also, in our view in violation of current state law, permitting the utility to collect "construction work in progress" funds on its still unused nuclear plant at Shoreham.

The PSC's view, openly stated time and again by administrative judges, staff and commissioners, is that the financial needs of the utility are the primary consideration in such requests, more so than the ratepayers' ability to pay the skyrocketing bills. LILCO's financial needs are well known. Brought to the brink of bankruptcy because of the imprudent management decisions of its top officials, LILCO needs a lot of bucks in a big hurry to keep afloat. In granting the repeated rate increases, the PSC is, without doubt, encouraging the poor management that has caused such an impact upon the rates.

With utilities getting what they

want, no matter what, and the PSC rewarding poor management with hefty rate increases, and a state legislature unable to revise the PSC into a regulatory body more responsive to the needs of the ratepayers, there is little hope for the overburdened customers of LILCO.

With the cards stacked against them, the ratepayers are going to have to take matters into their own hands. If the PSC grants LILCO its rate hike request, as is expected, the only way the ratepayers can hope to survive is by cutting their electrical use by the same amount. If the PSC gives LILCO a 20 per cent hike, LILCO's customers should carefully find ways to cut their electrical useage by a similar amount. Every kilowatt saved will be less that has to be paid to a poorly managed company that cares little about the woes of its ratepayers.

Sure, if users cut their bills through conservation, LILCO will merely seek more dollars to offset its wasteful ways. But that will take time, and time is what LILCO doesn't have much of at this point in time. If electricity costs too much, we're simply going to have to start using a lot less if we are to survive financially.

Perhaps, just perhaps, the only way left to fight LILCO and its allies in the regulatory agencies is to begin turning off every light we can. "Outten the lights" should be the new fighting cry of the overburdened ratepayers.

And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

Gentlemen:

I too have become a "victim" of the phone company's "Dial-A-Friend." One month's bill was \$180; the next \$122. I am in total favor of anything that can be done so

that I may return to receiving my normal month's bill.

Alda R. Savodsky  
Rocky Point

## SUFFOLK LIFE

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NEWSPAPERS and Suffolk County Life

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## Sue The PSC

The Public Service Commission, as had been expected, last week proved once again it is nothing more than an echo for the utilities by granting LILCO a \$155 million rate increase request. The PSC's concern is not for the public and its ability to pay soaring rates, but rather for the financial health of the utilities that, in LILCO's case, bungled itself through poor management into near bankruptcy.

But the PSC went one step further in last week's ruling. The commissioner added to the financial burden of LILCO's ratepayers another \$50.4 million for a plant that was never constructed. The PSC gave LILCO that bonus even though it ruled that LILCO and the New York Electric and Gas Corporation, partners in the ill-fated venture, were imprudent in continuing to plan the project even after the PSC ordered it be halted. As a slap on the wrist for that arrogance, the PSC penalized the two utilities 20 per cent of the \$177 million wasted in that project.

Richard Kessel, director of the State Consumer Protection Board, has charged that the PSC ruling giving the two utilities funds for a plant that was cancelled in the planning stage "is totally against the state Public Service Law's 'used and useful' principle." And we agree with that view. Public law clearly

states that a utility should not collect for a plant unless it is used and useful, but the PSC continues to violate that law time and again through the granting of "construction work in progress" (CWIP) funds to LILCO and other utilities building nuclear plants. Last week's ruling which gives the utilities the right to collect for planning funds of a plant never constructed and, by the PSC's own statement "imprudently planned," is a clear cut violation, in our view.

We call upon the Attorney General of the State of New York to bring immediate action against the Public Service Commission for violation of state law. Let's clarify once and for all the clear legal interpretation of that portion of the law, which is designed to protect the public from the wasteful actions of utilities.

The public must be protected against anyone—even regulatory agencies—interpreting the laws to meet their own goals. The Attorney General's office has, in the past, upheld the view that until and unless a plant is used and useful, the ratepayers should not have to bear the financial burden. The Attorney General's office must now take a stand on behalf of the public by initiating an immediate action to overturn the PSC ruling.

And why not?

## Equal Justice For All

John DeLorean, boy wonder and founder of DeLorean Motorworks, was acquitted last week of all eight counts in a \$24 million cocaine conspiracy indictment. The jury decided, based on the judge's instruction, DeLorean was not guilty because he was entrapped by the government in a sting operation and would not have been involved under normal circumstances.

The government had set up a sting operation in an attempt to break a cocaine ring in California. DeLorean, whose new car manufacturing business was in financial difficulty, was reportedly approached by government agents posing as drug dealers. DeLorean was promised millions to help save his company if he would participate in the smuggling of co-

caine. Giving in to the financial pressures surrounding him, DeLorean entered into discussions which led to the indictment. Following a five month trial, the jury decided he was not the instigator of the drug plot and had been set up by the government.

DeLorean was a world figure who not only had wealth, but a host of world-wide contacts to call upon. He had the best legal representation that money could buy. Not everyone has those advantages, and when they are missing the end result is often quite different.

The morning after DeLorean was acquitted, we were approached by the father of a young man from Hampton Bays who is serving a 15 year sentence for participation in a drug deal. The

father claims his son was also set up. His son had been injured as a young man and had undergone a number of operations. He was left with pain-racking after-effects for which pain killing drugs were prescribed, leaving the young man with an addiction to the drugs. According to the father, this led his son to the use of illegal substances.

The young man, the father charges, was set up by a close friend who had been best man at his wedding and was godfather of his child. This friend had been nailed on a drug charge. To escape a jail term in a deal for lesser charges, he agreed to turn informant with the promise he would deliver bodies to the authorities. The father claims the friend called his son and pleaded with him to help secure drugs. The son agreed and during the transfer was arrested as a pusher.

Then, according to the father, the son was offered the same deal the friend had been offered: help

set up someone else who may be using or selling drugs and he, too, would be let off on probation or, at the worst, get only a light sentence. But the man's son refused, he said.

The father claims his son was not actively engaged in selling drugs, and was set up only to satisfy the pleadings of a friend. He asked this question: "If I had the money and the contacts that DeLorean had, would my son be free today?"

We do not know both sides of this story, but we do know the family involved. It is a good, hard-working family. The son, as far as we know, had a clean record, also hardworking with a wife and a child.

We don't have an answer to his question. But we do wonder if he had the money to buy the right kind of legal talent as DeLorean did, would the outcome have been different. Is justice blinded by the checkbook? Isn't it tragic if it is?

And why not?

## Word-breaking Legislators

Governor Mario Cuomo recently signed a bill that would permit the Suffolk County Legislature to approve a one quarter cent increase in the county sales tax, supposedly for the purpose of easing the financial burden on residents of the Southwest Sewer District. The ball is now back in the legislators' court, and their action will not only have a financial impact on the residents of the entire county for a localized project, but will also give clear cut evidence if the pre-election pledges of our county legislators were based on honesty or political rhetoric.

In Suffolk Life's pre-election coverage of election campaigns, all candidates are asked to answer a number of questions on special questionnaires relating to matters they will face as elected officials. Several questions in last year's questionnaire related specifically to the matter of a sales tax increase, and the use of county money for local special district projects. The answers then, and the legislators' actions since, are very revealing.

Legislator Patrick Heaney, who was seeking his first election as a legislator, responded he "would pledge not to raise the sales tax any further while in office." But Heaney has now voted to do exactly that. Heaney said the county should never pledge specific revenues (either sales or property tax) to guarantee bonds for special district projects. And he also said the county should not use its revenues to subsidize costs of a special district like a sewer district. By voting to increase the sale tax to ease the plight of the Southwest Sewer District residents, at the expense of his own constituents who will not benefit from those sewers, and face water and sewer problems of their own, Heaney has broken his word not once, but three times.

The same is true of Legislator Joseph Rizzo of Islip Terrace, who said he would not vote to raise the sales tax, but then did; who said county money should not be used for special district use, but then voted to increase the county collection of sales tax to give to a special district.

Legislator Rose Caracappa of Selden also pledged not to vote to

raise the sales tax while in office. But she has. Caracappa responded differently in the matter of using county funds for special district use, echoing the responses of County Executive Peter F. Cohalan, who said the county should be able to use county funds in such a fashion. But Cohalan also said, by the way, that he would pledge not to raise the sales tax any further while in office.

Is it any wonder that the public has lost faith in the credibility of public officials when they say one thing to get elected, and then break their pledges while in office? If a public official can't be counted on to keep his or her word, what trust can the public have in these officials who speak out of both sides of their mouths?

The Southwest Sewer District has been a political boondoggle since the very beginning, a prime example of waste, corruption, and government at its worst. The action of today's politicians to simply tax all county residents to make up for the mistakes of the past in that localized district is a classic example of bureaucratic bungling.

A number of solutions have been bantered about that offer some promise of easing the financial burden on sewer district residents, but our current crop of word breakers have not given enough time to fully explore those possibilities. They are simply following orders, marching to the tune of the political leaders who are trying to put the problem of the Southwest Sewer District behind them so they can move to bigger and better boondoggles. The county court complex that would seriously overburden county residents with a grandiose court complex in the west simply to satisfy the whims of some judges and lawyers is another prime example of a Southwest Sewer District fiasco on the horizon.

Our county legislators will have an opportunity in the near future to prove if they are word breaking order takers, or honest public officials who can be counted on to keep their word. Their political futures could well depend on how they meet that test.

And why not?

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## Open Letter to President Reagan

Four years ago, Suffolk Life Newspapers endorsed your candidacy for President of the United States of America.

You have not disappointed us in the direction you have taken our government. The leadership you have provided has reduced inflation, reduced taxes, improved employment opportunities and helped develop a strong, robust economy. We on Long Island have felt this in our pocketbooks, our spending power and our economic opportunities. But we on Long Island have an even more important concern: our health, safety and welfare.

The great majority of us feel threatened and have grave concerns over the possible future operation of the Shoreham Nuclear Plant. These are not hysterical concerns, nor are we radical anti-nukes who have conjured up false threats. We are very logical, common sense people who have studied, who have read, who have listened. We have no faith in the management of the Long Island Lighting Company that has built this nuclear power plant.

The project from the beginning has been mismanaged. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, by its own admission, said it must rely upon the integrity of the management of this company for compliance with 99 per cent of its regulations. The company has blatantly lied. Top officials have continually misrepresented the truth to the people of Long Island, to the N.R.C., to Governor Cuomo's Shoreham Commission and all the branches of government that have been involved with the situation.

In the beginning, the company knew that it was building a plant over a running artesian well. It took them six years to reveal this information to the N.R.C. When this belated notification came, and the N.R.C. wanted to conduct tests to insure the integrity of steps taken to plug this well, LILCO claimed it could not per-

form those tests because it would weaken the construction of the containment area. The N.R.C. gave in to LILCO in that important matter, and has been giving in to the company ever since.

Our county government spent over \$1,000,000 to develop an evacuation plan. In the development of that plan it became apparent that a safe evacuation for all residents could not be insured—Republican County Executive Peter F. Cohalan and 17 out of the 18 County Legislators, from both political parties, refused to go any further in developing a plan, as they felt in their individual and collective wisdom they could not jeopardize the lives of Long Island residents in case of a major accident.

The company appealed to Governor Cuomo for his intervention. The Governor established a Commission to investigate the situation and the various scenarios.

The Commission was made up of prominent representatives from the scientific community, government representatives, citizens groups and business people. Based upon their findings, Governor Cuomo supported the county's position.

Donald Hodel, your Secretary of Energy, working in concert with the management of the Long Island Lighting Company, has attempted to circumvent and bypass the normal safety requirements and provisions to obtain an operating license for the Shoreham plant. This was a sign to us on Long Island that President Reagan cared more for the economic viability of the Long Island Lighting Company than he cared for the safety, health and welfare of the residents of Long Island.

President Reagan, there are those of us who would like very much to support and vote for you. But, before we can make this decision, we must know and have a positive sign from you and your administration as to your position on

the Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant.

The great majority of Suffolk County residents are on record as stating they are more concerned about their health and welfare than the economic issues. What good is a robust economy, and low taxes, if you are driven out of your home and your children are placed in danger by an ill-conceived, mismanaged accident waiting to happen?

The former President of LILCO stated at a public hearing that Shoreham was a mistake. He knew

it, we know it and we pray to God that you do too.

The Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant and your position is without a doubt the most important issue of concern to the Long Island community.

President Reagan, I offer you the space in our newspapers, reaching over a half million Long Island residents, for your response. We eagerly await your reply.

And why not?

Sincerely,  
David J. Willmott  
Editor and Publisher

## Proud To Work

Labor Day has many meanings to different people. To some, it is just another day. To others, it's an extra day off with pay. To the unionist it commemorates the union movement in the United States. To most of us who work, it is a day of pride, for it recognizes the American worker, the efforts, the achievements and the productivity that has helped make this country a better place for all citizens.

Most of us enjoy work. It's more than just a way to make a living. We take pride in doing our job well, working with others for a common goal. We know as we become more productive and valuable to our employers we will be rewarded for this effort. Most employers recognize the value of their employees and when they can, they share with them the profits the company makes through increased wages, better benefits

and profit sharing.

The example set by the American system of enterprise, with workers and management pulling together and sharing in the rewards, has transformed and uplifted many of the smaller countries throughout the world.

I know I personally value each of my employees. Each tries to make the others' jobs easier through cooperation and communication.

A newspaper is a conglomerate of people. We recognize that the newspaper as a whole can only be as strong as its individual parts. Every person's job is of equal importance. This is the way it is with most companies, and it is the team work that makes the difference.

We hope that all enjoy the Labor Day holiday, and that it is a day of deserved rest and relaxation.

And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

To the Editor:

Class Action Suit?

Thank you so much for publishing my letter last week with regard to Dial-A-Friend.

I have received numerous phone calls from other parents who have also received phone bills amounting to hundreds of dollars. Perhaps if we all unite, we can institute a class action law suit against the telephone company. (I have been in contact with Mr. Lundstedt of the law firm of Lundstedt & Foy)

Arlene Edelstein  
Coram

proliferation is nothing less than a tragic rush toward the extinction of civilization and possibly humanity itself.

Respectfully yours,  
Fred Alder, Chairman

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Our heartfelt congratulations to Legislator Patrick Heaney of the 16th District for authoring a Law to License Private Animal Shelters Within the County of Suffolk. Pat worked hard, diligently and sincerely and we the people of Suffolk County appreciate it. Also the legislators on his health committee who worked with him through its final passage. Congratulations also to Peter Cohalan, County Executive, for signing the legislation on August 1 of 1984. We sincerely hope that the rest of the State of New York will follow our example and eventually all of the United States.

Sincerely,  
Laura Ross  
Southampton

To the Editor:

The enclosed text of a self explanatory letter was signed by over 100 Vigil participants and was sent to Presidents Reagan of the U.S.A. and Chernenko of the U.S.S.R.

We believe it is newsworthy and deserves publication.

Sincerely,  
Fred Adler, Chairman  
North Fork Peace Group  
Southold

Honorable Presidents,

Today, on the anniversary of the 1945 atom-bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, we have gathered in silent vigil in front of our Town Hall in the Town of Southold, County of Suffolk, State of New York, to express public opposition to the perilous nuclear arms race.

In ever-increasing numbers, the peoples of the world will join in similar demonstrations until you, the leaders of the world's super-powers, renounce and relinquish the suicidal nuclear option for settling conflicts between competing national interests and ideologies.

The present course of nuclear weapons

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# SUFFOLK LIFE

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General Information

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion through 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 submission and cannot be returned for any reason.  
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