

They are not kidding

With displeasure, the Suffolk County Legislature listened to an angry but logical man last Tuesday. Lou Modica of the Islip Town-Wide Taxpayers' Association, an organization which has become a leader in the fight for tax reductions, told the legislature they have until January 31st to slash Suffolk County's taxes by ninety million dollars or be faced with an Initiative and Referendum petition to put the question on the ballot.

Modica, a Suffolk businessman, was not kidding. He was dead serious. He has the organization, the power, and the people's support.

The legislature must face up to the reality of the situation. Suffolk County residents cannot afford the tax burden politicians have placed upon them. At long last, the tax-

payers are thinking of themselves first, and they now have the power to bring taxes into line with what they can reasonably afford.

They granted themselves the power by passing the Initiative and Referendum laws. They are going to use it.

It is no longer a question of should we, or can we, cut taxes. It's a fact that we must cut, and taxpayers are demanding action. They want these cuts now and they are going to get them.

Some legislators seemed surprised, and even upset by Modica's presentation. These legislators are still living in never, never land. They have yet to come to grips with the reality that the people now have the power, and they are going to use it. And why not?

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

The job is not worth it

New York State legislators are the second highest paid in the nation. They receive \$23,000, plus per diem expenses, plus lucrative allowances for offices and staffs. They now want a 25 per cent increase in their salaries and a 50 per cent increase in their staff allowance.

Three years ago, state legislators were making \$15,000 per year. They then gave themselves a 35 per cent increase to bring them to their current salary level. The argument was if they took a big enough increase, they wouldn't have to ask for another for a long time in the future. Three years is not a long time in the future.

The position of state legislator is a part-time job. Legislators, because of the salaries they get, have, however, attempted to make it into a full-time job. They've stretched out the session of the legislature from what used to be six weeks first to two months and now to six to eight months. But they are

not accomplishing much more than in the old days.

When President Carter had his inflation talk, he asked for individuals and corporations to hold their wage increase for this coming year to under 7 per cent. There is no reason why the legislature of the State of New York should be exempt from this request. New York State is facing a taxpayers' rebellion. Any legislator who went out into the district during the past campaign now knows taxpayers cannot stand to pay anymore. Knowing this, it is inconceivable the legislators from Suffolk will support a wage increase for themselves.

We recommend that the legislators put aside any talk about a pay raise this year. Cut the budget, cut the fat, give the people tax reductions over the next two years, and then raises will be justified. Not until they have done what the voters asked can the legislators ask for a raise. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"We could use RCA property"

Dear Governor Carey:

As a parent, physical education teacher and taxpayer, I strongly protest against your recent decision to ban motorcycles from the land in Rocky Point that was donated to New York State by RCA.

This land is one of the few places on Long Island where riders can enjoy their sport without disturbing residential homeowners with engine noises. The area is referred to as the pine barrens and the MX track is in the middle of this area accessible only by dirt road. For the past nine years, motorcycle riders have been enjoying the use of RCA property for recreational purposes. Five years ago, motocross riders worked out a MX track on a sandy, barren portion of this land. The kids, as well as adult enthusiasts, have maintained this track when erosion caused by heavy rainfall created deep gulleys.

Motocross riding is a true sport requiring special techniques and skills that can be improved, like any other sport, only through practice. The serious motocross rider concentrates on body conditioning much as you would for any sport that is physically demanding. I make this point because unfortunately the general public tends to confuse motocross as a sport with the bad image created by street motorcycle gangs as portrayed in the movies. Kids riding motor scooters, go-carts, and min-cycles on the streets don't endear people to motorcycles either.

I feel this sport is a healthy outlet for today's youth. In his spare time, my son, like many others, is either riding or working on

his motorcycle making adjustments or repairs. He reads extensively from the many magazines devoted to this sport. The knowledge he has accumulated has a great deal of carry-over value. He supports this hobby himself through his newspaper route.

The kids involved in this sport aren't hanging around on street corners or in shopping centers bored with nothing to do. They aren't messing around with drugs or getting into trouble. These kids are spending their time constructively pursuing their sport.

I am expressing the sentiments of many concerned parents, adults and kids involved in motocross. Several petitions have already started and should be reaching your office shortly.

When the RCA property was private property, we could use it. Now that it's public land, supposedly owned by the taxpayers, the Suffolk County Police apolitically inform us that they are required to enforce the ruling that motorcycles may not be used on the land.

If the police catch anyone using this property, their motorcycles will be impounded. We have no gripes with the police; they reluctantly must enforce your ruling.

We are not asking that the state put any of the taxpayer's money into maintaining the land. We would appreciate a little benign neglect. We ask only that the MX enthusiasts be allowed to continue to use and maintain the land as they have done for the past nine years.

Sincerely,
Gail Murphy

Klein's the one

I have to take my hat off to John Klein. He is a master of deceit. It would be almost humorous if it weren't so pathetic.

Over the last year, he has attempted to create the illusion that everybody but him is responsible for the Southwest Sewer District fiasco. This gigantic bankrupting pork barrel has been John Klein's baby from its inception. He was an early supporter of the project first as legislator, and later as presiding officer of the county legislature.

As County Executive, he has been numero uno, the boss of bosses of the sewer project. He has been involved in almost every step of the operation as Chief Executive Officer of Suffolk County. All financing and spending was done under his direction and control.

Yet, as this project has become a public scandal, Klein has continually tried to play down the part he played.

He let his hand-picked project engineer, John Flynn, take flack until the public clamoring for his hide got even too much for Klein to stand. He took away Flynn's budget, thus effectively eliminating his job.

He hired Frank Jones, former Deputy Supervisor of Islip, as his new front man. Jones, who until this appointment had enjoyed an excellent record, is in way over his head. The best he can do is take the heat off Klein.

We doubt very much this public relations move is going to do enough to camouflage Klein's total involvement in this project, and save him from the anger of Southwest Sewer District residents, or from the wrath of the rest of Suffolk taxpayers when they wake up to the fact that Klein pulled a fast one while they were asleep, by pledging their taxes to pay for his pork barrel. And why not?

"Media irresponsibility no excuse"

Dear Editor:

I am disturbed with several misrepresentations and errors in your editorial entitled When Teachers Strike - Fire Them. It is true that the Taylor Law makes strikes by public employees illegal but perhaps the solution is to repeal the Taylor Law reinstating collective bargaining for those employees. Should public employees have less rights than sanitation workers, supermarket clerks, newspaper guild employees and others?

Your editorial blames teacher organizations for keeping incompetent teachers in their jobs. Is this not the fault of supervisory personnel who prefer the sanctity of their office to actually supervising? Does your paper deny teachers due process,

because with cause, even tenured teachers can be dismissed.

Your editorial refers to the "sweet deal" teachers have. When you calculated the hourly wages mentioned, did you take into account time involved in writing and revising lessons, making up and correcting homework, and making up and correcting examinations? Have you ever taught, especially in a school with discipline problems, or do you draw your conclusions from ignorance?

Irresponsibility by the media has no excuse.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Gurwitz
Mount Sinai

SUFFOLK LIFE

VOL. 18 NO. 78

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 924-4466; Classified Ads 369-1700
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays

Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice Weekly

East Hampton
Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor
Southampton, Hampton Bays
Southold, Greenport
Mattituck
Riverhead
Rocky Point
Port Jefferson
Shoreham, Wading River
Westhampton
Moriches
Mastic, Shirley
Three Village
Hauppauge
Ronkonkoma
L.I. Airport
Sayville
Oakdale

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.

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

John McKay - General Manager
Maxine Holmes - Production Director
Bill Johnson - Circulation Director
Norman Hirsch - Director of Sales
William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.
Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.
Kevin McCoy - News Editor
Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County: \$5.00 per year. Outside Suffolk County: \$7.00 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.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason. ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

When elected officials refuse to listen

The Three Village School District is operating under austerity. The whole community is upset. Parents fear for the quality of their children's education. The teachers are having trouble negotiating a new contract. Taxpayers are up in arms about the enormous jumps in property taxes. In the face of all this, the school board is acting arbitrarily.

The school board was presented with a petition containing 6,500 signatures from Three Village School District residents not asking, but demanding, another budget revote, this time on a zero based fiscal package. In one of the angriest school board meetings ever held in this district or elsewhere on Long Island, over six hundred residents pleaded, cajoled, and even threatened the

school board to consider a revote on a zero based budget in lieu of austerity.

The citizen's committee that spearheaded the petition drive claims there is fat in the budget which if eliminated would allow the school district to operate at full service. The school board retaliated by stating they are the elected officials and are empowered to do what they think is best.

That's hogwash. It's the mentality that got us into the deep tax troubles we are in today. Let's look first at what is best for the taxpayers and what they can best afford, not what a half dozen people with little or no experience running a major corporation determine is what the people can afford.

To ignore a written request, which

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

is what a petition is, is a slap in the face for over half the district. It's inviting a wholesale removal of the board, and a meat axe approach to future budgets.

There isn't a government agency that isn't spending at a rate far beyond the means of taxpayers. Government spending binges, and the resulting tax burden have depressed the values of local homes, forcing many people to sell out, often at a loss.

The situation in the Three Village School District is a highly volatile time bomb. Unless the school board acts rationally, and gives the protestors assurances that serious consideration is being given to their proposals, the hostilities now being built up will leave the district in a

shambles for years to come.

By the time the next school board comes up for election, all residents will realize that state educational mandates only cover the basic "R's". All other programs are included in the curriculum at the option of the school board. There are those who will not hesitate to cut school taxes by eliminating everything but the basic "R's". If that happens, Three Village parents could see their child's educational opportunities cut back so severely that school would become a joke. This is not only possible, it is very likely to be the case if the school board continues in its current arrogant attitude and refuses to listen to the majority of the district's taxpayers. And why not?

Making a mockery of democracy

Three of the 18 seats on the Suffolk County Legislature have to be filled before January 1st. These are the seats being vacated by legislators who successfully ran for other positions. The Republican majority of the legislature will also have to choose a presiding officer, because the current holder, Joseph Caputo, was elected county comptroller.

The process for the selection of candidates for the vacancies has made a mockery of democracy. The qualifications of candidates have been disregarded in favor of patronage in the wonderful game of politics played by Islip Republican Boss Tony Pace.

The Suffolk County Legislature has had in the past, an abominable record of achievements, primarily because the legislature was made up, in part, of clowns, and was run like a circus. The replacement choices of the three legislators who are leaving will either mean a continuation of this situation, or an attempt to re-establish this body as a viable form of government. If all three new legislators are picked solely on the basis of politics, without any regard to ability, the residents of Suffolk County will successfully petition for the abolishment of this branch of government.

During my years as editor of this publication, I have interviewed literally hundreds of prospective candidates prior to elections. For the most part, both the successful candidates and those who lost in the general election, were not of the caliber seeking positions of leadership in other fields. They were particularly bad when their political party felt they could put up anybody and win a district.

We shudder to think of the quality of the officials who will become part of the legislature based solely on what they have done for their party in the past.

What is even more frightening is the lack of attention being paid to the selection of the presiding officer. The presiding officer will be a Republican, as the Republicans control the majority of the legislature. There is only one GOP candidate whom we feel has the perception, the experience, and the respect of his fellow legislators to be even considered - John Wehrenberg. Wehrenberg is practical, business-like, and respected by Republicans and Democrats alike. Under his direction, we feel the legislature would have a chance of redeeming itself.

From what insiders tell us, he is not

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

even being considered by the Republican bosses because of his independence, and his no nonsense approach to government.

If the new candidates for the legislature are nothing more than political hacks chosen because of their work or donations to the party, and the presiding officer is chosen

because he can be counted on to do the bidding of the GOP leaders, the citizens of Suffolk County must see their right to petition for the disbandment of the legislature, and a return to a board of Supervisors with a weighted vote. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

'They deserve your praise'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Your lead editorial of September 24th, **When Teachers Strike - Fire Them**, contains a number of erroneous statements.

Never in the eleven year history of the Taylor Law has it contained a provision enabling school boards to fire teachers for striking.

You are possibly confusing a former penalty provision, which you list in the editorial as current. The probation clause allowed a school board to fire a teacher only after a civil service hearing. The probation penalty was repealed earlier this year by the New York State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Carey.

You also state that teacher unions are "resorting to the strike weapon more and more frequently." A phone call to the Public Employee Relations Board, which administers the Taylor Law, would have resulted in exactly the opposite statistics. In fact, in Suffolk County, with about 25 school districts still negotiating, there has not been one strike at this date.

Your "statistics" on salary and fringe benefits are grossly in error. You double your figures to show the effect of adding

fringe benefits. Fringe benefits average 30 per cent, not 100 per cent.

You say that tenure, the favorite whipping-boy of people who don't know what they are talking about, "virtually guarantees life-time employment." Tenure is nothing more than dismissal for cause. Hundreds of tenure hearings are held throughout the state each year and about 75 per cent result in the dismissal and loss of teaching certifications.

You state that "Teachers' groups have refused to clean up their act by ridding themselves of incompetent teachers." This is further ignorance of the laws of New York State. Teacher groups do not have the legal right to decide who leaves the profession for any reason. Only school boards have that right, upon the recommendation of the school superintendent.

You owe your readers a better researched opinion with facts, not cliches and distortions.

The teachers of Suffolk County are highly competent, dedicated professionals. They deserve your praise, not your poison pen.

Respectfully,
Roy Mac Dougal
President
Associated Teacher of Huntington

Mandators should pay

Many expenditures incurred by school districts, villages, towns, and the county are the result of mandates imposed by the state and federal governments. During the interviews we held with political candidates last November, we questioned state and federal office hopefuls closely on this subject. Most felt that if the state or federal government requires a municipality to provide a service, the mandator must be responsible for paying for this service.

This is only fair and just. One of the reasons why Long Island suffers so badly from cumbersome property taxes is due to the mandates imposed on us by higher levels of government. In the past, these mandates were imposed at will, with little or no thought given to how they could be

paid for. No consideration was given to a locality's tax burden, or the ability of the people affected to absorb further tax increases.

It is fine for someone in Albany or Washington to direct the implementation of laws and regulations, but by not providing funding for these mandates, the lower levels of government and the taxpayers are left crippled.

Legislators are now at least aware of the damage that has been done, and are willing to consider their responsibility. We encourage you to keep a close eye on the news in the future. If a bill is brought up that would mandate an expenditure by your local government, make sure the state or federal government has provided funding for it. And why not?

'This is not true'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I am writing this letter in response to your October 22nd article "Ambulance Companies Boycott Tax Districts". I believe that there are several points which require clarification for your readers.

Your article left the impression that Shirley Community Ambulance had no alternative but to acquiesce to inordinate demands of the Town of Brookhaven in order to become an Ambulance Improvement District. This is not true. If we felt that the town's requirements would not benefit our community, we would have no interest in becoming an Improvement District. The fact is that by not becoming an Improvement District, we could only hurt the community. To this extent, we intend to maintain our present direction and hope to be made an Ambulance Improvement District.

Loss of autonomy and the turning over of equipment is not an issue with Shirley Ambulance. It is true that we are a young company and do not have as much invested as some of the others. However, contrary to popular belief, the equipment is not turned over to the town. It is donated to the "District", and the "District" is just another way of saying "The Families" that we serve. The "District" is really the same people who have donated the money that made it possible for us to buy the equipment in the first place. In effect, we would be giving the equipment back to the people who bought it. Once the equipment is donated to the district, it becomes impossible for the town to remove it from the district.

The only loss of autonomy that we will experience is in the financial and fiscal accounting areas. Payments to suppliers will be made through a voucher process by the town instead of by us. We will be subject to

municipal purchasing and financial procedures such as budgets, bids and audits. The town board is not about to tell us how to operate an ambulance service, and does not presume to have the required expertise in the Emergency Medical Services field. In reality, Shirley Ambulance will run the ambulance service and the town will be our fiscal agent.

Another point which is the subject of much misinformation is the effect that the district will have on a family's taxes. First, it is not a town-wide tax. Only the families in our district who will benefit from the district will be taxed. Secondly, we estimate that the tax itself will be less than 85 cents a month to the average family, or around \$10 a year. Figure it out - There are approximately 2,000 families in our district, and we will need around \$20,000 to operate a good ambulance service. If you could buy insurance that would guarantee an ambulance with a qualified crew would come when you had an emergency, it would cost a lot more than 85 cents a month.

Shirley Ambulance does not intend to use the Improvement District as a last resort. The legislation that made this concept possible was designed to upgrade ambulance services where needed. We believe the creation of an Ambulance Improvement District in Shirley will provide a needed upgrade by giving the volunteers the resources that they need.

We are looking forward to a mutually beneficial relationship with the Town of Brookhaven and we ask that the families in our district support us in our effort to upgrade Emergency Medical Services in Shirley.

Very truly yours,
Ron Dutcher
President

SUFFOLK LIFE

VOL. 18 NO. 80

NEWSPAPERS

and Suffolk County Life

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 924-4466; Classified Ads 369-1700
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays



Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice Weekly

East Hampton
Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor
Southampton, Hampton Bays
Southold, Greenport
Mattituck
Riverhead

Rocky Point
Port Jefferson
Shoreham, Wading River
Westhampton
Noviches
Mastic, Shirley

Three Village
Hauppauge
Ronkonkoma
L.I. Airport
Sayville
Oakdale

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.

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

John McKay - General Manager
Maxine Holmes - Production Director
Bill Johnson - Circulation Director

Norman Hirsch - Director of Sales
William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.
Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.

Kevin McCoy - News Editor
Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County: \$5.00 per year; Outside Suffolk County: \$7.00 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.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason.
ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

The resurrection of Peconic County

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

A few years back, fevers ran high for creating a separate East End County. Feasibility studies were done which indicated it would be overwhelmingly advantageous for the East End to split from the West. A proposition was placed on the ballot to determine whether the people on the East End favored this change. Eighty seven per cent of the East End voters supported the creation of Peconic County.

There were two stumbling blocks to become for a separate county to become a reality. The first was the arbitrary decision that Peconic County would be made up of just the five East End towns. But the five East End towns by themselves did not have the state-required population of 119,000 residents to create an Assembly district. The necessary 119,000 population could have been reached if the area to be designated Peconic County had included the Eastern part of Brookhaven Town up to and including the William Floyd Parkway with the East End towns. Those who were pushing the Peconic County movement, however, refused

to consider this alternative.

This meant both houses of the state legislature had to pass an amendment to the New York constitution in two consecutive legislative sessions authorizing Peconic County. In addition, the measure then had to be signed by the governor and voted on in a state-wide referendum. The measure was reportedly introduced, but for a number of times failed to pass either the Assembly or the Senate. But, finally, it passed in both Chambers for two consecutive years, and became the thirteenth question on the ballot.

Because of the numerous questions on that year's ballot, the Peconic County question received almost no publicity, and fell victim to a state-wide reaction against the massive spending programs called for in most of the twelve questions.

The person in the best position to push for the creation of Peconic County was Assemblyman Perry Duryea. But while in public he would verbalize his support, it was known he preferred to see Suffolk County continue as a whole county. He

needed Suffolk as a unit in his drive to become Governor. This burning ambition was more important than the wishes of the people of the First Assembly District he represented.

Duryea is now leaving office. He won't be Governor, so there is hope Peconic County can rise again.

The desperate need for a separate county became evident with the creation of the Suffolk County Legislature. Sixteen and a half of the 18 legislative votes were to come from the five Western towns, so it was obvious the power would shift totally to the West End. The result was the East End would become vulnerable to be raped and pillaged by the power brokers controlling the legislature.

As predicted, this has happened. Just recently, the legislature proposed assessing the East End for the West End's police service, which are not needed or wanted by the East End.

Not only do the Western legislators

eventually want to assess the East End 54 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation for these services, they want to make the charges retroactive to the creation of the Suffolk County Police force in 1960.

This rape and robbery of the East End has created such a clamor that even strong opponents of Peconic County are now fighting to help raise the Peconic County flag once more. Suffolk Life has long been a persistent advocate for a Peconic County. Suffolk County government is too big to be sensitive to the needs of the East End. The East End and West End's people and land uses are totally different. The desires of the East End are in opposition to those on the West End.

By all that is right, Suffolk County should be divided. We intend in 1979 to do what we can to help Peconic County become a reality. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

Why aren't we big enough

I am known to be Conservative and rightly so. But I don't mind telling you the apathy shown in this county towards the slaughter of human beings going on in South East Asia disturbs the hell out of me.

Since the new regime took over in Cambodia, over one million men, women, and children have died in a holocaust of equal in frightening proportions to the slaughter of European Jews in the '30's and '40's. Lately, we have read and seen numerous reports of Viet Nam refugees dying on old wrecks of boats while waiting for some country to open its doors to them.

Damn it, these are human beings just like you and I. Yes, they may look different, and they may talk a different language. They come from a different culture, but their lives are just as important as our and our children's. They are seeking the same thing our ancestors sought when they fled Europe, Asia and Africa and established the United States of America.

Why in God's name can't we as Americans not only tolerate, but welcome these people into our vast country. Sure, there are probably some criminals and prostitutes among them, but is that any different from the bands of outcasts this country has accepted over the years? Are the American people and America not big enough to accommodate refugees who, like our ancestors, need only an opportunity to help make this land of ours the greatest nation ever known in the world? Isn't it true we have billions of acres of undeveloped and un-

derproduced land available where these people could settle? Is it not true we are now producing far more than enough food to help feed these hungry seekers of freedom? Won't these people assimilate just as quickly into our community as the Irish, the Poles, the Germans, the Italians, the Blacks, the Orientals and the Hispanics did before them?

Our foreign aid would be well spent right here in the United States by aiding these people and helping them become productive Americans. At least in this way the billions of dollars in foreign aid money would be returned to the people paying the taxes.

More importantly, don't we as individuals living in a free society have a responsibility to insist our government open American doors to those who will die without our help? And why not?

'The woodcutters are at it again'

To The Editor:

Well, the woodcutters are at it again. I have seen scenes in the woods to make a grown man cry: whole stands of century-old white oaks wiped out with only ugly debris and a hole in the forest left behind. One man with a chain saw and a pick-up truck can do more damage in a weekend than his ancestors in a lifetime. This wood is being sold commercially and anyone who buys it is participating in the rape of our woods and the destruction of our beautiful East End environment. They always say that the wood comes from upstate or that it comes from a new development, but most of it is just pirated from the public or private domain. These wood pirates are so bold they even take it from our county and state parklands as well as out of posted private land. We are simply going to have to ban all woodcutting except with the express, written permission of the land owner. And we are going to have to watch over it the way we do with hunters (not so difficult since the sound of a chain saw can be heard for miles.) If not we are going to lose our woods in just a few years -- not to developers but to fast-buck chain-saw operators. With it goes wildlife, hunting,

natural beauty and possibly even our water supply. What good is it having laws protecting song birds, rare animal and plant species or regulating game if all their habitat is destroyed? Until the needed legislation is passed I would like to propose a boycott on buying fuel wood on the part of all East Enders who care about the natural environment and way of life in this part of the world.

Sincerely,
Eric Salzman

'This is a plea on behalf of ARF'

To the Editor:

This is a plea on behalf of the Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons. With good intentions but bad judgement, we lent a dog of ours to a woman who was going through a difficult period in her life and was afraid to live alone. The dog was to be her companion for a week before she left for Florida and then to be returned to us. However, she became so fond of the dog she could not bear to return it to our kennel and gave it to a young man who worked for the moving company that was emptying her house. The young man, according to what his mother has told us, lost the dog in Greenport that same day.

She is a large tan short-haired dog, a spayed female, probably a cross between a yellow labrador and a German Shepherd. She was wearing a collar with a tag that reads ARF 725-4242 No. 308, and, according to what we are told, is trailing a leash. She is friendly. We do not wish to take her from her young man if he wants to keep her but she does need medical attention (worming) for which we are willing to pay and we desperately want to be assured she is all right. We are offering a \$25 reward. Please help us.
Helena Curtis
President, ARF

SUFFOLK LIFE
NEWSPAPERS
and Suffolk County Life

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 324-4466; Classified Ads 369-1700
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays

East Hampton
Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor
Southampton, Hampton Bays
Southold, Greenport
Mattituck
Riverhead

Rocky Point
Port Jefferson
Shoreham, Wading River
Westhampton
Moriches
Mastic, Shirley

Three Village
Hauppauge
Ronkonkoma
L.I. Airport
Sayville
Oakdale

Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice 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.

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

John McKay - General Manager
Maxine Holmes - Production Director
Bill Johnson - Circulation Director

Norman Hirsch - Director of Sales
William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.
Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.

Kevin McCoy - News Editor
Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County \$5.00 per year. Outside Suffolk County \$7.00 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 44¢; 25¢ per issue.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason.

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

Public Service Commission must reverse charges

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Utilities are guaranteed a profit by law. This profit is supposed to be regulated by the Public Service Commission. But when a utility wants a rate increase, it simply presents its request to the PSC in petition form. It's a simple process because the PSC has always granted all or part of a utility rate increase request. It has never completely rejected even one.

The New York Telephone Company, a utility and a state-approved monopoly, currently is petitioning the Public Service Commission for an \$80 million rate increase. The proposed hike is now in the courts. But before

it's approved or disapproved, Ma Bell is asking for an additional \$160 million, adding up to a grand total of \$240 million.

New York Telephone rates are already the highest in the nation. This is not surprising, since most utilities operating in the State of New York enjoy the highest rate base in the nation. The cost of these utilities is as big a factor as taxes and the decline of New York State in deciding whether to stay in business here.

Phone companies and electrical and gas utilities have persistently petitioned the Public Service Commission for rate increase on top of

rate increase, and have had the hikes granted without regard to the devastating effect they have on the economic well being of the state. It appears the Public Service Commission has done little to force these utilities to increase productivity, and to cut waste and fat in order to increase profit margins. It has been far easier to grant them outlandish increases than to insist on profitable operations.

We hope Governor Carey will bring the presence of his office to bear on the utilities through the PSC, and hold off on any further rate increases. Carey can work his butt off to reduce

taxes in order to make the state more attractive to business, but unless rates charged by New York utilities are brought in line with the costs in other areas of the country, it will be impossible for us to pull ourselves out of our economic doldrum.

This should be a top priority project for the Governor's office during his second term. It would not hurt if you yourself jotted off a note to Carey encouraging his intervention into the rate increases requested by utilities. And why not?

State catches County Disease

Years ago, open land was traditionally used by everyone for recreational enjoyment unless it was otherwise posted. As Suffolk grew up and became more sophisticated, no trespassing signs closed more and more land to public use. The natural alternative was to look to "Big Brother", our government, to acquire some of these lands as parks, to fill the void created by the closing of private lands.

The county, in an ambitious plan during the easy money days of the '60's, acquired great chunks of open Suffolk land for relaxation and enjoyment. The first thing the county did was post these lands with the hated No Trespassing signs that created the need to buy the tracts in the first place. The signs proclaimed there could be no hunting, fishing, trapping, wood cutting, or any of the other things the lands were originally purchased for. If you wanted to use the lands, you had to go to some bureaucrat, sign forms, get a permit, pay a fee and become licensed.

Recently, the state acquired from R.C.A. two huge chunks of land located in Rocky Point, in an area just south of Riverhead. These lands were traditionally used by joggers, naturalists, motor bike enthusiasts, horse back riders and others. Before the ink was even dry on the agreement, "No Trespassing" signs appeared. The motor bikers, joggers and others are now being told to keep off.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation claims it intends to open the lands on a permit, fee basis for hunting in the future. But that is the only concrete plans the state has for the future. In the meantime, a free, natural, source of enjoyment and recreation has been denied to the public. This is absolutely asinine.

There are no doubt a few people who have used the lands, or would use them, who would abuse the privilege.

Sure, they will leave their garbage behind just as they do on our parkways and streets. A few errant wood cutters will cut down live trees, but will find to their dismay that green wood doesn't burn as well as the dead wood they passed up.

But to control those few who would abuse the privilege of using the land, the state has wasted thousands of dollars in printing costs and man hours posting these lands with signs. They will spend thousands more in personnel and equipment to patrol the lands in hopes of catching someone breaking the law.

Former East Hampton Supervisor Judy Hope will soon become Governor Carey's special liaison for Long Island. We hope she will show her good common sense and bring the ridiculousness of this whole charade to the attention of the Governor. He should issue an executive order to remove these signs and eliminate the waste of personnel needed to enforce these regulations. Then once again, he should open these lands for the use of the state citizens. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

'To the victors go the spoils'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

"TO THE VICTORS GO THE SPOILS" and so to all the negative votes for the school bond issue in the Middle Island Central School District, I dedicate these spoils. You have unequivocally denied and spoiled an education for the children of this district; you have spoiled their futures and their dreams and you have denied them that which is guaranteed to most citizens of this country; that is the right to a full public school education.

We are beyond the point of breaking down the costs of this issue. Regardless of what these costs are, your continuous efforts to defeat any cost issue stands for itself. We will no longer demean ourselves by naming any large special group that is responsible for these defeats. YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE!

The school board has been accused of many heinous crimes in the past. I would, however, like to reiterate some of these crimes. My husband, as an elected member of this school board, is guilty of being out of his own home

and away from his family four or five times a week speaking on behalf of the children of this district; he is guilty of arriving home at 3:00 in the morning because of negotiations; he is guilty of spending uncountable hours in our home for the preparation of this bond issue. He, therefore, stands GUILTY as ACCUSED and his crimes are punishable. No mercy will be shown by this court; the children of this district will have to pay for these crimes!

We have heard you say, "you are what I was and will be what I am." Should that ever be the case, we will be what you are because you have dealt this deck of cards.

We, too, shall show no mercy. We shall continue to fight for those issues which we believe are rightfully ours. The time has come for you to accept the responsibility of your actions. Your crimes too are punishable. May GOD have mercy on all of us for the punishment you have doled out. Respectfully, but sincerely,
Ronni E. Nass

'We don't hide those differences'

Dear Editor:

One of the advantages of living on the North Fork is the simple fact that we have only one Township existent. This permits our local officials to plan and act, with a unity of purpose - from Laurel to Orient. Certainly, there are differences in opinion, on how to achieve this unity. And we don't hide those differences! In some cases, we get riled up; call our officials or various interest groups to

task; and generally speak our mind!

We think that is the way to make decisions; to discuss, listen, understand - and then decide. In any particular instance, he who hollers hardest may be dead wrong. Or she, who quietly presents her views, may have the better answer.

On the whole, we have a capable Town Board, and an informed citizenry. When we do have healthy differences as to how to proceed, we can rely on our elected officials to slow the steamrollers down; to investigate the concerns of the various groups; and then exercise their responsibility to decide.

In this way, our Town Board can reflect the needs of the community, keep the concerns in balance, and do the job we know they are capable of.

Sincerely,
H.W. Carr
Southold

'You said it all'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Just a note to let you know I support your editorial of Nov. 22, 1978 regarding teachers. You said it all.

Thank you,
Marilyn Anderson
Sound Beach

SUFFOLK LIFE
NEWSPAPERS
and Suffolk County Life

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 924-4466; Classified Ads 369-1700
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays

<p>East Hampton Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor Southampton, Hampton Bays Southold, Greenport Mattituck Riverhead</p>	<p>Rocky Point Port Jefferson Shoreham, Wading River Westhampton Meriches Mastic, Shirley</p>	<p>Three Village Hauppauge Ronkonkoma L.I. Airport Sayville Oakdale</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice 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.

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

John McKay - General Manager	Norman Hirsch - Director of Sales	Kevin McCoy - News Editor
Maxine Holmes - Production Director	William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.	Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.
Bill Johnson - Circulation Director	Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.	

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County: \$5.00 per year. Outside Suffolk County: \$7.00 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.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason.

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

Choose one of the three

County leaders, political bosses and County Legislators are only kidding themselves if they think they can avoid a total revamping of the county government.

Most residents realize County government is a vast wasteland created by officials who squander hard earned tax dollars. State and town governments already offer most of the services provided by the county, and the services not offered, could be implemented on the state and local levels with savings to the taxpayers.

Prior to 1970, County government was run by a board of supervisors. This board governed frugally and productively, during the settlement of Long Island and the hectic growth years of the sixties. When the Board of Supervisors was dissolved it was operating on a \$204 million budget.

Since then we have been governed by a legislative system. The budget has risen to almost three-quarters of a billion dollars, without any noticeable changes in services or improvement in the quality of life.

The only things that have changed are the tax bills we receive at the end of the year. The astronomical increases have driven many productive, life-long Long Islanders out of their homes. The three per cent sales tax the county receives has diminished the buying power of rich and poor alike.

There are three ways of dealing with the problem.

The first, is to follow in the footsteps of Connecticut and Massachusetts and totally eliminate all county government. The towns would assume the duties, responsibilities and powers they can handle, and the few areas requiring broad-base government intervention would be assigned to the state.

While this is the most effective plan, it is also the most drastic. Political bosses look upon it with distain because county leaders would be eliminated. Lost would be both the county patronage they depend on for jobs, and the financing needed to run the county organizations.

While the political leaders might suffer the reduced bureaucracies would save the taxpayers up to 20 per cent on their real estate taxes. Vital services would be funded through the state or the towns.

The second alternative is to chop county government down to size by splitting the county into two or three different counties. For over a decade the citizens of the East End have been lobbying, petitioning and politicking for a separate county called Peconic.

This move has been held up by politics, but it recently attracted interest as the West End legislators tried to force the East End to absorb costs for uniquely West End projects.

A group in Brookhaven is also looking at its town with a real interest in turning it into a separate county composed of the various hamlets which would become towns.

This would leave the four West End towns to either unite as a single county or remain independent.

The third and most moderate proposal, is the elimination of the County Legislature and the re-establishment of the board of supervisors.

They would vote on the issues employing a weighted vote formula approved by the courts as being representative of the population. This proposal came before the County Legislature last Fall. It was defeated by legislators who voted to save their jobs rather than serve the best interest of their constituents.

The arguments for returning the legislature to a board of supervisors are overwhelmingly pro. The move is opposed by some individual legislators and by the county leaders. Democratic leader Dominic Baranello, is particularly vehement in his opposition.

Last week, prior to an ad hoc board of supervisors' meeting, he reportedly twisted arms, made an impassioned plea and resorted to threats, in an attempt to win political leaders and elected officials over to his side. Baranello foolishly believed if the board were to return Suffolk County would once again become a one party government - a Republican one. It only shows how little faith this leader has in the people of Suffolk.

Gone are the days when Suffolk citizens voted by registration alone. County residents are better informed, and as the Democrats have nominated more qualified candidates, they have won substantial victories, from local town positions to state office.

It is plain there are only three choices. The government will not continue functioning as it has for the last decade. The legislature must go. If it does not voluntarily disband, it may well bring about the elimination of all county government.

Gone are the days of luxury for political leaders when they decided what was good for the people. Citizens today are informed, vocal and demanding. They want government that is responsive, responsible and economical. They can't afford duplication in their own lives and they won't put up with it in their government. Instead of the political leaders lobbying to keep the status quo, they must face facts and join forces to help Suffolk residents garner the quality of government they desire. And why not?

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

I & R may be in danger

The intrigue surrounding the Suffolk County Initiative and Referendum bill has been loaded with dirty politics. The latest example came from Secretary of State Mario Cuomo, who refused to certify the law.

Certification by the Secretary of State on home rule messages has been proforma. Rarely has Cuomo questioned the validity of the law, and never has he picked on a minute technicality to stop the will of the people. Yet this is what appears to be happening in Albany.

If the Secretary of State refuses to approve the bill giving Suffolk residents I & R, there will be no I & R unless another vote is taken or a costly and lengthy law suit is initiated.

Normally, if there is a question concerning the legality of a bill, the

Secretary of State approves the measure and allows opponents to challenge it in court. One can't help but be suspicious of the politics surrounding this unusual and unjustified action.

Governor Carey must intervene in this matter. He signed the mechanism allowing this bill to come to a vote and signed it into law. He claimed he supported I & R for the State in last November's election.

Carey is on record as being in favor of the people's right to choose. It is inconceivable to us, that Carey, after being elected so handsomely will turn his back on the people and not use the power of his office to intervene in this matter.

Let's hope the Governor lives up to the faith we placed in him. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

'It is about time'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Again I must write to you and state that you have plenty of "GUTS" which was revealed by your "Editorial" of November 22nd.

I go way back to the day when the teachers were proud to be teachers and took personal pride to be teachers and educating the children in their classrooms.

Since unions took over, their only interest is to get more and more money, but doing less and less work.

When the teachers at the school on the road, I believe is Yaphank Road, Rocky Point, were picketing, I happened to drive past the school and saw what I thought was a "conglomeration" of strangely dressed persons and from the signs they carried indicated that they were teachers. How can the children and their parents have respect for such persons?

I go along with your editorial in all respects and only wish that something could be done to bring about the changes you have the courage to suggest. I am a Senior Citizen and all of us are paying through the nose to pay these persons who receive so much and give

so little. This thought applies to the biggest majority of Unions. We are in the mess we are because of them and our President, who is the biggest violator of all rules of common sense in dealing with them.

When are the real intelligent persons going to rebel against such abuses of human rights? When are the disorganized majority going to put a stop to these well organized minorities?

It is about time someone like you, Dave Willmott, show us all the way to fight these people and bring our point out to those who are asleep and unwilling to fight for their rights, but who always complain.

A Disgusted Taxpayer

'Your editorial . . . doesn't hit the main point'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Your editorial, "Is RCA a Trojan Horse?" doesn't hit the main point. RCA, to operate a successful business, has elected to turn over the property because of its excessive tax burden. The point is: Cut excessive tax burdens and business would not leave the island or give up \$20,000,000 of property.

Eliminating \$1,000,000 in income is not as big a problem as the inability of government to adjust to lower income. In successful business, you adjust to loss of revenue or excessive cost. Government doesn't react to conditions by reduction of cost; it just increases the load to whomever is left.

Government by the people is becoming government by the governmental employees and for the governmental employees, rather than the productive wage earners.

Sincerely,
Robert B. Russell
East Moriches

SUFFOLK LIFE
NEWSPAPERS
and Suffolk County Life

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 924-4466; Classified Ads 369-1700
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays

Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice Weekly

East Hampton	Rocky Point	Three Village
Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor	Port Jefferson	Hauppauge
Southampton, Hampton Bays	Shoreham, Wading River	Roanoke
Southold, Greenport	Westhampton	L.I. Airport
Maittuck	Moriches	Sayville
Riverhead	Mastic, Shirley	Oakdale

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

John McKay - General Manager	Norman Hirsch - Director of Sales	Kevin McCoy - News Editor
Maxine Holmes - Production Director	William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.	Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.
Bill Johnson - Circulation Director	Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.	

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County \$5.00 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.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason.

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

Our Christmas Wish

If I had a magic wand and could accomplish one thing this Christmas, I would wish all people throughout the world would willingly give a little bit more than they receive and expect to receive a little bit less than they give.

If this wish could be accomplished, the world and the people who inhabit it, would be at peace. Never again would we have war. Never again would there be unhappiness or strife. As you reflect upon the meaning of Christmas, you must realize this is what God was saying when he gave

the world his most cherished gift, his son. He was showing us what he wanted us to do and how he wanted us to treat each other. He was giving us the magic formula for peace and happiness.

Being mere men we could not give him a gift of equal value. But that is not what He wanted. He simply wanted us to follow His philosophy of giving more of ourselves than we expect to get in return.

If this principle was followed in our marriages, there would be no

divorces. If it was followed in the rearing of our children, there would be no bad children. If it was followed in our business dealings, there would be no dishonesty. If it was followed in our government there would be no corruption or unscrupulous behavior.

It must start some place. It could start with you. Are you ready to give a little bit more than you expect to receive? Are you willing to take the initiative? Try it on a small scale. Try it with a loved one. You will be amazed at the results.

You will find the happiness you create by your actions will spread. Before long, more people than you ever dreamed will be practicing this simple principle of Christmas: voluntarily giving of oneself without expecting something in return.

Why not make this your big Christmas present. It will be the most beautiful and meaningful one you will give. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"Few people know about its content"

Dear Editor:

Enclosed please find a copy of the liberty amendment. One recently hears a great deal in the press and television of this amendment in the light of California's Proposition 13. It has come to my attention that most unfortunately very few people know about its content. I would hope that you would publish it.

The American citizenry had better begin to fight to preserve the personal options of their life from the tidal wave of federal and state government bureaucracy and its strangulation regulations. The wonderful thing about our government is that we little citizens can indeed make a change. I cannot accept the pessimistic view of our government is too big for us to change its way. The liberty amendment is one very effective method that I hope more Americans will familiarize themselves with.

Sincerely,
Frank H. Russell, MD
Port Jefferson Station

The Liberty Amendment

"Sec. 1. The Government of the United

States shall not engage in any business, professional, commercial, financial or industrial enterprise except as specified in the Constitution.

"Sec. 2. The constitution or laws of any state, or the laws of the United States shall not be subject to the terms of any foreign or domestic agreement which would abrogate this amendment.

"Sec. 3. The activities of the United States Government which violate the intent and purposes of this amendment shall, within a period of three years from the date of the ratification of this amendment, be liquidated and the properties and facilities affected shall be sold.

"Sec. 4. Three years after the ratification of this amendment, the sixteenth article of amendments to the Constitution of the United States shall stand repealed and thereafter Congress shall not levy taxes on personal incomes, estates and-or gifts."

"He is misinformed"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

In reference to the letter from Salvador J. Rametta in your Nov. 15 issue, he is misinformed regarding taxes.

I own a 2 bedroom, \$30,000 home, very close to Leisure Village and the taxes are \$1,500.00, plus sewer charges.

We do not have street lights, private security, golf courses, or a pool. As far as maintenance, we pay for garbage collection, and mow our own lawns.
Almost a Senior Citizen in Ridge

"It has come to our attention"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

It has come to our attention that the Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk, Inc. has submitted a proposal to the County Legislature for funding. We are dismayed to learn that funding may be denied, or severely limited. This agency supplies counseling to victims of sexual and spouse abuse, shelter for battered spouses and their children, advocacy services for victims, and speakers to further the public's awareness of the problem and available solutions. Their proposal includes an office for the East End with similar services. As you know, lack of

public transportation in such a large county has posed problems for those traveling from end of the county to the other to such agencies. There are few services on the East End available to the hundreds of victims of spouse and sexual abuse. This committee feels that the fine job done by Victims Information Bureau in the past should be continued, and further, that the additional funding required to set up an East End office should be approved as well.

Sincerely,
The Crimes Against Women Committee

"Thank you for your support"

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the more than 175 members of the Riverhead Fire Department we would like to thank the Suffolk Life for their tremendous support and assistance during the 1978 Fund Drive. The Suffolk Life has always supported the Volunteer Fire Service and is to be commended for their effort.

There may be some people who were on vacation when the Firemen went door-to-door or may have recently moved into the area. Although the door-to-door campaign has

ended, the 1978 Fund Drive is still under way. Donations may be mailed to the Riverhead Fire Department, 24 East Second Street, Riverhead, NY, 11901. Donations may also be brought to the Fire Headquarters.

The members of the Riverhead Fire Department would like to thank the area residents and businessmen for their continued support each year during the Annual Fund Drive.

Very truly yours,
The 1978 Fund Drive Committee

SUFFOLK LIFE

VOL. 18 NO. 84

NEWSPAPERS

and Suffolk County Life

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 924-4466; Classified Ads 369-1700
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays

Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice Weekly

East Hampton
Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor
Southampton, Hampton Bays
Southold, Greenport
Mattituck
Riverhead

Rocky Point
Port Jefferson
Shoreham, Wading River
Westhampton
Moriches
Mastic, Shirley

Three Village
Hauppauge
Ronkonkoma
L.I. Airport
Sayville
Oakdale

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.

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

John McKay - General Manager
Maxine Holmes - Production Director

Norman Hirsch - Director of Sales
William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.
Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.

Bill Johnson - Circulation Director
Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County; \$5.00 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.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason.
ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

Why pay for your subscription?

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Today is subscription renewal day. The day we ask you to voluntarily pay for Suffolk Life.

There are two ways we can handle subscriptions.

We could stop sending you Suffolk Life unless you pay for it in advance.

That system is used by other newspapers and is the reason most weeklies have to charge at least \$10 per year for the paper. They use from 60 to 80 per cent of this money just to run their sales and circulation departments. The money never finds its way back into the reason you read the publication - the news.

We have opted for a different system.

During the last week of the year, all Suffolk Life subscriptions are due for renewal. By not using individual bills, sending carriers to bang on your doors, or maintaining the elaborate bookkeeping procedures, we can afford to send you Suffolk Life, twice a week, for less than a nickel per edition.

Your voluntary subscriptions fund the news portion of Suffolk Life. The more subscriptions you renew, the better and more involved we can be in keeping an eye on government.

With more money in our news department, we can put more reporters, investigators and photographers at your disposal. Many of the investigations we have done and the stories we have published have resulted in saving what amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxes you would otherwise have had to pay.

We have some rather ambitious plans for our news department for the coming year. You will determine whether or not we can carry them out.

One of the projects we particularly

hope to be involved with will take between three and four hundred man-hours of research and investigation. If what we suspect is true, the results could drastically change the cost of one of the major items on your tax bill.

Like everything else, nothing is free in this world. If you have appreciated what Suffolk Life has done for you in the past, send us your renewal form and check today. We need you to continue the work we have started on your behalf. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"You are a taker"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

This letter is in response to the senior citizens budget gripes.

Dear parent,

Your first hysterical mistake was lumping senior citizens into one group.

Your second, not all senior citizens get the free benefits you claim in tax deductions, etc.

Your third, your generation has been widely indoctrinated on free handouts. I wonder what you will be like as a senior citizen.

Fourth, under social security, you and your children are insured until they finish school (college included) if anything happens to your husband.

If you put the same effort that you put in hating senior citizens, in helping to keep budgets down, taxes would be lower and politicians, both in school and government

would not be called upon to appease special groups in return for their votes. Eliminate the free frills.

Consider yourself lucky that you don't have to contribute to your parents support. Our generation brought up children on self sacrifice and we supported our parents. Today, the government pays for medicare, nursing homes, etc. You are in no way legally responsible.

If you are worried about quality education, check the reading levels in your school. I did and sent my children to parochial school.

Last but not least, if your parents are able to save \$500 a month, look at what you will inherit. The world is divided into givers and takers; you are a taker.

Yours truly,
Name withheld.

"One may cite others"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

In your Riverhead edition for Wednesday, October 18th, with reference to your "Willmotts and Why-nots" as editor you have a piece entitled: "Indexing our tax system."

Herewith I would like to compliment you on this little piece, and I would like to extend encouragement to you to write more extensively on the subject.

I have been reading (reading, as they say at Oxford) for more than fifty years in

History and in Philosophy, - at least in six languages. I am also into pure Science, and untainted by any commercial motive.

Years ago, in Amsterdam, there was a man who ground lenses for a living. His name is Spinoza. One may cite others.

Yours truly,
Douglas Morse Howell
Educational Center-Fine Arts
Riverhead

"They most certainly are"

Gentlemen:

Concerning the controversy as to whether or not the Suffolk Police are indeed worthy of their salaries. It is my own opinion that they most certainly are!

My own husband died very suddenly one Tuesday evening after returning from work; needless to say, I was exceedingly upset and terribly overcome with grief. The Miller Place Ambulance did a most magnificent job and tried to assure me that everything would be all right. Of course, he really had died and their concern was very impressive.

I particularly want to commend Officer Hank Herfling who stayed with me and my

family and gave his help in every way possible. He is a wonderful example of the Suffolk County Police Department officers. Officer Herfling waited around to make sure that everything was settled concerning the burial arrangements, etc. of my husband.

It is wonderful to know that we have such outstanding officers in Suffolk County who take their jobs seriously. I feel I am a truly lucky citizen of Suffolk County to have known such a kind and thoughtful officer.

Sincerely,
Mrs. M. Showalter

"Our sincerest thanks"

Dear Editor:

The Dominican Sisters of the Sick, Poor and the committee for the benefit dinner wish to thank all who helped to make the affair a huge success. We are grateful to those who attended and enjoyed the delicious dinner, to all who gave donations, and especially to John Duck for being the host.

The winners of the 50-50 drawing were: Dennis Case; Frank Thiry; and Frank Sullivan (all three from Hampton Bays);

Katherine Merrey - Southampton; and William Roddy - Remsenburg.

Once again, our sincere thanks to you for the wonderful success we enjoyed because of the publicity you gave to this event.

Sincerely yours,
Marion S. Driscoll
Chairlady
Dominican Sisters of the Sick Poor
Hampton Bays

"This is a necessary death"

Dear Sir,

The Hamptons have, in recent years, been flooded with people building new homes, instead of buying the many, lovely older homes. This terrible mistake will eventually destroy our wildlife.

Instead, lands should be made public lands. The county should buy land from realtors to preserve the wildlife population.

This will probably mean the death of the house building industry here. But I say this is a necessary death. Action must be taken to keep even half acre lots from being developed. This could save alot of wildlife, even if it means the end of the building industry in Suffolk County.

If not, the County might save some money it wouldn't have to pay for deer crossing signs.

Sincerely,
A Hampton Bays resident

Feedback

Dear Mr. Hard:

In reference to your letter in Sunday, November 5th Suffolk Life; the MTA issues a half fare handicapped pass. This is good for the Long Island Railroad, buses and subways in NYC and other lines run by the MTA.

For your application, write to Community Relations, LIRR, Jamaica Station, N.Y. 11435.

There is also one available for senior citizens.

In addition, Suffolk County may be issuing a handicapped pass on their buses. Contact Suffolk County Handicap Advisory Board, Executive Legislative Bldg., Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, N.Y.

Sincerely,
Linda Campion
Lake Ronkonkoma

SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

and Suffolk County Life

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 924-4466; Classified Ads 369-1700

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

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays

Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice 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.

John McKay - General Manager
Maxine Holmes - Production Director

Norman Hirsch - Director of Sales
William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.
Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.

Bill Johnson - Circulation Director
Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County: \$5.00 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.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason. ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

"How about an editorial"

Dear Editor:

How about an editorial emphasizing the inherent problems in Ted Kennedy's Socialized Medicine proposal - more government controls, higher taxation which is sure to be out of proportion to cost of program, higher cost than now, but camouflaged.

Sincerely,
Laura D. Klenk
Sag Harbor

Conservationist or Obstructionist?

"Protect the Environment" has been the heralding call of the '70's. By now, all of us are aware of the ways man has abused our natural resources. We have seen lakes and seas polluted, air contaminated and fresh water supplies endangered. Because of these abuses, we have accepted the government's imposition of a host of new regulations on our lifestyles. Some of them are worthwhile, others are utterly ridiculous.

Under the recently enacted State Environmental Quality Review Act, a part of New York State's Conservation Law, an environmental impact statement must be filed for any property improvement project involving expenditures of \$600 or more. Following a narrow interpretation of the law, you, as a homeowner or a businessman, must go through the red tape of filing an impact statement every time you want to paint your house or make other simple improvements costing more than \$600.

Originally, the law was only supposed to affect municipalities. It was created to make government adhere to sound conservation and environmental practices. Although no one is quite sure how it happened, the law has been extended to cover any project; public or private. Ironically, the first branch of government to claim immunity from the new law was the Environmental Protection Agency. This example of stupidity in useless bureaucracy is the type of thing that leads people to believe environmentalists are really ob-

structionists in disguise.

Many environmentalists, located here on Eastern Long Island, want absolutely no new development. They stop or encumber proposed plans by claiming the growth will damage the environment.

The East End's environment is frail, so is its economy. Those of us who live here year-round do so because of the quality of life. We balance our desire to maintain this quality of life with our need to earn a living so we may feed, clothe and educate ourselves and our children. We have watched with increasing alarm as a handful of people, claiming to be environmentalists, stop many worthwhile projects that could have enhanced the economy without harming the quality of life.

Businessmen are practical people. They are not going to go through lengthy litigation to win what is legally theirs if they can establish facilities in other areas where they will not meet costly and needless objections.

In 1979, it would pay for all of us to carefully watch the applications which are for the development of the East End. Projects harmful to the environment should be protested. Those that are compatible with the environment and can help heal our sick economy should be supported with the same vigor generated by the obstructionists disguised as environmentalists.

We have to live on the East End in harmony. As with anything else in nature, there must be a balance. And why not?

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Happy New Year

As 1978 draws to a close, it leaves us with feelings of regret and relief. It has been a hard year, but, in many ways, a very rewarding one. We are sure most people have similar thoughts and feelings. All of us here at Suffolk Life hope our readers enjoy a healthy and prosperous New Year.

We, as a newspaper, reaffirm our promise to do all we can to help you

enjoy a better quality of life in the coming year. We will once again be at the forefront of issues, investigating and reporting the facts, presenting opinions in our editorial column and printing your letters to the editor.

We thank you for the wonderful support you have given us during the past year. Have a happy. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"A matter of life and breath"

Dear Editor:

Forty-seven million Americans suffer from one or more chronic respiratory diseases.

Acute respiratory diseases account for more than half of all school absenteeism.

Every year 300,000 people die in this country from cigarette caused diseases.

Six million people suffer from asthma.

These figures represent a major set of problems in our increasingly health-conscious society. That's why the American Lung Association of Nassau-Suffolk's annual Christmas Seal campaign is so important.

The Association sponsors programs to help smokers kick the habit, and encourages young non-smokers not to start. They offer professional education programs to physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists to assure the best possible care for lung disease patients. Patient education and services are

provided so that individuals suffering from emphysema, chronic bronchitis and asthma and their families, can learn to understand their disease and to live as comfortably as possible with it. And the Association continues its interest in tuberculosis, working with both county Health Departments to assure high level programs of treatment and prevention of this disease.

At this holiday time, I hope you'll join me in giving more to Christmas Seals. The American Lung Association of Nassau-Suffolk cares about every breath you take. It's a matter of Life and Breath.

Sincerely,
Bala H. Pillai, MD
Board Member
American Lung Association of Nassau-Suffolk

"Has helped enormously"

Editor:

In this season of giving thanks, the East End Arts Council wishes to express its deep gratitude to the Suffolk Life.

Your fine coverage of our events has helped enormously in getting our message out to East Enders.

Your careful attention to our events is not only a service to the Council, but to all East Enders to whom the arts are so important.

Gratefully,
Ruth G. Sztzman
Chairman Public Relations for the Council.

Did you renew?

Last Wednesday, on the front page of Suffolk Life, we printed your subscription bill for 1979. We hope by now you have clipped the bill, filled it out, and mailed it back to Suffolk Life to renew your subscription for the coming year. All subscriptions are due for renewal on December 31st.

Because we want to put subscription revenues into our news product rather than waste it on billing costs, we do not send out individual bills for subscription renewals. We depend on our readers to voluntarily clip the bills and send them back with

checks for \$5.00. Admittedly, this is an unorthodox billing process, but it has worked amazingly well in the past.

We work hard, here at Suffolk Life, to bring you an interesting, informative and meaningful newspaper. If by chance you did not clip Wednesday's paper, we are printing a copy of the bill below. We would appreciate it if you would take the time to fill it out and send it off with your check. If you have not already sent it off, please do so today. Thank you. And why not?

SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

VOL. 18 No. 86

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 288-3900, 924-6644; Classified Ads 369-1700
Mailing address: Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977 or Box 167, Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Suffolk Life is published twice a week in 24 market zone editions on Wednesday and Sunday
Suffolk County Life is published Wednesdays



Total circulation audited and verified in excess of
196,000 Circulation Twice Weekly

East Hampton
Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor
Southampton, Hampton Bays
Southold, Greenport
Mattituck
Riverhead

Rocky Point
Port Jefferson
Shoreham, Wading River
Westhampton
Moriches
Mastic, Shirley

Three Village
Hauppauge
Ronkonkoma
L.I. Airport
Sayville
Oakdale

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.

David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

John McKay - General Manager
Maxine Holmes - Production Director

William Gallagher Jr. - Retail Adv. Mgr.
Richard Milman - Classified Adv. Mgr.
Bill Johnson - Circulation Director

Roy Kahn - News Editor
Lorraine Peczkowski - Office Mgr.

Subscription Rate: In Suffolk County; \$5.00 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.

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 submittal and cannot be returned for any reason.
ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

79 Suffolk Life Subscription Bill

Amount due \$5.00 for full year

Name _____

Street _____

Address _____

Please renew my subscription to Suffolk Life for 1979
- Enclosed is my \$5.00

Send to SUFFOLK LIFE NEWSPAPERS
Box 262 Westhampton N.Y.