You're Dead

Will you be one of the 1,601 people who the county estimates will be "dead" in their evacuation plan for the Shoreham Nuclear Power Pinat in case of a major accident?

Are you one of the 20,000 people who will be left abandoned on the East End to be affected by radiation poisoning and exposed to the horrors that have been proven this poisoning cap flict on humans because there is no by for you to get off this great sandbar called Long Island?

Are you one of the families within 20 miles of Shoreham who will be asked to wait until the people within the 10 mile zone have evacuated before you can leave?

Are you one of the cops, the bus drivers, the firemen who will be expected to do your job by staying within the zone and letting your

family get out by themselves?

The county's evacuation plan, for all intents and purposes, tells us there will be no safe, sane evacuation possible. When the day comes that there is an accident, my good friends, my neighbors, my children, you're dead!

There is no escape that will work here on Eastern Long Long Island within the shadow of Shoreham.

God bless America, its politicians and LILCO, which has managed to bring some of our politicians under their control, for they are the ones who have put our area under the threat of extinction. And may God have mercy on the rest of us, for if there is ever an accident at Shoreham, we will most certainly need it.

And why not?

Photo I.D.'s Now!

Last Saturday, at 12:01 a.m. December 5th, it became illegal for 18 year olds to purchase alcohol in New York State. The legal drinking age was raised to 19. It is hoped that this increase in the drinking age will reduce fatal auto accidents by 5 per cent, saving thousands of people, their bodies, their lives.

We have been a supporter of raising the drinking age for the past five years. As a bar owner who caters to the under 25 crowd once told us: "It will be illegal for almost everyone who is in high school to drink. As it now stands, most of the senior class is legal and because of the tie to their underclassmen, they also try to sneak In and be served with the seniors."

As feverish supporters of raising the drinking age, we also were equally supportive of the state issuing photo I.D.'s as part of a driver's license. As it now stands, false proof is easily obtained by kids. The proof comes in all forms. It all looks official but, in reality, it's not worth the paper it is printed on. It can be an older brother's or sister's driver's license, altered or manufactured student I.D. cards or, in some cases, a mail order I.D. certificate, which are openly peddled to underage kids by unscrupulous entrepreneurs with printing presses and laminating machines. The only positive I.D. is a driver's license with a laminated photo, one that carries criminal penalties for tampering or misusing.

The New York State Legislature passed and the Governor signed an act on July 5, 1979, that was to take effect immediately, mandating the inclusion of photos on driver's licenses. This bill has been passed by the Legislature over a half dozen times, but had been vetoed by a succession of Governors. Carey, in signing the bill in 1979, stated: "This bill, which is part of my 1979 Legislative Program, will provide the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles with authority to implement a comprehensive photo identification program in connection with the issuance of driver's licenses and learner's permits." He added: "Many states have implemented photo license programs and find that they are working well. Driver's licenses have become a primary identification method in commercial dealings, and a photo system will have a substantial impact in lessening losses by the business community fraudulent identification." due

Carey added: "The additional administrative costs generated by the program will not be significant, thus ensuring that New York will continue to be among those states with the lowest license fees."

Without this act being implemented, raising the drinking age to 19 is an act of futility. Kids who use forged or false proof at 16 or 17 will continue to do so at 18.

They do not fear being caught because the law ignores them and goes after the owners of the establishment. The owners, in most cases, make a meaningful effort to try to control those under legal drinking age from patronizing their establishment. When presented with proof that on the surface appears to be legitimate, they legally have little recourse other than to let the youth into their establishment. When there is a raid, those who have falsifled their age quickly dispose of the false proof and the owner of the establishment is charged with a crime

We cannot understand why the Governor, after signing this bill, has falled to carry out the mandates of photo I.D.. Why has the Com-missioner of Motor Vehicles refused to act on the will of the Legislature? He was specifically instructed to do so by the passage of this legislation!

Before Carey leaves office he should correct this problem, even if it means replacing the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles this late in his tenure with somebody who will follow the will and the instructions of the Legislature.

And why not?

Use For Better Service

Soon the temperatures will drop and the balmy summer weather we have been enjoying in December will be gone. Our thoughts will turn towards a vacation in the sunny south. Florida, here we come!

How we get there can affect us for years to come. Since last March, Northeast Airlines has been flying out of Islip-MacArthur Airport to various points in Florida. Northeast not only flies out of Islip-MacArthur, Long Island's home town airport, which offers free parking and convenience to the entire area, but the airline has priced its fares very competitively. A one way ticket was only \$94. Just recently, it was raised to \$104, which still is a bargain, considering that bigger airlines charge upwards of \$250 for a round trip.

The beauty of Northeast is that it does fly out of Islip-MacArthur. Prior to their starting this route, Long Islanders had to take a limo to JFK or LaGuardia, or drive in themselves. Parking at one of these airports is a hassle, with long-term parking a

couple of miles from the terminals. And it is expensive! Most limos leave from a central location, which means someone has to take you there and pick you up.

Islip-MacArthur is a super airport, it features an excellent, uncongested terminal building where boarding is a pleasure, rather than a pain. Secured, free parking is available, close to the terminal building.

Northeast's decision to fly out of Islip-MacArthur is a boom to Long Island and worthy of support. If you are thinking about flying to Florida, think about Northeast. If this airline is highly successful, others will be encouraged to explore the great Long Island market and we will have increased service out of this air facility. These airlines will recognize the need is there and their profits will follow.

Thanks, Northeast, for having faith in Long Island. We will do our best to justify it and hope that other airlines will be as forward thinking as you have been.

And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"I ended up on welfare"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

For years I have read your letters and opinions on welfare. Well, it's about time you heard mine.

My husband left me when I was three months pregnant and with another three-year-old at home. I found a job, but when they found out I was pregnant, they fired me. In 1975, there was no law about discriminating against a pregnant woman. I ended up on welfare.

My ex-husband has not sent a dime in seven I have given the child support enforcement bureau his name, address, etc. and even filed support papers. Do you know what they tell me? They say the case is still pending since 1976. Still pending what?

I have a job. My hours are only 25 per week. My car runs when it feels like it. I take home out \$105 per week. Social Services gives me \$19.30 per month and \$139 in food stamps. It costs me \$90 a week for expenses—house, gas, utilities. My children eat cereal and eggs for dinner a lot of nights. Whey they are off from school they stay alone. I cannot find a babysitter. No one is good or kind enough to watch them for nothing. They are 10 and 7 years old. If anything happens when I'm not there it will be my fault. I suppose this means nothing to any of the jerks who run the system. They are eating and their children are being taken care of.

Christmas is out of the question for my two boys. Even a \$3 haircut or a pair of shoes is off limits. I can't cut back any more than I have been doing.

I want to know, when are they going to force my children's father to support them? A lousy \$20 a week would help.

So you see, Mr. Willmott, I have not found "greener pastures" through Social Services. Besides, how come no one ever asks what happens to the children in these cir-cumstances? The only reason I haven't committed suicide is because my children would have no one to care for them or raise them. I keep going just because I love them and they need me so much.

Please let me know where the good welfare life is. I'd like to give it a try.

I also defy you to print this letter. Please withhold my name. The people I work with have no idea of what my life is like.

Where Was the Kids' Father?

FFOLK

CAC

VOL. 22 NO. 17

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"Willmotts and Why-Nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

But Can We Afford It?

Years ago, I was explaining rather enthusiastically a deal I was involved in. I offered all kinds of financial facts and figures to justify my involvement and when I had finished making my presentation, my four-year-old son, who happened to overhear the conversation, called me up short by aslang, "But Dad, will you make any

This somber question by a fouryear-old should be asked of the Koppelman-Cromarty centralized court proposal, Cromarty and Koppelman, the politician and the planner, brought us the South West Sewer District. They used all kinds of facts and figures, some distortions, some outright lies such as the full page ads featuring toilets, asking whether "you will be drinking from here" next, to shove through this enormous pork barrel project which has been riddled with scandal and corruption, and has caused the property owners within the South West Sewer District to face bankrupting taxes.

Because of the huge cost over-runs, the waste, the corruption and the financial problems that surround the district, the full faith and credit of the entire County of Suffolk has tenuously been pledged in support of the bonds needed to build the project. Even today, this project still is not fully finished. The current County Executive has gambled his career on completing this financing by making the project into a specialized leaseback tax shelter, which needed the approval of the state comptroller, special legislation by the State and federal government, and is now awaiting I.R.S. approval. If this financing does not come through, up to one-third of Suffolk County's sales taxes may be needed to bail out the district.

The South West Sewer District originally was started in concept as a small, local-use public works project. By the time the planners and the politicians got through with it, the project stretched across four of the most populated towns in the county. After it was defeated at the polls, they retrenched and devised a "smaller project that was estimated to run 250 million dollars but ultimately exceeded one billion dollars and may

still go substantially higher. This disgrace to all who were involved and fraud on the people of Suffolk County just started in operation, and Koppelman the planner Cromarty the politician have the gall to come back with another public works project on a scale as grandiose as the original.

What started out to be a limited, centralized court complex with a total price tag of under \$30 million now is projected, when financing is included, to be over \$300 million! And the plans haven't even been drawn.

original controversy surrounding this project was the insistance by Cromarty and the Suffolk County Bar Association that tradition be disregarded and this complex be built in Hauppauge, just a few miles from the Nassau County

Riverhead is the County Seat, chosen as the County Seat because, geographically, it is mid-way between the East End of the Island and the Nassau-Suffolk border. County government should be convenient to all residents. No one should have to travel further than the farthest

Riverhead already has the county structure. The County Clerk's office, which maintains the records, is there. The County Treasurer's office is in Riverhead. The County Court buildings are in Riverhead, as well as the official District Attorney's office and a relatively new criminal court building, as well as the old court facilities. Most important, the County Jail is in Riverhead which would place those being held for trial close to the facilities, saving the taxpayers a huge amount of money for the transporting of prisoners.

The Town of Riverhead doesn't like the jail in their backyard any more than any other community. They are willing to trade off this disadvantage for the advantage of having the courts and the support officers which provide jobs for not only Riverhead residents, but those within the commuting distances from Brookhaven and the other East End

The legislature recently passed a law directing that if a court complex is to be built, it is to be built in the Town of Riverhead. Koppelman, we understand, was furious, arguing long and hard with the County Executive to veto this resolution. Publically, Koppelman says that he is in favor only of a centralized court complex. He doesn't care if it is in the East or the West.

A meeting has been called by Koppelman and the Legislature to be held in his office on December 14. It is our understanding at this meeting Koppelman is going to propose the project be built in Riverhead, if the Town Board and the East End representatives will throw their full support to this project. In doing so, the East End leaders would have to accept the fact that Peconic County would never become a reality because the indebtedness that would be incurred by this project would be so overwhelming that the East End could never singularly afford to carry this indebtedness by itself.

We do not know how the East End leaders will react to the Koppelman proposal, but we ask that they and the rest of the Suffolk County Legislature consider this simple premise: Is it

needed? If it is needed, could we get away with a much simpler, economically smaller project? Most important, can the people of Suffolk County afford it?

We suggest that the County Legislature and the County Executive consider the fact that just last week, the money market turned Suffolk County down cold on their moral obligation bonds to bridge finance the South West Sewer District. Government and politics may well be a never, never land of make believe. Money markets are not! They face the cold reality of whether the borrowers are in over their heads. We suspect what the money markets are saying to Suffolk County is that we

We suggest that Cromarty the politician and Koppelman the planner, spend their time, energy and creativity figuring out how to best get Suffolk County out of the financial dilemma we are in because of their original creation, instead of planning for a new crisis in the future.

And why not?

Point of View

Is Your Life Worth Fighting For?

By LOU GRASSO

The Shoreham fiasco took another turn last week when the state's Disaster Preparedness Commission appeared ready to approve - stopped only by court order - an emergency evacuation plan the county which developed the document - considered unrealistic. LILCO, concerned because the county was not moving ahead with an improved plan as fast as the utility wanted, submitted the county's rejected plan as

their own.
LILCO officials argue they have a "legal right" to participate in emergency planning in the event of an accident at their nuclear plant. But, interestingly, it is the county that has the financial obligation to provide the manpower and logistics for an actual evacuation.

William Hennessey, chairman of the state's Disaster Preparedness Commission, has reportedly told County Executive Peter Cohalan he would cease consideration of the "LILCO plan" only if he were asked to do so by LILCO officials. Which led Cohalan to ask: "Who is running the commission, LILCO or the government?" When all the facts are known, the answer is painfully

The man who had been dispatched by LILCO to argue their points before the Preparedness Commission at the cancelled meeting is Michael Patterson, a highlyplaced LILCO public relations official. Before he took on that position he was a highly-placed, key aide to Governor Hugh Carey. Hennessey is also the head of the state's Department of Transportation. The

mishap would be non-partisan in nature. Radiation would kill Democrats, Republicans, and those from other political beliefs. This would not be a political issue, but one of human concern.

But it has become a political issue because of the way LILCO operates. A former Suffolk County Legislator joined the LILCO payroll when she was voted out of office. A key aide in former Presiding Officer William Richard's office also joined that payroll when Richard left that post to become deputy labor commissioner. And as has been already stated, Patterson joined the LILCO payroll when he left Carey's

Why would all of these people suddenly be recruited by LILCO if not for the political influence they may have, and the "insider's" knowledge of how the political game is played? LILCO is bound and determined to get the Shoreham nuclear plant on line, and they will use every tool at their disposal - inside political influence included - to get what they want.

It's interesting, then, that Hennessey is soon to head the state's Democratic Party organization. In that role he will represent Democrats throughout the state - and that includes Suffolk County which faces the phase in of a nuclear plant that has been the subject of much controversy, including an outside inspection of only one per cent of that plant's construction and safety-related equipment. And the firm that did that inspection was not, as the county has insisted, an outside independent firm, but, rather, one that was hired by LILCO. It is interesting to note that 19 problems, which will cost about \$1 million to correct, were found in that one per cent inspection. The question is: how many more lurk in the uninspected 99 per cent of the plant?

But, LILCO and its supporters will argue that plant has been subjected to inspection time and again by construction firm inspectors, LILCO inspectors, and inspectors from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Another inspection, now when the plant is almost done, would only be duplicating what has already been done

ANOTHER VIEW

Let's explore that argument: The NRC recently took action against construction of a nuclear plant in Ohio by issuing an "order show cause and order mediately suspending construction" of the William H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Station being constructed in Ohio. That plant is 98 per cent completed.

The NRC, in a report of that matter, notes: "In early 1981, the NRC conducted an

three have a lot in common

Why the rush to approve the LILCO plan just one week after the county has released its own, more detailed, evacuation plan? Well, Carey is on his way out. And so is Hennessey, who is slated to step down soon to become the chairman of the State Democratic Party. Rather than leave the doing to others, Carey and Hennessey - with Patterson's blessing, of course - are very apparently doing what they want to do while they still have the power to do it. No sense taking chances that someone else may not be so favorable to LILCO's point of view.

The devastating effects of a nuclear

SUFFOLK LIFE

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Cont. on page 6 Y

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birthday by doing, at least one act of

charity and kindness to help our

fellow man realize the true meaning

all our readers, our advertisers, and

our associates, the joy of Christmas

and a healthy, happy New Year.

The staff here at Suffolk Life wish

of Christmas.

And why not?

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Willmotts and Why-Nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Merry Christmas

The Christmas trees are gaily decorated. The packages and gifts beneath them show thought and consideration, and the abundance of wealth here in America. Wherever you are, wherever you go, the knowledge that Christmas is near is in

When all this tinsel and hype is removed, we should remember what we are celebrating. It's the commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of our Lord.

He was given to us by God to pave the way, for those who believe, into Heaven upon our demise. God gave us His Son in the simplest form, a common link to all mankind, birth by a woman.

This setting was free from the glitter and tinsel of that era, a barn in the back of an inn with only that which was natural as the surroundings. Jesus was given to us by God, who knew full well that His Son would be treated as a mortal and eventually cruelly killed by those He had come to save. His life, His presence, His meaning and His bearing can provide the answers and the direction for mankind to follow for ever more.

Without electronics, the media or computers, His Words were recorded, His actions and His deeds noted. The example He gave, the message He communicated has survived the illiteracy of early men as well as the technology of modern times.

His message was pure and simple, love, respect and honor each other. This Saturday, Christmas Day, may we all enjoy the peace and serenity He has provided for us. May we remember Him and celebrate His

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

So that our staff may enjoy an extended holiday, which they richly deserve, Suffolk Life will not be published on December 29. Our next issue will reach you in the mail on January 5. Suffolk Life extends to our large family of readers and advertisers a very happy and safe holiday season. We'll see you next year with a renewed dedication and many planned improvements to serve you better.

Suffolk Life receives so many letters each week that there is usually a delay between the time they are written and when they appear in print. So it was with a letter recently written by a woman who is struggling

to keep her family together and provide for them - the necessities of life - without the help of her husband who offers no support for the two

children he left behind.

She is struggling. She works as many hours as she can, but, reluctantly, must still depend upon social services for some help. This woman is not a professional welfare recipient, as are some. She would like nothing better than to be able to make it on her own, but the system keeps putting obstacles in her way. Her case against her husband, who deserted her when she was three months pregnant, with another youngster at home, for child support is pending since 1976. The money she receives from welfare, and the salary she makes from working 25 hours a week, is just enough to survive, with nothing left for extras.

"Christmas is out of the question for my two boys. Even a \$3 haircut or a pair of shoes is off limits. I can't cut back any more than I have been doing," she wrote.

There will be a Christmas for this woman and her two boys, thanks to a spontaneous outpouring of concern offered by many Suffolk Life readers. There will be food for the holiday, and presents under the tree, and a bit of money for future needs. Those who have shown such concern are doing so anonymously. They don't seek, in fact do not want, any credit. Their message is quite simple: "You're not alone. We care. Have a very Merry Christmas."

A Very Special Thanks

Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men. What a beautiful thought not only for the Christmas season, but throughout the year. The concern shown by those readers who have responded so spontaneously to this woman's plight is the kind of beautiful spirit that can make it happen.

Thank you, beautiful people, for the happiness you have brought into the lives of others at this very special time of year. As you celebrate Christmas this year, share in the wonderous joy you have given a grateful mother, and two very happy youngsters. Not only with the material gifts you have made possible. But in the knowledge that you care, and they are not alone.

And why not?

