

## Town should inspect welfare properties

There is a bill again before the county legislature, which will grant towns the right to inspect and approve rental properties before welfare is allowed to move into them.

This bill came up before the 1977 session of the legislature and was passed. It was vetoed by his excellency King John, much to the chagrin of the local governments.

Another attempt will be made to pass this measure, and hopefully, the King will come to his senses and not stand in the way of its implementation.

There is not a town in Suffolk County that does not harbor welfare recipients housed in incredibly bad facilities. The Welfare Department has neither the time, the manpower nor the ability to inspect all properties before welfare recipients are allowed to move into them.

Often welfare recipients find housing on their own and only have to get financial approval to be able to move in. In too many cases, houses do not meet the housing and zoning codes and are a threat to the lives of

those who will be occupying them.

Local building and zoning inspectors have knowledge of most buildings within the communities. They know what buildings can safely accommodate welfare and are in a position to stop substandard buildings from becoming slums, which often happens after they are occupied by welfare recipients. Many welfare landlords are not responsive to the complaints from welfare recipients about the deteriorating conditions of the properties. When the welfare clients see the owner does not care, they adopt the same attitude and the buildings fall into disarray.

Granting to local building and zoning inspectors the right to inspect these buildings for compliance with building and zoning laws will eliminate the probability of welfare housing becoming slums.

This measure should receive the support of every legislature. The King, himself, should put aside his petty reasons for attempting to block this measure and support it. And why not?

## Save Harmless must go

Save Harmless is a provision in the state education law guaranteeing a school district will not receive any less in aid than they received the year before.

On the surface, a law of this nature makes sense. It allows school boards to plan, with some degree of certainty, on a specific amount of money coming from the state each year.

Districts with decreasing enrollment, however, benefit unfairly from this provision. They continue year after year to receive the same amount of money in state aid as they received the year before, even though they have fewer students to educate.

Districts, where enrollments are growing by leaps and bounds, cannot receive the aid needed to keep up with this growth because the money has already been allocated to those older districts.

This condition leads to a difference

in the quality of education. The older districts with declining registration can afford many of the luxuries above and beyond basic education for the student, while the new districts must suffer from lack of space and even limited textbooks.

Older districts have wiser lobbying groups and many of these districts have senior legislators living within them. These lobbying groups have been able to thwart the attempts to make state aid more equitable by keeping the Save Harmless provision in effect.

This year, a major effort will be made by legislators from both parties, representing rapid growth districts to do away with it. Save Harmless must go.

Those fighting for a fairer method of distribution of state aid will need your support. And why not?

## Hometown preferences

A bill has been introduced into the Assembly if passed will allow local towns and villages to show preference to local people in hiring from civil service lists.

Currently, if a job is to be filled, the towns must hire the candidates starting at the top of the list, regardless of where they live in Suffolk County.

People who live in a town, are more aware of its problems and of the quality of life desired by the residents. They are better able to

serve.

It really doesn't make sense for a town like Southold to fill a position with a candidate from Babylon or Huntington over a local resident who lives and is part of that community.

County-wide civil service lists may make sense in smaller counties, but in Suffolk which is more than 80 miles from one end to the other, it doesn't.

Let's hope this bill receives favorable treatment. A letter to your Assemblyman or State Senator will help. And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

### 'I feel that this constitutes an invasion of privacy'

Dear Editor:

I am opposed to the present airport located at the intersection of Route 105 and Northville Turnpike. This is more locally known as the Riverhead Air Park or Joseph Brush's Air Field. I am a life-time resident of this area and have been and still am friendly with Joe Brush. I, personally, have witnessed and been involved in many near-misses of landings of airplanes on this airstrip.

I don't believe in taking cheap shots, as some people have been attempting to do, but the fact is that these air landings are dangerous to the people who reside within the vicinity of this landing field. In addition, it is very distracting when a plane is either taking off or landing as one is driving their vehicle along the highway.

Incidentally, the airstrip is not of the required length and has operated for many years without a permit. Apparently, the Town Fathers have either overlooked it or have not felt that it was warranted. I am certain if I were to operate my business on the same premise, a stop would have been put to it long ago.

The residents of this area, including myself and my family, are in favor of Joe Brush housing his own airplanes on his premises and we feel that this is his right. We also

believe he should be able to take off and land his personal airplane as anyone else would do on their own land. However, operating in the nature that his airfield does, in view of current laws and without a permit, I feel that this constitutes an invasion of privacy.

Not many alternative solutions have arisen in regard to this airstrip but I would like to offer a few. It would be possible to locate the airstrip to the west and south, thereby taking it over open land, giving it a longer runway and take-off area which benefits the aircraft itself, not to mention the fact that the landings and take-offs would be in a much less populated area. Also, let us not forget that the Westhampton Airstrip is approximately 8 miles away as is the older, private airfield in Mattituck. Both of these have been in operation for years and are viable businesses.

Finally, I hope and pray that the Town Fathers will take into consideration all the pluses and minuses before rendering a decision, understanding and keeping in mind that those who live in and around the area will have to cope with the problems and possible hazards which constantly exist. (L-4J)

Sincerely,  
Adam Gatz  
Riverhead

### 'The mating call is made by waving a bankbook'

Dear Dave:

Thanks for the good editorial in support of Joe Brush's airport (15 Jan.). It was very timely and much needed, especially since Hartman and "Friends" got a good chance to again twist the situation out of proportion via the pages of the Traveler Watchdog and the Noise Review two days before your writeup appeared.

One thing we might bear in mind: You will probably find that most of the Yankees are people who work hard, mind their own business and are content to live and let live. The most vociferous hell-raisers against the airport here are actually outsiders who have been here a relatively short time. They are typical of those birds who make their wad someplace else, move into town one day, and who want to start running things the next.

In general, the more common of the species is identified by its tweed-jacketed plumage and is known to feed on antiques and real estate. The mating call is made by waving a

bankbook in one hand and a fistful of dollars in the other. The most common nesting places are found along the shores or in old farmhouses and other habitats include sign-waving demonstrations and town board meetings. The raucous cry of the bird is very shrill, bordering on the threshold of pain in the lower posterior region and has actually been known to frighten some politicians.

Many of us, both Yankee and Catholic, whose families have been here at least a few generations, have frankly had a bellyful of outsiders who come high-tailing out here because they like it so damned much and then immediately start acting like a bunch of constipated rattlesnakes, zealous in their determination to save us from ourselves and dedicated to the idea that they're gonna get what they want and to hell with everyone else. (L-3J)

Bob Kaelin  
Riverhead

### 'Does an airport lower property value?'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Last Tuesday, the issue of Joe Brush's airport application was debated. A relevant question to this issue was brought to my attention when Mr. Brush asked me, "Does an airport lower property value?"

To answer that question, an appraiser would examine sales of property close to an airport. In Riverhead, the highest prices paid for farmland has been on Edwards Avenue and on Route 25. These farms sold for as high as \$9,000 per acre. Why? They were close to an airfield.

Recently, the county has estimated the average Riverhead farm value at \$2,900 to \$3,500 per acre. An appraiser hired by the "Group" against the airport states the value would be reduced by 75 per cent due to this "unsightly" airport. Simple calculations

would establish the estimated value at \$750 per acre surrounding the airport. Land was not sold for those prices on Long Island since the 1940's. Especially land close to an airport.

A major factor to be considered in this issue is property taxes. New businesses bring Riverhead new tax revenues and help to lower the tax burden on homeowners. Small airfields like Brush's attracts new and expanding businesses.

Unless our master plan can incorporate this airport as well as other businesses, our taxes will continue to rise and our land values will fall. (L-5J)

Yours very truly,  
Edwin Fishel Tuccio  
Riverhead

## SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

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Coram/Middle Island  
Selden/Centersuch  
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'It holds the only hope.'

## Try advertising

The logic of running Suffolk County is totally amazing.

It couldn't have been better illustrated than by an article appearing in Newsday last Thursday.

The county arbitrarily built the county police headquarters in Yaphank, the eastern most end of the area covered by the county police.

Police Commissioner Dilworth is complaining he cannot find available help to fill clerical jobs at \$5,400 per year. Legislator John Wehenberg is quoted as saying he wouldn't ride out to Yaphank to go to work for \$100 per week.

These jobs that should be filled by civilians are being filled by county police officers whose salary with fringes ranges from \$20,000 to \$40,000 per year.

To eliminate this expense, Dilworth and the legislature intend to create a special job title for police clerical workers, that will up these salaries from \$6,500 to \$7,000. This is the type of thinking that has created the oppressive tax burden we all suffer from.

The simple solution to filling these clerical jobs should be for the county to advertise the availability of the jobs. The present salary scale plus the liberal fringe benefits received by county workers are well within the range of what is paid by private industry in the Yaphank area.

With unemployment in Eastern Long Island as high as it is, filling these positions at this salary range would be no problem. Raising the salary as proposed will set off an immediate chain reaction throughout all of Suffolk County government where other like skilled employees will demand parity with the special police clerical workers.

County government has been through this and obviously has not learned from its experiences. Suffolk County Police today are the highest paid in the nation.

They demanded parity with Nassau County Police who were at one time paid more than Suffolk's force.

A simple classified ad placed in Suffolk Life would fill all of these positions they have opened.

When the county has jobs to be filled, they should try advertising.

They would be amazed at the number of people who are looking for work and never considered the county because they still think they have to know somebody in order to get a job.

We had hoped this year's legislature would possess a little bit more common sense than those in the past, but it appears to be business as usual. The only solution to any problem is to increase the amount of money being spent without any thought towards alternative solutions.

And why not?

## The fine print of insurance

Many Suffolk residents received two shocks last week.

When they arose Thursday morning, they found their basements flooded. Some homeowners had never had even a dampness problem in over two decades. Yet on this particular morning they found from a few inches to several feet of water in their homes.

Most first went about removing the water and then assessed the damage.

The second shock came when they found their homeowners policy excluded coverage from floods, or as the insurance companies like to say, "an act of God."

Many families lost thousands of dollars. Most Long Islanders finish their basements and furnish them. Nothing was covered and the homeowners themselves must bear the brunt of this loss.

Listening to the complaints coming into this office, people are dismayed and alarmed by the fact the homeowners policies they had been sold as all encompassing umbrellas, excluded any coverage for floods.

As one man said, he had been paying insurance premiums for over 28 years and never once made a claim. He felt insurance was a good investment because when something

like a storm or a fire wiped him out, he would be covered.

Yet when he called his insurance agent and was told that he lacked coverage, he felt cheated. He asked, what was he paying for all these years?

This is a question the State Insurance Department should be asking. For what value is insurance, particularly homeowners, that does not cover you from damage caused by conditions out of your control? And why not?

Dear Mr. Willmott:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you and your readers with an update concerning a referendum on the county legislature. As you know, it is my belief that the county would be better served with a Board of Supervisors, such as exists in Nassau County, than with the present county legislature. I believe that a return to a Board of Supervisors, weighted to comply with the constitutional requirement of "one man, one vote", would provide us with a form of government which would be closer to the People, and thus more responsive and efficient. In addition, such a form of government would certainly be less costly.

To bring about the change that I am advocating will require an affirmative vote of the Suffolk County Legislature to amend the County Charter, which amendment would then be submitted to the People for their approval at a referendum.

There are two schools of thought as to how I should approach this subject. On the one hand, some people think that I should simply offer the appropriate resolution every three months or so, and insist that the legislators vote to abolish their own jobs, subject to the required referendum. Others, including myself, feel that the proper approach is to do the following:

- A.) Attempt to get support for the concept from the Supervisors of the respective Towns, and
- b.) Circulate petitions throughout the county indicating that the People would like to have the choice of deciding whether we should keep trying with the Suffolk County Legislature or adopt a weighted Board of Supervisors.

Although the first approach has the advantage of producing a prompt determination of the issue, that determination would necessarily be negative. Without some input from the Supervisors, and, more importantly, without concrete evidence being presented to the legislature concerning the People's desire to make the decision as to the form of government within the county, it is foolhardy to expect the legislators to vote for a resolution which might well eliminate the legislature.

While the second approach requires considerably more work on my part, and on the part of others who share my belief, it holds the only hope to bring about the desired result.

I believe that if the idea is properly presented to the legislature that the probability is that the referendum will be held. It is for this reason that I intend to do the necessary leg work to present the issue properly to the legislature rather than torpedoing the idea by simply standing up in the legislature periodically, lecturing the legislators about the issue, and then sitting down with nothing but over-worked vocal cords.

Thanks for the opportunity to provide this update, and to ask your readers for assistance. I ask those of your readers who would like to assist me by circulating the necessary petitions, to please call me at the office at 369-2400. Of course, if anyone would like to discuss the matter with me, please give me a call at the same number. (L-7K)  
Sincerely,  
Denis R. Hurley  
County Legislator

## 'I appreciate it.'

Open Letter to Southampton Highway Department

Gentlemen:

I am a resident of Hampton Bays but work in Riverhead, therefore I see both towns.

In the recent snow storm, the effects of the storm and how the respective highway departments reacted to it was naturally compared (or perhaps the better word should be contrasted).

Obviously, your department had an early start on the major roads while the Riverhead Highway Department allowed the snow to accumulate before plowing. The symptom of this condition was that many of the roads in Riverhead Town were permeated with packed snow and ice. Then when Wednesday came and all forecasts predicted rain, your department, under miserable weather conditions, expanded your plow sweep. While

Riverhead again waited, choosing instead to leave it up to nature -- seeming to say "God put it there, let Him take it away" - thus causing flooding havoc throughout the town.

Given that, the terrain of Riverhead and Southampton are different. One sure indicator in Southampton Town of flooding through the years has been Lewis Road in East Quogue. This year, thanking in part the improvement to the said road, the flooding was non-existent.

Some people say one should not thank the people for doing their job. But when people do an excellent job under adverse conditions and make life easier for me, I appreciate it and thank everyone who worked to make it possible. (L-4K)

Sincerely,  
Tim O'Leary  
Hampton Bays

## 'Suffolk Life never gives any credit to state employees.'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

This letter is to whoever wrote the article that made headlines on Page 1 of Suffolk Life, dated 1-25-78, regarding the rescue of the State on Southold roads.

Freedom of Press is wonderful, isn't it? Especially when facts are incorrect. What a way to sell papers.

Men from the State worked around the clock keeping these roads open and all you can do is criticize. Don't you know the word, "thank you"?

Face facts! We had quite a storm. They did a commendable job.

You said that you could not reach officials from the State Transportation Department for comment. Who did you call, Albany? Local officials were patrolling the roads during the snow storm. They were not sitting at home by their phones waiting for you to call. There was work to be done. But, in case you're interested, other papers were able to reach them for comment.

Suffolk Life never gives any credit to State employees for their well-performed services. How come? (L-5K)

Yours truly,  
Theresa Thompson  
Mattituck

## 'I am in sympathy'

Dear Editor:

In regards to the people who have houses on the beaches. I am in sympathy with them to a point, but I also think they should pay for the privilege of the beach. If we, as taxpayers, have to foot the bill for the upkeep of "their beaches", we should also be able to use them. I am sick and tired of the lucky few who have complete use of the beach and then want us to help pay for the upkeep. You can ride along the beach roads for miles and miles and not find a place where you can stop and go on the beach. Is that fair? I say no. (L-6K)  
A Taxpayer  
Riverhead

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## Bosses need accountability, too

Some members of the Middle Country School Board are urging an annual review of all top administrators within the school district. They want this to become a regular procedure and it should be.

Bosses, just like workers, have a tendency to retire at different points in their career.

They put in time, they collect a salary but they no longer produce the quality or quantity of work they are capable of and are being paid for.

Most aggressive businesses periodically and systematically review the performance of everybody from the president right on down.

A systematic review of employees performance gives an early warning signal of potential problems that can be headed off before termination is necessary or the person becomes a liability.

Other members of the school board are opposing the move as they claim it is nothing more than a witch hunt.

If this was only a one-time review of the administrators, we would agree.

Those who favor this not only want a current review of the administrators but they want a continuing system set up that will become a standard operating procedure for the future.

Other school districts should consider doing the same.

Currently, we are paying administrators from \$25,000 to \$75,000 per year. On top of this they receive from \$10,000 to \$40,000 worth of fringes. When you are paying this kind of money, you must demand the very best all the time.

If these administrative positions are reviewed properly, we are sure districts will find there are positions that should be eliminated as the functions have become outdated and the need for a high priced executive no longer exists.

Every part of the educational system must be examined carefully if we ever are going to get a grip on the inflationary cost of education. And why not?

## Now insurance rip-offs

At the height of the oil crisis, the Seven Sisters (the major oil companies) were posting astronomical gains in profits.

The country was up in arms, and there was talk of nationalizing the oil industry to control the abuses.

The oil crisis has passed, but other robber barons are still extracting their pound of flesh from the American public. The insurance industry is now posting earning gains of 70 to 80 per cent. These gains are coming directly from exorbitant rates.

Not only have they shoved up rates unmercifully, they are refusing, in wholesale lots, to insure what a few years ago would be considered a normal risk. Talking with an insurance agent the other day, he discussed how the insurance companies are refusing to write almost anything new, particularly for

average people.

Ironically, many of the directors of our nation's largest insurance companies also serve as directors of petroleum businesses. The two are coincidentally tied together through financial institutions, which have some of the same directors.

If Jimmy Carter really meant to be a people's president, he has an ideal opportunity to prove it by using the power of the federal government to investigate these corporate giants and the interlocking relationships of their directors.

After all, what difference does it make if you are kept in bondage through an economic system of a democracy or slavery of a dictatorship? Either way you are left with little more than subsistence and without freedom that can be obtained by owning wealth. And why not?

## Rocky Point kids cheated

How would you like to be trained as a carpenter and engaged to erect a building, only be given a computer and not a hammer as your tool? Or how would you like to be given food and an elaborate modern range to cook a meal, but not be given pots and pans to accomplish it?

This is just what is happening to the students in Rocky Point.

Rocky Point's School library has half the recommended state standard of books. Books are the basic element in any educational process.

This is further complicated by the fact Rocky Point does not have a community library. The closest library to Rocky Point is Shoreham-Wading River and in order for a family to utilize the facilities they must pay a non-resident fee of \$40 per year.

Rocky Point has kept up with its neighboring school districts on

salary increases for teachers and administrators. They have also spent taxpayers' money on audio-visual equipment and other high cost educational tools. Yet they have failed to even meet half the state standard in the very basic elements of learning books.

This shows poor judgement and this condition must be corrected. It is particularly important for the Rocky Point school district to have an adequately stocked library considering there is no community library available.

We suspect that if the district puts the taxpayers' money into books they might well be able to eliminate some of the costly audio-visuals and other sophisticated teaching aids that have not stood the test of time. The printed word always has endured. And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

'Are such events acts of God or simply. . . folly of men?'

Dear Editor:

Mother Nature's periodic rages do have their redeeming qualities. They serve as a reminder that man is not the all-powerful being he sometimes likes to think he is. Though we have split the atom and sent men into space, even the most courageous person is humbled by the towering waves of the Atlantic during a severe storm. And unfortunately, man needs this constant reminder. For in his arrogance, when the disaster becomes a fading memory, he once again begins to act as lord and master, completely disregarding nature's laws. With the approving eye of government, homes will once again be built on the sand dunes of Fire Island. This will enable governmental officials to spend taxpayers' money in heroic antics which make for good publicity but little else.

Homes will also be built in flood plains and flood hazard areas, and sold to the unsuspecting public. Water that normally percolated into the ground, must now flow over concrete and asphalt, seeking the lowest level, usually someone's basement! The recent floods have been the worst in 40 years, not because we've had more rain, but rather because our planning (or lack of it) has continued to destroy flood plains while at the same time, increasing surface runoff.

The importance of wetlands has now been brought into sharper focus. What ecologists have failed to get across through education has been graphically pointed out by Mother Nature. One cannot dredge, fill, bulkhead and build in these areas and expect all to remain as it was when we first saw it. After a recent flooding, look at a shoreline that has been extensively developed and compare it to a natural area. Maybe then the statement that wetlands have tremendous water storing and erosion control capabilities will have some meaning to those who claim, "I own it, therefore I can do what I want with it."

The issue is not one of condemnation of personal property, as has often been stated, but rather, the health and safety of the general public. What should be explored is the legal liability developers and builders (i.e. destroyers of wetlands, floodplains, and dunes) should be subject to after disasters such as those that have recently occurred, strike. And it should follow that what really needs to be asked in the Courts is the question, are such events Acts of God, or simply the results of the folly of men. (L-2K)

Sincerely,  
George Proios  
Director  
Dept. of Environmental Protection

'We discovered we had a flat.'

Dear Sir:

I felt it was very important to bring this incident to your attention because we don't read enough about the young people in our society who really are the backbone of our nation.

My friend and I were at Smith Haven Mall today when we discovered we had a flat. We weren't about to tackle the experience of changing a flat tire because mechanically and "vintage-wise" we couldn't possibly qualify.

As we got out of the car near Sears, 2 young men approached us and asked whether they could take care of the tire for us. Their spontaneity, consideration, and interest were

so refreshing! Unfortunately one of the parts of the "Jack" was missing and they really couldn't finish the job. Furthermore they refused to take any remuneration!

They reluctantly gave me their names which are respectively, Thomas Giggins and Scott Fotheringham. They reside in Smithtown and attend Suffolk Community.

I certainly feel that these 2 young men should receive some kind of honorable mention or accolade from the press for their good will and humanity. L-10K

Sincerely,  
Annette Rosenzweig  
Bobby Rigelhaupt

'I have to commend you.'

Dear Mr. Willmott,

I have to commend you highly on your excellent articles, especially your editorials. It is truly a shame that even though you have the right ideas about our government, county, state and federal, that nobody backs you up except a few concerned readers and your staff. Maybe you should send a com-

plimentary copy to the head of each of our governments.

Also, I think the Town of Brookhaven ought to hide its head in a snow bank after their poor performance after the last storm.

Sincerely,  
Mike Lulloff  
Mastic, N.Y.

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## The forgotten land

We know Long Island is just an appendage of New York State. It juts out into the Atlantic, a forgotten land. Or so it seems when it comes to state and federal aid.

It took days for the state and federal government to discover the North Shore of Long Island had regressed into the ice age.

After the fiasco, Long Island got hit with a major snow storm, some called it a blizzard.

The Governor called out the National Guard to aid the city but never lifted a finger to help the suburbs. This was followed by dams bursting, roadways turned into rivers and thousands of homes flooded. The total losses have not even been tallied.

Suffolk was hardly back to normal, when we were hit with the worst blizzard in over a century.

We had as much snow as Connecticut, Rhode Island or Massachusetts.

The ocean broke through the dunes totally recking many homes and causing damage to others. The bays rose to hurricane tide proportions leaving such busy commercial areas as downtown Riverhead with over 18" of water.

Before the snow had stopped, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts had been declared disaster areas and President Carter was promising federal aid and relief.

Yet, Long Island went unaided.

Why? Is it because the state government is centered in Albany far removed from Long Island?

Is it because our Congressmen and Senators have become too complacent in their jobs and fail to act with responsiveness as our New England counterparts do?

Between the January and February storms, there have been millions of dollars in damages to Long Island.

Our town and county budgets have been strained beyond the taxpayers' ability to rebound. Businesses have suffered losses they can never make up.

Some will be forced to close their doors forever. Homeowners have watched a life time of scrimping and saving go down the drain, as they had to throw out rugs, furniture, appliances, clothes and even automobiles, none of which was covered by insurance.

Why is it a big deal when someplace else in the country is struck with disaster?

When we suffer the same ravishes, an eyebrow is not even raised.

Where is Long Island's leadership? Where are the people who should be speaking out for us?

Are we so void of leaders that we are without a voice? Or have our leaders become so old, so fat and so complacent they no longer care or relate to the average guy who makes Long Island function.

Leadership is the big void missing on Long Island. Until a dynamic, energetic, and forceful leader emerges, Long Island will be without a voice and be overlooked even in her hour of need. And why not?

## They don't want your opinion

The Public Service Commission (PSC) must, by law, hold public hearings before granting applications. Just because it is required to hold public hearings does not mean they seek or want your opinion.

This could not be made any more clearer than their handling of the study for the 12 local sites under consideration for construction of future power plants, which most likely would be nuclear.

The PSC has buried the locations of these 12 sites in the Patchogue Library cloaked in terms not easily understood by the public. This in-

formation is supposed to be there for your viewing but the library itself has not even had time to catalogue the lengthy report or to make it available to the public.

Yet, the PSC has arbitrarily placed a deadline of March 1st for all input which gives the public less than three weeks to digest and evaluate their scheme. The location of power plants is not like the location of any other construction. Under a law passed in the late '60's, the PSC has the right of eminent domain superceding home rule, local zoning, planning and common sense in the name of

# Abortion becomes a local issue

Probably the most controversial and emotional issue of the twentieth century is the question of whether we individually or collectively have the right to kill an unborn baby.

Local politicians have always sighed in relief for they have to face this question. They passed the buck onto the state, federal government and finally to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court passed the buck down to the county by deciding that federal funds should be used for medicaid-paid abortions.

Now the Suffolk County Legislature must decide whether they freely and of their own choosing wish to continue funding for these killings. Not only will the county have to pay its portion, but pick up the fed's share, which is estimated to run \$110,000 in Suffolk this coming year.

Some legislators are saying this is nothing more than a fiscal question. Yet, each legislator will have to first come to grips with his own conscience.

By authorizing payments of the county taxpayers' money for these operations, they will be condoning the snuffing out of a life before it has a chance to breathe.

Each legislator is being placed in a position of God. He will determine who will live and who will die, through the expenditure of our taxes.

This is a tough personal question for even a seasoned pro to deal with. Most legislators are looking within themselves and also to you for guidance.

Even if you have never written to a legislator before, do so on this issue. And why not?

### On the issue of county funding for Medicaid abortions:

— The county should discontinue abortion funding

— The county should continue abortion funding

Denis Hurley  
49 East Main Street  
Riverhead, New York, 11901

John Donohue  
163 Montauk Highway  
Hampton Bays, New York 11946

John J. Foley  
31 Oak St. Room No. 5  
Patchogue, New York 11772

Floyd S. Linton  
5380 Nesconset Highway  
Port Jefferson Station, New York 11776

Ferdinand Giese  
149 Main Street  
Setauket, New York 11733

William Carney  
180 E. Main Street  
Smithtown, New York 11787

John Wehrenberg  
P.O. Box 1  
Holbrook, N.Y. 11741.

## Reader's Opinion

This bill... could negatively affect many...

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I am a reader of Suffolk Life and am heartened by your continual bi-partisan attack on what you perceive to be political injustices. It is for this reason that I wish to bring to your attention Senator Bernard Smith's bill 5704.

5704 is now up for consideration by the Assembly in Albany. This bill, if passed, could negatively affect many hard working Suffolk County residents who earn their living on the water.

As a shellfisherman, and member of the Board of Directors of the Great Sq. Bay Baymen's Association, I can tell you first hand that a vast majority of people in the fisheries industry are opposed to all that this bill implies.

Rather than attempt to express why the fisheries and specifically the shellfish industry is opposed to 5704, I am enclosing for your review some relevant material. There is a copy of our newsletter, the bill itself, and a letter which I have mailed to Nassau and Suffolk Assemblymen.

I sincerely hope that your sense of justice prevails and we might enlist your aid in helping defeat this bill. L-4M

Thank you,  
Martin T. Ritchie  
Blue Point

**SUFFOLK LIFE** VOL. 17 NO. 96  
NEWSPAPERS

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## When you build on sand

During this past fall and winter, the ocean has raised havoc with beachfront on both the North and South Shores.

Several houses have been lost to the sea, hundreds of others are in a position of vulnerability because of erosion.

Once again we are hearing the outcry of these distressed persons to jettify the beachfront.

Suffolk County became involved in jettifying almost two decades ago after the ocean had broken through Dune Road in Westhampton and had devastated the dunes in East Hampton.

We put millions of dollars of our county money on top of state and federal aid into jetties. To build these jetties, right-of-ways had to be obtained.

Instead of using this opportunity to acquire public right-of-ways, which would give the public access to what

is now miles of private beaches, the county officials sold out the public and acquired only limited rights that may be used only to erect and maintain the jetties.

A furor soon started to build as the public saw their tax dollars being used to protect the interests of the wealthy few who owned homes along Dune Road while denying the public, who is paying their bills, access to their beaches.

As time went on, it became evident these jetties only fooled Mother Nature for a short period of time.

Instead of causing washouts where the jetties were erected, washouts occurred in areas of normally healthy beachfront.

The East-to-West lateral movement of the ocean currents, which replenish the beaches, was interfered with by the jetty.

Sand that would have been carried westward was stopped by these jetties

and the beaches west of the jetties then became the starved points. It is these areas that have suffered the worst during the past six months.

Where there once were 20-foot sand dunes, there is now only a sand bar. Dune Road in this area is nothing more than tire tracks through a meadow. All that remains of houses built on sand are occasional pieces of debris.

In the near future, if nothing is done, a new inlet will be opened in Westhampton. To avoid this, hundreds of millions of dollars will be needed for off-shore dredging, jetties, sea walls and sand bypass mechanisms.

Long hard thought should go into this question before another nickel is spent to fight Mother Nature.

One old timer who we spoke to almost 15 years ago, said in his childhood Dune Road was not there. All that lay between the mainland and

the Atlantic Ocean was a long, huge sandbar stretching from Fire Island to Southampton.

It was during a severe storm in the mid 1850's that an unusual build-up occurred, which built this sand bar above the high tide level. As years went by, and growth took place, an inlet developed the way we know it now.

We have not been able to find documentation of this story, but it should be investigated as it will help in planning for erosion control and whether we are up against a winless battle.

Under any circumstances, the public's right to use this property must be established.

Any right-of-way being created must be opened for all times to the public so we may have access to the beach we are paying for. And why not?

## A job well done

We often use this column to criticize the quality of work and the conditions here in Suffolk County. It is only fair play when a particular department does an outstanding job we acknowledge it.

Our hat is off to the Suffolk County Department of Public Works for the superior job they did in getting the county roads clean and dry after last week's snow storm.

We were amazed that by late Wednesday afternoon only 24 hours after the snow had stopped most county highways we traveled were not only plowed, free of snow but also dry and free of water or ice.

Another municipality deserving to be recognized is the Village of Bellport. Our circulation people informed us there wasn't a road within the incorporated Village of

Bellport not also cleared on Wednesday.

Bellport showed some imagination and ingenuity. They enlisted fire department equipment as snow plows.

When you think of it, it makes sense. Fire Department equipment is heavy duty, is normally in top condition with little mileage or use and easily adapted for this purpose.

As a whole, most towns and villages coped with what is being called one of the worst snow storms in the century.

To accomplish this feat, it took a lot of sleepless hours by both workers and supervisors.

They should be proud their efforts proved fruitful. And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

### 'We represent all Brookhaven Baymen'

Dear Editor:

The article that appeared in last week's Suffolk Life referring to the Moriches Baymen Organizing should have been titled Brookhaven Baymen Organize.

The paragraph pointing out the lack of benefits for eastern Brookhaven bays presents only one aspect of our endeavors. The duck farms are not responsible for the destruction of Moriches Bay, rather, it's a combination of the loss of these farms and the tampering with Moriches Inlet.

To continue, we are seeking the vacancies

on the Brookhaven Shellfish Advisory Commission for a better representation of the Baymen on that commission. To answer Chester Bedell, we did attend the commission's meeting when we were asked, and even showed up at one that was cancelled without telling us.

We represent all Brookhaven Baymen. Our goals are to achieve a better relationship with the community, to raise funds to better manage our bay, through events that we will institute this spring, to develop a more appropriate criteria for determining which

areas should be restricted, and at which times, not only for public health, but for more production.

We also will institute more seed planting, under the proper conditions. We will endeavor to raise the industry to its full potential, drawing commerce and tax revenues to the local community to alleviate the burden on the taxpayers.

With greater production and more efficient packing and shipping, we can increase South Shore bay industries four fold or better, bringing greater prosperity to all, Baymen, bay fishermen, shippers, packers, homeowners and general businessmen throughout the South Shore.

These are the goals that were neglected by the Great South Bay Baymen's Association and the Babylon Baymen have suffered the most. I was told by one of the members of the board of directors of the Great South Bay Baymen's Association that he was trying to form an Islip Baymen's Association and a Babylon Association, for as yet, the Great South Bay Baymen's Association has failed to supply proper leadership to the Baymen and is largely ineffective, due to lack of steady attendance. In this manner, each town would be managed by those qualified and in issues relating to all areas, we would come together under a mother association.

Also, the issue of resident permits and banning outsiders was brought up in the context of protection of Brookhaven natural resources. It is the general consensus of the membership that a fee would be uncalled for, but you printed what one member said.

To sum up, I hope to build a long and successful relationship with your publication. Membership will mean attendance in this association, and in new associations to come, because progress will be made. We welcome anyone concerned about our bay to attend our meetings and we seek members throughout Brookhaven Township who have a commercial interest in our bays.

May I add, that February 24 at 7:30 pm in the Mastic Beach American Legion Hall, we will elect a chairman and vice-chairman, among other offices. I hope then that no confusion will occur in reference to issues.

This letter was drawn with the collaboration of the founder of the association, William Foster. It represents his, and the opinion of the membership, and also mine. (L-5M)

Yours for Success,  
Joseph Quaresimo  
Co-founder

### 'Power to veto'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Your editorial of January 25th: Voters Should Have Power to Veto Pay Raises really rings the bell. Since Perry Duryea (may his tribe increase!) is starting his campaign for the governorship early, this would make a strong plank in his platform. L-7M

Cordially,  
Louis C. Raegner

## SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

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# willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

## The climb to Pike's Peak

Otis Pike announced last week his retirement from Congress. Pike, after 18 years, had become an institution in office. No serious candidate considered challenging him. He was considered invulnerable.

He has been a damn good Congressman. He fulfilled his constituent's needs well, while at the same time keeping the cost of his staff to a minimum. On the issues he took in Congress, we often disagreed with and some of the votes he cast were opposed overwhelmingly by his constituents.

But Pike was a man of his convictions and you knew pretty much beforehand what to expect of him.

The loss of a man of his caliber will be felt, but at the same time, there comes a time for all of us to fish or cut bait.

We had noted in the past few years, Pike had lost some of his youthful vigor. His exposure to Washington, the powerful and the mighty had started to influence him and was clouding his thinking on who he was and what were his responsibilities to his constituents.

In conversations we have had with Otis, since he first went to Congress, he has always indicated his frustrations with the system.

We remember him well stating his disappointment about his inability to change the system. He complained bitterly in the early years of the seniority system and how unless you are a member of the "old man's club", you didn't stand a chance of being noticed or recognized. Because of the seniority system, you had to play ball to get anything at all done.

Oh! You could grab headlines with a 25 cent bolt that the government was paying \$250 for, but headlines did not make legislation nor did it make for better government.

As Pike gained tenure and seniority, we noticed a hopefulness in him that he would be able to be more effective.

This hope was crushed when he headed up the House CIA investigation. Even with his expertise, his seniority and his skillful oratorical abilities, he was not able to fulfill the obligations he was charged with.

He conducted the investigation, but

watched it be sabotaged with leaks and deals contrived between the White House and Congressional leaders who owed their souls to each other.

Pike was nearly labeled a subversive Commie and unpatriotic for his efforts to make our federal government live up to our textbook image.

Another disappointment for Pike is his failure to become a U.S. Senator from the State of New York. A Senator from this state is one of the most powerful men in the nation. But to become a Senator, you must be an enormously rich man yourself, who is willing to personally invest millions, or sell your soul to those, who can finance your campaign. A political realist, Pike estimated a primary fight for the Democratic nomination alone would have cost over one million dollars. A full senatorial race would cost much more.

No matter how much he loves this country, Pike was not about to risk his own fortune even if he could have this seat and he is too much of a man and an idealist to sell his soul for the sake of satisfying his ego.

He could have stayed on in Congress, played the game, gained more seniority and eventually end up as the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. In this position, he would have had control of the budget and just might have been able to interject some of his frugality into the federal spending process.

We suspect, though, he knows, in his own heart, the federal budget is out of control and there is no way short of a revolution or national bankruptcy to stop the federal government's runaway spending.

Pike has done the only reasonable thing a sane man would do. He will leave Washington with his memories, his wounds and his victories a winner with a fat, federal pension and a number of good years ahead of him to enjoy life and be productive in the free world.

He has earned his retirement from Congress and we can only hope the next person who attempts to climb to Pike's peak is half the man that he has been. And why not?

## And we tried advertising

Two weeks ago, we editorialized on the county legislature's consideration of Police Commissioner Dilworth's request for a salary increase for police clerks.

Dilworth's complaint to the legislature was, he had to use high-priced, uniform police officers as clerks in the new Yaphank facility because they couldn't find file clerks for the 32 job openings.

Knowing the employment situation here on Eastern Long Island, we suggested the county try advertising as commercial establishments do when there is a job opening.

We also suggested people do not know how to go about getting a job in the county and still feel they must know somebody or have some political pull.

This is a failure of the Civil Service Commission, which like most bureaucratic institutions, attempts to cloak itself in secrecy even though its function is public. The normal procedure, which is antiquated and does not meet immediate requirements, is for an applicant to screen the various lists put out by the Civil Service Bureau for job openings. Once somebody has found these illusive lists, they then make application to take a test.

After they have passed the examination, they are granted an interview and their personal qualifications are determined. If they are certified, their name goes on a list which is circulated through the various departments of government. Departments in need of employees then interview candidates according to their position or their place on the list. The department is supposed to

make a job available to one of the top candidates. As people are hired, others move up to the top of the list. This is an unwieldy system that is not responsive to the needs of workers or management. Normally, when a person is out of work, they are looking for immediate employment. They cannot afford to wait for the wheels of bureaucracy to turn. When a department needs an employee, they need him now, not the six months it often takes for lists to be replenished with fresh candidates.

This is the real crux of the problem at Yaphank. To prove our point, and maybe to be of assistance to the county and to hopefully put readers in touch with jobs, Suffolk Life, on its own, ran a simple two-inch blind ad in our help wanted column. Within four days, we had over 150 letters of application. These we have forwarded to Commissioner Dilworth for consideration. These were people who were willing to go to work for the salary of \$5,800 per year, plus liberal fringe benefits. The people who were applying for these jobs were people in need of jobs, residents of Suffolk County who want to work here.

We hope Commissioner Dilworth is able to fill the available openings from this list and save Suffolk taxpayers over \$100,000 per year by not having to use high-priced, uniform police nor pay 40 per cent more in wages than is necessary.

We hope also, the legislature learns from this own small example that county problems can better be solved by common sense and normal business practices than just throwing money at the problems and hoping they will go away. And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

### 'Tenure is a very valuable and important form of security.'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Your recent article concerning teacher tenure in the Public Schools shows a lack of understanding of the tenure system on your part.

I have been a Public School teacher for the past eleven years and, while I consider myself competent, I have learned the value of tenure from many observations of situations which have developed.

Take, for example, the teacher who was fired for expressing his disagreement with the war in Vietnam; a music teacher who was fired because a school board member, while wandering the halls of the school, saw the teacher playing records for the class. The records, however, directly related to the lesson; or the science teacher who was nominated by his principal for the "Teacher of the Year" award and who was denied tenure because he disagreed with the philosophy of the administration; or the countless numbers of teachers who have been denied tenure by administrators hired to "wield the axe and cut the budget."

Tenure is a very valuable and important form of job security which allows teachers

the peace of mind needed to perform their jobs and which removed them from the local politics of the school district.

Under your suggested system of renewable tenure, think of what will happen to our educational system. As teachers progress in years of service and increased salary in the district, they will be fired and replaced with younger, less experienced teachers simply to save money. Or, as teachers may disagree with an administrator, they will be removed.

For your own information, teachers who are judged incompetent can be fired according to New York State law.

While there may be a few teachers who do not perform at their best and who hide behind tenure, the overwhelming majority are doing an excellent job. With tenure, they can perform their jobs with academic freedom and pursue careers in their districts without the fear of being arbitrarily fired.

Your proposed system merely throws chaos into the educational system. L-3M

Walter Seely Shirley.

ED NOTE: Chaos or accountability? It depends where you sit.

### 'Wading River is not a lonely voice. . .'

Dear Editor:

Your Feb. 5, 1978 article, "Wading River: lonely voice against the bridge" is misleading. Wading River is not a lonely voice against the bridge. Anyone concerned about the quality of life on Long Island is opposed to a cross-sound bridge. The anti-bridge forces came out so strongly against the Bayville to Rye bridge that Governor Rockefeller had to back off. These anti-bridge forces came from all segments of the Long Island community.

It's ironic that Suffolk County Executive John V.N. Klein is now pushing the cross-sound bridge idea while at the same time initiating a farmland preservation program.

A bridge that will destroy the rural character of eastern Long Island and a healthy farm economy is uncalled for. Suffolk still is one of the state's leading agricultural counties.

The Marine Environmental Council of Long Island, P.O. Box 55, Seaford, N.Y. 11783 has a long fact sheet available on the many reasons a bridge is environmentally unsound. We urge your readers to send for their free copy and advise Mr. Klein of their feelings. (L-7N) Sincerely, Thomas S. Zawyrucha Executive Director Marine Environmental Council of Long Island

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## Seeking Pike's seat

Otis Pike's early retirement from Congress has caused a scrambling on both sides of the political fence by potential candidates. Names are being thrown into the ring, many with absolutely no merit.

Too many people have gone to Congress, who should never have been there. They got there because they could buy the nomination with their own money or they were willing to sell their souls to the highest bidder.

Take a look at many of the laws, passed by Congress since the 30's. There is no rhyme or reason for many of them. They have robbed you of your independence, your freedom, your rights, and substituted for these foundation blocks of America, an overwhelming tax burden from which you probably will never be able to dig out.

For the residents of Suffolk County

squeaked by in the past election.

John Randolph, supervisor of Brookhaven has been a responsive public official, but he has not shown much creativity or leadership in moving Brookhaven ahead or solving the pressing problems of the town.

His re-election margin should not be considered a mandate, only a dissatisfaction with the GOP candidate. We seriously question whether Randolph, with a 'nice guy' reputation, could be an effective legislator on the national level. It would be like feeding a lamb to the wolves.

Bill Bianchi, assemblyman from the 3rd A.D. is articulate and has done his constituent homework, but he is an absolute liberal. Because of this he would not be able to represent the traditionally conservative East End.

On the Republican side, the most predominantly mentioned candidate

### Heavyweight contenders



Hope: "know-how"



Smith: "most talented"



Signorelli: no boss

There are other candidates, which have not been so predominantly mentioned, whose first-rated minds and leadership qualities, would well qualify them to represent Eastern Suffolk interests in Congress.

Foremost among them is Allen Smith, Riverhead's young energetic supervisor. Not only does Smith have the direct style and candor Otis was always noted for, but he has shown a strong leadership in dealing with the problems facing Riverhead Town, like slum housing and a deteriorating downtown.

Along with Islip Supervisor Peter Cohalan, we have found Smith to be the most talented and innovative public official in Suffolk. Some say the Riverhead Democrat's chances are nil because of small party enrollment in the town. But, if that kind of thinking was valid, Otis Pike would have never made it to Congress.

Another Democrat with a lot of know-how is East Hampton's Judith Hope, a former town supervisor and now appointments secretary to Governor Carey.

On the Republican side, an independent-minded judge like Ernest Signorelli the County Surrogate should not be passed over by the GOP powers to be.

Signorelli, has often bucked the established political status quo by running primaries and beating the party organization. With Signorelli, the people who elected him, not the

party bosses, have always been his first concern.

Another Republican, who has established himself as a knowledgeable public official with a strong record of constituent service, is Brookhaven Councilman Joel Lefkowitz.

The only Republican to survive the GOP fiasco last November, Lefkowitz knows government and could make himself a voice for the suburban taxpayer in Washington.

These are only a few of the potential candidates the first congressional district has in it. There are a number of people who have excellent qualifications who would make darn good Congressmen who have never sought an election office, or been in the public eye.

It's going to be a tough race, and a very expensive one. The reward at the end of it will be a lowly Congressional seat, not much of an incentive for the uphill fight that's ahead of the candidates.

But there are people from the first who love their country, are willing to make the commitment and both parties have an obligation and a responsibility to seek them out.

We will be watching this race closely and do whatever we can to insure that both the Democrats and the Republicans present to you, the constituents of the First Congressional District, their very best talent. And why not?

### Lightweights in ring



Linton: "inability"



Bianchi: "ultra-liberal"



Klein: "the worst"

to perpetuate this farce by sending another incompetent to Washington in place of one of the few independent voices Congress has, would be a tragedy.

Some names we have heard mentioned would be a disaster.

On the Democratic side, Floyd Linton has already proven his inability as a legislator and as majority leader. He has neither the personality nor the guts to be a good Congressman or stand up to pressure.

His own constituents sent Linton a message that they were unhappy with his performance as he barely

was John Klein until his stated decision not to run. Those, who follow him, have noted he has had his eye on Washington 90 per cent of the time. We are not all that convinced he will not run.

We categorically feel Klein would be one of the worst representatives that we could send from Suffolk. We never met anyone that was more out for himself at the taxpayers expense.

A number of other GOP candidates mentioned are political retreats that have been Pike's sacrificial lambs in the past and not of the caliber we'd want to see in Congress.

## Readers' Opinion

'It's disgusting how these punks can get away with murder.'

Dear Editor:

One of these days, I would like to come in and shake your hand, because we need more

of you around here, the way things are going these days, I think I would even vote for your presidency!

I want you to know that I read your paper, really look for it, before I read anything else, when I know your paper is being delivered. You are right on the bottom with your comments, and it's a pleasure to read that there are still lots of people in this world that want to do the right thing, to make things right in this country.

First of all, I just read your article about police office jobs for the public, and I, for one, would be very interested. I am mature, am a New York City Policeman's widow, and looking for work. Whom do I see, where do I go? I am qualified.

To comment on your article, going back to Nov., 1977, regarding the mugging and beating of an 87-year-old widow in my town of Patchogue, you could not have written it better. It's disgusting how these punks can get away with murder, and someone is patting them on the back and putting them back on the streets to do some more dirty work. It has got to stop. My mother is a widow too, and a senior citizen, and I hate for

her to worry about walking to the store for fear of being beaten. Why do we have to live this way? We also have lived in Brooklyn many years ago, and now look at it. You can't even drive there with your car, who did it, who makes it this way, and those people are being paid by our taxes, they do nothing, except rob, beat people, demolish beautiful buildings and streets that once were walked by decent people, clean and working people, and these people do not work, some cannot speak English, they come here and immediately are given places to live, and checks, and don't do a darn thing to help the country, much less the community. I wonder if I or my mom went to China or P.R. or Africa, would we be given checks and housing right away. We keep wondering if there is any hope any longer, but when we read your paper, we know that there is. Thank you so much and God Bless You. (L-3N)

C. Lo Curto  
Patchogue

## SUFFOLK LIFE NEWSPAPERS

VOL. 17 NO. 99

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David J. Willmott - Editor and Publisher

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# willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

## Let's blow your horn

For years, naysayers have complained that Long Island's "dead end" syndrome has hurt the local area's chances to attract new industry and allow industries already here to grow as they should.

Politicians looking for an easy way out, never questioned such complaints, accepting them as perfectly valid. They simply decided not to try and attract industry to the local area and use the job of industrial commissioner as a patronage plum.

The ironic thing is that Long Island and Suffolk in particular is no more a dead end than any other island. You wouldn't, for example, call Japan, one of the industrial giants of the modern world, a dead end.

In fact, there are dozens of companies which have started here in Suffolk nearly from scratch, sometimes even less, and made a go of it. There are dozens of success stories, where a person with ingenuity, know-how, a lot of sweat and tears started out in their garage (or in our case a kitchen table) and turned an infant business into a multi-million dollar operation.

The people who had the courage to start their business on Long Island, or

expand here, are not sorry they came.

They refused to dismiss the area as a dead end.

They saw not only hard working and highly skilled workers, but an environment which makes for high productivity among employees. They also saw one of the fastest growing and affluent suburban markets in the entire country.

They refused to see the glass as half empty, but rather looked at Long Island and saw it full of opportunity to do business, make a profit and have a nice life for themselves, their families and their workers.

That's what this special progress issue is all about. . .blowing our own horn about the growth we've seen and ways we can go about expanding further.

On a regional basis, all we have to do is develop some leadership and set our goals about where we want Long Island to go. The rest is just an awful lot of hard work and maybe just a bit of good luck.

If we can all make it on our own, we should also be able to pull together to push the Suffolk economy ahead. And why not?

## Get your car off the road

The single biggest problem road crews faced in coping with the snows of this winter was the utter disregard motorists have for their fellow man.

In development after development the inconsideration of neighbor to neighbor was exhibited. To avoid having to dig out their driveways, people left their cars parked in front of their houses. As a result, plows were slowed down as they had to zig-zag in and out to avoid hitting these carelessly parked autos.

In some cases such action was excusable, especially where people became stuck on the expressways and were forced to abandon their cars. But we wonder how many of these people made any attempt to get their cars completely off the roads.

Talking with various highway department employees, they appealed to motorists to park their cars in their driveways and not on the street.

If you find yourself in a position where you probably will become stuck, get as far off to the right as you possibly can. If there are other motorists around you who have become stuck, also join hands and push as many cars to the side as you can before leaving them.

If this winter is any indication of the type we may get in the future, as much as we dislike new laws, our town boards would be wise to consider passing a ban of on street parking during snow days. And why not?

## Sell fish directly to foreign fleets

The United States government is considering enacting legislation that would allow foreign process ships to buy fish caught in the U.S. waters directly from these American ships. Some may look at this as a weakening of the 200-mile limit law.

Many of the foreign countries, who formerly fished our waters, have huge process ships in their fleet. Currently all fish caught off-shore are brought back into American ports and then sold. Some of these fish are exported.

The government is considering allowing the American fishing fleet to sell directly to foreign process boats any fish they deem surplus for foreign consumption.

The program has merit, particularly when you consider the foreign fishing interests are interested in consuming almost any and all fin fish available.

One of the appalling factors of the American fishing industry is the miscellaneous harvesting of fish that are not deemed marketable in the

United States. These fish are caught along with other marketable fish and are thrown overboard and wasted.

The reason this takes place is the marketing system under which our fishermen operate. It is the fishermen's responsibility to box, ice and transport the fish to the market. Some of the fish although perfectly delicious and absolutely edible, do not fetch enough from the wholesalers to pay for the boxing, icing and shipping.

Therefore, our fishermen are left with no other choice than to throw these fish back into the water. It is a waste of a natural resource and a waste of a food product.

A change in our regulations could open a new market for these fish from foreign sources.

This bill, however, is like a Pandora's box, and unless closely restricted, could cause the same type of damage that open foreign fishing did to our fisheries in the past. And why not?

## Readers' Opinion

### 'Their love for their fellow men lie only in their wallets.'

Dear Editor:

This letter is to inform you of the good and the bad experiences I encountered during the raging blizzard that hit our area on Monday.

First, I spent nearly 12 hours on the train to Ronkonkoma that day and the train personnel were very courteous to all that we endured this particular ride. There were repeated breakdowns on this line, not with the train I was on but with the electric trains that were stacked in front of our train. We had to get off a train that had no malfunction of its own so we could get by the electric trains that had become inoperable in front of us. The crew of our diesel train was annoyed, but never lost their sense of humor during this ride.

Secondly, I want to tip my hat to the LAKELAND FIRE DEPT., who were so courteous and provided the stranded passengers with shelter and food, as they had stopped the train before it arrived at the Ronkonkoma station, to inform the passengers of what lay ahead of them at the station. I wish I had taken their offer, as I was injured on the way home from the Ronkonkoma station.

Thirdly, I wish to inform your readers of

TWO HUMAN PARASITES I and many other passengers encountered when we arrived at the station. When the train stopped, myself and several other passengers were approached by these two parasites and asked where we had to go. When we stated our destinations, these two offered for \$20 a piece to take people where they needed to go as they had four-wheel drive vehicles.

To my knowledge, no one accepted their offer and I and several other passengers walked home in the howling storm. I suffered torn ligaments in my ankle resulting from a fall in my walk to Holtsville.

I hope I run into these two parasites again on my grounds, as I will not forget their faces or the vehicles they owned, which were a Chevy Blazer (Black and White) and a Surplus Post Office Jeep (with a For Sale Sign) posted on the rear window. They took unfair advantage of people who were really up against it. Their love for their fellow men lie only in their wallets. (L-5N)

Yours truly,  
Police Officer John Whelan  
Midtown South Precinct  
NYCPD

### 'This Bill will preserve two important fundamental rights.'

Dear Taxpayer,

Would you like Uncle Sam to help you pay your college tuition? YES!

Then write to Representative Otis G. Pike and tell him to vote in favor of bringing the Tuition Tax Credit Act 1977 Bill, H.R. 9332, out of the Ways & Means Committee so the entire House of Representatives can vote on it.

This legislation will provide a tax credit, subtracted directly from the amount of taxes owed, for tuition expenses paid by an individual for himself, his spouse, or his dependents. The amount of this credit will be 50 per cent of his tuition payments up to a total credit of \$500 per student. Of importance to low income taxpayers is that the credit will be refundable. This means that if the taxpayer is entitled to a credit greater than the amount of his tax liability, the difference will be refunded to him in cash.

This will also benefit the parents of any students who attend private elementary or secondary schools.

Many Americans can't afford to take advantage of the opportunities our educational

system offers. The College Entrance Examination Board found that over the past five years, the average tuition and fees at private four-year institutions rose by 54 per cent, at public four-year institutions by 57 per cent, at private two-year institutions by 52 per cent, and at public two-year institutions by 130 per cent! According to data supplied by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the result of these skyrocketing education costs is a 20 per cent drop in the number of lower and middle income students participating in higher education.

This Bill will preserve two important fundamental rights.

1. That no one class of people will monopolize higher education.

2. That parents will have the right to select the type of institution they wish their children to be educated in, that freedom of choice will not be curtailed.

Truly yours,  
Joseph E. Nolan  
New Suffolk

## SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

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