

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

A hope of living

Four years ago, this spring, I visited a friend in Southampton Hospital.

I had not seen him in about six months, and in this short time he appeared to have aged about 10 years.

The doctors had just opened and closed him up. The diagnosis was that he had terminal lung cancer. He had three months to live, six at best.

There was nothing more they could do for him.

About six weeks later I ran across him again. He was excited and vibrant. He had learned there was some kind of miracle drug in Mexico that enabled them to keep terminal cancer patients alive.

We asked why it wasn't available here, and he said he had been told it had not been fully tested by the Federal Drug Administration, and, therefore, could not be administered in the U.S. He said he was flying down that week to receive a treatment.

We ran into him on and off over the next two years. He was taking laetrile. He had his good days and his bad ones, but as far as he was concerned, he was alive for two more years than he was supposed to be.

He credited this extension of his life on the use of this drug. He told us of his difficulty in obtaining it and having to sell most of his possessions to finance his trips between Suffolk and Mexico.

The last time I talked to him was about six months ago, when he called offering the last of his possessions for sale to finance one more trip.

We don't know whether the laetrile kept him alive or whether it was his belief he was being helped that pulled

him through.

We do know the doctors had at best given him six months to live and until he heard of this medicine, he was dying rapidly.

There is a great debate going on about this medicine. Many doctors claim laetrile, an abstract from apricot pits, is useless for fighting cancer. Others aren't sure, and some even claim it works.

We fail to see why a person who has been diagnosed as terminally ill cannot be free to use whatever medication they desire to attempt to stay alive. Even if it gives them nothing more than hope.

Hope is powerful medicine in itself. We must look at the government's reluctance to accept new medicine to fight against disease. Cancer alone is a 25 billion annual business in the U.S.

We witnessed this with polio once the Salk vaccine was developed, approved, and used to inoculate the populace. Foundations collapsed, research labs closed, doctor's incomes fell and hospitals had to change their specialities. Pharmaceutical companies had to find other markets for their products.

Penicillin was discovered in the late 1800's. The discovery came quite by accident. It took a war to bring about widespread use and application.

When you think of the millions of lives that have been saved by this medicine and its derivatives, you must ask yourself, why did they wait a half century before using it. Some states have passed laws allowing the use of laetrile by terminally ill patients. New York should join these numbers. And why not?

Free to be independent

Tomorrow will commemorate the 201st year of freedom in this country. This year's Independence Day celebration will not go off with the fanfare of last year's, but the meaning is still as true and strong.

Normally, we give little thought to our freedoms. We should. They are our most valuable assets.

To really appreciate these freedoms, we would have to first live in a land where they do not exist. If you get an opportunity some day, talk to a first generation immigrant from a controlled country.

Let them tell you of the fears they had to live through in one of these suppressed countries.

Let them tell you about what it is like not to be able to speak or read various opinions and ideas. Listen to how they were restrained from choosing their schools or future occupations.

Try to understand how they were stripped of their rights and dignity,

looked upon by the government as nothing more than a tool to achieve the government's end.

Let them tell you of the horrors of the police breaking down the doors, the weeks of interrogation, the suspicious that led them to even mistrust their friends, their family and their clergy.

How impossible it was, no matter how hard they worked, to get out of the caste system they had been placed in by their birth.

We have sat and listened to the horror stories they have told.

We are only sorry we are unable to put into words, the emotion and feelings these people portrayed to us.

On our 201st birthday, we are proud of our country, of our system of our government and thank God for the Constitution and the Bill of Rights that holds it all together. We know what it means to us. Think about what it means to you. And why not?

New dining guide

Some months ago, we decided to dine out. We couldn't make up our mind where to go. Eastern Long Island has a wide array of good dining establishments but at the moment, there wasn't any way we could remember them all.

What kind of attire was necessary? What was the price range? Were reservations necessary? What kind of food did they serve? Finally, after racking our brain, we settled for an old favorite. Thus was born the idea for a comprehensive dining guide that would answer all the consumer's questions.

Your East End dining guide is being distributed with Suffolk Life this weekend. We hope this will be a valuable aid to you in selecting the right spot to dine for the mood you're in at the moment.

It contains a brief synopsis on each restaurant describing the basic cuisine, a few specialties and the atmosphere.

There also is a quick reference, geographical guide that within seconds will allow you to know all the pertinent information about the restaurant. The restaurants themselves each have a full-page ad where they describe and illustrate their menus and their restaurant.

We know this guide will be a success and we have planned to publish additional guides when needed.

We encourage you to save this valuable publication for future reference so that no longer will you have to face the frustration that we have faced ourselves in making the decision on where to dine out. And why not?

How much are legislators?

When the Suffolk County Legislature came into existence in the late sixties the salary was expected to be around \$6,000 per year.

We remember vividly the interviews we had with many of the candidates.

They were almost unanimous in their total lack of understanding of the job they were running for -- what their duties would be, the time that

would be involved, or the qualifications needed for this position.

Prior to the creation of the legislature, the county's business had been conducted by the Board of Supervisors. Each supervisor from the 10 towns served as a Director of the county and were able to accomplish all the county business in less than a half day every other week.

They were paid \$5,000 annually for

this job.

This half day every other week job now has grown, in some districts, into a full-time position. The salary has gone from the original \$6,000 to over \$16,000. Now the legislature has proposed they raise their salary for the next year to \$22,000, with the presiding officer going from \$24,000 to \$30,000.

As the salaries jumped, so have the expenses. Legislators are provided with cars, professional aides, some of whom also have a car, offices, secretaries, and office personnel.

We seriously question whether the 18 legislators and staffs are accomplishing more than the 10 supervisors did when they worked a half day every other week.

The legislators are caught up in a vicious circle. As they raised their salaries their conscience got the best of them and they put in more time to compensate for the additional money they are taking.

The more time they put in the more they believe they are worth, so they raise their salaries that much more.

Just putting in time is neither productive nor constitutes work in our book. Yet, this is all many legislators do.

The legislature was never intended to be a full-time, full-staffed position. Nor, was it intended to be a full salaried one. The attitude prevailing in the county legislature is a bureaucratic mentality that has become a sickness in this country.

The bigger government gets the less responsive it is to the people. The less responsive, the poorer the service.

We strongly urge the legislature to spend time streamlining their own bureaucracy. Cutting back on the hours they work and make these hours productive.

Instead of looking for a raise from an overtaxed populace, more production from less hours will automatically mean a raise for the legislators.

This is what these men have been saying to the county employees and it is time that they put their philosophy into practice. And why not?

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Hampton West

Mastic/Moriches
Patchogue
Medford/Holbrook
Sayville
Ronkonkoma

Coram/Middle Island
Selden/Centereach
3 Villages/Port Jefferson
Rocky Point

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Paradoxes in the law

We have never made any bones about it. We believe life begins at conception, and, therefore, are opposed to abortions.

The Supreme Court this week announced the federal government and states do not have to pay for abortions on demand by the indigent.

Being against abortion, this should be good news, but to us it is a travesty of justice.

If you accept the premise, which pro-abortionists do, that the fetus is nothing more than a growth that can be removed through a medical procedure, how then can the Supreme Court come to the conclusion this medical procedure cannot be performed under Medicaid and welfare systems.

To us it is an absolute paradox. We will be damned if we can see how our system of government can be amoral when it comes to taking a life and then become extremely moralistic when it comes to paying for it.

Putting our emotional feelings aside, it makes plain good sense not only to pay for, but to encourage the indigent to limit their families through whatever means available. Refusing to pay a \$200-\$500 medical bill for an abortion knowing this life will cost the state \$50,000 to \$100,000 in welfare costs before it reaches maturity is asinine.

When a hearing is not a hearing

The Public Service Commission last week in Riverhead conducted what it billed as a public hearing on LILCO's \$100 million petition for a rate increase. If granted the average person's electric bill will rise over \$78 per year.

In addition, the cost of goods and services produced on Long Island will be pushed up another couple of percentage points. Living here will be more expensive and it will be less profitable to do business in the area.

There will be more unemployment, less economic growth and quicker deterioration of what is left of the Long Island economy.

A lot of people wanted to have a say. One of the more noted was the Supervisor of Southampton, Theodore (Dode) Hulse. After two and one-half hours of waiting in the hearing room in Riverhead, Hulse was told he would not be allowed to be heard.

What kind of hearing is a hearing if people against the increase are not allowed to talk?

How public is the Public Service Commission when it is only interested in listening to LILCO cry "poor mouth."

A \$78 increase for electricity alone will be devastating to many families. Some businesses will pack up and leave. Others that might have established themselves on Long Island will seek out alternative

Along the same lines of reasoning, the Supreme Court ruled to okay parochial school aid in the form of textbooks covering geography, math, social sciences and English, but public school can't give visual aids such as globes, slide projectors and video equipment.

All of this makes us wonder about the wisdom of the Supreme Court and whether our Chief Justices should have their heads examined. These recent decisions indicate Nixon wasn't the only screwball loose in Washington.

The New York State Legislature itself damn near outdid the Supreme Court with the passing of a law for decriminalization of marijuana.

On one hand they are saying it's still illegal to possess this substance, but, if they catch you at it, because there are so many of you using it, then it will only be an offense equivalent to breaking a speeding law.

We wish those legislators, who voted in favor, had the courage of their convictions. Instead of leaving the public in legal jeopardy they should have voted to legalize it all together. With decisions and laws being passed like those illustrated it's no wonder both young and old are confused about what is right and what is wrong today. And why not?

locations.

We realize the Public Service Commission by law must allow LILCO to make a fair margin of profit. Don't they also have an obligation to make sure the victims of this monopoly are not gouged in the process?

From what we have seen of LILCO's operation there are places they could cut expenditures without cutting services.

With the Public Service Commission refusing to listen to a Supervisor of a town at a public hearing, you can't help but sense that LILCO doesn't have to worry about cutting its overhead. And why not?

There ain't any Santa Claus

Many politicians and citizens look at the federal government as Santa Claus.

The traditional Santa Claus arrives on the eve of December 25th with his bag full of goodies and he creates a day of joy and happiness.

Uncle Sam can arrive any day with his bagful of gifts to create the illusion of happiness. About a month ago, two of Uncle Sam's elves, Congressmen Pike and Downey descended on their districts with a sack on their backs filled with federal goodies.

Uncle Sam was giving out millions to the local communities. There would be new sewer districts, school houses, parking lots and shuffle-board courts, bicycle paths and medical facilities. The list seemed endless.

Talking with Supervisor Allen Smith of Riverhead last week, he said there were a few strings attached, to all these goodies.

"The goodies Uncle Sam was promising the town were conditioned upon his learning to walk on his ear

within 30 days," as Allen put it. He went on to describe some of the bizarre requirements that had to be met in order to qualify. To give one illustration, a proposed sewer district on which all engineering, environmental impact statements and other necessary paper work had been completed, found they would be in trouble because the geodetic survey required was of the wrong size and on the wrong paper. The one Uncle Sam insisted would be the only one they would accept is not available on Long Island and it took several days of research and a rush trip by an aide to the city to be obtained.

Congressmen like Pike and Downey get a lot of headlines out of announcing the millions in aid they bring to Long Island. For this recognition don't they have an obligation to make sure this aid is more than an illusion that they get good public relations out of. And why not?

EDITORIAL REPLY

On renovation of St. Isidore's

Dear Sir:

Your June 22 editorial "The Catholic Problem" unfortunately contains several errors.

The first error concerns the principals in the dispute. The principals were not Father Wenda and his parishioners but, on the one hand, Father Wenda and his parish council and, on the other hand, some parishioners.

A second error concerns an alleged plan to change the pews, altar rail and the altar. No such plan ever existed.

The third error is that Bishop McGann failed to be understanding of the problem at St. Isidore's. In fact, Bishop McGann appointed Auxiliary Bishop Gerald J. Ryan, episcopal vicar of Suffolk County, to hear all interested parties. Bishop Ryan spent many hours in this task and presented a written report to Bishop McGann, who gave full consideration to all points of view in exercising his right and duty of making a final decision.

The fourth error concerns your notion of parish councils and their authority. From their introduction in 1968, parish councils have been and remain advisory bodies made up of ex-officio, appointed and elected members. Each parish pastor has the right to appoint three persons to a parish council.

The fifth error is your assertion that the situation at St. Isidore's has affected the other 128 parishes in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. There is no evidence that this is so.

The sixth error is your implication that the Diocese has whitewashed the situation at St. Isidore's. On the contrary, Bishop McGann

has publicly noted the many negative factors in this dispute: a communications failure, divisions among friends and families, bitterness and scandal. The diocesan newspaper, The Long Island Catholic, has covered the controversy in full and published several letters to the editor from interested parties.

I conclude that your editorial "The Catholic Problem" was a disservice both to St. Isidore's Parish and the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

Sincerely yours,
Rev. Daniel S. Hamilton, Director

ED. NOTE: Differences of opinion are healthy in a Democracy. Making certain statements as fact is pure whitewash.

1. As reported in Suffolk Life, disagreement was between Father Wenda, a split parish council and the parishioners. This was never contradicted by Father Wenda and is widely known.

2. Part of the discussed renovation plans was to redo the interior of the church including the pews, and communion rail.

3. Having knowledge of the problem and having an understanding of a problem are two different things. Nixon knew of the Watergate break-in, but didn't understand the implications of the problem until too late.

4. If parish councils were to be solely advisory boards without any authority, then the Catholic community was totally misled. Why then have an election of a chairman vote on issues, etc? The trouble here is the hierarchy of the church looks upon these boards as obedient puppets.

5. None are so blind as those who refuse to see. The Diocese's stonewall approach to the problem and the tone of this letter are just indications of the attitude which the hierarchy has, an attitude which is alienating a growing number of Catholics. What does it take, a total boycott of the collection baskets?

6. Your letter is testimony to this fact. There has been a disservice—the refusal of the hierarchy to share fully with its people on social and financial matters. No one questions the clergy's authority when it comes to religious issues, but on matters concerning the parish and how it is run, there are grave questions. Unless the clergy realizes this, they will drive people away from the church and their religion.

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NEWSPAPERS

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LILCO's profits too high

At a public hearing this past week on LILCO's rate proposal for a rate increase, John Wilson, president of J. Wilson Associates, an economic consulting firm in Washington D.C., criticized LILCO's present earnings of 13.75 per cent as being too high.

LILCO is petitioning to be allowed by law to increase their profits to 14.1 per cent. If LILCO's request is granted, the utility's customers will be paying over \$100 million more for electric service in the coming year.

At 13.75 per cent, LILCO's rate of profits are 40 to 80 per cent higher than comparable utilities are allowed across the country. LILCO maintains they need these higher profits in order to attract investors so they can improve and enlarge their facilities.

Suffolk Life considers a 14 per cent net margin of profit for a utility which has a monopoly to be boarding on gouging, particularly when you consider the billions of dollars in business that LILCO does each year.

A small retail store doing \$100-\$200,000 in business is lucky to be able to achieve this kind of profit structure.

The most successful supermarket chains on Long Island are only able to achieve a one-half to one per cent net profit. Department stores like Gimbels and Macy's end up with net profits that are under one per cent.

There are few businesses that are doing any large volume of business that have a net profit after taxes that exceeds a 10 per cent level. Why should LILCO, which is a monopoly be entitled to a 14 per cent net profit?

Particularly when their high electric rates have already placed an undue hardship on the residents of Long Island. These high utility rates are also one of the prime factors for businesses leaving the area for more competitive atmosphere where electrical costs are lower.

The Public Service Commission should take this into consideration, and instead of granting LILCO's profit gouging increase, order a reduction in profits that would come about through a reduction in rates. And why not?

Off and running

Parr Meadows, the east coast's newest and finest quarterhorse track, opened to the public a month ago, in a state of confusion and partially completed.

Last week, with the opening of the glass-enclosed restaurant, the track now is almost totally completed and really ready to serve the public.

The races are tremendously exciting and the whole physical plant is a great addition to the Eastern Long Island recreation scene.

The restaurant which has a bird's eye view of the track should be a must on your summer schedule of things to do. Prices are reasonable, the food is excellent and the service is a pleasure.

Now, Eastern Long Islanders particularly on vacations can combine the luxury of dining out with the excitement of horse racing and the wagering that goes with it.

If you have not gone to the track yet, we recommend that you give it a try.

Unlike opening night, there is very little hassle either getting in or out and there is more than adequate parking to handle two or three times what has been normal gate.

The track even allows the admission of children under 18 when accompanied by parents, although they are not allowed to wager.

Quarter horses are the fastest breed in the world. They are capable of enormous speeds over a short span.

This kind of racing first took hold in this country back in the days of the wild west, where cow hands matched the speed of their mounts against each other over dirt tracks, often times through the main streets of the new towns of the West.

For Parr Meadows to be a permanent attraction on Eastern Long Island, it is going to need the support of the year-round, as well as summer visitors.

We hesitated in urging you to go before the track was totally completed, but now that it is, we hope you will give it a try. We are sure you will enjoy it. And why not?

Warning: Gas rationing may be in your future

President Carter is preparing to submit to Congress a bill that will give him authority to impose gas rationing without having to go back to Congress for approval, if he deems the circumstances necessary.

Those of us who live in suburbia should watch this proposal very carefully.

We all depend upon our cars as our only means of transportation and survival. A spur of the moment gas rationing plan, imposed by the President, could prove devastating to us.

Federal plans often do not take individual areas into consideration, and as a result, where some areas can live with federal regulations, others could be put into turmoil.

A gas rationing plan would have little effect on our cities and metropolitan areas where they have mass transit systems in existence and people can change to alternative means of transportation with little problem.

A severe gas rationing plan on Long Island, particularly here in rural Suffolk would bring our economy and our way of life to a standstill.

EDITORIAL REPLY

'What is needed is an adequate solution'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

We the employees of the Town of Brookhaven Animal Shelter wish to thank you for the accurate account in your recent editorial (June 15, 1977) - entitled "Going to the Dogs in Brookhaven Town".

Two and a half years ago, a few people from the Towns of Babylon, Islip, Smithtown and further west, all members of various humane groups, undertook to discredit the Brookhaven Animal Shelter for various personal reasons. Some of which are to create a spay and neuter clinic and their want to keep every animal alive even when the owners request that it be put to sleep.

We at the shelter feel we are doing the best we possibly can and well within the laws as provided by the State of New York. We are sorry about any possible doubt left in the minds of the taxpayers because of uncalled for harassment. We know eventually all of the unfounded accusations will be proven untrue.

Sincerely,
Employees of the
Brookhaven Animal Shelter

'We feel we are doing the best we possibly can'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

In connection with your editorial, "The Coast Guard's Deadly Decision", and the subsequent response of Mr. Walter Seely, several points require clarification:

The brave LIBBA members who lost their lives were in vehicles on the beach. Had they been in communication with the Coast Guard, they never would have launched their small boat: They would have known that the Coast Guard was under way.

Secondly, it is presently against the law to operate a marine VHF-FM from other than a boat; which is the reason LIBBA, a thousand families strong, wants the Coast Guard to monitor CB.

Thirdly, the presumed unreliability of CB is not a factor from our point of view. . . the straight-line distance from the Moriches Coast Guard Station to either side of the inlet is one mile.

Further, with regard to the clutter, on the evening in question, the duty Sheriff's Deputy at the Smith Point pavilion got on the air on channel twenty-two, announced that we had a marine emergency and asked everyone else to get off. They did. Promptly.

We do not dispute that anyone going any distance offshore should have marine VHF-FM. What we are saying is that it is both tragic and stupid for us to be without direct, immediate verbal communication with the Coast Guard, regardless of how it is obtained. A telephone at the inlet would be fine.

The majority of small boats in the inlet do not have radios at all. Seventy per cent of our members are CB equipped, as are other groups and individuals. We on the beach are normally the first to observe a boat in difficulty. Our members risk their lives to assist these boaters, we need direct communication, and we feel that the Coast Guard is hiding behind a regulation. What is needed is an adequate and direct solution to the problem . . . regardless of how it is obtained.

Very truly yours,
Richard C. Dennison
Public Relations Director
LIBBA No. 1153 R

'EYE Centennial'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

EYE CENTENNIAL

Those sewer pipes along our route
Above the ground ain't worth a hoot -
Perhaps the tourists think they're cute
(As rubbish cans---there's no dispute.)

Of course, a year or so ago
Some tired flowers did outgrow -
Then came the winter months and snow
And with it refuse overflow.

Whose bright idea brought this about?
No doubt 'twas some appointed lout.
The Town was better off without
These concrete rings of stones and doubt.

To top it off --- it was the Bi
When villages should glorify.
While we, instead of beautify,
Bestowed pollution to the eye. (L-11V)
Frank M. Re

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Employment for the privileged

Suffolk Life learned this week that some of Suffolk's politicians had successfully placed their sons and daughters in county jobs for the summer.

Jobs for all young people have been at a premium this past year. Why should we tolerate these precious few seasonal county jobs going to the children of politicians.

What makes them so much better qualified than the average resident of Suffolk County.

Aren't you fed up with these hacks taking advantage of you at every opportunity?

An eye for an eye

Governor Carey will soon have a bill on his desk allowing capital punishment for 12 different types of murder.

He has vowed to veto it when it hits his desk.

Capital punishment is, of course, considered the ultimate punishment. Some critics claim no crime even premeditated, coldly calculated murder warrants such a dastardly act.

For a number of years we also opposed capital punishment. Not that we felt the punishment did not fit the crime, but because we felt no one has the right to take another life.

We cannot ignore the facts any longer. Murder has been on the uprise. The use of weapons in committing crimes are common place. Crime overall, has surged under

Why should we have to tolerate this kind of system in OUR government?

It's not their business, it's not their government, it is OUR government. All summer jobs should be filled through lottery rather than patronage.

Your son or daughter should have exactly the same opportunity of achieving one of these plush positions as the political bigwigs do.

Damn it, isn't it time we had some fair play for the people who are paying the bills here in Suffolk County. And why not?

our liberal criminal code.

It is time to rethink our entire crime and punishment procedure. For if crime is to be controlled, the punishment must be more severe than the crime that has been committed.

We cannot afford to continue to allow criminals to victimize society without regard to the consequences.

When a person has been tried and judged a habitual criminal, the punishment at the end must be quick and final.

We urge Carey to put aside his personal beliefs on capital punishment and sign the bill into law.

He will still, as governor, have the ability to commute the sentence to life imprisonment and when it is necessary the death penalty can be left to stand. And why not?!

Postal rates going up again

The Post Office is looking to raise the first-class postal rates from 13 cents to 16 cents before the end of the year.

President Carter in a cute political move has recommended the first class rate for personal correspondence remain at 13 cents. The dual first-class rate most assuredly will lead to mass confusion for the Post Office, which already has to be just about the most confused place in the world.

We find it ironic Carter would ask for preferential subsidized rates when the post office has given big arguments for raising rates because they want to become self-sufficient.

The cost of mail has shot up further and faster than any other segment of the economy.

The post office has thought nothing about levelling 200-600 per cent increases on major users of the mails over the last decade, while at the same time raising the rates of first-class mail by almost 200 per cent.

These outlandish increases have led to the establishment of independent postal systems to deliver third and some second class mail.

There would be more competition for first-class mail except the post office, by federal law, has a monopoly

Long Island's first wine a smashing success

The first commercially produced wine on Long Island was released for general consumption on July 3rd.

Hargrave Vineyard of Cutchogue, has produced what is probably the world's greatest Rose. This exceptionally fine "Rose", produced from Cabernet Sauvignon grapes was an enormous gamble by Alex and Louisa Hargrave, and has been much anticipated on the Long Island scene.

Long Islanders should be doubly pleased for we now have our own operating winery and one that is producing such an excellent product.

The Hargraves, who both are chemists, and had a yen to get back to earth, mulled over the idea of producing a Long Island wine for sometime before they actually started the venture.

They chose Long Island because of

the climate and the similarity of the soils to some of the finest wine producing regions in Europe.

They chose well. Their first wine to hit the market has been almost a total sellout.

Unlike name Rose's such as Mateuse or Lancers, it has an eloquently drier taste and a flavor that is delicious but not sweet.

With such a fine product as a start, the Hargrave vineyard is bound to be a success. A success Long Island has badly needed. The next wine, to come from this vineyard, in extremely limited quantities, will be a Saunignon Blanc. It is due for release in September.

We wish Alex and Louisa our best and congratulate them on this successful venture. And why not?

EDITORIAL REPLY

'What exactly are they fighting for?'

Dear Editor:

They march in numbers, waving banners and chanting battle cries. Men, women and even children, all Polish-Christians joined together for their cause. They jeer their enemy. Walking out of Mass, they refuse to listen to their Pastor. As a diversionary tactic, they even spill out the collection boxes to make their point more clear. Not even the ranks of a Bishop stands in the way of these Christian Soldiers. But, what exactly are they fighting for?

These parishioners are unhappy with the renovations taking place within the structures of St. Isidore's R.C. Church, claiming the changes are detrimental to their church and an insult to their Polish pride and heritage. Well, I'm Polish and lately I haven't been too proud. As a member of this parish, if anything I have been ashamed and humiliated by the behavior and bitterness of my fellow parishioners. Regardless of how much they may dislike the aluminium siding and-or the air conditioning, if in no way justifies their demeaning behavior. They have even resorted to spreading vicious lies to slander and discredit our beloved Pastor.

Polish Pride. What does any of this have to do with Polish Pride? Nationalism exists in the hearts and minds of people, not in the shingles on a building. In fact, the design of architecture of St. Isidore's is not Polish in origin, but rather was adopted from the

churches in Rome, as were most of the early Catholic structures. The point in question as it seems to me is not one of "save our church", or "save our Polish Heritage", but rather a matter of personal taste.

Another point my fellow parishioners have dearly forgotten is exactly what our church is there for. If I am not mistaken, it is there to bring us closer to Christ. Have they forgotten Him and what our religion is all about? Christ is the one who suffered and died to save us all. He taught us to love, not hate our fellow man. He taught us to turn the other cheek, not reach out and slap others; and slap faces they have. They mock their own Pastor, their Bishop, and even their fellow parishioners who choose to support the church. What has happened in the real reason we are members of this parish? What has happened to our religion, our faith, our Christian spirit? I have never seen more hypocritical behavior in my life.

It seems to me more time could be spent fighting more worthwhile causes. The poor, the sick, the handicapped, the lonely, the disturbed are just a few of the thousands longing for help in our society today.

Finally, to those who may be misinformed, I would like to restate the concessions the Pastor and the Diocese has already granted to those in opposition with the alterations of the church. The altar will remain and be restored; the statues will remain and be restored; the pews will remain and be restored. The only changes being made are the addition of aluminium siding, which in my opinion will make attending Mass in the hot, humid summers a pleasure, and finally the painting of the interior and the laying of carpet which again in my opinion could only serve to beautify our church.

I think it is time to put an end to the dissention. We all make mistakes in our life, we all at times forget the essence of Christianity. Please my fellow parishioners, love God, love your neighbor, so that I may be once again proud of my heritage, proud to be a Polish Catholic of St. Isidore's Parish.

Helen Doroski
"Other Concerned Parishioners" of St. Isidore's
Riverhead

SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

VOL. 17 NO. 37

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willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor.

Annual Rotary Bar-B-Cue August 6th

Mark your calendar for Saturday, August 6th. It's the date of the Old Fashioned Riverhead Rotary Club Chicken Barbecue. Once again it will be held at the beautiful Grumman Picnic Grounds in Calverton.

Not only will your family be treated to an outstanding chicken dinner with all the trimmings, but kids and adults alike can spend the afternoon and early evening enjoying the free carnival rides that make this barbecue the most outstanding on Long Island.

There are whips, and merry-go-rounds, ferris wheels, train rides, boat rides and a host of others that kids of all ages can go on as often as they like.

In addition, the barbecue features various forms of entertainment that includes jam sessions and bands. There is a dance floor for those who enjoy dancing cheek to cheek.

Although the Riverhead Rotary Club normally serves 4 to 5,000 people annually, there have only been a few times when there has been even a couple of minutes wait to get in, to park, or to be served.

There are hundreds of clean and comfortable picnic benches set up under shade trees for your enjoyment. Many families have used the

outing as a get together.

Also businesses and clubs have found it convenient and economical to hold their company and organizational summer get together here.

The proceeds raised from the sale of the tickets are used to support a host of Rotary projects which include youth activities, the support of Central Suffolk Hospital, student loans and assistance, Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck (for disabled children).

One of the most beneficial programs has been the International Exchange Student Program in which the Riverhead Club has brought youth from all over the world to the community to live the life of an American and find out what the people of this country are really like.

The advance sale for tickets for children under 12 are only \$3.50 and adults are only \$4.50.

A change in procedure from past years is that a ticket will be required for each occupant entering the grounds which is included in the meal ticket.

This change was brought about because of the increased number of people who are entering the picnic grounds and not purchasing a meal.

Advance sale tickets are available

Wars are to be won

We don't like the idea of the creation of a bomb that can extinguish all life while leaving the physical earth intact.

This is what a neutron bomb will do.

Although invented years ago, the neutron bomb has just made the headlines and the super liberals and eggheads who predominate the Washington scene are screaming about this country's building an arsenal of these weapons. They are wrong, dead wrong.

If we have the technology to build such a weapon, you can bet your sweet bippy that the Russians do also.

They understand the concept perfectly that if you get into a war, you only get into it to win.

There is no such thing as a polite war with rules and regulations.

America allowed itself to be sucked into such a situation in Viet-

nam. We all know the result of fighting with your hands tied behind your back. We literally caused the murder and maiming of hundreds of thousands of young Americans.

We do not like war or the concept of killing another human being one bit. We do understand that we must produce a war machine equipped with the most dastardly of weapons man's mind can conceive as a deterrent to those who we consider going to war against us.

A neutron bomb is no worse than a tomahawk in the hand, either way you are just as dead.

Why build an arsenal so devastating that no one would dare to try you. We must as a government and as a country work through whatever way we can to insure world peace. And why not?

from any Riverhead Rotarian. They may be purchased at the front office of Suffolk Life or by mail by sending directly to Suffolk Life.

Please address your orders to Rotary Barbecue, c-o of Suffolk Life Newspapers, Box 262, Westhampton, New York, 11978.

Allow at least seven days for return of tickets. A check must accompany order.

The gate price of tickets is 50 cents more than the advance sale price.

Why not plan on not only getting together with your immediate family, but your friends and neighbors and have a section of the picnic grounds representing your family or neighborhood.

This affair has been and will be one of the highlights of the summer season. Don't miss it. And why not?

READERS' OPINION

'It's a fight against all the newfangled changes'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I'm sorry, but you are not quite accurate on "the Catholic problem". Let a suffering Catholic tell you about it...

What the fight at St. Isidore's is really all about is the people's gut-response attempt to save what is left of our precious traditional Catholic Faith. Some protestors may not even be able to express that, but that's really the root of it.

It's a fight AGAINST all the new-fangled changes that Catholics have been forced to live with ever since the Second Ecumenical Council. That Council needlessly changed the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the core and lifeline of our Faith, the traditional form of which goes back two thousand years. Obediently, we went along with it, and grieved silently. The result has been a deep sadness within our Church, confusion, chaos. This all may have well been deliberate -- after all, if we can have subversives in the U.S. Government, why not in the Catholic Church?

Father Wenda has jumped on the modernist bandwagon in trying to change this venerable old church. He certainly did intend to erase the beautiful murals, tear down the old altar, altar rail and the old pews -- these, you see, are all too-vivid reminders of the traditional Catholic Faith to which we are desperately clinging. He, like all modernists, have to chuck all that out. Out with the old, no matter how beautiful. In with the new, no matter how wrong.

Why has the Bishop not publicly chastised Fr. Wenda for his scandalous waste of the parishioners' money? Instead, the Bishop backs him up! Fr. Wenda has lavishly redecorated the rectory and extravagantly installed air conditioning, which the

parishioners neither need nor want. Why, the cost of operating air conditioning in such a large, high-ceilinged building will be prohibitive, let alone that the blatant disregard of the energy shortage problem is scandalous. And, did you know, that at the same time, the tuition in the school was raised! These doings do not bespeak the true Catholic Faith, which always has held thrift and poverty as virtues to be practiced.

No, Mr. Willmott, we Catholic lay people never wanted to assume more responsibility for running the Church and we don't want it now. Christ's church is NOT a democracy. But, we do want our clerical leaders to be what they once were, before the Second Ecumenical Council spread its new ways among us: faithful to Almighty God by putting HIM first and man second, faithful to the unchanging tenets of the Catholic Faith, faithful to the virtue of humility. Many bishops, priests and nuns have lost their way. This is what happened as a result of the Second Ecumenical Council, and the laity are trying to help get them back on the right path.

If it takes withholding our contributions along with our fervent prayers, then we'll withhold our contributions, not only in St. Isidore's, but in every parish in this diocese. For good people will never stop praying or stop obeying God's Ten Commandments, but they surely will stop supporting with their hard-earned money, the slow but steady destruction of our traditional Catholic Faith.

We desperately need the traditional rules, the traditional ways, the traditional Latin Mass back again. L-7W

Name Withheld

'With the rationalization of renovation, many affairs have been destroyed'

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I wish to prayerfully and gratefully commend you (Suffolk Life Editorial June 22) and Mr. Ron Ziel (June 23 issue of the North Fork Free Enterprise) for excellent, perceptive coverage of the problem at St. Isidore's, Riverhead. It is providential that we are blessed with such intelligent journalism at a time when there is so much distortion of fact.

Since I experienced a similar heartache in my own parish, when our church doors were locked and our three beautiful Gothic style altars were dismantled and the tabernacle moved to one side, I can be most empathetic with the parishioners of St. Isidore's and those of other parishes where change is taking place.

With the rationalization of renovation, etc., many altars have been destroyed (as far east as Block Island). Tables replace altars and Our Blessed Lord in the tabernacle is relegated to one side. The priest takes the higher precedence in his presidential chair and thus the stage is set for the assembly as per the Novus Ordo Missae, that is the New Arrangement of the Mass.

Vatican Council II ruled that the church (hierarchy) should recognize the grace of God in its people-people like those of St. Isidore's who were accustomed to pray, "O Lord I love the beauty of your house...." and "I will go into the altar of God....", inspirational preparatory prayers that have been removed from Mass (36 such prayers have been abolished).

We should realize that after 19 centuries and 3 decades the Catholic Church grew without essential change and then since 1967 revolutionary innovators have been altering not only our churches as to altars, sanctuaries and architecture, but our significant liturgy and holy mass. At this time of needed prayer for the preservation of the traditional Catholic Church, I would request a reading of an excellent analysis of the aforementioned. It is entitled, "The Great Sacrilege" by Father James F. Wathen and is available for \$3.50 from Tan Books Publishers, P.O. Box 424, Rockford, Ill., 61105.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Giacinta T. Cooper
Greenport

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Hampton West

Mastic/Moriches
Patchogue
Medford/Holbrook
Sayville
Ronkonkoma

Coram/Middle Island
Selden/Canterbach
3 Village/Port Jefferson
Rocky Point

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Moped licenses

Can't our asinine political caucrats leave anything alone. In the waning hours of this year's long-winded, non-productive legislative session, it was passed in a last minute bill that will require mopeds to be licensed, registered, and of course, insured.

Mopeds are nothing more than simple bikes with a 1 hp motor. They do not exceed 17 mph. A speed that is exceeded by a normal English racer with pedal power.

These greedy bums couldn't keep their hands off this economical method of transportation.

They had to sneak in the dark of the night a bill that would require those who use mopeds to be licensed for a fee, to have the bike licensed for a fee and to enrich the insurance companies, who too many of them are too

chummy with, to start with.

The bill is now sitting on the Governor's desk, and unless moped users barrage the Governor with objections, it will be signed.

Mopeds are no more dangerous than bicycles or, for that matter, soapbox racers that kids build out of crates, baby carriage wheels and a hunk of 2 x 4.

Just because they have a 1 hp motor on them does not make them dangerous. Like with anything else, the operators themselves create the danger that leads to the accidents.

All the licensing and regulations will not weed out those who will be reckless, no more than it does with our cars.

It will give the state another source of revenues, the insurance companies another way to gouge the public. It

will cut down on mopeds popularity.

It will increase the demands on gas and the enactment of this bill will bring the total regulation by big brother state over the people one more step closer.

Carey is a political animal whose prime function is to fill the coffers of

the state. Only if he is bombarded with your objections will he pass up this opportunity to gouge you again.

Pick up your pen and send him your message. Make your language loud and clear so he does not misinterpret your feelings. And why not?

Does old age preclude work?

One of the most frightening aspects of growing old to a productive person must be the aspect of mandated retirement.

We have never been able to understand why productive people are forced to retire at age 65 nor why our Social Security system penalizes a person if he continues to work past this arbitrary age.

As an employer, we have seen a number of our people over the years past the age who have been as productive as young people.

We have felt honored to be able to have them as members of our staff. They have brought to us the years of experience and wisdom that can only be acquired through experience.

Some people are ready to retire at 18 years of age and they should, for they never will be worth a damn in a productive organization.

Other people who enjoy their work, thrive on producing and being involved, should never have to face the prospect of being thrown out in the cold. Sixty-five has been the mandatory age for retirement as long as we can remember. Yet during our life time, the number of years a person lives has expanded as modern

medicine and techniques have been perfected. We have watched older people when forced to retire die mentally.

People who walked and halked with enthusiasm overnight become lethargic and wasted.

God, how horrible it must be to have society say to you you are an old person, we don't need you anymore, go off in a corner and die.

We consider a mandatory retirement age and denial of insurance benefits earned through contributions to Social Security to be absolute discrimination.

Mandatory retirement is a disgrace to a nation that considers itself fair and just.

Let a man or woman choose their own retirement time according to their physical and emotional needs and their ability to perform to their and their employer's satisfaction.

Let's stop wasting the cream of our crop. Those who have lived, who have seen, who have experienced.

It is sickening to think of the knowledge that we pack up and waste by telling a citizen he is now a senior, and, therefore, worthless. And why not?

READERS' OPINION

'They did a fine job this past holiday'

Dear Editor

In regard to the article that you ran covering the July 4th weekend, on the conditions on Dune Road, I feel that as a Southampton Town resident and business owner (I run Hot Dog Beach) I must go on record against the statements made by Mr. Douglas Donohue at the Southampton Town Board meeting on July 5th, and quoted in your article.

First, Mr. Donohue displayed some photographs of people sunbathing nude on a beach which is 300 yards east of Hot Dog Beach. If this was the case, certainly the town police, who were patrolling the dunes in front of Mr. Donohue's property, at his request, would have arrested the people involved as they have done in the past.

Now, as to Mr. Donohue's claim that he represents six homeowners east of Hot Dog Beach, I would like to point out there are only four homes east of us. Two of these are owned by Mr. Donohue and his second beach house is unoccupied.

Another statement he made - quote, "I had to stay in my house to protect it, while this rowdy crowd took over our property" - end quote, is another I must refute.

There were at least 5 patrol cars and at least 10 police officers, no more than a stone's throw away from Mr. Donohue's home. Also using Triton Lane as a base of operations were 2 fire inspectors, 1 East Quogue fire truck, the Superintendent of Highways, Supervisor of Southampton Towns, Superintendent of Parks, Chief of Police, State Police, and other agencies that worked

overtime that weekend to cope with the problem of traffic control and the safety of the summer visitors that make the Hamptons what they are.

The 4th of July weekend is perhaps the biggest weekend of the year and this year weather conditions were ideal. That Dune Road became a "rampant, lawless society", I find it hard to accept. The 100,000 visitors that were supposed to have been here on the holiday weekend were made up of many different groups - families, young people, senior citizens, professional people, local residents, people from all over the country who came to vacation on Long Island and use our tourist facilities.

Mr. Donohue suggested calling out the National Guard, which seems to me to be a lack of faith in our local agencies. They did a fine job this past holiday weekend, as they do every other day of the year.

I feel a great deal of credit should be given to every one of the town agencies and town residents for coping with an unexpected number of tourists that came to the Hamptons over the July 4th holiday.

In closing, I feel that there are a few people that should get a pat on the back from all of us. The lifeguards at the Southampton Town Beach - Tiana - on Dune Road, whose names, unfortunately, I do not know, were responsible for saving a man's life on the July 4th weekend. L-15W

Sincerely,
David C. McKibbin
Hot Dog Beach
East Quogue

'Why can't our laws have some teeth in them'

The Honorable T. Hulse
Supv. of Southampton Town

Dear Sir,

This past July Fourth weekend was a saga of filth, disgust, noise and frustration. What is happening to Hampton Bays? I, a native, able to trace my ancestors to the Red Creek Cemetery, hoped to enjoy with my children and grandchild a Sunday at the ocean beach. We managed to obtain a parking space and proceeded to the white, carefree sands of the beach. They were covered with the litter of animalistic man - beer cans, bottle tops, soiled pampers, castoff combs and various assorted bits of garbage. The language used by the occupants of the beach made me blush for the vulgarity and coarseness of the users.

Leaving the beach early, we were involved in a traffic snarl turning an eight minute trip into a thirty five minute session of temper displays, gasoline fumes and motor cycles weaving in and out.

Southampton Town supposedly has an anti group ordinance. I vaguely recall reading "No More Than X number of Occupants in One Dwelling Unless Blood Related." On Bay Avenue, directly across the street from one another, I counted twenty cars at one house and twelve at the other. The occupants of these cars remained for the entire weekend with their noise, street littering garbage and cherry bombs. Why can't our laws have some teeth in them? Taxes spiral at a dizzying rate

surely we must have the man power. Our Chamber of Commerce and local merchants oppose preserving what little is left of our hamlet. They feel they gain financially from this influx. Do they think the average "groupie" spends money? Surely, the beer and liquor stores profit, but this "groupie" does very little eating and sleeps in parking lots which brings to mind why he came here in the first place - to freeloader! Did you ever stop to think about it? It costs him nothing to go to the beach, yet taxpayers must purchase a beach sticker and their taxes continue to rise to pay for the services available to the freeloader; eg. police, fire department and the clean up crews.

We post signs on Dune Road, "No Parking" and fail to enforce it. Again, we are sought after as an easy mark.

The majority of these people are escaping N.Y. City, Brooklyn and Queens. These areas have been blighted by filth and apathy. Are we going to watch from the wings and let it happen here? We cast our vote for candidates promising us this, that and the other thing, our faith becomes doubtful after they take office and their promises are rarely fulfilled.

We owe it to future generations to formulate growth and conservation plans. I anxiously await your views and plans regarding this pressing problem. L-11W
Sincerely,
Jeanne Penny McConnell

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Long Island Veterans Cemetery controversy

Pinelawn, the national cemetery for this area, is rapidly running out of space. By next February, it is projected to be full. Veterans and their widows are entitled to be buried in a national cemetery.

Their right is our obligation as citizens for the service they rendered in keeping our country free and independent.

Congress and the Veterans Administration have been eyeing federal lands in Calverton on which Grumman is located and the surrounding right of ways as a future site. Last week at a public hearing, in Riverhead, the cemetery proposal emerged into a bitter controversy between the Vets groups and agricultural interests.

The Grumman site covers over 12,000 acres. The land ranges from sandy swamps to the richest agricultural land in the nation.

Congress and the Veterans Administration arbitrarily have decided they want the 900-acre cemetery located in the heart of the rich agricultural lands. Farmers are asking why can't the cemetery be located on the less desirable agricultural land the federal government owns.

This is a damn good question.

Why should we give up choice agricultural land that produces food and provides tax revenues, when other lands could be equally suitable for a cemetery. There are thousands of acres within the fences of Grumman that in no way interfere with Grumman's defense work.

To the south and west of the Grumman fence, there are suitable lands in the quantity needed that also is a suitable alternative to the lands chosen.

Suffolk County is in the process of spending millions of dollars of our real estate taxes to buy development rights to prime farmland. We are doing it to insure our country of a continuing food source.

Why turn this rich, agricultural land into a burial ground?

Otis Pike, Congressman from this district, has taken laissez faire attitude about the entire situation. Is this due to his aging or has he just

become immuned to his constituents' needs.

It's a sorry sight to see for Pike was once considered a crusader who fought against the bungling bureaucracy of the federal government in Washington. This federal project, smack in the heart of his district, in fact, right in his home town, cries out for his intervention.

Those we elected to office are considered to be at the top of the system. These are the people that make the laws, that we live by and administer the government under which we operate.

They also are the people that set the pace for the great bureaucracy that operates underneath them.

Government today, whether federal, state, county or local, is a wasteland of non-productivity. It's a maze of red tape, bureaucratic regulations, time and money consuming procedures that feeds on themselves.

How did this system come about?

Partly through politics, partly through empire building, but mostly through the example set by our elected leaders.

Our county government is a prime example.

The legislators were elected as part-time officials. Their job was initially intended to require them to attend a board meeting every other week plus an occasional committee meeting and be available to listen to and hear their constituents' problems and requests.

The former Board of Supervisors, which was comprised of the elected supervisors of each of the 10 towns, were able to run Suffolk County much more effectively than the present County Legislature, which is comprised of 18 members, on a limited schedule than was proposed for the legislators.

One of the first acts of the Legislature upon taking office was to set their own salaries. When the initial legislator ran for office in 1969,

Yet, it is not forthcoming.

Pike knows which land should be used for a federal cemetery. It abuts a pond he duck hunted on for years and in fact, which gained him some notoriety he could have done without.

This land would be far more suitable as the soil is basically sandy and of little value from a commercial or agricultural standpoint, yet it

would make an ideal cemetery.

A letter of suggestion from you might stir Pike from his apathy. It might spur him to once again become a strong defender and protector of his district which the federal government is planning on misusing. And why not?

Productivity from the top

the former Board of Supervisors had intimated that the salary was to be a maximum of \$6,000 a year.

Our first legislator went into office at \$12,000 for this part-time job. This was far more money than the job was worth.

To compensate for this high salary, many of the legislators became involved in more aspects of county government than they were supposed to.

Through committee appointments, they actually became involved in everyday workings of the county departments.

This was a lot of wasted energy. Soon they found this non-productive work was consuming more and more of their time, and passed additional raises to compensate themselves for the time they were putting in.

The County Legislature has once again raised their salaries. During the last two years, they have been lecturing the County workers to become more productive, to produce more for the wages they are earning.

Most County employees have laughed at these legislators for they see them running around like a bunch of chickens with their heads cut off, covering ground but getting nowhere.

The position of County Legislator is a part-time position.

Those that are putting in full-time are conning themselves and are attempting to con you.

Worst of all, they set an example and the bureaucracy grows and becomes less productive.

The Suffolk County Legislature should carefully analyze their purpose, their obligations and their requirements. They should cut out their wasted motions and accomplish the work they are charged with and nothing more.

Let our County Legislator show our county workers that they are productive by eliminating the wasted hours that they put in and rolling back the exorbitant pay hike they have given themselves. Maybe then, the civil servants will sit up and take notice. And why not?

READER'S OPINION

'Perhaps anti-generic laws were necessary, but not today'

Dear Dave:

Legislation to require pharmacists to substitute less expensive generically equivalent medicines for prescribed brand name drugs has finally passed both houses of the legislature and is on Governor Carey's desk awaiting his signature.

Under the terms of this bill, the State Health Department would establish, in conjunction with the Federal Food and Drug Administration, a central register of equivalent drug products. When prescribing a prescription drug, your physician would decide whether or not a less expensive equivalent medicine could serve your needs. If he considers the less costly substitute suitable for your illness, he will sign your prescription on the line marked "substitution permissible". Your pharmacist would then be required to substitute a less costly drug product certified by the Health Department containing the same active ingredients, dosage form and strength as the drug your doctor prescribed. On the other hand, if your physician feels that the drug he prescribes is the only one that will work for you, he can sign the prescription form where it states "dispense as written", in which case the pharmacist could fill your prescription only with the brand ordered by your doctor.

In the past, opponents of this legislation have claimed that generic drugs were not as safe and effective as brand name drugs. An overwhelming accumulation of evidence

concerning the safety and efficiency of generic drugs has come from many sources, including the Food and Drug Administration which recently established a list of safe, bio-equivalent medicines. The military started purchasing generically long ago. States and cities followed, and later public and private hospitals. Even Walter Reed Hospital, which serves President Carter and Congress, purchases its drugs generically.

When the Governor signs this bill, it will become effective in April of next year. Consumers should begin to realize substantial savings in their purchases of prescription medicines. It is estimated that anti-generic laws have cost consumers over \$46 million a year. This reform is especially important to the elderly and the chronically ill, who must purchase their life-sustaining medications. Perhaps anti-generic laws were necessary in the past, but we do not need them today. The American Association of Retired People has pointed out that these laws legalize the marketing and promotion systems of large drug manufacturers, to the detriment of consumers.

I was pleased to be a sponsor of this landmark legislation which will restore free competition to the market place for the benefit of all consumers. (L-1X)

Very truly yours,
Paul Harenberg
Member of Assembly

SUFFOLK LIFE

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Stealing from the poor

When Suffolk County misguidedly got itself into the sewer mess, it arbitrarily imposed on homes built in residential developments a \$2,000 fee which would be placed in escrow to be later used to help finance a sewer.

As time passed, it became obvious to all sane and rational people and even politicians, Suffolk County isn't going to be able to sewer from Montauk to Huntington.

The \$2,000 sewer fee has helped cripple long Island's construction industry. Homes in Suffolk were not competitive with surrounding areas.

Our current legislature in a positive move rescinded this fee. Builders

enthusiastically anticipated being able to reduce the costs of these homes by at least \$2,000. Some prospective home buyers suddenly found that they can afford a home, others, bigger and better homes. Now, the Suffolk Health Department arbitrarily and conspicuously has thrown a wrench into the legislature's action by insisting this provision will only apply to homes being built on more than a half acre of land.

Suffolk County's health Department is a bureaucratic maze of appointed hacks who are not responsive to the citizens of Suffolk County.

No government agency other than

the courts should have the power to overrule laws made by the legislature.

When the legislature rescinded the sewer fee, they intended it apply across the board. The Suffolk County Health Department only wants it to apply to more expensive homes.

In effect, they are making it more difficult for the county to be inhabited by people of modest incomes.

The reason the legislature rescinded this fee was the improbability of sewers ever being built.

You can't build sewer projects to serve only specific homes.

They must serve a wide area and

normally on Long Island, a few blocks can make a difference between \$30,000 and \$100,000 homes.

The Suffolk County Legislature must stop the health officials from this blatant power grab. If these officials succeed, the taxpayer no longer will have elected officials making the laws. The Civil Service protected bureaucrats, insensitive to the public's needs and wants, will rule the county. Get a hold of your legislator and let him know that you expect him to have the courage to stand up and fight on this matter. And why not?

Support your fire department

During July and August, the volunteer fire department on Long Island conducts annual fundraising affairs. We are fortunate as residents to have these departments at our service when we need them.

The men of the departments literally spend hundreds of hours each year training for catastrophies and actually fighting fires. They are responsible for saving billions of dollars worth of property and hundreds of lives each year.

Firemen, whether officers, or members, do not receive a cent of salary. They volunteer their time, their transportation and even their clothing that often is ruined when they have an emergency.

Their wives and children and, in a few cases, husbands give up having them home with them, put up with meals being ruined, disturbed sleep and social engagements that are never attended.

Once a year, these men ask the

community to show their appreciation by supporting the various fundraising activities. They ask the homeowners and business people to donate what they can, according to their means.

These funds are used for the good and the welfare of the department. Yes, they even buy a case of beer or two to quench a dry throat after hours of fighting a fire. Most of the funds go to support the various activities the department is engaged in such as Little League, Pop Warner, Scouting,

Drum and Bugle Corp., Racing teams and welfare projects and annual banquets.

The donation you give is a small price to pay for the outstanding service that these men perform.

Every time that whistle blows, they put their lives on the line for their fellow residents.

We ask that every resident give when asked of their local fire departments. And why not?

Wasting \$1,500

Building a house on Long Island is far more expensive than in most places in the country. It's going to be \$1500 more expensive for those buying spot built homes because of an idiotic Public Service Commission ruling.

In all new subdivisions wires for utilities must be placed underground. This makes sense, but the Public Service Commission in its zest for detail has now ordered that utilities place the wiring for new homes underground in subdivisions that have already been constructed.

In these areas, the utility poles are

above ground. Existing homes have the wires to the house running from the pole to the house, which normally costs nothing.

However, new homes being built will be required to have utility lines run under ground. Depending upon whose estimate you believe it will cost between \$600 and \$1500. This is an absurd waste of money.

There is logic in placing whole developments wiring underground from an asthetic, safety and long range economic point.

It does not make one bit of sense to

have twenty houses in a row built prior to July, 1977 with the utility wires coming from the street above the ground and then force the 21st house to spend up to \$1500 to run their utility wires down the pole into the ground, through the ground and back up into the house.

Long Island Builders' Association is

protesting this move.

Hopefully, the politicians who have said they are responsive to the public's needs will jump on the bandwagon and put the pressure on the Public Service Commission to rescind this ludicrous proposal. And why not?

Gone fishin'

This looks like the year anglers have waited for.

After a drought of three years in sport fishing off Long Island waters, the 1977 season is shaping up to be one of the best. The water is clean, the temperature is rising, there are acres of bait and the sport fish appear to be abundant.

If you have gotten a turn-off in the past by chartering a boat for fishing and ending up with just a boat ride, now is your chance. If you still hanker to tangle with a bill fish, tuna, or a monstrous shark, hurry and book a charter.

Professional captains from Montauk to Fire Island say they haven't seen anything like it in the past decade. They are predicting world records will be shattered.

Just last weekend at Montauk,

there was a 1,030 pound mako shark caught.

Boats out of Shinnecock Inlet brought in more than 20 marlin, plus an assortment of yellow fin, blue fin tuna, and bonita.

Skippers out of Moriches and Fire Island have had their share of these sport fish and are talking about the onslaught of "allegators" (giant blue fish) now moving up the coast which should be here this weekend. Sport fishing is a tremendously exhilarating and fascinating sport. We, here in eastern Suffolk, are fortunate in having a large fleet of charter boats available, most with outstanding crews and equipment.

First chance you get, hang up that sign, "Gone Fishin'", and enjoy this great sport. And why not?

SUFFOLK LIFE NEWSPAPERS

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willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Indexing federal and state taxes

Inflation has been somewhat controlled and our economy stabilized during the first six months of this past year. This will not be the case during the balance of the year.

Already it is reported food prices will skyrocket in the next month to six weeks, along with interest rates and other basic economic vital signs.

Businesses and consumers will look forward to this with long faces, but you can be sure the bureaucrats in Washington and our state capitals, who thrive on our present income tax system will smile with glee.

A rapid rise in inflation automatically means the state and the federal governments will share in the bonanza of additional taxes.

These taxes will be raised by corporations and consumers sliding from one tax bracket into the other having earned more dollars, but having lost the buying power this money once represented.

In May 1970, the consumer price index was 118.2. The May, 1970 dollar was worth 85 cents. The May, 1977, consumer price index was 184.6, making the 1977 dollar worth 54 cents.

During the seven year period the rate of inflation was 56.2 per cent. The decrease in the value of a dollar was 36.5 per cent.

But, the change in tax brackets you have gone through with raises during that seven years means your buying power has decreased, even though your salary was increased to keep up with inflation.

As the dollar became worth less due to inflation, your need for money is more germane. As you earn more money, you pay more in taxes and the circle becomes wider and more vicious.

This is the tax system we operate under in the United States. Because of it, the government has little desire to end inflation as it is the beneficiary of it.

In reality, the government directly and indirectly controls 56 per cent of the buying power. It can accelerate inflation anytime it desires and produce billions of dollars in tax increases for itself without the benefit or the approval of the people.

This system is taking the American people down the same road as the German people were led in the early 1900's, when it took a wheel barrel full of money to buy a loaf of bread. It will continue unless our federal government adopts a system of indexing.

Indexing is a simple concept of automatically adjusting the tax rate to coincide with inflation. If inflation is at 10 per cent that year, the base on which you pay tax is increased by 110 per cent.

This newly calculated rate then becomes the basis on which all your taxes are calculated. At the same time, the amount for personal exemptions is indexed and increased automatically to reflect the increased cost of living that year.

Only if this system is adopted can the American people be given a fair deal. If it is not adopted, all of

Americans can look forward to someday having a minimum spending power, but having a tax obligation exceeding 50 per cent of their earned income. Even though our tax system is blatantly unfair to rich and poor alike, don't expect quick passage unless you pressure your elected federal officials.

When we questioned the Congressman from the First District, Otis Pike, about whether he supported this concept, Pike's reaction was the government needed additional revenues as they have additional costs, too.

Pike is noted for being fiscally conservative and at one time responsive to the needs of his constituents.

If he feels the needs of the federal government are ahead of yours, it is going to take some real pressure from you to turn the federal government's thinking around. And why not?

What do we eat?

The threat to our health from foods we eat has been around as long as we can remember.

Somebody has always been coming up with something wrong with our favorite foods.

The chemicals we manufacture to provide us with an easier way of life seem to be coming back to haunt us in the foods we eat.

These chemicals cause cancer, when taken in sufficient quantities. Current publications indicate that just about all commercially prepared foods we buy at supermarkets contain a degree of these harmful elements.

If we believe all the publicity being published, we would give up eating fish from the sea, meat from commercially raised cattle, and farm produced vegetables, which doesn't leave much to feed our stomachs at dinnertime.

Have we reached the point of no return?

If we have and there are no alternatives, we would just as soon they kept their reports to themselves and let us be ignorant but happy, while we kill ourselves off. And why not?

Why is gas cheaper up state?

A friend of ours just returned from a visit upstate New York. He asked a question which we couldn't answer and one which should be answered.

Why is gasoline almost 10 cents a gallon cheaper upstate than it is here on Long Island?

Not only gas, but electrical rates are almost 20 per cent under those charged by LILCO in this area.

Gas and oil for the most part come in by ship to the coastline of Long Island. It is then transported by truck on tank cars to distribution points where it is marketed.

The gas and fuel oil designated for Long Island comes in at Brooklyn, Northville, Port Jefferson and Huntington. The gas and oil for upstate comes in from Brooklyn, Hoboken, N.J., and Buffalo, on the Great Lakes.

The distance to transport this oil is far greater for upstate than it is for downstate. Transportation is one of the high middle man costs.

Why is it then that the same gas can

be marketed at 10 cents a gallon under the price we pay for it here on Long Island?

Why can power companies upstate New York afford to sell their electricity to homes at rates 20 per cent lower than those on Long Island?

Is it because their power companies are operated on a more conservative basis and expenditures are kept in line and not allowed to run wild?

Could it be upstate power companies are in the business of serving their customers and are not ripping off their customers through excess rates so they can be in the business of producing more power than their customers need for sale elsewhere.

These are questions leaders in the Long Island community should be asking.

Do we have the leadership here on Long Island to find these answers? Must the masses continue to struggle under the high cost of living on Long Island forever? And why not?

READERS' OPINION

'Rebuttle to PSC underground wiring plan'

Dear Editor:

You know politicians are too much. The people of Suffolk County are sick and tired of the BULL.

The majority of new homeowners coming out to the East End are under the Farmers Home loans or low income families. If we could afford \$1500 for the wiring, we would not have to seek aid from the government. You expect us to come up with \$1500 for LILCO plus they want a 16 per cent increase and yet, I, quote "The planning commission recommended that LILCO put its transmission lines underground," but LILCO rejects it because of the "excessive costs."

If a multi-million dollar company can't afford it, how the hell do you expect people who are spending what little savings they have to buy a subsidized house to come up with an extra \$1500?

I think that you politicians are getting way out of hand. What happens if a line breaks underground? Who pays for the damages incurred to our property? We do. Not you. All you do is raise taxes and give LILCO 16 per cent increases because they are too poor.

Do you care? No! The money doesn't come out of your pocket but the taxpayer's. (L-2Y) Mrs. Schifano Riverhead

'Serve the living'

Dear Dave:

Reference is made to the Sunday, July 24, 1977 Suffolk Life editorial, "Long Island Veterans Cemetery controversy."

On a recent TV news program, the commentator suggested that there were more dead people in Queens County than there were living. Vast tracts of cemetery land, as presently used, will remain cemeteries and therefore, not be useful, productive land for the living.

While driving recently on the Cross Bronx Expressway, I noticed huge buildings built over and above the roadway. These buildings were erected on and supported by pilings.

My suggestion is that the cemetery lands have buildings placed over them, constructed on pilings situated on the roadways and paths in the cemeteries. The dead wouldn't be disturbed and the land would be made useful for the living.

In Suffolk County valuable farmland, tax-producing land, of use to the living, should not

be turned into vast cemeteries. Land of no or small commercial value for farming should be the site (s) for the cemeteries. The cemeteries, when filled, could then be converted into sites for housing, offices, or manufacturing or other tax-producing, job-producing facility. All of the facilities could be constructed on pilings over the cemeteries. The farmland would still be available to serve the living by producing crops, jobs, and taxes.

Very truly yours,
John Bellport
Shoreham

'You seem to say to hell with the veteran'

Dear Editor:

After reading your Sunday, July 24 paper, I am deeply sorry that only last week I sent you a check for a year's subscription.

I am an 81-year-old disabled veteran confined to a wheel chair, but when I was young and my country called, I was one of the first to volunteer back in 1917 and were it not for those brave men who offered their lives in World War I and World War II, Vietnam and Korea people like you might be safe and sound.

So now that you are the head of the Suffolk Life, you feel you are the great almighty. You even dare to condemn our Congress man Otis G. Pike, a man who has fought for me many times over the years to see that I received what physical help I was entitled to.

Now the V.A. wants to build a cemetery for its deceased veterans. You seem to say the hell with the veteran, but you are mistaken. We are in the thousands in Suffolk and you will soon know it. (L-9Y)

William G. Weber
Hampton Bays

SUFFOLK LIFE

VOL. 17 NO. 42

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