



**Willmott's  
and Why-Nots**

BY DAVID J. WILLMOTT, Editor

## MASTER PLAN

The preliminary master plan for Riverhead Town was aired at a public meeting, Wednesday, May 27th. It envisions a central greenbelt devoted to farming, recreational facilities and open residential development, will be bounded by residential communities and light industrial districts. Riverhead will be the focal point of business, cultural, governmental and professional activities. It will be a country-style community. (page 1, Preliminary Master Plan) The planners believe that its necessary to up-zone a great deal of the Township in order to keep the population explosion around 100,000 instead of soaring to about \$450,000.

We feel the Preliminary Plan shows a lot of hard work and imagination but that, at least, one aspect of it is highly impractical and unfeasible. That is, the upgrading of the so called "green belt" which will be about three-fourths of the proposed residential property to a minimum of two acres. The farmers who primarily own this property now feel that such upzoning will make their land unsalable (how many people buy a minimum to two acres) and will therefore reduce the value of their property. We concur with the farmers.

We hope the Plan will be altered in keeping with the social strata of the U.S. - most Americans are in the middle. Somehow its hard to see the average family with a minimum of two acres.

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Even if money is no object people do like to have neighbors. And Why Not?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mrs. Helen Gallagher  
400 North Howell Ave.  
Riverhead, N. Y.  
May 23, 1964

Mr. Robert Vojvoda  
Supervisor, Town of Riverhead  
Riverhead, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you today, not for myself, but for the benefit of the people of Riverhead. In my humble way of expressing myself, I dearly hope my point will get across, and that this letter will not be in vain.

One morning a short time ago, my husband left the house for work. After kidding him about his hair needing a clipping, he decided to stop on Peconic Avenue for a haircut before work. Upon leaving the barber shop, and only a couple of steps out on the sidewalk, he was struck down by a careless boy on a speeding bicycle. He was thrown to the pavement, which in turn broke his hip. He required an immediate operation, and now has a steel pin in his hip for life. He will be out of work for about six months.

This tragedy, as you can imagine, has brought us so much heartache and financial distress, that I feel I must write you and perhaps spare someone else the misery we have experienced.

It is my understanding that a few years ago, a similar accident occurred in the Village of Southampton, resulting in an ordinance forbidding vehicular traffic of any kind on the sidewalks of the Village. It takes unfortunate accidents such as these, to open the eyes of the people to such shortcomings in our public ordinances.

Mr. Vojvoda, I plead with you, from the bottom of my heart, to have such an ordinance adopted here in Riverhead. Sidewalks are for pedestrians, and if a pedestrian isn't safe on a sidewalk, where is he safe? People of all ages use the sidewalks. If they stand the chance of being seriously injured or even killed on these sidewalks, then perhaps they should be walking in the street, where at least the motorist, in most cases, will yield the right of way. I would like to see the safety of the sidewalk pedestrian assured, by the institution of an ordinance prohibiting any form of traffic, other than foot traffic, on a sidewalk.

*Contd. on page 22*

### DEADLINE NOTICE!

Your co-operation please! The next edition of Central Suffolk Life will be published Wednesday, June 10th. All ads and copy must be at our office no later than 5 P.M. Thursday, June 4th.