

willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Buying the Sizzle Instead of the Steak

Junior salesmen are taught that you sell the sizzle and not the steak -- an interesting comparison of what John Klein, County Executive, will be attempting to do in the months ahead. At a meeting a couple of weeks ago with the Riverhead First Committee, the question of acquiring farmlands was brought up. Klein has allocated in his capital budget, monies to buy 9,000 acres of farmland to protect and preserve for the future of Suffolk County. These farmlands will be leased back to farmers, thus preserving the agricultural industry, and maintaining some resemblance of the quality of life we now have, once the population explosion fully hits Eastern Long Island.

Klein's plan has three major drawbacks: (1) it is phenomenally expensive; (2) it is going to be a nightmare to administrate and has fantastic patronage possibilities; and (3) most important to the local towns that it will affect -- once the County buys these farmlands, they are removed in total from a tax base of that town and the revenues that are lost will have to be made up by the residents of that community.

Klein, at this meeting, threw out another idea that, to this editor, makes a hell of a lot more sense. The County could buy just the development rights to this property, not the real property rights. By buying the development rights, the land would only be valuable as agricultural land and thus carry a smaller assessment to the farmer. In addition, it would be kept as open agricultural lands for the length of time that the development rights continued to be owned by the County.

Buying development rights would be a lot less expensive to the taxpayers in Suffolk County, yet would virtually achieve the intended purpose. From a farmer's standpoint, he would have his land to farm without fear of having his taxes skyrocket because these prime agricultural lands have become worth substantially more for developments of homes. The farmer would be paid outright for these development rights and have the cash now to do with as he wishes; upon his death, the farm, for tax purposes, would be taxed only as agricultural land. Thus, many family farms could be preserved because the

inheritance tax would be substantially lower. This factor has caused a number of family farms to be sold even though the descendants of the farmer wished to continue farming, but did not have the ready cash to pay the inheritance tax on the assessed value of the farm.

Buying development rights will not be inexpensive, but it will be considerably less expensive than buying the farms outright. It will achieve the same purpose, plus it will give local municipalities tax revenues in proportion to the value of the lands that they are assessing. This plan has a lot of interesting applications. We hope Klein will pursue this idea and present to the public full details for their perusal. We encourage every reader to take an avid interest in this. Even though you may not be involved in farming, your quality of life is very much at stake. And why not?

200 Mile Limit

It is of interest to all what happens in the waters surrounding Long Island. Thousands of families, directly and indirectly, make a living harvesting seafood. What were once abundant fishing grounds are fast becoming barren wastelands. The reason is quite simple -- over-harvest, over-kill. The eggheads in the State Department had entered into an agreement with the foreign fishing powers that gave them the right to come in as close as 12 miles to fish off the shores of Long Island and most of the Eastern Seaboard. These waters once contained some of the most productive fishing grounds in the world. It was the primary reason that the cost of fish had been, until recent years, extremely economical. Like any other food stuff, price is determined by supply and demand. The foreign fishing powers have been literally vacuuming wide swatches of the ocean, taking anything that resembles sea life. It is hard for the average person to conceive of such a mammoth fishing operation, as is conducted by the foreign fishing fleets off our shores.


Most of us are familiar with our coastline fishing boats. These normally range in size up to 100 feet. Few are much larger. Most of these boats have a four or five-man crew. They leave our docksides in good weather and fish, returning at night. Seldom do

they stay out more than two or three days. There is just a certain amount of fish that they can catch. Therefore, most fish are left in the sea to reproduce and recycle, and have in the past, always produced an ample supply of seafood.

In contrast, the foreign fishing fleets, notably the Polish and the Russian, come here with ships as large as a city block, with crews that range into the thousands. The ships are at sea for years -- not days. The mother ship has men, women and children aboard. The mother ship not only supplies all the needs of the fishing fleet, but is also a gigantic factory that cans and freezes the sea life. The fishing boats, using every latest, sophisticated, electronic and computerized method of fishing, literally cleans out miles and miles of the ocean of everything that is living. Their nets are so tremendous and of such fine screening that even killies have trouble getting through the screening without being captured. Our ocean has been raped. The prices and scarcity of fish at the fish market give you some indication of the damage that has been done.

Our Congressman from the First Congressional District, Otis Pike, last March entered a bill (HR 7231) into the Congress that would extend our fishing territorial rights to 200 miles off the United States' eastern coastline. Many countries have a 1,200 mile limit. This bill will probably die in Congress, never getting the support of other Congressmen from inland areas that are not aware of the damage that has been done and is still continuing. The

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— EDITORIAL —

56 Per Cent Salary Increase

Plus Added Bonuses, Cost Unknown

Congratulations! You, the people, the residents, the taxpayers of New York State, have just granted your hard working, everloving fearless leaders a 56 per cent increase in their salaries. The State Legislature, in an act of unknown courage, granted themselves a pay raise amounting to

56 per cent. They raised the salaries for Legislators from \$15,000 to \$23,500; plus loaded down the goody bag with all kinds of extra ripoffs, the cost of which are not yet determinable.

New York State Legislators are now the highest paid legislators in the country. We guess they should be, by their logic. After all, they have New York State residents paying the highest taxes in the nation.

The pay raise proposal for the legislators had been rumored through this entire session of the Legislature. It looked like it was a dead issue until the closing hours of this year's session when, in a courageous move, these men passed on this bill when it could be free from public flack. By the way, it just so happens that these fearless leaders won't be running for another year. Therefore, they will not have to face their constituents.

A Part-Time Job

Let's look at this sensibly. A job as an assemblyman or a senator is a part-time job. You need no particular qualifications to run for office. About the only thing that you must have to be successful is a good machine behind you. You don't even have to show up for work. The more conscientious do show up some of the days between the end of December and the middle of the

spring when the assembly normally lets out. Some of these people are even available to their constituents during the year when the assembly is not in session. For a part-time job, \$23,500 is extremely lucrative. In addition, most of our representatives have side businesses. Perry Duryea owns a large lobster company; Bill Bianchi has an interest in a florist; Leon Giuffreda has a real estate and an insurance business; Peter Costigan is an attorney. How much these men make from their respective businesses is of little concern to us, the public. It is their personal life and they have a right to this privacy.

What is of concern is that they voted themselves a 56 per cent increase on an already high salary without asking in any way for public approval. This was done in the last moments of this year's session during a period when they will not have to face the voters for another year and a half. They were elected at their prior salaries to serve their full terms. We have always considered that when you accept an offer at one figure, you are obligated to fulfill your duties at that figure no matter what has happened. The public has been ripped off by the Legislature it elected last November -- a horrible example of morality and ethics for the people to have as an example to follow. And why not?

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EDITORIALS — cont. from page 3 F

State Department favors keeping the 12 mile limit because "foreign countries are poor and they need to be fed". The State Department has a hell of a lot more wallop than Otis Pike's voice in the wilderness. It will take a nationwide groundswell to develop support for Pike's bill. This groundswell can originate here, where we are aware of the damage. It can be carried across the country by you.

The next time you are talking or writing to a friend or acquaintance in some other part of the country, discuss how high the price of seafood has gotten and how limited the supply is. Tell them the reason why. Tell them about Pike's bill. Ask them to contact their Congressman or Senator in support of Pike's bill. In this way, people all over the country can be made aware of one of the factors that have driven all food costs sky high. We can get the foreign fishing fleets off our shores and bring back seafood to a reasonably priced commodity if we all do our own part. And why not?

involved are invited to fend.

JUNE 6
MASTIC
Mastic-Shirley Home Tension will hold its **STALLATION OF FICERS**; at the busin meeting on June 6, at 8 at the Brookha Recreation Center Classon Ave., Mastic.

MASTIC
YIZKOR MEMORI SERVICES will be held the Mastic Beach Heb Center Neighborhood R Thursday, June 7, at 11.

JUNE 8
CORAM
The Altar-Rosary Society St. Frances Cabrini Chu will hold a **CARD PARTY** featuring a sweepsta table; at Cabrini Hall, June 8, at 8 pm. Admissio \$1.

JUNE 9
MASTIC
The Mastic-Shirley V Post No. 8651 and Lar Auxiliary will hold th **ANNUAL INSTALLATI DANCE**; on June 9, at 9 in the Mastic Beach Prop Owners Clubhouse, Ne borhood Road, Ma Beach. There will be music for dancing and buffet will be served. Tick are available at \$2.50 person by calling Ed Mun at 281-6045 or Bill Moylar 281-6647.

MEDFORD
The American Can Society, Medford Divis will hold an **ICE CRE EATING CONTEST**; at Carvel Ice Cream Store Route 112 in Medford, June 9. Prizes will awarded in each divis There will be five classe age groups from 3 ye through 12. The entry fe \$2 to cover the cost of the cream consumed. Any interested in enrolling n call 289-1962 or 289-3695 475-9172.

this week

JUNE 5
SHIRLEY
An OPEN MEETING of the Concerned Residents of UFSD No. 32 will be held at the North Shirley Civic

Association Clubhouse in North Shirley on Tuesday, June 5th, at 8 pm. All concerned residents of UFSD No. 32 seeking improvements and the opportunity to get

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willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

In Retrospect

Looking back over last Monday's primary races, we see the adage that the government closest to the people is the most responsive, come true. In Shelter Island, the committee's nominees for Councilman and Assessor were dumped by the registered Republican voters. In Riverhead, the controversial and arrogant Town Justice Costello, a long-term incumbent, was dumped by Bill Haugaard, the challenger to the party's choice. In Babylon, the Democratic insurgents beat the committee's choices. In Brookhaven, it was politics as usual, with Dick Zeidler, the master politician, keeping his iron fisted control. Even here there were cracks in his solid wall of loyal supports.

The primary system is intended to give the average voter some control over the power of the town leader and his committee. When used, it is an effective part of a democratic system. All too often, it is ignored or considered a waste of time by the average voter. We hope, in the future, that our citizens will exercise the power that they have on primary day as they did last Monday, and provide for themselves better government. And why not?

Bellport Wins Moratorium

Several months ago, Councilman John Bellport, the renegade Conservative on the Brookhaven Town Board, offered a resolution calling for a moratorium on multiple family building projects until the Town's master plan could be updated. The moratorium did not receive a second.

Some months have passed and the Board has been deluged with petitions for garden apartments, condominiums, developments and massive changes in land use. A number of these projects have been passed which will cause irrevocable damage to the Town. The Town Board finally passed Bellport's moratorium at this past Tuesday's Board meeting. At the same time they engaged a planning firm to review and revamp



Brookhaven Town's master plan. Brookhaven right now is subject to fantastic growing pains. Apartment houses and massive housing developments are popping up all over, without regard to the consequences.

We support the Town's position on establishing a temporary moratorium until the master plan can be updated and brought into perspective for today's needs and tomorrow's problems. This will give breathing room to the Town planners to make some semblance of organization out of Brookhaven. We are glad to see Bellport's Republican counterparts finally act on his suggestion, even if they were several months late in seeing the wisdom. And why not?

No Gas Today


Down the street from our home is an independent gas station. This morning there was a sheet pulled over the price sign that read "Sorry, No Gas Today". Here was a small independent businessman who has saved and worked hard to build a business. He has gone one step further than the average service station operator normally goes; he bought his own building.

Up until last year, one of the majors supplied him with gas. They not only

supplied him with gas, but heartache. They wanted him to conform to their rules and regulations and run his own business as they wanted him to run it. He threw them out. Since then he has been selling gas at about 4 cents a gallon cheaper than the major companies in the area. He told us that even giving this 4 cent discount, he had been able to make the same margin of profit that he had made in the past, selling the major's brand of gas.


The majors don't like this kind of competition. They want the small independent out. They want to get rid of their weaker and non-profitable operators of their own service stations. They want to and are going to make big profits at your expense by forcing out the small independent and the more competitive operator. Not only are they putting the pressure on you, through closing the small independents. Psychologically they are putting the pressure on you to support their raid of the environment to explore and transport petroleum products in a manner that they see fit.

The oil companies are taking advantage of the public and there is no doubt about that. The State Attorney General is investigating the oil companies and there are noises being made on the federal level to do the same. It would appear to us that the oil companies are in collusion and the Justice Department has a grand scale case for an antitrust suit. The arrogance of the petroleum industry must be broken, the sooner the better. And why not?



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Schwenk Renewed

Buzz Schwenk was re-elected County Republican Leader this past week. This is good. Buzz has always been able to project an image that is just a little bit above the typical political wheeler-dealer. He has been a solidifying influence, molding the East and West End Republicans together. He probably has one of the hardest jobs in the County. The County is overwhelmingly Republican and, therefore, decisions made on a party level are tantamount to law. He is in a position of being almost a dictator, but has handled his responsibilities with care and consideration.

We have seriously disagreed with a number of his decisions and have felt that he should have taken more care in selecting some of his candidates, but being in the position of mediator and matchmaker, at times this was beyond his control. Schwenk's most notable failure in a position of compromise, was his inability to remove Zeidler from the County Committee in Brookhaven. Zeidler, at the time, had been kicked out as head of the Suffolk County Water Authority for ethical reasons. Schwenk publicly went after Zeidler but, because of Zeidler's tremendous political organization, he was able to maintain his grip as town leader. It appeared that Schwenk knew he was fighting a losing battle, and finally gave in and made peace with Zeidler. They say that politics is the art of compromise.

Last Term of Office

Schwenk has stated that this would be his last term in office and because of this statement, we feel he can be a lot better and more effective, knowing that he will not be running again. He can now use his power and influence to make Suffolk County a better place, without having to worry about personal political ramifications. He will be in a position of having people compromise with him, instead of having to compromise with them. We wish Schwenk well during this term of office and hope when he leaves office he can say to himself, "I have made the Republican Party the best for the average citizen of Suffolk County. I have made Suffolk County responsive and a great place to be a citizen." And why not?

Lily White and Dirty Hands

Politics is a dirty business. The name of the game is to win. The method that you use, traditionally, has been unimportant. There is a lot of high-sounding moral talk about ethics and principles, but after living through a number of campaigns and watching candidates and their staffs perform, we have come to the conclusion that all this talk about sportsmanship, moral integrity and good will to their fellow candidates, is pure hogwash from the day they are nominated until the day after election. We have seen good men with outstanding reputations become embittered from personal attacks. We have seen insinuations made that bear no resemblance to truth, by campaign workers who become caught up in the desire to win. As you go up the ladder in politics and run for more and more important offices, you have less and less control over the mechanics of your campaign. It is impossible for you to know every word that is uttered on your behalf by your campaign workers, or the actions for which you are ultimately responsible.

Just Tell The People

Last summer when Watergate broke into the open, we stated that we felt Nixon probably was aware of the system, but had no personal knowledge of the actual details that transpired regarding Watergate. We still feel the same way. We believe Nixon could have headed off what has turned into a three-ring circus and a national disgrace, by standing up and telling the public that Watergate probably did happen. It has happened in different disguises. This isn't the first time an election was run. He didn't, and his credibility has suffered sharply.

Our Own Circus?

Now, on Long Island, according to a copyrighted Newsday article of Wednesday, June 13, we have the makings of another Watergate concerning the Republican Party in the State of New York. Newsday has pictured the Assemblyman from the First District, Perry Duryea, as the chief villain. Duryea has been extremely active in most of his political


career in not only getting himself elected, but on behalf of fellow Republicans throughout the State.

We hope that Duryea does not fall into the same trap that Nixon did, concerning whatever knowledge he has pertaining to the revelations as brought out by Newsday; we hope he will come to the front and tell the public what must be told. If he tries to hide and deny that this type of thing has gone on, that he is totally unaware of any campaign attempts by the Republicans to discredit the Democrats, he will suffer the same consequences. This could very well be Duryea's biggest bridge in politics. How he crosses it will determine his future. We hope he uses his basic Yankee intelligence and faces the issue squarely. And why not?

Brookhaven's New Day


In this week's Letters to the Editor column, we carry a letter from John Hart, a Brookhaven Republican who has been involved in the fight to oust Zeidler and return representation to the people and the Republicans of Brookhaven Town. We are happy to see that he does not call for all-out unity and blind allegiance to Zeidler. He has been there and has seen the absolute and total control that Zeidler has exercised over the Republican Party in Brookhaven Town and ultimately, over all the lives of Brookhaven residents. We see that at the organization meeting from which

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reporters were barred, for the first time in a number of years the dissidents were able to have their voices heard. He leads one to believe that the Republican Party, even though still controlled by Zeidler, will be more open than it has been in the past. He encourages the Republicans of Brookhaven Town to continue to demand that things be done this way.

Keep Fighting

We do not believe that Zeidler has changed one damn bit, or that this primary election has changed the color of his spots. Zeidler is Zeidler, a masterful politician who not only likes, but demands things go his way. The way we read Hart's letter, on the surface things look like they may change, but if we let down our guard for one minute, even the surface changes will revert back to one man total domination. We must keep fighting and be vigilant or all will be lost. Even a slight crack in the wall of absolute power by Dick Zeidler is an encouragement to the people. And why not?

Not Too Late

Some months ago we encouraged you to plant a garden. We have done this ourselves, as we have for many years. Last night, while weeding, we could not help but think how great the feeling of working the soil is, a feeling of warmth, seeing the energy of life express itself in the growth of plants, tasting the first sample of a bountiful harvest to come. There is still time to plant a garden. It doesn't have to be large; it can be small - as small as a few pots or window boxes. There is something mystifying and renewing about putting in a garden and seeing the returns come in relationship to the care which you give it. We personally think it is the greatest tranquilizer, next to sex, that Mother Nature has ever devised. If you haven't already, put in a small garden, one that you can handle. Do it, the rewards are great. And why not?



Never On Monday

A few weeks ago, at a meeting, we asked John Klein why the County golf course was closed on Mondays. He seemed perturbed that we were asking such a stupid question and answered, "They have to have one day a week to do maintenance on the golf courses." We were talking particularly about the new Indian Island Golf Course in Riverhead. We explained to him that the choice of Monday was a bad one. Many people in the East End, because of our weekend resort influx, have to work on Saturday but are given Mondays off in exchange. With the golf course being closed, they do not have an opportunity to use it. In addition, closing it on Monday discourages tourists and vacationers from staying out an extra day, which could be a boost to the resort economy. We were not satisfied with the answer that a golf course had to be closed one day for maintenance. Even though we do not play golf ourselves, we were of the impression that most golf courses stay open seven days a week, and the maintenance schedule was worked in around the golfers.

In Contrast

Out of curiosity, we called all the private and public golf courses in the area. Out of 15 that were called only one closes down one full day. The rest are open seven days a week, getting the maximum out of their investment and giving golfers an opportunity to play at all times. There is no reason, other than the public-be-damned attitude of the County Parks Department, for these courses to be closed one day a week. We, as taxpayers in Suffolk County, have millions of dollars tied up in these golf courses. Playing time is limited to about one-half the year due to weather. To lose one-seventh of this playing time because of some arbitrary rule made by a bureaucrat, is ridiculous.

Get the Maximum

Suffolk County's golf courses should be open seven days a week. If the public and private courses can do it, there is no reason why the County can't also. As long as we have our money tied up in golf courses, let's get the maximum out of it by demanding that the County Legislature open these

courses on a seven-day-a-week basis as private enterprise must do in order to be profitable. We encourage you to send a note to the County Legislature to this effect. The address is County Center, Riverhead, New York, 11901. And why not?

The Reagan Plan

California is lucky to have a governor that is concerned about its residents. Their governor is the ex-movie star and astute Conservative, Ronald Reagan. Reagan has proposed a plan by which the state income tax and property tax will have mandatory limits and arbitrary cutbacks on the amount of money that the municipalities can tax the residents -- a refreshing change in today's ever spiraling tax take by the government. It is estimated, quite accurately, that between 45 to 55 cents of every dollar that every person earns, from low income to high income, is taxed away from them. Of course, this means that one-half of the week that you work goes only to pay for your tax assessment. The government takes this money from you and squanders it on whatever it sees fit that you need but very often don't want.

What Causes Inflation?

Everyone is concerned about inflation. We have watched the dollar being eroded to the point where the prices one day are totally different from the next day on all purchases. We have listened to the President put four different inflation plans into effect. These have been placed upon industry and the labor force. Never once has an inflationary plan been worked out to control government; yet government spending is responsible, directly and indirectly, for 59 per cent of the gross national product. With the majority of the spending power being in the hands of government, they can and do cause inflation. It is not the people; it is not industry. It is government spending that has eroded the value of the dollar and pushed prices upwards.

Inflation could be controlled, taxes could be reduced, and people would live a lot better if lawmakers would impose standards upon themselves. If Congress would pass a bill that would make it mandatory that any government agency or contractor dealing

with the government could pay no more than the 5.5 per cent of the average price that they paid last year, prices would be held at last year's level. If any agency of the government directly funded or indirectly funded, could not exceed their budget for labor and material by 5.5 per cent, under this formula, inflation could be checked. If the government would change budgeting procedures to be based on income taken in the year prior instead of the estimated income for the year forthcoming, inflation and taxes could be checked. This formula has been used in Ohio in relation to the state funding of schools, and has created a reduction in local property taxes. There is no reason why this concept could not be nationalized. It must be done, or a better alternative plan worked out.

Buying Power

The taxpayers are at a point where they can no longer survive on the amount of money that they have coming in. The biggest inflationary factor, far bigger than food, housing and clothing, has been taxes. One point that is never brought across to the public is that government definitely benefits from inflation. On personal and corporate incomes, tax is based on a progressive scale. The more you make, the higher the percentage of taxes you pay. As the dollar becomes less valuable and more dollars have to be earned to buy the same amount of goods, the income rises. As the income rises, the percentage of taxes taken increases. As an example, at one time

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SUFFOLK LIFE

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John McKay - General Manager
Sal DeFontes - Sales Manager
Maxine Holmes - Production Manager
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General Information

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion thru the Letters to the Editor column. All letters must be signed with author's signature and address. We will withhold names on request and assign a nom de plume.

NEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS - Readers are welcome to submit ideas of interest and photographs for consideration of publication. All news and photographs become the property of Suffolk Life upon submittal and can not be returned for any reason.

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



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PINE HUTCHES AT
TREMENDOUS SAVINGS

ANY 60" HUTCH
TOP & BOTTOM

SALE \$440⁰⁰
 REG. \$550
SAVE \$110

60"

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TWO WEEKS ONLY
 From 6/25 to 7/8

We repeat: These are not assembly line hutches. Every piece is hand crafted.

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48"

MANY OTHER SIZES



60"

HAMPTON PINE SHOP

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OPEN SUNDAY FOR BROWSING



"FARE" Well

For those persons living in and traveling through Suffolk County this summer, it is recommended that more attention be paid to safer driving. In a federally funded project

called "FARE", for Fatal Accident Reduction Enforcement, extra Suffolk County Police will be on duty in Western Suffolk County, and more State Troopers will be on duty in the East End, during hours of high accident occurrence.

Southampton Town Supervisor Theodore Hulse discussing the "FARE" program with Lieutenant D.M. Bender and Sergeant W.D. Kober, of the Hampton Bays Barracks.

effort to slow the rising list of deaths on the highways.

We goofed

In a recent issue of Suffolk Life, Henry O'Brien was incorrectly identified as Frank Reilly. It was Mr. O'Brien who was pictured with Joe Sullivan at the Suffolk County Legislative meeting discussing plans to speak out against the then-proposed reconstruction of County Road 25.

Of 274 traffic fatalities occurring in Suffolk County last year, 38 happened in the 5 eastern towns, a high percentage of which were caused by drunk driving or other hazardous violations. These offenses will be watched for by the extra officers on duty, in an

The "FARE" project, which is being run from June 15 through September 15, in the counties of Suffolk, Nassau, Erie, Monroe, Oneida and Onandaga, will help to reduce those accident rates, and make for a safer summer season.

letters

The page number confusion

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I enjoy Suffolk Life and want it every week. I sent my check for \$2.50 last Jan. and just to be able to read your editorials - most of which being honest and down to earth, I like.

I have one criticism - in reading letters, etc., you have cont. on page 5 f not in my paper, but I find it on 9f. Not too different perhaps, but I wonder what else I've missed on 5F.

Keep up the good fight.

Respectfully,
 Herbert A. Albrecht
 Long Island City

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Please and I mean please stop numbering your pages 6F - pg - R-HW 1, etc. I was reading your editorial in May 1st issue and it was to be continued on 6 F, which it wasn't, it was on page 10. This is aggravating and happens often. What's the matter with regular numbers?

R.F. Howard
 Riverhead

Editors Note:

We wish there was a better way of numbering pages - we publish 15 zone editions of varying sizes simultaneously and the confusion of numbers is the result.

"We are drowning in taxes"

Open Letter:

My wife and I are almost 60 years of age. Always worked, paid off our home and now, low and behold we barely can afford to keep our home. We are drowning in taxes. My wife needs medical attention, I need medical and dental attention. Naturally, it goes without saying we can't afford it.

Taxes are putting the Coup-de-grace to our work of a lifetime, not to mention the cost of food - which we are rapidly approaching the malnutrition stage.

I earn \$135.00 a week, take home - \$105.10. I have to travel from Shirley to Bay Shore to my job and

cont. on page 14 F

EDITORIALS — cont. from page 3 F

a family of five could live comfortably on \$7,500. The federal tax take at that point was 14 per cent. Now, the same family, to buy the same amount of goods and maintain the same standard of living needs \$13,000 to \$14,000. The tax take is now 22 per cent. The tax ratio has gone up and the buying power has gone down. This, of course, means that the government has more money to spend and the individual has less.

We feel that Reagan's plan is the first move by any major branch of government to logically reduce taxes. Reagan has stated he will not run for another term of office, and plans to use his retirement to sell other state governments on the idea of putting his plan into effect in their states. We hope that he is successful in selling his concept. And why not?

Believe It or Not

About a month ago we flew out to Detroit. Before boarding the plane, we had to go through an electronic surveillance device that would detect any unusual metal objects, such as a gun or a bomb, that one might be carrying. There was no hassle, just a simple

walk through a gate manned by a pleasant person. As we left this area, and headed for our plane, we had a good feeling. This procedure was put into operation after numerous hijackings occurred. It felt good, knowing that something was being done to eliminate the possibility of somebody hijacking the plane that we were on.

No Longer Necessary?

Now we read that the Federal Government is going to eliminate this operation. They feel it is no longer necessary. It is supposed, somewhere in the Federal Government, somebody thinks that this is a logical move. We do not think so. The same screwballs that were hijacking planes a year ago are still floating around. From what we have read, most of these people are mentally deranged and we know of no program that has ferreted these individuals out and converted them of their potentially disastrous desires. Even if it costs a couple of extra bucks on a ticket to keep this surveillance in existence, the peace of mind that an airline passenger will have is well worth it. We hope that our Congressmen who, by the way, are continually using airlines, will demand this system be kept in effect. And why not?