

Zeidler Indicted

It came as no surprise that Richard Zeidler, Brookhaven Town Republican leader was indicted this past week. It had been expected for some time.

Nor was it surprising to us who have closely followed this case that he was only indicted on a misdemeanor involving the election law.

Zeidler is not an elected government official. He has no direct statutory control over taxpayers' money or any obligations to the taxpayers.

This is not to say that Zeidler, who is in the most powerful factor in the town government, has not asserted his influence on how these funds shall be used. Nor is there anything at present legally wrong for him to benefit from the use of this influence.

As a result of Zeidler being a politician and not a public official, he is above a law that could hang him.

As the law stands, a politician can directly benefit from the influence he has. If people do business with him to get on his good side to in-

sure he puts a friendly word in their favor when they need it there is nothing wrong with it. If he makes unusually high profits from these contacts, there is nothing legally wrong with that.

The system depends on those in political power having ethics and morals. It does not legislate or mandate that they have them.

A politician can be as unscrupulous as he likes and be perfectly safe from prosecution of laws that would send public officials up the river even if they contemplated half the things a politician can do.

In Brookhaven, where the Republican nomination was tantamount to election in the past, public officials are placed in a position of doing the bidding of the leader.

What he says goes, even though he has never been elected by the people. As a result he is the most influential factor in the town but his actions are not subject to checks or balances.

The law should and must be changed. Because of their tremendous influence, political leaders

must be brought under the same control as public officials. It is especially needed in a one party town where no single public official can never wield the power of a political leader.

We should enact legislation to bring politicians under the same kind of regulations and controls as public officials and this should be a priority for our state legislature.

It will only come about however, if there is a real outcry from the public. Remember, a good majority of these legislators have gotten there only through the blessings of politicians. These politicians are not going to give up their golden goose without a fight.

Brookhaven probably will not be a one party town after this November, and this will partially solve the problem. But excessive control by Republican or Democrats could leave the town open to abuses.

The answer lies in bringing politicians under the public scrutiny and control. Only then will they be subject to the same laws and it will become illegal for them to benefit from the use of their office. We hope it happens soon. It will make for a much better government. And why not?

DMV Isn't All Bad

We have been pretty hard on our local Department of Motor Vehicle Offices in recent editorials. We have been hard because of reader complaints and personal experiences. Conditions had reached a point of being intolerable.

The public should not have to put up with the kind of treatment we had outlined and if bad publicity is the only way to bring pressure to change the system, then bad publicity it has to be.

In due respect though, this past week we had to go to the Riverhead office for a license renewal. It was the end of the month and we had expected the worst.

To our pleasant surprise the office was well staffed. The clerks were working efficiently and there were no lines. The contacts we had were pleasant and we saw no one else being hassled unreasonably. It was a total turnabout from our experience in Hauppauge.

We hope the Riverhead office is an example of what is to come. If it is, the DMV will find people on the other side of the counter more pleasant and understanding. Tension works both ways. We are glad to see the improvement and we are sure you will be next time you have to use these facilities. And why not?

A Word Of Thanks

Every generation has its heroes. Those who go beyond the call of duty to serve their fellow men.

Today, in almost every community we have such a group of men. These are the fellows who give up two or three days a week for about three months out of every year to coach Little League teams.

These men come from every walk of life, but each has a common goal. That is, to work with and help develop youngsters, not only as athletics, but more importantly, as people.

We have watched them spend hours with youngsters, building confidence in the kids. They encourage them to do their best, and make them feel accomplished when they try to do so.

These men spend most of the spring and a good part of the summer working with these youngsters. In addition, they have numerous meetings to attend. This duty takes hundreds of hours out of their lives and the service they perform for the communities is enormous.

As a reward, they more often receive complaints rather than compliments. Suffolk Life is pleased to be able to thank and congratulate each of them for what they are doing. They are heroes to us. And why not?

Second Look At Farmland Preservation

Suffolk Life was an early supporter of John Klein's proposal to preserve our rural farm land in eastern Suffolk. The price tag on the original proposal was \$20 million and it was expected development rights could be brought for less than half the real property values.

Motivation behind the plan was sound: farmers would get a way of keeping their farms out of the deal.

The public would benefit by preserving the agricultural industry on eastern Long Island. It would help preserve the rural quality of life, a definite asset to the area, and keep the developers and suburban sprawled out.

A side and direct benefit from the saving of farmland would give a balance to our water needs and the affluent disposal problems.

Then bids on the development rights came in. Instead of being half of the real value, in many exceeded it.

Land, offered for sale months ago from \$4000 to \$6000, all of a sudden has development right value of between \$3500 and \$7000 while owners retain use of the property.

The latest figure estimated for completion of this project is \$80 million. This does not include the legal fees or any interest on bonding. The project, when all costs are included, could well exceed \$150 million.

Those communities where the land lies would lose a good portion of the tax revenues currently generated by this land. This loss will have to be made up by higher assessments of other parcels and homes. Thus the taxpayers of these com-

munities will end up paying twice for this project.

Even with these disadvantages, which are beginning to outweigh the advantages, we still are interested in the concept.

Would the county be further ahead, if for the same amount of money, they were to buy the farms outright? In this way, at least, we would have something tangible for our investment, rather than just thin air of development rights.

We are bothered by the apparent lack of concern by John Klein that the price tag on this project has gone up over 400 per cent. Has he become blinded by the good publicity and glory of his original concept to the point that he wants it passed at any cost?

What might have been practical at a \$20 million price does not mean it is financially feasible at \$80 million.

Before any final commitment is made on this project, it should be mandated for the county to spell out in detail what the cost of this project will be to the taxpayers. In fact, any project of this magnitude should be accompanied by a mandatory financial impact statement.


Because of the drastic cost rise we withdraw our prior endorsement till we see a complete financial impact statement prepared and released.

We have to know what it will really cost, what the implications will be on every taxpayer and the overall ability of Suffolk County to finance. And why not?

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Republicans' Good Choice Is O'Brien's Dilemma

Republicans in Suffolk County are to be commended for two recent nominations for judgeships. Over a month ago they nominated Ernest Signorelli for the Surrogate Court position and this past week they nominated Chief Assistant District Attorney, Saviero (Sam) Fierro for Family Court.

Both these men are known to be independent Republicans and at the top of the ability ladder. In the past, they would have been overlooked for these important posts in favor of easily controlled party hacks of limited ability.

It is encouraging to see the Republican Party finally waking up. They've nominated good qualified candidates for these judgeships who will be responsive to the people and a credit to the Republican Party if they are elected.

The Republican nomination of Fierro,

however, poses a difficult problem for Democratic District Attorney O'Brien because he pledged to keep his office out of politics.

He insisted all employees give up any active participation with politics. He even refused to hire his own campaign director, Bill Davidson of Huntington as news and public relations coordinator.

Although the PR director's job is not involved with the actual workings or office policy, O'Brien felt so strongly about the matter he extended this policy to Davidson, a Democratic Committeeman, who was very responsible for putting him in office.

The question facing O'Brien, is whether to keep Fierro, an able assistant, a personal friend and a highly qualified candidate on the job until November.

O'Brien, in good conscious can't relax his rule to aid his friend without returning the District Attorney's office to politics.

He must insist that Fierro follow his policy-- either turn down the nomination or resign as Chief Assistant District Attorney.

A race for any office is a political race regardless of whether it is for an administrator post or a judgeship. You can't keep politics out of it, all the justifying in the world will not change this fact.

O'Brien is in a tough spot. He has made the rules for his office and he must follow them. We are sure he will. He will not let down the people who elected him although it will be personally unpleasant for him. And why not?

Financial Impact Statement A Must

Last week, we touched editorially on the need for a financial impact statement on the farm and acquisition program. The need for this information is immense. Yet it is not a common practice on the local, county, state or federal level.

Bills and programs are passed requiring millions and billions of dollars in outlays, often committing us to repayment plans which run through our children's lifetime. No thought is given or information released on what it means in terms of the government's ability to finance or the taxpayers' ability to repay.

We see where this has led New York City. The city has lost its credit rating, the banks will no longer extend to them loans or finance their fiscal instability.

The taxes have been raised so high on real estate, buildings and even blocks of buildings are abandoned. Taxes have risen to the point where it is no longer profitable to own the property and owners just walk away from their investment.

Factories have left the city in droves, whole industries have moved out. Now even corporate headquarters are fleeing from the city's oppressive tax burden, on real estate, workers' income and business profits. They just can't afford it anymore.

If the City had prepared financial impact statements on programs they had entered into, they would have foreseen the ramifications.

They would have realized they couldn't afford all they were trying to accomplish, and there is a breaking point, when reached, collapses the whole system.

All forms of government from federal right down to school boards have a tendency to spend now and worry about paying for it another time. They have operated on borrowed money.

The city has run out of ways to pay it back, it is facing bankruptcy. The future does not look much brighter for any government operation which is run under these conditions.

The financial dilemma government faces today could have been avoided if financial impact statements had been prepared.

These statements look at the amount the government is taxing, the effect it will have on the economy and the taxpayers ability to withstand this pressure.

We prepare environmental impact statements showing how particular projects will affect our human well being. We must also prepare financial impact statements on how a project

will effect our economic well being.

Before private businesses make any major change in operation or purchase major service or equipment, they look carefully at the financial ramifications of this move.

Before the plan is adopted, they budget carefully how it will affect their profits and how they are going to be able to pay for it. If they do not, they are out of business. It just makes good business sense.

Isn't it time the government started using good business sense. At least they should look at how

they are going to finance a project. Just to raise the tax or add a new one is not enough as we have seen in New York City.

You reach the point where taxpayers abandon government and those who remain are left holding the bag.

New York City's condition should be the impetus needed for every branch of government to put legislation on the books requiring a financial impact statement before any spending project can be started. This is good common sense. And why not?

Parks Are For Recreation

In Suffolk County, we spend millions of our dollars acquiring parks. In addition we budget a good portion of our local and county taxes for their upkeep and maintenance.

This is suppose to provide us with an opportunity to enjoy the good life. To give us a place we can let our hair down and enjoy the wide open spaces.

Where woodland exist the first thing we do is bring in bulldozers and cut roads and trails. We then put up fences to keep people out.

Next comes signs telling us when we can use these facilities. This is quickly followed by elaborate rules and regulations on all the things we cannot do. We staff our parks with armed guards complete with uniforms.

In the end, we have done everything to eliminate these facilities from being relaxed and comfortable places to enjoy. Maybe it is a sign of our times, but we wonder if it is all necessary.

We are told the roads have to be cut so the officials can adequately control the grounds. The rules are there to protect the users and the guards are there to enforce these rules to protect the users from themselves.

There are people who will abuse the property; they will make a mess and leave it. Occasionally someone will be unruly. This happens whether there are rules or not and will even happen in front of guards.

Almost everybody else will use and not abuse the facilities with or without guards. Of course, there has to be some general rules.

How about some like these:

- This is your park, it is here for you to enjoy.
- You will clean up after yourself and you will not damage or ruin your property.
- Please try to be considerate of your fellow


users, this is also their park and they have rights too.

Just about every other rule and regulation that is needed is covered by laws on the books concerning gatherings of people in public places. What isn't, is covered by common sense and decency.

Let's think about taking the bureaucracy and restrictions out of our parks and replacing them with freedom and relaxation. After all, our parks are for people to enjoy, aren't they? And why not?

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Suffolk County Is Too Big

Suffolk County is too big to be a good county. It would make a better state or even more desirably several individual counties. Suffolk is comprised of ten towns. Some of our towns are bigger than the majority of the counties in the state. Some even have more population than whole states. The gross national product produced here and its accompanying taxes out-strip many full-fledged states. The government structure is large and unwieldy. It is directionless and even hardened politicians ask "who is running Suffolk County?"

Because of its size and complexities, the government of Suffolk is unresponsive to its people. No matter what it does for one section of the county, it does it at the expense of others. The county is incapable of meeting the needs of all the people because their needs are too varied.

This became painfully obvious at the county capital budget hearing. Legislators from the west end wanted a massive swimming pool complex and equestrian center built. An east end legislator wanted a model farm for his district.

Not getting into the merits or finances of these proposals, let's just look at the logistics.

Who in their right mind is going to ride from Shelter Island or Huntington to Babylon to go for a quick swim in a pool. There would be few occasions for somebody to truck their horse or even ride it from their home in Huntington or Greenport to an equestrian center in Bohemia.

Yet, every taxpayer in the county would have to pay for the construction and operation of these facilities.

Smaller units of government would be more responsive to the people. The politicians could read their constituents and might be able to produce projects that the people really want and are willing to finance.

There has been a strong movement to split the county, it was an east end movement. The reason--east enders want independence. There is a night-and-day difference between the sociological and economical needs and beliefs of west enders and east enders. Their priorities are totally different, they're needs and desires are not compatible.

In fact, there is even a definite division in the desires of the people in Islip from those of Smithtown - neighboring towns.

The same can be said for almost all of the five west end towns. The five east end towns have enough in common to form a compatible single county.

Would cost prohibit the splitting of Suffolk into a number of smaller counties? We doubt it.

Some years ago the county legislature ordered a report on the financial implication of severing the east end from the west. It was these politicians' hope to prove once and for all it would be financially impossible for the split to take place.

When the report was finished, it indicated that it was not only financially feasible, but practical. East end taxes would have been reduced by seven per cent by operating as an independent county. There would not have been a noticeable change in the tax rate for the west end towns. The politicians who had hoped to kill this movement, then claimed "the report was meaningless."

The smaller the branch of government, the more economically it is able to operate. This is a proven fact.

A good example, according to Dode Hulse, Supervisor of Southampton, is his own highway department. Southampton has more roads to maintain than are under the county's jurisdiction. They do a good job and perform this task for less than 25 per cent of the county's cost.

Where independent small counties could not finance a project alone, they could enter into a common use district and finance the cost jointly as Islip, Babylon and Huntington have done in their sanitary land fill.

Why then, is this proposition not being seriously considered? As most government problems, the answer can be found in selfish politics.

The division of Suffolk has been stopped by Republican politicians looking out for their own.

Although he has given lip service to the proposal, Perry Duryea, Assembly Minority leader, has never been warm to this idea. While he dutifully entered a bill calling for the creation of Peconic County every year, he has never put the prestige or the power of his office behind this movement.

There are those who have charged that he has sabotaged it because he needs a united Suffolk as a power base if he is ever to reach his goal of governor.

Brookhaven is big enough and rich enough to be a great county on its own. Dick Zeidler stands in its way.

If Brookhaven became a county it

would necessitate the area being broken into smaller towns, each town serving local communities.

This would be better for the people, but it would be bad for Zeidler. Zeidler would lose what he had left of his power base, and not have everything under his fingertips.

As you go further west, you see more of the same selfish politics. The politicians survive on the basis of the towns being big. Within the towns they have enough votes and muscle to sway the outcome of their favorite projects in the county government.

No one seems to care if these projects are for the good of the people and, as more capital improvement projects are proposed and passed it will become more and more difficult to split up the county into individual counties.

John Klein's farm land preservation bill might sound a death knell to this whole concept. It would place in debt the people of the east end to such a point they would never financially survive a split.

This makes it imperative for thinking people to investigate and insist upon all the facts being brought out concerning the feasibility of splitting the county.

This is no longer an east end issue but one that affects the lives of each resident of Suffolk.


It's a people vs. the politicians issue. So far by keeping you in the dark they have been winning and you are paying for it through increased taxes and slipshod services.

This will continue until you demand some answers, do it now, it will benefit you and your children. And why not?

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Schwenk's Resignation Is Everybody's Loss

"Buzz" Schwenk, Republican chairman, announced he will retire at the end of his term in September or at any time before if a qualified replacement is found.

The simple reason given by Schwenk is money. Before becoming Republican leader, he was vice-president of a large bank, an owner of several convenience food stores and a dairy farmer milk processor.

In private life by using his talents, investing wisely, he enjoyed a substantial income.

The chairmanship of the Suffolk Republican Party, although a full time job, is not salaried. Schwenk has personally suffered a loss of income he formerly enjoyed as a private entrepreneur and there has been nothing to replace it.

An attempt was made to fill this gap appointing him chairman of the New York State Sports Authority. The authority, a patronage plum, paid its chairman \$25,000 per year. With Carey in Albany, however, it is predicted to be phased out by the year's end, and Schwenk will be back to zero.

With the economic realities and family obligations facing him, Schwenk made the decision to resign. The big loser is the Republican Party. But every resident in Suffolk County will also lose.

Schwenk has brought about many changes. He has weeded out some of the corruption which permeated the Republican Party before he took over. He ended the field day unscrupulous individuals had enjoyed in the past.

He has not totally succeeded, but Schwenk's reputation for hard-nosed honesty has caused many free swingers to abandon Suffolk County for greener pastures.

Of greater significance, however, is that Schwenk has made the GOP responsive to rank and file Republicans.

He has cut through the arrogance of the west end power brokers and created a truce, whereby free thinking independent Republicans could survive on their ability.

Most residents do not realize the power and temptations facing a political leader of a major party in Suffolk County. They have power to strongly influence most decisions within the county.

This power is not limited to just county affairs, but also finds its way into each town.

It is not illegal for a political leader to accept what amounts to a bribe, a consultant fee or a gift, call it what you may, for using his influence to obtain favors. A change of zoning on a major development can be worth a million dollars.

It is easy to see how a political leader could be tempted to become very rich. The only thing stopping him is his own personal integrity, ethics and his code of honor. As we have seen, here in Suffolk, some politicians don't have any. Schwenk was one who did and everybody took it for granted.

Now Schwenk has handed in his resignation. He will go back to the outside private world and use his talents to again enjoy a living he needs for his family.

It's a damn shame both the Republican and Democratic Parties do not pay their chairman substantial salaries to run their organizations.

They are courting and asking for corrupt leadership. Luckily the chairmen of both major parties Schwenk and Baranello have been honest. We wonder if we shall be so lucky in the future. With today's changing morals and values, we doubt it.

Without compensation from a party, the temptation is just too great.

The political party must pay their chairman for the full-time back breaking job they do, running a political party in a county like Suffolk. It requires hide of iron, enormous strength, personal dedication, great intelligence.

With power in his hands, to make decisions affecting every resident living here now and in the future, the party leader salary must be paid by the rank and file instead of a few fat cats.

Every registered Republican and Democratic could buy a piece of corruption-free democracy if they would personally send their party a token of one dollar annually. This token when added up would amount to a salary commensurate with people of similar talents in the private sector.

It would give our leaders a basis for forming a decision on what is good for all the people in the party, instead of for a few individuals. The government belongs to all the people, it should not be the private preserve of a few.

We should be willing to support our leadership with our token dollar. This will insure the leadership at the top will be responsive to our needs and desires.

If you are proud to be a Republican or a Democrat send off your token dollar to the chairman of your political party.

Don't wait till a corruptible person is in that leadership position and brings your party down to shame. Without a salary it will happen. And why not?

Dominic Baranello
Chairman Salary Fund
Suffolk Democratic Party
Holbrook, New York

Edwin Schwenk
Chairman Salary Fund
Suffolk Republican Party
Atlantic Avenue
Blue Point, N.Y.

The Market Value Or Mystical Formula

Islip was ordered by the state's highest court recently to use the real market value of real estate for the purpose of assessments.

Under the present system the town uses an assessed valuation, applying a formula which results in the value of the house, actually a fraction of the current market value.

It is hard for the average person to understand. It confuses them when they are trying to determine whether they are paying their fair share of taxes or are paying too much in relationship to their neighbors. It is on this assessed value that you pay taxes to the town, the county, school, library and fire districts. The appeals court agreed it was unfair and ordered an end to the slide rule mathematics needed to determine property taxes.

Up to now, the beneficiaries of this complicated system are the older homes in the community. The newer homes pay far more than their share to make up for the breaks received by older properties.

Speculators, who hold undeveloped land, also gain, paying taxes on this land in relation to the price that they paid years ago for it. This land is not taxed at its current worth and will not be until it is reassessed or it is sold.

The system enables speculators to sit for long periods of time on their investment to only sell off real estate that they choose. By keeping the real estate off the market prices are kept artificially inflated, and it is this unfair tax system that subsidizes the speculators investment.

If the purpose of the real property tax law is to raise the money needed to sustain our local governments and schools fairly and equitably, real estate must be assessed on its real fair market value.

The moment you start applying a false assessment and you complicate it further by

elaborate formulas which end up setting unrealistic values for tax purposes you confuse the issues.

Some owners end up with tax breaks others end up paying more than they should. The system creates favoritism and is ripe for political considerations.

The confusion that results places the average home owner in a position of not being able to know whether he is being over charged. It places everybody in playland and the end result is higher real estate taxes.

The Court of Appeals showed wisdom in its decision. Even though the suit was brought against Islip it will not affect just this town.

The court ordered all property in New York State to be taxed on its real market value it did not though set a time limit for compliance. There is already a move afoot to have the state legislature enact a new law to make the old system which is unfair to many that the court has found unfair legal.

The backers are more concerned with preserving the status quo through which they are able to tax some unfairly then producing a system which gives everybody the same break.

They will attempt to rally people with older homes, they will tell them that they are going to have to pay higher taxes if this new system is imposed.

What they are really saying is owners of older residents will be required to pay their fair share as everybody should.


This move will pass unless the voters communicate with the legislature and let them know that they want a fair and equitable system, they want the mandate of the court followed.

It is up to you to decide which side of this issue you will be on. Let your legislator know your feelings. And why not?

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Carey Is Doing What He Was Elected To Do

We have deliberately withheld writing about Governor Carey to give him time to set a positive direction for his administration. He appears to be one of the few politicians who has gotten the word from the voters.

After fifteen years of reckless fiscal spending that has all but collapsed the financial fiber of New York State, Carey has showed he is not willing to spend beyond the state's means.

He said in his inauguration address he would not allow any more reckless spending. He was going to cut back where necessary. At a minimum he was going to hold the line on spending and taxes.

Few politicians in New York State believed him. Now six months later, it has begun to dawn on those who took part in the spending spree that he meant what he said.

The Democrats from the city have been breaking down his door. Instead of handouts they have gotten a friendly reception and strong warning to go back home and straighten out their own affairs.

He instigated and was instrumental in setting up the mechanics for big MAC. Through this apparatus, the city was able to convert its short term obligations to long term debt. It avoided immediate bankruptcy for the city.

To make it work, the city must reduce the size of city government and live within its means to pay for it.

It provided nothing more than state support for these long term city loans. It mandated the city government utilize fiscal prudence to solve its problems, something it has lacked for years.

The school districts for Long Island have constantly given in to employee demands for higher and higher pay and benefits. The districts then looked to the state for increased state aid to bail them out.

This year they will receive no more than they did last, and are faced with the reality that they will have to live within their means, or raise real estate taxes to an astronomical proportion.

They have finally reached a point where they are also going to have to say "no", or they'll never have a school budget passed again.

In less critical areas such as parks, eastern Long Island has felt the brunt of Carey's austerity. We suspect a certain amount of politics were played in the first assembly district. At Hither Hills in Montauk, Duryea's home town, this park was reported to be the hardest hit in the state.

Carey has ordered a cutback of full-time employees to have them replaced by part-timers as an economy move. We sympathize with the workers who have been affected, particularly any of those whose jobs were lost because of politics.

It isn't only the city, schools and parks that have felt the sharp point of Carey's austerity, but every branch of government. This is the only way the taxes can be held in line or reduced.

Carey's intention is to bring the state government down to a manageable level, to provide only services that the people want and are willing to pay for. This is what people have been saying for years.

Now the opposition, which has fed so long on the sky-rocketing bureaucracy, is calling foul play. They claim there is no need for these cutbacks, the budget has plenty of money to support programs. Carey says there isn't.

He says, "If you want to increase programs, or do not want the cutbacks, you are going to have

to increase people's taxes." The governor has told the boys in the legislature: "You can't have it both ways."

Although special interest groups have been circulating petitions calling for increased school aid, aid to New York City, aid for the parks, what the petitioners do not tell signers is that they are asking for higher taxes.

Think about it before you sign one of these petitions. Do you want your taxes raised? Or do you want state government to hold the line and to

cut back where it counts.

This is the first real opportunity in 15 years where a government official has said to the people, "there is no Santa Claus, you have to pay for everything you want."

Take your choice-more government services, more taxes, and less for you to take home to spend; or less government services, and the same or lower taxes.

It's good to see honesty in government for a change. And why not?

And He Said Gas Prices Will Rise

Hang on to your wallets, you contemptible consumers.

You have driven your cars, and gone back to buying gas, maybe as much as a gallon a week more than last year.

You, yes, you are causing a run on gasoline.

To protect the world from your lustful greed, the leader has added a penny a gallon tax to your cost. Mystically the price on the pump has jumped five cents.

You in your wanton decadence, going to work, shopping and pleasure driving are committing the unforgiveable sin of using your \$5,000 investment. Even this early in the tourist season (when most gas is consumed) spot shortages are turning up here in eastern Long Island.

By August you will be paying another five to 10 cents per gallon. Then there will be shortages, and later stations totally out of gas. Long, hot lines will materialize in front of your not-so-friendly gas merchant.

This is the plan which has been designed to beat you into gleeful submission of these higher prices to come.

Committees will be formed to investigate the situation. The leader might even call for prime time to tell you how rotten you have been. You will be forced into conservation measures.

The president will then impose an even higher tax for your good. The opposition party will say "they have a better idea. They will keep costs high, and in addition impose rationing that will create a black market on gas.

Its a re-run folks, just like the last time. The big jocks in the oil companies got a taste of those super big profits and want more.

There is no shortage of raw oil, oil production world-wide has been slowed down because the demand is not there. There is no shortage of refineries, some refineries have been closed down altogether. Others are producing at a much shortened level.

There is no shortage of tankers. Over one-half the tankers worldwide are lying at dock sides.

There is no shortage of marketing facilities.

There is not even a shortage of normal profits in the oil industry. Just read the financial pages, read the Wall Street Journal and you will see that the oil companies are enjoying excellent profit pictures. Not the kind of excess that they enjoyed a year ago, but darn good returns from their investments.

What there is, is greed and a government that is working for the oil companies, and the consumers who are locked into the system.

There is no way, the consumer can boycott oil. Our entire lives are dependent upon it. Our cars do not work without it and there is no mass transportation. Even our appliances do not work without oil-produced electricity.

We have a federal government that is not

working for the people. It is not there to protect them. It is paralyzed by the special interest, and incapable of enforcing the anti-trust laws, this allows oil companies to be non-competitive.

Both the Democratic and Republican parties are controlled by influential officials who owe their hide to the big oil companies. They are reinforced by a massive bureaucracy below them, that paralyzes any efforts at reform.

America can no longer be run by two major parties. Neither of these parties any longer represent the average American. They have been bought, lock, stock and barrel by special interest.

Independent spirit must prevail

With Independence Day close at hand, every American should be giving thought to the creation of a new party that will represent the people. The spirit of independence must still prevail in many Americans.

In 1975, we have a choice of being submissive to the establishment which is controlled by special interests or stating that we will not be forced to live under this kind of yoke.


This is a drastic measure, not one that would be popular under normal circumstances. But it becomes more obvious each day that government is not serving the people, rather people are serving the government, which is what the American Revolution was all about.

In this coming year of the bicentennial it would be wise for all Americans to think about the part they are playing in the government and the part the government is playing in their lives. And why not?

SUFFOLK LIFE

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