

For sale to the Highest Bidder

The Conservative Party in the State New York was founded because the Republican party had drifted too far from center and was embracing liberal and socialistic positions.

The Conservative Party offered an alternative for Republicans, Independents, and Democrats. Its principles and philosophies were strong. Winning was not the name of the game. Patronage was considered a dirty word and firm principles were the byword.

The Conservative Party grew rapidly through the 60's. It became a force to be reckoned with. In the early 70's political observers noted the leadership of the party was willing to sell their principles for scraps. They became, in the good old American tradition, political prostitutes. The endorsement of the Conservative party, and the third line for candidates to run on regardless of their political philosophy, became available to the highest bidder.

Suffolk Life had been a strong advocate of the Conservative Party up until this point. We stuck our neck out, backed Conservative candidates, knowing full well they didn't stand a

chance in hell of winning. It was our belief that as long as these candidates truly believed in fiscal conservatism, and in a win or lose proposition would take a stand, then they were worthy of support. Now, the Conservative Party has reduced itself to a common commodity that can be bought, sold and traded.

We recommend to those who have registered Conservative or who traditionally vote on the Conservative line, to abandon this party and go back to one of the major parties where at least your vote can be felt through taking part in the primary system.

Being a member of the Conservative Party means nothing more than allowing yourself to be manipulated. No longer are candidates selected based upon their philosophies. The County Conservative Committee and many of the towns simply trade off your vote for a few jobs or the opportunity to run a candidate for a no-nothing position.

Conservatives -- change your registration today. Your leadership has sold you out. And why not?

The following guest editorial of June 24, 1979, is reprinted by permission of the Huntington Sunday Digest, Stan Sousa, Executive Editor.

editorial

On to the Primaries



The recent Democratic and Republican county conventions proved one thing. The designated candidates - John Klein for the Republicans and Martin Feldman for the Democrats - ate the candidates of the party bosses, not of the people.

In all fairness, the GOP convention allowed for dissent and dissent there was. The Democratic convention however, was held in the vise-like grip of chairman Dominic Baranello and all opposition was effectively smothered and discouraged from voicing any protest to the machine-like nomination of Feldman.

That's fact. The designated party candidates are John Klein and Feldman but now that the bosses have spoken, it's time for the people to fight for whom they want and believe in.

Again we urge Republican Peter Fox Cohalan and Democrat Pat Vecchio to wage all-out primary battles to wrest their parties' nominations for county executive from the faltering hands of Klein and Feldman.

Cohalan appears to have the easier path. He came within a hair of defeating the incumbent Klein at the GOP convention and the support he mustered at that time should encourage him to do the thing that's right for him and for the county - to win the primary and be the Republican candidate in November.

Smithtown Supervisor Patrick Vecchio, the man Baranello smothered in the Democratic convention, tells *Digest* readers in an exclusive interview, of the pressures and obstacles thrown up against him in his bid to offer county Democratic committeemen an alternative to Legis. Feldman, the Dix Hills dentist.

The influence of Baranello was so overpowering that Vecchio decided to bypass the "stacked" convention and instead map plans for a possible onslaught for the nomination through the primary route.

It is obvious to the people of the county that the best contenders for the most important elective office in Suffolk are Cohalan and Vecchio - not the machine-chosen Klein and Feldman. Yet the professional politicians have coped with primary campaigns before and have emerged with their hand-picked candidates in more cases than not.

So what chance does Cohalan or Vecchio have to upset the conveyor-belt system the two parties employ to present their candidates to the public?

Very little, unless these possible primaries become the number one priority of every registered Republican and Democrat in the county. They must vote - and get other people to vote - so that the full electorate will have a quality choice in November.

We ask those growing number of voters who are registering as independents to involve themselves in the campaigns of Cohalan and Vecchio by studying the likeness and uninspired lethargy of Klein and Feldman and to work, as independents, in getting regular party members to turn out in vast numbers to earn Cohalan and Vecchio their rightful place on the November ballot.

Hundreds, perhaps thousands of volunteers, would be needed to toss the designated candidates back into the faces of their bosses. Both Vecchio and Cohalan would need people to man telephones, to distribute literature and to raise funds in order to pull off successful primaries.

What we're calling for is a grassroots campaign for both men that will stun and bewilder the political bosses of this county who believe that their single word is enough to place their favorite political proteges before the public without fear of repudiation.

Looking back at the recent Democratic convention, the raw power of Dominic Baranello was obvious to all. He screamed, threatened and eventually stifled all opposition to Feldman. It was Feldman he wanted and it was Feldman the committee people got, whether they liked it or not.

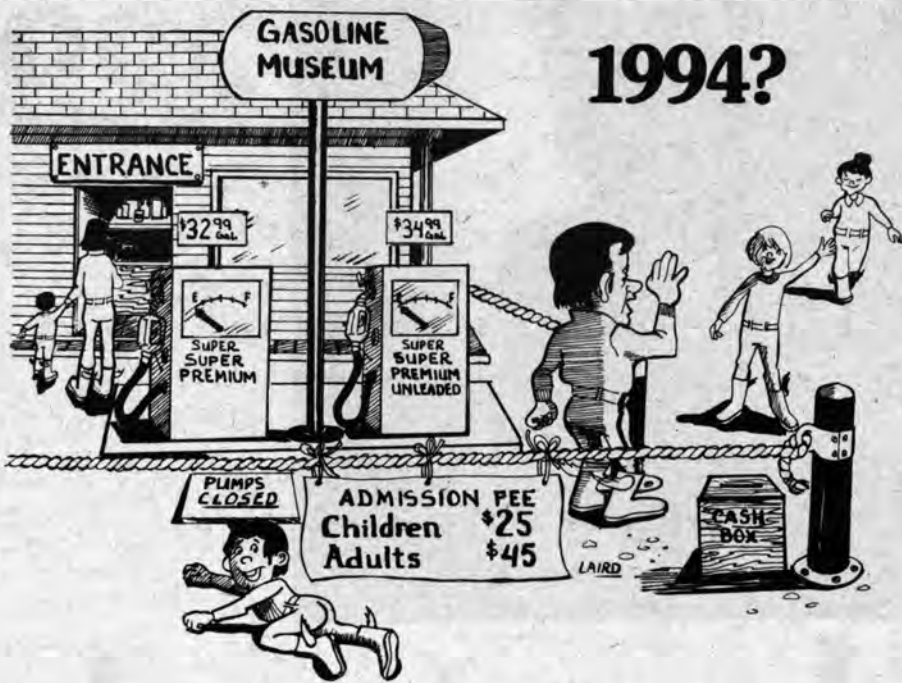
Not even John Braslow the Babylon Democratic leader who told the *New York Times* in an interview that "Vecchio is the better candidate" but that he was going to vote for Feldman anyway, could cope with Baranello's arm-twisting.

Unless the people of the county, Independents, Republicans, Democrats, Conservatives and Liberals speak out, the election will be between John Klein, the Republican county executive who has admitted the faults, the machinations and the alleged criminal acts arising from the scandal-ridden Southwest Sewer District are his responsibility, and Legis. Martin Feldman, a longtime member of the county legislature who sat, and watched, and did nothing except to vote for a multi-million dollar increase in public funds to perpetuate the greatest boondoggle ever foisted on the people of Suffolk.

If Klein and Feldman prevail, we predict the lowest voter turnout in the county's history and the depths of despair and incompetency will be reached. We can hear the people moan, stay home Election Day and say: "What's the use?"

If Cohalan and Vecchio contest each other, we'll have a vibrant exciting campaign between two eager, intelligent and inspiring candidates. The important thing is, no matter who would win, the county of Suffolk and its people would be back on the road of progress, fiscal sanity and leadership.

Equally important, the political bosses who handpicked Klein and Feldman would be cast aside with them, choking in the dust of a long over-due taxpayer-voter revolt.

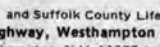


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Sunday Suspended

Effective July 1, 1979, Suffolk Life will suspend publishing the Sunday edition. Of course we will continue publishing our Wednesday edition, and we are looking forward to Wednesday being bigger and better. For almost three years we have been coming into your home twice a week. But now, the worsening gasoline situation has caused problems for our delivery personnel as well as our reporters, photographers and salespeople. Rather than attempt to publish a mediocre Sunday edition, we determined it was in the best interest of our readers, our staff and our advertisers, to publish an enlarged Wednesday edition rather than a

substandard edition on Sunday. We have planned several new features we are sure you will enjoy. This decision was a tough one to make. My staff has thrown themselves 100 per cent into doing the impossible. They've been super in every way. Your response to twice a week publications has been encouraging. But being realistic, without sufficient quantities of gasoline we could not continue to do the 100 per cent job we are pledged to carry out. We are looking forward to producing an even bigger and better Suffolk Life on Wednesday for you with renewed vigor and strength. And why not?

Think about gas realistically. Most car gas tanks hold 20 gallons, and most cars today get at least 15 miles per gallon. This gives us a range of 300 miles of driving. You and I, as well as everyone else, have helped bring about the long lines at service stations by panicking. We grew up in an atmosphere of considering it our right to be served gasoline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. During this period, few of us ever bothered to pull into a service station until our gas gauge read a quarter or below. Most of us today are paranoid enough to start looking for an opened gas station when our tanks still read more than half full. Pulling into a service station and topping off is one of the major contributors to the gas panic of 1979. We are playing right into the hands of the greedy oil companies and even more greedy government. The oil companies are raising prices at will and the government isn't doing a damn thing because as prices rise, so does its take from taxes both on sales and

income. Plan your week's driving. Calculate the miles you will travel. Don't pull into a service station until you are going to need at least 15 gallons of gas. Refuse to patronize, if you can avoid it, stations pricing their product at the high end of the spectrum. It's obvious for all to see we have cut our driving severely and thus our consumption. At some times of day it almost seems like the middle of winter in a snow storm. Traffic is down to nothing. This cut in consumption is more than the oil companies probably anticipated. Like the last time, the glut of gas they have been holding back is going to become so tremendous they will not be able to manage it properly. This may take a month or it might take six, but if we keep our heads and buy our gas defensively, we can beat the bastards at their own game. And why not?

Readers' Opinion

"Jumping on the Band-Wagon"

Dear Mr. Willmott: Since the "Three Mile Island Nuclear Incident", many people seem to be jumping on the band-wagon of waving the flag of skepticism and fear. This seems to be done to excite the public, and lead them to a loss of confidence in American technology. Where is the courage that made our country the great industrial giant she is? Do we stop moving ahead because the risks are too great; or do we move ahead, knowing we can safely solve any problems we may face? Our forefathers answered it for us; they challenged the sea, the forest, the plains, mountains, desert, and the moon and succeeded. History tells us that they succeeded because they had the courage and confidence of their convictions. There is no doubt that the American life style is the envy of the world, and that we have nothing to be ashamed for the enjoyment of the fruits from our labor. Let's not bury our heads in the sand, and be paralyzed by the worry of what might be. Worry is like a rocking chair; it goes back and forth, but never goes anywhere. America

has places to go, and things to do, and nuclear energy will aid her in getting there. The public must be reminded that the nuclear industry has the safest record of any technology. There has never been an injury to the public from the generation of electricity with nuclear energy, while thousands have died from other forms of technology, (coal, aircraft, chemical). But luckily, we have had the common sense to continue to learn from our mistakes; finding better, and safer ways to handle the technology that has given us all a better way of life. America has always looked to the future, and has always been able to move ahead because of our technological superiority. There is no reason to believe that we can not still do so. If America is to remain the pre-eminent nation on earth, and not have our future dictated by foreign kings, we must continue to move ahead with NUCLEAR ENERGY NOW! Robert C. Luerssen, President S.A.F.E. Wading River

"Untapped Services"

Dear Mr. Willmott: Often people are not aware of some of the many services that our state, county and local governments are providing. Often departments send out notifications telling people about these services, but so many times they go by without notice. It is for this reason that I have decided to make people aware of some of the many "untapped services" that are available to them via periodic "Letters-to-the-Editor". Recently while talking to residents in the Village of Bellport, I found that few people knew that Suffolk County operates an overnight summer camp for children. With the warm weather approaching, parents are looking to send their children off to camp, but many cannot because of today's high costs. The Suffolk County Department of Parks,

Recreation and Conservation operates one of the finest overnight camps around at a very reasonable rate, \$50.00 for a one-week stay. Peconic Dunes Camp is located on Long Island Sound and is open to all Suffolk County resident boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 12. It offers a complete program of sports, arts and crafts, and nature program and is a great way for any child to spend a week, at a minimum cost to Mom and Dad. For more information, contact the Suffolk County Department of Parks located on the West Sayville County Golf Course in West Sayville. Sincerely, Frank Trotta, Jr. Trustee Inc. Village of Bellport

"Wicca Witch"

Dear Mr. Willmott: Regarding your May 23, 1979 issue and cover story on the Wicca witch - it was a sorry thing to see her get front page attention. She could thereby bring more people into deception. There are two sources of supernatural power - one from God the Father, Son & Holy Spirit and the other from the counterfeit Satan who is the father of lies & seeks to

murder & destroy. She may think (deceived) she is doing good but it cannot stay that way because Satan always extracts his price & the price is high - eternal damnation - unless the person repents and surrenders their life to Jesus Christ who is "the way, the truth & the life & who came to give life and life abundantly" and eternal life as well. Very truly yours, Name Withheld

"Is there a Rooster in the flock?"

Dear Mr. Willmott: Having been brought up on a farm and a few years ago had some laying hens for a hobby, I was rather taken by the article in Newsday by Don Smith regarding the operation of the Suffolk County Farm at Yaphank in which he states (information by Mr. Brinkman) that 800 hens lay 80 dozen eggs per day. That would be 960 eggs. If these hens are as proficient as that, they should give each one of them an official position in our county government and if they have a rooster in the flock, give him John

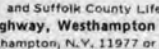
Klein's job. The record for egg production, according to Guinness Book is 361 eggs in 365 days. I suggest Mr. Brinkman check on the prisoners and see that they collect the eggs every day instead of every other day. Even that would be a pretty good record. Besides, what do they do with all these eggs? I shall watch Suffolk Life for a reply to the above question. Yours truly, Frank Ayer Medford

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