

Public Convenience

Just before election day every year many politicians tell us that we should become more involved in what is going on so that they will know our wants and desires. Some have even gone so far as to indicate that they would hold town board meetings during the evening when it is more convenient for the residents to attend the meetings. Of course, the day after elections the desire to involve the citizens in the workings of local government subsides and that is the end of it.

Many residents would like to attend town board meetings in order to express their views on the subjects under discussion. Others would like to observe and listen so that they could be better informed on matters pertaining to their towns. Unfortunately, the housewife is often tied down at home with the children and the baby sitter is in school. The husband and father is at work tending to his duties and cannot get free during the day to go to these meetings. As a esult, most town board meetings are attended by only a handful of our citizens, and all of the town business is left up to the elected officials.

We find it all too easy to criticize our officials for their decisions, but seldom do we advise them directly as to what we want them to do before they make those decisions. We act deeply shocked when a scandal breaks out, such as the one in Islip, yet what can we expect if we ignore our town business or are denied the opportunity to attend and participate in its meetings. Our responsibilities should not and must not end on election day.

We feel that it would be better for everyone if town board meetings were held during the evening hours so that more citizens could attend. If the times and dates of the meetings were publicized, we are sure that the meetings would be better attended. Both citizens and officials would be more aware of each other's needs and better government would result.

It would be worthwhile to see something done about this matter, at least on a trial basis, in the near future. Let's hope that those who are responsible for arranging the town board meetings will give this some serious thought. And Why Not.

Pail Cultural Center

The Gateway Playhouse in Bellport announced, this past week, that it was planning on extending its facilities the year round. At present, it operates basically as a summer theater and offers performances

only during the summer months. Located in picturesque Bellport, the Gateway enjoys one of the most charming settings on Long Island, combining an old farm building with more modern structures that have been put up to accommodate the theater complex.

This new venture for the Gateway will be called The Suffolk County Center for the Performing Arts. It will have no political allegiance or financial ties with the county.

Suffolk Life heralds this idea in cultural advancement. There are too few cultural advantages here in the east end. 'We need a blending of both our natural and cultural resources to make Eastern Long Island a well-rounded community.

The new center will include performances by both local and imported talent. We hope that all of Suffolk will turn out in support of this worthy venture. And Why Not?

Tax Map Approved

After eight years of pleading, talking, wheeling and dealing, County Executive Dennison finally saw his dream of a uniform county tax map come true. The county board, by a vote of seven to three, approved the preparation of a county tax map, road map and the monumenting of the county.

As we mentioned in a past editorial in favor of this map, all indications are that this map will pay for itself out of the additional revenues that should be generated by the finding of lands that are not on the tax rolls at present.

We are happy to see that the county board has finally seen fit to pass this project. It is also ironical that, if the board had been operating under the reapportionment system that Mr. Dennison has pushed for, this proposition would have been defeated because the supervisors from Islip, Huntington and Babylon voted against it. They control about 70% of the vote within the county under one-man, one-vote. Something to think about, Mr. Dennison? And Why Not?

LETTERS TO EDITOR PAGE 4

SUFFOLK LIFE

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SHERMAN B. CHACE, SALES MANAGER KURT BUSSE, GENERAL MANAGER JOHN McKAY, PRODUCTION MANAGER H.FRANCKE & J.CORWIN, PHOTOGRAPHERS

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Is It Possible?

We quote from an article in Newsday on Tuesday, April 30, 1968 written by Jerry Edgerton, Newsday Political Writer and entitled Panel Urges U.S. 'Negative Tax.' "Albany- -A panel of top business leaders, appointed by Gov. Rockefeller, recommended yesterday that the nation's welfare system be replaced by a federal "negative income tax" to guarantee poor families a minimum of \$3,300 a year." "Aid would be given only on the basis of need instead of being limited to the specified categories now used for welfare payments, such as dependent children and disabled persons." The committee report said, "We now spend about \$8 billion (a year nationally) to give adequate assistance to 8,000,000 people. For about \$11 billion more, we can lift all 30,000,000 (underprivileged) Americans to the poverty threshold." The report went on to add that "The committee was especially critical of the welfare practice of reducing benefits by the amount of any wages earned," and concluded with this final gem that, "It suggested that verification of need (for welfare) be eliminated and it more day care facilities be established to allow welfare mothers to work."

We were thunderstruck at the ideas proposed in this report. We were doubly amazed that the members of this committee were top officers in some of the nation's most important corporations. We have always thought that the leaders of our free enterprise system would provide the moral and intellectual bulwark against the rising tide of socialism. Apparently we were very wrong, for they are now advocating it. There is no other interpretation that we can put upon their recommendations H..... it is pure out-and-out socialism. Should such measures be put into effect, we would be entering upon one of the darkest periods of our history. There would be no turning back from the ultimate Police State.

Bear in mind that coercion is as much the tool of the Welfare State as it is of communism. The programs and edicts of both are backed by the police force. All of us know this to be true under communism, but it is equally true under our own brand of welfare statism. Just try to avoid paying your taxes to support the government's welfare programs, or its urban renewal, or its farm subsidy program, its social security or its full employment program. In Russia the force is more impetuously applied than ere. There, they pull the trigger and think later if at all. Here, the government relies more on the threat of force and acquiescence of the citizen.

Alexis de Tocqueville predicted over a century ago the characteristics of the despotism (the Welfare State)

which might arise in America: "The will of man is not shattered, but softened, bent and guided; men are seldom forced by it to act, but they are constantly restrained from acting. Such a power does not destroy but it prevents existence; it does not tyrannize, but it compresses, enervates, extinguishes and stupefies a people, till each nation is reduced to nothing better than a flock of timid and industrious animals, of which the government is the shepherd."

Well, this paper does not intend to sit idly by and watch our freedoms eroded away. As long as our readers let us know the strength of their feelings on these matters we still have the wherewithal to fight the Welfare State. And Why Not?

Happy Mother's Day

This Sunday, May 12, 1968, all over the country, Mothers will be put on a pedestal. Mom's family will shower her with gifts, love and admiration. She will be given breakfast in bed, won't be allowed to wash a dish and will be waited upon hand and foot. She will be gueen for a day.

Such outpouring of affection is as it rightly should Mothers are the grandest people in the world. They are the ones who worry when we are sick and encourage us on when we are well. They give us "what for" when we are wrong, no buts about it, and they heap us with praise when we do something right. There is nothing like a mother.

Moms, thank you for all you have done for us. We know we do not show the appreciation that you deserve the other 364 days of the year, but you know we do love you. Have a happy Mothers Day. And Why Not?



Dear Sirs:

A Mt. Sinai Boatmen's Assoc. has been forced to encourage and protest the boating recreation and use of Mt. Sinai Harbor

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National Honors Bestowed On Suffolk Life

Suffolk Life retained its title as the nation's most honored free-circulation community newspaper by again sweeping the national awards competition held in Des Moines, Iowa this May. Suffolk Life was awarded 1st Place in Photography, Advertising Promotion and Self Promotion; 2nd Place in General Excellence for news bearing publications with over 7999 circulation and 3rd Place in Community Service and Best Ad Series. We received two additional Honor Awards for Best Single Ad.

The competition, sponsored by the National Association of Advertising Publishers, is held during the annual convention and draws thousands of entries from publications in all of the fifty states and Canada. Some of the publications entered in this year's competition had circulations running into the hundreds of thousands. Many have extensive news and reporting staffs.

Willmott commented, upon receiving these cooled awards, "The recognition that you have bestowed upon Suffolk Life today is a tribute to the creative, hardworking Suffolk Life team and the avid interest of our readers and advertisers. Without everyone's help and encouragement not one of these awards would have been possible. Every member of our team thinks like a winner and performs like a winner to put out the best possible newspaper. Every one of us feels that the best is not good enough; we must always strive to do better. We thank the judges, the national association and our fellow publishers for recognizing the efforts of Suffolk Life."

Suffolk Life has received 18 major national awards within the past four years. Each award has made all of us strive that much harder to produce a publication worthy of carrying the designation of that award.

This year's eight awards, enabling us to retain the title of the nation's most honored free-circulation newspaper, will make us work even harder to give you, our readers and advertisers better than the best publication. And Why Not?

Blood Urgently Needed

was announced, this week, that there is an urgent need for people to replenish the blood supply at our local blood banks. The Supply has not been so low in years, and the shortage is reaching the critical stage. In some cases, operations have had to be postponed until an adequate supply of blood could be obtained to meet the possible needs. We are not talking about rare blood types but the common types that most people need.

An appeal has gone out to every resident of Eastern Long Island asking for their cooperation in this matter. Coupled with this appeal, the Inter County Blood Bank is offering, as an inducement to anyone who donates blood during this drive, to provide blood, if needed, to meet normal needs for one full year free-of-charge to any member of a donor's family.

No one knows when they are going to need blood in order to keep themselves or a loved one alive. We never know when we are going to be in a bad accident or have to have an emergency operation. When the time comes there should be blood available to keep us alive. If we do not do something NOW ourselves, when our time comes we may be out of luck.

Blood donating is virtually painless. There is little noticeable effect and one's body replaces the blood taken in a short period of time. Both men and women can give.

We urge all readers of this paper to take the few minutes needed in order to go to the hospital and donate blood so that someone else may live. It is not only a humanitarian act but the donor also has the assurance of free blood for the family for one full year.

We are printing the locations and times for blood donations below. Give today! It could save your life. And Why Not.

Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Hospital Road — Patchogue Wednesdays 10 AM to 4 PM Fridays 6:30 PM to 9 PM

Mather Memorial Hospital North Country Rd. — Port Jefferson Station Mondays 4 PM to 8 PM

Central Suffolk Hospital Route 58 — Riverhead Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 2 PM to 7 PM

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"A Night For Americans"

This Saturday night May 25, 1968, a group of patriotic, concerned Americans are sponsoring a gala ball in the Riverhead Armory on Route 58, Riverhead. The entire proceeds from the affair will go to the USO.

During these troubled times, in all parts of the world, our service men are defending liberty. In many cases the only contact that these men have with home is through the USO. The USO provides a haven for lonely and homesick service men. It provides a place where they can go, see friendly American faces and be served such simple American foods as an ice cream soda and french fried potatoes which, we understand, are rarities in foreign places. American books and magazines, as well as other recreational activities, are made available. They provide shows, such as the famous Bob Hope Christmas Show, near the battle fronts. The USO does fantastic good in lifting the spirits of our men in near and faraway places.

The USO needs support, at the present time, to combue and expand its work. This is the reason for the gala ball. The committee, through hard work and ingenuity, has been able to cover all costs of the affair by selling journal ads. The affair promises to be spectacular. The famed Lester Lanin orchestra will provide the music and the armory is being decorated professionally by the same concern that did the tremendous job for Riverhead's 175th anniversary last summer. There will be a presentation of the colors and, it is hoped, additional professional entertainment.

Suffolk Life urges everyone to try to attend this worthwhile affair. Regardless of your feelings on America's war effort or foreign policy, the USO should be supported. Let's all stand up and be counted and support our troops by showing our overwhelming attendance at this affair. Tickets are available at Suffolk Life's office, 143 Griffing Avenue, Riverhead or by calling Mrs. Jo Ann O'Keefe at 765-1675 or Mrs. Shirley Smith at Park 7-1452.

Let's all show our colors at the NIGHT FOR AMERICANS! And Why Not?

A Public Servant

boss a public servant, but we have to take our hat off to Suffolk County Republican Chairman, Buzz Schwenk. Schwenk has proven, without a doubt, that he is just that—a public servant in the truest sense.

At the end of last year, when he took over the helm of the Republican Party, in the wake of the Islip

scandals, and made his acceptance speech about not tolerating unethical or illegal activity in the party, we tended to take it all with a grain of salt. He was taking over the party at a point when he could least afford to alienate its supporters. We felt he would be in the same spot that many other honest politicians have found themselves in - the sense of knowing what is right and having the will to see it done but faced with the practicalities of political life. At this point a man usually gives up his principles, gives up being a public servant and becomes a politician; he does what is practical.

As Newsday's investigation into Brookhaven Town unfolded, Mr. Schwenk found one of his strongest supporters, one of the party's best political assets. smack in the center of this scandal. Richard Zeidler, Brookhaven Republican Leader, was publicly named in connection with several deals in which he and his associates had made money, purportedly through the use of his power. Whether or not Mr. Zeidler acted illegally is for the courts to decide. Mr. Schwenk apparently felt that there was evidence of impropriety in Mr. Zeidler's actions and demanded that he step down as town leader, at least until a court could absolve Mr. Zeidler of any guilt. This move separated Mr. Schwenk from politician to public servant, in the truest sense. As a politician it would have been a lot wiser for him to let Zeidler make his own move to stay on as town leader if he saw fit. To allow Zeidler to do this would have made him one of Mr. Schwenk's strongest allies in one of the best towns in Suffolk County and would have guaranteed Mr. Schwenk the organizational abilities of Zeidler in raising funds and providing workers for the forthcoming elections. Mr. Schwenk has forsaken all this in his attempt to clean up the Republican party. He has probably lost the support of the in-crowd within the organization because now they know that he is not a man who can be bought either with past favors or influence.

At long last, the Republican Party has a man at its helm in this county that the average man on the street can respect and trust. We hope that this is the beginning of the rebirth of the Republican Party Cont. Page 4

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EDITORIALS from Page 3

here in Suffolk. It should return to the Republican fold many people who abandoned the party in disgust over improper actions of Republican officials in the past. It should have a very beneficial effect upon party fund raising activities.

Republicans can take great pride in the courage that Buzz Schwenk has shown and they should back him in his fight to bring the party back into proper perspective. Good luck, Buzz! And Why Not?



Letters to the Editor must be clearly legible and signed if author desires us to print them.

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I read with a great deal of interest a letter by one Maurie Semel in your May 8th issue.

It appears that Mr. Semel is running a continuing campaign to create an image for himself of being the taxpayers' Savior—for if memory serves me right, this will be the third occasion within a very short period of time that he has led the "crusade" for a public referendum under the guise of protecting us, the poor taxpayer.

To this end, he has continually attacked the Riverhead Town Board in general, and Supervisor Robert Vojvoda in



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particular. The most recent gem is (and I quote from his letter to you mentioned above):

"Supervisor Vojvoda has said now each year since he has been in office that the Town tax rate will drop or remain the same with the passage of each budget. The facts belie his statements. Check your tax bill... the Town tax portion has gone ever upward since he has taken office. Senseless expenditures such as that mentioned above are the reasons for your increased tax bill"

At his (Mr. Semel's) suggestion I did today check my tax bills—the Town tax portion—beginning with the 1963-64 levy the last budget prepared by Mr. Vojvoda's predecessor. The results were very interesting and I don't mind sharing them with you.

Beginning with 1963-64—the year PRIOR to Mr. Vojvoda's taking office—my payments under the item of "Town Tax" are as follows:

1963-64 \$88.52

1964-65 83.34 (Mr. Vojvoda's 1st budget)

1965-66 84.17 1966-67 89.89 1967-68 90.03

The "alarming" fact is that after the first four years of Bob Vojvodas term of office my Town Tax has gone from \$88.52 to \$90.03, an increase of \$1.51 of 1.7%!!

By comparison, since I was checking back for the above figures, and since we taxpayers just passed our annual hool budget, I thought you might also be interested in the following;

Back in 1963-64 my tax under the heading of School Tax was \$243.37. The most recent figure, 1967-68, was \$280.11, an increase of \$36.74 of 15.1%!!

Again by comparison-we taxpayers last Tuesday night-

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What Price Freedom?

As we sit writing this editorial, we know that some mother's son is being killed because he is protecting our right to express our views. He is not only protecting our rights but everyone elses; the right to live in a free country operated under a democratic system of law and the right to say and do as we see fit. This is a country where we can turn an idea plus hard work into a million dollars or sit around and laugh, if that is our goal. America is a place where we can choose our vocation and pursue it as we wish; a country where we can accept what we like and reject what we dislike and have the variety of experience to be able to make a choice.

These rights that we talk about did not come about by chance. They came about because the founders of this country were repressed men., men who had been beaten by poverty, lack of education and the repressive policies of the British crown. They did press the one thing that was needed to get this country going—determination. They knew what was wrong with other forms of government because they had been subjected to the worst of them. They were determined that they were going to create a country where everybody had the same freedoms and opportunities.

They also knew that to win their freedom and to create the type of country they wanted, they were going to have to build an Army, fight a war and sacrifice men's lives. They fought that war, won their independence and established the republic of the United States. Unfortunately, from that day forward, there have been men in power in other countries who have been waiting for us to let our guard down so that they could take over this country with its wealth and resources and, once again, subject its people to enslavement. Between the English in 1812, the Germans in 1918 and the late thirties and early forties, the Japanese in World War II, Korea in the early fifties and the Russians from the late forties until the present time, we have had an eventful history, spent billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of lives in order to preserve our freedoms.

The battle against communism is by far the most complex and subtle situation in our short history. We are drawn into alliances and encounters in Korea, and Viet Nam while subversive communist elements quietly, and sometimes not so quietly, ply their trade within our own country, agitating and provoking riots in our streets, disrupting our campuses, condemning authority and mocking our laws. In order to dampen the fires under this bubbling,

pot of turmoil our politicians are forced to make promises they cannot keep, which causes further frustrations, and the solid middle class, which has been the backbone of this country, is taxed to the breaking point.

Needless to say, we are at war right now. It is a bigger war than most people realize. It is a war that few of us really understand and the outcome of this war will determine whether we live in freedom or in slavery.

Tommorrow is Memorial Day. At the very least, it is a day for us to remember all of those men that have died fighting for our freedom and who are fighting and dying now TODAY to keep us safe. At the very most, it is a day when we can take stock of ourselves and see the part we are playing in protecting our country right here in our own communities. Have we allowed our apathy to create a government that is not responsive to our will? Have we not been involved in our own government and left it to others to mold? Have we forsaken our freedoms for lazy or cynical contentment? On this Memorial Day let us rededicate ourselves to involvement. Let us make our government mean something to us. We can do something about our government; we can become part of it and make it part of us.

If we do this, then the mother's son's life will not have been sacrificed in vain. And Why Not?

Vandalism Must Be Stopped

A little girl of three years is lying in St. Charles Hospital on the brink of death: If she lives she no longer will have hands or arms. She is there because vandals ripped the locks off a Long Island Lighting Company transformer exposing the high-voltage housing to the curiosity of this child.

Three weeks ago, vandals set loose the decommissioned ferry boat, Catskill, in Port Jefferson harbor. They set it afloat in the fog. Luckily, it didn't ram one of the many boats in the harbor. The same week vandals completely ruined a large neon sign erected by the Jonathan Roberts furniture store. The store

cont' on page 4

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had not yet opened, in this particular instance, so that there was no chance of personal injury, but the owner suffered a heavy loss and could have tough going because of the additional expense of replacing the sign.

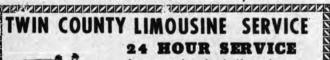
These are just a few of the examples of senseless destruction that happen day in and day out. They must be put to an end.

Parents are responsible for their children. They should darn well know where their children are at every moment. They should literally pound into their children the responsibilities that they have to be law-abiding citizens. The police should do more to stop this destruction. The courts should make it harder on the vandals when they are caught. They, and their parents, should be made to pay for all

The ever-increasing permissiveness of our society must be brought to an end. Just think of this lovely little three year-old having to go through life without ever again being able to have the thrill of holding something in her arms...like a baby!

STOP VANDALISM NOW! And Why Not?

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Sirs-

It is a pleasure to send you my check for Suffolk Life for the next three years.

There has to be a reason! Keep up the fine work you are doing in the interest of Suffolk County.

Sincerely W.J. Schaub

Dear Dave:

It was interesting to read Mr. Laine's letter in your May 1st, issue wherein he feels that his correspondence with Congressman Pike was not treated seriously. We had a similar experience and I wonder if a politician whose obvious flare for comedy should continue to represent a constituency in these serious times.

Congressman Pike's correspondence with us and his vindicitive radio program on the subject of our company was influential in our decision to move from this area. Our move will result in a loss to the Riverhead area of \$350,000 to \$400,000 per year which we now spend here. This money is not earned in Suffolk County or the metropolitan area and represents a "favorable balance of trade" to the area. In correspondence Congressman Pike was so busy being, at first, "funny" and latter vindictive that he failed to grasp the fundamental economics of the Situation.

I hope the Congressional District which the Congressman cont' on page 8