## willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

## **False Shortage**

Last winter the petroleum industry perpetuated a shortage of heating oil in New Jersey and Massachusetts. Ironically, there was no shortage in New York State or Connecticut. It was the contention of the many people who have been close to the off-shore oil drilling situation, that this so-called "shortage" in these two states was nothing more than a blatant pressure move by the petroleum companies to force the state governments of New Jersey and Massachusetts to stop the protesting of the off-shore oil drilling.

## **New York Exempt**

New York, which just happens to be Din the middle of both of these states, whose governor is a Rockefeller, whose family fortune was made on oil, somehow did not suffer an oil shortage. Petroleum is a national product. It is not solely a state-wide commodity. How you can have a shortage in states surrounding New York and not have a shortage in New York is more than a coincidence. If you remember, our esteemed governor vetoed the legislature's bill that would prohibit drilling off of Long Island. Massachusetts and New Jersey stuck to their guns and thus had a shortage.

### Signs of Pressure

Coming into the summer season when the normal consumption of gasoline goes up, we are already seeing signs that the petroleum industry is pulling back on deliveries to the independents and is talking of rationing gas to the national brands. We believe this is nothing more than a crude attempt at blackmail to force a public uproar demanding that all potential oil resources be explored particularly in the Atlantic off the shore line. The energy crisis is as phony as a three dollar bill. If you have a real crisis, you don't need to spend millions of dollars on advertising, selling the people on the idea, as our money-hungry petroleum companies have done over the past year. Of course, the side effect of creating such a farce is that the price the consumer pays for heating oil and gasoline is skyrocketing. It's sickening when you think that we are paying through high prices for a high-powered, highpressured and phenomenally expensive campaign whose purpose is to pave the way for ruining the waters off Long Island.

#### Probe Essential

The whole petroleum industry must be investigated by the Justice Department. They are not acting on behalf of the public's interest and conceivably could be charged with price fixing, restraint of fair trade and cutting off of supplies to independent discount gas stations. Of course, the real fault in all of this lies in the government's refusal to develop and to utilize our technology to provide better and less expensive means of power. Big government and big business will continue this action until the public demands an end. And why not?

## **Questionable Logic**

The federal government is considering a potential tax hike to cool off the economy, according to news stories of last week. The government directly and indirectly controls 59 per cent of the gross national product. Before looking to impose additional taxes on the independent 41 per cent, the government should first look at its expenditures. If the government\_cuts back on what it is spending, the economy will automatically be cooled down. If the government does not cut back on its expenditures but is given more money raised through taxes, it will spend this money and cause even more inflation. Only the government and governmental expenditures can cool down inflation. The private sector is powerless as long as the government controls the majority of spending. The tax hike, richly feeding the government, will cause more inflation -- not less. And why not?

## Thank You Leon

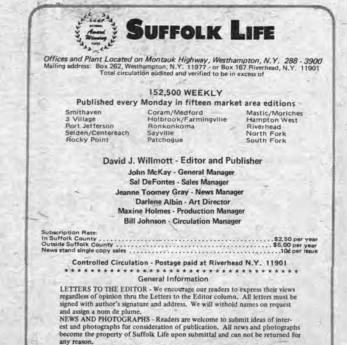
Two years ago we editorially blasted Leon Giuffreda for allowing the Peconic County bill to go down to defeat in the State Senate. We suspected then, and still suspect, that it went down because of political skulldrudgery. This past Wednesday, this same bill was successfully guided

through the Senate after having passed through the State Assembly. We thank Leon Giuffreda for the efforts that he put into this for the residents of the new Peconic Countyto-be. This November, the Peconic County issue will appear as a constitutional amendment in the statewide referendum. It must win approval from the voters, be approved through a homeroom measure by the ten towns of Suffolk, and then be placed on a county referendum. There is still a long hard battle to be fought, one that will take at least three years, but in the end, if the battle is won -- and we hope it will be -- the people of Peconic County will be free to choose their own destiny. And why not?

## **Big Brother** Strikes Again

The State Education Department has been compiling a list of students state-wide who have received psychological services or have caused any problem whatsoever in school districts. Some of our school districts have complied with this request and have forwarded names of the students without parental permission. Others have refused as we think all of them should have done. It is conceivable that information on the students could be fed into one of the many computers operated by the state and filed away and brought out years from now, when a student's personality, values and

cont, on page 6 F



any reason.

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## **Rocky Road** to a de-bossed town

by Virginia Shields

"I don't think they ever looked at our petitions, says Joe Lanni, a member of the New Brookhaven Committee to oust Richard D. Zeidler and his cohorts from the Republican Party leadership in Brookhaven Town.

118 Court Cases

"We didn't want to go to court over 118 separate

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sense of responsibility have completely changed. Many people, particularly young people, are troublemakers and have problems adjusting to their surroundings and to school. This does not make them bad, nor should it mark them for life. We believe the State Education Department has overstepped its boundaries and the legislators should demand that the information that has already been gathered be permanently disposed of. The school boards that willingly, without parental permission, complied with this request must the next time think twice before going along with Big Brother. And why not?

## Support Returnables

Convenience is a way of life in the 70's. It is expensive, and not necessarily in our best interests. Beverages packaged in returnable containers cost the consumer two to five cents additional per serving. These pennies don't seem like much on an individual basis, but over a year they add up to several dollars. In addition, disposal of these containers is causing a pollution problem.

There just isn't room in our land-filled sites for any more waste.

Suffolk County is considering a ban on disposable containers, both cans and bottles. All beverages sold would have to be in a returnable unit. The bottling companies are fighting this ban as it would throw a kink into their marketing and distribution set-up.

Suffolk Life supports the ban on disposable containers. A consumer will still have the option of wasting the money that he is spending for deposit if he so chooses to throw out the containers, but we feel that most people will exercise their option of returning them and bringing down the cost of beverages. We further believe that most people are very concerned with the future of this earth and are willing to do their part to make it a better place to live. A ban on non-returnable bottles and cans will help. And why not?

## letters

"Impossible to maintain . . my affiliation with Republican Party"



Mrs. Joyce W. Leo puts her signature on a change of enrollment form at the Suffolk County Board of Elections in Yaphank. Mrs. Leo is now a registered Conservative. Councilman John Bellport is on Mrs. Leo's left and Mr. Donald W. Leo on her right. (A)

Dear Dave:

Ever since I first registered as a voter, long ago, I have been an enrolled member of the Republican Party, despite the fact that my husband is the Town Chairman of the Brookhaven Town Conservative Party. Although I was raised in a southern family which has been proudly Republican for many generations, I now find it impossible to maintain any longer my affiliation with the Republican

I have known for years that the Brookhaven Town Republican organization is dominated by one man and a minority of his mindless followers; nevertheless, I have believed that the entire Republican Party in this state and in this nation should not be held responsible for the stigma created by the locallevel Brookhaven Republican organization.

Now the situation has become intolerable. Any organization which sponsors legislation in a flagrant attempt to suppress freedom of speech, freedom of expression, and freedom of the press is no longer deserving of the name "Republican". The so-called "Anti-Littering Ordinance" enacted by the Brookhaven Town Board ushers in an unsavory and surreptitious form of totalitarianism and dictatorship, together with their handmaidens of oligarchy and nepotism. This is a form of govern-

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David J. Willmott, Editor

## **Shore Building Ban**

Southampton Town is to be congratulated for taking the initiative in putting a moratorium on any further building along the shoreline, as requested by County Executive Klein as a measure to stop erosion. We hope that all towns that are confronted with erosion shoreline problems will follow Southampton's example and stop the building that has been proven to cause erosion of the precious shoreline. And why not?

## The Trojan Horse

Our distrust of Northville Industries is well known. We read with great skepticism the headline in May 2nd's Newsday about Northville giving up on its plan for Long Island.

According to the article, Northville is going to direct its energies and efforts outside of the Long Island area. As much as we would like to believe this story, we have a haunting feeling that a modern day Trojan horse could be in the makings. Their statement, though, should be viewed with renewed interest by the people who have been advocating a west-to-east oil pipeline that Buckeye Corporation of New Jersey has been entertaining. The County and regional planning organizations, conservation and ecology groups, and civic associations, should now make a conserted effort to sell Buckeye on this proposal. With Northville's alleged determination to give up on putting an east-to-west pipeline through Long Island, Buckeye might find the proposition a lot more appealing than before. And why not?

## Watergate, Politics and People

In listening to the President's speech the other night, we had mixed emotions. Here was a man who holds the highest public office in the United States, taking the rap for actions of subordinates associated with his reelection campaign. We were sorry to have to see him humble himself at this late date because of public pressure. We believe he should have spoken out on the Watergate scandal when it first came to the public's attention. We may be naive, but we doubt that he actually

knew firsthand of the spying with which the men are charged. We do believe he probably knew that this type of political activity was going on and had been going on since the first political contest. It's the nature of politics. Nixon is as guilty of this as all the rest of us citizens -- guilty of allowing this kind of behavior to be part of our political structure and guilty of allowing politics to be a dirty business. The name of the game of politics is winning. How you do it is of little concern after Election Day. We have excellent examples of this right here in Suffolk County. Some of the campaigns that have been waged by local committees are as unscrupulous as the Watergate action.

A perfect example is the cross endorsement ban worked out between Dominic Baranello, the County Democratic leader, and Buzz Schwenk, the County Republican leader. This was worked out specifically to deny the public the ability to elect those they considered the best candidates and to insure the continued control over the political scene by the party bosses. It was a deal worked out in the back rooms that has been vehemently opposed by many rank and file party members. This deal insures predetermined results and robs voters of their ability to place into office candidates that might not be totally subject to the bosses' controlling. The Watergate spying incident was politics to win. The cross endorsement ban was politics to win. There are a number of other examples we could give that are more frightening in implication. We will continue to have Watergates, back room cross endorsement bans, utilization of political patronage to buy votes and intimidations through political muscle as long as the average person refuses to take part in the primary system and allows political bosses to hand pick candidates for committeemen that are subject only to their will and determination. Politics is as dirty a business as we allow it to be. When we get up off our haunches and demand something different it will be cleaned up, but not before then. And why not?

## Farmland Acquisition?

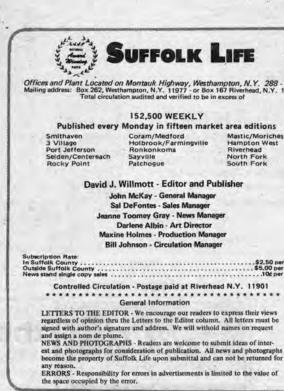
County Executive John Klein's ambitious plan to purchase farmland

for preservation was revealed in his capital improvement budget last week. This scheme has merit as it would definitely preserve some of the country characteristics of the East End. It is questionable whether he can buy 9,000 acres at a cost of \$5,000 an acre, as he hopes to do. It is very guestionable whether the towns where this farmland lies can afford the tax loss that this land is now producing. We can envision many problems in the future regarding the use and leaseback of this property by the government. Before the County moves ahead on this project, we hope that they will present the public with a full and comprehensive plan on this project. It could be a boondoggle and never be capable of achieving its intended purpose. And why not?

## Goof of the Week

Fat and happy with the federal revenue sharing funds, our lawmakers have become complacent in their fiscal responsibilities. It was brought to light this past week that the county had overlooked the possibility of obtaining over a million in easy tax dollars. They had forgotten to ask the State for permission to impose a tax on admissions into the new Suffolk Meadows quarter horse track that is scheduled to open this September. Hopefully, the omission can be rectified immediately and the State legislature will pass the proper measures to provide the means of the county imposing a tax on admissions. We wonder how long men would stay

cont. on page 6 F



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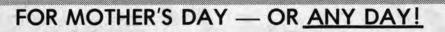


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## - EDITORIAL -

## E.L.I. Community **College Shafting**

One of the major reasons we support Peconic County and have in the past, is our feeling that Eastern Long Island, because of its lack of representation, would get a shafting from the county legislators. The power brokers in the west and the politically ambitious ballyhoo this idea. The public doesn't know who to believe. We prefer to let the facts speak for themselves.

A bridge crossing the river east of Riverhead has been badly needed for a number of years to relieve the congestion of people traveling from the South to the North Fork and vice versa. The only short way that people can get from one shore to the other at the present time is to become involved in a bottleneck in downtown Riverhead. On a number of occasions over the last ten years it seemed imminent that a bridge would be built to the east of Riverhead connecting the now operating Sunrise Highway and Route 58 and the future extension of the Long Island Expressway. Land has supposedly been condemned for this purpose; surveys, plans, and permits have been obtained; funds have been allocated for this project.

# week

MAY 7

There will be a SHOWING of the film, "FOR PETE'S SAKE" at the Suffolk Theatre, Riverhead on May7th and 8th at 7:45 p.m. Admission is \$1.75 for advance ticket sales and \$2.00 at the door. RIVERHEAD

SOUTHOLD The Southold Homemakers Unit of Suffolk County The Southold Homemakers Unit of Suffolk County Cooperative Extension Service will hold its ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT DAY CELEBRATION from 12 noon to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8th at the Southold Firehouse Assembly Room, Main Street, Southold. Refreshments will be served.

RIVERHEAD There will be a WHITE ELEPHANT CARD PARTY on Wednesday, May 9th at 1 p.m. at the American Legion Clubhouse, Hubbard Avenue,

Riverhead. Refreshments will be served.

RIVERHEAD
The next MEETING of the
Riverhead Deomocratic Club
will be held at the Elks
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**MAY 11** 

HAMPTON BAYS
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All proceeds will go towards All proceeds will go towards new band uniforms.

cont. on page 7 ELI

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#### EDITORIAL cont. from page 6 ELI

These funds have never been spent on this project on the East End. Instead, they have been used in the West End of the Island where they could buy more votes by pleasing more people. Last year, the County Legislature approved the construction of two new community colleges -- one to be built on Bald Hill, south of Riverhead, another to be built on the West End of the Island. Both were to be completed by 1975. There are just a certain amount of funds available for these projects. The first to be built will undoubtedly be the one to receive the lion's share of the construction funds. The second very well could be put off for a number of years.

An unexpected development last week in the county brought to light the fact that even though a site for the West End college has not been definitely determined, construction could be completed by 1974. There is no doubt that a community college serving the East End is desperately needed. At present, the Selden campus is as much as an hour and 15 minutes away from residents on the North and South Fork. The Selden campus is no more than one-half hour to forty-five minutes away from West End residents. How many East End residents will not receive the benefit of a college education? How many older East End residents will not be able to further their education because the West End campus will be built before the much needed East End facility? You can bet your bottom dollar that if the East End had 16 representatives on the County Board instead of two, as the West End enjoys, the East End

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campus, with its site already picked out and acquired, would be built prior to the West End campus. The East End, or Peconic County, pays 22 per cent of the taxes of Suffolk County and yet has less than 8 per cent of the representation on the Board. Yes, Suffolk County government for the East Enders is taxation without representation and we are paying a dear price for it. We are not politically ambitious but we are ambitious for the people that this newspaper represents. Peconic County is a must if the East End is ever going to be able to obtain representation for itself. And why not?

## leffers

"Cannot bear to see injustice"

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I am glad to enclose my \$2.50 to help you in your fight for a free press.

I am only a poor man, 85 years of age, so I may not be here long, but I cannot bear to see injustice. We did not get any paper delivered this week, but the mailbox next door is stuffed full. (The house is unoccupied in the winter.)

Keep up the good work of telling the truth. Sincerely,

Robert C. Clarke Riverhead

David J. Willmott, Editor

## **Commissioner Barry** Resigns

Suffolk County has lost one of its best public servants. John Barry of Yaphank has been an outstanding commissioner with the Suffolk County Police Department for eleven years. Under his guidance the County Police have developed the reputation of being one of the best police organizations in the country. He has been a tough taskmaster, an independent man, and has not allowed politics to enter into his Department. His job has not been an easy one, particularly during these changing times when in some people's eyes, cops have gone from super heroes to super pigs.

## High Morale

Barry has done much to uphold and maintain the respect that the average person has for an officer of the law. He has done this by keeping his Department's morale high and demanding respect for his men. He has also demanded that his men act in a way that they command respect.

#### We'll Miss Him!

It is unfortunate that Barry is being forced into retirement at this time by the anges in the State Pension Plan. We wish both John and Mrs. Barry a happy and healthy retirement. He has served the people of Suffolk County well and deserves the rewards of retirement. And why not?

## Barry's Replacement

The ink on Barry's resignation was hardly dry before the Republican Party leaders were lobbying for their favored replacement. The leader of pack was Dick Zeidler, Brookhaven's Republican boss. We can all understand why he is so interested in seeing that a replacement picked to head the County Police Department be of his choosing.

The worst thing that could happen to the County Police Department is to have a hand-picked politician placed in the job. The Police Department has too much power and too much responsibility to be an arm of any

political party.

Free of Conflicts

The man who fills Barry's shoes must be totally independent of political attachments. He must be a man who can command the respect of every officer and patrolman under him, a man who knows police work frontwards and backwards, and a man who is willing to operate without political control or interference. The worst thing that could happen to Suffolk County would be to have the Police Commissioner's job go to a political hack, particularly someone hand-picked by Dick Zeidler.

#### Please Write

We urge every resident of Suffolk County to write to their County legislators and demand that the person who replaces Commissioner Barry be of the highest calibre with absolutely no political connections or indebtedness. This matter is of serious consequence and has frightening. implications. Following this editorial you will find listed the names and addresses of the County legislators and the districts that they represent. Do not put this matter off. Write today. And why not?

District 1 R. Thomas Strong County Road 39 and North Main Street Southampton, N.Y. 11968

H. Beecher Halsey, Jr. County Center Riverhead, N.Y. 11901

Louis A. Fuoco, Jr. 625 Middle Country Road Coram, N.Y.

Alex G. Projos 625 Middle Country Road Coram, N.Y.

Flisabeth Taibbi 625 Middle Country Road Coram, N.Y.

William E. Morrissey 625 Middle Country Road Coram, N.Y.

Clifford Crafts, Jr. 20 Manor Road P.O. Box 846 Smithtown, N.Y.

District 8 John C. Wehranberg 1628 Railroad Avenue Box 1 Holbrook, N.Y.

Joseph R. Caputo, Sr. 4 Greenwood Avenue East Islip, N.Y.

Michael J. Grant County Center Hauppauge, N.Y.

District 11 Thomas Downey 250 West Main Street Bay Shore, N.Y.

District 12 Syd Askoff 60 Fire Island Road Babylon, N.Y.

District 13 Joseph Bassano, Jr. 101 North Wellwood Avenue Lindenhurst, N.Y.

Louis T. Howard Amityville, N.Y.

District 15 Martin Feldman 2017 Deer Park Avenue Deer Park, N.Y.

District 16 Ira J. Nydick 6500 Jericho Turnpike Commack, N.Y.

District 17 Regis B. O'Neil 130 Main Street Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.

District 18 W. Bromley Hall 328 Main Street Huntington, N.Y.

## Zeidler's Win . . . Zeidler's Loss

On the surface it would appear that Dick Zeidler has won the battle to keep his seat as Chairman of the Brookhaven Town Republican organization. The Board of Elections, a number of the threw out challenging petitions on the technicalities, has thus dimmed the hopes of the insurgents of overthrowing the political baron.

Since last November these insurgents have been working day and night to overthrow Zeidler. They had candidates running in 120 election districts but due to a technicality, 46 of these political petitions have been voided. We have long admired Zeidler's political abilities even though we hold in contempt his failure to use this power constructively.

He has made very few bad political decisions and for this you have to take your hat off to him. As an armchair political observer, we think the invalidating of these insurgents' petitions is the start of the road downhill for the Zeidler machine . It appears that this was an unnecessary move.

#### **Total Submission**

Zeidler's power is in the machine that is absolutely loyal to him. Its loyalty is bought through patronage and favors. From the way we saw it, the insurgents had virtually little chance of beating Dick Zeidler at his own game. He has too much control

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and assign a nom de plume.

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## EDITORIAL

## SH Dems **Battle Bishop**

Herman Bishop, Jr. has been Southampton Democratic leader longer than Suffolk Life has been in existence. The Southampton Dems have never won an election. At times they have put up excellent candidates that should have been victorious. It is the feeling of many Southampton Dems that they have lost these elections because of the ineffectual leadership of Bishop. For the last few years rumors have persisted that Bishop was going to step down. Most Democrats had hoped he would this voluntarily. For whatever reasons best known to Bishop, he has chosen not to do this voluntarily. As a result, the majority of the Southampton Town Democratic Committeemen, including this year's entire slate, have petitioned the County organization and Chairman Dominic Baranello to remove Bishop from office. We are corry to see this come to this, but for the sake of the public it's the best thing that could happen to politics on the South Fork. Southampton desperately needs a multi-party system of government and the only way its going to get it is to have different strong political parties presenting desirable candidates and running their campaigns to win. We hope that the County Democratic organization acts immediately on this move. And why not?

## **Dear Perry**

It has been quite some time since I wrote you an editorial. It wasn't that I haven't been thinking of you, but I've been very involved in other problems and projects.

I noted in the daily newspapers that you have pushed through the mechanics for setting up a sports authority. It sounds to me more like a \$350,000,000 pork barrel that we, the taxpayers of New York State, are going to have our children paying for.

You know how I feel about authorities. They are not at all responsive to the public's wishes and yet possess the power of eminent domain. It is one thing to set up an authority for transportation or other vital human needs, but to set up an authority for the sole purpose of building sports complexes that rightfully should be financed out of private capital, is another. I'll be damned if I can see where this is for the betterment of the public's welfare.

# Edward Archer

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7ELI

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#### **Expensive Paradox**

Sure, Perry, we all love to go to a professional football or baseball game. Yes, they do generate a certain amount of jobs, and some taxes can be raised by a tax on the admission price. But for the State Government to guarantee loans of \$350,000,000 with my credit and with the credit of my children, I question your wisdom. This definitely is not a necessity of life and it is something most residents of New York State who are living on limited incomes, would not invest their hardearned dollars in.

People who have the funds above and beyond buying bread and shelter might consider this an investment, and that is the way the capitalistic society does work.

In socialistic countries, when they can afford them or need them for propaganda's sake, the state builds sports palaces. I have had my doubts over the years, but as far as I know, New York State has not officially become a socialistic state. It would be wise for you to consider the implications of putting New York State's credit on the line to back sports palaces. After all, this one single move could tarnish the conservative fiscal image that you have tried to build. And why not?

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EDITORIALS from page 3 F

and too much power within the Republican Party and the machine itself. Too many people owed him favors and their livelihoods were on the line. He could have come out of this fight victorious and had the credibility of saying that he has the legitimate support of the Republicans in Brookhaven Town.

#### **Legal Technicalities**

Now no one will know, but most people will suspect that he has stayed in power strictly on technicalities, that he has denied the average Republican the right to choose his own committeemen and his own leaders. It will be interesting to see what the reaction of Republicans in Brookhaven Town will be next November when they go to the polling booths. With the curtain pulled behind them, no one will know how they vote. Mr. Zeidler may have won the technical right to be Brookhaven Town leader, but he could very well lose the election for his handpicked candidates next November. People resent being cheated legally as well as illegally. And why not?

## letters

"To be raped. . .is criminal"

Dear Editor:

Mr. Duryea's action in preventing the Bianchi Bill from coming to the floor for a vote is repulsive. To allow the Carman's River and its environs to be raped for the sake of a political exercise is criminal. The only fault with the Bianchi Bill is that its sponsor, Mr. Bianchi, is a Democrat.

Mr. Duryea is certainly not representing Long Island when he refuses to endorse such a meritorious bill that would place the Carman's River under the protection of the Scenic River Act. The blocking of Bianchi's Bill is disasterous for

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## this week,

MAY 15

CENTER MORICHES
A benefit of Club's Charter
will be held at the Moriches
Women's Club on Lake Ave.,
Center Moriches, on
Tuesday, May 15, at 1 pm.
This will be a covered dish
luncheon-bridge for members and their guests.

MIDDLE ISLAND
The Charles E. WaltersRidge PTA of Middle Island
Central School District No. 12
will be holding an OPEN
MEETING; on May 15, at the
Charles E. Walters School in
Yaphank at 8 pm to discuss
and plan next year's PTA
activities. All interested
persons are invited to attand.

ROCKY POINT ROCKY POINT
The Joseph A. Edgar PTA is having a FASHION SHOW;
Tuesday, May 15th, at 8 pm, at the Jr.-Sr. High School.
Tickets are \$2 adults, students are \$1, which includes door prizes, favors and refreshments.

MAY 16

PORT JEFFERSON The North Shore Republican Club will MEET; Wed-nesday, May 16, at 8:30 pm, at the Port Jefferson Yacht

RIVERHEAD RIVERHEAD
The Eastern Star, Riverside
Chapter No. 399, will sponsor
a STANLEY PARTY; on
Wed., May 16, at 8 pm, at the
Masonic Temple, Roanoke
Ave., Riverhead. Public is
invited, games, refreshments, prizes.

The Sisterhood of Temple Shalom will hold their regular MONTHLY MEETING; Wednesday, MEETING; Wednesday, May 16, at 8:30 pm, at the Temple, 225 Greeley Ave., Sayville. The program features a Wine and Cheese Party sponsored by Schapiro's Wine Company of

SOUTHAMPTON

The Suffolk County-Southampton Group of Le Leche League MEETING; nursing information, topic No. 4 will be held at the home of Mrs. Susan Colledge, 283-0071, on Wednesday, at 7:30

## willmotts and why-nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

## Beautiful Spring

Long Island has indeed been fortunate this past year. After a comparatively mild winter, we have slid into one of the nicest springs this area has ever witnessed. It has neither been cold nor hot, but one of those moderate middle-temperature times where you feel comfortable both during the day and in the evening. Never before have we seen such beauty, as the gradual reawakening of the foliage and vegetation colors that Mother Nature provided so amply this year.

If you have a chance within the next few weeks, go into the woods and the parklands, particularly those that are undeveloped, and feast your eyes on real beauty -- beauty that can only come from Mother Nature. One particular spot we highly recommend, is the Peconic River Watershed. If you have a small boat, try a float trip down the headwaters of the Peconic River. The area behind Grumman Aircraft that is owned by the County and the Navy is especially beautiful. You will see wild flowers and plants in their natural native setting that are beyond description in their beauty. This has been just a great spring. Try to take advantage of it. And why not?

## Tax Cut Planned

It appears likely that the State Legislature will act, and that the government will approve the first tax cut in New York State in 12 years. The Legislation will repeal for one year, the 2.5 per cent income tax surcharge on all state income taxes. This has been made possible by a more conservative fiscal administration of the State's financial needs and the high income for both corporations and private earnings throughout the state. If one man be accorded the responsibility for this, it is our own Assemblyman and Assembly Majority

Leader, Perry Duryea of Montauk. This tax cut is the end result of two years of frustrating and hard work on his part, to put a halt to the mushrooming expenditures in the state. Congratulations, Perry. And why not?

## JP Courts To Go?

The State Investigation Commission has recommended replacement of town and village courts with centralized district courts. The primary motivation for this recommendation is the single abuse that took place in an upstate community where there was a misappropriation of some of the fines that had been generated by this court.

The JP Court is a common man's court. It is a court of law where the basis of many decisions is common sense rather than a hard and fast legal precedence. It is the one court where the average man can go in, file and settle a grievance without the cost of an attorney. It is a place where two neighbors feuding can go for arbitration. There is no doubt about it -we have a few bad JP's, but by and large, the average Justice knows the law forwards and backwards and does his job in a highly commendable fashion.

The local Justice Court definitely serves a vital function and is one of the last remnants of uncomplicated local control that people have over what has become a complicated system of government. Suffolk Life strongly endorses the concept of local Justice Courts. We are adamantly opposed to any move to dismantle this common man's court. Most people have never had any experiences or dealings in a Justice Court, but when you do, you will come to appreciate, as we did, the unsophisticated yet professional atmosphere of justice that prevails. And why not?

## Town Hall To Voters

We congratulate Brookhaven Town Board on the unanimous decision to place before the voters in November, the question of whether they want an 80,000 square foot town complex to be built in the Farmingville area. It is encouraging to see that this Board is becoming more responsive to the people of Brookhaven Town. Giving them the right to vote on this project is commendable.

We hope the Town Board, instead of using just one question on a take-it-orleave-it basis, will put the proposal in a series of questions. In this way the public can adequately express themselves. In just a take-it-or-leaveit form, the taxpayers and voters will undoubtedly turn down proposition.

Some opposition will be to overall cost, others will be opposed to location, and still others will just be negative votes. Alternate plans and sites could be suggested and voters' approval can be obtained if this question is handled right. The Board has made the first step. Let's hope that they carry it through. And why not?



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