



Willmott's and Why-Not's

BY DAVID J. WILLMOTT, Editor

Attempted Murder

A man, a woman — we don't know which — tried to kill a friend's child last week. This same person has probably tried to kill one of your children or even you. This happened on a residential street; it was 7 P. M. on a Friday evening. The child had just left the front door, crossed the yard, and started to trot across the street to a friend's house. Then came the sound of the killer coming. A dash to the door confirmed that the child had crossed safely — just in time. A blur went by doing what must have been close to 90 or even 100 M. P. H. But for the grace of God, plus a few seconds, the child would have been directly in the path of this maniac. Three seconds earlier and there would have been a tragedy; nothing could have prevented it; the killer could not have stopped.

This was not an unusual happening. The street we are talking about is in a thirty - mile - per - hour zone. For years, residents have estimated the vehicular speed on this street averages between 45 and 60 M. P. H. — from 15 to 30 M. P. H. over the posted limits. Such flagrant violation of our speed laws is common on our residential streets everywhere and letters to this paper on this matter bear us out. Why is this perilous situation permitted to continue?

Multiply this situation a hundred - fold; add to it the thousands of incidents on our major highways (particularly in the Summer) when motorists run red lights, exceed the speed limits, drive while drunk and pass on the right and you have an extremely bad — an ever - increasing and desperate traffic — situation.

We are not trying to put the blame for this in anyone's lap. All we know is that we pay a healthy chunk of our tax money to support our police departments, yet they seem ineffectual when it comes to protecting us. Is it the police themselves? The Chiefs? The Courts? Or is it the elected officials whom they are responsible to? We do not know who is to blame, but we do know that we are fed up, and we are sure that you are also fed up with having your life and the lives of your loved ones put in jeopardy by irresponsible and reckless drivers.

If there were a killer loose in our midst, who had taken shots at several of our citizens and killed a few, this area would be in an uproar demanding that he be brought to justice. There is another type of potential killer in our midst and he has been coddled long

enough. We urge our law enforcement agencies to do the job that they are paid to do by putting a stop to these flagrant violations of our traffic laws. We demand that our courts back up the police with maximum sentences. It is time that those, who persist in violating the law, learn that they will pay the maximum penalty for endangering the lives of others.

We demand that the law be enforced for every man, woman and child who lives in this area. And why not?

Worse Mistake

Last week the Suffolk County Board of Supervisors made the biggest mistake in its existence. The Board bowed to a militant welfare group and to an inept welfare commissioner's request that Suffolk County raise its welfare payments to equal those of New York City. The welfare group claimed that it costs more to live in Suffolk County than it does in New York. Under the new formula, set up July 1st, New York City welfare recipients receive more than welfare recipients in Suffolk County.

Three weeks ago the Board of Supervisors ordered the welfare commissioner to produce a survey comparing the cost of living in New York and Suffolk County. The commissioner stated that there were no figures available on this matter. The Board then gave him two weeks to come up with the figures or be fired.

Two weeks later the commissioner came back with a survey which he originally said could not be made. The survey was purportedly made in depth. To substantiate his survey he offered a similar study conducted by the militant welfare group.

The Board accepted these studies as proof positive that it costs more to live here than it does in the city. Without question they accepted, as accurate, and without prejudice, a survey: 1. from a man they had recently threatened to fire for incompetency and 2. From a militant welfare group whose outrageous

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EDITORIALS From Page 3

behavior at a county board meeting two weeks before necessitated the presence of the police. Neither one of these studies was done professionally; neither was conducted by a non - partisan auditing group under an adequate set of guidelines, yet the Board accepted them at face value. The result, Mr. Taxpayer, is that you are going to be asked to pay millions of dollars more in taxes. How do you like it?

We are sure that not one of these so - called intelligent men on our lame - duck Board considered the consequences of this rash and irresponsible action. What they have done, on flimsy evidence, is set a precedent that will be used by all county employees to demand an adjustment in wages that reflect the "higher" cost of living in Suffolk.

If these men care at all about the taxpayers and voters they will rescind their irresponsible action of last week and hire an independent auditing firm to conduct a fair and unprejudice survey to determine what the actual cost of living is in ALL of New York City as compared to ALL of Suffolk County. And why not?

Subsidising Transportation

New York City politicians, particularly Mayor

Lindsay, are pushing for ways to keep the subway fare at twenty cents. Suburban politicians are looking for ways to keep the commuter railways from having to raise their fares in order to keep the masses of voters happy. They are calling for subsidies out of general tax funds and some are zeroing in on the motorist hoping to find ways of making the non - user pay more of the share than the user. At the present time both the subways and the railroads are a bargain when it comes to transportation. Both operate at a loss. This loss is made up from general tax funds.

Why should those of us, who must provide our own transportation to and from work, foot the bill for those who use other forms of transportation? We pay a number of taxes when we buy a car, including a sales tax. We pay license fees, gas taxes amounting to over ten cents per gallon to support road projects, and, on top of this, we pay tolls on many roads and bridges. From our real estate taxes local roads are maintained. For none of these things do WE receive any kind of subsidy. If we use our automobiles in the course of our work we receive some tax relief, but if we use our car just to get to work and home we get no deduction. Even though we absorb all of these costs ourselves we ask for no relief. Why then should our brothers in metropolis expect us to share their trans-

Cont. Page 8/12

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O'KEEFE OPENS NEW SHOW LOT

John O'Keefe III announced this week the completion of a major expansion of the O'Keefe Chev - Olds used car department on East Main St., Riverhead. The recently completed used car show lot expands the agency's display space by over 200%. The new facility makes use of the very latest in lighting and modern display techniques. The used car department's offices have been moved to a more convenient location in the main showroom.



The O'Keefe Chev - Olds new used car show lot, pictured above, is one of the largest and most up to date in the area.

Cont. Page 22 RW NS

Ellen Tracy



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I hope your many readers take note of your good advice.

2. About two years ago you published a letter regarding the Jet Port at Calverton and there have been many comments on this project since that time.

With all the publicity on the noise and air pollution caused by jet planes I don't see how our leaders (?) can pass - off public opinion by stating to progress we must accept this nuisance.

The New York papers and the residents within a fifteen mile radius of Kennedy Air Port are fighting the noise and dirt problem all the time. This is a matter of record and still we are supposed to believe that it is our great privilege to accept this destroyer of peace and quiet enjoyment of our retirement years.

Just for the record we have friends living in Rosedale (old residents) who can not carry on a telephone conversation because of the roar once every 55 seconds.

Do we want to invite this type of nuisance to our backyards?

3. The last gripe is the Levon Monstrosity that is growing about a mile west of my home on the Sound. Not only are we kept awake by all - night operation of yukes and bulldozers but our beach has been ruined by two rock jetties built by this company to form an inlet. These jetties incidently, block the beach so that we can no longer walk up the shore to our fishing spots.

How can anyone or company build a jetty out into navigable waters without any warning light?

With this I close and hope I haven't bored you too much.

Sincerely,
Harold Search
Mattituck, New York

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portation costs? Is it fair to maintain the same fares on mass transit facilities and then expect those of us who have no mass transit facilities to pay the bills? Nuts!

Let the politicians look elsewhere to finance their Santa Claus projects. And why not?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

I thought your readers who are bird watchers would enjoy something I found out by pure accident. I threw a handful of camphor balls on the lawn and I had the biggest surprise of my life. The grackles, cowbirds, and I've seen a few starlings do it - they pick up a camphor ball and rub it all over their bodies and wings to disenfect themselves.

The wonders of nature never cease. They are the only three species that do it. So far none of the others have.

Sincerely,
Helen Weevnik

Dear Sir,

The purpose of this letter is three - fold.

1. The attached check for three years subscription; this year, and the last two. I do enjoy your editorial comments and

Dear Mr. Willmott,

The barbecue committee and members of the Orient Fire Dept. would like to thank you for the fine picture coverage you gave our annual chicken barbecue in the August 20th edition of your paper.

The 11th Annual Chicken Barbecue which was held on August 9th at the Orient Firehouse was enjoyed by 1,000 year round and summer residents.

Thank you again for your continuing interest in helping promote and publicize community affairs such as this. It is very greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Pete Luce
Ass't. Chief

Dear Dave:

On behalf of the Riverhead Rotary Club, I wish to thank you and your staff for the fine advertising, editorials, and publicity pictures in your paper you provided us with for our annaul barbecue. It is only the cooperation of people like yourself and your staff that makes this project the great success that it is each year.

We would also like to thank all the Rotary - Anns and Friends of Rotary who gave so unstintingly of their time and energies to make our barbecue such a success.

Very truly yours,
Donald F. Barth
President
Rotary Club of Riverhead, N. Y.



Willmott's and Why-Not's

BY DAVID J. WILLMOTT, Editor

Where are the public servants?

Two years ago we elected men to the county board who were pledged to represent us. For the past month the various departments of county government have been presenting their money requests at the budget hearings. Our elected public servants are nowhere in sight. Half the time the County Executive is not even there. Committee chairmen are conspicuous by their absence.

This is not just the case with this year's lame duck county board but has been the case every year. Without regular attendance how can these men intelligently pass judgement on the budget? The answer is they can't. And this is the reason we are forced to pay the taxes we do in this county.

If you don't mind paying the taxes you have been forced to pay you can allow this condition to continue by being as apathetic as the people we elected two years ago. If you are tired of this situation then look this year's crop of candidates over very carefully. Demand that they tell you specifically what they intend to do for you. This year don't be blinded by party labels, warm smiles and hearty handshakes. Demand answers and firm pledges. And why not?

Nothing to do

Many times we have heard, from both young and old, that there is nothing to do out here on the east end of Long Island. We are saddened every time we hear this. Eastern Long Island has an abundance of great things to do if we will just look around us.

At this time of the year, which we consider the best of all, there are numerous opportunities for enjoyment. Our bays are alive with snapper blues. Have you tried fishing for them? If not, do so; these spunky, little fish will give you the fight of your life, and all you need to enjoy the excitement is a bamboo pole, a length of line, some hooks and bait. If you want to make the fishing expedition even more enjoyable, take a youngster along with you. His happiness and joy will give you a glow that lasts for days. The bays are once again showing signs of the return of the famous blue claw crab. Here's an opportunity for the sportsman or amateur to have some fun while catching some of the best eating to be found

anywhere. Nothing more is needed than an inexpensive net, a couple of fish heads and some string. Great fun and great eating. The beaches are a delight for people of all ages. Now that they are less populated one can walk for miles getting to know nature once again. The feel of the salt air, the sight of tide-washed beaches, the sound of the waves and the gulls are a real tonic to a tired body.

These are just a few of the things available to those who claim there is nothing to do. Take a look around you and take advantage of the many God-given opportunities available to everyone here on the east end. Best of all, most of these activities are practically cost-free. The out-of-doors is great on eastern Long Island. Take advantage of it while we still have weather on our side. And why not?

Why not radar?

In response to last week's editorial on speeding we were told by several leading town officials that police chiefs, in towns that have problem areas, can request that the State Police set up radar traps in these areas. We had been led to believe that this was frowned upon.

If your street, is a problem area with speeders we strongly recommend that you send a letter to your town supervisor, police chief and another copy to the New York State Police in Riverhead requesting them to act.

Speeding on our residential streets can and must be controlled now. And why not?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Willmott:

May I say how much I enjoyed and applauded your excellent editorial - "Summer Pets, Winter Pests".

One of the reasons I was very anxious to have our shelter in operation early in the summer was so that we would be in a position to accommodate at least some of these unfortunate

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Hold The Line

Employees of town and county government are setting a record - breaking demands in this year's round of budget negotiations. The demands include raises in pay ranging as high as 30%, a twenty-year retirement package, thirty-hour work weeks and amounts to a ten month work year considering vacation time, sick leave, paid holidays, etc. This is to be the gist of their demands whether they are county or town workers.

To appreciate fully the effects of these outlandish demands you must remember that a great many of the people received their jobs for doing the politicians favors or working for the party.

The cost of all government has risen sharply over the past ten years. The basic problem is people. Many jobs have been packed with more people than are necessary to do the job and they are being paid more than they are worth. Down through the ages patronage is a game that has been played by politicians. The game is played in big league fashion here in Suffolk County. To compound this situation the politicians have not had the guts to hold the line on expenses. They have granted exorbitant wage increases to public employees without demanding increases in job output first. Under the Taylor law, which allows public employees the right to bargain, the politicians have lost the will to say NO to these incessant and exorbitant wage demands. Last year salary increases were granted that averaged more than twenty per cent. Now the public employees are back for more after an easy victory. This twenty per cent and the additional thirty per cent they are demanding this year can come from no one but YOU the taxpayer. This year we hope our public officials will have the courage to deny all but the most reasonable requests for raises; by reasonable we mean those that are adjusted to the cost-of-living index of 5.6% and one cent more. If the employees won't accept that then let them strike. Except for the police there are virtually no public services that we cannot get along without or that the department heads cannot handle in an emergency. An end must be put to the skyrocketing cost of government. If a strike results, it will be a long one. We must be determined to remain steadfast in resisting all actions that could result in a greater tax burden.

Public officials would also be wise to examine

all jobs with a critical eye. If positions can be eliminated then it should be done as soon as possible. We can no longer afford to support dead wood.

After bearing last year's astronomical increases in real estate taxes and the hated sales tax your town and county government owe it to you to hold the line on any further increases in cost of operation. We hope the politicians have the guts to do it. And why not?

Help Wanted

Directors (18) are wanted to run multi-million dollar business. Since conception operation has suffered from poor management and is, at present, somewhere between limbo and total ruin. Salary, hours and duties are unknown since present board is incapable of making any sensible decisions.

Personal qualifications required by new board members are a bit out of the ordinary for these positions:

1. HONEST
2. INTELLIGENT
3. HARD WORKER
4. FARSIGHTED
5. DEDICATED
6. FRUGAL
7. COURAGEOUS
8. OWES ALLEGIANCE TO NO PERSON OR GROUP
9. POSSESSES DESIRE TO IMPROVE OPERATION OF BUSINESS
10. COMMON SENSE

Party affiliations should be of no importance. At present the Republicans run the operation and the Democrats hold top administrative positions. Neither seem to give a hoot about the people who own or who are supposed to benefit from the business.

Candidates are advised to submit their qualifications NOW to stockholders for close scrutiny.

WARNING: Refrain from idle promises and politeness.
Cont. Page 4

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BOOK CASES—HUTCHES—TABLES—DESKS

I have always read your paper carefully from front to back and particularly enjoyed your editorials and I felt sure that your suggestion of such an organization would be just the thing we needed. However, it appears to me that your paper only mainly seems to cater to those towns further out in Suffolk!

Sincerely,
Mrs. A. Klinke
Middle Island, New York

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Question: Many members are asking what happened to the one time active East Quogue Taxpayers Association. We had no meetings for several months, and poor representation at important meetings concerning taxes and budgets.

Sieber Sr. - Member

P. S. Many thanks for your efforts and editorials.

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Just received a copy of Suffolk Life. Really enjoy it but - On page 13 MM of Wednesday, July 30, 1969 issue you have a map. You have towns from Medford to Eastport shown on the map but no Moriches. There is such a place, located between Mastic & Center Moriches and we would appreciate it very much if you would reprint the map with Moriches on it. We may be small but we're here and would greatly appreciate being given recognition. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Sherwood Baker
Mrs. William Walker, Sr.

P. S. We even have our own zip code.

Dear Editor:

Reading an item in your paper has really got to be the limit to end all limits.

Mrs. Murray thinks she has the right to tell people how to believe. What makes her an expert on people's inner feelings? Who has a petition about her being an atheist? I sure would sign and I'm sure many more would do the same.

I myself do not go to church every Sunday but I believe in God as much as anyone who does.

Mrs. Murray is what satan loves to see with open arms if people don't fight him.

So wake up everybody and show how much we do believe.

Yours truly,
Joanne Holub
Riverhead, New York

EDITORIALS From page 3

cal bull. We are tired of being played for first class suckers and want facts and figures.

Submit qualifications to the voters of Suffolk County and we will decide on November 4th. And why not?

**LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Whatever became of the United Taxpayers Organization (I believe that was the name if I correctly recall) which I, and several of my neighbors at my suggestion, volunteered for several months ago.

I am really seeing "red" again over this austerity program which the Middle Island schools are going on again. The politicians really have us over a barrel! They ask us to vote on increased budgets but when we vote it down they pull this "austerity" program on us. I can see eliminating evening courses and cafeteria services but I can't understand why a little girl scout group is unable to use the school premises since there's no salary to be paid as the leadership is strictly voluntary.

I'm certain there are lots of ways to cut expenditures in the Middle Island schools and was hoping this so-called Taxpayers Association might help do the trick.

New Staff Member At Suffolk Life

David W. Thomson, formerly with the N. Y. Telephone Co., Hazard Advertising and the Rueben H. Donnelley Corp., has joined the staff of Suffolk Life Graphic Arts Center as a news editor and public relations specialist. Mr. Thomson, who has written and edited publicity for International Business Machines, the Encyclopedia Britannica, Eastman Kodak and other national corporations, is also a contributor of technical and popular articles to the "Suffolk Sun", "Editor & Publisher", "Navy", the "Marine Corps Gazette", "Military Affairs", the "U. S. Naval Institute Proceedings" and other publications. He has also been the co-editor of the Dun & Bradstreet Business Education and Sales Training Course.

During World War II Mr. Thomson served in the intelligence section of U. S. Air Force Headquarters in London, Paris and Washington, and is a member of the Navy League, the U. S. Naval Institute and the Squadron A Association. He will be available as a public relations and publicity consultant in the Suffolk Life Graphic Arts Center on Montauk Highway, Westhampton.



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BY DAVID J. WILLMOTT, Editor

Local Control

The Riverhead Police Benevolent Association has announced that it is going to circulate a petition that will determine whether or not a very important question be put on the ballot this November. The question is whether or not the town should do away with its own police force and utilize the full services of the Suffolk County Police.

The police have a perfect right to do this. They have a right to ask the people of the town if they want to put law enforcement in the hands of outsiders. They have the right to ask the voters whether they want to pay more for police services than they are at present.

What is behind this move to request that the Riverhead police be merged with the county police? Do the officers wish to travel to the west end of the island to get to work? Are they convinced that the people of Riverhead will have better police protection? Or is it just a question of money?

We believe that money is the overriding consideration in this matter. They want more money and benefits than the town board, in the name of the people they represent, is willing or capable of paying. The Riverhead police are paid less than the county police officers. They want their salaries raised to equal those on the county force. Certainly they must appreciate the benefits of remaining a local police force: working near their homes with practically no commute; local court appearances within Riverhead and being able to work with people they know in a comparatively safe town free of many of the undesirable elements of the west end.

If the police feel that services under the county set-up are better why haven't they spoken out before? Why didn't they speak out in defense of the county's Seventh Squad, the detective and investigative division which the five eastern towns are forced to use? Last year, when the east end tried to do away with these services and set up their own department, we heard nothing from the police in favor of retaining the Seventh Squad. Why the silence until they are up tight with salary negotiations?

Obviously the police deserve a fair salary, one that is in line with what the people of Riverhead feel they can afford. We wish the police had picked another time to broach the subject of going county. To do so when they are negotiating salary increases is a

pressure tactic that the overburdened taxpayer might well resent.

As we stated, the police have a right to have this question placed on the November ballot, and the people have a right to defeat it resoundingly. We urge the people to do so. And why not?

Getting Involved

Recently, we read a story about the small town of Brooklyn, Iowa. Brooklyn is one of those grass-roots, midwest towns that most Americans look upon with pride. It is a town made up of the type of people who provide our country with many of those national virtues that we lump under the term "Americanism." The most singular attribute of this town, so well brought out by the writer of the article, was the feeling of cooperation and conscientious involvement that the people had for one another. One person's woes became those of his friends and neighbors — his joys the same.

The description of life in Brooklyn, Iowa gave us food for thought. What passes for neighborly concern in Brooklyn might be construed as nosiness in our neck of the woods. We hope not. From our own observations though, our mid-west neighbors seem to be a bit less flinty and suspicious than us. It seems that we all go pretty much our own way without much thought about those around us. Why? Is this the way we want it? We think not. Most of us desire to be of help to our neighbors yet fail to act. Big government and the multiplicity of governmental services have certainly done much to erode our concern for one another. Still, we think that most of the residents of the east end would like to get involved in matters of mutual concern to all of us.

Many families in this area are transients. Their jobs bring them to the community for a year or two and then they are transferred. Would not their lives be fuller if they were to take a constructive part in community life? Some are recent settlers. Do

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There's an Empire central heating furnace to warm any home. Compact 50" high model at left in 100,000, 125,000 and 150,000 BTU capacities. Low - Boy model, right, in 7 models: 80,000 to 240,000 BTU. Check these king - size Empire buys and get a free gift!



Now you can flood your home with with tropical warmth this winter — and enjoy sizzling savings, too! Empire central - heating furnaces give you all the costly features you'd expect in more expensive types, but at no extra cost. Nothing like them for reliable performance and stretching fuel dollars.



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for "FREE" Heating

Estimate.
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...the fuel you can live with, for sure!

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we go out of our way to welcome them and make them feel a part of community life? Perhaps we could all take a lesson from the Airmen and families of the Suffolk County Air Force Base. They are the greatest pull - together people we have ever seen. Too few of us, as local residents, have ever done much of anything to make them feel welcome. Yet, when an Air Force family leaves our area it is a safe bet that they leave a big dent in their community.

Our communities can be better places if we all go out of our way to make them so. Let's try to become a bit more involved with our neighbors and see if we can be of help when help is needed. Let's work together and regain that important ingredient so evident in past history of America — concern for one's neighbor. And why not?

Boost the Boosters

In our opinion a very worthy club is having an organizational meeting at the Westhampton Beach High School cafeteria on Thursday, September 25th at 8:00 p.m. The HURRICANE BOOSTER CLUB, formed only a year ago, is having its first - get - together of the 1969 - '70 season for the purpose of setting up its activities and yearly program.

Dedicated to the promotion of physical education, intramural sports and junior varsity sports, with heavy emphasis on encouraging a wholesome attitude of good sportsmanship in the community, the Boosters expect to triple their membership this year. All fathers, grandfathers, uncles, in fact all sports - minded adults in the Westhampton school system area, who have a boy they would like to see develop a love of sports and sportsmanship are urged to attend the first meeting.

This seems to be the day and age of the spectator when far too many youngsters fail to develop their physical capacities. The Hurricane Booster Club is out to reverse this trend, and they are to be commended for it. Boys learn from example and good sportsmanship has to be taught. We congratulate the men of the Hurricane Booster Club in their fine effort and urge all to support them. And why not?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

Thank you for alerting the citizens of Suffolk County in regard to the Board of Supervisors effort to raise the welfare payments to equal that of New York City.

As someone who spends a great deal of time in New York City I can personally assure the Board that rent, food and clothing costs are much more higher there than here in Suffolk.

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