

Willmotts and Why-Not's

David J. Willmott, Editor

An Overwhelming Response

The response to our editorial last week asking readers to fill out and return the coupon on this page has been overwhelming. Thousands of our readers have shown their support for Suffolk Life by responding to our request, many in the form of voluntary subscriptions, and others with the request that they continue to receive Suffolk Life free each week.

To each of you we offer our profound thanks. Your overwhelming response makes the pressures of deadlines much easier to bear. It reinforces our desire to make Suffolk Life a publication that fights for you, that keeps you informed about the important happenings in your community. One that will help you in time of need. Your subscription will enable us to improve our news product even more, and will help in our efforts to improve this publication in other ways to serve you better.

For those who choose not to subscribe, for whatever the reason, we ask you to fill out the coupon and send it to us as soon as possible. It is of the

utmost importance that we receive this reply back immediately, because replies will have to be processed and computerized by October 1 to fill requirements for the Post Office now that Suffolk Life is delivered in the mail to your home.

Suffolk Life is your newspaper. Our entire staff endeavors to make each issue interesting, informative, with the important news happenings and enjoyable features, with the photographic coverage of your events, and with the advertisements from your local merchants that will help your budget stretch further.

We certainly hope you appreciate these efforts and will respond by either paying for an annual subscription or, at least, sign the form on this page and returning it immediately. We're pleased last week's request has received such an overwhelming response, but we need your help too. Won't you fill out the coupon now? Thank you.

And why not.

A Needless Expense

Suffolk County legislators are currently considering and are expected to vote upon in the near future a proposal which would call for new Civil Service tests for the promotion of police officers to sergeant positions. Scrapping the current list which was created by a test given on May 2, 1981, in favor of a new test, will involve the expenditure of approximately \$200,000, a needless expense in these economic times.

When the May 2, 1981, sergeant's test was first scheduled, those interested in taking that exam were told it would be to establish a four year list from which promotions would be made. Many who took the exam spent much time and dollars in preparing for the test with special educational courses. When the list was posted following the exam, it contained 641 names.

Since that time, only 13 promotions to sergeant have been made from that list. If that rate of promotion continues, at tops another 45 promotions would be made before a new test

would be given in less than three years, hardly a dramatic number of promotions worthy of a \$200,000 expenditure for a new test. And hardly fair to those who placed highest out of the 641 who made the list and the scores of others who failed.

Where does the push for a new test come from? Political insiders indicate the leadership of the PBA lobbied for a new test in order to court favor with all those police officers who ranked below the logical "reaching" point, and the many others who failed or did not take the 1981 test. Unfortunately, when the PBA pushes for something, legislators too often are apt to go along, courting favor for themselves in hopes of gaining PBA endorsement come next election time. But the PBA has now backed off that request and reportedly now declares itself to be neutral on the issue. The legislature should also drop the matter and stick to the list now in effect.

We've said before and we'll say again "There is no excuse for wasting

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\$200,000 of Suffolk County taxpayers' money while the results of the prior test are still valid (in fact, only 16 months old), especially as the county is in a period of so-called austerity."

Should those who took the test and scored well be penalized to satisfy the political motives of others? Should the county taxpayers be asked to shell out

\$200,000 for a needless test simply for the sake of politics? We think not.

The action taken by legislators on this matter should give us all a good indication as to how our legislators stand on the matter of political expediency versus public benefit.

And why not?

A Time of Challenge

In a few short days we will be celebrating another Labor Day, a holiday set aside to offer a salute to labor's part in helping our country to prosper and grow through the years. Labor Day this year could have a special meaning, it could and should be a time of rededication to strive for a worthwhile goal: the economic health of our country.

We have been through some trying times. Inflation, unemployment, the unbridled growth of our national debt, have taken a toll in recent years. But there are signs that this is now changing. We have a new economic philosophy at work in our land, and a firm hand on the helm to make it work. There are healthy signs that interest rates are on their way down, and hopeful predictions that a healthier business climate and increased employment will follow.

Economic health will not be achieved, however, without a lot of

effort and sacrifice on all our parts. We need a rebirth of the spirit of cooperation between labor and management which helped foster the growth of our past. We needed a commitment to productivity on the part of labor, and an attitude of "What's best for our country" rather than "How much more can we get from management."

From the very beginning of its existence, our country has met one crisis after another, and has overcome obstacles in the path of its growth. All of this was achieved by the spirit of its people, a spirit that brought people together, working together, for the good of our land. Labor Day 1982 offers us all that challenge. There are good times ahead, and economic prosperity is within our reach if we will join together and work together to make it happen.

And why not?

Readers' Opinion

Dear Mr. Willmott:

You asked for it.... Isn't it ironic that the reassessment plague has come back to roost on Fire Island for it was one of their very own residents who started the whole New York State reassessment mess in the first place. Hopefully this individual is happy with his new assessment and "Welcome to the Club!!"

Jerry Kelly
 Bayport

I was unintentionally remiss in not praising the Sound Beach Senior Citizens in print, for the time, effort and help they extended.

I ask that they accept my profound apologies with many thanks.

Sincerely
 Louis Romano
 Pres. T.A.C.S.
 Rocky Point

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Congratulations for your W & W-N's of 28 July 82. Common sense may be rare, but your endorsement of President Reagan's not trusting the Soviets and your proposal to use the existing, un-used, Pilgrim State complex for welfare housing are most refreshing examples of good old Common Sense. Well done!

Richard Reade
 Setauket

Dear Mr. Willmott,

My sincere thanks for the help and invaluable assistance accorded me, as Pres. Of Tax Action by senior citizens by your wonderful staff.

The full page appeal to our citizens in Suffolk has had a definite impact.

Yet, as careful as I could be in thanking the many organizations for their splendid efforts,

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SUFFOLK LIFE

VOL. 22 NO. 3

NEWSPAPERS

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North Fork
 Riverhead
 Hampton East
 Mid Hampton
 Westhampton
 Moriches
 Mastic, Shirley

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A Place Of Beauty

It used to be that East End residents breathed a huge sigh of relief the day after Labor Day, once the traditional end of the summer tourist season. That has changed in recent years, however, because the word is out: Fall is a beautiful time of year on Long Island, and the beauty of eastern Suffolk does not diminish one bit as the cooler weather invades the area.

Although cool weather of recent days might cause us all to think fall is in the air, there's still lots of warm weather ahead, and plenty of beach time to enjoy. When the cooler northern air replaces the warm summer breezes, our rural areas take on a totally new look, and the autumn display of nature's changing colors is a beauty to behold. For many, fall is the best time of year.

Don't put away those vacation plans because Labor Day has come and gone. Take time now to see the beauty of Long Island, to enjoy the

natural resources which abound to make this one of the most beautiful scenic areas anywhere. Plan day trips to the many places you haven't visited all summer. Enjoy a drive out to the North Fork one weekend, and visit the South Fork during another.

Here, within a short drive from your home, are some of the most beautiful beaches you'll find anywhere. Enjoy the bountiful harvest of our farm fields at the many roadside stands along most roadways. Visit the seacoast towns, walk along the dock areas, smell the salt air!

Too often we live too close to an area to take the time to see its beauty. We know it's there, but we take it for granted. There's a cold winter ahead, when days by the fire can be enhanced by the memory of pleasant days spent getting reacquainted with the beauty of our Long Island. Enjoy! And why not?

Readers' Opinion

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I enclose a poem, in lieu of a letter, in the hope that you will print it in your Letters to the Editor column.

In any case, I should like you to know that I admire and appreciate your paper's concern and excellent coverage of the threat inherent in LILCO's nuclear plant at Shoreham.

The coupon to Mr. Cohalan is a wonderful idea. I have clipped and mailed it to him today.

Sincerely yours,
Elizabeth Drewes
Peconic

LILCO ON TRIAL

LILCO raped Shoreham, spreading fear and outrage across the lovely fields, from one village to another. Committees met, lawyers argued, legislators sat, but LILCO stood unmoved and arrogant, skillfully distorting facts, collaborating with powerful friends, plea bargaining with the public health.

Meanwhile the tumor grows and grows, more menacing each day, more costly, too, malignant, waiting to erupt!

Dear Dave,

As past president of the Medford Taxpayers and Civic Association and Director of the Council of Civic Organization of Medford, enclosed please find and print as soon as possible the "God's Honest Truth" of Peconic Avenue East of Rte. 112, Medford.

Regards to all,
Tony LoSchiavo
Medford

Dear Mr. Willmott:

The League of Women Voters wishes to thank you for helping to inform the public about the Town Planning Board questionnaire, which was mailed to a random selection of voters this week.

We hope the recipients will recognize this unique opportunity to be heard, and will return the questionnaire.

Very truly yours,
Eleanor Griffith

Attn: Jean Worthington Hoare

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your courtesy in putting an announcement of the Animal Rescue League of L.I.'s Annual Chinese Auction in your paper.

Your consideration in this matter helped to make our function a success.

Sincerely,
G. W. Surline
President
Coram

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We Are Gratified!

The continued overwhelming response to our recent editorials asking readers to send a voluntary subscription, or a request to continue receiving Suffolk Life free each week, is indeed very gratifying. It gives strong indication that Suffolk Life is very much appreciated. And that makes the effort it takes putting out this newspaper each week worthwhile.

We are even more gratified by the large response to our request that readers voluntarily subscribe to this publication. Suffolk Life has always enjoyed a tremendous response to similar requests voiced at other times. But the response in recent weeks has been far greater than ever before.

This is an indication that our readers appreciate our efforts to cover all the important happenings in our local areas, the news of governmental action, the human interest accounts of local people and their deeds, and the bulletin board-type notification of organizational events.

The increased response to our subscription request is especially important to us at this moment in time because the pressures of covering a story very important to this area—the opening of the Shoreham Nuclear Plant—continue to mount each day. We have covered this story extensively because of its importance. We recently sent a staff member to Boston to participate in a seminar on nuclear energy, in order to be more fully informed on the

subject. We will continue to cover each important happening on this story as it develops, and continue to strongly editorialize on behalf of insurances of safety at Shoreham and a sure evacuation plan before that plant goes on line, if indeed it does. The public needs a strong lobby on its behalf in this matter, or one day the evacuation sirens may sound and evacuation may be necessary. Suffolk Life will continue to fight for the public's best interests in this matter.

But while coverage of this important matter takes its toll on our time and staff, other important happenings also require coverage. It is the dollars sent in by those who submit voluntary subscriptions that will help support the news staff to meet these increasing needs.

However, we also greatly appreciate the response of those who chose not to offer a voluntary subscription. Suffolk Life, in its continuing efforts to improve this publication, is now sent to your homes via the mail. In order to do this we need to meet U.S. Postal requirements that say at least 50 percent of those who receive this publication each week must submit a "requester" form for us to mail under second class status. We appreciate the support of those who have responded to our request, and ask those who may not yet have filled out the coupon at the top of this page to do so today. These responses will have to be processed and computerized before October 1, so time is of the utmost. Won't you please take the time to send the coupon today if you haven't already done so?

Suffolk Life enjoys a growing reputation for being a newspaper that labors on behalf of the public, in its best interests, and as its strong voice on matters of importance to its welfare. The response by our readers in recent weeks will give us cause to fight even harder, and to continue being the public's common sense voice, one that gets right to the point without a lot of extra verbage.

Together, cooperatively, we can achieve much in a common goal to help to make Suffolk County the kind of place we would all like it to be. And why not?

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SUFFOLK LIFE

and Suffolk County Life

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Riverhead	Medford	Selden
Hampton East	Holbrook, Holtsville	Coram
Mid Hampton	Sayville	Rocky Point
Westhampton	Oakdale	Port Jefferson
Moriches	Ronkonkoma	Three Village
Mastic, Shirley		

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Blass Wobbles Again

A year ago when we made our endorsements, uncharacteristically we offered the voters no guidance in the First Legislative District. The challenger was an interloper, who did not have roots in the district. The incumbent was Gregory Blass, who had a reputation of wobbling all over the place on most issues.

Political leaders of his own party said they could never trust him to follow through or keep his word. Other elected officials, both within the legislature and from the towns he served, expressed the same sentiments. Blass to us was a dangerous politician. We felt his wobbling made him an ineffective and powerless representative.

Blass's current wobbling on the Shoreham-LILCO plant has placed the residents of Suffolk County in danger. Originally, Blass proclaimed his concern about the safety of Shoreham. He wanted assurances the plant had been constructed without fault. He was four square on the side of the citizens and his fellow legislators as well as County Executive Peter Cohalan in demanding an independent, outside, thorough inspection of the Shoreham plant before it would be allowed to be loaded with nuclear fuel.

Characteristically, LILCO opposed any outside inspection which could possibly give peace of mind to the residents of Long Island. The County Executive as well as most strong-kneed legislators, took a hard nose position, demanding the right for the inspection and instituting litigation to allow it.

Blass this past week announced he developed his own blue ribbon

(sic) panel to make this investigation. Three out of the four so called experts appointed by Blass are pro-nuclear. The fourth person, former Public Works Commissioner Rudy Kammerer, whose stand on nuclear power is unknown, when questioned by Suffolk Life said he had been asked to serve, but had not made up his mind whether he would or not.

LILCO, of course, jumped at Blass's proposal. What more could they ask for than three pro-nuclear people even if they had not been approved by the legislature or the County Executive to do the inspection. We question where Blass gets the authority to develop a "Blue Ribbon panel" for investigatory purposes as a single, individual legislator. We were of the impression the presiding officer of the legislature, with the consent of the majority, creates investigatory panels. And that this power vested in the leader is not assumable by any individual member.

Blass has made a laughing stock out of himself, and has, tragically, interfered with the functions of the entire legislature by acting imprudently as an individual. The panel Blass proposes is suspect. It will do nothing to quell the fears of the citizens and we question whether it is capable of conducting a thorough, complete, unbiased inspection of a facility that has the potential of harming the residents of Suffolk County.

You need more than a pretty face to be a good legislator. Blass has proved this unequivocally.

And why not?

own bootstraps. The dumping of welfare recipients who don't give a damn, into homes that have been bought by speculators, creates a deterioration of the neighborhood.

When welfare recipients are grouped together in hopeless situations, away from services and security, the situation is always the same. The rental homes become slums, crime increases, and people are forced to flee these conditions or fear for their life and their property. Ironically, Smithtown, the home of James Kirby, former County Executive John Klein and Nick Barbados, the deposed ruler of Suffolk, has virtually the least amount of welfare recipients in the county. We do not think this happened by chance. Towns such as Riverhead, communities such as Gordon Heights, North Bellport, Brentwood and Greenport have disproportionately high percentages and the problems that go along.

Some weeks ago, we proposed the creation of a central welfare center at Pilgrim State where all services critical to the health, welfare and safety of these people in need could be maintained and rehabilitation, through training, could be provided. Monies invested would be more productive. This proposal was met as a radical idea. We feel it is an idea whose time has come. Not only come, but it is needed and sensible.

As the Gordon Heights residents complained, their hamlet is becoming a welfare center by fiat. A welfare center that is incapable of, and was never intended, to, provide the services needed by those who are unfortunate and who must seek welfare.

Kirby should be taken to task as commissioner of this department. Dumping must be stopped and a welfare complex should be given serious consideration by the legislature.

And why not?

Detox Center A Must

At the psychiatric hospital in Central Islip, the state runs an alcoholic detoxification center for those who have used up their medical insurance or do not have the availability of this insurance for private care. This detox center has a reputation that equals the private facilities on Long Island.

The center takes all comers who are put through a four-to seven-day program, drying the individuals out, rebuilding their strength and stabilizing them. The patients then are encouraged to enter into a four-to eight-week rehabilitation program that is structured around A.A. concepts. The state now proposes to close the center at Central Islip because of efforts to convert this facility into a geriatric hospital. The state is attempting to transfer some of the funding and the responsibility for this program to private hospitals.

Most private hospitals on Long Island are already operating at capacity with medical patients. They have little room for taking on additional responsibilities. Alcoholism, without question, is the most acute health problem in the county and the state. It affects kids barely into their teens, as well as matronly grandmothers and grandfathers, and all in

between. It is a social disease that everyone loves to sweep under the carpet. Yet, there are few families, rich or poor, who do not have the problem.

In a recent conversation we had with a noted pulmonary specialist in one of the major New York City hospitals, he said almost 90 percent of his case load is alcohol related. Collins Campbell, director of the Westhampton branch of the Long Island Council of Alcohol, points out graphically that most highway accidents have involved the use or abuse of alcohol.

Not enough attention is paid to alcoholism. Our private facilities are severely limited and general hospitals lack either the understanding or the trained staff to cope with the individual who is affected, particularly those who lack the funds for private aid.

The alcoholic center at Central Islip has proven to be a hope and a haven for those people and either must be kept open in that facility, or we must receive unequivocal assurance that the same services will be provided without question at another location here in the county. This vital service cannot be allowed to disappear.

And why not?

Readers' Opinion

Dear Mr. Cohalan:

This is a follow-up of my letter to your office complimenting your initiative to improve the public transportation in the Eastern Long Island and in particular, introducing efficient runs to the Suff. Community College in Riverhead; and at the same time, asking if anything is being planned to improve the connection of the area with the SUNY at Stony Brook. So far there has been no answer to my inquiry on the subject.

At present, the bus leaving at 8:55 a.m. from Riverhead, takes almost two hours one way, and arrives at Stony Brook near 11 a.m. - an absolutely ridiculous situation, because no student can afford such a useless waste of time.

Therefore, in the spirit of a survey and may be in order to start car pools for people commuting to Stony Brook or Port Jefferson (which boasts bus runs to the campus) I, as a student, would like to hear from other

students-commuters affected by the problem of a costly transportation.

Respectfully,
M.E. de Vaere
Student at SUNY in Stony Brook
727-0867

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Thank you very much for publishing the story on Our Lady of The Island Shrine in Eastport.

We are happy that we live close enough to the shrine to visit it often. It is a place of beauty, peace, and inspiration to live every day in God's love.

We thank you for giving an opportunity for more people to become aware of this shrine. God bless you.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Theresa Piekut
Ridge

Stop Welfare Dumping

The Suffolk County Department of Social Services has persisted for years in dumping welfare recipients in specific neighborhoods and hamlets targeted by this organization for this purpose. James Kirby, a former orderly who, through politics, became the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, denies this insinuation, yet, the facts speak for themselves.

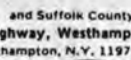
Recently, a group of Gordon Heights citizens protested to the Suffolk County Legislature their community had over 4 percent of the welfare recipients of the county. Gordon Heights is a predominantly black community, made up of productive, hard-working citizens who own their own homes and are following the traditional American dream of pulling yourself up by your

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'Hire The Workaholic' - Lewis Lehrman

'There Is More To New York Than Manhattan'

Democratic voters will, tomorrow, choose between Edward Koch and Mario Cuomo in primary balloting for the Democratic nomination of Governor. Because of scheduling difficulties, we did not have the opportunity to personally interview either of these candidates, therefore we offer no formal endorsement. Based upon their track records and our observations of their campaigns, we would like to offer Democratic voters some thoughts to ponder.

Edward Koch is a dynamic person. He works the media well. He projects an image of an independent maverick, who says and does what he likes. He took the helm as Mayor of New York during some rough and desperate times. He takes credit for bailing New York City out financially, but no matter who had been Mayor, the result would have been the same.

New York City was on the verge of going bankrupt. If New York went down the tubes, as it deserved to do, it would have dragged the State of New York, as well as every other municipality, with it. This was during the days when Governor Carey worked at being Governor. Carey and his staff put together the package that bailed out the City. Of course, Koch was part of it, but we feel it wouldn't have made any difference if the Mayor had been Jones or O'Brien, or anyone else.

The City itself, today, is just as much of a jungle as it was when Koch took the helm. It's a pigsty that is not safe, and a disgrace around the world. Koch has successfully put these problems into the background by bringing attention to himself by manipulating the media in his dynamic, likeable, public personality. His personality is what makes him a likeable character. But once past the personality, we have not seen a demonstration of true executive ability to accomplish for the residents of New York City, any real solutions to the problems or the creation of a better quality of life.

Koch's disdain for suburbia and rural New York State is frightening. We read the entire Playboy article. When we first heard the insinuations that Koch made about suburban and rural life, we thought that these words

were taken out of context. In reading the entire article, we concluded Koch was sincere in his remarks. They are his true beliefs. Typically, Koch felt he could get away with saying anything and there would be no ramifications.

Koch is not a chameleon. He may vocalize a change of thought when it is politically expedient, but he said what he meant and we believe he still means it. He holds anything outside of Manhattan in disdain. Based on this, Koch would be a dangerous Governor for suburbia and rural New York. The taxes that we pay would be piled into the City of New York, and the services we receive, would be curtailed to make his mecca, Manhattan, a shrine.

Mario Cuomo became Lt. Governor so that he would receive on-the-job training in his quest to become Governor. The four years he has served as Lt. Governor have prepared him for that position. He has visited, during his term of office, most communities in this State, and has a much better grasp and understanding of all the problems in the State.

Cuomo is a highly intelligent man who is firm in his convictions; a Democrat of liberal persuasion who relates well to all elements of the Democratic party.

His quest for the Democratic nomination has been blocked at almost every corner by the old guard within the party. Yet, Cuomo has persevered, has run a credible campaign and offers Democratic voters a philosophy that is pure Democrat.

Cuomo was prepared this year to challenge Carey in a primary. He had done his homework and the chances were good he would have upset a sitting Governor if Carey had not decided to resign.

Although we are not making an endorsement, we do recommend the Democratic voters to look at both candidates and determine who best represents their political philosophies. Who best, as Governor, would be responsive to their needs and the communities in which they live.

And why not?

In reality, when voters select candidates they are casting their vote for that person to be hired to run the office they are seeking.

The Governor is the chief executive of the State of New York, a government business operation that has a budget close to \$30 billion dollars. The man that holds this spot during the next four years can either let this business drift, conduct business as usual, or he can direct and motivate this operation to new heights, making it economical and productive, converting the fat to realistic people oriented services.

The best candidate for Governor we have ever come across is Lewis Lehrman. By nature and determination he is a workaholic who achieved extraordinary accomplishments in the private sector as well as in his first political try for elected office.

Lehrman's path to success was heavily influenced by his parents, children of immigrants. He was brought up on the work ethic, given examples, and told he must achieve, that he must convert his own natural assets into productivity.

This clearly can be demonstrated in his education. Although a son of parents with a very modest income, using his own intelligence and fortitude, he studied diligently and was recognized for scholarships and fellowships at both Yale and Harvard.

While attending school, he was involved in the work and the planning of the expansion of his family's very modest wholesale grocery business. Upon graduation, he and his brother-in-law set out on a path which led to the development of the Rite Aid Corporation, a New York Stock Exchange listed corporation worth billions of dollars, with over 1100 retail stores here in the Northeast, as well as in England.

Lew Lehrman is a modern day Horatio Alger. He not only had the brilliance but was willing to commit himself almost totally, in the quest for his goals. Unlike most corporate executives who sit in ivory towers and give out dictates, Lehrman himself went out into the field, selected sites, negotiated leases, and was physically involved in the selection of personnel and the opening of stores.

This work experience brought him into contact with hundreds of communities throughout the State of New York. He met the people, saw their needs and their problems. Lehrman not only was highly successful as an entrepreneur, he also successfully put together a solid marriage which has produced five children.

Lehrman, at the same time, did not forget his obligations to his country and his community. He headed up and worked with groups which have raised millions of dollars for needy projects. He founded the Lehrman Institute, a think tank devoted to developing ideas on sound government economics, and sound money policies.

Four years ago, Lehrman made the decision to run for Governor. Since that time, he has studied virtually every aspect of New York State government. He has developed new, imaginative solutions for problems that have been plaguing the State for decades. Old politicians considered some of these ideas to be radical; but others, men of vision, consider them innovative.

What distinguishes Lehrman from most politicians is that he looks at problems as opportunities. Tired politicians approach difficult decisions with frustration. Lehrman approaches them as a challenge.

We personally first met Lehrman almost a year ago. We were highly impressed. We had strong reservations that he would ever get on the ballot. Lehrman said, at the time, he intended to have a campaign organization in every county. If he could not generate, which then looked doubtful, 25 per cent of the vote necessary at the State convention to automatically become the candidate, he would go the petition route and sell his candidacy to the Republican voters so that he could become the Republican designee for Governor. Lehrman proved his expertise and political maneuvering by not only putting together an organization and generating the necessary 25 per cent to become the party's candidate, but succeeded in winning 67 per cent of the delegates vote at the state convention. Lehrman has worked virtually 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for the past year, to become the Republican designee for Governor of New York. We expect he will continue this pace throughout the regular campaign and, could very well become the next Governor of New York.

Combine Lehrman's natural brilliance, analytical mind, convincing personality and his passion for work and solving problems, and the State will have an outstanding Governor.

Combine this with the Lt. Governorship of State Assembly Minority Leader James Emory who knows from experience the entire workings of the State, who himself is equally qualified to be Governor, and you will have a team that the State has desperately needed for decades. A team that will rebuild New York, fiscally and productively. One that will convert the waste and the fat to improved services, not only holding the line on taxes but ultimately reducing them.

Republican voters have a rare opportunity of selecting an outstanding candidate on Thursday, Primary Day. We encourage all who normally do, and those who normally don't, to turn out at the polls and support Lehrman.

It's a rare occasion when we have a man of such character and qualifications seeking public office. And why not?

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SUFFOLK LIFE

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Riverhead
Hampton East
Mid Hampton
Westhampton
Moriches
Mastic, Shirley

Patchogue
Medford
Holbrook, Holtsville
Sayville
Oakdale
Ronkonkoma

Centerreach
Selden
Coram
Rocky Point
Port Jefferson
Three Village



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Well Matched

The voters of New York State, for the first time in our memory, have two exceptionally well matched candidates running for Governor.

The Democratic voters selected Mario Cuomo, a liberal Democrat, in last week's primary balloting. The Republicans selected a Conservative Republican, Lewis Lehrman. Refreshingly, both candidates offer the voters diametrically different viewpoints. Both candidates are articulate, personable, both have outgoing personalities.

This leaves the race to be won on issues since they both have very different viewpoints. Voters will

easily be able to determine and select a candidate who is most closely identified with their own philosophy. We look forward to an exciting gubernatorial race. We believe both candidates will run hard and make their views known. It should be relatively easy for voters to walk into the voting booth on November 2 and make a clear choice on who they want to vote for.

The registered voters of the Democratic and Republican parties are to be commended for their choice of standard bearers.

And why not?

Who Will They Be Striking Against?

Suffolk County employees are threatening to go on strike. Their contract negotiations are at an impasse.

The administrators of the county have offered a total of 18 per cent in raises over a three year period. The employees are asking for 25 per cent over two years. The administrators represent the taxpayers. They are aware of the hard times most taxpayers are facing. Most workers in private industry have toned down their demands. Some have gone without raises all together. Others have settled for modest increases. Some of the major, unionized companies have been able to negotiate give backs so that the jobs of the employees can be saved.

We are not in the affluent days of the 60's and early 70's. Money is tight, profits are limited. Fat is being cut from budgets in little companies and big ones. Although government does not produce a profit, they are limited in the amount of money they can spend by the amount of money the citizens can afford to be taxed.

County officials are aware they have reached the limit. Modest increases they may get away with. Major expenditures, they can't. They have said "no" to what they consider outlandish requests which has resulted in the talk of a county-wide strike being a reality. Who will the

county employees be striking against? The people they serve. The politicians and administrators can tough it out, but can the people?

The administrators of the county should seriously consider, if a strike does take place, the immediate dismissal of any and all who do go on strike. The Taylor Law which governs all municipal workers forbids strikes. If municipal workers choose to strike, they can and should be fired. President Reagan showed he had the courage to do this when the controllers went on strike. The County Executive should follow his President's course.

County workers should understand beforehand that this is a real probability and consequence of their illegal action. If they understand that this will be the probable consequence, they may well negotiate realistically based upon what the county can give and what the taxpayers can afford.

What can the taxpayers afford? Consider this: 85 per cent of the real county budget goes for salaries. If the county was to give in to the worker's demands for 25 per cent over 2 years real estate taxes would have to be raised 20 to 30 percent to cover this cost. Can you afford this? Shouldn't county workers take this into consideration?

And why not?

Those who are old enough should remember the scenario that led to the creation of the South West Sewer District. For a couple of years before the project got off the ground, there was a host of scare stories about how water was being polluted by the use of sewers. Salt water intrusion all of a sudden became a major problem. Special committees were convened to study the situation, hand-picked committees whose reports surprised no one. They had apparently reached their pro-sewer conclusions before they even met for the first session.

The first recommendations were for a modest sewer system covering the affected shoreline areas. This rather modest proposal grew into the South West Sewer District, with plans to run mains as far north as Huntington, as far east as Smithtown. The estimated cost was less than \$250 million.

The proposal was put to the voters. They turned it down. Far from being defeated, the sewer proponents came back again, this time using county funds to promote this ill-fated venture. Pictures of toilets were graphically displayed in ads.

Headlines asked, "Will you be drinking water from here?" Land owners within the district were promised that the creation of this district would save the health of their families and the effect on the tax bill would be negligible. Voters passed, by a narrow margin, the creation of the South West Sewer District.

The final costs are still not in and already they are estimated to be over a billion dollars. Homeowners are being forced to give up their homes because of the effect it has had on their taxes.

The supervisor of the Town of Babylon at the time the district was born was Arthur Cromarty, now the chief Administrative judge for Suffolk County. Cromarty was also, from 1959 to 1966, the chairman of the Suffolk County Republican Party.

Those were the days when anything and everything that happened in Suffolk County was decided in Blue Point. The Republicans had a virtual strangle hold on Suffolk County government that spanned over one hundred years. The Democrats, instead of being the opposition party, went along with the Republicans bag and baggage, and picked up what crumbs were thrown to them in the way of patronage or contracts.

The South West Sewer District today is well-known for its ill-fated history. Politicians and those with whom they associated have made millions. Careers have been made and ruined. All at the expense of the taxpayers who have had to carry the horrendous financial burden of this boondoggle.

The cement is hardly dry in that scandal-ridden project and those who should have learned some valuable lessons are feverishly at work looking for another project to build upon. In recent months we have heard a great deal about a proposed court complex to be built in western Suffolk. The Chief Administrative Judge of Suffolk County, Arthur Cromarty, is again

the proponent of this major public works project. With cooperation from Suffolk's Director of Planning, Lee Koppleman, and support from the Suffolk County Bar Association, they have taken what was originally announced to be a fairly uncomplicated project and have built it into what could become another noose around the necks of Suffolk's taxpayers.

Originally the project called for a 100,000 to 150,000 square foot court complex. The latest estimate for the project has it up to over 700,000 square feet in a campus-like setting, with a price tag for construction alone of over \$100 million. With interest on the bonds, the project is likely to run \$300 million and that does not include the cost overruns Suffolk never seems to anticipate.

There is no question there is a need for some new courts. Some of the facilities are downright disgraceful. They are scattered all over. While some are logically located, others were located, we feel, by politicians more concerned about financial gain for landlord friends, rather than public convenience.

Courts traditionally belong in the County Center. The County Center is Riverhead, midway between the East End and the West End. Riverhead is the geographical center of Suffolk County, a fact that will never change as the county grows and "population centers" move eastward.

Many lawyers don't like to travel, so therefore they have urged the bar association to demand that a new court complex be built in the West End. They appear to have no concern for tradition, or what is right. This is the same attitude that created the South West Sewer District, a public be damned attitude that prevails in Suffolk today in regards to the creation of a huge, new court complex.

We suggest County Executive Peter Cohalan and the County Legislature put a halt to this runaway thinking, now. Cohalan was elected because of scandal surrounding the South West Sewer District. He really doesn't need to be thrown out of office on the scandal that would surround the creation of a new court complex. We are not living in the go-go era of the South West Sewer District. Money is tight, both for individuals and their government. It is ludicrous to even consider the possibility of such an enormously expensive venture. There isn't any need for lavish splendor for courts to deliver justice. People will be innocent or guilty in plain, simple surroundings as well as in lavish, expensive monuments to politicians.

Judge Cromarty should be satisfied with the South West Sewer District. In fact, if he is looking for a monument to be remembered by, we are sure the people of Suffolk County, and even the politicians, would not object to the South West Sewer District being named the Cromarty Memorial Sewer District. Once in a lifetime is enough. He doesn't need a new \$300 million court complex to be remembered by also.

And why not?

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SUFFOLK LIFE

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and Suffolk County Life

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