

Our views United Way's self-examination

THE UNITED Way of Westchester is too valuable an agency to get stuffy or out-of-touch. So it was encouraging to read, simultaneously with the listing of a record \$4.1 million in allocations to member agencies, that United Way has accused itself of discrimination because of sex and resolved to do something about it.

It will work to redress the inequality found in funding for male-oriented as against female-oriented groups.

With policies set by citizens serving on boards and committees, United Way has a large degree of responsiveness as well as high standards. But as was shown by challenges recently thrown at the United Way in California, dissatisfactions can lead to problems and confusions that the united giving movement can ill afford. We should never allow it to happen here.

Groucho's way

WHILE THERE may be a more formal memorial service late the private gathering that sufficed for one on Sunday was, as his son Arthur said, the way Groucho would have wanted it. No question about that. The man who spent a lifetime puncturing convention and solemnity would scarcely have cared for either when he



Groucho Marx

was in no position to pepper the group with devastating retorts. Yet, much as he might disdain eulogy, all the superlatives lavished on the comic genius of Groucho Marx are true, although it takes some remembering — or resort to his old movies, videotapes and books — to recapture Groucho at his peak. In his late, infirm years, he alternately seemed a parody or shadow of his former self — a man past his prime and his time. But he has left an indestructible legacy that will delight audiences for generations.

As Groucho joins the host of immortals, one hopes he is no longer disposed to say he wouldn't join any club that would have him as a member.

By the way

The National Bureau of Standards is trying to determine what's "portable" and what isn't. It sometimes seems the word is bestowed on anything that someone somewhere in the world is strong enough to lift.

Critics say President Carter's energy program really amounts to a tax program. Maybe so. It certainly can be argued that he's figured out how to increase energy prices in ways that satisfy no one.

A worldwide search ordered by a California judge for a Howard Hughes will has ended. Plenty of wills have surfaced but it's unclear which, if any, is valid. As during life, Hughes seems to have guaranteed confusion in perpetuity.

Cyrus Vance will reportedly mention human rights to his hosts in China. But obliquely, no doubt.

Prayer for today

Often have I prayed, dear Lord, for forgiveness of my personal sins of omission of commission. I would now humbly petition forgiveness for the social and communal sins, which confront us and affront us at every turn. Save us from any tolerant attitude toward the gangsters of the underworld and protect us from weakness and corruption in high places, conditions which make the underworld gangsterism possible. I pray for justice and right, but more so for a rekindling of basic American character and integrity, particularly among our youth.

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Public opinion

Subsidized abortions

I would like to write in favor of the Hyde Amendment. Finally we are being represented by our people in Congress.

I, FOR one, do not want my tax money used for abortions. If we have a right to want anything from our government it is the right to say what our taxes shall be used for. As one argument for the Hyde Amendment stated — just because the government gives us freedom of the press, it does not buy us all newspapers so we can use it. If the government legalizes marijuana, will it buy us all dope?

Abortion is an emotional issue. Unfortunately it was legalized when women have a right to obtain one our Congress says.

Please don't make us subsidize them too.

Theresa Fanelli
Yonkers

Double burden

Chairperson Polly Rothstein's coalition apparently has one common denominator — the poor must consider themselves a financial and biological burden. She assumes that she speaks for the poor, but I doubt it.

IN HER recent attack on pre-life she states, "We must realize that in order to get benefits we like, we must pay for some that we don't like." Who are the "we" and what are the "benefits" they like, and what are they willing to pay for? Well, if her feelings are scrutinized: the "we" don't like the poor and would benefit very well if they weren't a burden on society's pocketbook. The "we" are willing to

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pay for what they don't like — the poor's unborn offspring.

She envisions some poor woman who has aborted her child as going to work and getting off the poverty-welfare cycle. Fat chance! In our society, the poor are still the last hired and the first fired. The poor are badly trained and or educated and live within the horrors of some ghetto where a 12-year-old leukemia victim (her extreme case) might well be raped because there's not enough protection from the desperate that her unfortunate environment engenders

ABORTION isn't one of the final solutions to being poor. You don't get to be middle-class through abortion. It isn't going to let the poor move into most Westchester communities (perhaps, hers?) or upgrade their education, earnings and protection. Every pro-life who says, "I don't want my tax money to pay for abortion," is in effect saying, "I do want that poor woman to have her baby and I want my taxes to give that child a real chance at life and not live in the ignorant fear that the best thing she can do for the human life in her womb is destroy it."

So, all of the poor, middle-class and rich out there who believe in the morality of humanity, write to Senators Javits and Moynihan and let them know that you want the poor to have their loved ones and all the other fine things of life this democratic society offers, not destruction for dollars.

Gerard M. McLoughlin
Tuckahoe

Vet to rescue

The Herald Statesman edition of Sunday April 3 carried a most important story about the much-needed traveling veterinarian, Dr. Nicholas L. Di Russo.

SINCE I am recovering from a recent automobile accident and cannot leave my home, it was wonderful news that this goodhearted doctor and his learned wife made calls to private homes to tend animals. It came in handy recently when one of my dogs was taken suddenly sick. A quick phone call brought the veterinarian to my home that night. He shows a genuine feeling for the welfare of the dog and takes in other hidden ailments by a thorough examination. And by a heart-to-heart talk with the owner of the ailing pet, much can be solved in a single visit. The dog owner need not leave his home, his pet does not suffer the change of car travel, new faces in the waiting room and in the inner offices. Also this veterinarian examined all three of my dogs in one session. I had to make at least two trips to the veterinarian other times.

Also helpful is that Mrs. Di Russo is trained and experienced and has worked with pets as manager of the Humane Society at Monroe, N.Y. I felt at ease asking many questions involving the health of my three dogs and both the doctor and his wife showed warm feeling in handling and servicing their patients. The readers of The Herald Statesman will want to know about the remarkable pair especially from someone who has had first hand experience with their excellent work. His office telephone is 235-8821 and can be reached by the information service. He arrives in a spanking sanitary red truck fully equipped with working supplies.

READERS will be wise to take advantage of this innovation, useful to those without cars, those that are sick or do not have the time to make trips to faraway veterinarians.

Best of all — he charges a sensible price, with the pocketbooks of all.

Steve Zebrock
Hastings

Confidential

'Son of Sam' rings registers

By Gwen Hall
City Editor

SON OF SAM BOON . . . The beach still beckons . . . summer is traditionally slow . . . except for the arrest of David Berkowitz of 35 Pine St., the man police claim used a .44-caliber gun to murder six victims and wound seven others. The public is fascinated and hungry for every morsel and while satisfying the public's appetite everyone is making a buck. Newspapers are vying for the biggest headlines, the most stories, the exclusive photographs . . . TV's coverage runneth over. Before the "Sam" arrest hawkers in New York City were peddling T-shirts emblazoned with "Son of Sam. Get him before he gets you." A former girlfriend sold her letters from Berkowitz to the Post for \$500. Sam Carr of 316 Warburton Ave., Berkowitz's Yonkers neighbor with the dog who Berkowitz is supposed to have said gave him his orders to kill is asking through his Yonkers attorney Louis Ecker, \$10,000-\$15,000 to tell his story (although "Sam" seems to have told it all) and the accused man's attorney has attempted to sell tape recorded interviews with his client for \$100,000. In case this latest Yonkers atrocity hasn't been milked enough before all the novelized versions that are destined to hit the bookstores across the country a \$1 magazine has already appeared on newsstands called, "I Am The Son of Sam," a pseudo autobiography.



Gwen Hall

And while the world's hearts go out to Jerome and Neysa Moskowitz, parents of Berkowitz's sixth victim, in their anguish . . . it should be noted that Spencer Lader, attorney for the claimants in their \$10 million negligence notice filed against the City of Yonkers hastily did so on a boilerplate form, not even taking time to cross out several of the places where it was printed "New York City" instead of "Yonkers."

CROWD PLEASERS . . . Alexanders Department Stores came to Central Avenue yesterday and while Gov. Carey couldn't make the grand opening on account of the weather thousands of first day shoppers did. They were greeted by Cornacchio for Councilman shopping bags which were systematically given out to blanket the scene. Another surprise on the scene was non-runner former Rep. Peter Peysers who is here, there and everywhere, just having testified at an MTA hearing in Manhattan.

ODD MOMENTS . . . of ordinary days are what first are made of. The county executive and his challenger shared the same platform at the Advertising Club of Westchester's August meeting in what was their first joint public campaign appearance. The county exec was introduced as Dee DeBello's husband Alfred Benedict DeBello, (there-for you who always wondered about the B) and spoke of the importance of his county identification program — logos, graphics, etc. Gordon Burrows said he soon realized he was playing catchup football and that shopping bags and shaking hands at supermarkets was not enough — he'd have to streak down Mamaroneck Avenue . . . or turn to spot commercials.

LIGHTING THE WAY . . . Democratic city chairman Angelo Grippo says the city unions are color blind. With the police it's Blue Flu, the firefighters Scarlet Fever and the teachers Green Thumb Syndrome. Grippo also reminds everyone who knew of his bet with 5th Ward Councilman Art Freddolino, "I'm keeping my jacket."

POW . . . Co-chairman of the Park House Advisory Board, 6th Ward Councilman Charlie Cola reports the fund raising softball game with the NBC disc jockeys and engineers was a huge success. The score was Park House Pirates 14, NBC, 13 and best of all \$500 was raised for the trainable mentally retarded residents of the community home, thanks to Angelo Martinielli, Bruce Caputo, Dick Ottinger, Bill Finnegan, John O'Leary, Dom Iannacone, Nick Longo, Ken Cappolino, Mel Diamond, Tony Capiolao, Cheryl Dickinson, the Home staff and Cola's fellow chairman 3rd Ward Councilman Gerry Loeber.

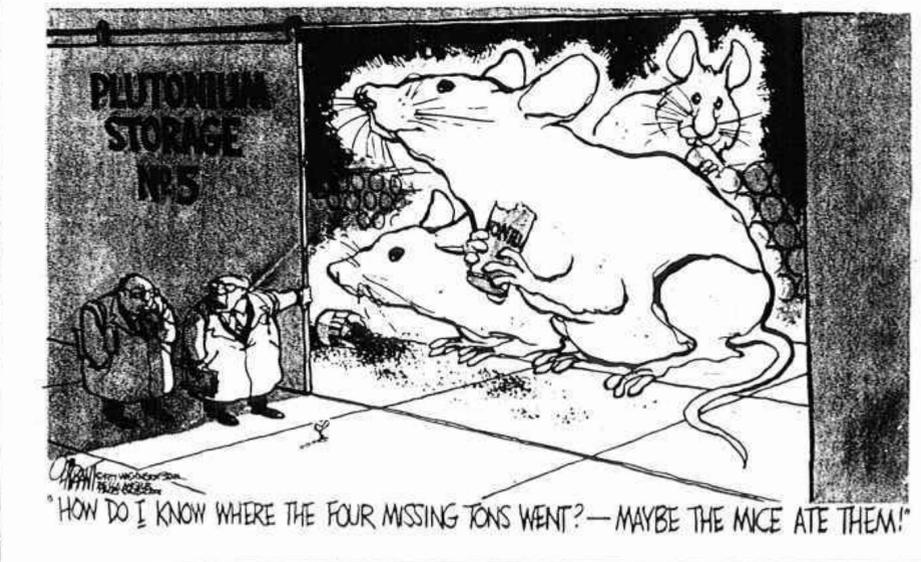
ZING . . . Whatever happened to Cable TV that was coming to Yonkers, first with last year's Easter Bunny, then with Santa Claus? United Artists Cable TV is coming to Scarsdale with New Rochelle, White Plains and Eastchester not too far behind. It's the ninth largest franchise for Cable TV in the country, in 16 states and with 200,000 subscribers.

ATTENTION SPURS . . . Questions being asked . . . Is the vice presidency of the Democratic Party in jeopardy? . . . Has the nation's focus on Yonkers police over the "Son of Sam" arrest prompted a certain candidate to renew his attempt to get a public safety commissioner?

BLOWN IN THE WIND . . . The Tri County Federation of Police, representing more than 3,000 police officers in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess says there's no excuse for the governor's veto of legislation to stiffen penalties for crime against the elderly and disabled . . . 11th Ward Councilman Jack Hanney recuperating nicely.

And That's The Truth

Oliphant's view



Jack Anderson

Energy bureau captures military

By JACK ANDERSON
and LES WHITEN

WASHINGTON — President Carter's new Department of Energy isn't even open for business yet, but it is already the focus of a backstage brouhaha.

The White House has issued marching orders to 5,000 Army and Air Force employees to make room for the energy bureaucrats. They are taking over the James Forrestal Building, a massive, modern white structure conveniently located in the heart of downtown Washington.

Ironically, the civilian energy experts are chasing the brass hats from a building named for the first secretary of Defense.

Carter issued the confidential eviction notice in a June 3 memo to the General Services Administration (GSA), but news of the order quickly leaked out to everyone in town. Everyone, that is, except Defense Secretary Harold Brown, who wasn't told of the President's decision until nearly a month later.

It was the GSA's responsibility to inform the Defense Department of the eviction, claimed a White House spokesman. But in classic back-passing fashion, GSA refused to comment on the memo on the grounds it was a White House document, not GSA's.

In any event, the White House wants the building vacated post haste.

THE MAN WITH the least time to clean out his desk is Maj. Gen. H.R. Vague, the Air Force's judge advocate. He has until Oct. 1 to evacuate his seventh-floor office, the most luxurious suite in the building. The reason, apparently, is that the pedantic, pipe-smoking Energy secretary, James Schlesinger, has his eye on the posh quarters and is eager to move in and begin solving the energy crisis.

The unfortunate Vague, meanwhile, will be banished to a nondescript office building in an area known as Buzzards Point.

To make matters worse, no one is sure which government agency will pick up the tab for the move. Federal regulations require that GSA pay for such forced relocations, but an internal Department of Defense memo explains that "the regional GSA administrator has already indicated he has no funds for this purpose." Additional funds for the bureaucrats to change places, the memo observes, "would be difficult to obtain from the Congress."

The only thing that is perfectly clear is that the taxpayers will foot the bill. It could amount to \$6.9 million.

PATRONAGE PLUM: During his campaign, Jimmy Carter promised repeatedly to reform the way things are done in Washington. But he has shown he can dispense patronage as skillfully as any political ward boss.

We recently reported that the White House was considering Patrick Delaney, the son of a powerful congressman, for an obscure but lucrative job on the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. The young Delaney has been a law school dropout, stock salesman, racetrack official and Richard Nixon fundraiser. But he lacks any experience whatever in water resources.

Now we have learned that Carter's political major domo, Hamilton Jordan, has given Delaney the job without consulting anyone at the Interior Department, which oversees the commission.

Frustrated officials at Interior had interviewed several qualified candidates, but their recommendations were ignored by the White House. "They're shoving him down our throats," one Interior official complained.

Jordan hired the congressman's son, our sources say, a week before Interior officials sent their own recommendations to the White House. One official told us he had never heard of Delaney until the word to hire him came down from Jordan's office. The White House, our sources explain, viewed the commission as an ideal spot to hide a congressman's unemployed son.

Jack Anderson and Les Whiten are syndicated columnists.

