



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

THIS IS THE END OF MUR # 677

DATE: 11/9/78

FILMED BY: J.A.G.





FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1125 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON D.C. 20463

August 31, 1978

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable James Scheuer
U.S. House of Representatives
2402 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: MUR 677 (78)

Dear Congressman Scheuer:

I am forwarding for your information the enclosed complaint which was received by the Commission.

The Commission has determined that on the basis of the information in the complaint that there is no reason to believe that a violation of any statute within its jurisdiction has been committed. Accordingly, the Commission has voted to close the file on this matter. A copy of the certification is enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

William C. Oldaker
General Counsel

Enclosure

78040774273



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

August 31, 1978

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Kenneth Huhn
Committee to Elect Huhn
133-06 Rockaway Beach Boulevard
Belle Harbor, New York 11694

Re: MUR 677(78)

Dear Mr. Huhn:

The Federal Election Commission has reviewed the allegations of your complaint dated August 3, 1978. On the basis of our analysis of your allegations, the Commission has determined that there is no reason to believe that a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act has occurred and has closed the file on this matter.

For your information, the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards has jurisdiction over questions concerning the franking privilege.

Should additional information come to your attention which you believe to be within the jurisdiction of the Commission, please contact me again.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gary D. Lipkin, the attorney assigned to this case at (202) 523-4529.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William C. Oldaker".

William C. Oldaker
General Counsel

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM TO CHARLES STEELE
FROM: MARJORIE W. EMMONS *MJE by jc*
DATE: AUGUST 29, 1978
SUBJECT: MUR 677 - Closing Letter attached
to Memorandum from General
Counsel dated 8-24-78 and 8-25-78
Received in Office of Commission
Secretary: 8-28-78, 10:27

The above-named document was circulated on a 24
hour no-objection basis at 3:00 p.m., August 28, 1978.

The Commission Secretary's Office has received
no objections to the closing letter as of 3:00 p.m.
this date.

78040074275

August 28, 1978

MEMORANDUM TO: Marge Emmons
FROM: Elissa T. Garr
SUBJECT: MUR 677

Please have ~~the~~ attached revised letter in MUR 677 distributed to the Commission on a 24 hour no-objection basis.

Thank you.

78040074276



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

August 25, 1978

MEMORANDUM TO: The Commission
FROM: William C. Oldaker *[Signature]*
DATE: August 24, 1978
RE: Closing Letter in MUR 677(78)

Per the discussion at the Commission's Executive Session of August 23, 1978, attached is the proposed letter closing the above-referenced MUR.

7800074277



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1125 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20563

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Kenneth Huhn
Committee to Elect Huhn
133-06 Rockaway Beach Boulevard
Belle Harbor, New York 11694

Re: MUR 677(78)

Dear Mr. Huhn:

The Federal Election Commission has reviewed the allegations of your complaint dated August 3, 1978. On the basis of our analysis of your allegations, the Commission has determined that there is no reason to believe that a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act has occurred and has closed the file on this matter.

For your information, the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards has jurisdiction over questions concerning the franking privilege.

Should additional information come to your attention which you believe to be within the jurisdiction of the Commission, please contact me again.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gary D. Lipkin, the attorney assigned to this case at (202) 523-4529.

Sincerely yours,

William C. Oldaker
General Counsel

78040074278

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
Congressman James H. Scheuer,)
New York)

MUR 677

CERTIFICATION

I, Marjorie W. Emmons, Secretary to the Federal Election Commission, do hereby certify that on August 23, 1978, the Commission determined by a vote of 5-0 to adopt the recommendation of the General Counsel to take the following actions in the above-captioned matter:

1. Find no reason to believe that a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, had been committed.
2. Close the file in MUR 677.
3. Send the letters attached to the General Counsel's First Report in MUR 677, as amended at the meeting of August 23, 1978.

Commissioner Tiernan was not present at the time of the vote.

Attest:

8/25/78

Date

Marjorie W. Emmons

Marjorie W. Emmons
Secretary to the Commission

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM TO: CHARLES STEELE
FROM: MARJORIE W. EMMONS *mwe*
SUBJECT: MUR 677 - First General Counsel's
Report dated 8-17-78, Received
in Office of Commission
Secretary at 5:00, August 17,
1978

The above-named document was circulated on a
48 hour vote basis at 12:00, August 19, 1978.

Commissioner Aikens submitted an objection
to MUR 677 thereby placing the matter on the Executive
Session Agenda for August 23, 1978.

7804771280



August 17, 1978

MEMORANDUM TO: Marge Emmons
FROM: Elissa T. Garr
SUBJECT: MUR 677

Please have the attached First General Counsel's Report on MUR 678 distributed to the Commission on a 48 hour tally basis.

Thank you.

78040074281

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

FIRST GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

DATE AND TIME OF TRANSMITTAL
BY OGC TO COMMISSION AUG 17 1978

MUR NO. 677
DATE COMPLAINT RECIEVED
BY OGC August 10, 1978

STAFF MEMBER(S) Lipkin

COMPLAINANT'S NAME: Kenneth Huhn

RESPONDENT'S NAME: Congressman James H. Scheuer, N.Y.

RELEVANT STATUTE: 39 U.S.C. §3210(5)(A)

INTERNAL REPORTS CHECKED: Reports of both

FEDERAL AGENCIES CHECKED: None

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

In a notarized complaint, the complainant alleges that the respondent, an incumbent Congressman violated 39 U.S.C. 3210(5)(A). This section prohibits mailing laudatory or complimentary text of a "purely personal or political" nature as franked mail. The matters that are the subject of the complaint are incidents of a local nature in which the respondent's district office became involved; e.g., improving drainage in a flood-prone street. (See attachment)

PRELIMINARY LEGAL ANALYSIS

While the matters that are the subject of this complaint are purely local, 39 U.S.C. 3210(3)(B) specifically permits a Congressional news-letter to deal with such matters as the "impact of laws and decisions on state and local matters," which clearly covers the complained-of material. Further, the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards has been given authority over franking abuse questions.^{1/}

RECOMMENDATION

Find no reason to believe that a violation of the Act has occurred, close the file as to this matter, and approve the attached letters.

^{1/} Indeed, the Commission has, in the past, declined jurisdiction on this basis. (See MUR 103(76)).



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

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RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable James Scheuer
U.S. House of Representatives
2402 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: MUR 677 (78)

Dear Congressman Scheuer:

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Sincerely yours,

William C. Oldaker
General Counsel

Enclosure

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Kenneth Huhn
Committee to Elect Huhn
133-06 Rockaway Beach Boulevard
Belle Harbor, New York 11694

Re: MUR 677 (78)

Dear Mr. Huhn:

The Federal Election Commission has reviewed the allegations of your complaint dated August 3, 1978. On the basis of our analysis of your allegations, the Commission has determined that there is no reason to believe that a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act has occurred and has closed the file on this matter.

For your information, it should be noted that the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards has jurisdiction over franking abuse questions of the type described in your complaint.

Should additional information come to your attention which you believe to be within the jurisdiction of the Commission, please contact me again.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gary D. Lipkin, the attorney assigned to this case at (202) 523-4529.

Sincerely yours,

William C. Oldaker
General Counsel

78919974284



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1125 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

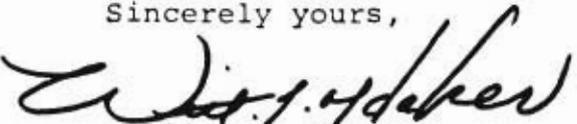
August 11, 1978

Kenneth Huhn
Committee to Elect Huhn
133-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Belle Harbor, New York 11694

Dear Mr. Huhn:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your complaint of August 3, 1978, alleging violations of the Federal Election Campaign Laws. A staff member has been assigned to analyze your allegations and a recommendation to the Federal Election Commission as to how this matter should be handled will be made shortly. You will be notified as soon as the Commission determines what action should be taken. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's preliminary procedures for the handling of complaints.

Sincerely yours,


William C. Gidaker
General Counsel

Enclosure

MUR 677

600+

4445

Independence Citizens

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION

Committee To Elect Huhns

AUG 10 AM 11:08

133-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

Belle Harbor, N.Y. 11694

212-634-0472

Federal Election Commission
1325 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

805236

Gentlemen:

Please investigate the campaign practices of James H. Scheuer, Member of the House of Representatives from the 11th Congressional District of New York.

It is evident on the scene that this legislator is violating the federal election campaign law in literature mailed to constituents.

Specifically outstanding is a message sent by franked mail which includes material which cannot be connected with the official activity of a federal legislator. This material thereby violates Subsection 5 (A) in Section 3210 of Chapter 32 in Title 39 of the Federal Election Campaign Law as compiled by the Federal Election Commission.

It must be noted that this subsection says: "It is the intent of the Congress that a member or member-elect to Congress may not mail as franked mail...matter which constitutes or includes an article, account, sketch, narration or other text laudatory and complimentary of any member or member-elect to Congress on a purely personal or political basis rather than on the basis of activities as a member or on the basis of activities as a member-elect."

Please note specifically in the Representative's Report From Washington to his Queens Neighbors which was mailed by franked mail.

1. Eliminated the double fare for the MTA riders to the Rockaway peninsula. This double fare was used for the Rockaways with permission from the state legislature, and it was eliminated with cooperation from state and municipal legislators. Furthermore, it is almost three years since this double fare was eliminated, and mention of it in a federal candidate's campaign literature can be nothing but a campaign ploy.

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Independence Citizens

Committee To Elect Huhn

133-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

Belle Harbor, N.Y. 11694

212-634-0472

2. "Arranged for the demolition of more than 50 buildings throughout the Rockaways' Construction and demolition permits, orders and contracts are strictly a municipal matter, and there is no connection with federal legislation. Again all this can be a campaign.

3. "After three years of hard work, we appear to be within reach of a settlement on the drainage problem which has made Hook Creek boulevard in Rosedale impassable since 1970." Sewers, roadways and access to city streets is a municipal matter. Residents of Rosedale obviously were ready to welcome any help from anyone with their problem, but all a federal legislator could do was to register an opinion. Taking credit for helping can only be an effort to deceive the voters.

4. "Arranged with the New York State Saving and Loan Association to help formulate a long-term program on mortgage financing for home purchases in Laurelton" Again, Congressman Schneuer obviously registered his opinions. As a federal legislator, he had no connection with the New York State-chartered saving and loan association, and used his arguments in his literature only for campaign purposes.

5. "Pressed for repaving of Merrick boulevard." Merrick boulevard is a city street, and paving of this street is strictly a municipal function.

6. "Had traffic lights installed at Francis Lewis Boulevard and 138th avenue, and at Francis Lewis boulevard and 137th avenue," in Rosedale. Installation and operation of traffic lights on a city street is a function of the city's Department of Traffic. There is no connection to federal legislation.

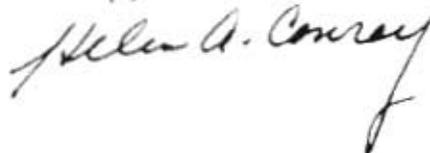
Prompt action appears to be imperative. Please do not hesitate to write or call if clarification or more information is needed.

Thank You



KENNETH HUHN
Rep.-Con. Candidate
for Congress, 11C.D.

RECEIVED
SECRETARY HUHNS
NO. 1347
JULY 1980



Casework: Greasing the Wheels and Knocking Heads

One of the most rewarding parts of my job as a Congressman is helping to solve the casework problems of my constituents. Each year the three full-time caseworkers in my District Office handle about 2000 individual cases. The problems range from finding lost social security checks to securing the release of a constituent from a Belgian prison. Our efforts have produced real results:

- The Health, Education and Welfare Department office in New York City began deducting money from a Mill Basin man's paycheck and sent it to Philadelphia for credit against the Philadelphia City income tax. Despite repeated complaints by our Mill Basin neighbor, HEW would not stop this process. Our intervention not only stopped this withholding but also resulted in a refund to the man of the amount withheld previously.
- A pregnant Canarsie woman wanted to have her Israeli sister-in-law present at the birth, for sentimental and familial reasons. The

American Embassy in Israel refused her a visitor's visa. We were able to convince the Embassy to reverse its decision and the Israeli relative was present for the birth.

- Medicaid denied a Canarsie woman's request for payment for prescription sunglasses even though it does pay for reading and distance glasses. The woman was not in a position to pay for these glasses herself. We questioned the New York Medicaid office on this issue and they reversed their earlier position.

- A mother ran away from home with her two small children even though the father had been awarded custody in the divorce settlement. After considerable sleuthing, we determined that the mother was receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and found a mailing address for her. The result was that the children were reunited with the father.

- A Far Rockaway man scheduled a wedding for his daughter with an Israeli who was still abroad. He did not realize that there would be a problem getting the groom back into the United States. We were called in six weeks before the wedding and after four hectic weeks of argument with State Department officials, the groom was admitted into the country for the nuptials with two weeks to spare.

- A Georgetown man was having severe financial problems because the Veteran's Administration was not sending him his monthly checks. After trying to solve the problem himself for more than a year, he came to us. Within a month a check for \$8,000 was in the mail to him for backpayments and the monthly checks were resumed.

We don't claim to be able to solve every problem that comes into our offices. But don't hesitate to contact us if you have a problem that you can't seem to solve yourself. Sometimes, we can open doors that you can't. We do have the clout of a congressional office behind us. And we show a bulldog tenacity—when we have to!

Attendance Record

I am particularly proud of my voting record in Congress on recorded votes since 1975. The official tally clerk of the House of Representatives reported that I was present on 90.7% of the nearly 2000 recorded votes which took place from January 1975 through December 1977. The following chart illustrates my yearly attendance record:

YEAR	RECORDED VOTES	VOTED
1975	612	91.9%
1976	661	87.9%
1977	706	92.2%
TOTAL	1979	90.7%

Questionnaire Results

Earlier this year I sent a questionnaire with eleven questions throughout the District to help me understand your concerns and feelings on international, national, city-wide, and neighborhood problems and issues. I was extremely gratified when more than four thousand people took the time to complete the questionnaire and return it to my office. The complete results of the questionnaire are as follows:

QUESTION—Do you favor . . .	Favor	Oppose
(1) A national Health Insurance program which provides maternal and child health care at no cost to all pregnant women and children, paid for out of tax funds?	41	59
(2) Federal takeover of welfare costs from the cities and states?	93	7
(3) Mandatory prison terms for violent crimes?	97	3
(4) Capital punishment for murder or for kidnapping and terrorist activity resulting in death?	89	11
(5) The establishment of a federal Consumer Protection Agency?	82	18
(6) Reducing the business tax deduction for expenses and entertainment, such as the so-called "three martini lunch", even though this could cost jobs and a tax loss to New York City?	52	48
(7) Construction of the B-1 bomber?	41	59
(8) Making counseling and education on family life and family planning available for all American women, in their childbearing years, including teenagers?	82	18
(9) Deregulation of natural gas prices in order to encourage production of oil and gas and thus reduce our dependency on Arab oil?	64	36
(10) Tax relief (credits or deductions) for parents paying tuition at private schools, colleges, or graduate schools?	70	30
(11) Passage of President Carter's Panama Canal treaties which would allow Panama to assume control over the Canal in the year 2000?	49	51

Domestic Issues

Minimum Wage, Tuition Tax Credit, Mandatory Retirement

Since 1968 we in Congress have been frustrated at the inability of Congress and the federal government as a whole to be more responsive to the needs of the American people. Yet, the negative attitude of the past two Republican administrations towards enlightened social policies here at home shattered any hope we had of legislating constructive programs.

Both Misses Ford and Nixon exercised their veto power to demonstrate traditional Republican adherence to the familiar conservative principles of favoritism towards big business, disregard for the unemployed and the working man's family, and low priority to America's social and environmental needs. There was little cooperation between the Congress and these two Presidents.

Although some columnists have criticized the first year of the Carter Administration, I'd have to side with Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill, who visited our Gateway District two years ago, in calling 1977 an extremely productive legislative year. Aside from congressional accomplishments on health discussed on page one of this newsletter, significant advances were made on the domestic front in other areas:

- **Minimum Wage:** Congress enacted an increase in the minimum wage to enable the lowest paid workers in our country to recover from, and keep pace with, inflation. The minimum wage increased to \$2.65/hour on January 1, 1978, increasing the annual earnings of 4.5 million workers by \$2.2 billion. The hourly rate will rise to \$2.90 in 1979, \$3.10 in 1980, and \$3.35 in 1981.

- **Mandatory Retirement:** Congress implemented wholesale changes in the mandatory retirement laws in this country this year. All mandatory retirement requirements have been struck from civil service regulations. And, in the private sector, employers cannot require retirement prior to age 70 instead of the old age of 65 which had prevailed for half a century. These changes will enable senior citizens, who have given so much to their jobs over the years, to continue their work until age 70 at least.

- **Tuition Tax Relief:** Many members of Congress have spent a great deal of time working on various proposals to provide tax relief in the form of credits or deductions to parents who pay tuition for their kids to go to private schools, colleges, graduate schools, or trade schools. We in the House successfully beat back an Administration proposal that would have benefitted only very poor families on the grounds that the middle-income families also urgently needed help. We are pledged to continue to fight until some sort of tuition tax relief act is reported out of the Congress.

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



James M. Schuman
M.C.

The Rockaways: Health, Sand, and Redevelopment

St. John's Hospital

One of the key triumphs for our legislative team in the Rockaways was the solution to Far Rockaway's long term health crisis which came about when Church Charity Corporation took over South Shore Hospital on June 30, 1976.

When Church Charity assumed control of what is now called St. John's Episcopal Hospital, they were forced to operate existing facilities totally inadequate to render modern health care services. One of the buildings housing patients was constructed in 1912 and should have been replaced at least 25 years ago. Another building was constructed in 1870 as a residence for sisters of a Catholic nursing order.

In April, 1977, less than a year after the takeover, Church Charity acted on its pledge to rebuild St. John's and filed an application to expand and modernize the facility. Included in the \$30 million proposal is a plan to construct a pedestrian walkway from the main hospital complex to the Brookhaven Nursing Home across the street. When modernization is complete, Far Rockaway will have the benefits of a fully modern hospital complex plus an excellently administered nursing home with a direct financial and physical link with St. John's Hospital.

Beach Erosion

The most common complaint heard by people in government today is that the bureaucracy and government are unresponsive to the man in the street. In fact, President Carter made this lack of government responsiveness the hallmark of his campaign.

Well, if the truth be known, there are times when your public officials themselves feel that they are just batting their heads against an unyielding brick wall, better known as the bureaucracy. The SST issue was one such battle and I fear that beach erosion will be another.

Councilman Walter Ward, and Community Leaders Allan Sylvane and Noel Schwartz (of the Neponsit Property Association) can all vouch for the stubbornness of the Army Corps of Engineers on this issue. Together, we fought for the maintenance of Rockaway Beaches since 1975.

Beach renourishment inflicts a severe hardship on our Community. Walter Ward and I received countless complaints about the noise that went on for 24 hours a day. Summer residents and landlords fruitlessly complained bitterly about the closing of the beaches and the pipes that remained on the beaches for a

long period of time. Landlords informed us that some summer residents refused to renew for the latter portion of the summer because of the inconvenience this project caused. On the two hottest weekends of the summer the beaches at 116th Street, instead of doing a booming business as usual, were closed.

After an emergency meeting last February, the Corps announced that it planned simply to renourish the beaches again this summer. We got them to admit that an alternative long term strategy existed—the construction of jetties out into the ocean to cut down on the effect of the tides and currents—but incredibly they labeled this plan too expensive, even though the additional annual cost was only \$90,000, a fraction of the lost business and taxes caused by the renourishment program.

At this point we intend to force the Corps to take account of the cost of the loss of business that its renourishment program causes in developing its cost estimates. If it is then decided to build jetties, I shall lead the fight for federal funding in Washington.

Far Rockaway Redevelopment

One of our major challenges in the coming years will be the stabilization and redevelopment of the Far Rockaway community. Donald Manes, Walter Ward, Gerdi Lipschutz, George McCracken, Helen Leonescu, Sy Sheldon, Father David O'Brien, and Sid Lipstein (of the Jewish Community Council) have all been very active in these efforts to date.

- The public officials joined together to obtain Section 8 Federal housing subsidies for Wavecrest. Father O'Brien and Sidney Lipstein then went out and found eligible tenants. The result: a stable Wavecrest housing development.

- We were able to obtain \$75,000 in community development funds which were used to bring the New York City Human Resources Stabilization Program into Far Rockaway.

- **Flooding**—a major problem in Far Rockaway. Working together with George Stein, Chairman of Planning Board #14, we were able to obtain community development funds for sewers which have now been constructed on Seagirt Boulevard, Beach 30th Street, and Nameoke Street.

There is still a great deal more work to be done in Far Rockaway. For example, we're working to obtain some additional Section 8 money for Brookdale Village and Israel Senior Center. Working together we've made some advances, and I'm sure we'll show more progress in the years ahead.



Jim Scheuer discussing the recent plane sales to Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Beach 116th Street Redevelopment

All the projects discussed in this newsletter could never have gotten off the ground without true cooperative efforts between your public officials and interested citizens. Yet this project somehow demonstrates even more than the others the need for cooperation.

For the past two years an active committee has been in existence. Its goal has been redevelopment of the Beach 116th Street area. In fact, the area of redevelopment runs from the beach to the bay on Beach 116th Street. Also, Rockaway Beach Boulevard intersects Beach Channel Drive at Beach 116th Street and is part of the redevelopment area up to Beach 113th Street.

The number of people involved in the project are simply too numerous to list. At the risk of leaving someone out, however, it is important to highlight the contributions of several people: Councilman Walter Ward, Queens Borough President Donald Manes, District Leader Sy Sheldon, Joel Gersel of the Rockaway Merchants Association, Vincent O'Connor of the Rockaway Chamber of Commerce, and Charlie Lane, President of Concerned Citizens of Rockaway. Additionally, we have received the help of The Joel Merker Architectural Firm which is advising businesses on how to upgrade their appearances.

As this newsletter went to press, we were well on our way to beginning the process of getting the Beach 116th Street area on its feet again. Our plans include:

- The welfare bungalows formerly known as Ocean Park Court on the east side of Beach 116th Street are being considered for demolition.

- The major eyesore in the area—the Old Park Theatre—is also being considered for demolition.

(clip out and post near your phone)
PHONE NUMBERS FOR YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Don't hesitate to contact us when you have a problem you want help solving:

My District Offices

Brooklyn
1943 Rockaway Parkway
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11236
251-2222

Queens—Rockaway
114-02 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Queens, N.Y.
945-0800

Queens Mainland in Laurelton
224-13 Merrick Blvd.
Queens, N.Y. 11413
528-0275

For Howard Beach and all of the Rockaways:
—Councilman Walter Ward
82-17 153rd Ave.
Howard Beach, N.Y. 11694
845-4280

For Laurelton, Rosedale, Cambria Heights, and Springfield Gardens:
—Councilman Archie Spigner
107-35 170th Street
Jamaica, N.Y. 11433
291-0020

For the Rockaways:
—Assemblywoman Gerdi Lipschutz
257 B, 116th Street
Rockaway Park, N.Y. 11694

Stabilization

Laurelton Projects Move Along

Ever since my election as the Gateway District's Congressman in 1974 I have been involved with the dedicated leaders of the Laurelton community in attempts to stabilize and redevelop Laurelton. In 1976 we convinced Eleanor Holmes Norton, then Commissioner of Equal Opportunity in New York, to institute a neighborhood stabilization plan for Laurelton to insure that it remained a balanced integrated community, and didn't go the sad and familiar "resegregation" route. Rose Halperin, Al Grant, and Jay Steingold have played pivotal roles in maintaining the stability of Laurelton.

In 1977 we took on what many have perceived to be a key operation to Laurelton's future stability. For the past year and a half we have been trying to facilitate the opening of a Burger King on Merrick Boulevard in Laurelton. This would be the kingpin of Laurelton's commercial redevelopment.

In the next few months we hope to be able to announce that bids have been let for the repaving of Merrick Boulevard. Originally, construction was to have begun early this year, however, the starting date has been delayed. We've made some big strides in Laurelton and we'll all be seeing some results in the near future.

The Queens Wrap-up: A Good Deal of Progress

Rosedale—Progress on Hook Creek

Finally, after three years of hard work, we appear to be within reach of a settlement of the Hook Creek issue. George McCracken, Donald Manes, and I have worked together to sort through a labyrinthine maze of bureaucratic red tape to solve the drainage problem which has made Hook Creek Boulevard in Rosedale impassable since 1970.

In May of 1975, I was informed by the City that a temporary solution for the Hook Creek problem had been reached. This plan, which George and I developed with John Zuccotti, Planning Commission Chairman, was to install temporary drains and repave the road at approximately 18 inches above its present level. The ultimate solution was for the City to purchase an easement into Hook Creek and develop a permanent drain for the road.

Ultimately, George was able to prevail upon one of the landowners, whose property was situated between the road and the creek, to consider giving the City a permanent easement for the drainage pipe. Throughout all of 1976 we tried to arbitrate negotiations between the landowner and the City, but we were never able to resolve, to the City's satisfaction, the conditions which the landowner placed on his gift of easement.

Just as this deal fell through, we found another landowner who appeared willing to grant the City an easement across his land within the bed of a mapped, but unacquired, City Street. Unbelievably, on the very day he was to sign the easement, this landowner received notice from the City that he was in violation of City regulations for placing fill dirt on parts of his land. On March 9, 1977, despite our arguments that the easement was in the best interests of the community, this landowner too withdrew his offer.

On May 31, 1977 I convened another meeting with the City and the second landowner. Once again, the landowner agreed to give an easement to the City. My staff was in daily contact with the landowner who finally signed and delivered the easement on July 1, 1977.

Now, however, there is a long bureaucratic process mandated by City regulations before the City can accept the gift of the easement. There must be Community Planning Board, City Planning Commission, and Board of Estimate approval of the transaction. This process can take up to 18 months but George and I have been assured that some attempts will be made to expedite the process.

Although we wouldn't want to applaud the laying of the drainage pipe until it happens, we think it's fair to say that this is one battle we've been able to win! But what a 3 1/2-year hassle we've been through! Unbelievable!



I am always pleased when constituents drop in and see me when they come to Washington, especially when they're kids! Pictured above is a group of Rosedale Third Graders who took some time to talk with me in my office about national and local issues.

Neighborhood Notes

Because of space limitations, I have been able to give only a sampling of the activities of our district office and of the offices of the other elected officials in our Gateway District. The following are jottings on some of the other projects in which we have been involved together for the past year or two:

ROCKAWAY (with the community leadership team: Walter Ward, Helen Leonescu, Gerdi Lipschutz, and Sy Sheldon):

- obtained goal posts for Rockaway Rugby club at Riis Park
- eliminated the double fare for MTA riders to the peninsula
- arranged for the demolition of more than 50 buildings throughout the Rockaways
- rebuilt a sewer at 9th Road and Broad Channel Drive in Broad Channel

- obtained permission for 800 Far Rockaway sea cadets to drill at the Fort Tilden barracks
- obtained a \$127,606 Anti-Crime LEAA grant from the federal government for the Hartman Y.

LAURELTON (with the community leadership team: Jay Steingold, Al Grant, Archie Spigner and Rose Halperin):

- arranged for 30 kids to work in public service jobs throughout Laurelton in 1977
- obtained a \$12,000 grant for a community drug program run by Lois Samuels
- arranged with the New York State Savings and Loan Association to help formulate a long term program on mortgage financing for home purchases in Laurelton
- pressed for the repaving of Merrick Blvd
- had traffic lights installed at Francis Lewis Blvd. and 138th Avenue and at Francis Lewis Blvd. and 137th Avenue.

Howard Beach: Frank Charles Memorial Park

Frank Charles Memorial Park is one of the prime recreational areas within our Gateway District. Nestled in the community of Howard Beach, the park has been in severe need of renovation for the past three years. Working together, Walter Ward and I were able to help push along renovations in this park.

At the writing of this newsletter, the park was scheduled to undergo a three stage renovation process:

- First, the tennis courts were to be completely resurfaced and new lighting was to be installed. This phase was completed in 1976.
- Second, the three ballfields and fences surrounding the ballfields were to be totally rebuilt at a cost of more than \$150,000. This phase was completed in November, 1977.
- Third, the picnic area is scheduled to be completely renovated. Hopefully, this phase will soon be completed.

The SST: Fighting for Less Noise

November 22, 1977 marked a turning point in our community fight against aircraft noise. On the 22nd, the first supersonic plane to land at Kennedy International Airport touched down.

This landing marked the end of a three year fight against Concorde by literally thousands of people in our Gateway District. Virtually every public official joined in this fight in some way—Gerdi Lipschutz, Walter Ward, Rose Halperin, and Archie Spigner were among the most vocal.

Now, the leaders of our community and the people in the community must work together to achieve significant noise reductions for our Kennedy community. The Concorde fight focused our attention on this horrendous noise problem. Two separate Department of Transportation studies indicated that Kennedy has one of the three worst noise problems in the country—only Chicago and Los Angeles can compete with the Kennedy area noise problem.

What is required now is a comprehensive noise abatement program for Kennedy. I have been working on such a program which has the following components:

- (1) Strict adherence to the too generous federal timetable for compliance with FAR-36 (the Federal government's new stricter noise standards). One thing we in Congress have found is that FAR-36 is not the final solution to aircraft noise—planes meeting their noise standards are still quite noisy. However, this is a necessary first step.
- (2) On the federal level, we have been working on a bill to help finance the retrofitting and re-engining necessary for the airlines to comply with FAR-36. I personally prefer the more expensive route of re-engining since it results in quieter airplanes. However, the bill as currently drafted allows either retrofit or re-engining.
- (3) The establishment of a Community Noise Abatement Board made up of members of the Kennedy community, noise and aviation experts, and representatives of the Port Authority. This Board would work towards formulating additional noise rules for Kennedy airport including:
 - a) the implementation of specially tested flight procedures currently being used regularly by Northwest Airlines.
 - b) the development and installation of a more comprehensive monitoring program for the Kennedy area.

All of your public officials have cooperated in the development of this preliminary noise abatement plan and Walter Ward has been particularly helpful. We'll let you know as this proposal becomes more firm. In the meantime, we'd like to hear your thoughts on the plan.

In an Emergency . . .

P.S. In case of any family or personal emergency, please don't hesitate to contact me at home. My home phone numbers are:

- in Washington, during the week when Congress is in session (202) 966-8388.
- in New York, on weekends when Congress is not in session 634-1575.

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Congressman

JIM SCHEUER'S

REPORT FROM WASHINGTON TO HIS QUEENS NEIGHBORS



Teenage Pregnancy and Kiddicare

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

2402 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Telephone: 202-225-3471

Dear Queens Neighbor:

The past three and a half years have been among the most active in the history of the U.S. Congress. And, between the hectic legislative schedule in Washington and the demands in our Gateway District, these years have been among the most active of my almost twelve years in Congress.

For the past two years I have tried to emphasize the word "service" in my newsletters back to the District. Last year and the year before, many of you received booklets on how to prevent crime and on senior citizen services as well as a simple guide to help you in your search for reasonably priced and reliable medical care. Earlier this year, you received newsletters on consumer protection and on tips to help reduce the incidence of crime. Additionally, every household in our Gateway District received a booklet cataloguing free pamphlets available from the government.

Congressmen find for themselves three quite distinct roles. First is the role of the national legislator planning, writing, and passing innovative legislation. Second is the role of catalytic agent working to bring federal resources into the Congressional District and to solve community problems. Third and finally is the role of problem solver for individuals—helping people to find their way through the bureaucratic maze of our government.

In many ways, this third role is the most important. Sometimes the bureaucracy is agonizingly slow and incredibly frustrating for even those of us with a great deal of experience dealing with government. Among the more satisfying things we do is grease the wheels of the bureaucracy and, when necessary, knock some heads together to get things done for individuals.

At this time, as the work of the 95th Congress begins to wind to a close, I thought it might be appropriate to bring to life some of the goings on in Washington and in our District. The most frequent question asked by the American voter is "where are my tax dollars going?" Hopefully, this newsletter can shed some light on that question.

In my three and a half years representing you in Washington and in New York, I have come to recognize that here at home we are all blessed with a set of elected officials as talented and dedicated as any in the country. They have all contributed Herculean efforts towards improving the quality of life in our neighborhood. It has been a pleasure to work with them.

This newsletter has been designed like a newspaper since that is basically what it is: a journal of the legislative accomplishments of the 95th Congress and the accomplishments of your elected officials in our Gateway District. Additionally, I have included the results of my questionnaire which was sent out earlier this year.

On the third page of this newsletter you will find a box which I suggest you clip out and hang near your phone. It includes the names, phone numbers, and addresses of every elected official within the 11th Congressional District.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me either at home or at my office if you have a problem of any kind. My staff and I will do everything we can to assist you.

With every warm best wish,

Yours,

JAMES H. SCHEUER, M.C.

Major Health Issues

I am particularly interested in issues concerning health and serve on the House Health Subcommittee. My interests in health do have particular local significance since it was my contacts in Washington and Albany that eased the way for the St. Johns Episcopal Hospital to take over South Shore Hospital in Far Rockaway, after its abandonment by Long Island Jewish Hospital in 1976.

The Administration has proposed a program to deal with the rash of illegitimate teenage births. There are more than four million sexually active teenage girls in the United States. Only two million of them receive any family planning services at all. In 1976 more than one million teenage girls became pregnant and there were more than 600,000 births to teenage girls. Two thirds of the pregnancies were unwanted and one third of the births were illegitimate. Working in my joint capacity as a member of the Health Subcommittee and as Chairman of the Congressional Committee on Population, I played a key role in Congress' consideration of the Administration plan.

After a major initiative by the Health Subcommittee, the Congress passed and the President signed a bill to crack down on Medicaid fraud and abuse in the United States. Such fraud costs the American taxpayer more than \$1.5 billion annually.

A major section of that bill included an amendment conceived and authored by me. Under the Scheuer Amendment the federal government will pick up 90% of the cost of state-wide Medicaid fraud units with the power to investigate and prosecute Medicare and Medicaid offenders. This amendment was modeled after our own New York State program on Medicaid abuse.

However, my major health brainchild remains a bill entitled The Maternal and Child Health Act, on which I have been working for more than two years. Essentially, the philosophy of this bill is that mothers and children should be covered by the federal government as our next step towards full-blown national health insurance. First, the federal government took care of the elderly (Medicare), then they covered the poor (Medicaid), and now we must move on to mothers and children (Kiddicare). The bill provides for free health care to all mothers and children paid for out of federal tax revenues.

Committee Assignments and Chairmanships

I am delighted with the committees and subcommittees to which I've been appointed, and with the opportunities they provide for affecting events internationally, nationally, and in our own Gateway Congressional District. I currently serve as Chairman of the newly formed Congressional Committee on Population, Chairman of a Science and Technology Subcommittee, and as a member of the prestigious Health Subcommittee of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

One of the crowning achievements of the 95th Congress was the formation of a Select Committee on Population, a proposal I had long advocated. Last fall, the House overwhelmingly passed a resolution I sponsored to establish this Select Committee and Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill, who visited our Gateway District two years ago, appointed me its first chairman.

The new Congressional Committee has jurisdiction over all population related issues domestically and internationally including the causes and consequences of the population explosion in the

developing world, the causes and consequences of the epidemic of illegitimate teenage births in the United States, and the ramifications of illegal immigration. Already we have held thirteen weeks of hearings on these and other issues making us one of the most active committees in the Congress.

My chairmanship of the Science and Technology Subcommittee makes me one of only a handful of Congressmen with two committee chairmanships. Already during the 95th Congress I have held hearings in this subcommittee on two issues of importance to our Gateway District.

First, with the assistance of my colleagues in public office in Brooklyn—Assemblyman Stanley Fink, State Senator Howie Babbush, and City Councilman Herbie Berman—I chaired hearings on the innovative computer education program being used in School District 16 in Canarsie. Harvey Garner, the District's Superintendent, was the leadoff witness of these hearings.

Second, I chaired a week of hearings in New York on violent crime where Assemblyman Stanley Fink was the leadoff witness. We heard that only 20% of the criminals commit 80% of the violent crimes in New York and that therefore the key to controlling violent crime is to crack down on repeat offenders—or "career criminals" as they are called.

Mr. Kenneth Huhn
133-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Bayside Harbor, N.Y. 11694

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Federal Election Commission
1325 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20463



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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

GLC 4267
July 28, 1978

Kenneth Huhn
133-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Belle Harbor, N.Y. 11694

Dear Mr. Huhn:

We have received your letter of July 25, 1978, inquiring into the possibility of a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

As set forth in 2 U.S.C. section 437g(a)(1), the Commission is not empowered to take action unless complaints are signed, sworn and notarized by the complainant. Under Section 111.2 of the Commission's regulations, it is also required that a complaint contain: (1) The full name, address and telephone number of the complainant; (2) a clear and concise statement of the acts which are alleged to constitute a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971; (3) any documentation of allegations of the complaint available to the complainant; and (4) an assertion that the person complaining, if not a candidate, is not filing the complaint on behalf of or at the request of a candidate, unless such is the fact, in which case it shall be set forth.

In the interests of complying with the above procedures, a copy of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, and a copy of the Commission's regulations are enclosed with this letter. I hope that an examination of these materials will answer most of your questions and will enable you to be specific in any assertions or allegations you might make, in the event you wish to file a complaint with the Commission.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William C. Gidaker".

William C. Gidaker
General Counsel

Independence Citizens

Office
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Committee To Elect ^{JUL 11 11:41} Hahn

133-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

Belle Harbor, N.Y. 11694

212-634-0472

July 18, 1976

Federal Election Commission
1325 K Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20463

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing this letter as a means of complaint about violation of Federal Election Campaign Law by an elected federal official.

I am referring specifically to "Congressman's Jim Scheuer's Report From Washington To His Queen's Neighbors," currently being received in the mail by the Congressman's constituents.

Let me point out specific violations in this message, which was sent by franked mail:

"Eliminated the double fare for MTA riders to the peninsula." This double fare was used with permission from the state legislature, and it was eliminated with cooperation from state and municipal legislators. Furthermore, it is almost three years since this double fare was eliminated. Mention of it did not belong in a message from a federal legislator, and obviously was included only as a campaign ploy.

"Arranged for the demolition of more than 50 buildings throughout the Rockaways." Construction and demolition permits, orders and contracts are strictly a matter for municipal agencies, and there is no connection with federal legislation. Again it was included in the literature as a campaign ploy, and only as a campaign argument.

"After three years of hard work, we appear to be within reach of a settlement on the drainage problem which has made Hook Creek Boulevard in Rosedale impassable since 1970." Sewers, roadways and access to city streets is a municipal matter. It does not belong among a federal legislator's accomplishments even if that federal legislator registered opinions about conditions in those streets and areas. It was included in the legislature as an attempt to deceive the people of Rosedale that progress is being made because of official efforts of their Congressman.

"Arranged with the New York State Savings and Loan Association to help formulate a long term program on mortgage financing for home purchases in Laurelton." Again, there is no doubt that Congressman Scheuer registered opinions with regard to mortgage financing but as a federal legislator he had no connection with this New York State chartered body. It was included in the literature

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Independence Citizens

Committee To Elect Huhn

133-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

Belle Harbor, N.Y. 11694

212-634-0472

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to mislead the voters.

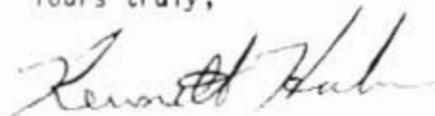
Pressed for repaving of Merrick Boulevard." Merrick Boulevard is a city street. Paving of this street is strictly a municipal function.

"Had traffic lights installed at Francis Lewis Boulevard and 136th Avenue." Installation, and operation, of traffic lights on a city street is a function of the City Department of Traffic. There is no federal legislative connection.

These strictly election plays Subsection 5(A) in Section 3210 of Chapter 32 in Title 39 of the Federal Election Campaign Laws compiled by the Federal Election Commission. In this subsection, it says: "It is the intent of the Congress that a Member or Member elect to congress may not mail as franked mail...mail matter which constitutes or includes any article, account, sketch, narration, or other text laudatory and complimentary of any Member, or Member elect to Congress on a purely personal or political basis rather than on the basis of performance of official duties as a Member or on the basis of activities as a Member-elect."

Immediate official action in regard to the violations specified is recommended.

Yours truly,



Kenneth Huhn
Conservative-Republican
Candidate for Congress

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St. John's Hospital

One of the key triumphs for our legislative team in the Rockaways was the solution to Far Rockaway's long term health crisis which came about when Church Charity Corporation took over South Shore Hospital on June 1, 1976.

When Church Charity assumed control of what is now called St. John's Episcopal Hospital, they were forced to operate existing facilities totally inadequate to render modern health care services. One of the buildings housing patients was constructed in 1912 and should have been replaced at least 25 years ago. Another building was constructed in 1870 as a residence for sisters of a Catholic nursing order.

In April, 1977, less than a year after the takeover, Church Charity acted on its pledge to rebuild St. John's and filed an application to expand and modernize the facility. Included in the \$30 million proposal is a plan to construct a pedestrian walkway from the main hospital complex to the Brookhaven Nursing Home across the street. When modernization is complete, Far Rockaway will have the benefits of a fully modern hospital complex plus an excellently administered nursing home with a direct financial and physical link with St. John's Hospital.

Beach Erosion

The most common complaint heard by people in government today is that the bureaucracy and government are unresponsive to the man in the street. In fact, President Carter made this lack of government responsiveness the hallmark of his campaign.

Well, if the truth be known, there are times when your public officials themselves feel that they are just batting their heads against an unyielding brick wall, better known as the bureaucracy. The SST issue was one such battle and I fear that beach erosion will be another.

Councilman Walter Ward, and Community Leaders Allan Sylvane and Noel Schwartz (of the Neponsit Property Association) can all vouch for the stubbornness of the Army Corps of Engineers on this issue. Together, we fought for the maintenance of Rockaway Beaches since 1975.

Beach renourishment inflicts a severe hardship on our Community. Walter Ward and I received countless complaints about the noise that went on for 24 hours a day. Summer residents and landlords fruitlessly complained bitterly about the closing of the beaches and the pipes that remained on the beaches for a

long period of time. Landlords informed us that some summer residents refused to renew for the latter portion of the summer because of the inconvenience this project caused. On the two hottest weekends of the summer the beaches at 116th Street, instead of doing a booming business as usual, were closed.

After an emergency meeting last February, the Corps announced that it planned simply to renourish the beaches again this summer. We got them to admit that an alternative long term strategy existed—the construction of jetties out into the ocean to cut down on the effect of the tides and currents—but incredibly they labeled this plan too expensive, even though the additional annual cost was only \$90,000, a fraction of the lost business and taxes caused by the renourishment program.

At this point we intend to force the Corps to take account of the cost of the loss of business that its renourishment program causes in developing its cost estimates. If it is then decided to build jetties, I shall lead the fight for federal funding in Washington.

Far Rockaway Redevelopment

One of our major challenges in the coming years will be the stabilization and redevelopment of the Far Rockaway community. Donald Manes, Walter Ward, Gerdi Lipschutz, George McCracken, Helen Teonescu, Sy Sheldon, Father David O'Brien, and Sid Lipstein (of the Jewish Community Council) have all been very active in these efforts to date.

- The public officials joined together to obtain Section 8 Federal housing subsidies for Wavecrest. Father O'Brien and Sidney Lipstein then went out and found eligible tenants. The result—a stable Wavecrest housing development.

- We were able to obtain \$75,000 in community development funds which were used to bring the New York City Human Resources Stabilization Program into Far Rockaway.

- Flooding is a major problem in Far Rockaway. Working together with George Stein, Chairman of Planning Board #14, we were able to obtain community development funds for sewers which have now been constructed on Seagirt Boulevard, Beach 30th Street, and Nameoke Street.

There is still a great deal more work to be done in Far Rockaway. For example, we're working to obtain some additional Section 8 money for Brookdale Village and Israel Senior Center. Working together we've made some advances, and I'm sure we'll show more progress in the years ahead.



Jim Scheuer discussing the recent plane sales to Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Beach 116th Street Redevelopment

All the projects discussed in this newsletter could never have gotten off the ground without true cooperative efforts between your public officials and interested citizens. Yet this project somehow demonstrates even more than the others the need for cooperation.

For the past two years an active committee has been in existence. Its goal has been redevelopment of the Beach 116th Street area. In fact, the area of redevelopment runs from the beach to the bay on Beach 116th Street. Also, Rockaway Beach Boulevard intersects Beach Channel Drive at Beach 116th Street and is part of the redevelopment area up to Beach 113th Street.

The number of people involved in the project are simply too numerous to list. At the risk of leaving someone out, however, it is important to highlight the contributions of several people: Councilman Walter Ward, Queens Borough President Donald Manes, District Leader Sy Sheldon, Joel Gersel of the Rockaway Merchants Association, Vincent O'Connor of the Rockaway Chamber of Commerce, and Charlie Lane, President of Concerned Citizens of Rockaway. Additionally, we have received the help of The Joel Merker Architectural Firm which is advising businesses on how to upgrade their appearances.

As this newsletter went to press, we were well on our way to beginning the process of getting the Beach 116th Street area on its feet again. Our plans include:

- The welfare bungalows formerly known as Ocean Park Court on the east side of Beach 116th Street are being considered for demolition.

- The major eyesore in the area—the Old Park Theatre—is also being considered for demolition.

(clip out and post near your phone)

PHONE NUMBERS FOR YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Don't hesitate to contact us when you have a problem you want help solving:

My District Offices

Brooklyn
1943 Rockaway Parkway
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11236
251-2222

Queens—Rockaway
114-02 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Queens, N.Y.
945-0800

Queens Mainland in Laurelton
224-13 Merrick Blvd.
Queens, N.Y. 11413
528-0275

For Howard Beach and all of the Rockaways:

—Councilman Walter Ward
82-17 153rd Ave.
Howard Beach, N.Y. 11694
845-4280

For Laurelton, Rosedale, Cambria Heights, and Springfield Gardens:

—Councilman Archie Spigner
107-35 170th Street
Jamaica, N.Y. 11433
291-0020

For the Rockaways:

—Assemblywoman Gerdi Lipschutz
257 B. 116th Street
Rockaway Park, N.Y. 11694

Stabilization

Laurelton Projects Move Along

Ever since my election as the Gateway District's Congressman in 1974 I have been involved with the dedicated leaders of the Laurelton community in attempts to stabilize and redevelop Laurelton. In 1976 we convinced Eleanor Holmes Norton, then Commissioner of Equal Opportunity in New York, to institute a neighborhood stabilization plan for Laurelton to insure that it remained a balanced integrated community, and didn't go the sad and familiar "resegregation" route. Rose Halperin, Al Grant, and Jay Steingold have played pivotal roles in maintaining the stability of Laurelton.

In 1977 we took on what many have perceived to be a key operation to Laurelton's future stability. For the past year and a half we have been trying to facilitate the opening of a Burger King on Merrick Boulevard in Laurelton. This would be the kingpin of Laurelton's commercial redevelopment.

In the next few months we hope to be able to announce that bids have been let for the repaving of Merrick Boulevard. Originally, construction was to have begun early this year, however, the starting date has been delayed. We've made some big strides in Laurelton and we'll all be seeing some results in the near future.

Casework: Greasing the Wheels and Knocking Heads

One of the most rewarding parts of my job as a Congressman is helping to solve the casework problems of my constituents. Each year the three full-time caseworkers in my District Office handle about 2000 individual cases. The problems range from finding lost social security checks to securing the release of a constituent from a Belgian prison.

Our efforts have produced real results.

- The Health, Education and Welfare Department office in New York City began deducting money from a Mill Basin man's paycheck and sent it to Philadelphia for credit against the Philadelphia City income tax. Despite repeated complaints by our Mill Basin neighbor, HEW would not stop this process. Our intervention not only stopped this withholding but also resulted in a refund to the man of the amount withheld previously.

- A pregnant Canarsie woman wanted to have her Israeli sister-in-law present at the birth, for sentimental and familial reasons. The

American Embassy in Israel refused her a visitor's visa. We were able to convince the Embassy to reverse its decision and the Israeli relative was present for the birth.

- Medicaid denied a Canarsie woman's request for payment for prescription sunglasses even though it does pay for reading and distance glasses. The woman was not in a position to pay for these glasses herself. We questioned the New York Medicaid office on this issue and they reversed their earlier position.

- A mother ran away from home with her two small children even though the father had been awarded custody in the divorce settlement. After considerable sleuthing, we determined that the mother was receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and found a mailing address for her. The result was that the children were reunited with the father.

- A Far Rockaway man scheduled a wedding for his daughter with an Israeli who was still abroad. He did not realize that there would be a problem getting the groom back into the United States. We were called in six weeks before the wedding and after four hectic weeks of argument with State Department officials, the groom was admitted into the country for the nuptials with two weeks spare.

- A Georgetown man was having severe financial problems because the Veterans Administration was not sending him his monthly checks. After trying to solve the problem himself for more than a year, he came to us. Within a month a check for \$8,000 was in the mail to him for backpayments and the monthly checks were resumed.

We don't claim to be able to solve every problem that comes into our offices. But don't hesitate to contact us if you have a problem that you can't seem to solve yourself. Sometimes, we can open doors that you can't. We do have the clout of a congressional office behind us. And we show a bulldog tenacity—when we have to!

Attendance Record

I am particularly proud of my voting record in Congress on recorded votes since 1975. The official tally clerk of the House of Representatives reported that I was present on 90.7% of the nearly 2000 recorded votes which took place from January 1975 through December 1977. The following chart illustrates my yearly attendance record:

YEAR	RECORDED VOTES	VOTED
1975	612	91.9%
1976	661	87.9%
1977	706	92.2%
TOTAL	1979	90.7%

Questionnaire Results

Earlier this year I sent a questionnaire with eleven questions throughout the District to help me understand your concerns and feelings on international, national, city-wide, and neighborhood problems and issues. I was extremely gratified when more than four thousand people took the time to complete the questionnaire and return it to my office. The complete results of the questionnaire are as follows:

QUESTION—Do you favor . . .	Favor	Oppose
(1) A national Health Insurance program which provides maternal and child health care at no cost to all pregnant women and children, paid for out of tax funds?	41	59
(2) Federal takeover of welfare costs from the cities and states?	94	7
(3) Mandatory prison terms for violent crimes?	97	3
(4) Capital punishment for murder or for kidnaping and terrorist activity resulting in death?	89	11
(5) The establishment of a federal Consumer Protection Agency?	82	18
(6) Reducing the business tax deduction for expenses and entertainment, such as the so-called "three martini lunch", even though this could cost jobs and a tax loss to New York City?	52	48
(7) Construction of the B-1 bomber?	41	59
(8) Making counseling and education on family life and family planning available for all American women, in their childbearing years, including teenagers?	82	18
(9) Deregulation of natural gas prices in order to encourage production of oil and gas and thus reduce our dependency on Arab oil?	64	36
(10) Tax relief (credits or deductions) for parents paying tuition at private schools, colleges, or graduate schools?	70	30
(11) Passage of President Carter's Panama Canal which would allow Panama to assume control of the Canal in the year 2000?	49	51

Domestic Issues

Minimum Wage, Tuition Tax Credit, Mandatory Retirement

Since 1968 we in Congress have been frustrated at the inability of Congress and the federal government as a whole to be more responsive to the needs of the American people. Yet, the negative attitude of the past two Republican administrations towards enlightened social policies here at home shattered any hope we had of legislating constructive programs.

Both Msrs. Ford and Nixon exercised their veto power to demonstrate traditional Republican adherence to the familiar conservative principles of favoritism towards big business, disregard for the unemployed and the working man's family, and low priority to America's social and environmental needs. There was little cooperation between the Congress and these two Presidents.

Although some columnists have criticized the first year of the Carter Administration, I'd have to side with Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill, who visited our Gateway District two years ago, in calling 1977 an extremely productive legislative year. Aside from congressional accomplishments on health discussed on page one of this newsletter, significant advances were made on the domestic front in other areas:

- **Minimum Wage:** Congress enacted an increase in the minimum wage to enable the lowest paid workers in our country to recover from, and keep pace with, inflation. The minimum wage increased to \$2.65/hour on January 1, 1978, increasing the annual earnings of 4.5 million workers by \$2.2 billion. The hourly rate will rise to \$2.90 in 1979, \$3.10 in 1980, and \$3.35 in 1981.

- **Mandatory Retirement:** Congress implemented wholesale changes in the mandatory retirement laws in this country this year. All mandatory retirement requirements have been struck from civil service regulations. And, in the private sector, employers cannot require retirement prior to age 70 instead of the old age of 65 which had prevailed for half a century. These changes will enable senior citizens, who have given so much to their jobs over the years, to continue their work until age 70 at least.

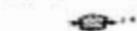
- **Tuition Tax Relief:** Many members of Congress have spent a great deal of time working on various proposals to provide tax relief in the form of credits or deductions to parents who pay tuition for their kids to go to private schools, colleges, graduate schools, or trade schools. We in the House successfully beat back an Administration proposal that would have benefitted only very poor families on the grounds that the middle income families also urgently needed help. We are pledged to continue to fight until some sort of tuition tax relief act is reported out of the Congress.

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20513

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



SYLVIA WALDER
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Congressman

JIM SCHEUER'S

REPORT FROM WASHINGTON TO HIS QUEENS NEIGHBORS



Teenage Pregnancy and Kiddicare

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

2402 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Telephone: 202 225-3471

Dear Queens Neighbor:

The past three and a half years have been among the most active in the history of the U.S. Congress. And, between the hectic legislative schedule in Washington and the demands in our Gateway District, these years have been among the most active of my almost twelve years in Congress.

For the past two years I have tried to emphasize the word "service" in my newsletters back to the District. Last year and the year before, many of you received booklets on how to prevent crime and on senior citizen services as well as a simple guide to help you in your search for reasonably priced and reliable medical care. Earlier this year, you received newsletters on consumer protection and on tips to help reduce the incidence of crime. Additionally, every household in our Gateway District received a booklet cataloging free pamphlets available from the government.

Congressmen find for themselves three quite distinct roles. First is the role of the national legislator planning, writing, and passing innovative legislation. Second is the role of catalytic agent working to bring federal resources into the Congressional District and to solve community problems. Third and finally is the role of problem solver for individuals—helping people to find their way through the bureaucratic maze of our government.

In many ways, this third role is the most important. Sometimes the bureaucracy is agonizingly slow and incredibly frustrating for even those of us with a great deal of experience dealing with government. Among the more satisfying things we do is grease the wheels of the bureaucracy and, when necessary, knock some heads together to get things done for individuals.

At this time, as the work of the 95th Congress begins to wind to a close, I thought it might be appropriate to bring to life some of the goings on in Washington and in our District. The most frequent question asked by the American voter is "where are my tax dollars going?" Hopefully, this newsletter can shed some light on that question.

In my three and a half years representing you in Washington and in New York, I have come to recognize that here at home we are all blessed with a set of elected officials as talented and dedicated as any in the country. They have all contributed Herculean efforts towards improving the quality of life in our neighborhood. It has been a pleasure to work with them.

This newsletter has been designed like a newspaper since that is basically what it is; a journal of the legislative accomplishments of the 95th Congress and the accomplishments of your elected officials in our Gateway District. Additionally, I have included the results of my questionnaire which was sent out earlier this year.

On the third page of this newsletter you will find a box which I suggest you clip out and hang near your phone. It includes the names, phone numbers, and addresses of every elected official within the 11th Congressional District.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me either at home or at my office if you have a problem of any kind. My staff and I will do everything we can to assist you.

With every warm best wish,

Yours,

JAMES H. SCHEUER, M.C.

Major Health Issues

I am particularly interested in issues concerning health and serve on the House Health Subcommittee. My interests in health do have particular local significance since it was my contacts in Washington and Albany that eased the way for the St. Johns Episcopal Hospital to take over South Shore Hospital in Far Rockaway, after its abandonment by Long Island Jewish Hospital in 1976.

The Administration has proposed a program to deal with the rash of illegitimate teenage births. There are more than four million sexually active teenage girls in the United States. Only two million of them receive any family planning services at all. In 1976 more than one million teenage girls became pregnant and there were more than 600,000 births to teenage girls. Two thirds of the pregnancies were unwanted and one third of the births were illegitimate. Working in my joint capacity as a member of the Health Subcommittee and as Chairman of the Congressional Committee on Population, I played a key role in Congress' consideration of the Administration plan.

After a major initiative by the Health Subcommittee, the Congress passed and the President signed a bill to crack down on Medicaid fraud and abuse in the United States. Such fraud costs the American taxpayer more than \$1.5 billion annually.

A major section of that bill included an amendment conceived and authored by me. Under the Scheuer Amendment the federal government will pick up 90% of the cost of state-wide Medicaid fraud units with the power to investigate and prosecute Medicare and Medicaid offenders. This amendment was modeled after our own New York State program on Medicaid abuse.

However, my major health brainchild remains a bill entitled The Maternal and Child Health Act, on which I have been working for more than two years. Essentially, the philosophy of this bill is that mothers and children should be covered by the federal government as our next step towards full-blown national health insurance. First, the federal government took care of the elderly (Medicare), then they covered the poor (Medicaid), and now we must move on to mothers and children (Kiddicare). The bill provides for free health care to all mothers and children paid for out of federal tax revenues.

Committee Assignments and Chairmanships

I am delighted with the committees and subcommittees to which I've been appointed, and with the opportunities they provide for affecting events internationally, nationally, and in our own Gateway Congressional District. I currently serve as Chairman of the newly formed Congressional Committee on Population, Chairman of a Science and Technology Subcommittee, and as a member of the prestigious Health Subcommittee of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

One of the crowning achievements of the 95th Congress was the formation of a Select Committee on Population, a proposal I had long advocated. Last fall, the House overwhelmingly passed a resolution I sponsored to establish this Select Committee and Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill, who visited our Gateway District two years ago, appointed me its first chairman.

The new Congressional Committee has jurisdiction over all population related issues domestically and internationally including the causes and consequences of the population explosion in the

developing world, the causes and consequences of the epidemic of illegitimate teenage births in the United States, and the ramifications of illegal immigration. Already we have held thirteen weeks of hearings on these and other issues making us one of the most active committees in the Congress.

My chairmanship of the Science and Technology Subcommittee makes me one of only a handful of Congressmen with two committee chairmanships. Already during the 95th Congress I have held hearings in this subcommittee on two issues of importance to our Gateway District.

First, with the assistance of my colleagues in public office in Brooklyn—Assemblyman Stanley Fink, State Senator Howie Babbush, and City Councilman Herbie Berman—I chaired hearings on the innovative computer education program being used in School District 18 in Canarsie. Harvey Garner, the District's Superintendent, was the leadoff witness of these hearings.

Second, I chaired a week of hearings in New York on violent crime where Assemblyman Stanley Fink was the leadoff witness. We heard that only 20% of the criminals commit 80% of the violent crimes in New York and that therefore the key to controlling violent crime is to crack down on repeat offenders—or "career criminals" as they are called.

The Queens Wrap-up: A Good Deal of Progress

Rosedale—Progress on Hook Creek

Finally, after three years of hard work, we appear to be within reach of a settlement of the Hook Creek issue. George McCracken, Donald Manes, and I have worked together to sort through a labyrinthine maze of bureaucratic red tape to solve the drainage problem which has made Hook Creek Boulevard in Rosedale impassable since 1970.

In May of 1975, I was informed by the City that a temporary solution for the Hook Creek problem had been reached. This plan, which George and I developed with John Zuccotti, Planning Commission Chairman, was to install temporary drains and repave the road at approximately 18 inches above its present level. The ultimate solution was for the City to purchase an easement into Hook Creek and develop a permanent drain for the road.

Ultimately, George was able to prevail upon one of the landowners, whose property was situated between the road and the creek, to consider giving the City a permanent easement for the drainage pipe. Throughout all of 1976 we tried to arbitrate negotiations between the landowner and the City, but we were never able to resolve, to the City's satisfaction, the conditions which the landowner placed on his gift of easement.

Just as this deal fell through, we found another landowner who appeared willing to grant the City an easement across his land within the bed of a mapped, but unacquired, City Street. Unbelievably, on the very day he was to sign the easement, this landowner received notice from the City that he was in violation of City regulations for placing fill dirt on parts of his land. On March 9, 1977, despite our arguments that the easement was in the best interests of the community, this landowner too withdrew his offer.

On May 31, 1977 I convened another meeting with the City and the second landowner. Once again, the landowner agreed to give an easement to the City. My staff was in daily contact with the landowner who finally signed and delivered the easement on July 1, 1977.

Now, however, there is a long bureaucratic process mandated by City regulations before the City can accept the gift of the easement. There must be Community Planning Board, City Planning Commission, and Board of Estimate approval of the transaction. This process can take up to 18 months but George and I have been assured that some attempts will be made to expedite the process.

Although we wouldn't want to applaud the laying of the drainage pipe until it happens, we think it's fair to say that this is one battle we've been able to win! But what a 3 1/2 year hassle we've been through! Unbelievable!



I am always pleased when constituents drop in and see me when they come to Washington, especially when they're kids! Pictured above is a group of Rosedale Third Graders who took some time to talk with me in my office about national and local issues.

Neighborhood Notes

Because of space limitations, I have been able to give only a sampling of the activities of our district office and of the offices of the other elected officials in our Gateway District. The following are jottings on some of the other projects in which we have been involved together for the past year or two:

ROCKAWAY (with the community leadership team: Walter Ward, Helen Leonescu, Gerdi Lipschutz, and Sy Sheldon):

- obtained goal posts for Rockaway Rugby club at Riss Park
- eliminated the double fare for MTA riders to the peninsula
- arranged for the demolition of more than 50 buildings throughout the Rockaways
- rebuilt a sewer at 9th Road and Broad Channel Drive in Broad Channel

- obtained permission for 800 Far Rockaway sea cadets to drill at the Fort Tilden barracks.

- obtained a \$127,606 Anti-Crime LEAA grant from the federal government for the Hartman Y.

LAURELTON (with the community leadership team: Jay Steingold, Al Grant, Archie Spigner and Rose Halperin):

- arranged for 30 kids to work in public service jobs throughout Laurelton in 1977
- obtained a \$12,000 grant for a community drug program run by Lois Samuels
- arranged with the New York State Savings and Loan Association to help formulate a long term program on mortgage financing for home purchases in Laurelton
- pressed for the repaving of Merrick Blvd
- had traffic lights installed at Francis Lewis Blvd. and 138th Avenue and at Francis Lewis Blvd. and 137th Avenue.

Howard Beach: Frank Charles Memorial Park

Frank Charles Memorial Park is one of the prime recreational areas within our Gateway District. Nestled in the community of Howard Beach, the park has been in severe need of renovation for the past three years. Working together, Walter Ward and I were able to help push along renovations in this park.

At the writing of this newsletter, the park was scheduled to undergo a three stage renovation process:

- First, the tennis courts were to be completely resurfaced and new lighting was to be installed. This phase was completed in 1976.
- Second, the three ballfields and fences surrounding the ballfields were to be totally rebuilt at a cost of more than \$150,000. This phase was completed in November, 1977.
- Third, the picnic area is scheduled to be completely renovated. Hopefully, this phase will soon be completed.

The SST: Fighting for Less Noise

November 22, 1977 marked a turning point in our community fight against aircraft noise. On the 22nd, the first supersonic plane to land at Kennedy International Airport touched down.

This landing marked the end of a three year fight against Concorde by literally thousands of people in our Gateway District. Virtually every public official joined in this fight in some way—Gerdi Lipschutz, Walter Ward, Rose Halperin, and Archie Spigner were among the most vocal.

Now, the leaders of our community and the people in the community must work together to achieve significant noise reductions for our Kennedy community. The Concorde fight focused our attention on this horrendous noise problem. Two separate Department of Transportation studies indicated that Kennedy has one of the three worst noise problems in the country—only Chicago and Los Angeles can compete with the Kennedy area noise problem.

What is required now is a comprehensive noise abatement program for Kennedy. I have been working on such a program which has the following components:

(1) Strict adherence to the too generous federal timetable for compliance with FAR-36 (the Federal government's new stricter noise standards). One thing we in Congress have found is that FAR-36 is not the final solution to aircraft noise—planes meeting their noise standards are still quite noisy. However, this is a necessary first step.

(2) On the federal level, we have been working on a bill to help finance the retrofitting and re-engining necessary for the airlines to comply with FAR-36. I personally prefer the more expensive route of re-engining since it results in quieter airplanes. However, the bill as currently drafted allows either retrofit or re-engining.

(3) The establishment of a Community Noise Abatement Board made up of members of the Kennedy community, noise and aviation experts, and representatives of the Port Authority. This Board would work towards formulating additional noise rules for Kennedy airport including:

- a) the implementation of specially tested flight procedures currently being used regularly by Northwest Airlines.
- b) the development and installation of a more comprehensive monitoring program for the Kennedy area.

All of your public officials have cooperated in the development of this preliminary noise abatement plan and Walter Ward has been particularly helpful. We'll let you know as this proposal becomes more firm. In the meantime, we'd like to hear your thoughts on the plan.

In an Emergency . . .

P.S. In case of any family or personal emergency, please don't hesitate to contact me at home. My home phone numbers are:

- in Washington, during the week when Congress is in session (202) 966-8388.
- in New York, on weekends when Congress is not in session 634-1575.

*Independent Citizens
Committee To Elect Hahn*

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