

TIMOTHY P. KNIGHT, Publisher

RITA GIOLLI Editor of the Editorial Pages

ALLEEN BARBER Deputy Editor

do the ave LI?

detail on why firms ncil seeks answers

meeting of economic development
k, and it made so much sense that
onal Planning Council acted on it
eting ended. If only Long Island
e time.

I called the meeting in response to
for our region: the announcement
hat it is leaving for Westchester
yone's world, because OSI is the
afford to lose: homegrown, high-
to create more jobs.

as concern about OSI, but also a
al example of why firms leave us.
ul of the State Legislature, among
akes most companies go?

roperty taxes, high energy costs
1 of governance. But we could use
me at the meeting made the smart
g council's sustainability study of
that question in depth.

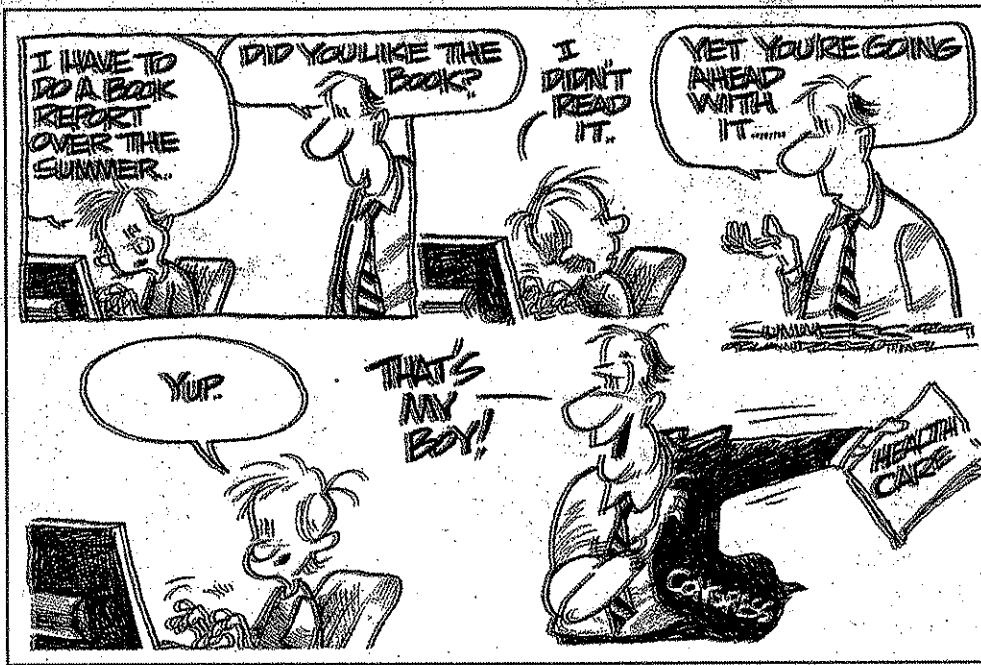
1 the final stages of describing the
study of Long Island through 2035.
ns, and the study will indeed look
leave. Let's hope it finds ways to
omic survival is at stake.

he cars rolling

and cash-for-clunkers

conomic stimulus is to quickly get
\$ of people who will immediately
at standard, cash-for-clunkers is a
ate shouldn't leave town this week
to extend the popular program.

almost exhausted the initial \$1 bil-
torists an incentive of up to \$4,500
olluting clunkers and buy higher-
ling the sale of 250,000 vehicles in
les to their highest level in nearly a
ter to a halt unless the Senate acts.
ditional \$2 billion for the program
its August recess. In Washington
ey." The House shifted the \$2 bil-
uarantee program that was funded
ing is tougher in the Senate, where
gram and others want to tweak it,
eater gain in fuel efficiency.
aged 15.8 mpg while those bought
d improvement. If the Senate tinkers
d likely lapse until the House re-
visions, and new regulations are



ORLANDO SENTINEL / DANA SUMMERS

LETTERS

Limit cash awards in medical suits

One of the best ways to handle the health care crisis is for President Barack Obama to ask Congress to establish monetary caps on damages in lawsuits brought by the public or corporations against anyone in the medical and drug and related fields. Regulating excessive cash settlements in lawsuits will result in lowering the costs for doctors, drugs, medicines, hospitals and other medical technician services. That will certainly reduce health care costs.

Jack Muratore
Commack

Hospital-insurer tiff risks huge costs later

While Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield fights over payments with local hospitals, those of us on the East End with Empire plans are shut off from the use of Eastern Long Island Hospital in Greenport, Southampton Hospital and Peconic Bay Medical Center.

What will happen when an Empire patient dies en route to a hospital more than

feud? I suspect that both the hospitals and Empire will be liable in a jury case for such a death, and they will both be paying huge amounts to the patient's family.

Bob Fredericks
Shelter Island Heights

Murder is murder

By focusing on Eber Lopez's immigration status, Michael Colleary implies that our community should care less about the murder of an undocumented teenager than that of a more established resident ["Murder victim was in the U.S. illegally," Letters, July 30]. But murder is wrong regardless of a victim's skin color, background or immigration status.

Colleary also says that "illegal immigrants cost Long Islanders," but that's just not true. According to a report by Adelphi University, in 2006, immigrants contributed roughly \$2.13 billion in taxes and other government revenues, while costing Nassau and Suffolk governments about \$1.06 billion. That's a net gain of \$1.07 billion.

Maryann Sinclair Slutsky
Port Washington

Home care's edge

It appears that Howard Fensterman ["How will we spend the end of our lives?" Opinions, July 24] does not understand home care. These agencies provide professional and paraprofessional services, including home health aides, skilled nurses, therapists and social workers. Certified agencies are held to rigorous standards.

With day programs for socialization, in-home emergency response systems and cutting-edge disease-management technology, home care is equipped to provide appropriate care to patients in a setting conducive to health and well-being.

Orael M. Keenan
Garden City

Editor's note: The writer is CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association of Long Island.

NEWSDAY WELCOMES LETTERS

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