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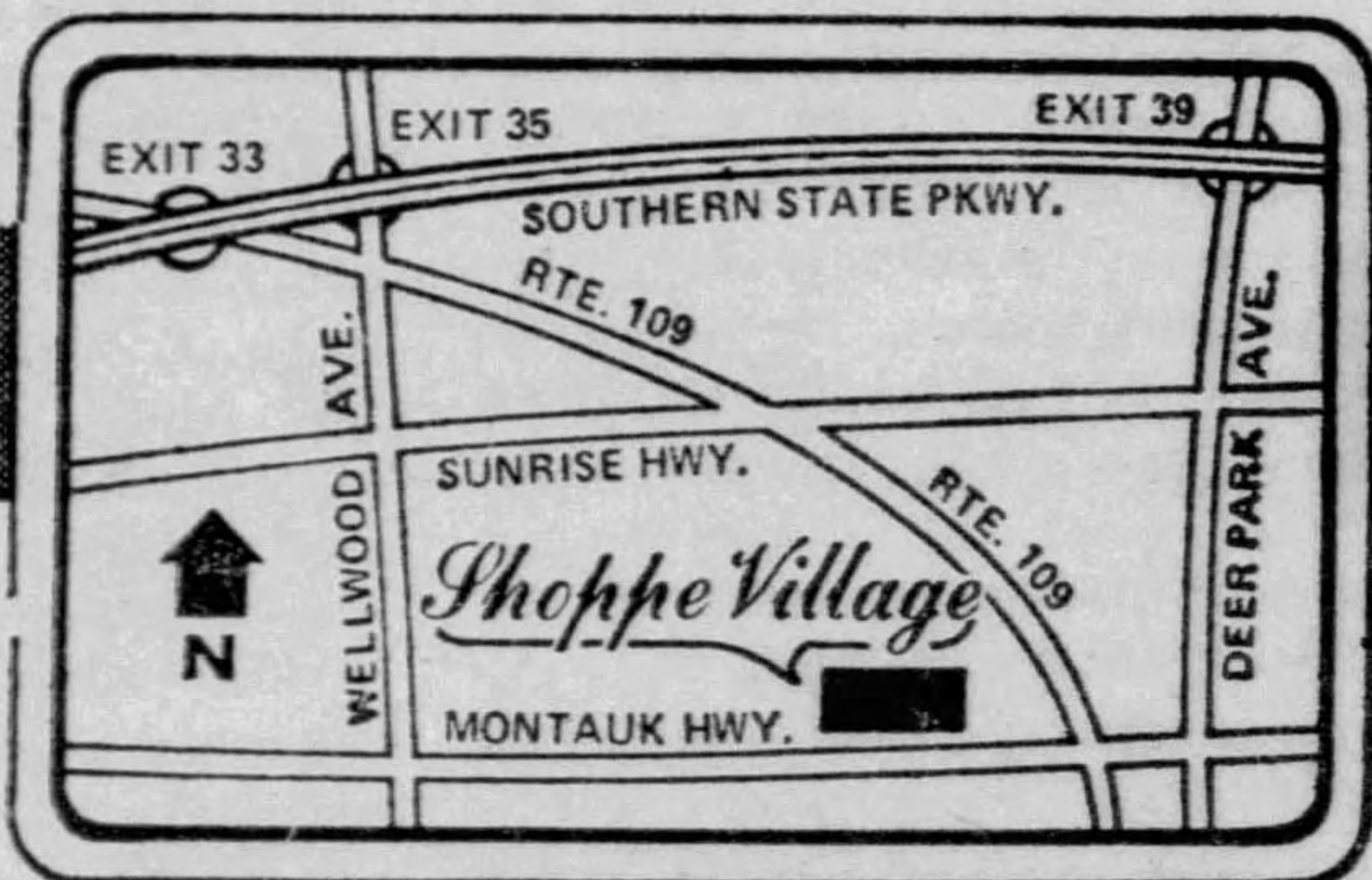
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## Dining Out

Looking for a good restaurant on Long Island? Check "Dining Out," by Newsday food editor Barbara Rader, every Sunday in the full-color LI Magazine.

**Sunday Newsday**

## OTB Abandons Plans For Farmingdale Office

By Sneryl Fitzgerald

Hempstead—Farmingdale residents scored a delayed victory yesterday when Nassau's Off Track Betting Corp. dropped its plans for a betting office at 22 Hempstead Tpke., although OTB officials said the decision was not prompted by community opposition.

The location, next to the tavern, Poor Peter's, Farmingdale, was proposed as an OTB branch office June 3. About three weeks later, area residents packed a Nassau County Board of Supervisors' meeting to voice opposition to the proposal. Chief among their objections were fears that increased traffic would cause congestions were fears that increased the office would attract undesirables. After a traffic study by OTB, officials agreed that a problem could arise and canceled the site.

A spokesman for Nassau OTB said most of the other arguments put forth by the residents were "ridiculous."

"The only cogent point they raised was that traffic exiting from OTB might not use Hempstead Turnpike, but would use residential streets. We also found this might add to traffic problems, but even here we are not talking about streets where children play," he said.

The spokesman said OTB would continue to look for a site in the Farmingdale area because at present Nassau residents are using OTB facilities in nearby East Farmingdale in Suffolk County.

"We think that about one-fourth of the East Farmingdale bettors are Nassau residents, and this represents revenue we sorely need," he said.

Suffolk County OTB officials said they are not concerned about competition from Nassau County. Syd Askoff, president and executive director of Suffolk OTB, said any revenue decreases in Suffolk County because of Nassau's Farmingdale operation would be "very minimal."

"The prospect of Nassau opening an office in Farmingdale never presented a serious economic threat," Askoff said. "We never inspected the proposed site or studied it. People who bet with us from Nassau say they'll keep coming because the office is lucky."

Askoff said revenue from the East Farmingdale location has been about \$32,000 daily but has been decreasing. OTB offices in Nassau average \$17,000 a day in betting receipts.

"Unfortunately," the Nassau OTB spokesman said, "People envision OTB offices like those in Penn Station or Times Square. Our offices are spotless, we have attendants and we don't encourage loitering. Most of our bettors are respectable average citizens."

## No Verdict a Third Time

Mineola—For the third time this year, a Nassau County Court jury has reported itself unable to reach a verdict on charges of grand larceny and possession of stolen property against Michael Franzese, a stepson of imprisoned crime figure John (Sonny) Franzese.

Franzese, 24, was arrested in December for allegedly forcing a mechanic employed by him at a West Hempstead car rental agency to turn over his car to Franzese as punishment for taking a \$2,500 fur coat. The mechanic said he knew nothing about the coat.

Yesterday afternoon, after a day and a half of deliberation, a jury of nine men and three women told Judge Henderson W. Morrison they could not reach a verdict in the trial that had started Monday. Morrison dismissed the jury and scheduled Nov. 14 as a new trial date, denying a motion by defense counsel Michael Pollack to dismiss the indictment.

However, there was indication that Franzese's legal ordeal might be ended by District Attorney Denis Dillon, who issued a statement saying, "We are reviewing the matter now to determine whether or not, after three trials, we should move to dismiss in the interest of justice. A decision will be made shortly."

Franzese, of 47 Shrub Hollow Rd., Searingtown, has said he had to abandon hopes of entering medical school after finishing at Hofstra University last spring because of legal fees and the time involved in court appearances.

## Candidates' Calendar

From now until Election Day, Newsday will list the public appearances of candidates. Here is tomorrow's schedule:

### TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

Matthew J. Bonora (D) and Francis T. Purcell (R-C), candidates for presiding supervisor, will participate in a television debate, WABC-TV Channel 7, 3:30 PM.