

An exciting career in politics can be yours

Have you ever wondered how people in elected positions survive working their way up the political ladder in a world so philosophically divided?

This fascinating question demanded the skills of our most experienced researchers to find a comprehensive answer. As expected, they uncovered the amazing information you need to pursue a lucrative career as an up-and-coming political candidate.

A surprising fact: succeeding in the political arena is not that difficult if you are willing to accept that accountability is an occupational hazard. Once you learn to work your way around that little glitch in the trade, the rest is relatively easy.



You can't beat a system you can't understand

By Sam Bari

Next, it is most important to learn how to use and create buzzwords and terms that make constituents on all sides of the complex maze of political fences feel confident that you are satisfying their agenda. This can sometimes be tricky. Trendy words, phrases, and clichés have limited lifespans because people will eventu-

ally figure out what they really mean. So, it is important to get the most out of them by using each catch phrase as often as possible during speeches and when talking to the dreaded media.

You can find an example of this technique in the following promise, the likes of which you have heard many times: "We are aggressively pursuing an efficient and timely solution to (insert cause, issue, crisis, etc. here) with unrelenting resolve." Translated, this means: "We are determined to dedicate the least amount of time and energy necessary to put this annoying matter to rest, but we will continue to appear as if we are committed by mindlessly spending your money, at least

until the media focuses on something else."

Notice how the wording does indeed commit to a promise of a mythical solution to some unspecified problem. However, nowhere does it offer an actual plan, let alone a viable strategy with a realistic timetable for accomplishing the task.

"Aggressively pursuing" and "with resolve" of any description are tired, worn-out, overworked idiomatic phrases that are mercifully seeing less time in useless political jargon. Lamentably, other equally smarmy and slippery studies in blatant ambiguity are replacing these gems of political lack of wisdom.

Another meaningless phrase that survived with variations for a few years, but is long overdue for retirement, concerns somebody

doing something that went "under the radar," or "off the screen." These are techno-terms used to take the place of "fell through the cracks." Translated, they mean: "We got by with something and it's too late for you to do anything about it. In other words, we put one over on you."

A phrase that is currently enjoying the spotlight and will probably do so for quite some time because it offers a broad spectrum of interpretation is the word "flexible." When a politician says: "We must be flexible," or asks, "Can we be flexible?" on a certain issue, budget, interpretation of legislation, imposing of a prison sentence, etc., what do they really mean? They mean everything from: "Can we consider

See "Sam Bari" on next page



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SERIOUS SAFETY CONCERNS **REGARDING RECENT WILDLIFE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Opening up town-owned land to hunting. Statutes govern that a gun cannot be discharged less than 500 feet from any building, shed, or barn; a bow and arrow 200 feet. Also guns cannot be discharged along any roads. We believe that there are very few areas that meet these criteria. More importantly, how will these laws be enforced on town land? Property owners that abut town-owned land should be very concerned about this as it is a real safety issue. The Wildlife Committee stated that no other town in Rhode Island has opened up town-owned land to hunting. Multi-use areas such as Great Swamp and Arcadia are state owned. Accidents do happen, as so enthusiastically covered in the recent media. Those near the reservoirs should attend the next Town Council meeting March 13th to see how the Council will enforce these restrictions if they decide to open up town land to hunting.

Change the current firearms allowed to rifled barrels on shotguns. At the Wildlife Committee Workshop last week no one could answer just how far bullets from these guns could travel. This information is vital before making any type of decision that could impact someone's safety. The public should be provided with all the facts before the Council passes this recommendation.

Last week's meeting disclosed that 25 deer were hunted illegally. Passing these Wildlife Committee recommendations will encourage more non-resident hunters to the island. This can bring a host of problems experienced recently by Nantucket when they opened up their island for hunting, such as trespassing and disregard for firearms laws.

Regarding Lyme Disease, the experts state the deer herd would have to be reduced by 2/3 of what it is now and kept to that number for 3 years before any significant number of ticks were to be eliminated. Hunting will not reduce the numbers of deer necessary to do this. The deer surveys have shown that the deer herds are not greatest on the town land areas that are being suggested for hunting (reservoirs). (In fact, several areas where the deer are most densely populated are on private land areas and are areas to explore immuno-contraception.) Thus, hunting there will be an ineffective method of reducing the deer population.

The majority of the Wildlife Committee recommendations were hunting related, which they hope offers a quick solution. We believe there are humane and effective alternatives for the residents of Jamestown. Those with gardens could use deer repellents, homeowners could plant the shrubs that deer dislike to discourage their visits, we can all learn about ways to reduce the number of ticks in our yards and to incorporate prevention measures to reduce the incidence of Lyme disease (see our website for information on all of these suggestions). Immuno-contraception could at least be explored as a long-term possibility for some of the growing herds. Finally, what about learning to live with the deer? Peacefully coexisting with each other is a solution that demonstrates tolerance and that's not a bad thing. Expanding Jamestown's hunting access is not the answer.

The preceding is the view of
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