

It's your opinion

Willowbrook staff maintained order

On Sept. 8, an article appeared in the Advance which was headlined, "Willowbrook Shift: Confusion, Chaos and Rumor." That article contains so many untruths as to make its text fictional.

It is unlikely that so complicated a transfer of responsibility as this has ever occurred before in so short a time. Despite this, all staff had been notified of any changes in function which were attributable to the transfer. There was little evidence of staff unrest: No wards were desperately understaffed; programs were functioning as usual.

These statements are based on observations of the Willowbrook administrative staff, as well as those of Associate Commissioner Barbara Blum, who was at Willowbrook on Sept. 6 and 8. . .

Your cooperation in creating more accurate and responsible coverage will be beneficial, we are sure, to our clients, the community and your newspaper.

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(The writer is deputy commissioner of the State Division of Mental Retardation.)