

# It's your opinion

## **Carey must respond to community needs**

Since July of 1979, the Grasmere Homeowners Association and the Dongan Hills United Civic Association have been involved in an effort to prove that a ruling by the commissioner of the state office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities to locate group homes at 630 Hylan Blvd. and 158 Cromwell Ave. has been arbitrary and capricious. This case has now been transferred by Supreme Court Justice Charles R. Rubin to the Appellate Division, where it is continuing.

Recently the state Senate has approved and indications are that the Assembly may overwhelmingly approve legislation sponsored by Sen. Marchi, creating a state siting board to rule on applications for health facilities, adult homes, youth centers and group homes



**Hugh Carey**

for the mentally disturbed. We applaud this action and support this legislation...

We have never opposed the idea of group homes per se, although many of us feel that a properly constructed facility with properly trained and dedicated personnel would provide safer and more beneficial care for patients. What we do oppose however, is that Staten Island should be subject to a saturation of community facilities and the "dumping" on us of facilities of this kind including the Danube Nursing Home, etc. which is far out of proportion with those in other areas of the city and state...

There is every indication that Gov. Carey will veto this legislation. This is not surprising since the reversal of his stand concerning other issues vital to our needs is well documented. This merely highlights his refusal to decide these matters on their merit and his disdain for the community's ability to fairly provide for its needs and responsibilities. We urge him to think hard and long on this matter.

**FRANK P. NINIVAGGI,**  
President,

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