

the North Shore Sun

Chairman hoping CAP catches on

To the Editor:

You did a super job writing about the Rocky Point Career Advisory Partnership ("Busy CAP looks to cap its big first year," The Sun, March 4). People reading your article in other school districts that were not aware of this valuable Long Island Works partnership program now may consider bringing it to their hometown schools.

The students and educators at Rocky Point High School and over 70 other Long Island schools involved in the LI Works program have access to thousands of Long Island businesses — landscapers, computer companies, banks, law firms, doctors offices, builders, colleges and more. An endless list of business resources to tap for educational purposes.

In my opinion, the main reason LI Works was formed — and the business community of Long Island is receptive to the program — is to save our most valuable resource from being exported off Long Island, our "future workforce." There are fantastic jobs available here on Long Island, now and well into the future.

With the high cost of living here, students are seeking job opportunities elsewhere after leaving high school or continued education. Educators, school districts and businesspeople involved in the program have a superhighway of workforce resources, offering students year-round career options. If a Long Island student's first choice is to live, work and play at home, it is now realistic — and the program can put a halt to the exportation of our future workforce.

The LI Works program is larger than the CDM Chamber of Commerce. Our area has an active, locally involved business community. By working hand-in-hand with area civics, social organizations, educators, businesspeople and residents, the Rocky Point CAP has come to life. These first few steps are just the beginning to a truly great educational experience for all involved in the program, from students and educators to businesspersons and residents. We're building a strong, economically sound Long Island for all, well into the future.

The CDM Chamber of Commerce membership, the industrial and educational chairs of the Rocky Point CAP and committee leaders extend our warmest and sincerest thank you to all the educators, businesspeople and residents who volunteer their time, resources and life experiences for their fantastic contribution being made to our youth.

Michael Poveromo

Executive director, Council of Dedicated Merchants

- The writer is the industrial chairman of the Rocky Point High School Career Advisory Partnership. The CDM is the chamber of commerce serving Mt. Sinai, Miller Place, Sound Beach and Rocky Point.