

# EDITORIAL

## HUNTINGTON'S ZOMBIE TOWN GOVERNMENT

### SOMETIMES COMPARISONS CAN BE USEFUL.

In Huntington, the Town government under lame-duck Supervisor Frank Petrone (D) has been inert and comatose for years. In 2013, when last facing re-election, Petrone and his running-mate Tracy Edwards scurried around, loudly touting their "plans" to open a much-needed downtown boutique Hotel using the historic Old Town Hall on 25A - a structure on the National Register of Historic Places - as its frontpiece.

Suffolk County gave \$3 million in tax waivers. The Town of Huntington announced zoning waivers to allow the use of the historic public building. Tenants in nearby buildings were evicted, including - how coincidentally - the Treasurer for Petrone's 2013 election opponent, Councilman Gene Cook. And Petrone and Edwards' public relations teams worked overtime to convince and hoodwink voters.

Four years later... Nothing... The Old Town Hall is now a dilapidated ruin. An eyesore in downtown. With rat traps and uncut brush and fallen branches and wild rampant vines. A mess. Apparently Petrone and Edwards' developer ally now wants rental apartments on the site instead, so the property sits vacant and deteriorates.

And from Petrone and Edwards in the Town government? Nothing but awkward silence. See no evil. Hear no evil. Speak no evil. And do absolutely nothing.

Compare that to the actions of Glen Cove Mayor Reggie Spinello (I-R) also elected four years ago: The polluted industrial wasteland along the Glen Cove Creek is already rezoned and being redeveloped - with \$1 billion in private money - into the Garvies Point luxury community. A new Ferry Terminal has already opened and is providing daily service to Manhattan. And the vacant downtown Piazza is being demolished and redeveloped - with the City voting for eminent domain to speed the process. Thanks to Spinello's initiatives, Glen Cove's property values are rising fast.

Nothing like that in Huntington, where the downtown parking crisis has been ignored for decades, so no one can find parking on Friday nights. And good proposals - like the Old Town Hall Hotel - are discarded like so much public relations nonsense.

It's time for a big change of government in Huntington.

*The Publisher*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: We encourage our readers to express their view regardless of opinion, through the Letters to the Editor column. Letters published represent the viewpoint of our readers. *They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Leader* and, in fact, may be of opposite viewpoint. Letters should be typed and mailed or emailed to the editor's attention. Letters will be edited for length, clarity and accuracy. All letters should be signed and contain author's address and telephone number for verification. Although it is discouraged, we will withhold an author's name if the subject matter is sensitive or the writer may be subject to intimidation or harassment. Letters that contain accusations or important "facts" must demonstrate knowledge in the area described or show evidence for their writing. *The Leader* will not return letters and reserves the right to publish them at a later time or not at all, due to lack of space or editor's discretion.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*The Leader* has received several unsigned letters to the editor. We will respect an author's request for anonymity, but must have your name, address, and phone number. We want to hear from you and publish your opinions, so in the future, kindly include the above requested information.

### OPPOSE THE CROSS SOUND BRIDGE OR TUNNEL

To the Editor,

Recently, the Town Board and I united with local Village Mayors, County Legislators, our State Assemblyman and Friends of the Bay to urge New York State to abandon any plan to construct a bridge or tunnel across the Long Island Sound. Together, we praised the Federal Railroad Administration for withholding funds for a Cross-Sound Rail project and for recognizing that the project was wrong for our region. While it was great news for residents of the North Shore and the Town at large, we still remain concerned that New York State will continue its path toward building a Cross-Sound bridge or tunnel. I will do everything in my power to oppose a bridge or tunnel!

Let's face it; the Federal Railroad Administration got it right! A Cross-Sound Rail makes no sense whatsoever. Not only would it ruin the character of local communities and our quality of life, but it would threaten our environment and our shoreline. The costs far outweigh the benefit. New York State must now follow suit and end their dream of a Cross-Sound bridge or tunnel, as in fact their dream is actually a nightmare.

New York State has spent \$5 million to study the concept. It is a blatant waste of taxpayer dollars to study an idea that has already been proven to be unacceptable and which makes no sense for the area. I don't need to see the results of the study to know that any project of this kind could destroy the fabric of the Town's suburban North Shore, ruin our communities and cause permanent and irreparable damage to the area's cherished eco-system.

I ask you to join me on this issue by signing this online petition (petition available online at: <https://www.change.org/p/oppose-the-cross-sound-bridge-or-tunnel/fbog/5876672> or by visiting [change.org](http://change.org) and typing NO BRIDGE TUNNEL in the search bar). There is strength in numbers and adding your voice to this important effort will go a long way to ensuring that a Cross-Sound bridge or tunnel will never be constructed.

Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor  
Joseph Saladino

### Yes, I want *The Leader*.

Print Edition (Includes access to online edition)

\$40/One Year \_\_\_\_\_ \$65/Two Years \_\_\_\_\_

Online Edition Only

\$24/One Year \_\_\_\_\_ \$45/Two Years \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check or money order made payable to: **The Leader.**

Mail to: **The Leader Subscriptions** P.O. Box 468, Locust Valley, NY 11560,

call 516-676-1434 or fax to: 516-676-1414 or

E-mail: [subscriptions@theleaderonline.com](mailto:subscriptions@theleaderonline.com).

We also accept VISA or MasterCard. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

CVC Code (on back): \_\_\_\_\_ Visa / MasterCard (circle one)

Expires \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

via Lally Communications, Inc.



FOR ONLINE SUBSCRIBERS:

After your subscription has been processed, you will be notified via email with your online access ID and password.

## Leader Stations

Stop by these stores to pick up your copy of *The Leader*.

**BAYVILLE**  
Twin Harbor Pharmacy  
Marty's Party  
Bayville Pharmacy  
Oak Neck Deli

**GLEN COVE**  
Henry's  
Lou's Deli  
Glen Cove Stop n' Shop  
Charlie's Deli  
Forest Avenue 7-11  
Shanti Maa  
Polish Deli

**GLEN HEAD**  
Glen Head Deli  
Glen Head Pharmacy  
Tobacco King

**OYSTER BAY**  
OB Stop n' Shop  
Verrelli's

**EAST NORWICH**  
East Norwich Deli

**COLD SPRING HARBOR**  
Gourmet Whaler  
Cold Spring Plaza Deli

**LOCUST VALLEY**  
Country Plaza Deli  
Locust Valley Deli  
Locust Valley Bagel  
LV Convenience Store  
Locust Valley Market

**HUNTINGTON**  
One Stop  
Quick Stop  
TK's Galley  
Toast  
Jim Dandy  
Double S Deli

*The North Shore*  
**Leader**

TEL: 516-676-1434  
FAX: 516-676-1414  
[news@theleaderonline.com](mailto:news@theleaderonline.com)

Lally Communications, Inc.  
Publisher

<b>L. CODY</b> <i>Editor</i>	<b>PATRICIA BREXEL</b> <i>Art Director</i>	<b>CHRISTINE LORING</b> <i>Editorial Assistant</i>	<b>SALLY BANDOW</b> <i>Director of Sales</i>	<b>NANCY DENNIS-BROWNE</b> <i>Business Associate</i>
<b>Reporter</b> VICTORIA CROSBY	<b>Reporter</b> L.C. SCULLY	<b>Reporter</b> ADAM GROHMAN	<b>Reporter</b> CHRISTINE ROBERTS	<b>Reporter</b> VICTORIA SIEGEL

Copyright© 2017 Lally Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. Material appearing herein may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed in any form. Copying part or all of the editorial or graphic arts in any machine readable form, making multiple printouts thereof or other uses of the work product contained herein is expressly prohibited and is inconsistent with all applicable copyright laws. Advertisers purchase space and circulation only. All property rights to any advertisements produced for the advertisers by Lally Communications, Inc. using art work and/or typography furnished or arranged by Lally Communications, Inc. shall be the property of Lally Communications, Inc. No such ad or any part thereof may be reproduced or assigned without the express written consent of Lally Communications, Inc. Lally Communications, Inc. assumes no financial responsibility for errors beyond the cost of the actual space occupied by the error. Entered as Periodical postage matter paid at the U.S. Post Office at Locust Valley, NY. September 12, 1946 under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription \$40 per yr. \$65 - 2 yrs. POSTMASTER: Send changes to P.O. Box 468, Locust Valley, NY 11560.