



SINCE 1838, NOBODY COVERS HUNTINGTON NEWS BETTER THAN THE LONG-ISLANDER.

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HUNTINGTON

Melius Calls For Fresh Look Into Shooting

By Peter Sloggatt

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With the recent turnover of top police brass at Suffolk County Police Department, the arrest by the feds of its chief, James Burke, on assault and conspiracy charges, and a highly publicized update on efforts to solve the Gilgo Beach murders — including a renewed relationship with FBI investigators — Gary Melius is asking, “What about me?”

It’s been nearly two years since the Oheka owner and political power broker was shot as he sat in his car outside the castle he calls home. Although he survived the botched assassination attempt after the gun jammed, preventing the shooter from getting off any more shots, Melius said he suffers lingering ef-

fects from the bullet fired at his head through the window of his Mercedes-Benz.

According to reports, the bullet struck Melius’s temple, but spared him what could have been more critical injuries. Still, vision in his left eye is compromised, and he is grounded by occasional seizures that prevent him from driving.

Melius has been healing since the Feb. 24, 2014 shooting. Gone is the halting speech seen in a video released shortly after he was released from the hospital a month after the incident. Today he walks the rooms of the castle, greeting restaurant customers and hotel guests, always ready with a joke and a laugh. But he remains haunted by the thought that somebody out there will come

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Gary Melius, pictured in a Feb. 2015 video announcing a reward fund, wants police to take a fresh look at the still unsolved attempt on his life a year earlier.

THE PARAMOUNT

SPOTLIGHT

Bob Nelson Bringing Comedy ‘Punch’ All



GREENLAWN

Southdown Owners Eye Former Waldbaum’s

By Jano Tantonco

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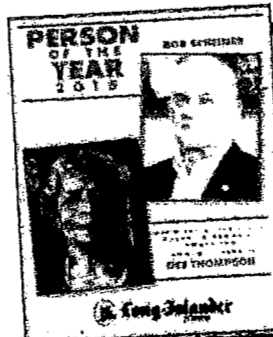
The owner of Southdown Marketplace, a local chain of grocery stores, is in talks to take over the lease of the recently defunct Waldbaum’s in Greenlawn Plaza. The deal would bring back a much-needed grocery store for nearby residents, including seniors at Paumanack Village.

The shuttering of Waldbaum’s last month is one of many cases that have left residents in the dust in the wake of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co.’s chapter 11 bankruptcy filing this past July.

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The site of the now-defunct Waldbaum’s may soon be replaced by a new grocery store from the owner of the local grocery chain, Southdown Marketplace.



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