

# CENTRAL NEW YORK ELECTION 2018

## 22nd Congressional District



Republican Congresswoman **Claudia Tenney** opposes the Downtown Utica Hospital fiasco for several reasons- with eminent domain at the forefront. If you like Trump's policies, she's your gal.



Democratic Write-In candidate **Heath Phillips**, Cortland Democratic Town Chairman, 2015 - 2017, denounces the economic & ethical wisdom of the downtown proposal. On policy issues, he's considered a "Democrat's Democrat."



Democrat **Anthony Brindisi** is the "architect" of the corrupt downtown hospital proposal. Failing to hold him accountable will have very serious local consequences stretching many years into the future. It's NOT just a single issue!

## NYS Senate, District 47



Republican Senator **Joe Grillo** is raring unopposed- testimony to local back-room deal-making between parties. The same kind of shenanigans that brought us the downtown hospital proposal, which wouldn't have seen the light of day without his collusion.



This is Independent candidate **Daffy Duck**. He is offered here as a Write-In option to send Mr. Grillo a message of protest to the kind of corruption that gave us both this unopposed contest and (as Daffy likes saying), "the dastardly Downtown Utica Hospital Proposal."

**ALL POLITICS IS LOCAL (FOR VERY GOOD REASONS).**

## 119th NYS Assembly Seat



Republican **Dennis Bova** is also the reform party candidate promising to take a pro-active role in tackling corruption in both Albany and the Mohawk Valley, starting with the layers of corruption surrounding the downtown hospital proposal.



Democratic candidate **Marianne Buttenschon** agreed to "tow the line" on the downtown hospital before she could get the blessings of party leaders. Exactly the kind of back-room deal-making that local voters must reject outright.



**YOUR VOICE NEEDS TO BE HEARD ON NOV. 6TH!!!**

(see other side)

## 8 Compelling Reasons Why The Downtown Hospital Proposal MUST Be Scrapped!

- 1. All city and county taxpayers and renters can expect to be hit hard in the wallet.** The loss of tax paying properties and businesses currently in the footprint will have to be made-up annually. County and city taxpayers will also be responsible for paying for the \$40 million parking garage (in spite of it being used to turn a profit for a private entity).
- 2. The St. Luke's location simply makes much more sense.** In spite of what hospital advocates say, building at St. Luke's is completely feasible. The amount of land needed for the proposed building is only 3.5 acres. They own 64 acres there.
- 3. Expelling 40 downtown business and vital non-profits to build a single tax exempt building surrounded by a massive parking lot does not make sense economically or in terms of creating a "vibrant" downtown.** While other cities are feverishly working to attract new businesses, for their downtowns, it is unthinkable and inexcusable that our local politicians are even considering expelling 40 from ours.
- 4. Railroad tracks running through Utica routinely transport hazardous materials.** Derailments are not as rare as you may think. A few years ago, homes and businesses were evacuated in Oneida, NY due to a derailment. Building what will be Utica's only hospital less than 1500 feet from these tracks is, at best, foolhardy.
- 5. The proposal actually calls for less beds and nurses than we now have between our current hospitals.**
- 6. Building a new hospital in a district burdened with traffic jams during events at the Utica Auditorium is ludicrous.** A situation that will worsen as the county moves forward with the "U-District" tourist complex next to the Aud.
- 7. Bulldozing an entire historic downtown neighborhood goes against the successful nationwide trend of re-purposing such areas for small shops and urban living.** We've seen it locally in Baggs Square and Baggs Square West. Bulldozing the Columbia/Lafayette neighborhood for a massive parking lot with a tax-exempt building in the middle, is near insanity. Developers are prepared to move forward with sensible plans once the downtown hospital location is scrapped.
- 8. There's no evidence that hospitals located in an urban downtown area result in urban revitalization.** In fact, one can argue that the opposite is true. As evidence, ask yourself where is the retail development around the current St. Elizabeth and St. Luke's hospitals? Hospitals are self-contained with their own gift shops, florists, and cafeterias.

For many more reasons go to: [www.nohospitaldowntown.com](http://www.nohospitaldowntown.com)

## How you can help . . .

At this point, the politicians and others involved have reduced themselves to dishonesty. **It is NOT a done deal.** MVHS doesn't own even a handful of dirt in the proposed downtown footprint. **The St. Luke's site is still the official backup location.** Do not let them con you into believing otherwise.

Given our politicians will not listen to reason (as they've likely made too many back-room deals with the \$300 million), our final defenses against this threat has boiled down to making our voices heard at the ballot box, and after that, if necessary, courtroom battles during the eminent domain process.

The "Election Cheat Sheet" on the front lets you know which politicians up for re-election need to be held accountable. **ALL politicians must be made aware that ignoring valid concerns and wishes of constituents is unacceptable.**

As far as Democrats go, we realize there's an intense desire to send President Trump a message. We'd like to remind them that **the presidential election is 2 years away** and Mr. Trump will likely remain in office until then- whether Mr. Brindisi, the architect of the downtown proposal, is elected to Congress or not. Late Senator Tip O'Neil once said "all politics is local." We submit that this is true, for a litany of very good reasons. **Not holding these politicians accountable will have serious local consequences stretching many, many years into the future.**

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