

# PLEASE SAVE OUR HISTORIC POST OFFICE



## *“Miracle On Bay Shore Avenue”*

September 2011

**Postmaster General Patrick Donohoe**  
**U.S. Postal Service**  
**475 L'Enfant Plaza SW**  
**Washington, D.C. 20260-0010**



Dear Mr. Postmaster General:

We, the residents and workforce in Bay Shore, seek your assistance in saving Bay Shore's historic Penataquit Station Post Office from closure. Located on Bay Shore Avenue in the heart of Bay Shore's downtown, Penataquit Post Office has a total of 27 employees and 17 carrier routes. Thousands of patrons use this facility each week including senior citizens, medical practices, Southside Hospital, law offices, schools, the YMCA, churches and temples, and multiple businesses such as the Fire Island Ferries and Suffolk Transportation Service. The Fifth Avenue Post Office could never handle this additional customer base and mail volume.

Designed and built between 1933 and 1935, the Penataquit Station Post Office was part of the public works projects initiated by the U.S. Government during the Depression of the 1930's. In addition to its architectural importance, the building contains a noteworthy relief sculpture entitled *Speed* by Wheeler Williams that was commissioned by the Treasury Section of Painting and Sculpture in 1936. This was one of the New Deal art programs during the 1930's which created murals and other public art for public buildings. Williams emphasizes the speed of communication by mail with his sculpted image of Mercury, the messenger and god of commerce and travel. The Penataquit Station Post Office was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on November 17, 1988.

This post office is an essential part of our community. We are proud of its history, and deeply appreciate its service to the people in the hamlet of Bay Shore. We ask you to ensure the Penataquit Station Post Office remain open. Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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