



American Legion Post 269
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Ladies and Gentlemen

Today we have the opportunity to rededicate the two WWI era cannons. I would like to thank Brian Egan, our Village attorney, and Patricia Seal, our Village clerk, for their dedicated work in researching the history behind these cannons.

As a result of their work, we now know that the Village applied to the War Department for the loan of two cannons for the Memorial Park. The Village Board approved the application on December 13, 1921. On Wednesday, March 8, 1922 the Board met for a special meeting to instruct the Clerk to draw a draft for \$9.74 to the Long Island Railroad to pay for the freight for the guns. These two cannons have been a part of the Harry T Hanson Veterans Memorial Park ever since.

Early last year, we talked with Mayor Pontieri about these cannons. Over the many years here in the Veterans park, the cannons had deteriorated to the point of falling apart. The Mayor and I agreed that they were important parts of Patchogue history and were too valuable to let go.

At the Village Board meeting in March of last year, the Board agreed that these cannons needed to be restored, and our Post committed to help with the restoration.

I would like to thank Brookhaven Memorial Hospital, Richard & Joan Tafe, Rick Tafe, and all the businesses and people who donated to our efforts to restore these historical pieces.

We, the members of American Legion Patchogue Post 269, would like to extend our thanks to Mayor Pontieri, the Village Board, and the Department of Public Works for all their tremendous efforts in making this restoration possible!

Mayor, would you help unveil our new plaques?

For God and Country

Jonathon Ralph – Commander
American Legion Patchogue Post 269