



For Immediate Release: April 30, 2009

John G. Testa announces his candidacy for Westchester County Legislator in District 1, which spans the communities of Peekskill, Cortlandt and Yorktown.

His achievements as a 3 term Mayor of Peekskill highlight his extensive qualifications for the position of County Legislator. During his tenure, Peekskill experienced a boom and revitalization unprecedented in the City's history. With a focus on fiscal responsibility, quality of life of all residents and open and fair government, Testa was able to transform the City into a model community recognized nationwide for its turnaround.

Through his leadership of restructuring City departments and the consolidation of government, Peekskill was able to improve services while increasing efficiency, which led to three years in a row of 0% tax increases. During this time the City's crime rate fell by nearly half, dozens of new businesses opened and expanded, hundreds of jobs were created, and fire and police services were enhanced. Testa was also recognized for his environmental record of remediating former industrial property, preserving open space and other eco-friendly policies. Under Testa's leadership the city created, improved and expanded a record amount of recreational facilities and programs. These achievements were recognized by publications and agencies both locally and nationwide. The NY State Comptroller's Office recognized Peekskill as one of the most fiscally sound municipalities in NY State, all due to the planning and policies of the Testa Administration. Moody's Financial Services also recognized the tremendous fiscal stability Testa brought to Peekskill and increased the city's bond rating for the first time in 3 decades.

"I look forward to once again serving the citizens of Peekskill as well as The Town of Cortlandt and Yorktown. I will work hard for Northern Westchester and use my experience and leadership to bring real change and refocus county government to be fiscally responsible to those who pay the bills, the taxpayer," Testa said. "The approach I used as mayor of a city can be utilized at the county level. We are the highest taxed county in the country and something must be done now to ease the burden on the taxpayers. People are afraid and need representatives who they know will be on their side. I am ready to be that representative," Testa added.

Testa also boasts his life-long residency in Northern Westchester (Peekskill) and his family's century-plus long contributions to the Peekskill and Cortlandt communities. He is a high school Technology and Social Studies teacher for 29 years at Peekskill High School and lives in Peekskill with his wife Nancy and children John Jr. and Katy.

He is also the host of a monthly cable program, *On Topic with John Testa*, which is televised in Peekskill, Cortlandt and Yorktown. All shows can be viewed and additional information can be found on the show's website at www.ontopicwithjt.com.

Testa will be having a Campaign Kick-off event on Thursday, May 14th at Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. For more information visit www.johngtesta.com/campaign.html.

For more information on John and his achievements as Mayor of Peekskill visit www.johngtesta.com. Visitors can also visit Testa's campaign site via a link on his homepage or visit directly at www.johngtesta.com/campaign.html.