



Westchester County Legislator

JOHN G. TESTA
Minority Leader

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Westchester County Board of Legislators NEWS

Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years

Winter 2019 Newsletter

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Minority Leader

District 1 ~ Cortlandt, Peekskill, Yorktown



800 Michaelian Office Building
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, New York 10601

PHONE:
(914) 995-2828

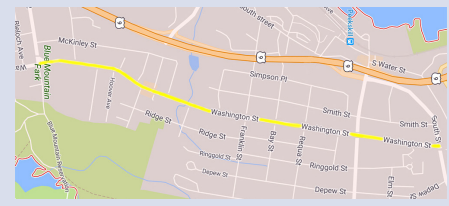
E-MAIL:
Testa@westchesterlegislators.com

www.westchesterlegislators.com
www.johngtesta.com

[facebook.com/johngtesta](https://www.facebook.com/johngtesta)

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Washington Street



I've been advocating for the rehabilitation of Washington Street for several years and in October of last year, I secured nearly \$3 million in funding for the rehabilitation project. The work is now complete to repair the 1.23-mile span of Washington Street between Welcher Avenue and South Street. The rehab work included milling, resurfacing, crack repair, replacement or adjustment of utility castings, concrete curb replacement, installation of handicap ramps, new traffic loops, and new pavement markings. The planning phase for this project began back in June of 2016. This section of Washington Street is an important roadway and was badly in need of repairs. The Washington Street project, along with the previous rehabilitation of the county owned sections of Rt. 202 (Crompond Rd.) and Rt. 6 (Main Street) were priorities for me as legislator. On top of these critical infrastructure projects, I was glad to secure significant improvements to George's Island Park and Blue Mt. Reservation. ■



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Early this year, I announced I would not run for reelection in 2019. My career as an elected official has spanned 22 years, beginning with my first election in 1997 for Peekskill City Councilman. I then served 3 terms as Mayor of Peekskill and now will complete my 5th term as County Legislator, serving the last 6 years as Minority Leader for the Board. I want to thank the communities I have represented for the continued support given to me over the years. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve and now it is time to pass the torch and step back from elected office. My record of fiscal responsibility is one I am very proud of. As legislator, I wanted to also elevate the standing of Northern Westchester communities in county government and bring the appropriate resources and infrastructure improvements we deserve. Although I am leaving public service I intend to remain active and continue to contribute to my community. I will now have more time to dedicate to the Lincoln Depot Museum and emerging business responsibilities. I will have more opportunity to travel, read and learn. Most importantly, as a new grandfather, I look forward to more time with my family.

Sincerely,

Indian Point

Since the surprise announcement of the closing of the plant, I have worked diligently in a bipartisan manner to advocate and demand that the affected communities I represent be the focus of state agencies for methods of assistance from the tremendous loss of revenue. Combined, the Village of Buchanan, Hendrick Hudson School District, Town of Cortlandt, County of Westchester, as well as the local library and fire department will see a \$32 million reduction in tax revenue.

As an active member of the NY State Indian Point Closure Task Force, Cortlandt Community Indian Point Task Force and the Buchanan Indian Point Decommissioning Advisory Panel, I have fiercely advocated for our community and fought to secure additional funding for the NYS Cessation Mitigation Program. This is a mechanism in



the state budget that helps communities gradually adjust to the tremendous negative fiscal effects of a plant closing. I am proud of the work I have done along with my colleagues in local and state government, Hendrick Hudson School

District, and union officials. The decommissioning process will begin soon and there are many decisions yet to be made. The groundwork has been set these past three years and will continue with those in office going forward. ■

DISTRICT PHOTO GALLERY



1. With Jim Witt and fellow Peekskill Rotary members at the Peekskill Cherry Blossom Festival.
2. Presenting a check to Duke Searles and the crew at the Montrose VA Veteran Food Pantry.
3. Joining colleagues at The Peekskill Legal Services of the Hudson Valley Office recently doubling in size from when we first opened it in 2014.
4. Swearing in the officers of the Westchester Fire Chiefs Association during their meeting at Buchanan Engine.
5. Receiving an Award of Recognition and Thanks from Eugene Lang and Andrew Amann of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.
6. Participating in the ceremony in Yorktown for the newly completed Pines Bridge Monument site.
7. Presenting Westchester County Veteran Pins to the veterans of the Cortlandt Engine Company No. 1 in Montrose.
8. Presenting Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant owner George Liaskos along with his son Evan a Westchester County Proclamation recognizing their 40-year Anniversary in business.
9. Supporting the Annual Police Unity Tour with officers Long, Pappas, Woodland and NYPD Detective McLennan.
10. Gathering for the start of the Peekskill Fourth of July Parade.
11. Catching up with veteran Vinny Sorano at the Annual Town of Cortlandt Veteran Picnic.
12. Meeting with Peekskill City School's Superintendent Dr. David Mauricio.
13. Presenting Westchester County Veteran Pins to the veterans of the Yorktown Heights Engine Company No. 1.
14. With Kevin Riley and his father, who was a founding member of Peekskill Lapolla Little League.
15. The Official Ribbon Cutting for the Lincoln Depot Museum Visitor's Center.
16. Participating in the Grand Opening of the new Shoprite on Rt. 6.