



## George Oros, Minority Leader

District 1 ~ Buchanan, Northern Cortlandt, Peekskill & Northern Yorktown

### Dear Neighbor:

It has been nearly a year since my last newsletter and I have so much to report about the current state of our county. More importantly, I look forward to filling you in about our piece of Westchester, the First Legislative District.

This newsletter highlights some of the issues, initiatives and legislative proposals my colleagues and I have been working on this session. I hope you are able to obtain an accurate picture of how the Board of Legislators functions and what county government does for you.

As always, I invite you to solicit more information on what we do and our initiatives, by contacting my office directly or visiting our new Board of Legislators website at [www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com).

Thank you for reading.

Sincerely,

George

### Inside This Issue

Keeping the Area Beautiful.....	2
Annsville Trail.....	2
Students Visit the Board.....	2
Update on Initiatives.....	3
Newsmakers.....	3
Contact Information.....	3-4

## GOOD NEWS: PEEKSKILL WINS BATTLE AGAINST SEWAGE DIVERSION

In the beginning, the united effort to stop sewage diversion to the Peekskill Sewage Plant was like David taking on Goliath. This was a giant issue and stopping diversion meant taking on the challenge of fighting a big bureaucracy. In the end, much like David's resilience that led to the defeat of Goliath, our strong opposition to this proposal succeeded. With delight I report that DIVERSION IS DEAD once and for all!

**"it has become apparent that it is unlikely at this time to gain the required Westchester County legislative approval."**

**—Emily Lloyd, DEP Commissioner**

After nearly eight years, our hard work finally paid off as New York City's Department of Environmental Protection and the County Executive decided that diverting Yorktown's sewage to the Peekskill plant is no longer an option. According to a statement found on DEP's website in February of 2006, the department determined that despite efforts to support diversion, "it



March, 2006 (L to R): Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi, County Legislator George Oros & Peekskill Mayor John Testa announce the end of sewage diversion.

has become apparent that it is unlikely at this time to gain the required Westchester County legislative approval."

This victory was certainly the result of a bi-partisan, grassroots effort made by many local elected officials, my colleagues on the Board of Legis-

lators and a number of active civic and community groups. Peekskill Mayor John Testa and Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi were at the forefront of this battle and I commend them for their dedication to this issue and their tenacity to see it through to the end.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

We plan on keeping the pressure on so that diversion will never be an option. At the same time, we will support funding for the upgrade of the Hallock's Mill Sewage Treatment Plant in Yorktown, so that Yorktown residents who are in need of sewers finally receive them.