

Westchester County Board of Legislators NEWS

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2026 Midyear Update



Margaret A. Cunzio

Minority Leader & District 3 Legislator
Mount Pleasant, North Castle, Pleasantville, Sleepy Hollow, Harrison
Co-Chair, Rules Committee



Serving as your County Legislator for District 3, which includes Mount Pleasant, North Castle, Pleasantville, Sleepy Hollow, and parts of Harrison, is a tremendous privilege. Over the past year, my office has worked to protect our families, support our first responders, and preserve the things that make our communities wonderful places to call home. This annual update shares some of the legislation and projects I've worked on for you and the work that continues ahead.

SECURING CLEAN WATER FOR QUARRY HEIGHTS

When wells ran dry in the Quarry Heights neighborhood of North White Plains during the 2023 heat wave, families were left without running water in their own homes. Restoring it has been one of my top priorities. Working with the Westchester Joint Water Works, the Town of North Castle, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and federal partners, my office helped to secure grant funding, install temporary lines, and advance a land swap and expansion of the public water district to deliver clean water permanently. Today, roughly two-thirds of those homes are connected. The work will continue until the remaining third has the safe, reliable, and clean water access every household deserves.

PROTECTING FAMILIES FROM FOOD ALLERGIES

Food allergies can turn an ordinary meal into a life-or-death emergency, a danger

I understand personally, having managed celiac disease for years. I cosponsored the *Food Allergy Restaurant Safety Law*, making Westchester one of the first counties in New York to require allergy-safety training for restaurant staff. This year, the Board unanimously passed the *EpiPen Giovanni Cipriano Act*, known as “Gio’s Law,” which is named for a 14-year-old boy who died after unknowingly eating peanuts. The law equips and trains our county police officers to administer lifesaving EpiPens during allergic emergencies, making Westchester just the second county in New York to do so. It took effect January 1, 2026.

STANDING WITH OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

Our volunteer firefighters and EMS workers run toward danger during emergencies, and they do it without a paycheck. As a volunteer firefighter with the Thornwood Fire Department, I know firsthand what that service demands. I supported a 10% county property tax exemption that rewards active volunteer firefighters and ambulance mem-

bers for their service while incentivizing others to consider giving back to our community in this meaningful way. My office is also working to strengthen emergency services coordination, ambulance deployment, and our 911 radio systems, so that help arrives faster when seconds count.

PROTECTING ANIMALS

Animal welfare has been a priority of mine since I took office. I sponsored Westchester’s *Dog Anti-Tethering Law*, which protects dogs from being chained outside for hours without supervision, and I worked with the district attorney’s office to strengthen our county’s Animal Abuse Registry, giving animal control officers investigative power to keep convicted abusers away from vulnerable pets. I will keep advancing new protections under county law to give animals a stronger voice, because how we treat the most vulnerable among us says everything about who we are. ■

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Mount Pleasant • North Castle • Pleasantville • Sleepy Hollow • Harrison





1. Honoring Rob Caluori for Italian Heritage Month at the Board of Legislators.
2. Joining the Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce for its networking event at The Pleasantville Manor.
3. TaSH (Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow) Farmers Markets and events at Patriots Park are always a great time.
4. It is always a pleasure to join Spectrum Designs in Pleasantville to honor their staff member of the year for a job well done.
5. Honoring those who volunteer in our community is one of my favorite parts of my role. I had the opportunity to honor John Soloman of the North White Plains Fire Department for his decades of volunteer service.
6. I am honored to recognize Eagle Scouts, the highest rank in scouting, from all troops, including Troop 22 in Tarrytown/Sleepy Hollow.
7. As a strong supporter of the arts and a board member at both ARC Stages and ArtsWestchester, it is a pleasure to support events at ARC Stages with Pleasantville Mayor Peter Scherer.
8. Throughout my tenure, I have hosted fifth graders from Wampus Elementary School in the Byram Hills Central School District at the Board of Legislators. Students spend a day learning about county government and the role of a county legislator.
9. Celebrating the Regeneron semifinalists from Byram Hills High School, my alma mater, at Regeneron.
10. Supporting small local businesses is important for the economic development of Westchester County. It was an honor to present a proclamation for Salon Allure's anniversary in Thornwood.
11. Joining County Executive Ken Jenkins to enact legislation I cosponsored for a county tax reduction for volunteer firefighters and EMS.
12. Joining the Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce to welcome The Fit Co, a new small business in Pleasantville. As a fitness professional, I am so excited to see all the new fitness opportunities in the district.
13. The Valhalla American Legion hosts "Operation Baby Shower" every year to collect baby items for military families who are expecting. As somebody with several active military family members, I know this event goes a long way for these families.
14. Marching in the Sleepy Hollow St. Patrick's Day Parade is one of my favorite events. Since my birthday is on St. Patrick's Day, it has also become part of my birthday celebration.
15. Celebrating Armonk's businessperson of the year, Nella DeCarlo, the owner of Beascakes in Armonk.
16. Opening ceremonies for the Kensico Little League at Pat Henry Field. It is great to see so many people from the community getting together to celebrate the start of the season.
17. I am honored to regularly present proclamations to our community's Eagle Scouts, including scouts from Armonk's Troop 94.



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I want to sincerely thank the constituents of District 3 for their continued support.

It is an honor to serve you, and I remain committed to working tirelessly across all our municipalities to keep Westchester moving forward.



**THE WORK CONTINUES! SEE HOW YOUR BOARD OF LEGISLATORS IS FIGHTING FOR
AFFORDABLE LIVING, WORKING FAMILIES, AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.**