



Westchester County Legislator  
**BERNICE SPRECKMAN**  
*Proudly Serving the 14th District*

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

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Please let me know of your concerns and suggestions.



**MAIL**  
 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor  
 White Plains, New York 10601



**E-MAIL**  
[Spreckman@westchesterlegislators.com](mailto:Spreckman@westchesterlegislators.com)



**FAX**  
 (914) 995-3884



**TELEPHONE**  
 (914) 995-2815



**LEGISLATIVE AIDES**  
 Rose Vinci, (914) 995-8434  
[RoseV@westchesterlegislators.com](mailto:RoseV@westchesterlegislators.com)  
 David Tubiolo, (914) 995-3277  
[DavidT@westchesterlegislators.com](mailto:DavidT@westchesterlegislators.com)

Please know you are encouraged and welcome to attend our board and committee meetings at the Westchester County Office Building.



### HONORING JEWISH HISTORY AND HERITAGE MONTH

This year's celebration honored Westchester's Jewish men and women of the Armed Services. Proclamations were accepted on behalf of Westchester's Jewish Veterans by Colonel David Everett, U.S. Army Reserve (Retired) & Ronald Burton, President of the Westchester Jewish Council.

# Westchester County Board of Legislators NEWS

Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years

Winter 2012 Newsletter

## Bernice Spreckman

District 14 ~ Yonkers, Mount Vernon

Dear Neighbor,

This newsletter will highlight some of the issues and initiatives my colleagues and I have been working on for the past several months.

It is a pleasure and an honor to serve you and, as always, I invite your comments and feedback. Please call my office at 914-995-2815 or visit our Board of Legislators web site at [www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com).

Wishing you and your family a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

I was honored to be appointed by Westchester County Executive Robert Astorino to chair both the Westchester County Council for Seniors and its federal counterpart, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council.

These appointments have allowed me to continue my advocacy efforts for and on behalf of senior citizens throughout the County.

In this new role, I had the honor of co-sponsoring the 5th Annual Legislative Speak-Out on January 28, 2012. This event, which was held with the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services Commissioner Mae Carpenter, provided an opportunity for the over 200 attendees to hear about the effects of the proposed 2012 New York state and federal budgets and the implications they

hold for aging services. Attendees were also given an opportunity to address the panel and share their concerns regarding a variety of issues affecting senior citizens throughout the county and state, with local, state and federal representatives in attendance.



Our next meeting will take place at the Westchester County Center, and is scheduled for Friday, January 25, 2013. Please call my office should you need additional information. ■

# THE 2012 HOLIDAY SHOW

On June 14, 2012, over 250 people attended my Spring Senior Show "1950's Television - Featuring the Songs of Cole Porter." This was the 29th show I have directed and performed in with help from my colleagues at the Board of Legislators, Gordon Burrows and Catherine Borgia, Veterans Service Agency/Stop DWI Director Vito Pinto and former legislator Jose Alvarado. This year, I had the pleasure of singing with our County Executive, Robert Astorino, who has a terrific voice. Many local officials were in attendance as well, including Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett, County Legislators Alfreda Williams, and MaryJane Shimsky, City of Yonkers Deputy Mayor Sue Gerry, Yonkers City Council members John Larkin, Mike Breen, Dennis Shepherd and Chuck Lesnick as well as Westchester County Senior Program and Services Commissioner Mae Carpenter and Director of the City of Yonkers Office for the Aging Kathy Moran.

As always, these shows are a wonderful opportunity for seniors to keep mentally and physically active while providing joy to all those who attend our performance.

We are always looking for more people to join our cast. If you or someone you know would like to join our singing and/or dancing practice sessions, or for information on attending one of our shows, please contact me at 914-995-2815

We remain under the direction and choreography of Judy Ayres, the additional choreography of Barbara Gallo and the musical expertise of



# UPDATES



It was my pleasure to once again take part in honoring this year's state class AA title champions Mount Vernon High School Knights boys basketball team by presenting a proclamation to team members and Coach Bob Cimmino in the Westchester County Board Chambers. ■



Due to a generous grant from the Westchester County Board of Legislators to ArtsWestchester, I was able to sponsor a group of seniors from Coyne Park for Senior Movie Matinee at the Jacob Burns Film Center. This grant provides transportation and tours to senior citizens and schoolchildren to historic and cultural attractions throughout Westchester County. ■



In January, I was named to the honorary position of Senior Affairs Liaison to the Mayor by the newly elected Mayor of Yonkers, Mike Spano. I was deeply honored and excited to join Mayor Spano in continuing my efforts to improve the quality of life for our senior residents.

Mayor Spano and I, along with Gary Brown, New York State Assistant Attorney General in-Charge, Westchester Regional Office, have been visiting various senior centers throughout Yonkers and presenting "Senior Crime Busters," a presentation offering senior citizens ways to avoid being the target of scams and elder abuse.

In conjunction with the Yonkers Office for the Aging, we were able to open a senior center on Sundays on the east side of town serving over 50 senior citizens each week. Residents are able to come together for a hot, nutritious meal, good company and entertainment rather than staying home alone and feeling isolated. If you would like to join us at Scotti Senior Center, 680 Bronx River Rd., please call my office. ■

# DID YOU KNOW?

If you were impacted by Hurricane Sandy, you may be eligible for Disaster Assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). You can contact them at 1-800-621-3362 or [www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov) for additional information.

If you are a Con Edison customer who has been impacted financially by Hurricane Sandy and need help paying your energy bills, please contact them at 1-800-75-CONED (1-800-752-6633). Con Edison representatives can offer extensions, payment agreements and information about available financial aid programs.



- If you are unemployed, you may be eligible for food stamps – it works through a debit card system and all major grocery stores accept them (Yonkers DOS District Office 914-231-2653).
- If you have questions about Medicare or need assistance in choosing Part D coverage, call our Medicare Help Line at 914-813-6100.