



Westchester County Legislator
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Proudly Serving the 3rd District



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“I would like to thank the constituents in District 3 for their support. I will continue to work hard in all our municipalities to keep Westchester moving forward.”

Westchester County Board of Legislators NEWS

Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years

Winter 2024/25 Newsletter



Margaret A. Cunzio

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



Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Program Aims to Prevent Growing Public Safety Concerns



Many of our everyday electronics, from laptops to electric vehicles, are now powered by lithium-ion batteries.

Unfortunately, these batteries can pose significant fire hazards and are increasingly responsible for public safety incidents in Westchester and beyond.

In my role as a volunteer firefighter, I have witnessed firsthand the devastation they can cause.

In order to safeguard both life and property, my colleagues and I at the Board of Legislators unanimously passed legislation, signed by

the county executive, to establish a Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Program.

This initiative is an important step toward preventing battery-related incidents in the future. It regulates the type of batteries that can be sold for electric mobility devices throughout Westchester with mandatory safety standards. It also includes key proactive measures such as safe disposal options, point-of-sale warnings, and community education efforts.

Moreover, the legislation prioritizes firefighter training to ensure

that emergency responders are well equipped with the knowledge and tools to safely respond to battery-related fires and explosions. Even after a fire appears to be extinguished, batteries can reignite days later due to trapped energy in damaged cells.

At its core, this legislation is aimed at preventing battery-related fires before they start and being prepared to respond to those that do.

The safety of our communities remains a top priority. The Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Program is another common-sense measure in service to this goal.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

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



- Ribbon Cutting at Spectrum Designs** “I’m thrilled to have joined the ribbon cutting for Spectrum Designs in Pleasantville, NY. They’re a fantastic community partner!”
- Honoring Regeneron Scholars** “It was a privilege to present certificates to Regeneron scholars from Byram Hills High School—my alma mater!”
- Mock Legislative Field Trip** “I had the pleasure of hosting students from Byram Hills and Valhalla for a mock legislative field trip. It’s always rewarding to teach our future leaders about county government.”
- St. Patrick’s Parade in Sleepy Hollow** “Marching in the Sleepy Hollow St. Patrick’s Parade with a four-legged constituent. This event is one of my favorites.”
- Supporting Small Businesses** “Celebrated the ribbon cutting of Just Desserts by Jess with the Mt. Pleasant and Pleasantville Chambers of Commerce to highlight small businesses that strengthen our community.”
- Promoting the Arts** “Performing with County Executive George Latimer at the Arc Stages Gala was a joy! As a board member of ArtsWestchester and Arc Stages, promoting the arts is important work.”
- Running for First Responders** “Participating in the annual Stayin’ Alive 5K in Armonk. As a volunteer firefighter, supporting first responders is personal for me!”
- 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony** “Reading the names of those we lost on 9/11 at the Kensico Dam ceremony is an emotional and humbling experience. We must never forget.”
- Pleasantville Rotary Pancake Breakfast** “Helping out at the Pleasantville Rotary Pancake Breakfast is a fun way to give back. As a Rotary member, I live by the motto “service above self.”
- Blythedale Children’s Hospital Halloween Celebration** “I had a great time joining County Police and the Thornwood FD to celebrate Halloween with the kids at Blythedale Children’s Hospital.”
- Pleasantville Diner Ribbon Cutting** “I’m always honored to participate in ribbon cutting ceremonies, like this one for Pleasantville Diner with the Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce. It was a wonderful community event!”
- Supporting Veterans** “Helping veterans is a cause close to my heart, especially with my cousins serving in the military. It’s always rewarding to provide food for veterans at Valhalla Legion Post 1038. Pictured with Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi and Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins.”
- Supporting the Arts with Legislator Boykin** “Supporting the arts with my colleague Legislator Ben Boykin at the ArtsWestchester gala I am pleased to support continued funding for the arts across our communities.”
- Solidarity Trip to Israel** “I was proud to join my colleagues and the WJC and UJA on a solidarity trip to Israel. I recently returned to continue my studies at Yad Vashem.”
- Honoring Eagle Scouts** “It was an honor to present proclamations to the Eagle Scouts of Hawthorne Troop 1. Their dedication and achievement are truly remarkable.”
- Frosty Parade in Armonk** “The Frosty Parade in Armonk is always a fan favorite! I even got to ride in a horse-drawn carriage to celebrate the season with the community.”