





## Westchester Legislators Authorize Addition of Properties To County's Agricultural District

As chair of the Environment & Energy Committee, where the legislation for the additions to the Agricultural District was first introduced, I was pleased to be able to add another eight parcels of land to the District this year.

Did you know Westchester was one of the first counties to opt in to New York State's Agricultural District program? While the Agricultural District does not enable its members, as individuals, to obtain grants or government funding, the County, on behalf of the farms, may apply for state grants, like those in the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program.

"The economic base that comes with agricultural endeavors is one that creates unique jobs and allows communities to keep in touch with their history," said Legislator Michael Kaplowitz. "Whether the properties are for farming crops, dairy production or raising horses, they all contribute to Westchester's special character and prosperity through agribusiness." ■



## Kaplowitz Wins Fight for New Castle Residents to Add 293 Parcels To Sanitary Sewer District

I am proud to have led the County Legislature in a bipartisan effort to approve legislation to grant a number of property owners in the Town of New Castle inclusion in the Saw Mill Sanitary Sewer District. This action will bolster environmental safety near reservoirs used for New York City drinking water. I'm grateful that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle recognized that it was time to stand up for fairness and the environment. By rolling up our sleeves and working together, we were able to accomplish something that will benefit generations to come. The property owners and residents in these affected areas in the Town of New Castle have waited patiently for this day to come. Environmentally, this needed to be done, and the residents will also experience some financial relief as a result with funding to follow. ■



PHOTO: Legislator Kaplowitz, New Castle Town Officials and a number of residents of the Yeshiva, Riverwoods and Random Farms communities rallied in support of the petition that will now include 293 area parcels in the Saw Mill Sanitary Sewer District.

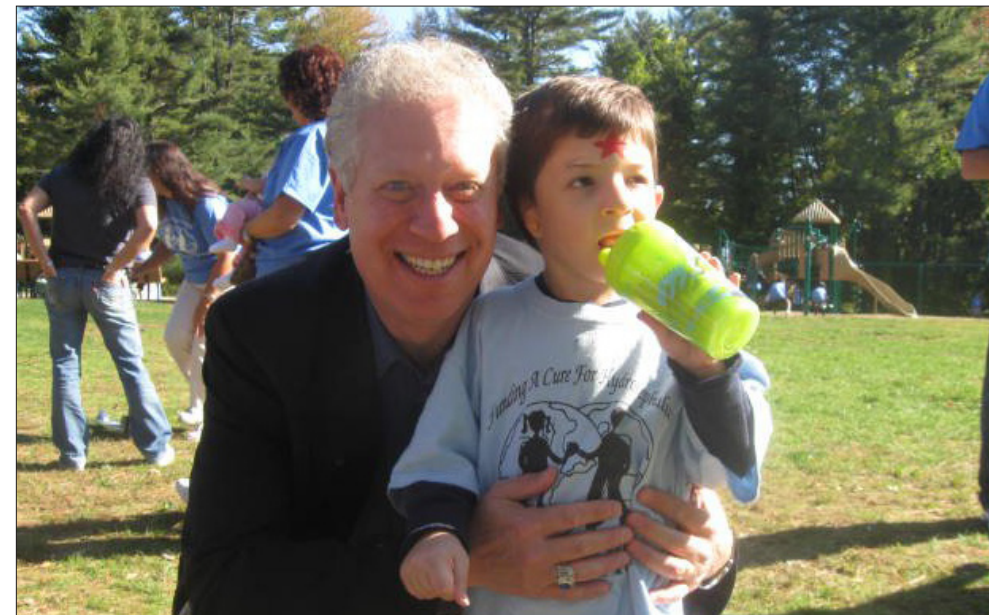
## Helping Small Businesses and the Environment at the Same Time

After hearing from a colleague about a resident who runs a business installing solar panels, I accepted and passed legislation in the Environment & Energy Committee that makes it easier to permit plumbers & electricians to install solar panels. This bill eliminates additional cumbersome licensing procedures for small business contractors who already have a 'home improvement' license. This new law helps our small businesses, while encouraging more use of solar panels. ■



## Westchester Legislator Honors Yorktown High School Student for Science Achievement

Westchester County Legislator Michael Kaplowitz honoring Priya Mohindra, a Yorktown High School student who had been named as a regional finalist in the prestigious Siemens Math, Science and Technology Competition. Legislator Kaplowitz presented a proclamation to the young student scientist in recognition of her achievement, and declared December 13, 2011 to be "Priya Mohindra Day" in Westchester County. ■



## Kaplowitz Attends 'Walk' for Children with Hydrocephalus

The Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation (PHF) is a non-profit organization that educates the community and raises money to increase the level of awareness about this brain condition. They also provide support to the families, friends and children who are diagnosed with Hydrocephalus. ■

## Consumers Win with More Accurate Signs at Gas Stations

Kaplowitz Law on Consumer-Friendly 'Cash/Credit' Signage at Gas Stations Now in Effect



Earlier this year, I authored and passed a law banning the use of 'deceptive trade practices' when it comes to gasoline stations posting signs displaying the cost of gas.

If high gasoline prices weren't bad enough, a number of gas station owners were charging a discounted price for those paying for gasoline in cash, yet signage posted at these establishments failed to explicitly inform customers of the higher price of gas if the payment was made by a debit or credit card.

Now it will be a level playing field for all station owners, while providing the consumers with the information they need - up front - to decide where they will purchase their gas and how they will pay for it. Further, with full disclosure comes competition, which often lowers prices through the laws of supply and demand. ■