

Westchester County Legislator
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Proudly Serving the 3rd District



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Westchester County Board of Legislators NEWS

Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years

Fall 2022 Newsletter

Margaret A. Cunzio

Minority Leader & Legislator, District 3 ~ *Mount Pleasant, North Castle, Pleasantville and parts of Briarcliff Manor, Sleepy Hollow and Greenburgh*
Co-Chair, Rules Committee



FOOD ALLERGY SAFETY LEGISLATION



Food allergies are a major health concern for many Westchester families and people across the nation, especially when it comes to choosing where or whether to dine out. In fact, every three minutes, a food allergy reaction sends someone in the United States into the emergency room, and around 1 in 11 Westchester residents live with food allergies.

A measure unanimously passed in May by the Board of Legislators will give Westchester residents with food allergies a greater sense of security when deciding to eat at County restaurants.

The Food Allergy Restaurant Safety bill will ensure that restaurants have personnel on site who have been trained in food allergy safety, including designated food safety officers during operating hours. The bill will also require the posting of signs certifying that employees have

been trained and listing nine major food allergies, symptoms of an allergic reaction, and actions to take in cases of a reaction.

Under the bill, the Westchester County Department of Health will designate one or more acceptable online food allergy training programs – a designation that may include programs that many Westchester restaurants are already using to train employees. The training comes at no cost to businesses in the County.

As a co-sponsor of the bill and someone who suffers from a food allergy, I know how reluctant, even frightened, people can be about going out to eat, especially parents whose children have food allergies. Hopefully this law can give them greater peace of mind. In order to assist local businesses with the training, certified online courses will make it easier for food establishments

to educate their employees on food allergies.

This legislation was passed on May 23, 2022, and takes effect this November, providing food establishments with enough time to complete the training within 180 days. ■



IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

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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.

Around the District

Mount Pleasant • North Castle • Pleasantville • Briarcliff Manor • Sleepy Hollow • Greenburgh



1. Celebrating a new small business in our community at a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce.
2. As a member of the Board's Public Safety committee, I appreciate the work of amateur radio operators in the County. I participate in their annual training to continue to learn more.
3. At the historic Miller House in North White Plains with "George Washington" and "Ann Miller."
4. It was an honor to present Matt Curran and Sandro Prosperino with proclamations during the Valhalla Schools Foundation's annual comedy night.
5. It is truly an honor for me to attend Eagle Scout ceremonies across our district. Pictured here are several new Eagle Scouts of Hawthorne Troop 1.
6. I often meet with constituents to discuss their concerns and see how we can work together to resolve them. Pictured here at Pocantico Lake.
7. I was pleased to support new affordable senior citizen housing at Westchester Community College in Greenburgh. These units have no impact on our schools.
8. State Senator Peter Hareckham and I recently recognized members of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for their heroic efforts.
9. Joining local officials from the state, county, and local levels of governments to welcome FUELCO.com in Valhalla with a ribbon cutting ceremony.
10. It is always a pleasure to visit Pleasantville's Spectrum Designs, which provides meaningful employment for individuals with disabilities.
11. As a member of the ArtsWestchester board, I was excited to attend the annual ARC Stages gala in Pleasantville, and also to make a cameo appearance in the show.
12. I come from a family with many military members. I am pictured here at the Gold Star Mothers ceremony to thank our veterans and their families for their sacrifices to keep our country the land of the free.
13. As a college professor and a former elementary school teacher, I always enjoy connecting with students. Legislator Colin Smith and I visited a Westchester high school to interact with students and explain the role of County government.
14. I attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new playground at the Kensico Dam Plaza. It's an amazing addition to the park for younger generations to enjoy.
15. Pictured here with members of Valhalla American Legion Post 1038 supporting our veterans.
16. As a volunteer firefighter and first responder, I understand firsthand the commitment of those who selflessly serve our community. I hope my actions inspire others to volunteer in similar ways for the betterment of our entire community.