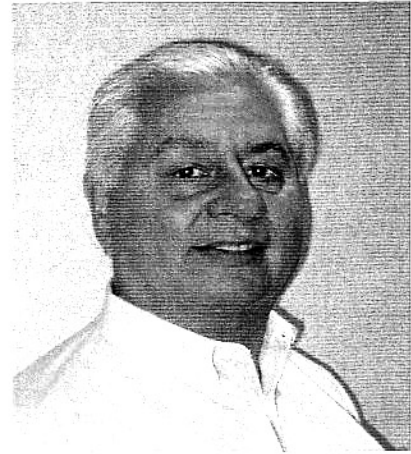


Dave Restey

County Legislature
District 13 Dryden



October 26, 2005

Dear Neighbor,

There has never been a more critical election for your representative in the Tompkins County Legislature. Here's why I'm running and asking for your vote on November 8th.

For the last four years your current county legislator has consistently sided with the majority in control of the legislature on many issues that I believe are not in the best interest of District 13 in Dryden. It is important to look at what she claims to do versus her real record.

- ❖ She claims she has fought to keep taxes down by building the tax base. The truth is she has voted for budgets every single year that has resulted in a **65% increase in the property tax levy in the past four years!** They **"built the tax base"** by increasing property assessments by 26%! Further more, she is part of the majority in the legislature that wants to add a county income tax to all the rest of the taxes they are collecting from residents!
- ❖ She claims to have had a hand in securing a cap on the county share of Medicaid spending. Nonsense! She has **no vote** in Albany. The cap was the result of a statewide consensus agreement between the Governor and the legislature. Furthermore she has not supported a program readily available to the county to root out Medicaid fraud. She claims to have found low cost solutions to safety problems on our roads. The facts are that she has voted for budgets that have **done nothing** for our roads, highways and bridges for the last four years. As far as public safety goes she has consistently **voted against** properly funding the seriously under funded Sheriff's department road patrols. In fact, in the 2006 budget **voted against** even providing the Sheriff with one new deputy.
- ❖ She claims to have cut the jail population dramatically. The fact is our jail population **consistently exceeds the capacity of the jail and we are spending thousand of dollars of tax money a week on boarding out prisoners.**

- ❖ She **voted against** giving our required county co-sponsor share to Tompkins Cortland Community College. Thousands of our county residents attend TC3 and many stay here to live and work after they graduate.
- ❖ She promised "Open, Accessible Government" in her campaign literature four years ago. She holds most of her meetings **during the day** when it is virtually impossible for working people to attend.

This year, just like they did in 2001 when they were up for re-election, the majority in the county legislature has touted a "zero increase" in the property tax levy. Of course when they are collecting 65% more than they did four years ago one would think it's about time things started to level off. But...how are they really doing it? First, for the past three non-election years they have been overcharging us for the county employee fringe benefit package in excess of \$1,000,000 per year and then silently transferring it to the Fund Balance during the year. For the 2006 budget they are tapping that Fund Balance to the tune of **\$2,397,120.00** to artificially keep the budget down! If they did not take this money from county reserves the tax rate would go up another **\$8.00 per \$1,000 in 2006!** My opponent claims she is working to reduce state mandated programs. Yet, she, along with the majority, is making us tax payers **pay double** for services that are **not mandated** and costing us a significant amount of money. I will work to reduce the spending on such non-mandated programs to better utilize the dollars for more important services. If you support me and send me as your representative for District 13

Our County is currently spending more than \$637,000 on a County Planning Department that is **not mandated**. Why do I consider this wasteful spending? New York Law requires every local municipality to have a Planning Department and we are paying for such a service with our local town taxes. Further, the County Planning Department has steadily tried to usurp the authority of the local planning department to force the county's views on county land use and control on all property owners in the county.

When I am elected to represent District 13, I will work to prioritize our county budget and departments for more efficient use of our tax dollars, and to bring fiscal responsibility to the budget and spending process. This is the **only chance** we will have for four years to bring **common sense and balance** to the county government.

I ask for your support and your vote on November 8th.

Sincerely,

Dave Restey