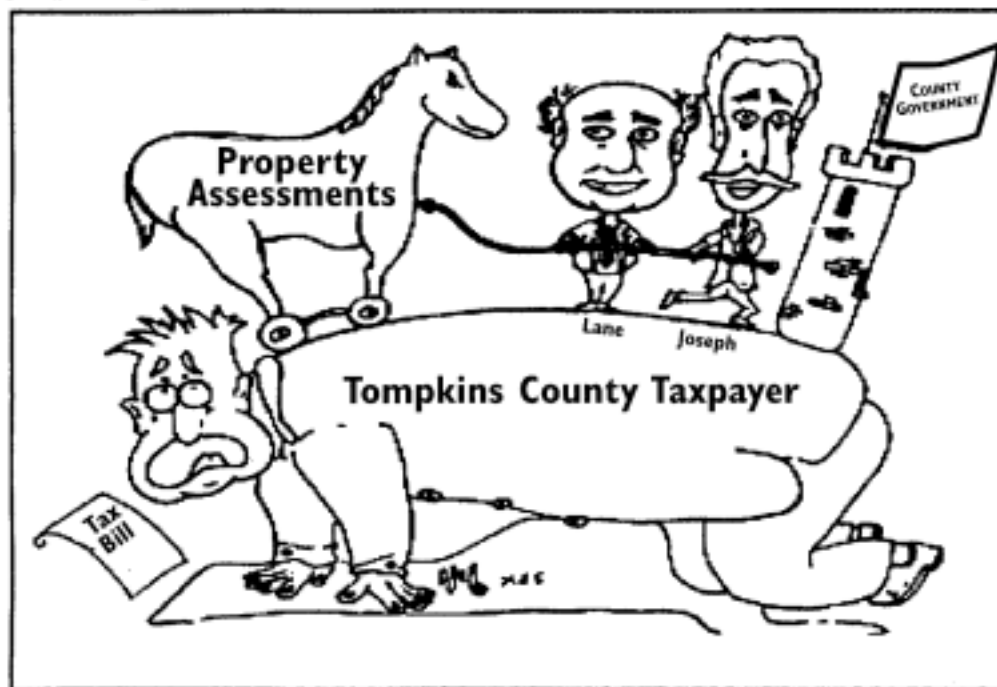


## ASSESSMENT - A MODERN TROJAN HORSE

In the last century, in a County called Tompkins, lived Rulers, who were responsible for the County and the welfare of all who lived there! Together these Lords & Ladies took great pleasure in SPENDING the Kingdoms GOLD. NO reserves are needed, they declared, for we live in a land of plenty, and so they SPENT the GOLD till the Treasury was empty! On occasion a rumble of complaint could be heard from a Lord or Two who worried about where all the GOLD was going. Again, the majority declared, FEAR NOT for we have access to all the peoples GOLD too! We will keep on SPENDING! As the Century came to an end the Lords and Ladies worried that their plan to TAKE more GOLD from the people might cause an uprising, they needed a plan...



Some way to convince the people that they too had an unending source of GOLD! That way their subjects wouldn't mind the tribute demanded of them by the Lords & Ladies! Remembering the tale THE OLD story tellers told, about a SISTER city - Troy, and a Trojan Horse that had been used to fool the folks, they schemed to do the same!...At last! A fool proof way to continue their wanton SPENDING they thought they'd found! ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS of the property our subjects SLAVE to own. Increasing LAND prices will convince them that they too have more GOLD and we can continue to take it from them and they will never notice. After all, WON'T THEY be enriched BY OUR PLAN!...

A few years went by and the people began to complain, their GOLD was gone, and they were worried about losing their land and anxious to end the oppression. King Joseph was nervous and commanded his leading Lord, Sir Lane, "DO SOMETHING!"....Sir Lane approached the public crier and pleaded, The people need to realize that when we adopted annual assessments we had no idea the property values would increase so fast!...The people were shocked, the facts revealed at last, the King and Sir Lane AND most of the other Lords and Ladies had completely missed the

point. To para-phrase one of their favorite court jesters the very famous Wizard Carville, It's about Spending Stupid!...The people were upset and determined to tear down the Trojan Horse, fire the King and his leading Lords and elect those who understand the peoples GOLD is theirs, a fair share to be taken, but SPENDING has to be controlled and reserves restored.

\*\*\* The End \*\*\*

The ending of a story is easily written, in real life the property owners of Tompkins County have suffered a 65% increase in property taxes in the last four years and this oppressive reality is causing some unfortunate lifetime home owners to choose between selling their homes or defaulting on taxes and being forced into a taking by the County. If you care, mark November 8th on your Calendar now, listen to the candidates that want to represent you and VOTE! It is critical that Tompkins County residents understand how important this years election is with respect to their County Government and how it serves them!

\*\*\* VOTE VOTE VOTE \*\*\*

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE FOR CHANGE ON NOVEMBER 8, 2005 - ELECTION DAY!

Thomas R. Hatfield, Chair, Coalition for Change

Paid Political Advertisement

# The Tompkins County Coalition for Change

Believes that it's

## TIME TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF TOMPKINS COUNTY GOVERNMENT!

Mission statement: To support candidates who seek to serve the people of Tompkins County as members of the County Legislature who in turn pledge to support the below listed goals as members should they be elected in November, 2005:

### Ensure Accountability in County Government

- Public referendums on critical issues, ie: County Executive.
- Open meetings, transparency in government is essential to building public support when tough decisions must be made. STOP THE CLOSED DOOR MEETINGS.
- Adopt policies that reflect the values of ALL the citizens of Tompkins County.

### Establish Sensible Priorities

- Pro-growth, pro-business, pro-job policies.
- Investment in public safety and infrastructure considered first, not last.
- Maintain our public assets, especially roads and bridges.
- Maintain essential health and human services.
- Property tax revenues should increase no faster than the rate of inflation, regardless of changes in assessment, excepting out new construction, which reflects real growth in our County.

### Demand Good Management

- Evaluate County programs for cost effectiveness.
- Control spending, make sure tax dollars spent wisely.
- Eliminate micro-management by County Legislature.
- Hold County managers responsible, be willing to fire ineffective managers, once identified.

These Candidates support change now! We ask you to Vote for Change Nov. 8!

District # 1	Ithaca	Thomas Ludgate	District # 10	Cayuga Heights	Cliff Buck
District # 6	Lansing	Mike Sigler	District # 12	Town of Ithaca	Larry Nivison
District # 7	Caroline/Danby	Frank Proto	District # 13	Dryden	W. David Restey
District # 8	Newfield	Mike Kobre	District # 14	Dryden	Michael Hattery
District # 9	Groton	Duane Tyke Randall	District # 15	Ulysses	James Rohan

Support Change! Mail Contributions to: Coalition for Change, PO Box 1107, Dryden, NY 13053