THE MONTESANO MONITOR

Fall 2015

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A Special Report from Michael Montesano

THE MONTESANO MONITOR

Your Voice, Your Neighbor, Your Assemblyman

What's New:

- **Out in the Community**
- **Fighting Against a Dangerous Epidemic**
- **Delivering Progress for Our Schools**
- **Enhancing Transportation on Long Island**

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Your Voice, Your Neighbor, Your Assemblyman

CARLE PLACE FARMINGDALE GLEN HEAD LATTINGTOWN BETHPAGE OLD BROOKVILLE BAYVILLE EAST NORWICH HICKSVILLE LOCUST VALLEY MUTTONTOWN OYSTER BAY WESTBURY

Out In The Community

Over the past year, Assemblyman Montesano has hosted many events across the 15th Assembly District. On multiple occasions, he hosted Mobile Office Hours at local libraries to discuss concerns and answer questions from constituents. He sponsored KidPix ID Programs to help protect the children of Nassau County by providing parents with a free, wallet-sized ID card to help law enforcement officers identify a child in the event that they go missing. He also hosted a similar ID program for senior citizens in conjunction with the Nassau County Yellow Dot Program. Additionally, he joined Long Island Blood Services to host his annual blood drives.

"The summer months afford me valuable time to touch base with the residents in my community, meet with other local and state leaders, and attend events," said Montesano. "While my trips to Albany are minimal, I certainly have been busy here on Long Island. I believe that getting out in the community and meeting new people is the best thing I can do to better represent my friends and neighbors."

Montesano: Making Long Island Better

Delivering Progress For Our Schools

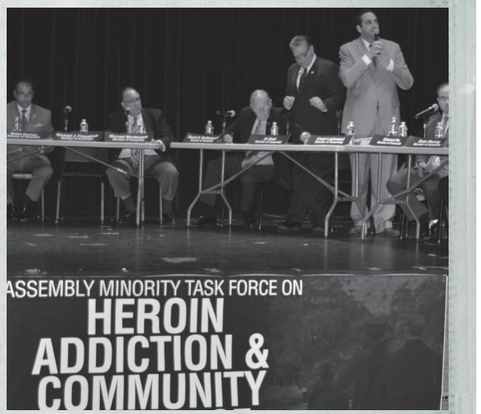
Assemblyman Montesano and his colleagues have remained at the forefront of education reform in New York State. In 2014, the Assembly Minority Conference introduced The APPLE Plan, a comprehensive measure which would address the flaws of Common Core and require input from local stakeholders to get our education system back on track. Since Common Core's implementation, there has been a lot of push-back and outcry from parents, teachers and students. In recent months, the governor finally recognized the need to remedy the hasty roll out, a conclusion that Montesano and his colleagues had come to years ago.

"Our fight to address the issues surrounding New York's education system is far from over," said Montesano. "With recent rumblings from the Capitol and State Education Department, I am hopeful that the long-awaited review of this curriculum is on the horizon. We must take this opportunity to ask questions, find answers, and move forward with a well-developed agenda that provides the education our children deserve."

Enhancing Transportation on Long Island

Assemblyman Montesano and his colleagues have long advocated for appropriate funding for much-needed improvements for deteriorating roads, bridges and railroads across New York State. Over the past year, several projects across Long Island have begun to stimulate long-awaited progress for many areas of local infrastructure.

"I am thrilled we have taken such great strides to better our roadways and means of public transportation," said Montesano. "The revitalization of the Hicksville Station and expansion of the Ronkonkoma Branch of the Long Island Rail Road are two projects I have long supported. These comprehensive projects will increase safety and efficiency for all travelers – daily commuters and visitors alike."



Fighting Against a Dangerous Epidemic

Assemblyman Montesano joined his colleagues in the Assembly Minority Conference to host a Heroin Task Force event. The event provided an opportunity for state and local officials, law enforcement and concerned residents to discuss how to combat the dangerous heroin and opioid epidemic. Montesano and his colleagues highlighted the importance of working together to provide support and guidance for those who need it.

"It is a terrifying reality that heroin addiction and overdoses have become prevalent on Long Island and across all of New York State," said Montesano. "In order to end this dangerous trend, we must raise awareness of the severity of addiction, provide suitable treatment for those who desperately need it, and lastly, work with law enforcement in any way necessary to rid our communities of this dangerous trend."