

**Notes from the campaign trail by Paul Andreassen
Candidate for Town Supervisor:**

Are we moving in the right direction as a town government or is it much of the same?

Can we afford it when a company like CERES, a manufacturing company on Kings Highway that employs several hundred people, chooses to re-locate to another nearby town?

As supervisor I will be knocking on the door of Markertek, NY Drilling, BC Autoworks, J. Mullen & Sons, Spector Bass, Paperhouse Productions, Methods Machine Tools, Ward Backhaus Collision, Greco Motors, Dan Starr body shop, Benson Steel, Sawyer Motors, Moorhous computers, Flanigan Cleaners, Smith's Hardware, Elna, Rothe Lumber, Rothe Welding, CERES, Simulaid, LoDolce Machine Shop, Saugerties Electric and many others and asking **'how can we help, how can we help keep you here and how can we help you grow'?**

Are we doing enough to attract and retain new businesses? As town supervisor I would network with various entities to enable potential employers to relocate here and work to promote our 'shovel ready' sites on the Kings Highway corridor and encourage the use and re-use of many of the existing vacant structures throughout the town and village. ***However we don't need to incentivize big businesses with tax breaks we need to create a climate of cooperation with new and existing***

businesses to locate, expand and grow here gracefully but not at the expense of the everyday taxpayer.

We invested a lot of money in infrastructure, especially on Kings Highway, and there must be a way of encouraging developers to come here. *What are we not doing?*

Consolidation? There has been some discussion with the Mayor and several of the trustees; Don Hackett, Terry Parisian and Vince Buono and several Ulster County legislators about consolidation. Unfortunately, to date, there has been no serious movement in this direction. *As supervisor I would advocate for this.*

We've been working on amending the zoning on Kings Highway for over a year. Some legal issues have arisen and we'll work on getting this straightened out.

How can we generate employment opportunities, revenue streams and a long-term strategy for sustainability, supportability and, perhaps most important for us taxpayers, *affordability?* *We need to think in those terms. Counting on grants alone is not a secure business model.* It begs the question: **'what is politics without principle'** (Mahatma Gandhi 1869-1948).

I see an inordinate amount of attention and resources given in certain areas while many worthy areas are marginally funded or outright neglected. *The Animal Shelter, Diaz Ambulance, Water and Wastewater*

Department and Fire Service come to mind.

The base, **those who pay the price always**, our base, **are struggling**. We need to look out for and take care of the **‘everyday people’**. The backbone, the base. We cannot neglect the ‘base’ *The **base** are the people who toil to sustain the very government we are privileged enough to lead.* Let’s not forget who picks up the ‘tab’ for it’s the same people who pick up the tab every time, day after day, month after month, year after year and they’re never in the news, acknowledged in any way or complain.

The base are the everyday people, the shareholders, the taxpayer, the tinkerer, the fabricator, the merchant, the student, the postal worker, the firefighter, the veteran, the senior citizen, the fixed income public housing resident, the retiree, the widow, the widower, the jobless, the job seeker, the cable guy, the lineman, the candlestick maker, the machinist, the highwayman, the builder, the botanist, the tree cutter, the doctor, the nurse, the lawyer, the cashier, the housekeeper, the day care provider, the bus driver, the truck driver, the parent, the grandparent, the sibling, the insurance provider, the coach, the teacher, the engineer, the architect, the house painter, the plumber, the electrician and most importantly and probably the most underrated of all, **the volunteer**. *Where would we be without them all?*

Unfortunately, and to our loss, **Councilman Mike MacIsaac** will not be seeking another term. However I hope you can join me and my candidacy to become the

next Town Supervisor and support my running mate for Town Board, Centerville/Cedar Grove Fire Commissioner, **Mike Ivino**. We are both members of the **Independence Party** and are seeking the support of **all** residents whether enrolled in a party or not. We need your support in the Primary on June 25th and the general election in November.

People not politics. We will be there for the ***'everyday people'***.

As supervisor I cannot promise to change all things but I will promise to change priorities.

Respectfully submitted:

Paul Andreassen

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