Buchwald, Abinanti to Seek Re-election for State Assembly

By Pat Casey and Martin Wilbur

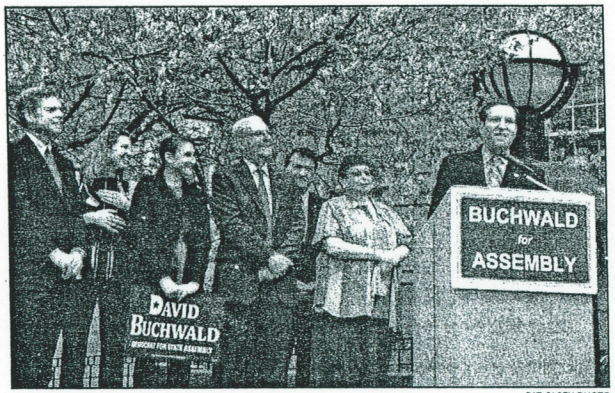
Emphasizing that "there is more work to be done," Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains), announced last week that he is running for a second term for the 93rd Assembly District this fall.

"It is with great enthusiasm that I will be seeking re-election for the New York State Assembly," Buchwald said on the steps of White Plains City Hall on May 1. "I'm very proud of the work we've done in my first term thus far. Together we've increased state funding to Westchester schools, fought for a less burdensome tax system and given New Yorkers hope that one day corrupt officials will be prevented from collecting their state pensions.

"Together we've made progress, but there's more work to be done. With your help, we will succeed in November and beyond in our efforts on behalf of hard-working Westchester families."

Buchwald, who was introduced by White Plains Mayor Tom Roach, said he chose City Hall to make his re-election announcement because that is where his political career began. He also served with Roach while on the council.

Endorsed by the Democratic, Independence, and Working Family parties in the 2012 campaign, Buchwald went on to win by nine percentage points against the incumbent Republican Robert Castelli.



PAT CASEY PHOTO

Assemblyman David Buchwald, joined by friends, family and supporters, makes his re-election announcement last Thursday on the steps of White Plains City Hall.

Abinanti to Run for Re-election

Two-term Assemblyman Tom Abinanti (D-Mount Pleasant) confirmed on Monday that he will also be seeking another term on the state legislature in November.

Abinanti, 67, who first appealed to potential campaign conributors around New Year's that he would run again, said there is still plenty of work to be done in Albany, especially on key issues that often pits suburban areas such as Westchester and Long Island against New York City and rural districts against each other for limited resources.

"I think that I can provide an experienced voice on behalf of our suburban communities in a very heterogeneous environment, where you have cities and rural and suburban communities competing for the ever-shrinking resources and attention of state government," Abinanti said.

The Mount Pleasant resident said he and other legislators have worked hard with representatives from the Hudson Valley and Long Island to team up as a suburban block. Lawmakers from both parties were successful in getting a larger than expected increase in state aid for education this spring and fighting for pothole repair money and work for deteriorating infrastructure.

Other issues Abinanti plans to focus on is passing tighter gun control laws and for the state to pay more attention to people with special needs.

Before being elected to the Assembly, Abinanti served on the Westchester County Board of Legislators for 19 years. He started his political career on the Greenburgh Town Board, where he served for six years before that.

He said he was uncertain whether the Republicans will put up a challengers. In 2012, Abinanti won his first re-election bid without opposition.

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