

Altamont Enterprise LTE

“Reinhardt will serve the Town of New Scotland in the Albany County Legislature”

To the Editor:

I would like to correct a few misunderstandings concerning my ability to serve New Scotland residents living in County Legislative District 33, which includes parts of Bethlehem and New Scotland (Edie Abrams letter to the editor, May 14 issue). Since my election to the Bethlehem Town Board in 2012, I have served the entire community of Bethlehem, not just Slingerlands where I live. For example, I have advocated for new sidewalks, preservation of open space, agriculture and Smart Growth in Selkirk and Glenmont as well as the completion of the “Rail Trail”, the wonderful asset shared by all the residents of Bethlehem and New Scotland. My connection to New Scotland and Voorheesville goes back many years, including my opposition to the proposed Target store that would have damaged the character of Voorheesville. More recently, I have supported inter-municipal agreements between Bethlehem and New Scotland that benefit both communities and I have advised the Town of New Scotland on several matters relating to solar power development in the Town of New Scotland.

On the matter of the Kinder Morgan blasting bill (also known as Local Law B) I have been anything but silent. After stating my initial support for the first draft of the bill, later conversations with attorneys and engineers raised my concern that subsequent changes to the bill might have unintended consequences for farmers, small businesses and municipalities throughout Albany County that could be negatively impacted by bill language designed with Kinder Morgan in mind. I expressed my concerns to bill sponsors as well as citizens rightfully concerned about the safety of their water, and enough of my concerns were addressed that I testified in

favor of the bill before the County legislature on May 11. My goal throughout this legislative process was never opposition, but rather due diligence to achieve a better bill that would achieve its stated purpose and survive a legal challenge.