



Donna Asure and Maureen Tatu Hiked Property Taxes!

By J.J. Publius

Property taxes and preservation of farmlands and woodlands (open space if you like) are important issues in Monroe County and in the West End. Monroe County Commissioner Donna Asure claims she did not raise property taxes and that she works towards preserving open space. Humbug!

Chestnuthill Township Supervisor Maureen Tatu claims to be for reducing property taxes. We believe [Maureen Tatu is NOT being all that honest about property taxes](#) either.

Donna Asure Hiked Property Taxes, Increased Spending, Screwed Farmers, and Hurt Open Space Preservation

In her State House campaign, Monroe County Commissioner Donna Asure claims no property-tax hikes in the last five years. Despite her campaign claims Donna Asure hiked the Monroe County property tax levy from 11-mills in 2001 to 14.5-mills in 2002. That's a 32% property tax hike.

Donna Asure claims that she is bringing fiscal discipline to Monroe County government. Despite Asure's campaign claims, spending-wise Monroe County General Fund expenditures have increased from \$29.5-million in 2001 to \$43.5-million in 2006

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Maureen Tatu Doubles Property Taxes, Expands Government, and Squanders Tax Money

Maureen Tatu is running for the Pennsylvania General Assembly. She is a Chestnuthill Township Supervisor. In her State House campaign she lists "Reducing Property Taxes" as one of four planks in her platform. Look at what Maureen Tatu does rather than what she says she will do.

Maureen Tatu along with the help of the other two Chestnuthill Township Supervisors, Chuck Gould and Leigh Kane, doubled Chestnuthill's property tax millage from 2005 to 2006 – hiking it from two-mills to four-mills. So much for Maureen Tatu's false claims about reducing property taxes

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Asure Hiked Taxes and Screwed Farmers

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That's a spending increase of nearly \$14-million – about a 47% increase in Monroe County spending in five years. Increasing Monroe County spending nearly 50% in only five years does not sound much like "fiscal discipline". It sounds more like a spending spree.

Don't try to blame that nearly 50% spending increase on population growth. During that same time frame, Monroe County population increased by only about 13%. Monroe County spending increased nearly four times as much as County population increased.

Last year Donna Asure voted for a provision related to [implementation of the Clean and Green Act in Monroe County that in effect increases property taxes for smaller, family farms and open-space land in Monroe County](#). It pushes farmers and open space landowners to sell and/or develop their properties. That hurts farmers, works against the preservation of Monroe County's rural character, and encourages development of open space in Monroe County. So much for Donna Asure's claims about preserving open space.

Send Donna Asure a message that you do not like what she is doing. Let Donna Asure know that you do not like her hiking taxes, hurting farmers, and hurting open-space preservation. And let Donna Asure know that you do not like her misrepresenting her tax-hiking activities. **Vote against Donna Asure on November 7.**

Tatu Doubles Taxes & Squanders Money

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In order to reduce taxes, government spending has to be controlled. But Tatu does not seem to get that. Chestnuthill Township had to borrow money in order to provide funds for Maureen Tatu's and Chuck Gould's spending sprees.

Chestnuthill Township is a cluster flop! Maureen Tatu and Chuck Gould have put Chestnuthill Township in debt to the tune of \$5-million – just to support their spending sprees

[Tatu and Chuck Gould blew \\$10,000 for a batting cage](#) to be used in the Chestnuthill park. Chestnuthill Township should not have bought a \$10,000 batting cage. Even worse, the batting cage was never delivered, thus Chestnuthill Township lost its \$10,000 purchase money.

Send Maureen Tatu a message that you do not like what she is doing. Let Maureen Tatu know that you do not like her hiking taxes, wasting taxpayers' money, expanding government, and hurting Chestnuthill Township. And let Maureen Tatu know that you do not like her misrepresenting her tax-hiking activities. **Vote against Maureen Tatu on November 7, 2006.**

Get the full story and more on-line at [WestEndVoice.com](http://www.westendvoice.com)