



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

# **Gov. Cuomo Signs 'Cerjan Highway' Bill**

Patty Ritchie

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### **New Connector Road to be Named in Honor of Fort Drum Soldier**

Governor Cuomo has signed into law legislation introduced by State Senator Patty Ritchie that would name the soon-to-open I-81 Ft. Drum Connector, the “Paul Cerjan Memorial Highway.” in honor of the late US Army Lieutenant General Paul G. Cerjan.

“General Cerjan was both an American and North Country hero, who was instrumental in making Ft. Drum what it is today” said Senator Ritchie. “This roadway will be a great asset to Ft. Drum, and naming it in General Cerjan’s honor is the perfect tribute to a man who gave so much.”

“I applaud Governor Cuomo for signing this bill into law, and also would like to thank retired Col. Plummer, whose advocacy was instrumental in helping to move this legislation forward.”

A Rome, NY, native, General Cerjan served in the Army for 34 years. He was the Assistant Commander for Support of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division from 1985 to 1988. During that time he was responsible for the planning, programming and execution of a \$1.2 billion construction project, which transformed Ft. Drum from a small reserve training center to a world class military installation.

After his retirement in 1994, General Cerjan continued to contribute to both our nation and the North Country. He served as CEO of several organizations in direct support of soldiers in combat and also served as president of three universities, helping to shape the minds of the future leaders of our country. In addition, he remained actively involved with the National Association of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and was the co-chair of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Scholarship Fund.