



ULSTER COUNTY NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ulster County Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP) Moves Forward

The Ulster County Fire Coordinator's office in partnership with the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce will be coordinating a Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP) in recognition of Ulster County's volunteer Fire Fighters and Emergency Responders.

Legislator Laura Petit, District No. 7 thanked Esopus resident, Joseph E. Sills, Jr. a volunteer at the St. Remy Fire Department with over fifty years of service, for bringing the VIP program concept forward, and for the overwhelming support from the County Criminal Justice and Safety Committee members and the Legislature for the program. Petit said that, "the creation and implementation of the Volunteer Incentive (VIP) program aims to increase the number of volunteers willing to serve their local Fire Department and/or Ambulance Squad. As part of the VIP Program local businesses will be asked if they would be willing to offer a discount of their determination to emergency service volunteers. The County Safety Department will provide volunteers identified as active, social or lifelong with an identification card that will indicate membership. Volunteers will then be recognized to receive the benefit by the identification card." Chairman of the Criminal Justice and Safety Committee, Frank Dart said "Generation after generation, volunteers have given countless hours without asking anything in return. I'm happy

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that the Chamber of Commerce has stepped up to the plate to help facilitate this very worthwhile program. This program will be a small thank you from the merchants in Ulster County to the dedicated men and woman who give of themselves 24/7, 365 days a year.”

Petit said the program would not be moving forward without the involvement of the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce. “The Chamber will reach out to local businesses and provide information for anyone interested in participating in the VIP program.” Ward Todd, President, said “The Chamber of Commerce of Ulster County is delighted to be able to support the Ulster County Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP). It is our belief that volunteers need to be recognized and rewarded for their invaluable assistance toward keeping our citizens safe and improving the quality of life in Ulster County.”

For more information please contact the Ulster County Chamber of
Commerce at: (845) 338-5100, Bob Hirsch