



ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UC Legislators Put Politics Aside and Stand United to Help Fight Cancer

Kingston, NY- Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee, Walter G. Frey, Jr., along with three Ulster County Legislators from Kingston, joined hundreds of people at the 2011 Relay for Life at Dietz Stadium on Saturday, May 21, 2011, to show their support of those who have battled cancer, to remember those who have lost their lives and to encourage those to fight back against the disease.

Legislator Mike Madsen said he was honored to celebrate so many stories of recovery amongst the crowd. The inspiring accounts aided in producing a refreshing, positive, and hopeful atmosphere. "In an era when federal, state and local governments are shedding responsibility for the health and security of their citizens, it is imperative that organizations like the American Cancer Society continue research and support for those who are stricken with life threatening diseases," he said.

Minority Leader Jeanette Provenzano was also touched by the many heartening personal accounts. She stated, "It was a pleasure and privilege to play a small part in recognizing Cherie Traficante, 2011 Grand Marshall for 2011, and all the survivors represented here today. Always have hope, never forget those that lost their battle and continue to fight for a cure."

This event was particularly moving for Legislator Peter Loughran. "I understand how difficult it is to lose loved ones to cancer. I have lost both parents, aunts, uncles, and cousins to various types of cancer. It is imperative to continue to do research to find a cure for this terrible disease," said Loughran.

Noting that everyone has been touched by cancer in some way, Legislator Frey believes that "The Relay for Life" is such a significant and successful event because it draws the community together. "News of the disease has recently hit close to home, and I have learned that compassion, understanding and support are key factors for anyone fighting this battle. Always be there to lend a hand and our community will go further. United we will fight to combat this plague that has impacted our society."

For more information about "The Relay for Life", please contact Tina Eckert, Special Events Director for the local arm of the American Cancer Society at (845) 331-8308 x14.