



ULSTER COUNTY NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Citizenship Ceremony Returns To Ulster County

Ulster County Clerk, Nina Postupack, announces that after a sixteen year absence, naturalization services will return to the Ulster County Courthouse June 13, 2008 at twelve noon.

Through a joint effort of Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey, Supreme Court Justice Karen Peters and Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack, naturalization, the process of conferring upon an alien the rights and privileges of a citizen, will return to the historic Ulster County Court House. A service discontinued because of federal budget cuts in 1992 is back, making cumbersome treks to New York City unnecessary for applicants from Ulster County. The last time citizenship was granted in Ulster County was March 12, 1992.

Ulster County Legislature Chairman David B. Donaldson lauded the joint efforts put forth by Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey, Supreme Court Justice Karen Peters and Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack in bringing the Citizenship Ceremony back to Ulster County.

“On behalf of the people of New York’s 22nd Congressional District, I congratulate those who will become citizens of the United States during the naturalization ceremony in Ulster County on June 13,” Hinchey said. “It is truly heartwarming to see individuals embrace the greatness of our country and take the necessary steps to become naturalized citizens. Given its long and storied history and its central role in the development of our country, I am also very pleased that Ulster

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County will once again host a naturalization ceremony. Ulster County has long been a welcoming place to people of all backgrounds, which is why it's very fitting for the county to host these citizenship ceremonies. I look forward to helping more area residents and their family members complete the naturalization process so that they too can become citizens of our great country.”

The ceremonies are very moving and emotional as many personal goals of American citizenship are finally realized. The June 13th event, bringing the service back to Kingston, will be no exception. According to Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk, the program will include the opening of the court, the presentation of colors, the recital of the pledge of allegiance, the singing of the national anthem, the examiner’s recommendations, the oath of allegiance administered by the County Clerk Nina Postupack, an address and presentation of certificates by Judge Karen Peters, the singing of America the Beautiful, the retirement of colors, and after adjournment – refreshments.

Our new citizens will be recognized by Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey’s Office, Senator John J. Bonacic, Assemblyman Kevin Cahill and Assemblyman Peter Lopez. Participating organizations include the Wiltwyck Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, Kingston Post 150 American Legion Color Guard, VFW Joyce-Schirick Post 1386 Color Guard, the New Paltz Veterans of Foreign Wars Women’s Auxiliary, Ulster Literacy Association and the Woodcrest School Choir.

Since 1790, all naturalizations have been performed pursuant to federal law. Any state or federal court of record (having a seal and a clerk) could naturalize an individual. After 1906 the Bureau of Immigration & Naturalization, later the Immigration and Naturalization Service established national standards and naturalization jurisdiction was restricted to the Supreme Court. Since then over 8,000 immigrants from all over the globe have been granted citizenship in Ulster County.

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For further information please contact Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk at (845) 340-3040.

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