



ULSTER COUNTY NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ulster County Legislature Chairman David B. Donaldson Proclaims July Water Safety Month



Left to right: Frank Faluotico, Alan Lomita, Wayne Harris, Brian Shapiro, Gloria Lipton, David Donaldson, Victor Work, Susan Zimet, Rick Remsnyder, Brian Cahill, Mary Sheeley and Gary Bischoff

With the school year ended and the Fourth of July having passed, a coalition of agencies and businesses wants to remind people that summer is a great time to relax—except when it comes to water safety. “Carelessness—especially around pools and other water areas can have devastating consequences,” warns *We Care About Kids in Ulster County* Coordinator, Gloria Lipton.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, about 350 young children drown in pools each year nationwide, with over half of these incidents occurring in June, July and August. Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and National Safety Council show that drowning remains the leading cause of accidental death nationally for all children age one to four years.

At the July 11, 2007 meeting of the Ulster County Legislature, Chairman David B. Donaldson proclaimed July “Water Safety Month” in Ulster County. Legislator Susan Zimet,

Chairperson of the Arts, Education, Tourism and Community Relations Committee presented a Proclamation to Gloria Lipton, Coordinator of “We Care About Kids in Ulster County”, declaring July as **Water Safety Month in Ulster County**. Gloria Lipton was joined by Brian Shapiro, District No. 2 Legislator, Frank Faluotico, Ulster County Undersheriff, Rick Remsnyder, Director, Ulster County Tourism and Victor Work, Ulster County Building and Grounds, for the presentation. They all spoke about their efforts to increase public awareness regarding water safety and announced the “Water Safety Poster Contest”.

To further the local effort, Gloria Lipton and representatives from the Ulster County Legislature, the Y.M.C.A of Ulster County, the Kingston Parks & Recreation Department, Ulster County Department of Buildings & Grounds, Ulster County Tourism, the American Red Cross, the United States Coast Guard, and Ulster Savings Bank are sponsoring a water safety campaign and countywide poster contest for youth promoting the importance of knowing the dangers of fast moving water and how to swim. Entries will be judged in the following categories: Up to 2nd Grade; 3rd-5th Grade; 6th-8th Grade; 9th-10th Grade, and Adult. Winners of each youth category will receive a \$50 savings bond courtesy of Ulster Savings Bank. Entries are being accepted at any Ulster Savings Bank branch from now through July 31, 2007. For more information or to receive an entry form please contact Gloria Lipton, 845-331-1682.

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