



Frederick J. Wadnola

Chairman

Ulster County Legislature

Chairman's Message

Paul J. Hansut, Majority Leader

Kenneth Ronk, Jr., Majority Whip

Jeanette M. Provenzano, Minority Leader

Hector S. Rodriguez, Minority Whip

**Robert Aiello
Carl Belfiglio
Terry Bernardo
Dean Fabiano
Frank Felicello
Walter Frey, Jr.
Richard Gerentine
Wayne Harris**

**Jack Hayes
Mary Beth Maio
James Maloney
Laura Petit
Kevin Roberts
Michael Sweeney
Catherine Terrizzi**

**Thomas Briggs
David Donaldson
Donald Gregorius
Roy Hochberg
Alan Lomita
Peter Loughran
Michael Madsen
Richard Parete**

**Robert Parete
Brian Shapiro
Mary Sheeley
Joseph Stoeckeler
Susan Zimet**

February 15, 2011

Address to the Ulster County Legislature
Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Good Evening my fellow Legislators and guests.

I would like to thank you for your support in re-electing me Chairman of this historic term of the Ulster County Legislature. This year is the last of the 33 member legislative body. Next year the Legislature will be leaner by 10 members serving in single member districts.

I believe that the past year has been a good one. The Republican, Conservative and Democratic members of this Legislature have worked well together in providing checks and balances as mandated by our County Charter.

In 2010 I asked the Economic Development and Tourism Committee chaired By Legislator James Maloney to review and assist the development of the proposed Crossroads Ventures project in the western end of the County and to help facilitate development in Ellenville and Saugerties. In addition, I asked this committee to rededicate their efforts in locating and developing shovel ready sites for future development and job creation. I would like to congratulate Legislator Maloney for being nominated to the new county "Ready to Go-Shovel Ready Committee as the Legislative representative. I would also like to thank him for his hard work in Ulster County's Capital Resource Corporation. This allowed Kingston Hospital to restructure 11 million dollars in debt and purchase 5 million dollars in state of the art medical equipment.

Last year I asked Legislator Jack Hayes, Chairman of the Law Enforcement and Safety Committee to investigate possible new ways of utilizing the old county jail. Legislator Hayes has worked diligently to find possible options. I am requesting the committee continue their efforts.

The Health and Human Services Committee chaired by Legislator Walter Frey has had a busy year. The Golden Hill Health Facility Task Force was instituted and is in the process of coming forth to the Legislature with proposals for the future of the Health Facility. I would like to Thank Minority Leader Jeanette Provenzano and Legislator Frey for their dedication and hard work as the co-chairs in the facilitation of the Task Force. I must also thank all the members of the Task Force who spent numerous hours in interviews and reviews of information concerning Golden Hill. The Health and Human Services Committee brought forth "ProAct" a new discount drug prescription program to the Legislature and, with the support of the County Executive, has generated cost savings to the residents of Ulster County in the amount of \$274,749. As the program continues, more county residents should see additional savings.

This Legislature has instituted the "Commission on Reapportionment" which is tasked with the responsibility of downsizing the existing 12 multimember districts to 23 single member districts for the election this year in November. This task should be accomplished by June 2011.

I want to acknowledge Majority Leader Hansut and Minority Leader Provenzano for their cooperation and assistance in the functioning of the Legislature this past year. I look forward to a very proactive Legislature for 2011.

As your Chairman I hope each member of this historic Legislature will forget about where they sit in Chambers but join together to work in a bipartisan effort to address the problems of rising taxes, improving our economy and creating jobs in Ulster County.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the Clerk of the Legislature Karen Binder and her staff for the outstanding job they do in the office for all the members of the Legislature.

I pledge that I will work with you to serve the residents of our County to the best of my ability. I want to thank all the Legislators for their service to Ulster County. God Bless You and God Bless America. Thank you.