

Ward D. Todd

Ward D. Todd is President/CEO of the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce, the region's largest business-advocacy organization with 1,000 members representing more than 20,000 employees. The Ulster Chamber is a leader in developing and advancing business growth and expansion in the Ulster County Region. Mr. Todd is a graduate of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organization Management (IOM) at Villanova University.

In addition to his fulltime position as Chamber President, in charge of a fulltime professional staff, Mr. Todd also volunteers to assist several not-for-profit organizations. He currently serves as Secretary and Board Member of the Ulster County Economic Development Alliance (UCEDA), Treasurer and Board Member of the Sound of Life Radio Network and Chairman of the Administrative Board of the Memorial United Methodist Church of Shandaken.

Mr. Todd was a member of the Ulster County Legislature where he served for seven years, including three years as Chairman (2001-03) and three years as Majority Leader (1998-2000). His primary focus during his public service was promoting economic development and taxpayer relief. During his time in the county legislature, he also served as Vice President of the Catskill Watershed Corporation and First Vice President of the NYSAC County Legislature Chairs.

Mr. Todd began his public service career when he was elected to the Kingston Consolidated School Board of Education at the age of 25. He went on to serve six years, including two years as Board President and two years as Vice President. He was also a member of the Onteora School Board, President of the Children's Annex Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Alzheimer's Memory Walk and Vice President of WKNY's Toys for Tots campaign. He also served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Ulster County, Hudson Valley Alzheimer's Association, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Rip Van Winkle Council Boy Scouts, Ulster County Girl Scouts and Junior Achievement.

Ward is a familiar voice to radio listeners in the Hudson Valley. He was Morning Program Host and Operations Manager at WKNY, Kingston and held on-air positions at WROW (Albany), WRKL (Rockland County) and WBAZ (Kingston). He was Chief Staff Announcer at WRNN-TV. Ward was also a CBS-TV and HBO Ring Announcer for professional boxing matches featuring World Champions Billy Costello and Tracy Patterson.

Mr. Todd is a Rotary International Paul Harris Award recipient. He received the SUNY New Paltz Dean's Award for Excellence in 2020, the Rip Van Winkle Council Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award in 2018 and the Ulster County Jewish Federation Community Service Award in 2017. He has also been honored with the Belleayre Mountain Spirit of the Catskills Award, recognized for his community service as Gateway Industries Toast of the Town honoree and was the Ulster County Arts Council Arts Advocate of the Year for his efforts to promote and advance the arts in Ulster County.

Ward and his wife Jane live in Shandaken, in the Catskills. They are the proud parents of Jennifer, Peter, Michael and Philippe and grandparents of eleven grandchildren.