

## **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 over 1,000 members with 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 with several organizations. Giving back to his community is an important part of his mission in life. He currently volunteers to serve as Secretary of the Ulster County Economic Development Alliance (UCEDA). He is Treasurer of the statewide Chamber of Commerce Alliance (CANYS), Trustee of the Memorial United Methodist Church of Shandaken and Board Member and Secretary of the Sound of Life Radio Network.

Mr. Todd was an elected 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 property tax 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 NYS Association of County Legislature Chairs.

He is a former President of the Kingston School Board of Education and was also a member of the Onteora School Board. He was President of the Children's Annex Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Alzheimer's Memory Walk and a member of the Hudson Valley Alzheimer's Association Board of Directors. He was Vice President of WKNY's Toys for Tots campaign for more than 25 years and served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Ulster County, 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 in Kingston and also held on-air positions at WBAZ, Kingston, WROW, Albany and WRKL, Rockland County. 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.

He received the Rip Van Winkle Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award in 2018. He has also been honored with the Belleayre Mountain "Spirit of the Catskills" Award; he was 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. Mr. Todd is a Rotary International Paul Harris Award recipient.

Ward and his wife Jane live in Shandaken, in the Catskill Mountains. They are the proud parents of Jennifer, Peter, Michael and Philippe and the even-prouder grandparents of eleven wonderful and amazing grandchildren.