

Press Releases

01-26-11 This Week In Orange County By Edward A. Diana

Last week I had the opportunity to hear our new Governor's assessment of the State of the State when he visited the Hudson Valley to speak at Marist College. And, of course, this week was the President's State of the Union address. For me, one of the most significant take-aways from these two speeches is the importance of working together. The strength of our great democracy comes not just from sitting together, but taking the time to roll up our sleeves and actually getting down to work together for the good of the people. In this time of continued economic challenges, strong collaborations will make a difference.

Speaking of working together, I am so proud of the dedication and perseverance of all those whose hard work brought us to the recent opening of the Kaplan Building at SUNY Orange's Newburgh campus. Newburgh is now home to a full branch campus of what I believe is the finest community college in the SUNY system. Classes began on Tuesday, January 18, and the positive feedback on this beautiful new building has been pouring in. The Kaplan Building incorporates many environmentally-friendly building practices that will enhance energy efficiency and cost-savings. If you find yourself in the neighborhood, please be sure to check it out. George Shepard, who passed away this week, was a member of the team that founded what was then Orange County Community College. I know he would be very proud of where the college is today.

So have you had enough of the snow and the cold? With the seventh storm of the season going through as I write, it's hard to believe that winter is only one-third of the way through. If you've got sick or elderly neighbors, please take a few minutes to check-in with them during the bad weather. Even a phone call can make a critical difference.

Until next week, wishing you good health and happiness.

Edward A. Diana
County Executive