

## ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION OFFICE OF ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE 244 FAIR STREET KINGSTON, NEW YORK, 12401 PHONE: 845.340-3900 FAX: 845.340.3651 www.co.ulster.ny.us www.ulstercountyny.gov

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 9, 2009



**Chairman Donaldson Declares April 2009 Autism Awareness Month** 

The Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature, David B. Donaldson, joins with the Governor of the State of New York and the New York State Assembly in declaring the month of April as Autism Awareness Month.

Chairman Donaldson commends Vincent McLaughlin (above), an autistic young man from Saugerties, NY on all his efforts and hard work as an advocate representing the Autistic Community. Vincent started this process about three years ago and through his dedicated initiatives he was notified last week and presented with a Proclamation by Governor Paterson and the NYS Assembly declaring April "Autism Awareness Month".

"Chairman Donaldson started getting the word out when he made the declaration at the County level beck in 2007," said Mr. McLaughlin. "The credit goes to Chairman Donaldson for standing up in support of such an important cause."

By declaring April as Autism Awareness Month, Donaldson and the Ulster County

Legislature hope to contribute to a public dialogue about the disease and raise awareness about this

complex developmental disability affecting the normal development of the brain in areas of social

interaction and communication skills.