

ULSTER COUNTY 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

SEPTEMBER 29, 2008

Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack Announces Archives Month Exhibit

County Clerk Nina Postupack announces her annual exhibit celebrating Archives Month in Ulster County and installed for the first time on the second floor of the Ulster County Office Building at 244 Fair Street, Kingston, New York. The exhibit, entitled "Portraits of the Past: the Commemorative Biographical Record of Ulster County", features digital reproductions of all the portraits included in the book and summaries of their associated biographies and runs from October through December.

The Commemorative Biographical Record of Ulster County, published in 1896, is a large volume, even by County Clerk standards, containing over thirteen hundred pages. The book was built to last, with sewn binding, gold edges, a red leather cover, and now carefully preserved in green canvas applied by the office as a matter of preservation. As the title page asserts, it includes "biographical sketches of prominent and representative citizens, and of many of the early settled families" giving viewers a snapshot view of a veritable who's who of nineteenth century Ulster County. "The portraits" as described by County Clerk Nina Postupack, "are reproduced from original lithographs and steel engravings, with rich tones of black ink."

The exhibit will be mounted in the 2^{nd} floor of the County Office Building directly outside the main office of the Ulster County Clerk. The space is in the middle of a transformation, changing it from an empty hallway, into an archival gallery in anticipation of a gala opening timed for special events related to next year's Quadricentennial – the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's 1609 voyage up the river that has come to bear his name.

Ulster County is rich with history! Come see some of it at the County Clerk's Office October through December 2008. For further information about the exhibit and other programs of the Ulster County Archives please call County Clerk Nina Postupack at 340-3040.

-- 30 --