

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

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ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATOR CRAIG V. LOPEZ TO BE HONORED WITH A 2013 SHAKER AWARD

(Kingston, NY) – The Ulster County Legislature is proud to recognize Legislator Craig Lopez R-(Walker Valley) as he is presented with a Shaker Award, an award bestowed annually by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce to forty people under the age of forty "who have shown strong commitment to the Hudson Valley."

Legislator Lopez was recognized for his volunteer work as a peer mentor at the Helen Hayes Hospital, as an advocate for State legislation to fund the Spinal Cord Injury Research Trust, as a volunteer at various hunger relief efforts, as a guest speaker at Crispell Middle School in Pine Bush, as the sponsor of a change in Ulster County Legislative procedures to ensure Legislators the opportunity to remain with their local communities when recognizing the events of 9/11, and as a tireless protector of local taxpayers and residents in recent debates such as fighting against siting a landfill in the Town of Wawarsing, advocating for a casino at the Nevele, supporting the County's takeover of Safety Net expenses and defending our right to keep and bear arms.

Ulster County Republican Chairman Roger Rascoe stated, "I am so pleased that Craig has been selected as one of the Hudson Valley's top 40 under 40 honorees. From the moment I first met Craig, I was amazed at how he has not only overcome so many challenges in his life despite his spinal cord injury but the way he gives so much back to his family, friends and community. We are blessed here in the Hudson Valley to have a person of his energy and character representing us in the Ulster County Legislature."

The Dutchess County Chamber of Commerce established the Shaker Awards to honor the next generation of leaders in our region. "After completing this year's selection process, I couldn't be more optimistic about the future of the Hudson River Valley," said Charles North, President and CEO of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce in the announcement of the honorees.

The Shaker Awards will be presented on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at the Bardavon Opera House following a cocktail reception at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. For more information about the Shaker Awards and the event, visit www.dcrcoc.org.