

"STATE OF THE COUNTY  
JANUARY 6, 2016

"Members of the Board of Supervisors; County officers and staff; honored guests and visitors:

"It is an honor and privilege to be elected to continue as Chairman of the Warren County Board of Supervisors.

"It's pretty obvious that we have not always been in complete agreement as a Board this past year. I can also say that I believe each and every member of the Board takes their responsibility seriously.

"We continue to keep any tax increase well under the 2% tax cap enacted by the State. For the past three years increases were:

2014 - 1.57%

2015 - 1.51%

2016 - 1.35%

"We continue to have a stable financial outlook for the future of Warren County; we finalized the sale of the Westmount Nursing Home which will provide fiscal relief to our County Budget; the final sale amount of the nursing home was \$2,425,535.14; we continue taping Committee Meetings for the public viewing; our Board of Supervisors Meetings are being shown on TV-8; I would like to thank our sponsor; the Festival Space is up and running; we continue to make progress in the battle against Invasive Species; work has started on the renovation of the Court Facilities; we will have a second Family Court Judge starting this year.

"With all that said and taking a moment to recognize and enjoy our accomplishments we know that our work has really only begun. We will have to find a funding source to make sure that the Suny Adirondack Project is successful; we continue to monitor the Court Expansion Project to make sure it comes in under budget and on-time; we will have to find a funding source to upgrade our communications system; we can not continue to put our police officers and first responders at risk with a sub-standard radio system; we will need to continue to work as one unit on shared services for the upcoming future. We should start to see dividends this year.

"I will continue to encourage healthy debates and assure that everyone is heard and has the appropriate information in a timelier fashion to make informed decisions.

"I have listened to you, and reduced the number of Committees and pledge to try to facilitate Committee Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, if that is the pleasure of the Board. I am open to any more changes that you should want to make. I also agree to schedule a night meeting each quarter to allow residents who work during the day to attend our meeting.

“I ask that you be open to attending two or three workshop sessions to make sure we are staying on track with the projects listed. We need to set goals for the County and this can be done if we work together.

“I will ask a representative of NYSAC (New York State Association of Counties) to attend an upcoming Board of Supervisor’s meeting to discuss the different forms of government currently in use in New York State with your permission.

“I would like to welcome the new Board Members Craig Leggett-Chestertown, Claudia Braymer-Ward 3, City of Glens Falls, Matt MacDonald-Ward 5, City of Glens Falls and Ron Montesi-At Large Supervisor, Town of Queensbury. You all bring your own sense of experience to the Board and can only make us stronger and function better.

“I believe this Board and the employees of the County, who are second to none, are up for the challenges that 2016 might bring.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin B. Geraghty, Chairman  
Warren County Board of Supervisors”