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CONTACT:
Evan Chernack
516-512-1086
evan@ryanforulster.com

Southern Ulster Democrats Line Up Behind Pat Ryan for Ulster County Executive

Gardiner, NY - Today, nearly thirty Democratic Committee members residing in the southern part of Ulster County announced their support for Pat Ryan for County Executive in an open letter. This comes after Ryan was endorsed by the Plattekill and Shawangunk Democratic Committees last week. The signers to the letter represent six town Democratic Committees and include public officials, committee chairs, and leaders within the Ulster County Democrats.

“This is the biggest endorsement to date of any candidate in the race,” said Ryan. “I am thrilled to have a diverse coalition of community leaders behind our campaign for County Executive. I have spent the last several weeks meeting and talking with committee members and leaders in our community about the opportunities and challenges we face as a county. I am confident that together, we can build on the progress made under County Executive Mike Hein and take Ulster County forward.”

Pat Ryan is a fifth generation Ulster County resident and a native of Kingston, NY. He graduated from West Point and served two combat tours in Iraq, before returning home to start two businesses to deliver better technology to our troops overseas. Pat was the runner-up in the Democratic primary for U.S. Congress in New York’s 19th District. Pat resides in Gardiner, NY, with his wife, Rebecca

The full text of the letter and a list of its signatories are below.

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Open Letter Regarding the Ulster County Executive Campaign

February 11, 2019

Dear Fellow Democratic Leaders:

Ulster County has made significant progress over the last decade. With the resignation of County Executive Mike Hein, our next County Executive will need to have both the leadership experience and policy vision to build on this progress and take our county forward. We, the undersigned Democratic Committee members from southern Ulster County, have been actively following the County Executive race. After hearing from each of the candidates, we firmly believe that the best person to lead Ulster County forward is Pat Ryan.

Pat Ryan has prioritized environmental justice, economic justice and social justice in his campaign - issues which we believe are among the most important facing our communities. He is a committed progressive with a track record of advocating for these issues. He also has significant executive and leadership experience from his time in the private sector, where he supervised over 150 employees and managed a \$25 million budget. We believe these qualifications prepare him to lead the complex organization that is county government.

We can't risk undoing the progress that we've made in our county. The Democratic nominee for County Executive will potentially face a well-funded and well-organized Republican opponent. We know that Pat Ryan can run a winning campaign and ensure that the County Executive office remains blue in 2019.

On February 20th, we will be supporting Pat Ryan for Ulster County Executive at the Ulster County Democratic Convention. We encourage all of our fellow Democrats to do the same.

Signed,

Neil Bettez
New Paltz Democratic Committee

Dan Conna
Plattekill Democratic Committee

Doris Chorney
Shawangunk Democratic Committee

Hal Chorney
Shawangunk Democratic Committee

Ed Vazquez DeSoto
Marlborough Democratic Committee

Gladys Figueroa
Plattekill Democratic Committee

Adrienne Gelfand-Perine
Shawangunk Democratic Committee

Russ Gilmore
Lloyd Democratic Committee

Rose Guerrieri
Plattekill Democratic Committee

Bob Haskins
Lloyd Democratic Committee

Tim Hunter
Gardiner Democratic Committee

Jeff Kaplan
Wawarsing Democratic Committee

Mike Kruglinski
Gardiner Democratic Committee

Tom Kruglinski
Gardiner Democratic Committee

Glenn McNitt
Gardiner Democratic Committee

William Murray
New Paltz Democratic Committee

Jonathan Ridgeway
Plattekill Democratic Committee

Lynn Ridgeway
Plattekill Democratic Committee

Trisha Schacter
Marlborough Democratic Committee

Phil Schacter
Marlborough Democratic Committee

Jane Schanberg
New Paltz Democratic Committee

Barbara Sides
Gardiner Democratic Committee

Dan Torres
New Paltz Democratic Committee

Steve Weir
Gardiner Democratic Committee

Andrew Zink
Shawangunk Democratic Committee