



**NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF
ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATEMENT FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN

As the county continues to dry out from the recent flooding, County Executive Mike Hein issued the following statement

Kingston -- "Thank you to all volunteer fire departments; the city, town, village and county departments of public works (DPWs); Emergency Communications and Management Director Art Snyder and his entire staff; and the City of Kingston's Fire Department for your Herculean efforts helping Ulster County residents and businesses recover from the most recent flood. Because of your hard work, over 300 basements were pumped out and numerous flooded roads were appropriately addressed. Thank you also to the countless neighbors helping neighbors who made all the difference.

"Last Friday, as I traveled throughout Ulster County, from Phoenicia to New Paltz to Wawarsing, I witnessed firsthand the impacts of flood waters. In Wawarsing, Ulster County Legislator Mary Sheeley and I waded through the basements of residents whose flooding may well be compounded by leaks in the NYC DEP water system. I continue to maintain the position that the DEP should immediately offer to buy out the homes impacted by the leaking tunnel. I am encouraged that Legislator Bernardo is echoing my position and the position of Legislator Sheeley, Legislator T.J. Briggs, Legislator Joseph Stoeckeler, New York Senator Bonacic and many other area representatives. Naturally occurring floods are extremely serious and this situation only multiplies the problem. NYC DEP should address this situation at once."