

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro Voted “Best Politician” in the Hudson Valley

Poughkeepsie, NY... The readers of *Hudson Valley* magazine have chosen Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro as “Best Politician” in the Hudson Valley region. The annual “Best of Hudson Valley” issue features the ‘area’s most interesting’ people, from well-known politicians to musicians and philanthropists, as well as the area’s best choices for dining, shopping, recreation and more.

“In a region served by so many dedicated and respected elected officials, it is a real honor to be voted “Best” by the readers of *Hudson Valley* magazine,” said County Executive Molinaro.

Also honored with County Executive Molinaro as “Best Politician,” is Maurice Hinchey, United States Congressman representing the 22nd Congressional District of New York. “Congressman Hinchey has been a strong advocate of our shared Hudson River Valley. As we celebrate his lifetime of service, I am proud to be recognized with Congressman Hinchey as he begins his next chapter,” said County Executive Molinaro.

Marc Molinaro was first elected to public office at the age of 18 in 1994, serving on Village of Tivoli Board of Trustees. In 1995, he became the youngest mayor in the United States. He was re-elected mayor five times and elected four times to the Dutchess County Legislature, where he served as Chairman of the Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee and Co-Chairman of the Commission on Child Protection.

In 2006, he brought his passion for public service to Albany when elected to represent the 103rd District in the New York State Assembly. Molinaro served as Assistant Assembly Minority Leader Pro Tempore. He was also appointed by Governor Andrew Cuomo to serve on his Transition Team and subsequently to serve as a member of the Governor’s Mandate Relief Redesign Team.

In November 2011, Marcus J. Molinaro was elected as Dutchess County’s 7th County Executive with 62% of the vote. At the age of 36, he took office in January 2012 as the youngest County Executive in Dutchess County history. As Dutchess County Executive, he has been committed to core leadership principles of Focus, Inclusion, Logic and Fairness to best meet the needs of county residents. Many of his initiatives have focused on making county government more accessible and open to engage residents in a collective dialogue. Some of those initiatives have included:

- A new, modern **county website** www.dutchessny.gov that features numerous public outreach tools.
- A recent **Budget Survey** taken by more than 2,200 residents to provide input and feedback for the development of the 2013 budget.
- **Dutchess Dashboard** – a one stop information source for the public to monitor the key economic and service indicators that impact Dutchess County Government’s programs and services as well as the County’s fiscal position.
- **Dutchess Delivery** – a public outreach tool that enables residents to receive a broad range of information from the County website and other sources directly through their email, text messages (for alerts and advisories) and social media accounts

Residents have plenty of opportunities to get to know Marc Molinaro. County Executive Molinaro attends hundreds of community events each year, often several events in a single day. Parades are a special favorite for the County Executive, who enjoys strolling along the sidelines to chat with residents and

visitors. Mr. Molinaro is also an avid social media user, connecting with thousands of people each day through Facebook and Twitter.

The County Executive is an avid cyclist and hiker. Residents can find him putting in many miles throughout the region at recognized “Best Of” recreational venues such as the Walkway Over the Hudson (2012 Best Park) and Dutchess County’s own Dutchess Rail Trail and Harlem Valley Rail Trail, both of which have been recognized with “Best Of” honors by readers and editors of *Hudson Valley* Magazine. Throughout the summer, fans and visitors alike joined Molinaro rooting for the New York-Penn League Champion Hudson Valley Renegades at Dutchess Stadium, another Dutchess County park.

Marc Molinaro has been active in numerous community and civic organizations. In 2010, he was honored with the VV Anderson Award for Community Service by the Anderson Center for Autism.

County Executive Molinaro is a graduate of Dutchess Community College where he earned a Dutchess United Educators award and the PACE Land Use Law Center Community Leadership Alliance. He has been recognized by the former Greater Southern Dutchess Chamber of Commerce and “Capitol” news publication as one of their first “Forty under Forty” leaders.

County Executive Molinaro and his family reside in Red Hook.

The Best of the Hudson Valley 2012 party, which showcases this year’s winners, will be held on Thursday, September 27th at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel starting at 5:30pm. Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.hvmag.com/>. Abilities First is the charity beneficiary of the Best of Hudson Valley® Party 2012.

“The Best of the Hudson Valley Party 2012 should be great event –highlighting many of attractions of our beautiful region and I am thrilled that Abilities First will benefit from this year’s event. I look forward to sampling all of the delights of the evening and hope to see everyone there!” said Molinaro.

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