

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Electronic versions of the content of the press kit may be found at the FTP site: [www.adbiz.tv/PIA-news](http://www.adbiz.tv/PIA-news) - Hard copy will be available on site tomorrow. Photos taken at the event will be posted to the FTP for any news agency to source on Monday, April 30, 2007 .

**FOR RELEASE APRIL 27, 2007 at 4 PM**

**PLATTSBURGH** - The Clinton County Legislature is pleased to announce the opening of the Plattsburgh International Airport Terminal, Friday April 27, 2007 at 4 pm.

Festivities are scheduled to begin in the parking lot with the fifty member Peru High School Marching Band performing under the direction of Todd Pray. As invited guests pass through the exterior doors into the main lobby they will be free to admire the freestanding stone fireplace with wooden mantel, see the kiosks where future vendors, airlines and car rental agencies will be housed and view graphic presentations that chronicle the progress of the construction of the site and an overview of the Plattsburgh International Airport - designed to highlight what will soon become known in airline circles as PBG.

As guests queue into the four gates located on the first and second levels, a large expanse of window will reveal an awesome view of New York's Adirondack Mountains. The second floor will be staged to accommodate the official program which calls for area leaders to express their thoughts and hopes for the facility.

James R. (Jimmy) Langley, Jr., the Chairperson of the Clinton County Legislature will act as master of ceremonies. Clinton County Legislator and Plattsburgh International Airport Committee Chairperson Bob Heins will offer opening remarks. Loyal North Country friend, Congressman John McHugh, will deliver the keynote address, expressing in part, this sentiment:

**"Today's event is a historic milestone for Plattsburgh and the surrounding communities. The redevelopment that has occurred in Plattsburgh since the Air Force lowered its flag in 1995 is a testament to North Country resilience. When faced with uncertainty, the people of Clinton County, displaying tremendous resolve, built a better future for their community.**

**The Plattsburgh International Airport already services the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and numerous private companies and the future looks extremely bright. With the help of the Military Assistance Plan, Plattsburgh International is opening debt-free and looking to grow. I know that as businesses continue to invest in Plattsburgh International Airport, they will find what I have known my entire life: a community with a well earned reputation for hard work and ingenuity.**

**A new era of economic growth is underway here in Plattsburgh, one filled with hope and possibility and I am very happy that I will be here to help mark the occasion."**

Representatives from Governor Eliot Spitzer and Senator Charles Schumer offices will deliver prepared statements.

**"Fifteen years ago when the air base closed, who could have envisioned this day? The redevelopment of PARC and the opening of Plattsburgh International Airport is the culmination of years of hard work by dozens of community leaders. I have worked with my colleagues in the federal delegation to secure over \$39M dollars in federal funding for this project, but we may never have been successful without the strong leadership of people like Jimmy Langley and the indefatigable Garry Douglas. Today is a terrific**

**example of what can be accomplished when leaders from all levels of government, and from both sides of the aisle work together for the common good, “ said Senator Charles Schumer.**

Senator Betty Little will share her view of the development of the airport and its impact on the surrounding communities. "Today's grand opening of the Plattsburgh International Airport Terminal Facility marks a new and very exciting chapter in our region's history," said Senator Betty Little. "There are many people to credit and thank for this great accomplishment. It has taken vision, dedication and perseverance to arrive at this point, and the benefits from this day forward will make everyone's hard work well worth it. We're not only growing an airport -- we're growing an economic development engine that will be of benefit to all."

Assemblywoman Janet Duprey, who now represents the 114<sup>th</sup> District will offer insight from her unique perspective as the former Clinton County Treasurer. Said Duprey, **"This terminal building represents the culmination of a dream for many of us. This is a great day for Clinton County and the entire North Country - it is the crowning glory for the redevelopment efforts of PARC!"**

The official event program identifies for special recognition the individual supporters of the "Take Off Fund", acknowledging their generous efforts to continue the ongoing marketing of the venue to future passenger carriers.

This celebration offers a rare opportunity to tour the terminal prior to the installation of the FAA and TSA regulated security systems that will limit access within some areas of the terminal to ticketed passengers and airport and airline personnel.

**Governor Eliot Spitzer said: "This is a landmark day for Plattsburgh and Clinton County. This beautiful state-of-the-art terminal is a giant step toward realizing the great potential of Plattsburgh International Airport and the North Country. I salute the dedication, vision and leadership that charted the course from a shuttered military facility just over a decade ago to this sparkling air gateway that holds such promise for the region's bright future."**

**And from Senator Hillary Clinton: "This is a historic moment for an entire community that looked adversity in the face and saw opportunity. The opening of this terminal today is the true culmination of years of hard work by everyone in the community and is a shining example of what can be achieved when people come together with a common goal. It has been my honor to work with Jimmy Langley and the Clinton County legislators and Garry Douglas at the North Country Chamber of Commerce to support this project and I was proud to secure millions in federal funding for the airport. It has also been an honor to work to promote the Plattsburgh Aeronautic Institute (PAI) which was established to provide a skilled aviation workforce in Clinton County and will be taking full advantage of the new airport facilities. This opening today shows that there is nothing Plattsburgh can't do and I look forward to continuing to work with the entire community as we take the City and the County into an even brighter future."**

Guests will be invited to join members of the Legislature for a reception immediately following the ceremony. Pianist Bruce Patenaude and Saxophonist Greg Fiske will provide background music.

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Mary Ann Castine

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