



Westchester
County Association

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For Immediate Release

**ALFRED F. KELLY, JR., PRESIDENT OF
AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY,
TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT WESTCHESTER COUNTY
ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL SPRING DINNER, MAY 12**

*Brother James A. Liguori, President, Iona College,
To Receive Journal News Westchester Business Leader
Of the Year Award*

White Plains, NY (April 1, 2009) Alfred F. Kelly, Jr., President of American Express Company, will be the keynote speaker at The Westchester County Association's (WCA) Annual Spring Leadership Dinner—the business membership organization's signature event. It will be held **Tuesday, May 12, from 5:30 to 10:00 pm** at the Doubletree Hotel Tarrytown.



The title of Mr. Kelly's address is "Leadership in Challenging Times."

In addition to the keynote address, *The Journal News Westchester Business Leader of the Year Award* will be presented to Brother James A. Liguori, CFC, President of Iona College.



William M. Mooney, Jr., WCA President, said: “Mr. Kelly and Brother Liguori have both distinguished themselves in their careers and have also made significant contributions to Westchester and to numerous humanitarian and other charitable organizations. Their exemplary leadership will serve as a source of inspiration to the more than 600 business leaders and guests who will be hand for this very special evening.”

Mr. Kelly was appointed President of American Express Company in June 2007, after holding a number of key positions since joining the company in 1987. He works closely with the company’s Chairman and CEO on developing the company’s strategic direction, determining key policies affecting the company overall. He also has day-to-day responsibility for the company’s global consumer businesses, which include consumer and small business cards, customer service, pre-paid products, consumer travel, risk and information management, and global banking.

Previously, Mr. Kelly served as head of Information Systems at the White House from 1985 to 1987. From 1981 to 1985, he held a series of positions at PepsiCo in Information Systems and Strategic and Financial Planning.

Mr. Kelly is also a distinguished alumnus of Iona College where he received a BA (summa cum laude) and an MBA with honors. He has been a strong supporter of the college, having previously served as a Trustee for 13 years. Mr. Kelly is a member of the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital Board of Trustees and serves as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is also on the Board of Directors of Iona Preparatory School and Concern Worldwide USA. For the past 21 years, he has been vice chair of the Wall Street Charity Golf Classic, a major fundraising event for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Mr. Kelly and his wife and five children live in Westchester.

A graduate of both Iona Preparatory School and Iona College, Brother Liguori was appointed Iona’s seventh president in 1994. Under his leadership, the College has undergone a remarkable physical and academic transformation and emerged as one of the nation’s top colleges in the Northeast. He developed and implemented three Presidential Strategic Plans that raised more than \$100 million to complete a

number of building projects on the campus and to establish an endowment of more than 23 scholarship funds. Currently, a new \$14 million capital project—funded through gifts and grants—is being used to renovate and expand the main library will be finished on budget and on time in the summer of 2009.

Last year, Iona was listed in The Princeton Review's Best Northeastern Colleges and among the top schools in the North according to US News and World Report's annual "America's Best Colleges 2008." Iona's Hagan School of Business is included in the "Best 290 Business Schools", 2008 edition and Business Week's "Best Undergrad B-Schools."

With 280 employees and some 3,000 students, Iona College is also an important economic engine for New Rochelle, responsible for more than \$60 million in direct and indirect spending and supporting 1,700 jobs locally.

During his distinguished career, Brother Liguori served as associate superintendent of schools in the Archdiocese of New York and headmaster at the Iona Preparatory School among other top educational administrative posts. Born in the Bronx and raised in New Rochelle, Brother Liguori received a Master of Science degree in education from the State University of New York in New Paltz in English education. He also earned his Master of Arts, professional diploma and doctorate in educational administration from Fordham University.

Prior to assuming his duties as President of Iona College, he was the college's executive vice president.

Brother Liguori currently serves on the Boards of M.A.N. Foundation; Sacred Heart High School, Yonkers; Edmund Rice International, Geneva and Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, North Carolina.

The Leadership Dinner will begin with a cocktail reception at 5:30 pm. County Executive Andrew J. Spano will deliver the greetings to begin the dinner and award presentation at 7 PM, followed by coffee and cordial reception at 8:45 pm.

The cost is \$275 per WCA member and \$325 for non-member. Reservations can be made by calling (914) 948-6444 or visiting online at www.westchester.org.

The Westchester County Association (www.westchester.org) is the preeminent business membership organization in Westchester County. The Association is committed to business advocacy, economic vitality and to providing a strong and clear voice for the interests of businesses on the regional, national and international levels. Its key objectives are: promoting positive economic development in the region; fostering business development; and providing its members with access and interaction with key public and private sector individuals, agencies and organizations.