



## Todd Grady's Story

Todd has proudly called himself a Rochestarian for the last 20 years. Born in Lewiston, New York, Todd was raised in the villages of Kenmore and Williamsville nearby the City of Buffalo.

Having a strong interest in journalism at a young age, Todd interned as a teen on the sports desk at WGRZ-TV (Channel 2) in downtown Buffalo. This led him to pursue a bachelor's degree in Communication with a concentration in Political Science graduating from the State University of New York College at Fredonia in 1993. While at Fredonia, Todd earned All-America honors in cross country and is a 2006 inductee of the school's Sports Hall of Fame.

Todd remained loyal to Buffalo after college while working as a Graduate Assistant in Public/Media Relations for the Buffalo Bills during their last Super Bowl season. He then returned to work as a dedicated journalist, primarily reporting on sports for 2 Upstate newspapers – the *Observer* in Dunkirk and *The Citizen* in Auburn.

Todd moved to Rochester with his wife Kathy in 1998 where he joined the *Democrat and Chronicle*. He worked at the newspaper from 1998 to 2005, including five years as a business reporter covering a wide range of topics important to the economic future of the Rochester region. These included small business, economic development and energy. In 2003, Todd was named Journalist of the Year by the Western District of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

More recently, Todd worked as the Director of Communications for the Rochester Business Alliance promoting the launch of several key initiatives aimed at improving the economic well-being of the Greater Rochester region. These included Unshackle Upstate and the Fair Share Coalition. He also had the privilege of serving as a Development Officer for his high school alma mater St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute as well as Director of Annual Appeals for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo Alumni Partnership program.

In 2010, Todd was hired as the Director of Marketing Media/Community Relations for Anthony J. Costello & Son Development where he worked on several high-profile projects designed to enhance quality of life and the economic vitality of Brighton and Rochester. These projects included the addition and opening of Costco® Wholesale at the newly built Citygate on the Erie Canal development (the former Monroe County Iola Campus). In addition, he was a member of the team that facilitated improvements to the Erie Canalway Trail in Brighton, highlighted by new period lighting, a new boat dock and a canoe/kayak launch as part of The Reserve, a new, one-of-a-kind residential community.

Currently, Todd works in residential real estate sales specializing in new home construction.

Todd and his wife live in the city's Browncroft Neighborhood. Prior to moving to the city two years ago, Todd and Kathy resided in Irondequoit where they lived for 16 years.

Todd has dedicated two decades chronicling the lives of people and businesses while watching over Rochester with his reporting and work in the private sector. Now he wants to put his diverse background and heartfelt interest in the city he calls home to serve in the State Assembly representing the people of the 136<sup>th</sup> district.