

Plattekill Times

SUMMER
2011

Message from the Supervisor

The summer season has finally arrived, and I am sure many are looking forward to summer vacations, time by the pool and having the kids home.

Summer safety is the main message of this newsletter, so please read on to make sure your summer is safe and happy. Our Police Chief Joseph Ryan reminds us the ways we can keep our home safe while away on vacation and also how we, as neighbors, can watch out for each other. Our Building Inspector, James Brugger reminds us to be sure to make sure your house address is easily visible, so in case of an emergency our volunteer fire departments, police, or rescue squads can find you. Also, don't forget about pool safety. Use a certified pool alarm and never leave small children unattended in a pool area. Also be sure to never leave a child or pet unattended in a car. A car's inside temperature can climb to 120+ degrees in a matter of a few minutes, threatening anyone inside.

On a much more celebratory tone, please help me congratulate Esther Coppola, long-time Town of Plattekill resident for receiving the Ulster County Senior Citizen of the Year Award for 2011. She was recognized for her community involvement, volunteerism, participation and continued commitment to the citizens and seniors in our Town. Read more about her in the article below and congratulate her when you see her around town.

I would also like to welcome new Planning Board member Mr. Daryl Matthews and thank him for his service to the Town.

I look forward to seeing you on July 9th at our Fourth of July Red, White, and Blue Celebration at the Thomas Felten Park in Modena. We will have a dedication ceremony (5 PM), a concert at 6 PM and fireworks at dusk.

Have a happy, healthy and safe summer and I will see you around Town!

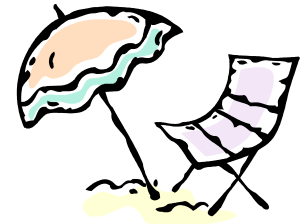
Bruce Loertscher, Supervisor

Resident Awarded Ulster County Senior of the Year

The Town of Plattekill wishes to extend heartfelt congratulations to Plattekill resident Esther Coppola for receiving the 2011 Ulster County Senior of the Year award. She and Highland resident Rafael Diaz both received the award at the annual Ulster County Centenarian Luncheon held at the Hillside Manor in Kingston. Ulster County Executive Mike Hein said "Esther and Rafael exemplify Ulster County's finest tradition of caring, compassion and service to others. I would like to extend my congratulations and my deepest gratitude for their efforts on behalf of our community."

Being completely unaware that Ulster County did anything like this, Esther said the award came as a complete surprise but "it is a wonderful honor" when she found out. She said she was treated "like royalty" and thoroughly enjoyed the banquet at Hillside Manor. Guests enjoyed chorale music, corsages, and received lovely certificates, and many accolades. She said the dinner honored those 100 years or older in the county and she was surprised to learn that there are over 100 people that are 100 years or older in Ulster County.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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- *Essay Contest Winners Announced*
- *Summer Safety throughout this newsletter*
- *Veteran's Committee Fundraising for Veteran's Memorial*

UC Senior of the Year Award...(Continued from page 1)

She said eighteen of the 22 found were able to attend the event and she was “the baby” of the group! A personal note from the President of Ulster County Community College for her years of service as a Trustee, was another lovely acknowledgement she received.

In addition to the county dinner, there was a subsequent event in Albany; NYS Senior Citizen Day, where all of the recognized seniors of each county in New York State were honored again.

The Ulster County Sheriff's office drove award recipients to Albany, the Ulster County Office of the Aging provided each with a goody bag filled with gifts, and all were treated to a lovely reception and award ceremony in The Blue Room of the State Capital Building. Each received recognition from the State by the Lieutenant Governor, recognized by the State Assembly and visited



Esther Coppola holding her two award certificates; one from the County and one from the State.

the State Senate. She also received a booklet that outlined all of the things that she did. Esther has been involved with a myriad of organizations and activities throughout Ulster County for decades. She served on the Plattekill Planning Board for over 30 years, served as an Ulster County Community College trustee for 10 years. Esther has volunteered her valuable time for many Ulster County organizations including the Ulster County Planning Board for 10+ years, the Red Cross, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, Highland Cemetery, Highland Chamber of Commerce, Ulster County Mental Health Association, National Recycling Coalition, St. Augustine's School Teacher/Volunteer, Milton Marlboro PTA, Plattekill Civic Association and Plattekill Community Action, to name a few. She remains actively involved in many senior activities and currently sits on several Town of Plattekill committees. She enjoys visiting with other seniors, and often takes them shopping, to appointments, local activities and senior outings.

When you see her around Plattekill, be sure to congratulate her on all of her achievements and civic spirit.

Can We See Your Address?

Premises ID: Having your proper address posted on your building or property is an important aspect of finding your location in an emergency. Fire, police, and ambulance all rely on proper display of addresses to get there quickly

Section 505 of the Fire Code of NYS requires all new and existing buildings have approved address numbers that are plainly visible and legible from the street or road fronting the property. The numbers shall be at least 4 inches high, half an inch wide and must contrast with their background.

Chances are if your address isn't posted properly, precious time could be lost in finding you in your ultimate time of need. Take a few minutes to see if yours is properly posted...it could save your life!!!

A Word from our Police Chief

On behalf of the men and women of this agency, as we strive to meet the demands of public safety, I want to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer. Unfortunately during these months we have seen an increase in burglaries. While some burglars are professionals, the majority of burglars are teenagers and drug addicts looking for a means to acquire quick cash. The following tips can dramatically decrease the chance that you may become a victim of a burglary;

Burglars select their targets carefully, looking for homes and apartments that they can enter and leave quickly while avoiding detection. If when looking at your house, a burglar sees that it is well-lit, has a security system and solid doors with good quality deadbolt locks, your home will be uninviting to the burglar and will help reduce its chances of being burglarized.

After determining the target, the average burglar spends just a few minutes burglarizing it. Therefore keep all jewelry, cash and small electronics in a secure area such as a heavy safe or hidden in inconspicuous places. Dresser drawers are not a good place to conceal valuables.

If you are leaving for vacation and your home will be unoccupied for long periods;

1. Make sure that all windows and doors are locked.
2. Do not advertise you are away, mow your lawn before you leave and cancel mail and newspaper deliveries for

the period you are away.

3. Have a trusted neighbor keep an eye on your home.
4. Have your calls forwarded and do not announce on your answering machine that you are away.
5. Do not pull shades all the way down or blinds all the way closed.
6. Use automatic timers on lights.
7. Keep a radio or TV on and turn up the volume,

Notify the Plattekill Police Department that you will be away. You can request the police to check on your home while you are away. You can do this by filling out a security check form available to you at the Town Hall or police station.

The most important thing we can do to help reduce crimes such as burglary or theft is to report any suspicious activity in your neighborhood to the police as soon as possible. You may remain anonymous. The following are examples of suspicious activity:

1. Door to door sales persons that do not have identification from a reputable company.
2. Persons knocking on your door and stating they are looking for a lost pet.
3. Unfamiliar vehicles driving slowly up and down the street with the occupants looking in the direction of your home.
4. Persons walking out of wooded areas to back yards, Vehicle parked in neighbor's driveway you know to be away.

What may seem suspicious to one person may not be to another, so it is better to err on the side of caution. The police officer does not mind that you make the call even if the suspicious person is legitimate.

—Chief Joseph Ryan



Hot Weather Tips for Pets

Be sure to provide plenty of shade and water for your pets if left outside during the summer heat. Young and older animals are usually better off if left inside with water and in air conditioning when the outdoor temperature exceeds 90 degrees.

Town Dog Licensing

New York State Law still mandates that all dogs be licensed and have a current, valid rabies vaccine.

The local Towns have now taken over dog licensing and all dogs are required to obtain a new license and numbered tag. If your dog was licensed in 2010, then you will be given a new tag when the license is renewed in 2011.

Dogs that are not currently licensed should be licensed at the Town Clerk's Office located at the Town Hall, #1915 Rt.44-55, Modena, NY, 12548. (845) 883-7331

There is a new fee schedule:

- Licenses for Spayed Females and Neutered Males - \$7.00
- Licenses for Unspayed Females and Unneutered Males - \$15.00

Please bring in a copy of when the dog received his or her last rabies vaccine.

Licensing your dog is a State and Town Law, makes it easier for someone who finds your dog to return him or her to you and helps to make sure everyone is safe from the threat of a rabies outbreak.

Please take the time to license your dog! Make this world a safer place for everyone!



Plattekill Dog Shelter
is in need of

long lasting chews,
bones, and towels.

Donations can be
dropped off at the
Town Hall .

Make a tail wag today!

RABIES CLINIC

JULY 1 @ 4 PM

**Plattekill Town
Highway Department
Parking Lot**

Available to the first 30 people

Cost: \$10/shot

(cash or check accepted)

Another will be offered in August -date TBA.

Plattekill Public Library

It is going to be a busy and fun summer at the library! Join the summer reading program and take advantage of the many fun programs planned for all ages. Stop in at the library (located at 2047 Route 32, Modena, NY 12548) so you can register for programs. Because space is limited, registration is required, so register early! From July 5 through August 20, the library will open at 10 AM. Visit the library on the web at <http://plattekill.lib.ny.us/>.

Programs for Kids

Nintendo DS Game Time for children ages 5-9 every Monday beginning July 11

Make Your Own Jewelry For Pre-Teens and Teens ages 12-18 on Tuesday, 7/5 and Tuesday, 8/9 at 6PM. This program requires a donation of \$2.00 per person for materials and is limited to 12 people.

Lunch at the Library every Tuesday from 12:00 to 1:00 beginning on 7/5 through 8/16. For kids 7 and up. Bring a bag lunch, drink and snack will be provided.

Story Times: Story time will continue over the summer on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 AM. Wednesday story times are for children 2 to 5 years old. The program meets every Wednesday over the summer with the exception of 7/27.

Author Visit: On Wednesday, 7/27 at 10:30 AM come to the library and “**Discover the Desert**” with author Kathy Ceceri and make a special craft (ages 7 and up.) The program requires a refundable fee to reserve your place due to space limitations. The fees are as follows: \$1.00 for 1 child; \$1.50 for 2 children and \$2.00 for 3 children, etc.

Stories for Kids 5-9 years old at 10:30 AM. Miss Barbara will read stories and make crafts with children 5-9 years old. The dates of this program are as follows: 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/18, 8/25.

Learn to Speak Japanese - Special Thursday morning programs for children: On 7/7 at 10:30 AM children will be taught how to speak Japanese.

Author Visit featuring Karen Kaufman Orloff, author of “I Wanna Iguana” On 8/11 at 10:30 AM children ages 2-9.

Jackie the Magician Be mystified by this wonder, for children 3 & up on 7/14 at 6 PM.

Pajama Readaloud! On 7/21 at 6 PM relax in your PJ's and join us for the Pajama Readaloud for children 2 & up.

“**Here, There, & Everywhere**” program for children 6 & up. See and learn about animals from around the world on 7/28 at 6 PM.

Campfire Readaloud - Enjoy s'mores and more at the Campfire Readaloud featuring music by Hot Diggity Dog .For children 2 & up on 8/18 at 5 PM

Fun on Friday! Join us every Friday from 4:00-7:00 for events, such as Foam Sword Battles and Nerf Wars. Please check the schedule on our calendar of events on our website at <http://plattekill.lib.ny.us/>.

“**Cool Science**” experiments at 1 PM on 7/9, 7/23, 8/6, 8/20 for pre-teens and teens ages 10 and up.

Learn to Knit at 10:30AM for children 10 years old through adult. Part 1 is on 7/16 and Part 2 is on 7/30.

Make Blue Jean Purses at our craft class at 1:00 PM on 8/13. This program requires a donation of \$2.00 for materials and is limited to 12 people.

American Girls Tea Party - Enjoy a cup of tea and dessert at the American Girls Tea Party on 8/27 at 1:00PM. This is a dress up event for children 8 & up. Bring your favorite doll!

Programs for Adults

Computer Technophobe Classes for Seniors every Monday beginning on July 25 through August 15. There will be two sessions. Session 1 will begin at 9:30 AM and Session 2 will begin at 11:00 AM. Limit 4 per session. Registration is required.

Make Your Own Jewelry For Adults on Tuesday, 7/19 and Tuesday, 8/16 at 6 PM. This program requires a donation of \$2.00 per person for materials and is limited to 12 people.

Learn to Knit at 10:30AM for children 10 years old through adult. Part 1 is on 7/16 and Part 2 is on 7/30.

Join a Book Club! There are three to choose from. See book club information on page 9.

For even more program listings visit the library's web site at <http://plattekill.lib.ny.us/>

Seeking Nominations

It is that time of year to consider nominating someone you know as Plattekill's Citizen of the Year. Do you know a resident of the Town of Plattekill that goes "above and beyond" in their commitment to the community or to help others? The Committee is seeking nominations and the deadline for submitting one is Friday, August 5. The nomination procedures and forms will be made available on the

Town's Web site at <http://town.plattekill.ny.us>.

Previous recipients include: Emilie Rappleyea (2003); Robert Werlau (2005); Carmen Guetts (2006); Eleanor L. Seeland and Florence Jesse (2007); Southern Ulster Rotary Club (2008); Ed Longbard (2008); Jesse Ewald (2008), Sis Morse and Ireleen Schoonmaker (2010) This year's winner will be announced at Plattekill Day on September 17, 2011.

Upcoming Recreation Programs

Wayne Harris, Recreation Director

883-7331

The Town of Plattekill's Recreation Department (TOPREC) has planned the following programs for our community. Here is a quick glance of the offerings for the coming months. These events can also be found on the Plattekill Community Events Calendar posted in the Town Hall, and on the Town's Web site at: <http://town.plattekill.ny.us>. The web version is updated on a regular basis. If you have ideas for a recreational program, contact Wayne Harris.

Key To Locations: PES = Plattekill Elementary School; PTH = Plattekill Town Hall; FP = Felten Park, SC = Senior Center, CR = Community Room.

Jun. 28 – Aug. 4 Plattekill Summer Day Camp (registration was on May 11)

Jun. 29 T-Ball Registration (ages 4 – 8) 6 PM at FP. Parents are encouraged to help coach.

Jun. 30 Opening Day of the Plattekill Farmer's Market, 3 PM to 7 PM at TH.

Jun. 30 Red, White, and Blue Golf Outing at Turtle Creek Golf Course at the Garden Cathay in Plattekill with a 9:15 AM shot gun start. (please note that this date was changed from July 1)

Jun. 29 – Aug. 3 Tee Ball Games each Wednesday at FP, 6 PM

Jul. 9 Red, White, and Blue Fourth of July Celebration



5 PM Dedication Ceremony, at Felten Park to add the name, "1st Lt. Mark Dooley Way" to Patura Road in Modena. The event is sponsored by the Southern Ulster Rotary and Rolling Thunder (a group dedicated to honoring Veterans). The event is free and open to all.

6 PM Free Town Sponsored Concert and picnicking at the park. Featured band, "After Glow."

At Dusk – Fireworks!!

Aug. 7 Senior Picnic and Concert, 3 PM at FP, register with Wayne Harris or pick up tickets at Town Hall after July 7th.

Sep. 10 – Oct. 29 Youth Soccer Clinic at Felten Park on Saturdays for 4 to 9 year olds. (No clinic on 9/17) 9 AM (4-5) year olds, 10 AM (6-7) year olds, 11 AM (8-9) year olds

Sep. 17 The 19th Annual Plattekill Day at Felten Park, 10 AM to 5 PM. Musical acts, entertainment, car show, fun games for the kids, food, vendors and community groups. Free admission and parking. Come spend the day! (Sorry, no pets allowed.)

Oct. 10 Red, White, and Green Golf Outing, more information to come.

Oct. 30 Halloween Parade at Felten Park. Come in costume!



NO PETS OR ALCOHOL PERMITTED AT THE TOWN PARK

Town of Plattekill Community Events Calendar Summer and Early Fall

For general questions about Town events call the Town Hall at (845) 883-7331. For additions/changes/corrections to this calendar, email Jean Poirier, Town Publicist at jeanp5@optonline.net or call (845) 883-5284. The most recent version of this calendar is available on the Town's Web site at <http://town.plattekill.ny.us>. This list was updated 06/21/11.

Key To Locations: PES = Plattekill Elementary School; PTH = Plattekill Town Hall; FP = Felten Park. SC = Senior Center, CR = Community Room, PPL = Plattekill Public Library.

June

- Jun. 28 – Aug. 4** Plattekill Summer Day Camp (registration was on May 11)
- Jun. 29** T-Ball Registration (ages 4 – 8) 6 PM at FP Parents are encouraged to help coach.
- Jun. 30** Farmer's Market, 3 PM to 7 PM at TH.
- Jun. 30** Red, White, and Blue Golf Outing at Turtle Creek Golf Course at the Garden Cathay in Plattekill with a 9:15 AM shot gun start.* (please note that this date was changed from July 1)

July

- Jul. 2 & 3** Multifamily Yard Sale, Route 32, Modena to Benefit the Plattekill Grange. For information call (845) 883-7130.
- Jul. 6 – Aug. 10** Tee Ball Games at FP, 6 PM
- Jul. 7** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH
- Jul. 9** Red, White, and Blue Celebration – Concert and Fireworks at Thomas Felten Community Park in Modena. Concert at 5 PM, Fireworks at dusk.
- Jul. 9** – Dedication Ceremony, 5 PM at Felten Park to add the name, "1st Lt. Mark Dooley Way" on Patura Road in Modena. The event is sponsored by the Southern Ulster Rotary and Rolling Thunder (a group dedicated to honoring Veterans). The event is free and open to all.
- Jul. 13** Plattekill Golden Seniors Trip to Ace In The Hole, Garfield, NJ "American Bandstand Bash." Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM. Members \$39, Nonmembers \$42. For additional information and to register, contact Mary Tierney at 883-7854.
- Jul. 14** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH
- Jul. 21** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH
- Jul. 28** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH

August

- Aug. 2 – 7** Ulster County Fair, Ulster County Fairgrounds, New Paltz, NY
- Aug. 4** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH
- Aug. 6 & 7** Multifamily Yard Sale, Route 32, Modena to Benefit the Plattekill Grange. For information call (845) 883-7130.
- Aug. 7** Senior Picnic and Concert, 3 PM at FP. Pick-up tickets at Town Hall after July 7.
- Aug. 11** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH
- Aug. 18** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH
- Aug. 25** Farmer's Market 3 PM to 7 PM at TH

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Aug. 25 Plattekill Golden Seniors Trip to Ehrhardt's Waterfront Center. Must have valid ID with you to enter Casino. (Driver's License, State ID card with photo, Date of birth and address.) Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM. Members \$29, Non-members \$32. For additional information and to register, contact Mary Tierney at 883-7854.

Aug. 28 Annual Chicken Barbeque and Picnic hosted by the PRC. Serving at 4 PM at Harris Lake (across from the Plattekill Fire Department on Firehouse Road). Adults \$12, Children under 12 years \$5. For tickets or more information, call 883-7118.

September

Sep. 3 & 4 Multifamily Yard Sale, Route 32, Modena to Benefit the Plattekill Grange. For information call (845) 883-7130.

Sep. 17 Plattekill Day at Felten Park.

Sep. 27 Plattekill Golden Seniors Trip to Aqua Turf Club "Tribute to The Rat Pack." Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM. Members \$35, Non-members \$37. For additional information and to register, contact Mary Tierney at 883-7854.

October

Oct. 10 Red, White, and Green Golf Outing. More details to come.

Oct. 12 Plattekill Golden Seniors trip to Ehrhardt's German Festival with the Joe Lastovica Band. Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM. Members \$36, Non-members \$38. For additional information and to register, contact Mary Tierney at 883-7854.

Oct. 30 Halloween Parade at Felten Park. Come in costume!

***Denotes a change in scheduling took place.**

For the most updated version of this calendar and for much more information about the Town of Plattekill, visit:

<http://town.plattekill.ny.us>

14TH ANNUAL LIVE, LAUGH & LEARN

DAY OF SENIOR WORKSHOPS

Friday, August 19th, 2011

Business Resource Center

1 Development Court, Kingston.

Sample topics include:

Yoga, Zumba, Latin dancing, Tai Chi,
computer classes, antique appraisals, and more.

Applications available July 15th

Call the Ulster County Office of the Aging

to receive one.

845-340-3456

Plattekill Day

Mark your calendars!

Plattekill Day has
been changed to

Saturday,

September 17th due to
neighboring Town
events.

Community Notes

Farmers Market

The Farmers' Market is coming back! Be sure to stop by on Thursdays to pick-out locally grown fresh produce, fruits and vegetables, specialty baked products, honey, maple syrup, candy and more. Every Thursday 3 PM to 7 PM, starting June 30th and running through October. Plattekill Town Hall parking lot, 1917 State Route 44-55, Modena.

Free Coupon Month in July.

Residents can get \$20.00 in free coupons from the Town Clerk's Office to be used at the Transfer Station during the month of July. Coupons will be available starting June 27, 2011.

Field Day at Plattekill Elementary School

The students of Plattekill Elementary School gave their all at the school's annual Field Day on June 8th. Even through the blistering heat the kids had fun in the spirited and athletic competitions whether it was the relay races, sack races, baseball batting, Frisbee toss, tug-of-war, or the three-legged race with a classmate. The Plattekill PTA kept the kids hydrated with donated orange slices and lots of water! Thanks to all who volunteered at the event.



Plattekill Head Start

Plattekill Head Start children are preparing for Step-Up Day to signal the end of the school year and all 27 of us are preparing to go to "the Big School" in September. We visited Plattekill Elementary School so we would be prepared for the transition and the Kindergarten teachers came to our school to talk to our parents to give them some tips as to how to make the transition easier – for both of us! We raised butterflies from caterpillars and watched them fly away when they were ready and had a Field Trip to a butterfly farm. Both were AWESOME! If you or a friend will be 3 years old by December 1, 2011, contact Betsy Escanio at 564-3262 to arrange a Wait List Interview so that you can join our fun for the next school year. Have a safe and happy summer! Submitted by Mary Brady, Plattekill Center Director

Veteran's Committee Fundraising for Memorial

By a unanimous vote at a Special Meeting of the Town of Plattekill Veteran's Committee it was decided that the Committee will establish an endowed fund with the Community Foundation of Ulster County to support its goal of building a Veteran's Memorial at Thomas Felten Park. This will allow the Committee to operate under the 501 (c) 3 Not-For-Profit status of the Foundation. The fund is in the process of being established and will enable donors to make tax deductible contributions through its fundraising efforts. Stay posted for further announcements.

Memorial Day Parade and Veteran's Breakfast

The Tri-Town Memorial Day Parade hosted by the Town of Plattekill and the Veteran's Breakfast hosted by the Modena Fire Department were both a great success. Many thanks to all of the dedicated volunteers who combined their efforts for such an

(COMMUNITY NOTES...Continued from page 8)

inspiring day

The Town of Plattekill Veteran's Committee sponsored a float in honor of Vietnam Veterans. They received many words of thanks and appreciation for their fine work.



Modena Fire Department marches in the May 29th Memorial Day Parade. The parade started at the Plattekill Town Hall on Route 44-55 in Modena and ended at the Felten Community Park.



Essay Contest Winners

The Town of Plattekill Veteran's Committee is pleased to announce the 2011 winners of their annual Essay Contest. Contest participants were asked to write an essay about a family member, friend or neighbor who has served, or is currently serving, in the U. S. Military Service, or, if preferred, about a historical figure who was a soldier. The essay needed to express the writer's view of the subject as a True American Hero. Read the winning essay on page 10.

They winners are: First Prize - \$250.00 - Lauren Klosterman; Second Prize - \$100.00 - Jonathan Long; Third Prize - \$50.00 - Neal Peets. The cash prizes were generously donated to the Veteran's Committee by Rocking Horse Ranch, James Potter, d/b/a Potters and Richards Foreign Car Repair. Congratulations to all of the contestants. They did a wonderful job and are to be commended for their efforts.

AED Training

Town Hall and some library employees took a training class on the use of the defibulator at the Town Hall. The course was taught by Mrs. Brugger for free. The Town has AEDs in both the Town Hall and the Library/Senior Center Building.

Plattekill Public Library Budget Vote

The Plattekill Public Library will be holding its annual budget vote on Thursday, July 28, 2011 at the Library between 12 PM and 9 PM. Be sure to exercise your right to vote and bring I.D.

Join a Book Club This Summer!

The Plattekill Public Library Book Clubs meet every month. The First Editions meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. The Second Printings meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. And The Classic Versions meet every Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM. Some of our upcoming selections include *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Room*, *Running The Books*, *The Ape House*, *Bel Canto*, and *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*.

Come join us for the discussions. Members create the book lists, the discussions last about an hour, and friends are made. Contact the Library at 883-7286 for more information.

The following is the winning essay in this year's Veteran's Committee Essay Contest. The winner was Lauren Klosterman, a Modena resident and student at the Wallkill Senior High School.

A True American Hero

by Lauren Klosterman.

What makes a true American hero? Is it having the courage to risk your life to protect your country? Or is it having enough bravery to stand up and fight for what you believe in? Or is it having the courage to just say no? We have had many historical figures that did just that; from our founding fathers to our current military forces and services. Now we rely on our military services to keep us safe. America has lost so many people in our recent wars that it's hard to keep track. However, there is one person I will never forget; he is my American hero. His name is Pat Tillman.

Pat Tillman was born on November 6, 1976 in San Jose, California. He played football in high school and was extremely good at it. After leading his team to various championships, he was offered a scholarship to Arizona State University (ASU). He was also very smart and excelled in all of his classes. He won many athletic and academic awards, including the ASU MVP award in 1997 and the Clyde B. Smith Academic Award in 1997.

Tillman's NFL football career started in 1998 when he was selected by the Arizona Cardinals. He became a starter for the team and broke tackling records. When the United States entered Afghanistan he decided to take a break from football and join the military. After finishing his last season, he joined the Army. To do this, he had to turn down a 3.6 million dollar contract with his team. After completing his training he did see some action.

On April 22, 2004 Pat was killed in Afghanistan during an incident of fratricide, also known as friendly fire. It all started when his platoon was forced to split up when one of their vehicles broke down. Half the platoon was told to tow the vehicle and they were then attacked by the enemy. When Pat's half of the platoon came to help, they were mistaken as the enemy. He was shot three times in the head while protecting a young soldier. He was pronounced dead twenty-four hours later. He was only twenty-eight.

Pat Tillman showed so much bravery, risking his life to protect the younger soldier. For his bravery he received the Purple Heart and the Silver Star medals of Honor. But that's not why he's my hero. Pat Tillman gave

up a 3.6 million dollar football contract to fight in the military. He chose to give up his football career to go to Afghanistan. How many people would give up all that fame, fortune, and football to risk their lives? Pat Tillman did and I will always respect him for that. Pat Tillman is my hero and a great example of a True American Hero.

From our Highway Department

Summer is finally here and every day of warmth and sunshine seems to diminish our memories of snow and precipitation during the winter. Mostly our reminders of the damage left behind from Mother Nature are the pot holes and heaved pavement areas that continue to break up. Our Highway crew did a great job during the spring clean up sweeping the roads of left over sand and salt and surveying the winter damage. We have changed a large culvert pipe that crossed South Street in Plattekill and currently working on a major project in Clintondale on Bedell Ave. Last month the Highway department changed all of the driveway pipes and cross pipes that were failing and reshaped all of the roadside ditches filled with silted.

Last month we also did full depth reclamation of Bedell Avenue. This process grinds up all of the old asphalt to a depth of eight inches, then mixes it with new liquid asphalt creating a new base that we can pave over. During this process we get to evaluate the entire sub-base of the road and add material or drainage if needed. The new road base will also get a new profile and crown to keep the water off the road.

Vaccaro Lane is also getting a face lift with drainage repairs and a new paved driving surface. We should be paving both Vaccaro and Bedell about the middle of June with the help of our neighboring towns hauling with our trucks to our paving crew. I decided to do this project early in the summer, before prices of asphalt climb. Once we are done with this project our crews will be out fixing pot holes as needed.

As we all know the wet spring and warm days have made the grass grow faster. Our roadside mower has been busy mowing and will continue as needed. We will also be mowing the old landfill and all of the retention ponds within our drainage districts as soon as we can.

I am very proud of the job done at the police station by our Town employee Dwight Dougherty. With the help of our Highway department employees, Dwight finished the complete restoration of the Police Station. This

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Senior Corner

Seniors in Plattekill have an active senior club called Plattekill Golden Seniors. The group holds a business meeting the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 PM at the Senior Center. During the other Thursdays of the month, the group hosts speakers and pot-luck lunches, has birthday celebrations and a variety of other fun activities.

Mary Tierney continues to act as their Trip Coordinator and has planned several outings for the summer. For more trip information or to register for a trip, call her at 845-883-7854.

Senior Happenings...

Jul. 13 Plattekill Golden Seniors **Trip to Ace In The Hole**, Garfield, NJ “American Bandstand Bash.” Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM. Members \$39, Nonmembers \$42.

Aug. 7 Senior Picnic and Concert, 3 PM at Felten Park in Modena. Free for Plattekill Seniors. Food, prizes, and fun! Register for tickets with Wayne Harris, Recreation Director by calling 883-7331 or stop in the Town Hall after July 7th to pick up your tickets.

Aug. 19 LIVE, LAUGH, AND LEARN Senior Workshops sponsored by the UC Office of the Aging. (see box on page 4 for more information.)

Aug. 25 Plattekill Golden Seniors **Trip to Ehrhardt’s Waterfront Center**. Must have valid ID with you to enter Casino. (Driver’s License, State ID card with photo, date of birth and address.) Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM. Members \$29, Non-members \$32.

Sep. 27 Plattekill Golden Seniors **Trip to Aqua Turf Club “Tribute to The Rat Pack.”** Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM. Members \$35, Non-members \$37.

NEWS RELEASE: A program titled “Keeping Seniors in the Drivers’ Seat” will be presented by the Ulster County Office for the Aging on June 24 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Business Resource Center, Room 114, 1 Development Court, Kingston, NY.

A pharmacist, an ophthalmologist, a driver rehabilitation specialist, and representatives from the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, the Ulster County Sheriff’s Office and the Ulster County Traffic Safety Board will participate in a panel discussion. A local insurance company representative will also participate. Coffee and refreshments will be provided. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (845) 340-3578.

Following the program, there will be a Car Fit event at the Ulster Hose No. 5 Firehouse, 830 Ulster Ave., from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Car Fit is a screening performed by trained technicians who take about 15 to 20 minutes to go over each driver’s vehicle with them while they are behind the wheel. The review includes, but is not limited to, assisting in correcting steering wheel distance, access to brake and gas pedals, proper seat belt positioning, mirror adjustments and knowledge of vehicle controls. Appointments are required and can be made by calling (845) 802-7190. Both events are free. Call the Office for the Aging at (845) 340-3456 or toll free at (877) 914-3456 for more information.

From the Ulster County Office For the Aging:

Legal counseling on civil matters, including drawing of wills, landlord and tenant problems and powers of attorney is available to Ulster County residents age 60 and over. Contributions are accepted. Call 340-3456 for an appointment.

To receive Home Delivered Meals, seniors must be 60 years of age and over, homebound and a resident of Ulster County who are

Town of Plattekill

PO Box 45
Modena, NY 12548
(845) 883-7331

Unless otherwise noted, call the main number for the Town of Plattekill to reach anyone listed here

Bruce Loertscher, Supervisor

Town Board:
Joseph Croce
Jon Crone
Mark Jaffee
Jennifer Zupan

Barbara E. Dawes, Town Clerk & Vital Registrar

April Colombo, Deputy Town Clerk

Robert Wager, Highway Superintendent
883-5910

Mike Dunham, Town Assessor

James Brugger
Joseph Locicero
Building Inspectors

Annamaria Maciocia, Town Justice

John G. Sisti, Town Justice

Joseph Ryan, Police Chief
883-6373 (non emergency)

Wayne Harris, Recreation Director

Muriel Obermeyer, Town Historian

Chantel Haight
Dog Control Officer
883-6557 (non emergency)
691-8473 (State Police - emergencies only)

Jean Poirier, Town Publicist
883-5284

Ulster County Legislators:
Wayne Harris, 883-6022
Kevin Roberts, 566-4143

For emergencies only
Dial 911

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unable to prepare their own meals or have meals prepared for them. Anyone may make a referral by calling central intake at 845-334-5125 and giving essential information such as address, phone number, medical contact and reason requesting meals. A home visit by the Office for the Aging or the Department of Social Services caseworker is required before the start of delivery meals.

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restoration included new walls and a new ceiling structure that is strong enough to support a second story, if needed in the future. The electrical and plumbing systems were totally redone along with insulation and central air conditioning. The parking lot has been paved along with a paved sidewalk to the side emergency exit door. We filled in the dirt roadway that cut across the front lawn and planted grass. Dwight also added lights to the police station sign and flag pole. A new security camera that the Town already owned was installed at the front door. The highway department also took down an old dangerous tree and used a stump grinder to remove four stumps.

The water system at Felten Park was turned back on in April and has passed all of the water tests as required by the Ulster County Board of Health and we have done these tests more often than required.

The former Stune property at the corner of Patura Road and Route 32 is on our list of projects this summer. We will be removing the house and cleaning up the property. We have already trimmed trees and brush to get better access to the house. The Modena Fire Department has hosted a few training drills at the property.

I have been working with the Town of Plattekill Veterans Committee on the planned Veteran's Memorial project across from the Town Park.

Our team is also working very closely with Mr. Harris preparing for the 4th Of July celebration at the Town Park on July 9, which will also include a dedication ceremony that will add "1st. Lt. Mark Dooley Way" to Patura Road. We have ordered the sign and are looking forward to the celebration. Our thanks goes out to the Southern Ulster Rotary and Rolling Thunder, who are co-sponsoring the event.

I would like to thank everyone for their kind words and comments that the Highway department has been getting. If anyone has any questions or comments please feel free to contact my office.

Robert Wager, Superintendent of Highways

This newsletter is a quarterly publication by the Town of Plattekill. Contributions for the Fall 2011 issue are invited and due by August 15th. They should be e-mailed to Jean Poirier, Town Publicist at jeanp5@optonline.net, or delivered in writing to the Town Hall. All issues can be viewed on the Town's website: <http://town.plattekill.ny.us>. An e-mail subscription to this newsletter is available on this web site. Help us print less and save some trees. Subscribe today! Many thanks to Emily Rappleyea and Lisa Betanzos for proofing this newsletter.