

# Plattekill Times

SPRING 2010

## Message from the Supervisor

Spring Greetings to all! I am sure you are looking forward to Spring's arrival as much as I am. It has been a record breaking Winter, and as it comes to an end, we can look forward to warmer weather and some fun Town events.

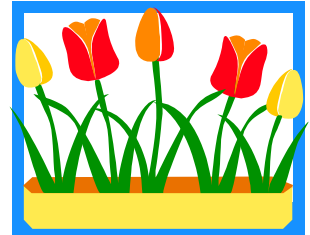
I would like to welcome our new board members, Joseph Croce, who will also serve as my Deputy Supervisor, and Jennifer Zupan. I would be remiss if I didn't also express my gratitude for the service of our outgoing board members Cynthia Delgado and Steve Martinez. We worked through many challenges and their years of service to our community are greatly appreciated.

Two new members of the Zoning Board of Appeals have been appointed: Thomas Felten, and Michael Putnam. We look forward to their contributions and input on Zoning matters. Micki Obermeyer was reappointed as Director of Plattekill Day and continues as our Town Historian. We appreciate her leadership on both of these fronts.

Our Recreation Director, Wayne Harris, was reappointed for another year; and he has been busy planning many programs and events. Be sure to check out the Recreation Events schedule in this newsletter. I am also pleased to announce that Jean Poirier has been hired as our Town Publicist. She will be seeking submissions for the Plattekill Times and the Community Events calendar as she did in the past, so be sure to see her contact information at the end of this newsletter. This newsletter is a short version but we expect to have much more information in the next issue. Please let Jean know of any community events or good news happening in our town.

I hope you take advantage of all of the opportunities available to you in our community and I wish you all a happy and healthy year.

--Bruce Loertscher



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Council's Corner	2
Highway Department	3
Plattekill Police	3
Recreation Calendar	5
Community Events	6
Senior News	8

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Read about Assessment and Inventory Reviews*
- *Easter Egg Hunt March 27*
- *New Marine Fishing License for Migratory Fish From the Sea (see Clerk's corner)*
- *Veterans' Fundraiser*

## News From the Assessor's Office

### Assessment and Inventory Review

The Assessor's Office would like to encourage all property owners to take the opportunity to review the inventory information on record for their property. This information is used to determine the assessment of each parcel in Town. If the information is incorrect, it may cause individual assessment to be unfair. Property owners are also encouraged to review assessments of similar properties in their neighborhood to verify that their assessment is fair in relationship to their neighbors. The Assessor has until May 1<sup>st</sup> to make any changes to individual assessments, so property owners should contact the Assessor prior to the end of April if they have any questions regarding their assessment.

### Change in Real Estate Market and its Effect on Taxes

With the declining real estate market, many property owners wonder whether their taxes should be reduced. The taxes that property owners pay are the

(Continued on page 2)



## Council's Corner

Well, it is a new year, with new people and new ideas, this being one of them. Welcome to the Council's Corner. Yes, a quarterly letter from your Plattekill Town Council. A letter that will give you the public some idea of what we wish to accomplish this year.

Before I start, I would like to first welcome our two new board members, Joe Croce and Jennifer Zupan. I'm hoping that with fresh new ideas we can steer this town in a direction that the people of Plattekill can be happy with. Both Joe and Jennifer are very energetic and want to do what's best for this town. Also, let's not forget Mark Jaffee, the man to my right. We had a rough two years, but hopefully the next two will be exciting and fulfilling.

Now, let's look at what has been done and what we can build on for the future. I'll start with the Thomas Felten Park. In 2009 we completed repairs on the softball field, installed a much needed electrical system, made the pavilion handicap and senior accessible, began clearing the back acreage, and made necessary repairs to the septic system. We plan to continue what has been started in terms of clearing the back acreage, installing a new softball field and dog park, repairing the Little League field behind the library, and creating a bike trail system. We plan to get the kitchen up to Health Department standards so that we can utilize it in the way it was intended.

Next, I would like to talk about our Police Department. Since the appointment of Joe Ryan, with his bright outlook and new ideas, the Department has been built into something the town can be proud of. He has created ranks within the Department in order to maintain discipline of our officers and a Detective Division, which will keep investigations within Plattekill. This will provide residents the personal attention they deserve. Our Patrol Division, which is made up of both young and seasoned veterans, has shown that professionalism still remains in our town. Chief Ryan, along with his rank and staff, acquired much-needed equipment, so that our officers can do their job effectively and safely. We hope to see the Police Department continue the great work they have been doing and continue to build on what has been accomplished.

We can't forget our Highway Department. George Dougherty, our recently retired Highway Superintendent, along with the Highway employees, has maintained our town roads with our residents in mind. He repaired and rebuilt our roads and made

sure they stayed clear and safe during and after snowstorms. Throughout the years, George showed his love for this Town and we will miss him. Now with our new Highway Superintendent, Bobby Wager, we are looking forward to working with him and hope to see a new and fresh direction that will keep up or exceed what has been done in the past.

I know I have missed other departments in our Town, but if I don't stop writing I won't have anything else to write about in the future. I would like to thank a few more people for helping us with the growth of our Town. Barbara Dawes keeps the Clerk's office running efficiently and effectively. Wayne Harris, Recreation Director, continues to offer fun and entertaining events. Micki Obermeyer, Town Historian and Director of Plattekill Day, always puts a smile on my face. To the rest of the men and women of the Town of Plattekill, thank you for a job well done. I'm looking forward to working with you in 2010.

Jon Crone, Councilman  
[jcrone@optonline.net](mailto:jcrone@optonline.net)



**Easter Egg Hunt**  
**Saturday, March 27**  
**2 PM at Thomas Felten**  
**Park**

**(Rain date 4/3)**

**For children 12 and under.**  
**Easter Hat contest with**  
**prizes.**



*(Continued from page 1) Assessor's Office News con't*

result of the tax levies adopted by local taxing jurisdictions. The assessment on an individual property only determines that property's share of the tax burden. Unfortunately, budgets do not decrease as market values decrease. If property values decrease over a period of time in the Town, this decrease normally affects all properties across the board. If market values were to decrease 10% over a certain period and assessments were to be reduced by the same percentage, the tax rates would increase by 10% and no one would see a decrease in taxes.

## Plattekill Community Day at Rocking Horse Ranch



Wanda Velez and her family enjoyed their 3rd visit to the ranch.



The indoor water park was a big hit with visitors.

Over 100 residents enjoyed Plattekill Community Day at Rocking Horse Ranch on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Attendees were allowed to use all of the facilities. The new water park was a favorite by far!

## Highway Department

This winter we have been very busy with many winter related storms and a few major rainstorms. Our road crew has worked hard to provide sufficient road plowing and clean-up after the storms. I would like to thank everyone who makes an effort to keep vehicles parked off of our roads. We are noticing that roadside garbage containers are being put out too far onto the road causing our drivers to go around them. This causes many unsafe conditions for everyone. Please keep your trash containers well off the paved surface of the road and put them away after they have been emptied. Just a reminder, it is illegal for anyone other than the municipal highway department to plow snow on town roads. Please do not plow your snow across a town, county, or state highway.



We have started tree trimming on many of our roads. Please slow down in the work zone and follow the instructions of the flaggers.

We have a pile of sand for residential use just inside our gate. It is open during our normal business hours. Please limit what you take to four pails at a time. We do not allow anyone to load the back of a pick-up truck with sand.

With all of the small storms we realize there may be sand building up on some of the less traveled roads or in residential developments. We will be coming around in the Spring to clean these areas.

Renovation work has started on the Police Department building. Repairs will be made to the bathroom, entrance area, and storage room. In addition, new electrical service will also be installed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Robert Wager, Highway Superintendent

## Plattekill Police Department

With the winter months upon us, we find many people unable to afford home heating oil. During the winter months we find the temperature often dips into the single digits. This can be very dangerous and life threatening, particularly for the elderly and people that are ill. I want to encourage the public to call the Plattekill Police Department at 883-6373 if they know of a neighbor that may not have heat for their home and may be in need of assistance. Please be aware that the Ulster County Department of Social Services and the Plattekill Police Department has a plan in place to assist our residents in time of an emergency need for home heating oil. The Police and Town Supervisor will assist you in obtaining these services. The Fuel Emergency Services Plan will be in effect until May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Beginning February 22, 2010 through August 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau will have Census employees knocking on doors collecting information.

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3) Plattekill Police

These employees can be identified with the identification cards issued by the Census Bureau. These I.D. cards should be visible when approaching a home and are often worn around the employee's neck.

Beginning on March 1<sup>st</sup> the Plattekill Police Department will be utilizing State Grants in providing extra patrols to enforce seatbelt, cell phone, and dangerous driving violations. This will begin several months of zero tolerance for these traffic violations. Remember to buckle-up, slow down, keep hands free, and save a life.

-Chief Joe Ryan

<p align="center"><b>Día de los Niños/ Día de los Libros</b>  <b>(Children's Day, Book Day)</b>  <b>April 30th, 4 to 7 PM.</b>  <b>Plattekill Public Library</b>  <b>Entertainment, Crafts, giveaways &amp; more!</b></p>
---

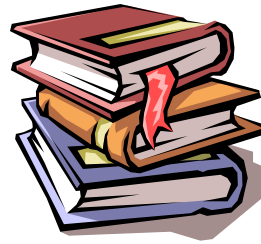
## Clerk's Corner

Please help the Plattekill Town Clerk's Office welcome April Columbo as the new Deputy Town Clerk. She has been working hard to learn all there is to know to help the residents of the Community. Not an easy job!

The past Deputy Town Clerk, Tina TenEyck has moved to Florida and we hope she is enjoying warmer weather. We wish her well.

Remember that the Town Clerk's Office is always ready to help residents. We offer a variety of services such as Dog Licenses, Fishing and Hunting Licenses, Marriage Licenses, Notarizing, Town Birth and Death Certificates, Accident Reports, copies, and coupons for the Transfer Station, just to mention a few. We have copies of minutes from all Town Board, Zoning, and Planning Board meetings. Of course we collect the taxes from January through June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Just a reminder for all of you who fish the Hudson River, as Spring approaches and you start to think about tossing in the line, there is a new Marine Fishing License that you must purchase in addition to your State License if you are fishing for "migratory fish from the sea." This includes the Hudson River, Delaware River, Mohawk River and their tributaries. If you need any more information, just give us a call or stop in. We will do our best to help you.



## Plattekill Public Library

The library is located at 2047 State Route 32, Modena, NY 12548. Registration is limited and therefore required for all programs. Call the library at 845-883-7286 if you have any questions or to register for a library program. Pick up a copy of our monthly calendar or view the library's information-packed Web site at <http://plattekill.lib.ny.us>.

The library offers a large variety of programs and collections to meet the needs of our diverse community. Each month, the following programs are offered:

- **Jewelry Making Class** – Third Tuesday of each month at 6 PM.
- **Story-time:** Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 AM for ages 2 and up.
- **Book Clubs:** First Wednesday at 10 AM, first Wednesday at 7 PM, and first Thursday at 7 PM.
- **RALF Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 4 PM

### March

- **18th** Dragon Read Aloud, 6 PM
- **25th** Author visit by Sheldon Zimbler, author of "Undaunted Valor," 6 PM.

### April

- **3** Card-Making Class, 7 to 9 PM.
- **30** **Día de los Niños/ Día de los Libros** (Children's Day, Book Day) 4 to 7 PM. Come see Waldo from "Where's Waldo". There will be entertainment, music, cooking demonstrations, crafts, activities, giveaways, and much more! This bilingual event is free. Pick-up a certificate for a free book when you visit the library on *Cinco De Mayo*.

### May

- **1** Card-Making Class (Mother's Day) 7 to 9 PM
- **6** Lifeline Program for Seniors, 12:30 – 1:30 PM. Nicole Peluce from St. Francis Hospital will be discussing this program in the Community Room below the library.
- **20** Western Read Aloud with stories, activities, and snacks! 6 PM. Put on your chaps and cowboy hats for this fun Western read aloud.
- **27** Local Business Owners Meeting, 6 PM, hosted by the library. Light refreshments and a raffle.

## Recreation Calendar March - June 2010

**Wayne Harris, Recreation Director**

**883-7331**

The Town of Plattekill's Recreation Department (TOPREC) has planned the following events 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 and 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.

Mar. 11 & 25	Men's Softball Meeting, 7:30 PM, PTH
Mar. 27	Easter Egg Hunt 2 PM (FP) (Ages 0-12) Rain date 4/3. For children 12 and under. Also featuring an Easter Hat contest with prizes.
Apr.*	
Mar. 24	Kite Flying Day and Youth Softball Registration (FP) 2 PM
Apr. 17 thru Aug. 14	Men's Softball Sundays at FP
May 1,8,15,22,29	Youth Softball, 10 AM to 12 PM, FP
May 12	Summer Camp Registration (Ages 8-14) 6 PM, PTH (Camp dates 6/29-8/5, 9 AM to 3 PM)
May 30	Tri-Town Memorial Day Parade 2 PM
Jun. 5 & 12	Youth Softball (ages 7—12), 10 AM to Noon, FP
Jun. 12	Bicycle Rodeo, 10 AM to Noon, FP, 6 PM
Jun. 16	Tee Ball Registration, <del>10 AM to Noon</del> , FP 6 PM*
Jun. 29	Summer Camp Begins (ages 8 to 14), 9 AM to 3 PM

**Key To Locations:** PES = Plattekill Elementary School; PTH = Plattekill Town Hall; FP = Felten Park.

\*Correction made 03/19/10



## Plattekill Veterans' Committee



Our committee is a non-profit organization dedicated to the service men and women of Plattekill. We meet on the third Sunday of each month at Primos Bar and Grill to discuss ways of raising money to send boxes to our veterans at the holiday seasons. We also have fundraisers such as the one we are working on now. The committee will raffle off a 20-foot flagpole that includes a beautiful star embroidered 3' by 5' flag and brackets that were donated to the committee by one of our members. Tickets will be available soon. We participate in the Town parades and always have a beautiful float made by our members. Last year's float was so outstanding it was borrowed by New Paltz for their parade and was on display at Aloha Acres for a week. We have a booth to sell items such as tee shirts and children's toys at Plattekill Day and July 4<sup>th</sup>.

You may drive around the neighborhood and see yellow bows on the bushes and trees. These are made and placed there by the Chairperson of the committee, Sis Morse, who, with a group of Scouts also place flags at the veterans' graves on Memorial and Veteran's Days.

We are always glad to accept new members with new ideas. A project the members are working on now is to raise money to erect a monument at the Town park to further honor the veterans. If you have any ideas that would help, please call Dot Longbard at 883-0084. Dot is secretary for the committee and will gladly answer your questions.

## Town of Plattekill Community Events Calendar 2010

For additions/changes/corrections to this calendar, email Jean Poirier at [jeanp5@optonline.net](mailto: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 03/11/2010. Submit your community event today!

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

### March

- Mar. 11 & 25** Men's Softball Meeting, 7:30 PM (PTH)
- Mar. 17** Trip to Platzl Brauhaus (Pomona) St. Patrick's Festival, sponsored by the Golden Years Senior Club. Contact Mary Tierney at (845) 883-7854.
- Mar. 18** St. Patty's Day Lunch for/by the Plattekill Seniors (SC).
- Mar. 27** Easter Egg Hunt 2 PM (FP) (Ages 0-12). Rain date 4/3. For children 12 and under. Easter Hat Contest with prizes.
- Mar. 24** ~~Kite Flying Day and Youth Softball Registration (FP) 2 PM~~ \*see Apr. 24
- Mar 28** 2010 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Mark Dooley 5K Race of Honor, Plattekill Firehouse on Firehouse Road. Registration at 8 AM. Walkers begin at 8:30 AM, Runners begin at 9:30 AM. Register online at [www.SouthernUlsterRotary.org](http://www.SouthernUlsterRotary.org).

### April

- Apr. 1** April Fool's Day fun with the Plattekill Seniors, (SC).
- Apr. 3** Clintondale Auxiliary Penny Social, Clintondale Fire House, doors open at 5:30, calling at 7 PM.
- Apr. 3** Card-Making Class (blank/all occasion) to benefit the Friends of Plattekill Public Library. 7 PM to 9 PM (CR) Contact [christineadams@hvc.rr.com](mailto:christineadams@hvc.rr.com) or call 895-1260 to register.
- Apr. 14** Trip to Mohegan Sun Casino (CT), sponsored by the Golden Years Senior Club. Bus leaves Town Hall at 8 AM. Contact Mary Tierney at (845) 883-7854.
- Apr. 17-Aug. 14** Men's Softball Sundays at Felten Park, time TBD.
- Apr. 17** Southern Ulster Relay for Life Vendor's Party at the Modena Fire House, 10 AM to 3 PM. Contact Michele Depew for more information at 883-0465.
- Apr. 24** Kite Day at Felten Park, 2 PM
- Apr. 24** Youth Softball Registration (Ages 7-14), 2 PM (FP)
- Apr. 30** Día de los Niños/ Día de los Libros (Children's Day, Book Day) 4 to 7 PM. See Waldo from "Where's Waldo". Entertainment, music, cooking demonstrations, crafts, activities, giveaways, and much more! This bilingual event is free. Pick-up a certificate for a free book when you visit the library on *Cinco De Mayo*. Call the library to register at 883-7286.

### May

- May 1** Card-Making Class (Mother's Day/all occasion) to benefit the Friends of Plattekill Public Library. 7 PM to 9 PM (CR) Contact [christineadams@hvc.rr.com](mailto:christineadams@hvc.rr.com) or call 895-1260 to register.
- May 1,8,15,22,29** Youth Softball, Saturdays, 10 AM to 12 PM (FP)
- May 6** Lifeline Program for Seniors, 12:30 – 1:30 PM. Nicole Peluce from St. Francis Hospital will be discussing this program in the Senior Center.
- May 12** Summer Camp Registration (Ages 8-14) 6 PM (PTH). Camp dates 6/29 - 8/5, 9 AM – 3 PM.
- May 12** Trip to Ehrhardt's Dinner Theater featuring "Journey" musical. Sponsored by the Plattekill Seniors. Sign-up sheet at Senior Center. Contact Dolores Hulse at (845) 883-7265.

(Continued on page 7)

**PULL OUT SECTION — POST SOMEWHERE PROMINENT**

(Continued from page 6)

**May 20** Western Read Aloud 6 PM. Call the library at 883-7286 to register.

**May 20** Celebrate Mothers with the Plattekill Seniors (SC)

**May 27** Local Business Owners Meeting, 6 PM, hosted by the Plattekill Public Library. Light refreshments and a raffle. For more information or to register call the Library at 883-7286.

**May 30** Tri-Town Memorial Day Parade 2 PM

**May 31** Aloha Acres Special Service to honor living and deceased veterans from Aloha Acres. 11 AM at the flag pole at the Aloha Acres Park. For more information contact Dot Longbard 883-0084.

### June

**Jun. 5 & 12** Youth Softball (Ages 7 – 12) 10 AM to Noon. (FP)

**Jun. 12** Bicycle Rodeo 10 AM to Noon (FP)

**Jun. 16** Tee Ball Registration (ages 4 to 8) 6 PM (FP)

**Jun. 29** Summer Camp Begins (ages 8 to 14), 9 AM to 3 PM

### July

**Jul. 5** Red, White, and Blue Golf Outing, 9 AM, location TBA.

**Jul. 7, 14, 21, 28** Tee Ball for ages 4 to 8 yrs. 6 PM (FP)

**Jul. 10** Red, White, and Blue Concert and Fireworks at the Park (Rain date Jul 11), 5 PM

### Regular Town Meetings

**Town Board** - The first and third Wednesday each month at 7 PM at the Town Hall.

**Town Planning Board** - The second and fourth Tuesday each month at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall.

**Zoning Board** – The second and fourth Thursday each month at 8 PM at the Town Hall.

**Key To Locations:** PES = Plattekill Elementary School; PTH = Plattekill Town Hall; FP = Felten Park; SC = Senior Center. \* = Correction made

For the most updated version of this calendar and for much more information about the Town of Plattekill, visit the Town's Web site at:

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

## Plattekill Weight Loss Challenge

Cathy Drobot, Wellness Coach, and TOPREC are developing a new weight loss program. The 12-week course will require participants to meet weekly and each meeting will feature a nutrition or dietary topic. The program is limited to 25 participants and the cost is \$35.00. The top three losers will win a cash prize. Participants will be encouraged to have "Before" and "After" photos taken. Meeting times and location are still being decided, but will be announced soon. Ms. Drobot hopes to start the program by early April. If you are interested in learning more, contact Cathy Drobot at 564-6412. Limited to adults.

## Memorial Day Parade

Sunday, May 30th

2PM



# 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 Columbo, 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, 883-6621  
Kevin Roberts, 566-4143

For emergencies only  
Dial 911

# Senior News

(For the convenience of our seniors, this section is printed in a larger font size.)

Our Town hosts two senior groups, the Plattekill Senior Club and the Plattekill Golden Years. Each group meets several times a month at the Senior Center, which is located in the Community Room below the Plattekill Public Library. Consider stopping in during a meeting or taking one of their trips.

**May 6 Lifeline Program for Seniors, 12:30 – 1:30 PM.** Nicole Peluce from St. Francis Hospital will be discussing this program.

## Plattekill Senior Club (55 years and up)

This group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 1:30 PM at the Senior Center. Join them for fun, an occasional potluck lunch, games, bingo at 1 PM on Tuesdays, and more! For general information contact Mabel Gordon at (845) 883-9710. For trip information contact Dolores Hulse at 883-7265.

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** – St. Patty's Day lunch (sandwiches – see sign-up sheet)

**March 24<sup>th</sup>** – Trip to Westchester Broadway Dinner Theater to see the musical "Nine." April 1<sup>st</sup> – April Fool's Fun (TBD)

**May 12<sup>th</sup>** – Trip to Ehrhardt's Dinner Theater to see the musical "Journey."

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** – Celebrate Mothers – What effect has your mother had on rearing your children? Discussion group.

## Plattekill Golden Years

This group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 1:30 PM at the Senior Center. At the first meeting of the month, the group celebrates any birthdays for that month with birthday cake and coffee. The second meeting of the month the groups hosts a potluck lunch. They are also offering the following trips. Contact Mary Tierney at (845) 883-7854 with questions or to reserve a space.

**March 17<sup>th</sup>** – Platzl Brauhaus (Pomona) St. Patrick's Festival. Bus leaves Town Hall at 9 AM.

**April 14<sup>th</sup>** – Mohegan Sun Casino (CT) Bus leaves Town Hall at 8 AM.

This newsletter is a quarterly publication by the Town of Plattekill. Contributions for the upcoming Spring edition as well as for our Monthly Event Updates, are invited and should be e-mailed to Jean Poirier, Town Publicist at [jeanp5@optonline.net](mailto: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 is also available on the Web site so the newest and any event updates can be e-mailed directly to you.