

# PATTERN'S PROGRESS

A Monthly E-Update for Members of Pattern for Progress

## SEVEN COUNTY EXECS SIT ON PANEL FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY BREAKFAST FEB. 22

A record-breaking audience of 380 attended Pattern's annual breakfast to hear county officials discuss "Planning for the Realities of the New Decade" at the Poughkeepsie Grand. Special thanks to **Gold Sponsor Riverside Bank ... Silver Sponsors** Local 17 LECET and the Port Authority of NY & NJ ... **Bronze Sponsors** Advance Testing, Armistead Mechanical, Construction Contractors Association, EmblemHealth, Frontier Communications, Hudson Valley Business Journal, Key Bank, Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, Mohonk Preserve and the Poughkeepsie Journal. Click [here](#) to see some of the extensive media coverage and webcast of the event.

## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW (SEQR) INITIATIVE ISSUES 1st DRAFT FEB. 8

The work group co-chaired by DEC's Region 3, Pattern for Progress and Scenic Hudson to propose improvements to the state's environmental quality review process has published its first draft of recommendations. After DEC Commissioner Pete Grannis had challenged the region, at Pattern's request, during the fall conference, "The SEQRA Solution: Striking the Right Balance", the group collected ideas through weeks of discussion with developers, consultants, public officials, environmental advocates and land use attorneys on how to make the SEQR process more efficient and timely. The draft focuses on nine areas that can be accomplished in DEC's Region 3 within a short time frame and without legislative or regulatory changes. *Under Recommendation #9, an ongoing advisory committee will be created to aid implementation and to continue to address issues as they come to the attention of the working group.* Click [here](#) for this draft and a link to provide your comments.

## PATTERN BOARD UPDATES STRATEGIC PLAN; MEMBER INPUT ENCOURAGED

Pattern Board Member Bill Richards, president of SUNY Orange, will lead the process of updating the organization's strategic plan, which began with the Board's annual retreat in December. Members' suggestions as to new areas of focus or initiatives Pattern should undertake should be emailed [here](#).

## PATTERN ON THE ROAD

- ... Supporting the shared services study in Ulster, Pattern continues to meet with county highway superintendents and the county executive and his staff to facilitate implementation.
- ... Pattern is also moving forward to work with Dutchess County Supervisors and Mayors Association in their plans to analyze the potential of shared services among their municipalities.
- ... Pattern President Jonathan Drapkin participated in the Feb. 9 roundtable on job creation and economic recovery in the Valley, sponsored by *The Poughkeepsie Journal*. ([more](#))
- ... As a panelist at the NY State Budget and Jobs Summit Feb. 23, sponsored by the Partnership for NYC and the Citizens Budget Commission, Jonathan Drapkin joined other leaders from regional and civic organizations across the state to discuss taxes, the state budget, jobs and the economy. (CBC presentation [here](#).)

## PATTERN BOARD MEMBERS AND FELLOWS IN THE NEWS ...

Pattern Board Member **Michael Quinn**, president of Rhinebeck Savings, has announced the opening of their newest office in LaGrange on April 12, which is the date of the bank's opening 150 years ago in Rhinebeck ([more](#)) ... Board Member **Dr. Daniel Aronzon**, President of Vassar Brothers Medical Center, will be honored by the Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County at its March 20 Mystique Dinner [event](#) ... Board Member **Elmore Alexander**, dean of Marist College's School of Management, has been elected chairperson of the Dutchess County Arts Council ... Fellows Alumnus **Diego Aviles**, COO of the Boy Scouts of America, Hudson Valley Council, has been selected one of the Greater Southern Dutchess Chamber's "40 under 40" and will be honored at their March 8 [event](#); Pattern Board Member **Howard Hellman**, president of All Bright Electric, has been elected to the BSA, Hudson Valley Council board ... *Congratulations!*