

September 2009

PATTERN'S PROGRESS

A Monthly E-Update for Members of Pattern for Progress

PATTERN ANNOUNCES AWARDS, KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR ANNUAL RECEPTION NOV. 5

Rob Dyson of The Dyson Foundation will address approximately 500 leaders from throughout the Hudson Valley Region at Pattern's Annual Awards Reception November 5 at Anthony's Pier 9 in New Windsor. Among the regional awards announced this week are Pattern's Lifetime Achievement Award winner Lou Heimbach. **Register now!** For more information, click [here](#).

COMMISSIONER PETE GRANNIS ANNOUNCES SEQRA REVIEW PLAN AT FALL CONFERENCE

The 3rd annual Fall Conference on Local Government Efficiency, "The SEQRA Solution: Striking the Right Balance", drew a capacity crowd of 250 local officials, developers, builders, environmental advocates and consultants from across the Hudson Valley September 17 at SUNY New Paltz. Eighteen panelists and speakers engaged the audience on all aspects of the environmental review process, before keynote speaker Pete Grannis announced he is assigning a work group to be headed by Pattern for Progress President Jonathan Drapkin and DEC's Region 3 Director Willie Janeway to make recommendations by the end of the year on how to improve what he called "one of the state's bed-rock environmental statutes". See a sample of media coverage [here](#), which includes an extensive editorial in Sunday's Journal News.

LIMITED OPENINGS STILL AVAILABLE FOR PATTERN FELLOWS CLASS OF 2009-2010

We have recruited a great group of local leaders for Pattern's Regional Fellows Program, but there's still room for applicants, and the deadline has been extended until October 9. *Of particular interest are candidates with either environmental, land use or labor background.* More information [here](#).

SEATS AVAILABLE FOR NEXT "HUDSON VALLEY BREAKFAST TABLE" ON OCTOBER 20

Roundtable discussion has continued to be lively at the Hudson Valley Breakfast Table meetings each month, with members and guests from town boards, businesses, consultants and nonprofits interacting on the issues with Pattern President Jonathan Drapkin and Board Chair Dave MacFarland. One mark of success: guests frequently sign up for membership following each session. To join a future discussion, [email](#) Pattern or call (845) 565-4900.

PATTERN CONVENES QUARTERLY MEETING WITH REGIONAL PLANNING LEADERS

This month the regional planning group welcomed new Planning Commissioner Luiz Aragon from Sullivan County. The agenda included discussion on stimulus funding and related compliance issues.

PATTERN ON THE ROAD ...

... Pattern participated in a working panel discussion to look for solutions to fiscal challenges facing NY State. Jonathan Drapkin was among 175 statewide leaders invited to preview the governor's budget priorities and provide suggestions in a NYC meeting on September 29.

... Drapkin was asked to moderate a two-hour forum on health care reform sponsored by Congressman John Hall on September 26 in Cornwall; about 175 people attended the session.

PATTERN BOARD MEMBERS IN THE NEWS ...

Howard Hellman, president of All Bright Electric in Pearl River, spoke as president of the Rockland Community College Alumni Association at a convocation marking the kickoff of the college's 50th anniversary year celebration ([more](#)).

THANK YOU TO SPONSORS OF THE 3rd ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY:

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Special thanks to SUNY New Paltz for hosting this event.