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Social Security anniversary celebrated at FDR site

by Kristine Coulter

HYDE PARK—Social Security's 78th birthday was celebrated at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Museum and Library site in Hyde Park. There were even two photographic Puzzlcakes, which were carrot cakes, in honor of the celebration.

"The entire design, it took maybe two hours," said Stefan Lonce, a co-chair of Preserve Social Security & Healthcare Coalition, Inc., whose website is www.TakeBackOurFutureNow.org. The cakes were of the same photo but had differences that people had to find between the pictures. The idea was inspired by F.D.R.'s love of puzzles and a column that was called "Second Look" in People Magazine.

Lonce told of how, when he was 8 years old, his father died of a heart attack.

"He left my mother as a young widow. If it wasn't for Social Security, we wouldn't be able to stay together as a family," said Lonce. Lonce founded the Preserve Social Security & Healthcare Coalition Inc. in 2005 with M.H. Fryburg, a lawyer, to oppose former President George W. Bush's plan to privatize Social Security.

Salt Point resident Gloria Deutsch was at the historic site last week during the celebration.

"I hope the next generation will have an opportunity to have it [Social Security]," she said.

Deutsch said, "One of the greatest things that Franklin Roosevelt did was give people Social Security." There were no pensions in those decades, she added.

Lonce said he is hopeful Social Security will be around for the next generations.

"I think enough people realize ... Social Security is not an entitlement. Everyone's been paying into it for their entire working lives," he said.

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Opening their eyes to the world

Special needs students find special help in 4-H

by Danielle Fried



Ryan and Alexandra Coffin prepare items for their 4-H club's exhibit at the 2013 Dutchess County Fair. Both credit their 4-H involvement with helping them overcome educational issues and excel. Courtesy photo and photo by Curtis Schmidt

We all need somewhere to belong. For many young people, school provides that place, through involvement in sports, drama club, and community service. But for some, school is not that place. Some struggle academically and feel different from everyone else.

4-H offers a place for everyone, a place where young people are bound by a common interest: the love of an animal.

"A lot of kids don't do well in school, but once you bring an animal into the situation they're a completely different child," said Lauren Drum, former 4-H club member and 4-H educator.

Drum attests to the transformative nature of involvement in 4-H, and sees 4-H as an empowering organization for young people who lack confidence and "don't fit in."

"I was dyslexic, and I hated school," said Drum. "I didn't want to be there. It's book work, and I hated book work because I couldn't read and understand something like other kids can." Drum and her family were unsure whether she would graduate from high school. She was absent more than 40 days of the school year.

Today, Drum holds a master's of science degree in agriculture and life sciences from SUNY Cobleskill and works as an AEM program technician with the Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District. Her motivation to work with animals and the hands-on nature of many of her college courses contributed to her success, which at one time seemed impossible.

Drum described a family friend's reaction to her college graduation:

"She looked at me in tears, saying, 'You

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Sokolowski's delight

Longtime 4-H leader believes in kids and future



Joyce Sokolowski listens to her 4-H members Gabby, Sarah and Elizabeth. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

by Curtis Schmidt

Joyce Sokolowski wouldn't change her work with 4-Hers "in a million years." Well, 36 is a pretty good start.

For Joyce, it's all about the kids and opportunities.

"Face it, these kids are the future of the world and it's our [adults] responsibility to make sure they learn the important life skills to carry them through," she said.

The life skills she is talking about include cooking, sewing, design, budget-

ing, public speaking and general elements such as taking responsibility, listening and learning and the value of giving.

She has watched and worked with many generations of young people since starting to work with 4-H general interest clubs with her own daughters in 1977. Her group started as a home economics club and the meetings were held in her home and later the West Clinton Fire House.

"You have to roll with the punches," said Joyce. "Are kids different now than in the

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INSIDE: OUR 4-H SPECIAL FEATURES LOCAL CLUBS THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FAIR!

The 168th DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR
 Aug. 21, 2013
 a supplement of *Southern Dutchess News*
 DRAGON FREE PRESS DUTCHESS NEWS
 © Coudersport, NY

4-H SPECIAL

Through Sunday, Aug. 25 - Dutchess County Fairgrounds, Route 9, Rhinebeck
 General Admission \$15 at the gate • Children under 12 admitted free • General Fair Hours: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
 Rides run daily, 10 a.m.-11 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday & Sunday, and 10 a.m.-midnight, Friday & Saturday
 Commercial Vendors & Exhibit Buildings open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. • Food Vendors open 10 a.m.-11 p.m.
 (845) 876-4900 • www.dutchessfair.com

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Ruge rally car at Fair



Lewis Ruge, Erika Detota and Kristin Ruge Hutchins stand in front of the 1999 Subaru Impreza that will be on display at the Dutchess County Fair. The car will be at the Ruge's tent every day except Sunday. In 2010 Erika won the National 2WD Rally Championship, the first American woman to win a National Rally Championship. After her win in the WV, Erika is leading the Atlantic Rally Cup with one round left to go. *Courtesy photo*

STANFORD HERITAGE COMMUNITY DAY SET SEPT. 14

The Town of Stanford is gearing up for the annual Community Day celebration scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Stanford Grange No.808 for 55 years, this year's event, known as Heritage Community Day, will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Dutchess County, the 220th founding of the Town of Stanford, and the 55th annual Community Day.

Craftsmen and artisans who work with 19th-century cottage industries (blacksmithing, milling, iron-works, tinsmith, woodworking, coopering, and the like) are invited to set up shop and perform their craft-work on the Stanford Grange Lawn at 6043 Route 82 in Stanfordville. Their workspace will be free of charge, and no commission will be asked from the sale of their finished crafts to the general public. Collectors of 19th-century theme items (glass, bottles, toys, farm implements, etc.) are also welcome to display their collections. There is no admission charge, and parking is free.

Contact Margaret Plantier at (845) 868 7508 or Oliver Orton at (845) 868-7869 for further information. Space applications are due by Sept. 1.

Social Security celebration

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This was Maryland resident Anthony Marici's first visit to the F.D.R. site.

"I was never a big fan of Social Security," said Marici. "They take a percent of my salary and I feel I can do better with that money."

Marici said when he is 65 or 69, whatever the age that is decided on by government officials for people to collect their Social Security benefits, he feels he could do better with the money by investing it.

F.D.R. Library Specialist Jeff Urbin said the 32nd president put U.S. Labor Secretary Frances Perkins as the chair of the committee for Social Security. In April 1935 the House of Representatives approved the bill for Social Security. Then in June 1935 the U.S. Senate approved the bill; and in August of that year F.D.R., in the White House Cabinet Room, signed the bill into law.

Urbin stated the president felt it was the "duty" of the American government to provide security to the people when, at the time, most people did not have pensions.

Fryburg said the event also celebrated President Ronald Reagan signing the 1983 Social Security Amendments, which, according to him, saved and strengthened the program.

"Social Security is the most effective program in American history," Fryburg stated.

Fryburg and Lonce, whose company, LCNS2ROM, made 2014 Calendars with pictures of the Roosevelts, presented an award to Cliff Laube, public programs specialist at Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, for his work at the library.

F.D.R. Library and Museum Director Lynn Bassanese, former Vermont governor Howard Dean and his brother Jim Dean, who were not present for the birthday celebration, were also award recipients. Lonce said they honored the former governor for expanding health care in Vermont and his brother for promoting progressive policies through democracy.

Rhinebeck remembers former Mayor Costa

Mayor Jim Reardon announced last week that former Village of Rhinebeck Mayor John Costa passed away.

"It is with deep regret that I share the news of John's passing," said Reardon, who knew Costa when both were members of the Rhinebeck Rotary Club. Costa and his wife, Teddy, were also Reardon's customers at E.A. Coon Florist.

After retiring in 1989 from West Point as a brigadier general, John and Elizabeth "Teddy" Costa moved to Rhinebeck, where they lived for 20 years before health issues required them to relocate to Canton, Ga., to be closer to family. Teddy predeceased John on April 6, 2012.

John Costa was elected as a Rhinebeck Village trustee in 1994 and 1996. He served as mayor from 1997 to 2005.

His community service included participation with the American Legion Post 429, the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, Northern Dutchess Hospital, the Rhinebeck Rotary Club, Ferncliff Nursing Home and the

Rhinebeck Choral Club.

"John was an incredibly dedicated servant all his life, evidenced by both his military career and his public service following his time in the armed forces. He was a very thoughtful, caring individual that touched the lives of anyone he was associated with; and I will always remember his charm, wit and tireless dedication to enriching the lives of others," said Reardon. "Rhinebeck benefited tremendously due to John's efforts. On behalf of the Village of Rhinebeck I would like to offer our deepest condolences to John's family at this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you."

An obituary posted on the website of Ingram Funeral Home & Crematory in Cumming, Ga. states a funeral mass for John and Teddy will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 28, at the Catholic Chapel at the US Military Academy at West Point, followed by burial at the West Point Cemetery with full military honors.

Cranna: Park vandalism will not be tolerated

Village of Tivoli Mayor Bryan F. Cranna expressed his anger and disappointment following recent incidents of vandalism within Tivoli's Memorial Park.

"Tivoli's Memorial Park, which has been in the process of being renovated over the last year; has seen several incidents of vandalism," said Cranna. "These cowardly actions anger me, not only as Tivoli's mayor, but as a father of young children who play in our park regularly."

Incidents of graffiti being spray painted to park property, damage to park property and theft of certain items has occurred over recent weeks.

"I take this situation very seriously," said Cranna, who has ordered an increase in police coverage by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office.

"I will also discuss this situation at length with the Board of Trustees to devise

a plan to hopefully prevent future incidents from taking place," he added. "However, the fiscal impact that this has upon the Village and its taxpayers is unfair."

Cranna estimates costs related to repairing damage and increasing police patrols will be just under \$3,000.

Anyone with information regarding these recent incidents may contact the mayor's office by calling (845) 757-2021. All calls will be kept confidential.

Cranna plans to develop a neighborhood watch within the coming weeks. Anyone interested should contact the mayor's office. Details on the neighborhood watch will be forthcoming.

"I will use whatever resources I can to fulfill that responsibility and hold accountable those who chose to disrespect our community," said Cranna.

Putting out fires is part of the job

And if you're Ibis, a certified interior firefighter, sometimes that can mean real fires. Ibis grew up in Pine Plains, and although he left for a while, he returned because he missed living in a community where people care about each other. He likes that this is the type of place where you can work with the local elementary school, in this case Seymour Smith, set up a student savings program, teach the kids good habits, and then find them pointing you out to their parents on the street, proud they know you.

Helping people makes Ibis happy. Having Ibis run our Pine Plains branch makes us, and our customers, happy too. After all, the occasional fire does have to be put out, whether it's the building down the street, or the money burning a hole in your kid's pocket.

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