



CITY OF PEEKSKILL

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

John G. Testa
Mayor

Youths Will Set Sail For Learning, Adventure In Program at Peekskill Yacht Club.

*Kids Will Have Chance to Learn About Boating Safety, History,
Actually Go Out On Hudson River.*

Event Will Take Place Aug. 18 at 4:30 p.m. At The Peekskill Yacht Club.

For Immediate Release

Friday, August 13, 2004

Contact: **Mayor John Testa**
914-734-4105

PEEKSKILL, NY—Despite the fact that the Hudson River is one of the world's greatest waterways, its likely few children in this City have ever traveled on it.

The Peekskill City Department of Parks and Recreation and the Peekskill Yacht Club are teaming up on August 18th to help change that. Between 20 and 25 youths will get a chance to learn about boats and the Hudson River and then get to go for a short cruise as part of a joint educational program set up by the two organizations. The event will run from 4:30-8:00 p.m.

840 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566 (914) 734-4105

“We usually get 25 children and four or five vessels, all of them powerboats,” says Fran Brunelle, Peekskill’s director of community services. Participants are taught general safety terms, the names of different locations on the vessels, and given some history of the Hudson River, he says. They are recruited through the city’s day camp programs, he says.

Members of the Peekskill Yacht Club created and are supporting the program, says Tony Masi, past commodore, of the Club and chairman of this event. Masi, a Lt. with the Yorktown Police Department, says the club holds the program to give young people a chance to both experience the world of recreational boating and to get a sense of the world of the sea.

“We are glad at the Peekskill Yacht Club to donate our members, time and our boats to take kids who otherwise wouldn’t have an opportunity for a ride,” Masi says. After the ride, the kids will get a chance to go to a special barbeque held by the Yacht Club, he says. “We’ll take the kids for a ride, and then we’ll come back to the club and have a cookout for them.”

“This event brings together two of Peekskill’s greatest assets—our youth and the magnificent Hudson River,” says Mayor John Testa. “It’s important that kids learn about this great waterway that has so shaped our city, and that they learn about boating safety as well.”

Peekskill Yacht Club operates on land leased from the City. It has been on its current site more than 100 years. About 75 boats are currently docked at its facilities.

For more information, contact Fran Brunelle at 914-737-3400.

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