

NEW YORK STATE'S FASTEST GROWING CITY

For a small city, Peekskill has a lot going on. In each issue of the newsletter we're going to use this section to provide you with some fascinating statistics about our intriguing City.

Altitude Above Sea Level City Hall: 129 feet. Post Office: 132 feet.

The Field Library is one of Westchester's most respected facilities.

Founding date: 1887, in a riding academy on Smith Street.

Total number of books: 90,000

Number of Books Circulated Every Hour: 66

Date of Earliest Peekskill Newspaper in Collection: April 22, 1830 Total of library visits: more than 250,000

Total number of registered borrowers: 16,000

The Peekskill Neighborhood Center, where the Field Library is located, is one of the most intensively used facilities of its kind in Westchester County.

Peekskill has one of the region's oldest chambers of commerce, and one of the most active chambers for a city of its size.

Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce founding date: 1915 Total number of active members: 475

Peekskill has some of the oldest and most historic housing stock in the region.

Here are some U.S. Census Statistics:

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Year	Number	
Housing Built:	of units	%
1999 to 2000	820	9%
1980-1989	914	10%
1970-1979	1,204	13%
1960-1969	1,526	17%
1950-1959	1,148	13%
1949 or earlier	3,441	38%

Peekskill: HOME OF THE BEST IN WESTCHESTER

If you're looking for the BEST, stay in Peekskill.

One of America's great superstars—and Westchester Magazine—say that Peekskill is the place to go when you're looking for quality.

"I have lots of Westchester favorites," says Vanessa Williams in the July issue of Westchester Magazine. She lists Kathleen's Tea Room at 1079 Main St., (914) 734-2520, as one of them.

Also making the Best of list were Sue's Hudson Café down by the Waterfront at 51 Hudson Avenue (914) 737-8656, for its delicious breakfasts and delectable owner, Sue Wang, Zephs at 638 Central Avenue (914) 736-2159 for its magnificent and creative deserts, and Bruised Apple Books and Music, 923 Central Ave, (914) 734-7000, as Westchester's best used book store.

Congratulations to all these businesses for being the best! Peekskill is truly proud of you.

New Code Enforcement Task Force to Focus on Safety and Overcrowding Continued from page 3

People and neighborhoods can die from the problems that result from code abuse. That makes the task force a top priority. "The health and safety of all residents in Peekskill is the highest priority of the City of Peekskill. The Task Force will be another tool that residents, neighborhood associations and visitors to Peekskill can count on to reduce substandard residential units and ensure that everyone in Peekskill enjoys the same quality of life," says City manager Daniel W. Fitzpatrick.

City Assesor Paul Wotzak is heading up the Task Force, which will act as a selfdirected work team whose goal is to eliminate housing code violators in the City of Peekskill.

Bringing together people with expertise in all areas of the City touched on by code violations will give the Task Force exceptional ability to deal with code problems. Its members will include employees from the fire, police, building and legal departments.

"The mission of the task force is to identify and encourage by the strongest means necessary, property owners to bring their properties into compliance with the City's existing zoning code. The highest priority will be to force chronic violators to take immediate actions to protect the lives of occupants of their properties," Fitzpatrick says.

Peekskill City Hall 840 Main Street Peekskill, NY 10566

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Meet Your New City Manager

By Daniel W. Fitzpatrick

I am confident about Peekskill's future. That's

why I came here, and that's why my wife Jackie and I hope to settle here.

I have managed cities professionally for more than 20 years. In that time I have rarely seen a community more on the edge of a renaissance than Peekskill. The raw material for a breakthrough is present in abundance.

Peekskill offers a variety of storefronts and a number of good—and, just as important—busy, restaurants, art galleries, many other businesses as well as a lot of positive energy.

A large percentage of Peekskill's housing stock consists of homes more than 50-years old—something that can be turned to great advantage to attract those who are interested in purchasing striking, historic residences.

Our city's physical site is exceptional as we sit surrounded by grand vistas and the Hudson River. We also have a history that can be turned into a magnet for heritage tourism. Then there are the many experienced and dedicated people employed by our city. All these are resources I intend to make use of as I work with the Common Council.

A Resource for Summer Fun 2 Grow Peekskill Fund Perking 3 Art Lays a Foundation 6

and more!

It should be noted, however, that the Mayor and Common Council will set the path and I will follow. My job is to execute the policy set by the majority of the Council members. My boss is you, the citizens of Peekskill, as you are represented by that Council.

Continuing Peekskill's renaissance will take a tremendous amount of commitment and an enormous amount of hard work. I'm confident we can meet the challenge because such a solid foundation for our success is present.

There's a key to all this. It's what's known as process. "Process" is the word people in business use to describe the rules, procedures, tactics and strategies an organization uses to operate.

Process means separating personalities, relationships and ideologies from making the Continued on page 2

Building Momentum for Peekskill



By Mayor John Testa

Thanks for your warm reception to the first issue of Peekskill News. I've really appreciated your feedback, and have made some changes as a result. You'll find a new section called the "Artist's Corner" that will provide a spotlight on some of the people who are providing the passion, energy, and funding that's helping revitalize our downtown.

We also have some articles about Peekskill's seniors and the services that are available to them from our city.

Peekskill provides many different programs for youth and adults alike. In this newsletter we'll take a look at some of the services youth, adults and seniors can all tap in to. In addition, you'll get a chance to look at some of the new and improved recreational facilities that are available to our residents.

I'm pleased to say that the construction of the Louisa Street Ball Field has begun and that the project will be completed by the opening of next year's season. In addition, we've made some major improvements to the little league facilities at Tompkins Park.

We're also implementing new programs to attract new businesses to our community and help them prosper. With the "Grow Peekskill Fund," we've put up a small number of city dollars to help make a fairly large amount of financial assistance available to qualified new and existing businesses.

Our downtown is bustling with exciting activity. The artist's district is doing its job of drawing new businesses and residents to once neglected and bedraggled areas.

In other exciting news, work on the Annsville Creek trail is moving forward rapidly, and the 10,000-square foot Westchester Community College addition has now opened.

Consider this newsletter an invitation to discover Peekskill's downtown. You'll get a new sense of how wonderful our City is.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Riverfront Concert. The Nashville Attitude. Riverfront Green. July 9 July 12 Farmer's Market, Bank St., 8:00 a.m. July 12 Antique and Collectable Market, Bank St. Parking Lot, 8:00 a.m. July 14 Children's Concert, Joe Barney, Riverfront Green, Free, 7:00 p.m. July 9 Riverfront Concert, The Passions, Riverfront Green, Free, 7:00 p.m July 19 Farmer's Market. Bank St., 8:00 a.m. Antique and Collectable Market, Bank St. Parking Lot, 8:00 a.m. July 19 Guided Art Gallery & Studio Tour, Meet at Paramount Center, July 19 10:44 a.m., 666-2398 July 21 Children's Concert, The Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimy Puppet Show, Riverfront Green, Free, 7:00 p.m. July 23 Riverfront Concert, Tom Chapin and Friends, Riverfront Green, July 26 Farmer's Market, Bank St., 8:00 a.m. Antique and Collectable Market, Bank St. Parking Lot, 8:00 a.m. July 26 July 27 Peekskill Underground Railroad Heritage Festival, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., 736-7908. July 28 Children's Concert, Jeffrey & the Bossy Frog Band—Jeffrey



August 1	Peekskill Celebration Weekend, Riverfront Green, New York Ranger's
	Road Show, 5:00 p.m.; Arts Crafts Show, 6:00 p.m.; Celebration Main
	Stage Kickoff Concert, The Grass Roots with Rob Grill, 7:00 p.m.
August 2	Peekskill Celebration Weekend, Hudson River, Hudson River Rally,
	9:00 a.m.; Riverfront Green, Food Vendors, Educational and Environmental
	Displays, Arts & Crafts Show, 10:00 a.m.
August 2	Victorian Ice Cream Social, Downtown Peekskill, 11:00 a.m.

August 2 Underground Railroad Tours, 13 South Division St., 11:30, 736-7908.
 August 2 Fourth Annual Peekskill Historic House Tour,

Just 2 Fourth Annual Peekskill Historic House Tour, hourly from noon-4:00 p.m., 734-1444.

August 2 Fireworks Extravaganza, Hudson River, 9:00 p.m.

August 2 Farmer's Market, Bank St., 8:00 a.m.

Friedberg, Free, 7:00 p.m.

August 2 Antique and Collectable Market, Bank St. Parking Lot, 8:00 a.m.

August 3 Jan Peek 10K Race, Water St. and Main St., 8:00 a.m.

August 3 Peekskill Celebration Weekend, Riverfront Green, Food Vendors, Arts & Crafts Show, 11:00 a.m.

August 4 SCORE Meeting, Conference Room, Chamber of Commerce, 9:00 am.

August 4 Children's Concert, The Super Silly Circus—Mark Stolzenberg, Free, 7:00 p.m.

August 9 Farmer's Market, Bank St., 8:00 a.m.

August 10 Jazz in the Park, Burr Johnson, Depew Park Bandstand, 6:00 p.m.

August 16 Farmer's Market, Bank St., 8:00 a.m.

August 16 Guided Art Gallery & Studio Tour, Meet at Paramount Center, 10:44 a.m., 666-2398.

August 17 Jazz in the Park, Riley T. Bandy, Depew Park Bandstand, 6:00 p.m.

August 23 Farmer's Market, Bank St., 8:00 a.m.

August 30 Farmer's Market, Bank St., 8:00 a.m.

Source: The Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce

Meet Your New City Manager Continued from page 1

government run. It involves setting rules and standing by them; making promises and keeping them, and running city governments as if they were the businesses they really are.

The government of the City of Peekskill is a corporation—it provides a product in the same way that an insurance company, a bank or any other service organization does. That product is clean streets, safe neighborhoods, and everything else that goes into making a well-run city.

The position of city manager is to make the business that is the City of Peekskill, NY—i.e., its government—run as efficiently as possible. Peekskill has the tools and a great deal of experience personnel to accomplish this objective.

A city manager is a professional who possesses a specific set of criteria, ethics and knowledge base. I've spent my career applying my abilities to help manage such cities as Poughkeepsie; Ogdensburg, N.Y.; Augusta, Maine; and Oak Park, Mich., which is a northern first tier suburb of Detroit.

City managers play a vital role in helping America work in places all over the country. I was the first person to be awarded the International City Management Association's (ICMA) "Certificate in Management," and I've received three ICMA awards, including ICMA's highest – "The Award for Excellence". None of my previous accomplishment would have been possible without the leadership and cooperation of past city councils and the dedication and hard work of city staff.

A few personal details. I was born and raised in Troy, NY. I have been married for 29 years and have a 27 year old daughter. My hobbies include martial arts, music and reading. I'm currently living on Main Street between Broad and James until my wife moves here and we buy a home.

I look forward to working with the common council, citizens and community leaders to put my education and experience to the benefit of Peekskill. I'm just learning about Peekskill, but from the enthusiastic welcome I've received I'd say that this is a community ready to leap forward. I think we'll make a great team, and I look forward to working together.

Code Enforcement/
Quality of Life Hotline
862-2065

Art Lays a Foundation for PEEKSKILL'S FUTURE

West Side Story is one of the world's most beloved plays and movie musicals. Yet the tale of the neighborhood that inspired the classic movie is almost as fascinating as the drama itself. It is also of tremendous importance to the city of Peekskill.

That's because New York City decided to take a tremendous risk in the 1960s. It put what would become one of the world's great cultural resources, Lincoln Center, in the middle of a drab, exhausted, deprived neighborhood—the West Side of Manhattan—right where the Jets and the Sharks once dueled.

Lincoln center opened in the 1960s—and slowly, prosperity began to spread through New York's Upper West Side.

Urban planning experts have long known that the arts are a very high-powered, low-cost way of transforming neighborhoods and cities. Artists are willing to make investments in places where other people are not.

More important, artists are a magnet for people with significant disposable incomes who can visit and help revitalize downtowns.

Lincoln Center took three decades to transform Manhattan's Upper West Side. Peekskill's Artist District has already fundamentally altered the city for the better. Space that lay fallow for decades is now occupied by studios and artist's residences. Galleries have become a vital part of the city's economy. Extensive coverage of the Artist's District in regional and even national media has



A NEW USE FOR AN OLD BUILDING. Residents may recognize the home of the Casola Gallery and the Sky Movement Studio as the former home of the Peekskill Herald.

dramatically improved Peekskill's image.

Unfortunately, there are a number of misperceptions about Peekskill's Artist's District. Artists who come to Peekskill receive no subsidies from the City. In fact, the Artist's District itself has been a tool that has enabled us to receive major grants from state and federal agencies that have helped us accomplish some major projects in our downtown.

Much of the other money for the district comes from landlords and artists who have taken the risk of betting on Peekskill's progress. The odds are looking increasingly goods that their decision has been a winning one.

Peekskill's Artist's District's roots have taken hold in the very fabric of our city as artists have purchased residences in our neighborhoods and opened businesses in our downtown and elsewhere.

Realtors say the Artist's District is a significant selling point for our community. All you need to do is take a walk downtown on one of the Open Studios Days to see how many people the district can draw to our city. What's best is that all this has been achieved with that most marvelous of things, OPM—other people's money.

Most of the galleries are open on weekends. They're wonderful places to see and explore. Visit them, and you'll find new reasons to take pride in your community.

CITY OF PEEKSKILL Key Government Meetings

JULY

- 8 Planning Commission
- 8 Historic Preservation
 Advisory Commission
- 14 Committee of the Whole
- 17 Zoning Board of Appeals
- 21 Common Council 10: a.m. Neighborhood Center

AUGUST

- 11 Committee of the Whole
- 12 Common Council
- 12 Planning Commission
- 18 Common Council
- 28 Historic & Landmarks Preservation Board

Building a **FAMILY AND A BUSINESS** in Peekskill.

Chris and Paula Carnabuci are artists of a special sort. Chris makes his living turning wood and metal into furniture that is both functional and magnificently sculptural. Critics adore a body of work that ranges from grandfather clocks that strike the eye as well as the time to bars that intoxicate with beauty as well as drink.

Paula Carnabuci's palate is people. One of the region's most respected fitness trainers, she has helped clients such as Karen Alexander and Frederique reach peaks of physical perfection.



PROUD PARENTS. Chris and Paula Carnabucci are proud of their daughters Gabriela (L) and Sophia (R) and their business.

Though they could have taken their highly respected talents many other places, they have chosen to make a total commitment to Peekskill, where the Carnabucis have a home on Nelson Avenue, a gallery and a fitness studio on South Street, and a workshop on Park Street.

The Casola Gallery is named after the Carnabuci's two lovely daughters, Sophia, aged four, and Gabriela, age eight. CA stands for Carnabuci, So for Sophia, and LA for Gabriela. Material that has been offered at the gallery ranges from spectacular \$50 decorative pillows to multithousand dollar, one-of-a-kind art furniture pieces.

At the Sky Movement Studio, customers also have plenty of choices. The rich varied menu of exercise options includes Pilates, Yoga, some Japanese martial arts, and even training in ballet.

Beauty and business are truly making a great combination for the Carnabucis—and Peekskill.

The Casola Gallery's phone number is (914) 734-2154. Sky Movement's number is (914) 788-6535.

Community Policing: Bringing People Together



By Eugene Tumolo, Chief of Police

Right now, our Community Policing unit has four members. Its leader is Sergeant Catherine

Johansen. Two officers work with the program: Ray Henderlong and Andre Wright. Reverend Mervyn David, the Police Department's chaplain, also plays a crucial part in our Community Policing efforts.

Members of the Community Policing Program have thought long and hard about what they're doing, "Our mission is to create better communication between the police and the public, and to help resolve ongoing concerns that the public and the business community may have within the city limits," Sgt. Johansen says.

Making arrests isn't what Community Policing is all about. "We don't base our success on arrests. In fact, arrests are very

rare for the Community Policing unit. We are more interested in trying to peacefully resolve issues, address citizen concerns and keep people satisfied within their own space and area of residence," Johansen says.

Participation with the community is an integral part of the Community Policing Program. That works both ways. In order to help you, we need to hear from you. When people hear that we are investing a lot of time and energy in certain parts of the community, that's not because we're playing favorites. It's because members of that community have asked us to help out.

Activities that the Community Policing unit is involved in include setting up and supporting neighborhood watch programs—we have four of those. The Community Policing Unit also takes care of most of the hot line



WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY. Connecting with citizens is the Peekskill Community Policing Unit's job. From left to right, Officer Andre Wright, Sergeant Catherine Johansen, the Reverend Mervyn David, who is also the Department's Chaplain, and Officer Ray Henderlong.

> complaints that come from City Hall. The Unit also works with the Peekskill City School District and many of the nonprofits that work in our city.

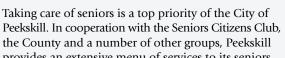
Police officers are trained in resolving disputes and dealing with criminal activities. So if you have an ongoing problem with your neighbor or an issue that's ongoing in your neighborhood, such as traffic, noise, or inappropriate behavior, contact the Community Policing Unit.

"We share information with the anti-crime and traffic enforcement units," Sgt. Johansen says. "In fact, we all work together in attempting to find a way to reduce the concerns that are important to the public", she says. There is a lot of work involved in dealing with the community. Last year the Unit worked on over 210 documented service calls and more than 160 documented traffic stops and vehicle and traffic investigations generated by community concerns. This was in addition to meeting with neighborhood and community groups as well as working within the school district through the DARE and SRO programs.

We hope this year the numbers will be even better. We're here for you. If you need us, give us a call at (914) 862-1710 or e-mail Sqt. Johansen at CatJo@peekskillpolice.com.

Visit us on the web: www.cityofpeekskill.com

Burnishing the Golden Years: Peekskill's Senior Services



provides an extensive menu of services to its seniors.

In fact, Peekskill's nutritional programs are so respected that neighboring communities use us to help feed their seniors. Seniors can also come down and eat at the neighborhood center for a nominal fee.

Anybody who wants to can get a hot meal, Monday through Friday, for a smallsuggested donation. Homebound seniors in Peekskill can get up to 11 meals a week from our nutritional program. Gary Cahill, manager of the seniors program, works hard at keeping the menu varied and the quality of the food high.

Peekskill provides a number of health-oriented programs as well. A podiatrist is available at the Neighborhood Center on the first Thursday of the month. Every Monday and Friday seniors can get their blood pressure checked. There are Dancercise classes three days a week, and a sit-down-chair exercise program is available one day a week.

One of the most important resources for Peekskill Seniors is the Senior Citizens Club. Organized and run by volunteers in cooperation with the City, the Club helps Peekskill provide an abundance of exciting events and activities.

Membership in the Seniors Club is just \$12 a year. The Club offers a broad menu of services and activities. Monday through Thursdays, there are daily card and bingo games. Seniors can also go on trips, tours and even vacations.

Peekskill's Programs: A Resource for Summer Fun

Children and adults alike can have a special summer working with the resources the City of Peekskill provides.

Both the Peekskill Youth Bureau and the Department of Parks and Recreation give children, adults and seniors alike the chance to learn, have fun, and improve their skills in a number of sports. "We have everything from programs for tots right on up to senior citizens," says Fran Brunelle, director of community services.

At the Youth Bureau, one of the most exciting developments is the expansion of the Junior CEO Program. "Our programs are designed by the Bureauto empower youth through comprehensive and diverse programming, while promoting selffulfillment, responsibility, accountability and a sense of community-building cohesion," says Valerie Swan, the Youth Bureau's executive director.

Few programs better exemplify these goals than Junior CEO, which teaches children leadership, socialization and planning skills. An expanded grant from Westchester County has enabled the Bureau to triple the size of the program this year compared to last, with places available for 75



CEOS OF THE FUTURE. Participants in the Peekskill Youth Bureau's Jr. CEO program and their advisors tour Fort Hill's Revolutionary War Era fortifications last summer.

children compared to just 25 last summer.

A raft of other programs is offered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. Many of the programs focus on children, says "We have an obligation to offer programs that are constructive to kids when they're out of school or on vacation or they have leisure time," Brunelle says.

For children aged four to 12, there is a Day

Camp program. This offers a double benefit; more than 300 younger children go to the day camp, while another 60 or 70 somewhat older youths are employed by the program. Teen Travel Camp is available

for kids who are somewhat older but need supervision. A whole array of trips is offered in the travel camp, covering everything from bowling to movies. About 80 children take part in the teen travel program, but there is room for more, Brunelle says.

A new offering for children is the Creative Arts Camp, which offers specialties in dance drama, and other crafts. The Peekskill Artist's Community has played a key role in developing this program, Brunelle says, and it has proven a tremendous success. "Your Creative Arts Camp is the brainchild of our artist's population," he says. "It's the fastest closed-out program we have."

Grownups can take tennis lessons offered by the city, learn kayaking, or participate in an adult summer basketball league. A new offer for adults is a Blue Mountain Reservation nature walk. A concert series will also take place every Wednesday from July 2 to August 1. Performers will include Tom Chapin, the Bellmonts, The Passions, The Grass Roots and the local group Jig Saw.

There are new activities on the music front as well. On August 10, the City will offer the first Jazz Night in Depew Park. Burr Johnson will be the performer. Riley T. Bandy will perform on the 17th.

This is only a small sampling of the services Peekskill offers to its citizens over the summer. Specific details on price, programs and schedules are available for the Peekskill Youth Bureau at http:// www.citvofpeekskill.com/parksrecreation/ communityprograms.cfm#pos9. Information on Parks and Recreation programs is located at http://www.cityofpeekskill.com/ parksrecreation/index.cfm.

Residents can also call City Hall and get a copy of the Summer 2003 Program Guide for more information.

NEW CODE ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE to Focus on Safety and Overcrowding

Building codes and occupancy regulations aren't just words on paper. They're promises to the citizens of our city to preserve the health, safety and quality of life of our neighborhoods.

Predatory landlords and investors are more than willing to put 20 people in a structure designed for five. They put lives at risk and degrade neighborhoods and the city's infrastructure as they cram many families into single or two family homes.

This places a terrible burden on our city as we and the Peekskill City School District have to dramatically increase our services to protect and serve the victims of the overcrowded conditions. If unchecked, the result could be a terrible situation where taxes rise relentlessly while Peekskill's quality of life rapidly declines.

"What's especially frustrating is the fact that many of the abusive landlords are not living in the buildings they own or even in Peekskill. They are destroying our city for their own personal financial benefit," says Peekskill Mayor John Testa.

Cities all over the Hudson Valley Region are facing the same situation. The predators are creative and clever. Peekskill has decided to respond with its own creativity. The city has created a Code Enforcement Task Force that is dedicated to cleaning up the mess the abusers have created.

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Fueling a City's Dreams: The Grow Peekskill Fund

If you've got a dream, a plan, and the passion to pursue it, the City of Peekskill wants to work with you.

Helping new businesses and supporting existing ones is a top priority of Peekskill's city government. That's why the City has worked to create the Grow Peekskill Fund, a loan program administered by a neutral party dedicated to assisting businesses get through the crucial startup period.

"It's a program that provides capital for small businesses in Peekskill," says Kevin McLaughlin, director of the National Development Corporation, the independent not-for-profit that oversees the Grow Peekskill Program.

Peekskill got the Grow Peekskill Fund going by providing \$150,000 in seed money. Matching programs by the Small Business Administration and other organizations transform that sum into \$600,000 that is available for Peekskill Businesses that meet specific criteria.

"Any commercial, service or manufacturing business, that needs support, we can try to help it," McLaughlin says. That business must be located within the city of Peekskill. The loans also have to be made directly to the business itself.

"If an individual wanted to buy a building and not to occupy it, but to try and rent it out, we couldn't help them," McLaughlin says. "But we can help the businesses that occupy the building," he says.

The Peekskill Coffee House was the first business to tap into the Peekskill Grow Fund. The partners behind the Coffee House are enthusiastic about the program—but they warn that participants had better be ready to do some serious homework.

Applicants will need to prepare a detailed business plan, which will include plans for marketing their operation, and financial projections. "It's almost going to be impossible to get the proper funding without a very detailed business plan stating what your actual project is, projected financial spreadsheets; industry standards and backup supportive financial information," says Sunny Cover, a partner in the Coffee House Project.

Information required to secure a Grow Peekskill grant can include several years of tax information from business owners, financial statements from the business itself, and a lot of other data. In addition, it's also suggested that applicants get counseling on their business plans and ideas.

One of the best places to go for assistance

is the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of

Commerce, says James Lorr, another of

the partners behind the Peekskill Coffee

House. Getting all the information together

program was an intensive and sometimes

confronting process, he says, but it was

"It was a good learning process," Lorr says

well worth it.

and preparing all the materials for the

of working with the Chamber and executives with the SCORE program. "They are great people there if you are serious and you have your stuff together," he says.

Grow Peekskill provided the Coffee House with access and affordability it would have hard time finding anywhere else, the partners say. "It has a lower interest rate.

> A NEW START FOR PEEKSKILL. Money loaned by the Grow Peekskill Fund played a crucial role in helping the Peekskill Coffee House open its doors. Sunny Cover, Laura Gillen and James Lorr, celebrate with a facsimile of their

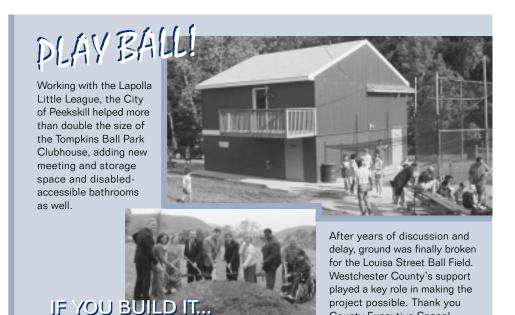
and it made us able to use less collateral all the way around," Cover says. "We also really did like the idea of working with the city," she says. "It made us feel really secure about the town having an interest in what we're doing."

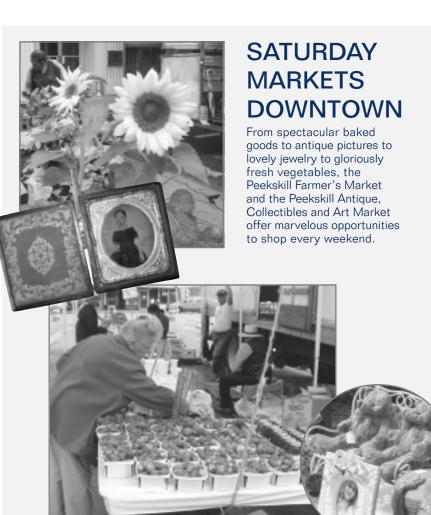
If you're interested in working with the Grow Peekskill Fund, contact Kathy Lockwood in the planning department in City Hall. Peekskill is looking forward to working with you.

The Peekskill Coffee House can be reached at (914) 739-1287 and is located at 101 South Division Street in the Flatiron Building.

County Executive Spano!

check. See story on page four.









TRAIL BUILDING

Annsville Creek nature trail is proceeding rapidly. When finished, the

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