Czajka, Drapkin Named ‘Community Builders’

Pattern President Jonathan Drapkin and VP Joe Czajka, director of Pattern’s Center for Housing Solutions, were honored by Hudson River Housing Oct. 2 with the organization’s “Community Builder” award. The award was given for Pattern’s work to highlight the need for affordable housing and community development.

Got Tax Relief?

Barbara Gref of Pattern and individuals from 100 other education and policy organizations were represented at Albany’s Rockefeller Institute on Sept. 30. Ideas to rein in NY State’s excessive school tax burden were the order of the day.

Infrastructure Work Cited

The Office of the State Comptroller in September cited Pattern’s May 2014 infrastructure report “A Widening Gap,” authored by March Gallagher, to help tell the story of dwindling resources for roads and bridges and for sewer and water.

Homeowner Help, Hope for Downtowns At 2014 Housing Summit

A crowd of some 150 professionals in the for-profit and nonprofit housing sectors including developers and financiers gathered in New Windsor on Sept. 29 for the fourth annual housing summit convened by Pattern and its Center for Housing Solutions. The summit welcomed keynote speakers Federal Home Loan Bank of NY President José González and NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman who used to occasion of the summit to announce a two-year, $40 million extension of the HOP program designed to help people keep their homes. In a panel on urban pioneering through the establishment of housing in old factories, Patrick Normoyle, Ed Murphy and Kevin O’Connor explained their projects in Middletown, Poughkeepsie and Kingston. Sean Fitzgerald represented HCR (Housing and Community Renewal) on the panel; Dan Marsh of National Development Council moderated. Pattern Vice President Joe Czajka, who heads the Center for Housing Solutions highlighted his annual report and discussed in particular the adverse impact of over-stated parking needs for housing developments. Czajka’s presentation of a Lifetime Achievement Award to Charles Darden, retiring from RECAP after 34 years brought the crowd to its feet in a standing ovation for Darden’s work against poverty and homelessness.

49 and Counting” … Awards Reception is Nov. 6

Pattern is 49 years old this year and we’re gearing up for a big 50th Anniversary year. Expect some news about that at the annual awards reception on Nov. 6 at Anthony’s Pier 9 in New Windsor. Winners of the Henry Awards this year represent an impressive group of individuals and organizations that have contributed greatly to the quality of life here in the Hudson Valley. All are considered visionaries in their fields and have distinguished themselves through dedication to the region. They include: Dr. Daniel Aronzon, Diane Serratore, Dr. John D’Ambrosio, Charlie North, Westchester Medical Center, Storm King Art Center, Covington Development, the Local Economies Project, the Museum at Bethel Woods, Yonkers Partners in Education, and Dr. Ron Isaelski, Tony Danza and Touro College - Middletown campus. The awards reception takes place from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $140 for members and tables of 10 are priced at $1,350. Sponsorships are available. Contact rddegroat@pfprogress.org or call 845-565-4900.