ACROSS THE AISLE RETURNS ON JULY 10 WITH “NEXT GENERATION” PANEL OF YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

Pattern’s popular Across the Aisle event returns on July 10, but this year there’s a new twist. Instead of the usual conversation between one Democratic and one Republican Congressman, this year’s event will include a panel discussion, featuring members of the “next generation” of elected leadership in the Hudson Valley. With partisan divisions engulfing Washington, these young elected officials will talk about the different picture they see in local government, where delivering services and responding to resident concerns matters more than what political party you belong to. They will also share thoughts about the challenges of running for and serving in elected office at a relatively young age, and the opportunities opened up by being able to bring a fresh perspective to government.

“While we always enjoyed our conversations with Representatives Maloney, Gibson, and Faso, we are incredibly excited to present this new spin on Across the Aisle,” said Jona-than Drapkin, Pattern’s CEO & President. “We often worry that people in their 20s and 30s are moving out of the Hudson Valley, but these younger elected officials are showing the value of staying involved in their communities.”

Confirmed panelists include three Democrats, Steve Noble, 35, the Mayor of Kingston (top left), Sarah Salem, 33, a Poughkeepsie City Council Member (middle left), and Kevindaryan Lujan, 30, an Orange County Legislator (bottom row) and two Republicans, Will Truitt, 23, a Dutchess County Legislator from Hyde Park (top right), and Ken Ronk, 32, an Ulster County Legislator from Shawangunk and the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature (middle right). Additional panelists are still being confirmed and will be announced prior to the event.

As in prior years, the event will take place at Marist College in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Check-in and breakfast are from 9:00am to 9:30am and the discussion will run from 9:30am to 11am. To purchase a ticket for Across the Aisle, please visit Pattern’s website at www.pattern-for-progress.org. For information on sponsoring, please contact Robin DeGroat at 845-565-4900 or email her at rdegroat@pfprogress.org.

2017-18 Pattern Fellows Class Graduated on June 11

On June 11, on the campus of SUNY Orange in Newburgh, the 2017-18 class of Pattern Fellows presented their findings from six months of research to Pattern’s Board of Directors, along with family, friends, and colleagues. The Pattern Fellows program is the only regional leadership training of its kind in the Hudson Valley. This year’s Fellows focused on understanding the impact of “anchor projects” on the communities they are located in. One group studied the Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie, one studied Orange County Community College in Newburgh, and the third studied the new Resorts World Casino in Sullivan County. Pattern congratulates all of the graduates!

One of the three 2017-18 Fellows groups

Pattern Works with IFCA Housing Network to Promote Affordable Housing in Ossining

In partnership with the IFCA Housing Network and the Village of Ossining, Pattern organized and led a series of two neighborhood visioning charrettes to address the revitalization of a neighborhood in the Village of Ossining known locally as “the block.” At the first charrette held in early May, participants identified strengths and weaknesses of the neighborhood and shared their vision for the future of the community. Participants of the first charrette were local community leaders and representatives from local community-based organizations. The second charrette was held in early June with a different group of participants. The second charrette was comprised of economic development professionals including planners, developers, land use attorneys, bankers, and non-traditional lenders. Findings from the first charrette were presented and discussed at the second charrette.

At both charrettes, safe and affordable housing was identified as one of the primary issues facing the neighborhood. In early July, Pattern will issue a full report with findings and recommendations based on the feedback from both of the neighborhood visioning charrettes. Given the strong support from the Village of Ossining, IFCA, and the public and private funding communities, Pattern believes there is an excellent opportunity to transform the affordable housing discussion into affordable housing action.