Safe at Home Committee Meeting
October 23, 2026 1:00 pm
Meeting Place, Cook and Larder

Attendance: Joyce Ferrentino, Timi Bates, Rene Gibson, Lynda Brenner, Joyce Lapenn, Dee Crawford, Lynne Colclough, Patti Rohrlich, Shirley Bresler, Mary Lou Kersten

Coffee Hour
October – Brenda Shufelt, Hudson and Whaling. All set. Point person, Mary Lou.
November – Food and Gratitude. Speaker is Julie Gale. Julie needs a toasting oven and hot plate. Joyce F and Patti will bring these. Joyce L is the point person and will ask what else Julie needs. At the November coffee hour we will ask attendees for their interest in a one time book discussion. Joyce L will get the suggested book title. In December we would check to see who needs the book. SAH would pay for the books to hand out in January to discuss in February. Books and Cake could supply books for the book discussion coffee hour. If we don't get enough people interested in book discussion we will need to cancel the idea.
December – Holiday party. December 8. Nico Hernandez confirmed the date with the firehouse is okay, cost $625.00. Mary Lou will ask Nico what exactly the volunteer fire department members will do. Will also ask for the bill in advance so SAH can have payment ready. Each committee member should provide 3 wrapped small gifts that can be given out. Patti said her daughter Suzy will handle the gift swap event. There will be no raffle. As a door prize Joyce F will donate a puzzle table and Mary Lou donated a puzzle to go with it. There will only be one large gift.
January 2027– Matt White. Matt was asked which topic he would like to discuss.
February – Books and Cake. Book discussion. Joyce L responsible person.
March - Danny Pelosi. Jane point person.
April – Christine Doctor, on gardening. Lynne point person.
May - Tivoli mushrooms – Timi point person
June – Annual picnic.
Possible speakers for the future.
Patti found someone who can speak on turtles. Month to be determined.
Joyce F will ask John Jasmin to speak on bees and honey in either July, Aug or Sept.
Ron Bixby is willing to speak and we will ask him for October.
Sharon Hospital has a specialist on geriatrics, Joyce F to work on this as a possibility.

Wednesday – Walking Schedule The walks ended in October.
Although attendance has been very low. It was agreed that we will try again next year and promote it as much as possible to spark interest.

Stories Across Generations October 27 Joyce F, Rene and Joyce L will meet at the school to discuss the school reading program. Rene will bring applications to the October coffee hour for possible volunteers.

Help stock the blessing box Please support this activity.

Day Trip Ideas On Hold, awaiting Shirley's input.

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Finances Doing a quarterly newsletter has drawn down funding from the budgeted $750.00 we receive from the town of Hillsdale. We do have the funds from HECDC. It was agreed to continue the quarterly mailings instead of only three and to draw funds from HECDC. Joyce L will mention in the Town Newsletter that people can donate to HECDC and designate their gift, for instance to SAH. Gordon Bates has been handling envelope addressing and production. SAH will send him a thank you gift in acknowledgement of his help with newsletter mailings.

Miscellaneous: On November 2, 11:00 AM there is a meeting at the Hillsdale Town Hall to promote the concept of a Homesharing program. Joyce L is involved as well as the Hillsdale Housing committee. Joyce L will mention it at the October coffee hour. We are all encouraged to attend this information session.

On November 15, 3:00 – 5:00 PM West Copake Dutch Reformed Church, there is a Music for Your Health chamber music event to benefit the Healthcare Consortium. All are encouraged to attend, this event is presented by the Friends of the Consortium. It will be a performance of three musicians performing various works of ranging from Beethoven to John Williams. Will be mentioned at the October coffee hour.

Next Meeting, November 20, 2026 3:00 pm, Friday at Cook and Larder