

Safe at Home Committee Meeting
July 24, 2026 3:00 pm
Meeting Place, Cook and Larder

Attendance: Joyce Ferrentino, Joyce Lapenn, Lynda Brenner, Rene Gibson,
Natalie Kahan, Patti Rohrllich, Jane McDonough, Lynne Colclough, Timi Bates

Coffee Hour

June – Picnic in the Park June 30, well received. Joyce F read a thank you note from one of the participants and showed a water color sketch that was given as a thank you.

July – Baseball, the Great American Pastime. Joyce F responsible person. Turns out speaker will be doing his presentation at the library later the same week, unknown to us and library when scheduled.

August – Dr. Green on Aging Wisely, Rene responsible person. His book is being passed around to SAH committee members for reading.

September – Rachel Cole from the Health Care Consortium. A talk on different Medicare and Supplement options. She will also speak on available transportation for non-emergency medical appointments. She will bring information on their annual fundraising event. Joyce F point person.

October – Brenda Shufelt, Hudson and Whaling. Point person, Mary Lou.

November – Food and gratitude. Speaker is Julie Gale. Joyce L point person

At the November coffee hour we will ask attendees for their interest in a one time book discussion. In December we would check to see who needs a book. SAH would pay for the books to hand out in January to discuss in February. Book to be determined. Books and Cake could supply books for a book discussion coffee hour.

December – Holiday party.

Future coffee hours

Patti no longer wants to pursue the UFO idea. She suggested Matt White, author of New York Minute. Danny Pelosi is willing. Jane spoke with him.

Christine Doctor – will be asked spring, topic is gardening.

Tivoli mushrooms – he is interested, Joyce F spoke with him. Timi is also a contact.

Yoga – Patti has the name of a contact.

Ask the owners of Books and Cake to speak one month.

Adult coloring books – Patti researching

Gift ideas for speakers. Water bottles and notebooks with our SAH logo were discussed as options. Due to cost and other considerations the notebooks were chosen.

County Wide Survey Survey was done by the Columbia County Office for Aging. Results are on their website. Very low response rate due to inadequate marketing or the funds to market it. Top two concerns are maintaining their homes and socialization.

Town newsletter submissions for coffee hours need to be in by the 20th of the month.

Background information on the speakers is needed before then to meet this deadline.

Joyce F is not responsible for gathering information on the various speakers that have been recruited by those speakers where she was not the responsible. Please email this information to her in advance to meet the deadline.

Wednesday – Walking Schedule

Attendance is very low. Will use the poster at the coffee hour and continue to talk about it.

Joyce L asked a HVRT liaison to talk up the walks. Joyce F spoke to a knitting club member to talk it up, but they don't meet in the summer. Committee members handle their assigned days. If they can't be there they should arrange a back up.

Farm Market Table

July 25 - Lynne and Patti, August 15 - Mary Lou and Lynda. Back ups Joyce F, Rene and Timi. Rene has all the supporting information for the table.

Book Dreams

Stories Across Generations. Mentioned in the town newsletter, press releases and coffee hours. A flyer was developed regarding the program. Needs Taconic Hills to sign off on it before it can go public. It will be used to recruit volunteers for the program. Completed volunteer sign up forms were mailed to volunteers from last year's list. Completed forms will be sent to the school. Marcie Haywood is the contact administrator. David Wurth is interested in being a reader.

Grants – Joyce F and Joyce L were at The Bank of Greene County ceremony to receive their grant of \$500. Transportation pilot program on hold.

Help stock the blessing box Please support this activity.

Of NOTE Senior Day is September 16 at the Columbia Fairgrounds. Joyce F is on the planning committee. There will be a respite tent where caretakers can bring their charges for a short time. Louise Marks gave a presentation on What is a Village – Neighbors Helping Neighbors program. This is based in Chatham. Participants pay a \$75 fee and can partake in the services. Details of this program will be discussed at the Senior Day event.

Our SAH newsletter will continually be sent via email as a plain newsletter with a PDF attachment for those who want the color and illustrations.

Jane will be gone for 3-4 months but is willing to work on the newsletter remotely. Grants are not due until next year so she will be able to help with their writing.

Next Meeting, August 21, 2026 3:00 pm, Friday at Cook and Larder