

Susan Zimet
Supervisor Town of New Paltz
1 Veterans Drive
New Paltz, NY 12561

March 9, 2014

Dear Susan:

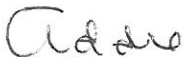
I am writing on behalf of the Parkinson's Disease Support Group of the Mid-Hudson Valley, Inc., of which I am a member. We again respectfully request that you join the U.S. Senate that each year declares April as *World-Wide Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month*. I have attached a proclamation template which you can fill in or copy onto your own document, sign and, if you choose, affix your seal.

Last year 20 Hudson Valley municipalities, including the Town and Village of New Paltz, issued a similar proclamation for 2013. See the enclosed *Letter to the Editor* of the *Poughkeepsie Journal*. Won't you please join the 2013 effort?

This simple act of educational awareness would be very helpful in spreading the word about this devastating disease and the need for a cure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,



Addie Haas
18 Pinecrest Road
New Paltz, NY 12561

Enclosures (2)

Parkinson's Awareness Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological movement disorder of the central nervous system, which has a unique impact on each patient; and

WHEREAS, according to the Parkinson's Action Network, the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, the American Parkinson's Disease Association and the National Institutes of Health, there are over one million Americans diagnosed with Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, symptoms include slowness, tremor, difficulty with balance and speaking, rigidity, cognitive and memory problems; and

WHEREAS, although new medicines and therapies may enhance life for some time for people with Parkinson's, more work is needed for a cure; and

WHEREAS, increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and ultimately a cure for Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary approach to Parkinson's disease care includes local wellness, support, and caregiver groups; and

WHEREAS, April has been proclaimed as World Wide Parkinson's Awareness Month for all to recognize the need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating effects of Parkinson's disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I/WE, _____, SUPERVISOR/MAYOR/ THE COUNCIL of the City/Town/Village of _____, do hereby proclaim April as Parkinson's Awareness Month in _____.

Given under my hand in these free United States in the City/Town/Village of _____, on this day of two thousand and fourteen, and to which I have caused the Seal of the City/Town/Village of _____ to be affixed and have made this proclamation public.

Supervisor/Mayor/ Council

Attest:

Opinion

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Include name, hometown and phone number, and keep letter to 250 words or fewer. Submissions can be edited and published in print, electronic or other forms. Send letters to letterists@poughkeepsiejournal.com. Mail typed or printed letters to Box 1231, Poughkeepsie, NY, 12602 or fax to 845-437-4921

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Parkinson's efforts show support

Ten million people worldwide suffer from Parkinson's disease, more than twice the number of those with Lou Gehrig's disease, multiple sclerosis or muscular dystrophy combined. Many with Parkinson's live right here in the Hudson Valley, but they know that their plight does not go unnoticed or unsupported.

Twenty area municipalities followed the example of the U.S. Senate and House and declared April Parkinson's Awareness Month. This act annually boosts public awareness of this devastating disease for which there is currently no definitive cause and no cure. Those issuing proclamations included Beacon, Beekman, Dutchess County, the

Dutchess County Legislature, East Fishkill, the Town and Village of Fishkill, Hyde Park, LaGrange, Lloyd, the Town and City of Poughkeepsie, Town of New Paltz, Village of Rhinebeck, Shandaken, Union Vale, Village of Wappingers Falls, Washington, Wawarsing and Woodstock.

In addition, the Mid-Hudson Bridge lights glowed green and yellow, the colors for hope and optimism. The Hyde Park Library hosted a monthlong educational display, and hundreds of participants came out for the Parkinson's Awareness Walk on the Walkway Over the Hudson that culminated the month's activities.

Arlington High School Friends of Rachel Club members carried banners for the Walk and the Rhinebeck Choral Club sang. Brownies from Troop 10130 marched in support and 35 Siena College students pushed borrowed wheelchairs. The heartfelt thanks of the entire Parkinson's community goes out to our Valley neighbors for their outpouring of support. Thank you all!

Nancy Redkey

Chair, Parkinson's Disease
Support Group of the Mid-Hudson
Valley Inc.
LaGrangeville