

RAFAEL DIAZ

Since retiring to Ulster County, Rafael has distinguished himself by enhancing the lives of our community and world. The following represent examples of his commitment to others through volunteer and community activities:

HIGHLAND ROTARY CLUB: Former president. Through them he has gone to Guatemala as a translator for Rotoplast, a Rotary project to repair kids' cleft palates around the world, and to El Salvador for a clean water project.

HUDSON VALLEY RAIL TRAIL: Member of Board of Directors; editor of a newsletter; leader of Learn-to-Run classes on the Rail Trail.

HIGHLAND LANDING PARK ASSOCIATION: Member of Board of Directors; handles press relations.

TOWN OF LLOYD ETHICS BOARD.

TOWN OF LLOYD HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY: Has served as president and handles press releases.

MID-HUDSON SENIOR CITIZENS OF HIGHLAND: He has served as a trustee and spoken to the club, encouraging involvement regarding events in which he is involved.

ESTHER COPPOLA

Esther Coppola has been involved throughout Ulster County for decades. She speaks out for what she believes, is well respected, innovative and caring. Through her leadership and perseverance she has stamped her trademark on her community. Esther was on the Plattekill Planning Board for over twenty years and an Ulster County Community College trustee for 10 years.

Esther has participated in many Ulster County organizations including the Red Cross, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Highland Cemetery, Highland Chamber of Commerce, U.C. Mental Health Association, National Recycling Coalition, St. Augustine's School Teacher/Volunteer, Milton/Marlboro PTA, Plattekill Civic Association and Plattekill Community Action, to name a few.

Still very active, Esther is involved in many Seniors Groups and currently sits on several Town of Plattekill committees including their Veterans Committee, Recreation Committee and Senior of the Year Committee. She is the first to step forward to make sure seniors are not overlooked or taken advantage of. She enjoys visiting with other seniors, as well as taking them shopping, going to the doctors, and going to local activities and outings. Esther believes in integrity, where a person does not work for their own gains, but works for the good of the community and others. She enjoys life and making the world a better place.