

# This little piggie went AWOL; owner offers \$100 reward

**RED HOOK** — At least four little piggies are missing from Red Hook.

Local farmer Irv Fraleigh of Route 199 is missing three, while the Coon family, about a half-mile away, is missing one.

"I don't like this; I don't approve of stealing," said Fraleigh, who is offering a \$100 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person responsible.

It's not the value of the piglets — worth \$25 each — that concerns him, he said. It's the fact of someone unlawfully entering his barn and taking what's not theirs.

Fraleigh has about 60 pigs he raises and sells. The piglets are three weeks to a month old.

"I'm surprised the person isn't afraid to take them — they're hard to

get away from the sows," the mother pigs, he said. "The sows are vicious."

He's also puzzled the babies, rather than the older pigs, are being taken. He said this leads him to believe "some woman or a kid is taking them for a pet."

Two of his piglets were stolen from his unlocked barn between 5:30 p.m. Monday and 7 a.m. Tuesday, he said. A sole piglet was stolen a week earlier, he said. At that time, a piglet also was stolen from the Coons' barn, he said.

Dutchess County Sheriff Frederick Scoralick said his deputies are investigating the reports. They've received no other similar reports, he said.

"I don't like to have this sort of thing going on," said Fraleigh. "Pretty soon they'll be taking bigger things."

## DEC reviews RH farm pond/lake

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By WILLIAM J. KEMBLE

**RED HOOK** — Because the dictionary doesn't define how large a body of water has to be before a pond becomes a lake, Bucky Coon said the best idea would be to flip a coin to decide which his planned three-acre excavation area on Route 199 would be.

The proposal is under state Department of Environmental Conservation review, though a determination of impacts has been issued. Comments will be accepted by the DEC through June 8, and will be followed by an application to the town zoning board of appeals for a use permit.

Coon said the project has been planned for a year and will require buying about 50 acres of land from Irving Fraleigh. The property primarily be used will for raising beef cattle,

which Coon said would be moved from his present location on Linden Avenue.

"The reason we want to put the pond in is that we have would like to use the water for the cattle," he said. "We would also want to use it for recreation, as well as fire protection for the house and barn that will eventually be there."

In addition to stocking the pond with fish, Coon said he hopes "wildlife would be attracted to the site. There are a lot of birds, duck and geese that migrate back and forth seasonally that would probably make use of it."

Coon said the project is essentially a means to pay for the purchase, and he plans to "sell bank-run gravel and material from the excavation. We think we could sell it...to people who would use it for driveways, roads or fill."