

The Upper Delaware

The quarterly newsletter about the environment and people of the Upper Delaware River

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**The Upper Delaware
welcomes submissions and
new subscribers (free)!**

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list by filling out the coupon
on Page 7. Thank you.



NO NIETC: Citizens opposed to the establishment of a proposed Mid-Atlantic Area National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor (NIETC) traveled to New York City on May 23 to protest and testify at a U.S. Department of Energy public hearing held at Park Central New York Hotel. Detractors believe that the federal designation would facilitate approval of the private, for-profit New York Regional Interconnect high-voltage power line. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

'National Interest' Electric Corridors Spark Protests

The Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's inclusion in the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) draft Mid-Atlantic Area National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor (NIETC) designation has outraged those tasked with protecting the river valley, its residents, visitors, and elected representatives.

On April 26, the DOE released a proposal to establish two corridors in the Mid-Atlantic and Southwest U.S. to address the two "Critical Congestion Areas" identified in its August 2006 Congestion Study.

The Mid-Atlantic corridor covers more than 100,000 square miles and a population of over 50 million people, in all or parts of eight states and the District of Columbia.

New York Regional Interconnection (NYRI), Inc. - the private company seeking approval to develop a \$1.62 billion, High-

Voltage Direct Current power line on a 190-mile route through eight NY counties - issued a statement that same day hailing the announcement as "a clearly emerging consensus that the reliability of America's and New York State's electrical power transmission infrastructure must be addressed in a timely way."

NYRI is indisputably in the vast minority of supporters for the draft corridors.

The designations, made possible by a provision in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, could supersede states' jurisdiction over permitting transmission projects and provide federal eminent domain authority to secure land for those projects deemed to be in the national interest.

Given that the geographic swath of the corridors includes 47 of New York State's

*Please see **ELECTRIC** on Page 5*

Most land along the Upper Delaware River is privately owned. Please be considerate and don't litter or trespass. Thanks!

Upper Delaware Profile: Joseph Carr

As a Queens native, Joseph Carr had to learn from neighbors "how to live in the country" when he moved to Glen Spey 11 years ago.

As a retiree with time and energy to offer, Carr quickly immersed himself in the local affairs of his "just beautiful" adopted area.

"I got involved with the Lumberland Fire Department Auxiliary, the Lions Club, AARP, the Senior Citizens of Lumberland and Highland, and Sullivan First," he says.

Carr was also a regular attendee of Lumberland Town Board meetings. When a council seat opened up in 2002, he accepted an appointment to fill it.

A successful election followed in 2003, and Carr will run on the Republican ticket for a second, four-year term this year.

"I enjoy serving the people and there are some things I still want to do for the town," the 73-year-old says.

Among those projects are a cemetery gravesite mapping system and picnic pavilion improvements in Glen Spey, and a rock garden in Pond Eddy.

Carr serves on the Lumberland Master Plan Committee, and has been the town's alternate representative since January 2007 to the Upper Delaware Council and the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Inc. He also organizes the Town of Lumberland's annual Fourth of July Parade, and helps coordinate senior bus trips and cruises.

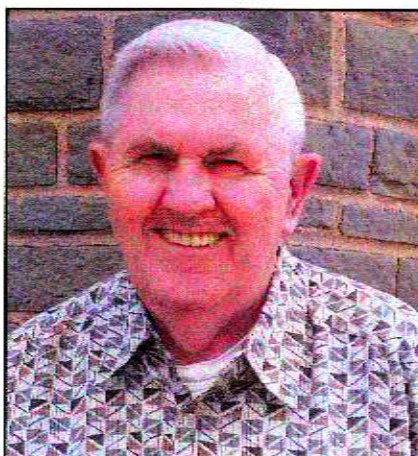
"What surprised me about the UDC is that they not only watch what's going on along the river but also help the towns get grants and with other needs," he says. "We're all here to keep the area pristine."

Carr can thank his sons for introducing him to Glen Spey.

"My boys used to kayak and raft in the Delaware River all the time. When I was looking to buy property after I retired, they recommended we look up here," he says.

Joe and his wife of 50 years (as of September), Rosemarie, found their dream spot in 1996 and moved into a newly-built house in 1997 after Rosemarie retired from her 18-year job running the press room for the New York Mets at Shea Stadium.

Like his father who had been a professional horse jockey and a machinist, Carr



Joseph Carr, Town of Lumberland, NY

had a diverse career history.

The Flushing High School graduate worked in public relations for Pan Am Airlines, based in Long Island City, for five years until his friend got him into the coveted Ironworkers Local 40 union.

Carr was an ironworker on metropolitan high-rise buildings for 20 years until his wife happened to see him atop a beam and expressed concerns for his safety.

For several years, Carr was an ironworker by day and employee of American Airlines by night. He worked his way up from baggage handler to coordinating the mail department, logging a total of 28 years with the airline until his 1996 retirement.

When not working on behalf of the town or his member organizations, Carr enjoys traveling, senior center activities, and visits with his family.

His sons - Joseph, a mail carrier on Long Island, and John, employed by American Airlines and residing in Whitestone - are both married. Carr takes great pride in his two grandsons from Joseph, 18-year-old James and 16-year-old Brian.

As a former president of the College Point Athletic Club in Queens who also coached and refereed youth football for 12 years, Carr indulges in his admitted NY Giants obsession during the season.

The Carr family also still loves rafting down the Delaware in the summers. ♦

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The Upper Delaware is a free quarterly publication of the Upper Delaware Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization comprised of member governments from New York and Pennsylvania directly affected by the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

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DEC Names Director, Revamps Website

William C. "Willie" Janeway was selected in May to succeed Marc Moran as Regional Director for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Region 3 office, serving the counties of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester Counties.

Janeway was previously employed by The Nature Conservancy in New York, the Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission, the Hudson Valley Greenway Conservancy, and the Adirondack Mountain Club.

DEC Commissioner Pete Grannis also announced the May 4 launch of the agency's significantly redesigned website, complete with a new address: www.dec.ny.gov. ♦

UDC Honors River Valley Contributors

The Upper Delaware Council paid tribute to individuals, groups, agencies, and communities that have acted to enhance the quality of life and protect the resources of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Valley during its 19th Annual Awards Ceremony on April 29.

Eighty-five guests attended the banquet held at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA.

Following a reception and buffet dinner, the Hon. Michael T. Peifer of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives gave the keynote address.

"The UDC has a wonderful history and reputation for taking care of the natural resources that we share together," the first-term representative from Greentown said.

Peifer's 139th Legislative District encompasses 900 square miles including all of Pike County, southern Wayne County, and two townships in Monroe County.

"What holds it all together is the watershed. Ecotourism is part of the growth in our area. It really drives our economy. We still need to do the best we can to conserve the environment," he said.

Peifer, who sits on the Pennsylvania House's Energy Task Force, expressed his thoughts on the need to plan for our energy demands and explore alternatives.

Peifer also thanked the UDC honorees for their stewardship of the river valley:

Distinguished Service Award - Michael F. Reuber of Narrowsburg, for his 27-year career with the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, and his contributions to the National Canoe Safety Patrol and Upper Delaware Council as a member of the Water Use/Resource Management Committee;

Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award - NPS Ranger Robert W. Weber III, NPS Acting Chief of Maintenance Patrick Connolly; Callicoon, NY Volunteer Fire



BANQUET HONOREES: Recognized at the UDC's Annual Awards Ceremony held April 29 at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA were, seated from left to right: Pamela Bush for the Delaware River Water Trail Guide; Norma Schadt for "Hawk's Nest: Newspaper History of the Road"; Marcia Nehemiah for the Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition; Austin LoCicero and Zach Smith for Damascus Boy Scout Troop #122; MaryPaige Lang-Clouse for the Narrowsburg Beautification Group; and Charles Wieland, 2006 UDC Chairperson. Standing, from the left: John Fletcher for the Equinunk Watershed Alliance; Nelia Wall and George J. Fluhr for Shohola Township, PA; Mike Reuber, Chief of Resource Management for the National Park Service (NPS) Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River; Ranger Bill Weber of NPS; Harry Balthaser of Welcome Lake Fire and Dive Rescue Team; Patrick Connolly of NPS; Pat Carullo for the Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition; and PA State Representative Mike Peifer, the event's keynote speaker. (UDC Photos by David B. Soete)

Department; Welcome Lake, PA Fire & Dive Rescue Team; and Equinunk, PA Volunteer Fire Company, for the June 27, 2006 rescue of a pedestrian endangered by Delaware River floodwaters near Tammany Flats, Damascus Township, PA;

Outstanding Community Achievement Award - Shohola Township, PA, for adopting innovative conservation ordinances to guide future township development;

Volunteer Award - Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition, Inc., for citizen-based leadership in the fight against the New York Regional Interconnect power line proposal; **Recreation Achievement Award** - Delaware River Water Trail Guide, for providing a new resource to aid boaters from Hancock, NY to Trenton, NJ;

Cultural Achievement Award - Norma Schadt, Town of Deerpark historian, for writing "Hawk's Nest: Newspaper History of the Road" and donating all proceeds to the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway;

Partnership Award - New York State Department of Transportation Region 9, for its repair of the Kellams-Stalker Bridge;

Community Service Award - Equinunk Watershed Alliance, for forming this new organization to protect and preserve the Equinunk, PA watershed ecosystem;

Special Recognition Award - Narrowsburg Beautification Group, for aesthetic improvements since 2001;

Special Recognition Award - Boy Scout Troop #122 of Damascus, PA, for its Water Chestnut invasive plant species project;

Oaken Gavel Award - Charles Wieland, Town of Tusten, for his service to the UDC as chairperson in 2006. ❖



PA Rep. Mike Peifer (139th District)



TOP AWARD: 2007 UDC Chairperson F. Gerald Mackin (Town of Hancock), left, presents Mike Reuber with the Upper Delaware Council's Distinguished Service Award.

Commission Deliberates Work Plans For NY-PA Upper Delaware Bridges

The New York-Pennsylvania Joint Interstate Bridge Commission approved capital construction and maintenance plans for the 10 Upper Delaware River bridges at its June 6 annual meeting in Dunmore.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Assistant District Engineer for Design, Robert T. Doble, reported that the **Pond Eddy, NY-Pond Eddy, PA Bridge** has "had the most action" as the DOT presses on with its long-standing recommendation to replace the 1904 structure while attending to emergency repairs that have further reduced the weight limit.

From April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007, the DOT spent \$91,256 in general maintenance funds for the Pond Eddy Bridge.

That included repairs to the deck and replacing 15 critical stringer beams after an October 2006 in-depth inspection found damage that necessitated a weight posting downgrade from eight tons to three tons.

With the 15 new steel stringers in place, the load capacity was upgraded to seven tons. Barrels were installed to confine traffic to the center of the 504-foot, one-lane span. The DOT will work on replacing additional deteriorated stringers, as well as 100 square yards of the timber deck, in 2007.

The DOT's \$6.2 million proposal to build a modern, two-lane bridge posted at 36 tons has been tied up in the alternatives review phase for years due to objections raised over tearing down the Pennsylvania Truss structure that achieved a 1988 listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Engineering consultants who studied the Pond Eddy Bridge concluded that rehabilitating the existing structure, as compared to constructing a new bridge, would carry a higher price tag for upfront costs and annual maintenance, alter its historic appearance, yield a shorter life expectancy, and take twice as long.

Leaving the historic bridge in place is not an option, even if a new bridge were built parallel to it. Two bridges in that close a proximity would create backwater flooding potential due to the number of piers.

Earlier this year, PennDOT began actively marketing the bridge to any responsible entity willing to accept ownership.

Doble reported that two municipalities - Harrisburg, PA and South Fallsburg, NY - had expressed interest in taking the bridge for parts and trail usage, respectively, but that further investigation to assure the feasibility of moving the bridge is necessary.

While the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has signed off on



UDC THANKS: At the NY-PA Joint Interstate Bridge Commission's annual meeting held June 6 in Dunmore, PA the Upper Delaware Council presented NYS Department of Transportation Region 9 with its 2007 Partnership Award for its expedited repairs of the Kellams-Stalker Bridge following debilitating flood damage in June 2006. Accepting the award from UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass (at far right), were, from left to right, Tom Kline, Wendell Strum, Frank Nachman, and Region 9 Director Jack Williams. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

the Pond Eddy Bridge replacement concept, the New York State Historic Preservation Office has not yet acted.

The DOT expects to hold a public meeting locally at the end of July to discuss alternatives presented in an "effects document". A draft resources report should be ready for review by August.

If environmental clearance is satisfied by the spring of 2008, right-of-way easements can be initiated. This would enable letting contract bids for construction in 2009.

Construction of the new, \$11.34 million **Barryville, NY-Shohola, PA Bridge**, slightly upstream of the demolished 1941 bridge, is on track for completion by late August or early September 2007.

Traffic has been flowing on the new bridge since October 2006 as final work progresses. A series of interpretive plaques will grace pedestrian overlooks.

The site will also include a new river access point underneath the bridge. That issue had been of concern to local fire departments after the recent floods created a gorge that prevented them from accessing the river to fill their tanker trucks.

The largest share of last year's maintenance funds - \$109,256 - was allocated to the **Skinner's Falls, NY-Milanville, PA Bridge**. In early 2007, the 1901 bridge was downgraded from nine tons to seven tons due to an evaluation of the stone piers.

Major repairs to the roadway approaches

were necessary after the June 2006 flood. Other issues were identified with the paint system, anti-skid surface, and timber running boards.

The **Kellams, NY-Stalker, PA Bridge** required an emergency closure and long detour after the June 2006 flood. Its repairs that led to an accelerated October 13 reopening of the historic suspension bridge tallied up to \$57,824.

In total, \$294,096 was expended on the bridge structures, approaches, and for snow and ice control. The Commission approved a more modest, general maintenance budget of \$86,000 for April 2007-March 2008.

On the schedule of pending capital projects, \$550,000 was approved to repair the NY and PA abutment backwalls and pier expansion dam on the 1939 **Port Jervis, NY-Matamoras, PA Bridge** in 2008.

A new **Callicoon, NY-Damascus, PA Bridge** to replace the 1961 structure at an estimated cost of \$8,984,000 is projected for 2013.

Other bridges that fall under the NY-PA Joint Interstate Bridge Commission's jurisdiction are: the 1954 **Narrowsburg, NY-Darbytown, PA Bridge**; the 1952 **Cochecton, NY-Damascus, PA Bridge**; the 1992 **Lordville, NY-Equinunk, PA Bridge**; and the 1937 **Hancock, NY-Buckingham, PA Bridge**. ♦

ELECTRIC, continued from Page 1

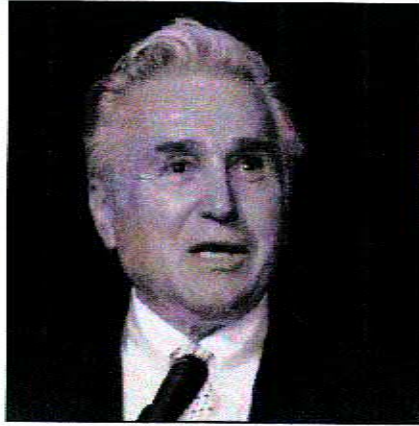
62 counties and 50 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, both states' chief elected officials have come out against the proposal.

"There simply is no need for the NIETC designation," argued NYS Governor Eliot Spitzer in a June 8 letter to DOE Secretary of Energy Samuel W. Bodman. "New York has had a proven, familiar transmission facility siting process in place for the past 37 years."

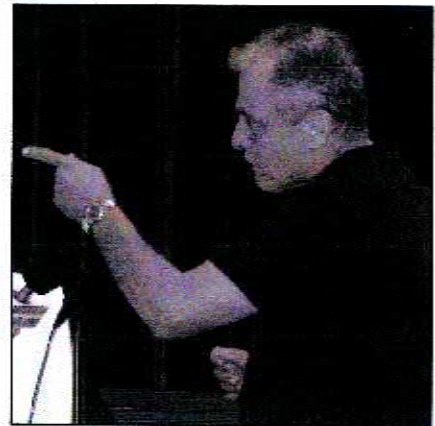
PA Governor Ed Rendell wrote Bodman, "These transmission lines will be on our soil, but may not benefit Pennsylvania's consumers. If the DOE truly believes that it must designate corridors to protect the national interest, then it should have identified specific needs and the routes that may be necessary to satisfy those needs."

The governors were joined in their opposition by numerous state and federal lawmakers who derided the process, implications, and the DOE's decision to hold hearings only in the remote locations of New York City (May 23), Rochester (June 12), and Pittsburgh (June 13) during the public comment period that expired on July 6.

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. (UDC) wrote in a six-page letter approved on June 7, "We are dismayed that the DOE has not scheduled any public hearings in the areas which would be most adversely impacted by the proposed NIETCs. It lends credence to the belief that the decisions have



IN THE FIGHT: Frustrated that the U.S. Department of Energy refused to schedule any hearings on the NIETC draft plan in his district threatened by a major power line proposal, Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY), left, held his own public meeting June 9 in Sullivan County. Among those offering recorded comments was Senator John J. Bonacic (R-42), right, who vowed, "We will go to war and kill this NYRI project." (UDC Photos by David B. Soete)



already been made and the DOE is just going through the motions and trying to avoid local public participation."

UDC Chairperson F. Gerald Mackin reiterated that the Congressionally-designated Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's Management Plan expressly prohibits major electrical lines and urged the DOE to exclude NYRI's proposed route from any NIETC designation.

That threat was recognized by the American Rivers non-profit organization, which placed the Upper Delaware River #4

on its 2007 list of America's Most Endangered Rivers.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation qualified all "Historic Places in Transmission Line Corridors" to make #5 on its 2007 Most Endangered List.

Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey, who continues to push legislation aimed at amending the Energy Policy Act and stopping NYRI, hosted a June 9 meeting at Sullivan West High School in Lake Huntington in which public comments were being transcribed for submission to DOE.

Hinchey said that the DOE proposal contradicts the federal/states balance of power guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution and "heavily tilts the playing field" toward private corporations with energy projects.

"This would tear apart communities and radically impact people's lives and their properties," he said. "We can do so much more as individuals and municipalities to conserve and generate new energy sources."

Fifty speakers - coincidentally the exact number who offered comments at the May 23 NYC hearing - took advantage of the opportunity to vent before an audience of approximately 150 in both cases.

In New York City, DOE Senior Policy Adviser David Meyer introduced the hearing by saying, "This isn't the place to debate the merits of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 or of particular transmission projects. We do want to hear from you if this designation is appropriate and where the boundaries should be drawn."

Numerous speakers pointed out that the topics are inextricably linked, since the EPA allowed NIETCs, which would presumably facilitate projects like NYRI.

For the latest update on NIETC designations, the status of legislative initiatives, and NYRI developments, please visit www.caricoalition.org or www.udpc.net. ♦



ENDANGERED RIVER: On April 17 in Narrowsburg, the Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition, Inc. announced that the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River made #4 on American Rivers' list of the *Most Endangered Rivers of 2007* due to the risk posed by the New York Regional Interconnect high-voltage power line proposal. UPDC Secretary Marcia Nehemiah, center at the railing, memorialized the designation with a plaque given to Upper Delaware Council Executive Director Bill Douglass, left, and National Park Service Superintendent Dave Forney, right. On June 14, the National Trust for Historic Preservation cited "Historic Places in Transmission Line Corridors" (including in NY and PA) as #5 on its *2007 List of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places*. (UDC Photo by David B. Soete)

UDC Highlights Quarterly Activities

A round-up of activities by the Upper Delaware Council, Inc. (UDC) and its partners, covering the last quarter of late March to mid-June 2007, includes:

FLEXIBLE FLOWS

The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) is going back to the drawing board to revise its Flexible Flow Management Plan (FFMP) pertaining to operation of the New York City Delaware Basin Reservoirs based on negative feedback.

The FFMP was drafted to provide a more adaptive means for managing multiple and competing uses of storage with sustainable sources of water, while protecting water supply rights of the four basin states and New York City that are parties to the 1954 Supreme Court Decree.

Following a written comment period and a March 27 public meeting in Tafton, PA, the DRBC intended to act on the plan's implementation on May 10.

Instead, commissioners opted to extend the current spill mitigation and experimental fisheries programs through Sept. 30, 2007 to allow additional work.

The UDC commented in an April 5 letter that the plan "overly favored" New York City's interests, and did not adequately address flood protection, recreational boating, or sustainable fisheries issues.

OPEN SPACE

In a March 20 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) presentation to the Water Use/Resource Management Committee, the UDC learned that just 18% of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River corridor's 55,540 acres is protected as open space under current land use practices and classifications.

The National Park Service, Delaware Highlands Conservancy, and UDC have formed an ad hoc committee to identify critical areas for open space preservation in the Upper Delaware and to seek funding to facilitate possibilities including voluntary landowner initiatives, easements, and purchase of development rights.

STATE FUNDS

New York State Senator John J. Bonacic (R-42nd District) announced on April 1 a \$75,000 Legislative Member Item for the UDC's eight NY town members.

Project proposals for the towns' \$8,125 shares of the grant are due by July 27. The UDC will receive \$10,000 to administer the Aid to Localities program.

On May 7, NYS Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther (D-98th District) announced that she has secured \$10,000 in the 2007-08 State budget for UDC programming and outreach, specifically to assist with developing a website, land use training semi-



BYGONE ERA: John Hart, preservation specialist with the National Park Service (NPS) Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, demonstrated the use of traditional hand tools and woodworking techniques during D&H Canal Days at the site of the Roebling Bridge in Lackawaxen, PA and Minisink Ford, NY. NPS hosted 960 fourth grade students from regional schools over six days in early May to follow up on classroom presentations to the Social Studies classes. Park Service staff including Education Specialist Ingrid Peterec, Chief of Interpretation Loren Goering, Protection Ranger Kevin Reish, Biologist Jamie Myers, and Hart from the Maintenance Division, dressed in period costume to present living history reenactments of life on the Delaware and Hudson Canal, which operated from 1828-1898 as the chief transport system to move anthracite coal from mines in northeastern PA to markets on the Hudson River. (UDC Photo by David B. Soete)

nars, and some office maintenance work.

FISHING BAN

A proposal by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Region 4 to introduce regulations that would ban fishing from drift boats on the upper 4.4 miles of the West Branch of the Delaware River on even-numbered days between May 15 and approximately Aug. 15 was withdrawn from consideration after nearly 200 anglers and other concerned people jeered the idea during an April 26 public meeting in Deposit.

RIVER SOJOURN

The 13th Annual Delaware River Sojourn began with a June 24 paddle from the Ten Mile River Access in Tusten to Kittatinny Canoes Campground in Barryville.

June 25 represented the first time that the Sojourn tackled the exciting whitewater of the Lackawaxen River.

Educational programs, guides, shuttles, meals, camping, and T-shirts commemorating the 2007 theme of "Celebrating Native American Culture" were provided.

Look up highlights of the June 24-30

event at www.delawareriversojourn.org and in the next issue of this newsletter.

BYWAY PROGRESS

NYS Senator Bonacic's latest \$25,000 grant for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Inc. brings the current total of state and federal funds secured by the byway to \$1,332,800 since 1999. The largest portion - Rep. Hinchey's \$600,000 and Sen. Bonacic's \$250,000 - will go for construction of a visitor center in Cochection. A groundbreaking is anticipated in 2009.

Visit the byway's redesigned website at www.upperdelawarescenicbyway.org.

TECHNICAL GRANTS

UDC member municipalities have until July 31 to submit applications for the 2007 Technical Assistance Grants program.

The Project Review Committee will meet in special session on August 14 to review the submissions. The full Council will vote Sept. 6 on the proposed allocations.

A brochure with a directory of the 165 projects totaling \$584,292 that the UDC has subsidized from 1988 to 2006 is available upon request. ♦

NY City Filtration Raises Concerns

The Upper Delaware Council weighed in on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal for a 10-year Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD) for the Catskill/Delaware water supply system that provides New York City's drinking water.

In a May 3 letter, the Council wrote that the FAD should be capped at a five-year period to address management issues.

"A 10-year grace period from the need to build a filtration plant might prompt NYC to take a relaxed attitude toward the concerns and needs of communities in the Delaware River watershed," the UDC wrote.

Filtering could encourage NYC to use more water from its own Hudson River watershed. Fixing leaks in the aqueducts should be a priority to avoid wasting water.

Assemblyman Cliff Crouch cited the DEP's reluctance to provide recreational access to its lands and to create adequate voids in the reservoirs as problematic.

"The consideration of the EPA to award a ten-year FAD is irresponsible and smacks of bureaucracy at its worst. The EPA has failed to recognize that lives and property, as well as the local economies, are at risk if New York City is allowed to continue their path status quo," Crouch said.

Senators John J. Bonacic and James L. Seward launched a website with an on-line petition at www.FADisBAD.org for watershed citizens to express their opposition. ♦

Greenway Bill Passes

Legislation to create an Upper Delaware River Greenway was being forwarded to New York State Governor Eliot Spitzer for his consideration as of press time, following approval by the Assembly and Senate.

The respective bills were carried by Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther and Senator John J. Bonacic.

Greenway designation would provide a mechanism for Upper Delaware communities to receive additional funding for recreational and beautification efforts. ♦



PROTECTING RESOURCES: Damascus, PA resident Richard Egan, center, receives a plaque as the National Park Service (NPS) Northeast Region's Volunteer-in-Parks Award individual recipient from NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Superintendent Dave Forney. Joining them, from the left, are UDS&RR Chief of Resource Management Mike Reuber (prior to his June 1 retirement); Resource Management Specialist Don Hamilton; and Biologist Jamie Myers. In March, Don Hamilton was also honored for his professional work on behalf of the UDS&RR with the "Watershed Sciences Award for Outstanding Achievement", presented during the 2007 NPS Eastern Rivers Summit held at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepardsboro, WV. (Contributed Photo)

NPS Northeast Region Recognizes Upper Delaware River Volunteers

The National Park Service Northeast Region recently selected two Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River candidates to honor with individual and group volunteer awards for Fiscal Year 2006, and will now forward their names to Washington to compete for the 2007 George B. Hartzog, Jr. Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

Richard Egan of Damascus, PA has volunteered with the Resources Management Division at the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River for the past four years.

As a retired Ph.D. chemist, Egan brings with him an abundance of skills. His volunteer efforts have ranged from water quality monitoring, to mapping vegetation in the park unit, to assisting with the eradication of non-native invasive plants.

Egan transformed and analyzed a decade's worth of past water sampling data, creating summary tables and trend lines, to establish baselines for future studies. He also represents the Upper Delaware on the National Park Service's Mid-Atlantic Council.

"His enthusiasm and dedication to the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River has raised the bar for both volunteers and employees here," Superintendent Dave Forney remarked.

The Northeast Region's Volunteers-in-Parks group award winner is the National Canoe Safety Patrol. NCSP was formed in 1980 by a group of paddling clubs. Its members established rigorous training standards in order to assist NPS with river safety.

Over the past 26 years, NCSP has contributed 94,870 hours to protecting boaters on the Upper Delaware River. ♦

New Subscribers and Address Changes Welcomed

If you have friends or colleagues who would be interested in receiving our free newsletter, we will be happy to add them to the mailing list. Please also advise us of any address changes to help update our records. Return this notice to the Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764, call (845) 252-3022 or e-mail udcramie@hvc.rr.com.

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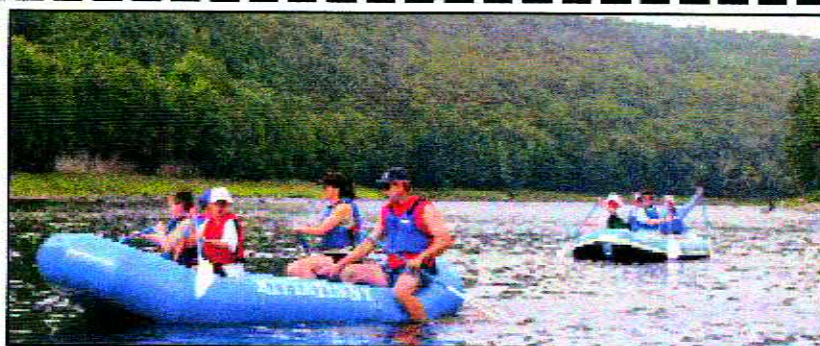
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(UDC 2005 File Photo by David B. Soete)

UDC Hosts 19th Annual Family Raft Trip Aug. 5

Join the Upper Delaware Council (UDC) for an exciting, 10-mile raft trip on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River from Pond Eddy, NY to Matamoras, PA on Sunday, August 5.

Kittatinny Canoes will provide the rafts, paddles, life vests, and safety instructions. Meet at Kittatinny's Matamoras Base at 9 a.m. for the UDC check-in. Rafterers will be shuttled up to Kittatinny's Pond Eddy Base. This average trip length is 4.5 hours.

Each raft requires a minimum occupancy of four people. Children must be at least four years old, 40 lbs., and able to swim. Dress to get wet, wear sunscreen and foot protection, bring drinking water, and pack a picnic lunch if desired.

Reservations and payments (cash or checks payable to "UDC") are required by July 30. The deeply discounted price is \$10 for kids 4-11 and \$20 for all other ages. Details are available by contacting Laurie Ramie at UDC, P.O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg, NY 12764; phone (845) 252-3022; e-mail udcramie@hvc.rr.com.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE/E-MAIL: _____

Please list the names of all rafters and the ages of any minor children (under 18):

Return by July 30 to: Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764

Battle of Minisink Commemorated

The 228th anniversary of the Revolutionary War's Battle of Minisink will be commemorated with ceremonies in New York and Pennsylvania, and a weekend-long encampment by the Navasink Long Rifles colonial re-enactors at the Minisink Battleground Park in Minisink Ford, NY.

On Saturday, July 21, the Sullivan County Historical Society is coordinating a program at the county park that includes:

2:30 p.m. - Presentation on "The Lives of Colonial Women" by Fort Delaware Director Linda Dexter and river valley historian Mary Curtis, at the pavilion.

4:00 p.m. - Traditional ceremony at the park's hilltop monument, featuring Sullivan County Legislature Chairman Chris Cunningham, Minisink Valley Historical Society Executive Director Peter Osborne, Anthony Domingo of the Navasink Long Rifles, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and military honors.

5:00 p.m. - Potluck picnic at the pavilion. Call Allan Dampman at (845) 292-6609.

On the actual battle date of July 22, Pike County Historian George J. Fluhr will host a 2 p.m. ceremony at The Grave of the Unknown Soldier in Lackawaxen, PA, with State Representative Mike Peifer as the keynote speaker. Call (570) 559-7394. ♦

RiverFest is July 22

RiverFest 2007, the 17th annual music, art and environmental festival celebrating the Delaware River, will be held on Sunday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main Street in Narrowsburg.

Activities include juried hand-crafts, informational exhibits, the popular poster auction, music, food, and a children's booth.

The event is sponsored by the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance. Call (845) 252-7576. ♦

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Three standing committees, Water Use/Resource Management, Operations, and Project Review, meet on the third and fourth Tuesdays of every month at the UDC office, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg, NY. All meetings are open to the public. Call (845) 252-3022 for specific meeting dates and agendas.

Upper Delaware Council
P.O. Box 192
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192

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