Upper Delaware

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

Winter 2002-2003



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KEEPING WATCH: Flo Mauro of Port Jervis, NY and Mike Brubaker of Bushkill, PA follow the path of a bald eagle soaring above the Upper Delaware River's Big Eddy at the popular Main Street observation deck in Narrowsburg, NY. Both are first-year volunteers for The Eagle Institute's Winter Eagle Watch! program running now through March. (Photo by Laurie Ramie)

Winter Eagles Return To Upper Delaware

HELP WANTED: Do you enjoy spending time outdoors? Do you like to talk to people? Can you tolerate very cold temperatures? Most importantly, do you have an affinity for eagles?

Twenty-three hardy folks responded to The Eagle Institute's call for volunteers last winter. Similar numbers are participating in the fifth year of the Eagle Watch! program taking place in 2003.

Stationed every winter weekend at historically popular spots along the Delaware and Mongaup Rivers, Eagle Watch! volunteers educate visitors in proper eagle viewing etiquette to promote safety, enhance the experience, and minimize impacts on

the formerly endangered species.

"We have about 150 eagles that breed in Canada and migrate to our area in the winter because we have open water and their primary food source is fish," said Lori McKean, president of the non-profit Eagle Institute based in Lackawaxen, Pa.

2002 was a banner year for winter eagle sightings thanks to favorable weather conditions and an early shad run. Correspondingly, Eagle Watch! recorded a considerable jump in visitation, from 2,674 in 2001 to 4,097 in 2002.

Interest in the program continues to grow. At the 2003 Eagle Watch! orientation

Please see "EAGLES" on Page 8

Upper Delaware Profile: John A. Reggero

John Reggero has experienced firsthand the heady "lifestyles of the rich and famous" as a celebrity interviewer and photographer.

His photos of Elvis Presley in concert captured the front pages of Life and People magazines upon the idolized singer's death in 1977. Traveling extensively in pursuit of assignments for over 50 different domestic and foreign publications during the late 1970's and early '80s, Reggero specialized in profiles of such musical legends as Ray Charles, Willie Nelson, Diana Ross, and Jerry Lee Lewis.

And with all of his success and access to glamourous circles, he's chosen the slower-paced, rural lifestyle of the Upper Delaware River Valley for his contentment.

"Work has taken me to many areas and all I can conclude is. New York State is just as beautiful as it gets," the Town of Cochecton resident says.

Born in Newburgh, NY, Reggero joined his sportsman father on hunting and fishing trips to western Sullivan County.

"I had a very early appreciation for preserving the natural beauty and assets, and I've always found myself drawn to water," the 56-year-old says.

Reggero earned a Biology degree from St. John's University, Long Island, in 1968. For 14 years, he worked for the City of New York as a bacteriologist, primarily studying infectious diseases.

The scientist by day had always enjoyed photography in his free time. When one photo he took of a driver's stunned reaction to a fiery demolition derby crash won a Kodak contest grand prize for spot news. Reggero's work received national attention and led to job offers.

Us magazine hired him in 1979, first as a photographer. An article on Kenny Rogers was the first writing assignment of many human interest stories to follow.

Reggero worked for Us until 1985, when he grew weary of the travel and a bit disillusioned by the fickle reality he glimpsed behind the show business glitz.

He also tired of living in the city. In 1984. Reggero moved from Queens to Sullivan County. He owned and operated the 1860 Bethel Country Store for several years. Reggero is currently a principal for Technical Insurance Services, a non-retail loss control company operating in 38 states. His office is located in Jeffersonville, NY.

Reggero now has the more stable lifestyle he craved, with plenty of opportu-

Coverage of the UDC's Annual Meeting and Swearing-in Ceremony for New Officers set for January 9, 2003 will appear in the Spring newsletter.



John Reggero, Town of Cochecton, NY

nities to indulge his hobbies of fishing, hiking, perennial gardening, and tennis.

A lifelong passion for the cinema led two years ago to his role as co-host of "At the Movies," a radio review show which airs every Friday morning on WVOS-FM. While that translates to lots of hours spent at local movie theaters, in front of the VCR, and on the Internet doing research, it's an effort that Reggero enjoys.

Family time is also important to Reggero. He and his wife of 13 years, Juliet, who is employed by Frontier Insurance Co., live in a home they built in Lake Huntington with their 11-year-old daughter Julianne, a sixth grader at Sullivan West Central School's Narrowsburg campus.

Since 1999, Reggero has served as the Town of Cochecton's UDC alternate. His appointment was suggested by UDC Town Representative Larry Richardson to succeed Nick Michaels, who had moved away.

"Larry knew of my interest in community affairs," Reggero explains. "I feel a responsibility as a citizen to get involved."

That extends to his roles as a member of the Cochecton Zoning Board of Appeals, coach of Missy Softball at Sullivan West, and his steadfast participation in numerous local education and town activities.

Reggero's Upper Delaware Council association gels with his own philosophy of environmental conservation.

"The Council, given its resources, does a very good job. It's a very effective organization that serves a great purpose, both as a watchdog and one whose aims certainly coincide with my own feelings to preserve the beauty of a magnificent area. We've got this Earth and we can't replace it. The environment is fragile and we shouldn't be taking it for granted," he says. .

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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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Senator Secures \$25,000 for UDC Member New York Towns as Latest Grant Funding

With his latest announcement of further Senate Initiative funding for the New York State town members of the Upper Delaware Council (UDC), Senator John J. Bonacic has now secured over \$100,000 in grants to benefit projects in the eight river valley towns since 2000.

The senator has once again tapped the UDC to administer the grant program on behalf of the Towns of Cochecton, Deerpark, Delaware, Fremont, Hancock, Highland, Lumberland, and Tusten.

The funding is earmarked for projects that enhance economic development, promote tourism, and improve river access in those towns located in three counties and bordering on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

"The Delaware River is an awesome asset for economic vitality," Sen. Bonacic said during an Oct. 25, 2002 press conference held at the Delaware Community Center in Callicoon.

"With the new Scenic Byway that has been created along Route 97 (paralleling the river), it will be a magnet," he predicted.

In July of 2000, Senator Bonacic announced his first \$25,000 initiative for the eight towns. That appropriation was matched by Assemblyman Jacob E. Gunther III (D/C-98th District).

Grants of \$6,250 each enabled the towns to pursue the following projects:

Cochecton - Refurbishment of the Cochecton Town Hall/Old Schoolhouse in Lake Huntington

Deerpark - Resurfacing of the road leading to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Delaware River Access in Sparrowbush

Delaware - Restoration of Main Street business district sidewalks in Callicoon

Fremont - Landscaping improvements and relocation of a historic marker in Long Eddy

Hancock - Site improvements at the NYS DEC Delaware River Fishing Access in Hancock

Highland - Renovations at the circa 1867 former Highland Town Hall building in Barryville

Lumberland - Installation of a climate control system at the Town Hall/Museum in Glen Spey

Tusten - Installation of a gazebo at the Tusten Veterans' Memorial Park in Narrowsburg.

The senator subsequently secured \$25,000 for the eight towns for 2001, 2002, and now 2003.



Senator John J. Bonacic (R/C-42nd District)

That \$75,000 commitment will be distributed to the towns in equal shares of \$9,375 in this latest grant round. The UDC will

Since 2000, Senator Bonacic has secured over \$100,000 to benefit projects in the eight NY river valley towns.

receive a total of \$5,000 in administrative fees, above the \$75,000, to help cover the staff time involved for overseeing the program. This will benefit the non-profit organization's general operating budget.

At its January 9, 2003 meeting, the UDC was expected to approve the submission of the eight town project proposals to the Empire State Development Corporation for contractual processing.

Implementation of the work will likely be authorized to begin this spring.

Senator Bonacic stated his intentions to continue providing this funding boost to the river valley towns through the UDC.

"I look forward to partnering with you. This is not a one-shot deal. We've got to now get Pennsylvania to invest on their side of the river," he said.

News Briefs From Around the Region

UDC Award Nominations

The Upper Delaware Council seeks nominations for its 15th Annual Awards Banquet to be held on April 27, 2003, at Central House Resort in Beach Lake, Pa.

Nominations are due by March 28 for the following categories: Distinguished Service Award, Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award, Outstanding Community Achievement Award, Cultural Achievement Award, Recreation Achievement Award, Community Service Award, Volunteer Award, Partnership Award, and Special Recognition Awards.

To receive a nomination form, award descriptions, past recipients lists, or more information, contact UDC Public Relations Specialist Laurie Ramie at (845) 252-3022 or udcramie@ezaccess.net.

PA Water Resources Bill

The Pennsylvania House and Senate approved the Water Resources Planning Act in late November, ending a more than 20-year effort to adopt water resources legislation in the Commonwealth.

The Act requires the PA Department of Environmental Protection to develop a new State Water Plan over the next five years, working with both regional and statewide water resources advisory committees. The plan will help answer three basic questions: How much water do we have? How is the water being used? Where will the demand for water outstrip the supply?

To learn more about the Water Resources Act, visit www.dep.state.pa.us.

NPS Radio for Travelers

National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Superintendent Dave Forney is pleased to announce that a Traveler's Information Station has been established in Hancock.

"Visitors to the Hancock area can now tune their radios to 1610 AM and receive reliable, useful information about the Delaware River," said Forney.

The NYS Department of Transportation is developing signs for State Route 17 advising drivers of the message which can be heard within a two-mile radius.

A Traveler's Information Station is also available in the southern terminus of the river corridor near Sparrowbush, NY.

Delaware River Sojourn

The 2003 Delaware River Sojourn will take place from June 13-21. Please visit www.drbc.net for more information on the educational river trip as it develops.

Scenic Byway Drives Forward

All photos on Pages 4-5 taken by David B. Soete at the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Dedication Day, September 21, 2002

Now that the formal celebration of Route 97's designation as a New York State Scenic Byway is past, organizers of the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway are preparing for the future.

The grassroots committee representing the three counties (Orange, Sullivan, and Delaware) and eight municipalities (the City of Port Jervis, Towns of Deerpark, Lumberland, Highland, Cochecton, Tusten, and Delaware, and the Village of Hancock) included in the first phase byway designation, as well as interested agencies and organizations including the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, Upper Delaware Council, New York State Department of Transportation (DOT), Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance, and residents from the Towns of Hancock and Fremont, meets monthly.

As this issue went to press, the committee was soliciting quotes for legal services to apply for incorporation, IRS 501(c)(3) not-for-profit classification, and other required administrative fillings. A mission statement and draft bylaws, modeled after the muncipalities-empowered concept of the Upper Delaware Council, were under review.

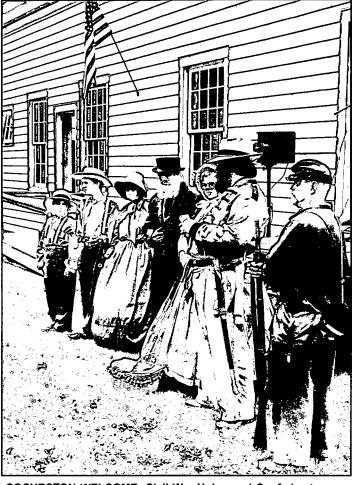
The committee has been working closely with the DOT on developing an Upper Delaware Scenic Byway signage plan and prioritizing the Route 97 improvement projects that are highlighted in the project's Enhancement Concept document.

The UDC is preparing the work plan and budget for the \$20,000 Community Projects Appropriation grant secured by Senator John J. Bonacic for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway. Proceeds will assist with the Sept. 21 dedication event expenses, organizational establishment, and marketing/signage.

For more information, please contact Committee Chairperson Alan Sorensen at (845) 794-3000, ext. 5028, e-mail alan.sorensen@co.sullivan.ny.us, or Secretary Bill Douglass at (845) 252-3022, e-mail udcdouglass@ezaccess.net. Correspondence for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway may be mailed to P.O. Box 127, Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0127.*



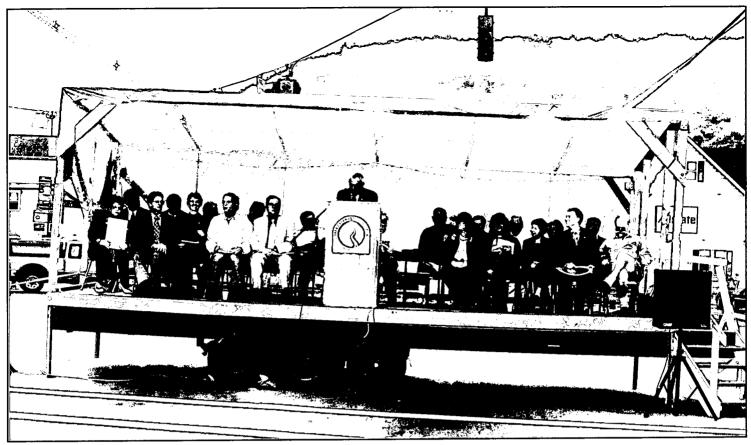
1939 BANNER: Donald Downs of Long Eddy, right, displays a flag from the August 30, 1939 parade to celebrate the construction of State Route 97. More than 300 cars and 2,000 people participated in the \$4.1 million road's 1939 dedication as "The Most Scenic Highway in the East." The historic keepsake is from the collection of the Basket Historical Society of the Upper Delaware Valley. Pictured at the left is UDC Town of Fremont Representative and Basket Historical Society President John B. Niflot, with Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Committee Chairperson and Sullivan County Planning Commissioner Alan Sorensen, center.



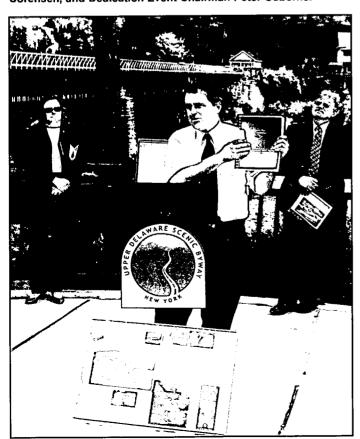
COCHECTON WELCOME: Civil War Union and Confederate reenactors led by Dennis Bernitt, far right, and James Richardson, second from right, met the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway dedication celebrants at the historic Cochecton Station Erie Railroad Depot. The Cochecton Preservation Society served lunch at the event.



CULTURAL CONNECTION: At the Narrowsburg ceremony, dedication speakers included Sullivan County's Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History Director Joanna Szakmary, left, and Delaware Valley Arts Alliance Executive Director Elaine Giguere, right.



HAVE DIGNITARIES, WILL TRAVEL: The Upper Delaware Scenic Byway dedication kick-off ceremony held bright and early on September 21, 2002 at the corner of Pike and East Main Streets in the City of Port Jervis, NY featured a distinguished assembly of honorary guests. Pictured in the front row, from the left, are Sullivan County Legislature Chairlady Leni Binder, Orange County Legislators Wayne Decker and Melissa Bonacic, NYS Assemblyman Jacob E. Gunther III, NYS Senator John Bonacic, U.S. Congressman Ben Gilman at the podium, National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Assistant Superintendent Sandra Schultz, Sullivan County Visitors Association President Roberta Lockwood, Heritage Resources Group Consultants Principal Carol Truppi, Scenic Byway Committee Chairman Alan Sorensen, and Dedication Event Chairman Peter Osborne.



Winter 2002-2003



POLICE ESCORT (top): As the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Dedication bus made its 75-mile road trip from community to community along State Route 97, New York State Police and Sheriff's deputies from the counties of Orange, Sullivan, and Delaware escorted the traveling celebration, including through the Hawks Nest, as viewed through the windshield.

BYWAY BIBLE: (left): William E. Douglass, executive director of the Upper Delaware Council, explains the nearly three-year process that went into preparation of the Enhancement Concept for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway as Sullivan County Legislator Kathy LaBuda and Town of Highland Supervisor Allan Schadt look on during the Roebling Bridge stop.

UDC Highlights Quarterly Activities

Upper Delaware Council (UDC) activity highlights from mid-September through mid-December 2002, not mentioned elsewhere in this issue, include:

RIVERS REGISTRY

With support formally expressed by the Townships of Lackawaxen, Shohola, and Westfall, the UDC has nominated the Upper Delaware River segment in Pike County for inclusion on the Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation Registry.

UDC officials presented a petition to Larry Williamson, director of the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation for the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), on December 3, 2002.

The registry was established by the DCNR to promote river conservation and recognize rivers or river segments in communities which have completed river conservation plans.

The existing, 1986 River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River satisfies that requirement, according to a DCNR review of the document coordinated by Pennsylvania's UDC Representative Marian Hrubovcak.

Successful placement on the PA Rivers Conservation Registry would qualify Lackawaxen, Shohola, and Westfall to apply for grant funding under the DCNR's Community Conservation Partnership Program.

GIS MAPPING

An Upper Delaware River Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordination Group held its first meetings on Sept. 26 and Nov. 14 to identify common goals, needs, and resources.

Brought together by the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, representatives from the five counties of Delaware, Sullivan, and Orange in New York State, and Wayne and Pike in Pennsylvania, as well as the Upper Delaware Council, have been invited to participate in the creation of a GIS system for the Upper Delaware River Basin region.

The GIS system would be used by the partners as a multilayer informational database and planning tool.

The NPS Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, which serves as the Milford, Pa. headquarters for GIS Coordinator Craig Thompson and his staff, has offered to administer the system.

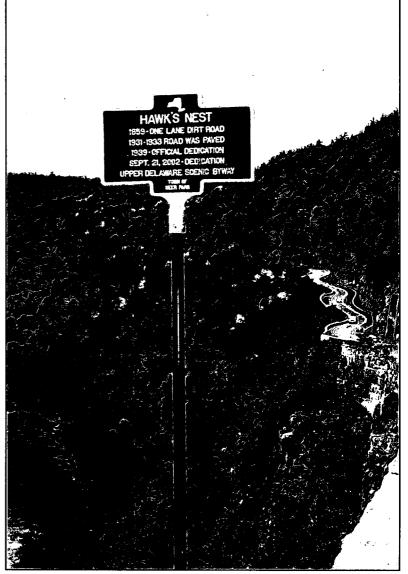
The coordination group plans to seek grant funding to supplement the purchase of any necessary computer hardware, software, and the hiring of consultants.

DROUGHT PLAN

The UDC approved a Nov. 7, 2002 letter to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) commenting on proposed amendments to the DRBC's Comprehensive Plan & Water Code to incorporate a revised Drought Operating Plan submitted by PPL for the Lake Wallenpaupack Reservoir and Hydroelectric Facility.

The letter advised, in part, "An issue has also been raised that the water released from Lake Wallenpaupack is of a lesser quality than the water in the Upper Delaware River and, therefore, negatively impacts the river's water quality. We caution that fish, and the entire aquatic community, do not depend on averages to survive. Their life or death is influenced by extremes. Just one instance of low flows or high water temperatures could potentially be disastrous to a given species. There should be a set procedure in place to ensure that the ecology of the Delaware River will not be adversely impacted."

The revised Drought Operating Plan would be added to the



HISTORIC MARKER: The Hawk's Nest section of Route 97 has always been an impressive feature thanks to its panoramic views of the Delaware River observed from six scenic overlooks and its winding S-curves. It also represented a major engineering feat for the builders of the state highway. Now, the Town of Deerpark has acknowledged its historical significance. A newly erected historic marker recounts the status of the Hawk's Nest as a one-lane dirt road in 1859 that was expanded and paved from 1931-33, dedicated upon the official opening of Route 97 in 1939, and re-dedicated as part of the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway on September 21, 2002. Deerpark Town Historian Norma Schadt coordinated the project. (Photo by Laurie Ramie)

re-licensing application that PPL is submitting to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

GRANT SUPPORT

Support letters were approved on Dec. 17 for grant applications to benefit the development of a Tri-State Watershed Management Plan, as submitted by the DRBC, and the Delaware River Water Trail proposed to extend from Hancock, NY to the Delaware Estuary, as submitted by the Delaware River Greenway Partnership.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

The UDC approved its fourth, Five-Year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, at its Oct. 3 meeting. This document extends the formal working relationship between the Council and the Park Service to Sept. 30, 2007.

Managing Change In the River Valley

"Managing and Balancing Change with the Environment", a forum presented by the Visioning Committee on Economic Development of the Delaware River Corridor, was held on October 4 at Central House Resort in Beach Lake, Pa.

The three-hour forum brought together approximately 85 residents from both sides of the river to discuss strategies for dealing with the region's expected growth.

Two major performing arts centers in Pike County (Mountain Laurel) and Sullivan County (Bethel), the approval of casinos in the Catskills, and expanding retail and second home markets will impact the economy, housing, infrastructure, and other services in the area.

Planning consultant Carson Helfrich noted, "There are many challenges facing rural municipalities. Regional planning is your best option. These issues don't stop at the border."

He said that a conservation subdivision design, which creates new lots utilizing the site's natural resources organized purposefully around open space, is one effective tool to preserve rural character.

Also offering insights at the forum were Orange County Planning Commissioner David Church, home builder Tom Hogan, and business owner Dick Barrett. A moderated panel discussion, open dialogue, and strategy session followed.

Laurie Stuart, publisher of *The River Reporter* newspaper that organized the forum, said communication is the key.

"We are working to facilitate conversations across state and county lines so that folks who are working on issues of growth in the river corridor do not feel isolated," she said.

The Visioning Committee's first forum held on April 12, 2002 focused on common economic interests. An upcoming third forum topic will concern ridgeline development in the Upper Delaware River Valley.

For more information, contact Tom Kane at *The River Reporter*, (845) 252-7414.❖

In Memoriam ... George H. Frosch, Jr.

Charter UDC Representative, Town of Hancock, NY

George H. Frosch, Jr., a founding member and past chairman of the Upper Delaware Council, died on October 12, 2002 at the age of 73 following a cancerrelated illness.

George represented the Town of Hancock on the Council since the organization's inception in 1988.

Prior to that, he took on leadership roles with the Equinunk-Lordville Upper Delaware River Association, the Upper Delaware Clearinghouse, the Citizens Advisory Council, and the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships, all of which greatly contributed to the development of the River Management Plan for the National Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

George served as UDC vice-chair in 1988 and chairperson in 1995.

He was presented with the Council's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, in 1997 for his strong advocacy on behalf of private property rights and outstanding contributions to the Upper Delaware River Valley.

George was born on February 8, 1929 in Jersey City, NJ to George H. and Lillian Prigge Frosch. The family moved to the Hancock area in 1947, occupying riverfront and agricultural acreage that George's grandfather, Henry Prigge, had acquired in the late 1800's as part of the Kilgour bluestone mining operation.

George's occupations over the years included farming, lumbering, sawmill operation, quarrying, stone masonry, real estate, road construction, and home building. At the time of his death, George operated Dunn Lot Sand and Gravel.

He had also played semi-professional football, breeded Irish Setters, and served as an owner, breeder, trainer and driver of racehorses for the U.S. Trotting



George Frosch

Association.

An avid reader, writer on historical subjects, and self-taught inventor, George was a 50-year member of the Hancock Masonic Lodge #552, a life member of the National Rifle Association, and past chair of the Hancock Planning Board.

Survivors include one sister, Beatrice L. Peckham of Oneonta; two nephews, Grant H. Peckham of Alexandria, VA and Fred J. Peckham of Front Royal, VA; one niece, Marcia A. Peckham of Oneonta, and many cousins. He was predeceased by one nephew, Matthew J. Peckham.

A memorial service took place on Nov. 8, 2002 at the First Presbyterian Church in Hancock, officiated by Lay Pastor Pam Allen. Arrangements were made by the Henderson-Biedekapp Funeral Chapel in Hancock.

New Subscribers and Address Changes Welcomed

happy to add them to the mailing list. Please	uld be interested in receiving our free newsletter, we will be e also advise us of any address changes to help update our records. ouncil, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764, or call (845) 252-3022.
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"EAGLES", continued from Page 1

session held December 7, several firsttime volunteers received handbooks and instructions from McKean.

Brad Phillips recently moved to Greeley, PA from Utah, where he worked as a National Park Service interpretive ranger at Timpanagos Cave National Monument. Now he's ready to delve into researching the Upper Delaware's wintering eagles.

"I saw this in the paper and thought it would be a great way to get intimate with the river," Phillips said.

Carol Reigle of East Stroudsburg, PA looks forward to sharing her enthusiasm for birding with fellow afficianados.

"It gets me out of doors and into some great scenery. You're dealing with a positive clientele and that will be fun," she said.

Identified by badges, Eagle Watch! volunteers can be found Saturdays and Sundays through March 9, from approximately 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at three primary viewing locations: the Narrowsburg, NY Observation Deck; Zane Grey Public Access in Lackawaxen, PA; and Mongaup Falls Reservoir near Forestburgh, NY.

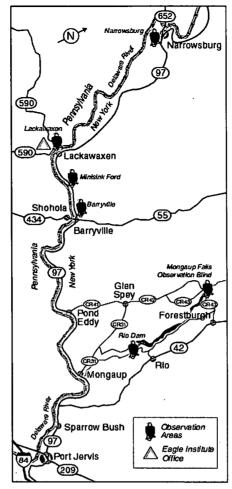
The Eagle Institute's (EI) latest project is the development of a new Mongaup River observation blind near the Rio Reservoir in the Town of Forestburgh. Funding for the estimated \$90,000 cost is being raised.

For those who'd prefer a group eagle viewing opportunity, El will offer two guided habitat field trips on Jan. 25 and Feb. 1. Pre-registration is required for these trips, which cost \$35 and include bus transportation, lunch, and the eagle program. Both depart at 10 a.m. from El's winter field office at 176 Scenic Drive in Lackawaxen.

For more information, contact The Eagle Institute at P.O. Box 182, Barryville, NY 12719; call (845) 557-6162; e-mail eagleinstitute@yahoo.com, or visit their web site at www.eagleinstitute.org.

EagleFest Jan. 18

Another event with which EI is involved is



Map courtesy of The Eagle Institute

the 2nd Annual Narrowsburg EagleFest coming up on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003.

The inaugural festival, held last Feb. 16, attracted an estimated 1,000 people to the riverside hamlet over the course of the day.

"All of us were pleasantly surprised," said John Grund, president of the Narrowsburg Chamber of Commerce, which again cosponsors the event with Nature's Art LLC. "People were really passionate about eagles, something we who live here probably take for granted."



UDC Senior Resource Specialist David B. Soete photographed this eagle last January in Narrowsburg.

EagleFest activities are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout Narrowsburg.

American Indians from the Lenape tribe will perform an opening ceremonial dance in the Narrowsburg School auditorium before the first of two "Live Birds of Prey" programs by Bill Streeter from the Delaware Valley Raptor Center (\$1 donation).

All other events are free, and include lectures, slide presentations, documentary broadcasts, an expert panel discussion, children's interactive game, ice and wood carving. Also look for the EagleFest poster auction and limited edition keepsake sale.

"Everything is within walking distance of the Big Eddy," where Eagle Watch! volunteers with spotting scopes and binoculars will be prepared to assist visitors on the observation deck, according to Grund.

For the latest updates on the EagleFest, call John Grund at (845) 252-7409 or visit www.narrowsburg.org.

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Tusten Town Hall, Narrowsburg, NY.

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 Street, Narrowsburg, across from the Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public. Call (845) 252-3022 for specific meeting dates and agendas.

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