Tourism Focus of Conference

Turning Natural Beauty into Dollars

he Upper Delaware Coun-cil’s conference with the theme “Tourism as an Economic Development Tool in the Upper Delaware Basin” was a huge success. The one-day conference, held April 7th at the Best Western of Hunt’s Landing in Matamoras, PA, was attended by over seventy-five people, including local government officials, professional planners and business people.

There was no question among those attending that the Upper Delaware region offers an outstanding mix of attractions including canoeing and hiking, vacation resorts, second home communities, cultural resources and historic sites. The nearness of the region to the metropolitan areas of New York and New Jersey makes the Upper Delaware even more attractive to out-of-the-area visitors. This is even more true during these economic hard times, when people are more likely to seek recreation relatively close to home. Candid discussion between panelists and attendees was centered around “getting the word out” about the area.

Protecting the “Golden Goose”

Most of those present believe that promoting economic growth based on tourism also requires careful public and private planning and organization in order to protect the resources that draw people to the area. Everyone at the con-ferenee was adamant that the Delaware River and surrounding landscape should continue to be maintained at its pristine best.

The conference was comprised of four panels, each of which tackled a different topic. Professor Andrew Schwartz and Margo Jones, Deputy Commissioner of Tourism, Department of Economic Development for the State of New York, discussed “Compatible business for the 5-county region.” Prior to her appointment with the State of New York, Ms. Jones was head of the Sullivan County Office of Public Information. No stranger to the resources of the

(Please see “Tourism,” page 6)
A History of Hancock

This is the sixth in a series of articles about the towns and townships that border the Upper Delaware River.

This delightful article was first printed in the December 3, 1920 edition of The Wayne County Citizen (now The Hawley News Eagle). Florence Shakespeare, who lived until 1977, wrote it as part of her high school oration. Her son, Robert Drumm, is now the Mayor of Hancock. Editor Keith Fletcher has made minor changes and added some historical notes in places.

Less than one hundred and fifty years ago this valley of ours was inhabited by Indians who were remnants of the Delaware, Wappinger and Mohawk Indian tribes. These Indians obtained their food from the waters of the Delaware and surrounding forests. The place of the union of the two branches of the Delaware which the Indians called Shehocton meaning “the wedding of the waters” was a meeting place for Indian Chiefs.

Very little is known about these Indians, but rocks with carvings made by them, probably to mark some trail or scouting place, have been found along the Delaware. As you ascend Point Mountain from the Shepard place, you will come across an Indian burying ground. This place was marked by two large oak trees which decayed to such an extent that about ten years ago a spring came up through the trunks. At this place there have been found skeletons of Indians beside tomahawks, arrows, kettles and other artifacts.

There is an Indian legend told of a tribe that lived where the village of Cadosia now is located. Some white people settled there and upon their arrival the Indians moved westward as far as Susquehanna. They forgot a kettle which they used in the worship of the Great Spirit, and as this was very necessary for their worship they drew cuts on who was to return for the kettle. It fell to the lot of a girl named Cadosia. On her journey she was attacked by a pack of wolves, but by climbing a nearby tree she escaped. Finally some white settlers heard her cries, came to her rescue and killed the wolves. The girl then went to the settlement, obtained her kettle, and returned to her tribe. The settlers named their settlement Cadosia in her honor and it still retains the name.

The earliest exploration recorded is that of Richard Smith, who in 1769 made a tour of four great rivers one of which was the Delaware. [It is now known that the Dutch and Swedes explored the area in the middle to late 1600s, although the exact date of first exploration of the area is not known. —Ed.] John Linklaine, agent for the Holland Co., was another explorer and traveler through New York State in 1781. During his travels he kept a diary in which he tells of being entertained at the home of Samuel Preston, a settler of Stockport at that time.

One of the first permanent settlers of Hancock was Josiah Parks, who came to America on a British ship. Later he married and settled in Stockport, which was inhabited by Indians. A story is told of Josiah Parks, who being warned by a friendly Indian that the Indians, assisted by the Tories, were planning to massacre the people of Wyoming, made his way through the forests to warn the people. On his way he was taken as a spy and made prisoner, but his friends identified him and he delivered his message. Only a few believed it, and consequently only two families escaped death. Later Parks was obliged to flee from the Indians so he took refuge in a cave at Equinunk, coming later to Hancock. [Some historians believe that he lived on Frisbee Island in the Delaware River.—Ed.]

Nor were the Indians the only enemies of the settlers, for the forest was full of wild beasts, bears, wolves and ferocious panthers. A story is told of a boy, Ben Haines, who was seized by a panther while playing in his yard, but he (Please see “Hancock” page 7)
O&R Gets FERC License

Orange and Rockland Utilities has been granted an exclusive 30-year license by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to operate and maintain its Swinging Bridge, Mongaup Falls, and Rio Hydroelectric Projects. The license, granted in April, requires O&R to provide environmental and developmental "enhancement measures" such as public recreational facilities and scheduled turbine-releases for whitewater boating.

Some enhancement measures will affect water quality and natural resources. For example, O&R must devise a ramping rate schedule to reduce the adverse impacts of sudden operations changes on dissolved oxygen, water temperature, and downstream animal and plant life. Minimum releases will be required below all project reservoirs. O&R is also required to develop an environmental assessment of the hydroelectric plant located below Rio Reservoir.

Public recreation played an important role in formulating the conditions for the license, and several public recreational facilities are to be completed by October 1993 as part of the enhancement program. A number of locations will see the construction or expansion of public access areas including parking lots and boat ramps. New access trails for fishing, hiking, boating, and picnicking are planned for the shores of the Swinging Bridge Reservoir, and O&R will provide eagle viewing stations along the Mongaup River.

The FERC license provides for whitewater boating below the Rio Reservoir. This activity remains a contentious issue with some area fisherman, and local communities have expressed concerns about the safety and rescue implications of such use. The FERC license requires that Orange and Rockland Utilities construct the facilities and prepare a safety plan "in consultation with the NPS, the DEC, the American Whitewater Affiliation, the Kayak and Canoe Club of New York, and the Upper Delaware Council."

UDC Opposes Introducing Salmonids to River

The UDC has taken a stand against the introduction of Pacific anadromous (sea-run) salmonids into the Delaware River watershed. The Council's position was put forth in a May 7 letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, written in response to a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on New Jersey's proposal to introduce salmonids into the Musconetcong River, a tributary of the Delaware.

"We believe that such introductions could have potentially adverse impacts on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and its tributaries," said UDC Chair George Fluhr in the letter. "The UDC strongly recommends that the 'No Action' alternative be chosen." The "No Action" alternative is one of five alternatives considered in the draft EIS. Other alternatives include the introduction of steelhead and the introduction of chinook salmon. The latter alternative is favored by the State of New Jersey and is the "preferred alternative" in the draft EIS.

Fluhr cites several reasons for opposing the introduction of salmonids. The primary concern is that salmonids introduced to New Jersey rivers could stray to other parts of the watershed, including the Upper Delaware. Once there, they could cause problems for the existing fisheries. They could compete for habitat or interbreed with and modify the existing rainbow trout population. This population is unusual because it stays in the Delaware main stem and its tributaries and does not migrate.

Unlike some of the alternatives, the preferred alternative would not pose the problem. ([Please see "Salmon" page 7])
UDC News

UDC Friends Program Takes Off

This spring saw the Upper Delaware Council's new Friends of the Upper Delaware volunteer program off to a tremendous start that has far exceeded expectations. The program, unveiled in the Winter edition of The Upper Delaware, generated interest from all corners of the river corridor and beyond. According to UDC Administrative Director Kathy Johnson, who provides staff support to the Friends Program, “Volunteer turnout for the projects has been overwhelming, and contributions to support Adopt-A-Highway, Adopt-A-Stream and Green Watch total over $1,100.” These funds are deposited into a separate fund and are used for expenses related to Friends projects only.

Streams, Roads Adopted

To date, over fourteen miles of river corridor roads have been adopted. Both the Pennsylvania and New York State Departments of Transportation have been extremely cooperative with the newly formed groups. The states supply bags, vests, hard-hats and gloves to the volunteers, pick up trash, and see to its proper disposal. Adopters commit to cleanups four times a year, and can schedule the clean-ups at their convenience. Clean-ups on adopted roadways are now underway, and signs with Friends of the Upper Delaware and individual group names should be erected shortly.

“Volunteer turnout for the projects has been overwhelming, and contributions to support Adopt-A-Highway, Adopt-A-Stream and Green Watch total over $1,100.”
—Kathy Johnson

Response to Adopt-A-Stream has been just as successful, with a long list of tributaries of the Upper Delaware already adopted. While some groups have initially adopted streams and will pick up litter along the stream banks, other groups are planning more extensive habitat improvements. These projects must get state approval before they can move forward.

Green Watch Underway

Our Green Watch booklet is now being developed and will be printed and mailed to all Green Watchers. The booklet will let citizens know who to notify if they observe environmental problems in or along the Delaware River. Green Watchers will be on the alert for such hazards as illegal dumping of trash, erosion problems, and toxic waste spills.

Volunteers Needed

The Council hopes to develop other community projects in the coming years. If any of our readers has an idea or suggestion for a future project or ways of expanding or improving projects already underway, please write or call Kathy Johnson at the UDC office.

Coordinators are still needed in several river towns. Additional volunteers are always needed to adopt highways and streams. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer your time to help with these worthwhile projects, call Kathy Johnson at the Upper Delaware Council office at (914) 252-3022.

Be a Friend of the Upper Delaware!

Yes! I'm a Friend of the Upper Delaware! Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation to support Friends projects. Please contact me about opportunities to volunteer for projects and events. Enclosed is my check for:

$10 (Students and Seniors)   $20 (Regular Members)   $Other (Enter Amount)

Name and Address
Name
Address
City  State  Zip
H/N Phone  D/W Phone

Area(s) of Interest
Adopt-A-Highway
Adopt-A-Stream
Green Watch
Friends Coordinator
Other (Specify)

Summer 1992
Council Hires Coney

Carol A. Coney of Narrowsburg, New York, has been hired as Secretary for the Upper Delaware Council. Coney assumed her duties on May 6.

Coney has been a resident of the Upper Delaware Valley for over twenty years. She is an active volunteer in many area organizations. In the past, she has worked for both government and non-profit agencies. She comes to the Upper Delaware Council from an Administrative Assistant position to the Executive Director of Rural Sullivan County Housing Opportunities.

Coney graduated on the Dean's List from Albany Business College, and continues to further her education in other areas of interest. Coney is an avid reader of both fiction and non-fiction.

Coney has been in the area long enough to observe, first hand, the long and ultimately successful public planning process that led to the creation of the River Management Plan and the Upper Delaware Council. This has given her a broad historical view of the whole process, and her new role in it. Says Coney, “I feel that the Upper Delaware River legislation has given the residents of this area a unique responsibility to preserve, protect, and enjoy the valley for now, and for many generations to come. I am pleased to be able to play a part in this important and historic effort in which local people work together to protect a national treasure.”

It's UDC Summer Picnic Time!

The Upper Delaware Council’s fifth annual Summer Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 22 at the Lackawaxen Fireman’s Field in Lackawaxen Township, Pennsylvania. The Firemen’s Field is within walking distance of the Zane Grey House and the Roebling Bridge, two fascinating historic sites.

A raft trip is scheduled to begin at 12:00 noon. This year, participants will have the opportunity to paddle from just below Lackawaxen to the Pond Eddy access area. The scenery in this area is extraordinary. You may even catch a glimpse of an eagle soaring above the Delaware, a surprise treat enjoyed by last year’s paddlers.

A complete chicken barbecue will be served at 4:30 p.m. and snacks will be available after 2:00 p.m. Please join the Council for a few hours on the river, a delicious dinner, and some plain old fun!

If you are interested in joining us this year, please write Kathy Johnson at the UDC office at P.O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764, or call (914) 252-3022 for further information about this fun-filled event that the whole family can enjoy.

UDC Lapel Pins Still Available

The popular Upper Delaware Council lapel pin is still available for purchase by the public. The pin is about the size of a quarter, and is a handsome four-color replica of the Upper Delaware Council logo. It features the Roebling Bridge, the river, and an eagle grasping a fish. The pin is a great way to show your support for the Council and its work. Pins are available for $3.00 and can be obtained at the Council office. You can also order by mail by writing to the Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764. If ordering by mail, please include an additional $0.75 per order for postage and handling. Please call the UDC office at (914) 252-3022 for further information.
area, Jones said the region could better promote some undersold attractions such as Erie Depot in Port Jervis. “We really need more of the type of publicity about the Delaware like that in a recent Sunday edition of *The Philadelphia Inquirer,*” Jones said.

Andrew Schwarz, a professor at Sullivan County Community College’s Hospitality, Travel and Tourism Department, said “People will come if invited. People will stay if satisfied. People will return if fulfilled.” Schwarz went on to stress the need for businesses to work together to develop a long-range tourism strategy. “Businesses have to decide what products or services they want to offer and what visitors they want to attract,” Schwarz said.

**Eberts Keynotes**

Paul R. Eberts, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Rural Sociology at Cornell University, gave the keynote address. In his remarks, Eberts said “implementing and sustaining tourism requires concerted effort and personal, financial and time commitments by people running business enterprises.” Eberts said that cooperation between the business community and local officials is paramount in this effort.

Sandra Shearer, Executive Director of the Penn State Cooperative Extension’s Pike County office, said that it appears that the tourism industry is managing to sustain itself. “People are still traveling in spite of the bleak economic news,” Shearer said. Most thought that the Upper Delaware was in an ideal position because its closeness to metropolitan areas makes weekend getaways possible for millions of urban dwellers seeking a respite from crowds.

Conference Chair Phil Fitzpatrick, UDC’s Westfall representative, was pleased by the dialogue between officials and the business community. “I liked the suggestion by Paul Eberts that regional maps be developed that will include locations of particularly attractive businesses, such as bed and breakfasts, specialty shops, and activities outlets,” Fitzpatrick added.

Fitzpatrick continued, “maintaining and enhancing the economic vitality of the area within the framework of the River Management Plan is a real challenge to local governments. This area competes for tourists with the Poconos and Atlantic City. We are unique, and we should blow our own horn. On the other hand, the area wants to maintain its own historical and cultural character. It was great to listen to the discussions during the course of the day, and learn that the Council can really have a positive impact on tourism in the area!”

**New Jersey Takes UDC’s Advice, Drops Salmon Plans**

As this newsletter goes to press, Scott Weiner, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), has announced that DEP will not pursue the Salmon Stocking Proposal. (See the accompanying article.)

According to Weiner, public comments, such as those made by the Upper Delaware Council, played an important role in determining the outcome. “After considering the study and public comments, it is clear that the state should be devoting its resources to the Warmwater Fisheries Program,” said Weiner. Cost was also a major factor in the decision, said Weiner. “The salmon program would require a number of years to build up a significant fishery with no guarantee of success. With the current state of the economy, the wisest use of any future funding is to go with proven programs.”

### September 1992 The Upper Delaware
was finally rescued from the jaws of the wild beast by his mother.

In 1806 The Town of Hancock was separated from the Town of Colchester and the Indian name of Shehocton changed to Hancock in honor of John Hancock, first president of the United States Congress. It is said that the first town meeting was held at Jim Wheeler's on Partridge Island; from there they were removed to Stephen Read's; then to Smith Tyler's at Tyler Switch; and later to the village of Hancock where they are still held.

In 1840 the first church was built by the Methodists, who are credited with having had the first religious meetings. At this time it was so hard to obtain help that several men brought stones for the foundation. Wain Wright dragged the corner stone through the river with an ox team. In 1857 the Baptists began distinctive work and two years later organized the church known as Hancock Baptist church. In 1830 a meeting was held in the school house by a small company of people whose object was to form a Presbyterian organization, and thus established the Presbyterian church of Hancock. The St. Pauls Roman Catholic church was made a separate parish in 1893, but previous to this it was served for many years by the pastors of Deposit.

The first train went through Hancock on the Erie in 1849. [This was a test train. The first excursion train went through the area several years later.—Ed.] This was the only one in this part of the country and people came from all over to ship their produce. There are now two railroads, namely the Erie and two branches of the Ontario & Western. [This railroad no longer exists—Ed.] In 1869 the suspension bridge was built across the West Branch of the Delaware and several years later one was built over the East Branch. The State road had been one of the late improvements of Hancock in the way of communication. This road was built in 1915 and runs through the Main Street of the town.

We would like to thank The Hawley News-Eagle, George Frosch of Hancock, George Fuhr of Shohola, Mary Curtis, Wellington Lester, Louise Shakelton, Mr. Male of Honesdale and Robert Drumm of Hancock for the information they provided for this article.

( "Salmon" from page 3)——

threat of genetic mixing because only chinook salmon would be introduced. These do not interbreed with rainbows. But other concerns remain with this alternative as well, such as competition for habitat with existing fisheries, disease introduction, and the socioeconomic impacts of having another fishery in the river.

Full Impacts not Examined

One problem with the draft EIS is that it assumes that the proposed experimental introduction effort will result in a very low return rate, so that the possibility of straying is very small. (However, the EIS acknowledges that a single pair of salmon can, in principle, establish a new population.) Therefore, the EIS does not examine the full impacts of salmonid species straying and becoming fully established throughout the watershed. Furthermore, since the ultimate goal is to establish a salmonid species in the watershed, the UDC believes that all the impacts of a full-scale project should be considered.

The draft EIS also indicates that, "reliable fish community data, even of a relative abundance nature, is not available for most of the Delaware watershed, primarily because of sampling constraints and the fact that resource agencies focus their efforts on game fish." In response, the UDC letter states that "Before the EIS concludes that there will be no major impacts, there should be a thorough understanding of the existing resources so that it is known what will be impacted."

Do We Have Your Correct Address?

If your address has changed or you no longer own property in the Upper Delaware River area, please help us to maintain the accuracy of our records. Fill in your new address or the name and address of the new owner of your property and return this part of the page to the: Upper Delaware Council, P. O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764. Thank you for your assistance.

Old Address
Name ____________________________
Address ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City __________________________ State ___ Zip ______

New Address
Name ____________________________
Address ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City __________________________ State ___ Zip ______

Check this line and return the form if you wish to have your name removed from the mailing list.____
## Calendar of Upper Delaware Events

### August 1992

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **9 Blacksmithing & Beadworking demos at Fort Delaware, 914-252-6660 requested, August 19.**
- **16 Frontier Living Days Fort Delaware (cont.)**
- **22 UDC Summer Picnic See page 5 for details**
- **30 Craft Day Fort Delaware (914) 252-6660**

*The Upper Delaware Summer Picnic & River Trip is Saturday, August 22!*

### September 1992

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### October 1992

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*October is Beautiful on the Upper Delaware*

---

**Upper Delaware Council**  
P.O. Box 217  
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0217  

Address Correction Requested