

The Upper Delaware

A newsletter about the environment and people of the Upper Delaware River Valley in NY & PA

Volume 34 Number 1

Published by the Upper Delaware Council, Inc.

Spring 2021



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The Upper Delaware
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www.upperdelawarecouncil.org, or to request a free
print subscription, return
the coupon on Page 11, or
call us at (845) 252-3022.
Thank you for your interest.



CONTROVERSIAL CALL: Former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett was greeted by anti-fracking protesters assembled at the Zane Grey Access in Lackawaxen on August 23, 2012 and along the route of his kayak trip when he paddled down the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River from the Darbytown Access to promote recreational tourism and natural resources preservation in the Commonwealth. (UDC File Photo by Laurie Ramie)

DRBC Bans Natural Gas Drilling; PA Lawsuits to Challenge Ruling

Eleven years and nearly 69,000 public comments after first publishing its draft regulations for natural gas development, the Delaware River Basin Commission voted on February 25 to prohibit high volume hydraulic fracturing (HVHF) in the four-state watershed.

More than 400 people silently observed the 28-minute special virtual meeting in which the reading of the draft resolutions took the longest amount of time.

The vote was unanimous from the commissioners representing New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, while the United States representative, Brigadier General Thomas J. Tickner, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, North Atlantic Division, abstained due to the recent Administration transition not allowing enough coordination time.

Resolution 2021-01 states that HVHF and its related activities "pose significant, immediate and long-term risks to the development, conservation, utilization, management and preservation of the water resources of the Delaware River Basin and to Special Protection Waters of

the Basin, considered by the Commission to have exceptionally high scenic, recreational, ecological, and/or water supply values."

It cites scientific and technical literature, reports, studies, documentation, and more than a decade of experience with HVHF elsewhere as providing evidence that surface water, groundwater resources, and aquatic life have been "adversely impacted" despite the industry's best practices and government regulation.

Still on the table is the DRBC's unanimous vote directing Executive Director Steve Tambini and staff to propose amendments by Sept. 30, 2021 to rules regarding importation of wastewater from outside the basin and exportation of basin waters.

Given that the State of New York took action to ban hydraulic fracturing in 2015, the decision in the Upper Delaware region affects the ability to drill Marcellus shale plays in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for which legal challenges were already underway before the vote.

PA Governor Tom Wolf said about the

Please see DRILLING on Page 8

Upper Delaware Profile: Joe Salvatore

Just past three months into his superintendency at the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, Joe Salvatore is feeling positive about his decision to trade the urban life for more rural surroundings.

"I wanted to get back into nature and out of the 'paved stuff'. It's good to get away from the hustle, bustle, and traffic of the city. Rivers have a deep-seated place in my heart," he says.

Salvatore began his Upper Delaware duties on December 20, 2020 after serving since 2016 as deputy chief for the Park Facility Management Division in the National Park Service Washington Support Office, responsible for service-wide policies, programming, and planning.

It was during a six-month detail from January to July 2020 as the acting deputy superintendent at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area when Salvatore discovered and "fell in love with this area."

"I grew up in a small town in West Virginia along the Gauley River and have lived in a lot of large cities during my career. I really wanted to get back to a small town and take on a superintendent's position," he says.

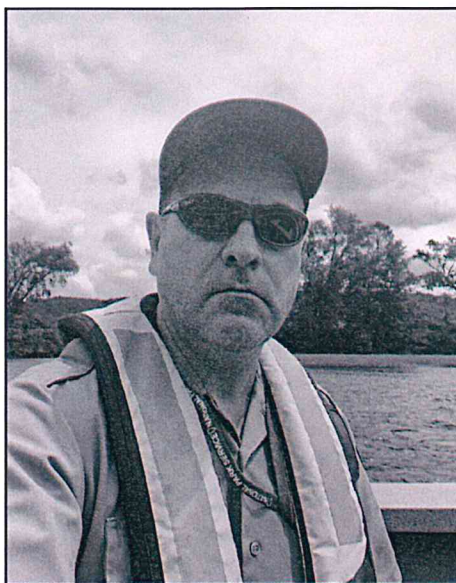
Salvatore enlisted in the U.S. Navy straight out of high school at the age of 18.

During his 1986-1992 active duty, the 1st Class Petty Officer spent six tours underwater for 60 days at a time on the nuclear submarine, USS George Washington Carver, sailing out of Holy Loch, Scotland.

He attended evening college classes on the GI bill, eventually earning a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from St. Leo University in Florida.

Salvatore spent nine years as a civilian defense contractor in Norfolk, VA before returning to award-winning government service in 2001 with the U.S. Joint Forces Command's Joint Warfighting Center, followed by three years as director of strategy and future requirements at Commander, Navy Region Japan.

At the age of 44, Salvatore joined the National Park Service ranks. His first position was chief of facility management for



Joseph A. Salvatore, National Park Service

the National Mall and Memorial Parks, where he supervised 100+ employees.

Now 52, Salvatore's immediate goals at the Upper Delaware are to review the park unit's organization and management structure for optimum efficiency, leverage funding to address its maintenance needs, and focus on community relations.

"COVID-19 is the toughest thing I've had to deal with. I'm an extrovert and not being able to meet face-to-face has been isolating. My favorite experiences so far have been getting to meet some of the folks in the community and learning what our staff is doing. We're here for people to get on the river. This community is very passionate about this joint partnership corridor. We need to execute the River Management Plan as a team," he says.

Salvatore also has several vacant positions to fill, the most recent of which was hiring Jessica Weinman from Steamtown as Chief of Facilities starting March 29. The Pleasant Mount, PA resident served as an acting superintendent at the Upper Delaware from February-May 2020.

Much of Salvatore's free time has been taken up by house-hunting locally. Both of his children, Alicia (a teacher) and Joey (psychologist), live in Baltimore County, and he has two grandkids, Lena and Jack.

Hiking, rafting, playing and watching sports, and movies are favorite activities.

2021 Members Update

The Fremont Town Board appointed Pamela Reinhardt as its UDC Alternate in January, succeeding former Town Supervisor George Conklin III who served as a 1st or 2nd UDC alternate from 2009-2020 and is currently the District 5 legislator on the Sullivan County Legislature.

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The Upper Delaware is a free publication of the Upper Delaware Council, a 501(c)(3) 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.

2021 Officers

Chairperson.....Jeffrey R. Dexter
Vice-Chairperson.....Susan Sullivan
Secretary/Treasurer.....Alan F. Henry

New York Town Representatives

Hancock.....Fred Peckham
Timothy Newman, Alternate
Fremont.....James Greier
Pamela Reinhardt, Alternate
Delaware.....Thomas H. Dent
Harold G. Roeder, Jr., Alternate
Cochecton.....Larry H. Richardson
Sean Nearing, Alternate
Tusten.....Susan Sullivan
Evan Padua, Alternate
Highland.....James Gutekunst
Andrew Boyar, Alternate
Lumberland.....Nadia Rajsz
Alternate-vacant
Deerpark.....David M. Dean
Virginia Dudko, Alternate

Pennsylvania Township Representatives

Damascus.....Jeffrey R. Dexter
Steven Adams, Joseph Canfield &
Daniel Rutledge, Alternates
Berlin.....Alan Henry
Paul Henry, Alternate
Lackawaxen.....Doug Case
Judy Kuhn Conklin, Alternate
Shohola.....Aaron Robinson
Roger Saumure, 1st Alternate
Patricia Jeffer, 2nd Alternate
Westfall.....Michael Barth
Alternate-vacant

State & Regional Members

New York.....William J. Rudge, DEC
Alternate-vacant
Pennsylvania.....Timothy Dugan, DCNR
Christine Detorre, DCNR, Alternate
Delaware River Basin Commission (non-voting).....Steven J. Tambini, Executive Director;
Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, Deputy Director

Partner

National Park Service.....Gay Vietzke, Rep.
Region 1 North Atlantic-Appalachian Director
Joseph A. Salvatore, UPDE Superintendent

UDC Staff

Executive Director & Newsletter Editor:

Laurie Ramie

Resources and Land Use Specialist:

Shannon Cilento

Secretary: Ashley Hall-Bagdonas

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Follow the Upper Delaware Council on these three social media platforms:

Facebook.com/UpperDelawareCouncil;
Instagram: @upperdelawarecouncil; and
[linkedin.com/company/upper-delaware-council](https://www.linkedin.com/company/upper-delaware-council).

Tag UDC or use #LandWaterPeople to submit photos to feature.

Find various UDC training videos and educational presentations posted on the Upper Delaware Council's YouTube and Vimeo channels.



ZOOMING IN: Virtually attending the March 4, 2021 UDC meeting were, 1st row, left to right: Executive Director Laurie Ramie; Resources and Land Use Specialist Shannon Cilento; Jim Greier (Fremont); David Dean (Deerpark); and Larry H. Richardson (Cochecton); 2nd row: Tom Dent (Delaware); Susan Sullivan (Tusten); Andy Boyar (Highland); Jeff Dexter (Damascus); and Al Henry (Berlin); 3rd row: Secretary Ashley Hall-Bagdonas, Kristen Bowman Kavanagh (DRBC); Nadia Rajsz (Lumberland); Tim Dugan (PA); and Don Hamilton (NPS); 4th row: Aaron Robinson (Shohola); Cody Hendrix (NPS); and Fred Peckham (Hancock). UDC voting representatives not pictured were Bill Rudge (NY) and Doug Case (Lackawaxen), while James Gutekunst (Highland) and Mike Barth (Westfall) were absent.

UDC Elects 2021 Officers

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) elected Damascus Township, PA Representative Jeffrey R. Dexter as 2021 chairperson of the board at the organization's annual meeting held virtually due to the coronavirus pandemic on Jan. 7.

UDC Representatives Susan Sullivan of the Town of Tusten, NY, and Alan F. Henry of Berlin Township, PA, were elected vice-chairperson and secretary-treasurer.

This is Jeff Dexter's second stint as UDC chairperson, with the prior experience in 2013. He succeeds Town of Cochecton Representative Larry H. Richardson.

During his 11-year tenure on the board, Dexter served as vice-chair four times (2012, 2016, 2019, and 2020) and as secretary-treasurer in 2015.

He is a member of the UDC's Project Review and Operations Committees, and the Personnel Subcommittee.

Dexter was instrumental in Damascus Township's decision to join the Council effective July 21, 2008. The Board of Supervisors appointed him as a first alternate in January 2010 before he took over as the UDC representative in 2012.

The Cochecton, NY native who can trace his family genealogy to relatives who lived at the Cushetunk Settlement graduated from Narrowsburg Central School in 1967.

He earned a 1971 Bachelor's degree in Resources Management from the College of Forestry at Syracuse University, including one year of study at SUNY Alfred Agriculture and Technical College.

Dexter worked for the Arizona State Parks System for 31 years before he retired from that career in 2003 and returned to the Upper Delaware River

Valley.

Dexter served his local government on the Damascus Township Board of Supervisors for a decade until 2015, including six years as chairperson.

He was appointed to a six-year term as Township Auditor in 2016.

Very active in his community, he volunteers with the Damascus Township Volunteer Ambulance Corps (sharing the honor of a 2020 UDC Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award for a river rescue), is the Volunteers-in-Mission Team Leader for disaster recovery projects through the Damascus Methodist Church, the sponsor's representative to the Northeast Council of the Boy Scouts of America for Troop 122 in Damascus, and belongs to several local history societies.

Dexter has responded on short notice and for extended stays to numerous emergency situations across the country in his work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a Disaster Building Inspector since 2005.

Jeff and his wife, Linda, built a log home on 19 acres in Damascus, where he enjoys working on his wood lot, building rock walls, picking blueberries, making maple syrup, and tending to a vegetable garden. The couple has three children: Kari, Bethany, and Jonathan.

Susan Sullivan previously filled the vice-chair role in 2015. She also serves on the Project Review Committee.

Sullivan joined the Council 12 years ago as the Town of Tusten alternate on October 13, 2009, before becoming the representative in January of 2010.

The Queens, NY native settled in the Upper Delaware River Valley in 1987. A certified yoga therapist and teacher, Sullivan offers sessions and classes at The Lodge at Woodloch and the Chi Hive in Narrowsburg.

Al Henry was appointed by Berlin Township as its UDC delegate on Jan. 3, 2012. He chaired the Council in 2015 after serving as its secretary-treasurer from Aug. 1-Dec. 31, 2013, 2014, and 2016-2020. He sits on all three UDC committees and chairs the Personnel Subcommittee.

A native of Beach Lake, PA, Henry was employed by the National Park Service for 32 years. He retired in 2009 as Chief Ranger for the Upper Delaware park unit.



2021 UDC Chairperson Jeff Dexter

UDC Hosts First Upper Delaware Litter Sweep

Delayed but not daunted, the Upper Delaware Litter Sweep will debut from April 17-25 and needs volunteers.

Best laid plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in 2020 were shot down by the coronavirus pandemic.

The bi-state Upper Delaware Council (UDC) hopes to make a positive difference in every river valley community as an optimistic spring season arrives.

The UDC is working with designated Litter Leaders in the Towns of Hancock, Fremont, Delaware, Cocheton, Tusten, Highland, Lumberland, and Deerpark (NY); and Buckingham, Manchester, Damascus, Berlin, Lackawaxen, Shohola, and Westfall Townships (PA) to coordinate a series of land-based cleanups.

The Litter Leaders stepped forward to assist with rounding up volunteers, deciding on the most trash-impacted areas to target in their localities, and choosing their strategies within the nine-day period.

Anyone willing to help provide labor or services should contact UDC Secretary Ashley Hall-Bagdonas at (845) 252-3022 or ashley@upperdelawarecouncil.org to provide: name, email and phone number; where in the river valley you'd like to focus your efforts; and when you would be avail-

Mark Calendars for UDC 2021 Events

Sunday, August 1 - 33rd Annual Family Raft Trip. Advance reservations are required by July 23. Paddle a six-mile segment of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. Arrive between 9-10 a.m. at Kittatinny Canoes Matamoras Base at 1147 Delaware Drive in Westfall Township, PA. Rafters will be shuttled up to the Staircase Access in the Town of Lumberland, NY to launch. Rafts, paddles, mandatory life jackets, safety instructions, and shuttle transportation are provided. Discounted cost is \$29 for ages 13 and up, \$19 for ages 4-12. Minimum occupancy per raft is four people. Trip averages 3.5 hours.

Sunday, September 12 - 33rd Annual River Valley Awards Ceremony at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA. Please reserve seats by Sept. 3. Public nominations in 10 categories for individuals, groups, agencies, and communities will be accepted through July 19. Arrangements and the identity of a keynote speaker will be revealed in "The Upper Delaware" Summer issue.

More Details: Visit the UDC's website and social media pages, call (845) 252-3022 or stop in the Narrowsburg office.



VOLUNTEER APRIL 17-25: Litter Sweep participants will receive t-shirts featuring this original artwork by Dan Nelson.

able during April 17-25. UDC Resources and Land Use Specialist Shannon Cilentio is a co-coordinator.

All participants will receive a commemorative, safety green t-shirt featuring original artwork designed by Dan Nelson, owner of Happy Tattoo in Honesdale, PA.

The UDC is arranging to provide necessary supplies including safety equipment,

Biodiversity Counts at Upper Delaware BioBlitz

For the 5th time, dozens of biologists, citizen scientists, and nature-loving volunteers will descend upon a remote property in the Upper Delaware region this summer to inventory and identify hundreds of living species.

The Upper Delaware BioBlitz typically occurs over a 24-hour period where nine teams record all species within a single property. Things will be slightly different in 2021 because of COVID-19 restrictions.

Instead of a one-day event, the 2021 BioBlitz will take place over the entire summer with each team convening on a different day to spread out the groups.

Teams are divided by the life form they study: aquatic insects; birds; botany; fish; fungi; reptiles and amphibians; terrestrial insects; mammals; and mosses.

This year, the event will be held at a biodiverse property in Damascus Township (Wayne County, PA), located at the crest of the ridgetop above the Delaware River. The property contains various habitats

litter bags, and metal garbage pickers.

The Upper Delaware Litter Sweep is a 2021 registered Great American Cleanup through Pick Up Pennsylvania, with free supplies and landfill disposal options including at the Beach Lake Transfer Station provided through the Keep PA Beautiful/PennDOT office in Milford.

It is also partially supported through the UDC's Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) grant secured in 2019 by the PA delegation of Representatives Jonathan Fritz, Mike Peifer, and Senator Lisa Baker.

The UDC is working to finalize securing permits and supplies from the NY State Department of Transportation as well.

Please note that any litter pickups along NYS roads require advance work permits.

The UDC event for six of the river towns coincides with Sullivan County's Annual Roadside Litter Pluck being held April 1-June 30 in which the County Legislature waives the waste disposal fee for clear garbage bags delivered to their transfer stations with the proper identifying stickers, of which the UDC office has a supply.

The UDC hosted a Feb. 17 Zoom meeting for Litter Sweep planning that is available as a recorded presentation on its YouTube and Vimeo channels.

Please tag UDC or #LandWaterPeople in Litter Sweep posts and photos to share cleanup accomplishments.

Event results, photos, and a final list of sponsors and key contributors will be published in the next issue.

including forests, fields, and a portion of a headwaters stream.

There are opportunities for volunteers to help with site logistics and team support. E-mail info@upperdelawarebioblitz.com. Photos and videos of the teams and their discoveries will be posted at <https://facebook.com/UpperDelawareBioBlitz>.



COUNTING CRITTERS: NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Ecologist Andy Weber found this Northern Dusky Salamander while scouting locations for the 2021 BioBlitz. (UDC Photo by Shannon Cilentio)

Delaware River Study Discovers Microplastics in 100% of Samples

"We live in a world awash in plastic waste product," says Don Hamilton, natural resources chief for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

If we needed proof of that, a new study of microplastics in the Delaware River reveals that those contaminants were found in 100% of water and sediment samples, 94% of fish, and 45% of mussels.

The U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Geological Survey joined forces on a three-phase study conducted from 2015-19 and funded through the Water Quality Partnership Program to assess the occurrence and biological uptake of microplastics in portions of the Delaware River managed by the National Park Service.

Defined as plastic particles less than 5 millimeters (mm) in diameter, microplastics come from a variety of sources and are commonly classified by particle type or morphology.

Microplastics reach aquatic environments through diverse pathways, including littering, stormwater runoff, industrial and domestic wastewater, overland application of biosolids, atmospheric deposition, and breakdown of aquatic equipment such as buoys and boats.

Once in the environment, microplastics continue to break down into smaller particles through mechanical and chemical weathering, eventually reaching nano-scale.

This continuous breakdown results in a broad range of particle sizes, enabling organisms across the food web - from mammals and birds to fish and zooplankton - to ingest microplastics.

The biological effects could affect reproduction, nutrition, oxidation, liver toxicity, and cellular damage.

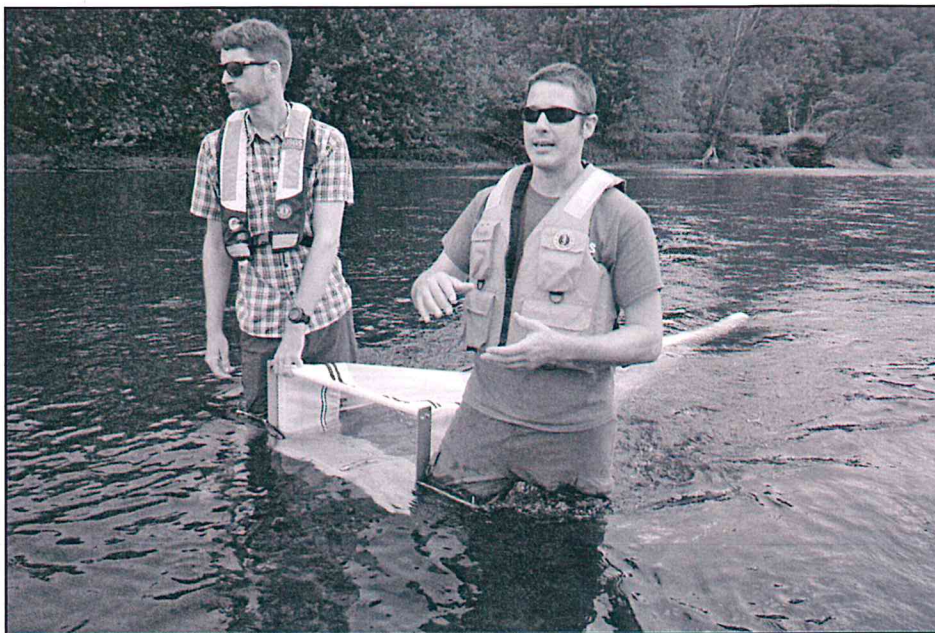
Humans are not exempt either; people ingest microplastics through inhalation.

Study Phases 1 and 2 focused on the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, and Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

In Phase 3, microplastics were sampled at nine locations spanning 170 miles of the Delaware River and its tributaries.

Water and sediment samples were collected during baseflow conditions. Fish (specifically smallmouth bass and white sucker) and mussels (eastern elliptio) were collected at a subset of the sample sites.

Microplastics particles were sorted by size, counted, and grouped into one of six categories (see box at right).



SAMPLING WORK: U.S. Geological Survey scientists collect a microplastics sample in the Delaware River at Callicoon, NY. (Contributed Photo by Don Hamilton, NPS)

"Americans on average discard 185 lbs. of plastic per person per year." ~ Don Hamilton, NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River

Sampled were the Delaware River main stem at Callicoon, NY; Port Jervis, NY; Sands Eddy, PA; Raubsville, PA; Lambertville, NJ; and Burlington, NJ; as well as Bushkill Creek at Easton, PA; Lehigh River at Glendon, PA; and Musconetcong River at Riegelsville, NJ.

Fibers were dominant across all sample types, constituting 70% of microplastics in water samples, 77% in sediment, 97% in fish, and 100% in mussels.

The highest concentration of microplastics in water samples came from the Musconetcong, a watershed with a relatively high percentage of urban land cover.

The lowest concentration in water samples was at Callicoon, the site with the most rural watershed (4.5% urban and 11% agriculture land cover).

The highest concentration in sediment samples was from Bushkill Creek, which was also unique in its high concentration and proportion of tire particles.

The lowest concentration in sediment samples was at Burlington.

Smaller microplastics (0.35-1 mm) were 4.6 times more abundant than larger (1-5.6 mm) in water samples, and 2.4 times more

abundant in sediment samples.

Request a Delaware River Microplastics Study fact sheet at 1-800-ASK-USGS.

Hamilton said sampling over a longitudinal gradient of different land uses and populations may shed light on land uses associated with different types of microplastics and potential risks to aquatic organisms.

He also hopes that the study will prompt people to consider their reliance on plastic.

"Half of the plastic we use is used once and thrown away, such as plastic bags and water bottles," Hamilton says.

The majority of plastics in these containers derive from petroleum-based hydrocarbons which are not biodegradable.

"We need to find a way to manufacture packaging that serves its useful purpose without persisting for decades or centuries in the environment," Hamilton concludes.

Microplastic Types & Possible Sources

Pellets/beads - pre-production pellets, personal care products

Fibers - synthetic clothing and textiles

Films - bags and wrappers

Fragments - degraded pieces of litter, manufacturing waste materials (shavings)

Foams - Styrofoam (TM) cups and take-out containers, packing material

Tire Particles - tire wear, crumb rubber used in sports fields, rubberized asphalt

Upper Delaware Council Activity Highlights

Highlights of UDC and river valley issues from mid-November 2021 to early April 2022, not mentioned elsewhere, include:

COVID IMPACTS

Sadly marking one year since the March 11, 2020 designation of the novel coronavirus as an international pandemic and the 3/13 national emergency declaration, everyone continued coping with impacts of public health guidelines and daily restrictions as vaccination rollouts began.

The UDC office was closed from 3/22-6/9/2020 as staff worked remotely. The Council transitioned its ongoing meetings to teleconferences, then met in socially-distanced rental space, then began Zoom video conferencing, before the committees tentatively resumed meeting in-person on 3/16. Full Council continues to "Zoom".

Superintendent Joe Salvatore announced that NPS will not currently reopen its Zane Grey Museum this summer. River patrols and seasonal hirings are planned.

WORKBOOK LAUNCHED

The UDC and NPS hosted 50 guests for the virtual premiere of the Project Review Workbook 2.0 orientation video on Jan. 25.

The 45-minute video created by Quiet Light Films with assistance from the National Parks Conservation Association was viewed interactively with time for questions. It's available to watch on the UDC's YouTube and Vimeo channels. Visit the website for the Workbook and forms.

TMR BOAT RAMP

The NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River has recommended to the Regional Director rescinding the prohibition on trailered boat launching at the Ten Mile River Access, which at the very least will not be enforced through 2022.

The ban had been added to the Superintendent's Compendium in May 2020 as a reaction to intermittently muddy conditions at the property owned by the Greater New York Council, Boy Scouts of America, and co-managed by the Park Service.

Since then, the UDC commissioned JHA Companies to do a feasibility study for a boat ramp. Their pre-cast concrete design, with a \$76,833.80 estimated cost for materials and labor, will need to be evaluated.

PROJECT REVIEWS

Technical Assistance Grants mid-term progress reports were received by 2/26 from the Towns of Hancock, Delaware, and Tusten, with their final projects on track for completion by the 8/20 deadline.

The UDC approved a 3/4 position paper defining "Substantial Conformance".

Land Use Complaints were investigated and documented for a sewage odor along River Road in Barryville; an ATV trail clear-



CARE CABIN: Operated by the non-profit organization Growing Lackawaxen, The Care Cabin food pantry was able to acquire new equipment and furnishings through the Upper Delaware Council's "Townships, Technology & Sustainability" \$100,000 grant secured in 2019 by PA Representatives Jonathan Fritz, Mike Peifer, and Senator Lisa Baker. The UDC contributed \$14,847.18 to Lackawaxen Township on Dec. 21, 2020 to help reimburse costs for construction of the 24 x 32' building on township property at 169 Urban Road in Hawley, PA and purchase folding tables, shelving, a freezer, air conditioning unit, canopy tent, portable hand-washing station, desk, laptop computer, printer, ladder, trash can, and broom. They have partnered with Second Harvest and the PA Department of Agriculture's Emergency Food Assistance Program to meet the needs of Lackawaxen residents and the surrounding community since opening their doors in September of 2019. (Contributed Photo by Heather Clark)

ing and unanchored dock in the Town of Tusten; and construction activity at Kittatinny Canoes in the Town of Highland.

Other project review activity included:

Town of Delaware - Purchasing 2.6 acres from the Delaware Youth Center to develop new Callicoon Water District wells.

Town of Tusten - Purchasing Wayne Bank property in Narrowsburg to convert into town offices; 2/10 preliminary comments on Feagles Lake Subdivision's proposed 20-25 home residential community; Little Lake Erie culvert replacement; and UDC 3/4 substantial conformance vote for Tinker & Nidge retail special use permit.

Town of Lumberland - Repealed moratorium and adopted Solar Energy Law.

Shohola Township - NPS concurs on 2/22 with UDC's Zoning Ordinance #80 substantial conformance recommendation.

Town of Highland - UDC recommends 2/4 substantial conformance of revised Zoning Law after 1/26 committee review.

Lackawaxen Township - 2/12 discussion of potential bluestone quarry expansion.

Town of Hancock - To develop solar law.

EVENTS & MEETINGS

UDC staff regularly participates on the DRBC's Water Management Advisory Committee, NPS Water Safety Committee,

Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, D&H Transportation Heritage Council, Catskills Regional Invasive Species Partnership, and steering committees for the Upper Delaware BioBlitz, Delaware River Sojourn, and Callicoon Riverside Park.

Other meetings and events were:

11/4 - D&H Canal National Historic Landmark 1968 nomination update

11/15 - Friends of the Upper Delaware River Fall Redd Count at Basket Creek

12/4 - Spotted Lanternfly webinar by NYS Department of Ag & Markets

12/16 - Conservation Strategies in the Upper Delaware River Watershed by the Poconos-Kittatinny Cluster, DRWI

1/14 - "The Journey from River to Faucet", webinar by American Rivers and Stroud Water Research Center

1/28 - Invasive Knotweed webinar by New York League of Conservation Voters

2/24 - Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management

3/9 - Wayne-Pike Conservation Partners

4/1 - "Dam, Dam Go Away: A Wild and Scenic Look at What That Means for Us Today", final (postponed) 2020 Delaware River of the Year webinar

4/7 - "Local River, National Significance:

Please see HIGHLIGHTS on Page 7

HIGHLIGHTS, continued from Page 6

Partnering for Management of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River", SUNY Sullivan Community Learning class instructed by Ingrid Peterec (NPS) and Shannon Ciento (UDC)

4/9 - NYS DEC Mongaup Access onsite meeting for parking lot redesign discussion

UDC RESOLUTIONS

2021-05: Approving FY 2020 Independent Accountants' Review and IRS Form 990 Tax Return (12/3); -06: Approving Development of a River Management Plan Addendum Procedure (12/3); -07: Approving a Contract with Eckersley & Davis, LLP for FY 2021 Financial Review (1/7); -08: Authorizing Signatories for UDC 2021 Bank Accounts (1/7); -09: Approving UDC Five-Year Operating Program for Oct. 1, 2002-Sept. 30, 2025 (1/7); -10: Granting Permanent Employee Status to Resources & Land Use Specialist Shannon Ciento", 2/4; and 2021-11: Reaffirming Sexual Harassment Policy for 2021.

UDC LETTERS

12/3 - Sullivan County Draft Hazardous Mitigation Plan comments

1/7 - NYS Trout Stream Management Plan Draft Regulations comments

2/4 - Hancock Junction Pool River Access Improvements grant support

2/11 - Tusten Riverwalk grant support

2/22 - Signatory to Alliance for the Upper Delaware River Watershed's appeal for a NYS 2021 budgetary investment as follow-up to "Value the Upper Delaware Region" UDC petition that garnered 459 signatures

3/4 - Welcome to newly-elected NYS Senator Mike Martucci (R-42) and NYS Assemblyman Joseph Angelino (R-122)

3/23 - Delaware County Draft Hazardous Mitigation Plan comments

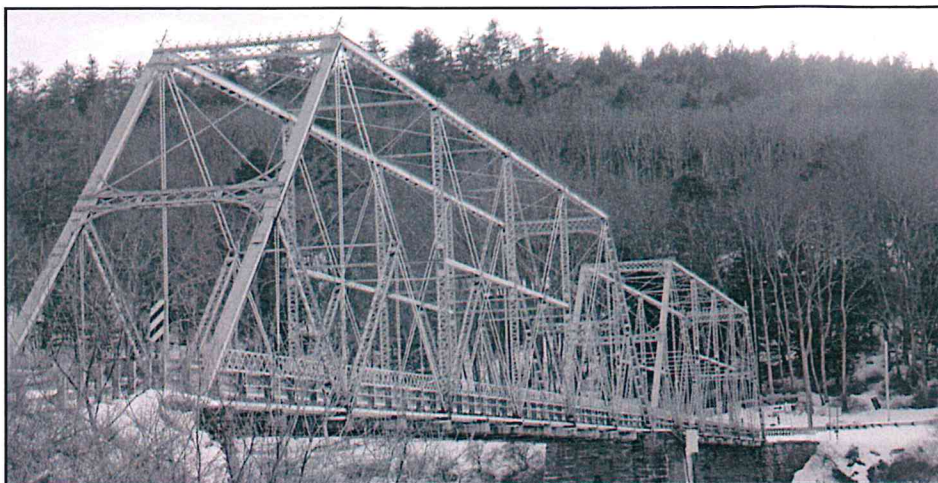
COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Elected by their peers to chair the UDC's three standing committees in 2021 were: Ginny Dudko, Water Use/Resource Management, Larry H. Richardson; Project Review; and Jeff Dexter, Operations.

Delaware River Sojourn: Focus on Fish

The 16th Annual Delaware River Sojourn will take paddlers on a journey through the Upper Delaware River corridor from Hancock to Narrowsburg before continuing to the Middle Delaware. Originally scheduled for June, the Sojourn has been postponed to August 6-13 to allow ample time for COVID-19 vaccinations and testing.

The 2021 theme, "Focus on Fish", will allow Sojourners to learn about the diverse aquatic life and ecosystems of the Upper Delaware. Various programs such as artist talks, performances, and seminars fitting the theme will be offered throughout the week. A committee of Upper Delaware



HISTORIC CROSSING: The fate of the 1902 Skinners Falls, NY-Milanville, PA Bridge is being debated, with the options to rehabilitate, replace, or remove. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

Bridge's Future in Question

A Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study is underway with the goal of determining what will happen with the historic Skinners Falls, NY-Milanville, PA Bridge

The 4-ton crossing was closed most recently on October 16, 2019 after failing an emergency inspection despite the NY-PA Joint Interstate Bridge Commission and Federal Highway Administration investing over \$1.5 million in repairs over the years.

The study kicked off by convening a Project Advisory Committee that includes UDC Executive Director Laurie Ramie. Its first meeting took place on Feb. 22 to begin debating the options of rehabilitation, replacement, or permanent closure.

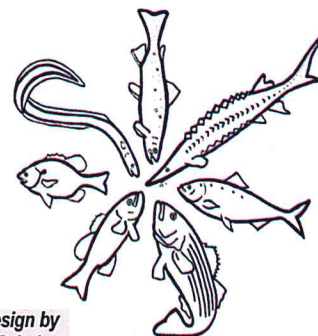
Following a March 30 public virtual meeting, the consultants are accepting input through an online survey until April 23 as well as reaching out to adjacent property owners and emergency service providers. Email skinnersfallsbridge@aecom.com or call (610) 234-5148 to participate. The committee will reconvene in May to offer a recommendation.

Once the final alternative is selected, it's expected to take two years to secure funding and complete the permitting and environmental clearance phases before any construction could begin. The bridge is not due to reopen in the meantime.

Constructed in 1902, the 446-foot-long, single-lane, timber plank deck bridge features a rare Baltimore through truss design. The bridge earned a listing on National Register of Historic Places, it's a contributing element to the Milanville, PA Historic District, and it's located within the federally-protected Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

The bridge's 6.6-mile northern detour route, over the 1953 Cocheton, NY-Damascus, PA Bridge, will soon be affected as its major rehabilitation is expected to begin in May and last for two construction seasons. Single lane closures will be in place.

The NYS DOT issued a Reevaluation Statement in June 2020 finding "more significant deterioration" at Cocheton-Damascus which increased the scope of work from repair to total replacement of the deck, pier joints, and approach slabs. In addition, there will be an ADA-compliant bridge sidewalk, railing, and pedestrian fence installed.



Logo Design by
Sandra Schultz

Aug. 10, Damascus to Narrowsburg Access. Paddlers who opt for overnights will be staying at the NEWE Campground during the Upper Delaware segment.

SOJOURN, continued on Page 11

DRILLING, continued from Page 1

HVHF ban, "After careful analysis and consideration of the unique geographic, geologic and hydrologic characteristics of the Delaware River Basin, DRBC Commissioners acted today under the authority of the Delaware River Basin Compact to protect the water resources of the Basin, the source of drinking water for millions of Pennsylvanians. Having supported this effort since I was a candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, I am proud to join with other DRBC Commissioners in preserving the water resources of this unique region for generations to come."

The ban came a month after a federal judge set an October trial date in U.S. District Court in Scranton to hear a challenge filed in May 2016 by a Wayne County landowners group to the de facto gas drilling moratorium that has been in place since 2010. They contend that the DRBC lacks the authority to regulate this industrial land use.

In a separate federal lawsuit filed on January 11, Pennsylvania Republican lawmakers including Senator Lisa Baker (20th District), joined by the Damascus Township Board of Supervisors, contend that the moratorium usurps state legislators' authority to govern natural resources.

They allege that the DRBC has engaged in an overreaching and illegal "taking" of property from PA mineral rights owners without compensation.

The Wayne County Commissioners in a 2-1 vote joined the lawsuit as a plaintiff and the Delaware Riverkeeper Network intervened as a defendant.

Proponents of PA natural gas drilling cite successful practices in the Susquehanna River Basin.

History & UDC Position

DRBC staff were initially directed to develop natural gas development regulations on May 5, 2010,

with the first draft published on Dec. 9, 2010, followed by a revised draft on Nov. 8, 2011, and subsequent years of public comments, rallies, and reports of "good faith negotiations" ongoing among the commissioners.

On Nov. 30, 2017, the DRBC issued a notice to amend its Comprehensive Plan by proposing to prohibit HVHF in hydrocarbon-bearing rock formations within the Delaware River Basin and to set conditions to use and manage the produced water.

That led to six public hearings held throughout the basin in early 2018 and written comments accepted through Mar. 30, 2018.

The UDC reiterated its stance in a four-page letter to the DRBC dated Feb. 1, 2018 which stated, in part, "It has been the Upper Delaware Council's consistent position to oppose surface activities associated with hydraulic fracturing from being allowed within the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River federal-state-local management area to avoid any potential impairment to the special values here and to preserve our non-industrialized regional character. We find that the magnitude of risks from any negative consequences and cumulative impacts from natural gas development in the designated boundary are incompatible with the goals of the River Management Plan.

"Given that upholding private property rights and local land use control remain of paramount concern to the Council, horizontal drilling under the river corridor should be considered only if it can be done consistent with the objectives of the River Management Plan," the UDC letter stated.

For copies of the DRBC's final rulemaking, the 436-page Comments and Responses Document, and background materials, visit www.drbc.gov.



TESTIFY: Actor and activist Mark Ruffalo, a part-time resident of Callicoon in the Upper Delaware River Valley, spoke out at a February 22, 2011 Delaware River Basin Commission public hearing on natural gas extraction regulations held in Honesdale, PA. (UDC File Photo by Laurie Ramie)

Kittatinny Canoes Sells Holdings to Camp Resort Company

After 80 years of billing themselves as the "First and Finest on the Delaware" for outdoor adventures, Kittatinny Canoes has been sold... but the recreation will continue.

Northgate Resorts of Grand Rapids, MI has acquired the business that includes two campgrounds in Barryville, NY and Milford, PA with 510 sites combined; river trip services by raft, canoe, kayak and tube; a dual racing zipline; and paintball.

The name and activities will remain the same in 2021, but infrastructure improvements and more hirings are expected.

Dave Jones started working at Kittatinny

at the age of 17. His grandparents, Ernie and Edna Olschewsky, purchased the property in 1941, and Dave's mother, Ruth, famously began the tradition of annual "On and Under the River Clean-ups" that have won national and UDC awards.

Dave is 66 now and feeling satisfied over the decision to sell, while planning to stay on as an advisor.

"It was just time. It's a positive change. I feel lucky to get an excellent buyer who will do it right and they're in it for the long haul. Their facilities are first-class, they're family-oriented, my employees are pumped up since they'll receive new benefits I couldn't offer, and there will be a higher tax base for the town," Jones says.

The real estate closing took place on New Year's Eve, after mutual visits to scope out operations to assure the right fit.

Founded in 2013, Northgate Resorts owns 17 camp-resorts, including its trademarked Yogi Bear Jellystone Park franchises, and are developing three more. Their nearest properties are in Gardiner, NY and Quarryville, PA.

"They loved the nature, the river, and the National Park status here," Jones says.

Northgate eventually hopes to upgrade the facilities such as new bathrooms and a pool, add to food service options, expand programming and activities for families, and have their staff rangers on patrol.

The company's Chief Marketing Officer Tessa Wiles told the *Pike County Dispatch* on Feb. 18, "We plan to keep the staff and will be hiring many for seasonal positions this summer. We plan to take things slowly and introduce more in 2022."

Any construction work will be done with the proper permitting and consultations.

"They are dedicated to making this a better experience for the visitors. I really think Barryville can be a signature property for them and that they will put the Town of Highland on the map," Jones predicts.

As for him, Jones feels relieved to go into "semi-retirement" knowing that Kittatinny's legacy - which began very modestly with a fleet of six canoes and a few rowboats targeted to fishermen needing shuttles - will live on to create even more adventures.



Dam Emergencies, Geology and 5-Year Plan Discussed

In a worst-case scenario of the 1964 Cannonsville Dam failing to hold back its approximately 95 billion gallons of stored water, every second would count.

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is well aware of its responsibility in managing the 19 reservoirs and three lakes that comprise its massive water supply system.

"DEP's number one priority is the safety of people downstream of the dam," Director of Public Affairs Adam Bosch told the Upper Delaware Council on March 4.

That's one reason that NYC DEP hired a

"We count dam safety as the most important program in our department." ~ Adam Bosch, New York City Department of Environmental Protection

consulting firm, Schnabel Engineering Inc. (SEI), to investigate, document, and recommend procedures to improve the speed of downstream emergency notifications for the Cannonsville Reservoir, with applications suitable for the rest of the system.

Starting in 2018, SEI performed an External Time-Sensitive Analysis.

The objective was to estimate the time it would take to detect and verify a dam emergency, notify the proper response agencies, and issue the emergency to alert and evacuate at-risk populations.

They examined the use of computer software in place and the content of the detailed Emergency Action Plans (EAP) that are regularly updated for each dam.

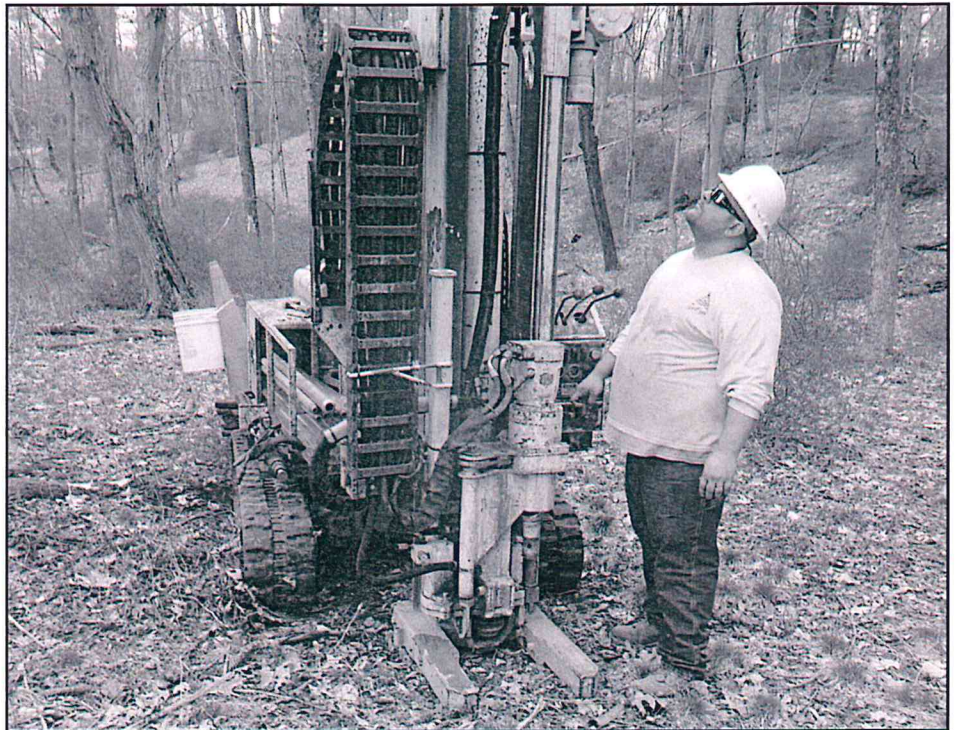
Past EAP procedures relied on a Condition Orange or Red alert if dam safety engineers found an issue, which would trigger calls by the NYC DEP Police and Water Supply Control Center to the listed notification flow chart.

The National Weather Service would declare flash flood watches or warnings for the involved area, then it was up to county and state authorities to implement their emergency procedures and deploy.

Various inspections of the dams take place on a daily, monthly, annual, and periodic basis through on-site visits, video surveillance, instrumentation use, and outside agency assessments.

"It's fair to say our dam safety program is among the best in the world. We know this because it serves as a model for dam safety practices employed by other large dams around the world," Bosch said.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) requires owners of high and medium hazard dams to run a "sudden failure analysis" scenario in which a 600-foot-wide stretch of the dam crumbles



DIGGING DOWN: A Geoprobe was used to obtain bores through the bedrock at the Ten Mile River Scout Camps property during fieldwork by scientists from the New York State Museum and Geological Survey. The museum located near Narrowsburg, NY plans a summer exhibit to display and interpret the findings. (Contributed Photo by David Malatzky, Ten Mile River Scout Museum)

at once to compare the arrival of the first flood wave at the first habitable community to the emergency notification time.

In Cannonsville's case, they found an excess response time of -59 minutes, considering that the first flood impact in Delaware County would be 26 minutes.

Bosch assured that dams don't fail that way so "the scenario is not realistic but it's our model. FERC's goal is to reduce the amount of time it takes to detect and alert agencies to the extent practicable."

The SEI report recommends further analysis of a refined outdoor siren system, although Bosch said that emergency management agencies generally oppose that as an outdated "20th century solution".

"Expanding cell service is the one that everybody seems to agree with", he added, although spotty service and signal strength will need to be addressed.

To augment the EAP call-outs and significantly speed up the process, Bosch said, "The DEP is moving toward implementation of a mass notification system" using automated software, while EAP trainings and drills with local contacts are ongoing.

Upper Delaware Geology

James Leone, a scientist and mapping geologist with the New York State Museum and Geological Survey, briefed the UDC on the "Upper Delaware River Geologic Resource Mapping Project" Jan. 7.

Working under contract with the National

Park Service and with private property owner permissions, they continued their geoprobe work, wireline cores, soil samples, and research observations to inventory and map the geological conditions.

Alluvium was the dominant surface material within their boundary and glacial till was the most abundant. Most of the formations contain bluestone. While the dates and history of ice advancing through the area is unknown, glacial lake sediments are seen in the present day river valley.

There is a theory that, at one time, the river flowed north rather than south. It's also possible that the Delaware and Susquehanna River Valley traded places in eons past, according to Leone.

A recording of Leone's presentation is available to view on the UDC's YouTube and Vimeo channels.

Strategic Plan Out

The "UDC's Five-Year Strategic Plan Process" was the topic of consultant Buck Moorhead's presentation at the Dec. 3, 2020 meeting to introduce the draft plan as a follow up to the October 3 workshop.

The board unanimously adopted the new Fiscal Year 2021-2025 Operating Program on Jan. 7. The full 57-page document and a five-page Executive Summary are posted on the UDC website under "Publications".

Each UDC committee will review the status of the actionable items that fall under their purviews every six months.

Adaptive Reuse Plans for Two Historic Properties

Exciting new life is proposed for two historic properties in the riverfront communities of Cochection and Callicoon.

When driving along the New York State Upper Delaware Scenic Byway through Cochection, one might wonder what the massive, multi-story brick skeleton is perched between the road and the river.

Completed in 1879, the former Cochection Standard Oil Pump Station stands as a reminder of the Upper Delaware region's industrial past, but is now becoming an icon of the area's future as a new owner shares big plans for the historic site.

In December 1881, a 6-inch oil pipeline, built by John D. Rockefeller's famed Standard Oil Company, was completed from Olean in New York's Southern Tier to Bayonne, New Jersey.

The pipeline boasted 11 pumping stations, each about 28 miles apart along the 315-mile pipeline. In addition to the pump-house, the Cochection complex had a boiler house, coal house, manifest building, and telegraph office. It had over a dozen employees, including engineers, firemen, and telegraph operators.

A 128-foot-high smokestack stood sentinel over the complex and the river, defining the landscape during the station's operation. After only four decades, the site was abandoned in the late 1920s and most of the buildings demolished, leaving the pump station as the only reminder of the site's history and purpose.

The pump station was identified as a culturally and historically significant site in a 1983 cultural resource survey commissioned by the National Park Service, but preservation of the structure would not occur until proper funding came along.

Abandoned for almost a century, the pump station's potential despite its near ruin was finally recognized by filmmaker and entrepreneur Dave Lieber, who purchased the property in 2020.



RUINS TO RESCUE: Only the brick facade of the Cochection Pump Station on the former Standard Oil Company property remains since it was abandoned in 1928, but new property owners have plans to restore it for potential use as a retail and food establishment, as depicted in the architectural rendering shown at right. (UDC Photo by Shannon Cilento, left)

Lieber, who operated a pop-up barbecue skewer business at his adjacent property last summer, plans to add a coffee shop to the pump station site along NYS Rt. 97, stabilize the building ruins, and use the space as a retail and food pop-up venue.

All Aboard!

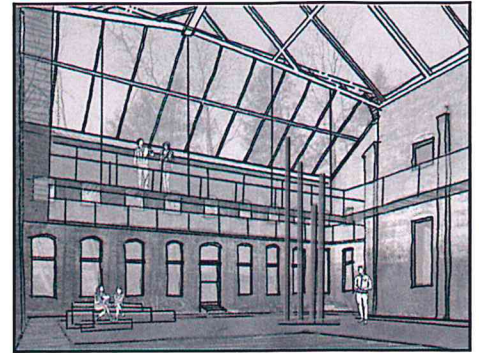
The 1896 New York and Erie Railroad depot in the heart of Callicoon is undergoing historic renovation for reuse as a community commons and a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway.

A long-term lease was inked in February between freight track operators Central New York Railroad of Cooperstown and the Callicoon Business Association.

"We're eager to undertake the station's restoration and anticipate suggestions and input from the public. The revitalization of the station will benefit and invigorate the entire community for many years to come," says CBA President Patti Moorhead.

Initial focus of the work will be on developing the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Visitor Center for the fellow non-profit organization whose mission is dedicated to enhancing and promoting the NYS Rt. 97 corridor from Port Jervis to Hancock.

"The visitor center has had many incarnations with twists and turns, much like the



byway we promote. We are thrilled to see our visitor center based in Callicoon, one of the most idyllic of our river communities in Sullivan County - and one that is right in the middle of Upper Delaware Scenic Byway," says UDSB Chairperson Johnny Pizzolatto.

Further project phases will continue the adaptive reuse of the building and grounds to host a variety of community functions such as exhibits, meetings, events, performances, workshops, classes, small-business support, and private events based on community and parter outreach.

Proposed plans for the exterior include landscaping and grading to create an attractive "town commons" area with outdoor seating and improvements to the old loading dock stage used during festivals.

Parking needs will be addressed by means of a comprehensive, hamlet-wide parking study being undertaken in cooperation with the Town of Delaware.

Local volunteers working as a CBA Depot Committee have focused on saving the vacated historic site from falling into disrepair by drafting a business plan, discussing operations and maintenance, and securing approximately \$450,000 in funding.

Small group tours starting April 10 to collect public input can be booked online by visiting callicoondetpot.org or offer suggestions at allaboard@callicoondetpot.org.

Preservation Ethic

The preservation and protection of the historic architecture of the Upper Delaware River corridor is of paramount importance as both natural and manmade factors threaten to reclaim these structures from our community's past.

The Upper Delaware River Management Plan (1986) states that "foster[ing] a widespread preservation in the Upper Delaware Valley" is a key objective in the cultural resource protection strategy.

Follow along with the progress of these two projects at [@cochectionpumphouse](https://www.instagram.com/cochectionpumphouse) and [@callicoondetpot](https://www.instagram.com/callicoondetpot) on Instagram.



THEN AND NOW: J.E. Bailey photographed images of the New York and Erie Railroad circa 1900-1910 which survived as glass plate negatives and are in the collection of Jim Hutzler, including this one of the Callicoon Depot loading dock at left. At right is the station as it appears today, with its "wild turkey" weather vane added. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie, right)

In Memoriam



John T. Hutzky

Sept. 20, 1934
to Dec. 6, 2020

First NPS UPDE
Superintendent

As the inaugural superintendent for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, John T. Hutzky served for 16 pivotal years from 1979 to 1995.

He was responsible for the establishment of the National Park Service's operations and facilitated the finalization of the River Management Plan cooperative partnership agreement.

John passed away at the age of 86 in Madison Township, PA on Dec. 6, 2020.

He was survived by his wife of 57 years, Priscilla; his sons, Mark (wife Ruth) and Brian Hutzky; and granddaughter Kayla.

Born in Saratoga Springs, NY, he was the son of the late John and Ruth Lillian (Thomas) Hutzky. He proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps as well as the National Park Service (NPS).

John was a published author of the book, "Death Comes to Saratoga" and spent several years as an editor of "The Village Newspaper". He enjoyed watching baseball, old movies, and was an avid history buff.

John volunteered as a Meals on Wheels driver and at Griffin Pond Animal Shelter.

Memorial donations may be given to Meals on Wheels of NEPA, 541 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18509.

Private arrangements were made by Brian Arthur Strauch Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Spring Brook Twp.

NPS Career

John's NPS career began in 1963 as an interpretive guide at Saratoga National Historical Park. He transferred to Gettysburg National Battlefield Park in 1973 as their Administrative Officer. Three years

later, he assumed the superintendency at Booker T. Washington National Park, prior to his 1979 arrival at the Upper Delaware.

Upon his October 1, 1995 retirement, John was quoted in "The Upper Delaware" as saying, "What a wonderful ride it's been! I've had the opportunity to spend 33 years working in some wonderful places with some remarkable people. The National Park Service has been more than a career; it's been the source of my well-being and inspiration. I will miss it. At the same time, I feel fulfilled in knowing that I had something to do, no matter how small, with nurturing, sustaining, and preserving many special places, such as the Upper Delaware."

Accomplishments during his tenure included negotiating terms and implementation of the River Management Plan with local, state, and federal interests; restoring Roebing's Delaware Aqueduct; acquiring and restoring the Zane Grey House; forming the Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance; and helping the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance to acquire the old Arlington Hotel.

"John Hutzky became a legend in the Upper Delaware River Valley, not only for being the first and long-serving National Park Service superintendent for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River at 16 years, but due to the commonly heard observation that he was exactly the right person at the right time for the job," said Upper Delaware Council Executive Director Laurie Ramie.

The *River Reporter* dedicated a full page of its December 24-30, 2020 issue (search archives at riverreporter.com) to publish individual tributes recognizing his legacy.

SOJOURN, continued from Page 7

Daily registration fees will be \$90 per adult and \$60 per youth participant. A first-time paddler discount is available and grant funding for youth scholarships is being pursued by the planning team.

T-shirts featuring the fish theme logo designed by Sandra Schultz will also be available for purchase.

More details will be forthcoming. Find updates at www.delawareriversojourn.com.

Mapping Tool Helps Plot River Corridor

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) and National Park Service (NPS) Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River will offer virtual training on April 12 in the use of a new, publicly available Upper Delaware Corridor mapping application.

The 6:30 p.m. Zoom workshop will feature Dr. Claire Jantz, director of the Center for Land Use and Sustainability (CLUS) at Shippensburg University, providing an instructional overview and answering questions about the tool's capabilities.

This free session is particularly appropriate for code enforcement officers, planning and zoning board members, county GIS technicians, and land use consultants in the bi-state river valley region. Participants qualify to receive one training credit hour.

To register, contact UDC Resources and Land Use Specialist Shannon Cilento at shannon@upperdelawarecouncil.org or (845) 252-3022.

In 2016, Shippensburg University's CLUS entered a five-year agreement with the National Park Service to develop and launch an effective and efficient spatial decisions support tool to assist with the review of projects within the 55,574.5-acre Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Corridor that includes portions of five counties and 15 towns and townships in New York and Pennsylvania.

The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping application integrates natural resource data with information on land use regulations and zoning as provided by the communities. It allows enabling various data layers and generating reports, and offers more accurate parcel descriptions than some online and paper maps can. Its development was a UDC request to NPS.

Dr. Jantz also offered a presentation to the UDC's Project Review Committee membership on February 23.

To request the mapping application, please contact NPS Community and Land Use Planner Cody Hendrix at (570) 872-0451 or Cody_Hendrix@nps.gov.

Please Help the UDC to Update Our Mailing List

The Upper Delaware Council offers its free newsletter on-line at www.upperdelawarecouncil.org or via postal mail. Please advise us if you wish to discontinue your mail copy, would like to sign up as a new mail subscriber, or if there are any changes to your name or address for our records. Return this notice to: Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764; or call (845) 252-3022 or e-mail info@upperdelawarecouncil.org.

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Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192
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*Working together to conserve the Upper
Delaware Scenic and Recreational River*

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The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Three standing committees meet monthly as follows: Water Use/Resource Management, third Tuesdays at 7 p.m.; Project Review and Operations, fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m., at the UDC office, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg, NY. All meetings are open to the public. Call (845) 252-3022 or visit www.upperdelawarecouncil.org for specific meeting dates.

Upper Delaware News, Views and 'To Do's'

NPS Requires Masks

The National Park Service (NPS) has implemented a mask requirement for employees, visitors, partners and contractors in all NPS buildings and facilities.

Masks are also required on NPS-managed lands when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

"Wearing a mask around others, physical distancing, and washing your hands are the simplest and most effective public health measures to help stop the spread of COVID-19," said NPS Office of Public Health Director Captain Sara Newman. "Getting outside and enjoying our public lands is essential to improving mental and physical health, but we all need to work together to recreate responsibly."

Check www.nps.gov/upde for updates.

\$10 Million for Delaware

The Delaware River Basin Restoration Program received \$10 million through the Fiscal Year 2021 Interior Appropriations bill, up from \$9.7 million last year.

Since 2018, its Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund grant program has

awarded \$16.86 million to fund 90 projects in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, generating \$34.05 million in match, for a \$50.91 million impact.

Tackling Knotweed

Methodologies to mitigate the growth of the invasive knotweed plant will be tested in demonstration plots this summer as part of a research study coordinated by the Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Inc.

Different management techniques will be put to the test with three on-site workshops held on: **June 5**, 1-4 p.m. at Skinners Falls River Access in the Town of Cohecton; **June 19**, 10-1 at Hancock Firemen's Park; and **July 17**, 11-2 at Deposit Village Park.

The public is welcome to come learn about the project and share their experiences. For more information, call (607) 637-4499 or email info@fudr.org.

Play Ball! Vintage Style

NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River will host a vintage baseball game on Saturday, **July 10**, in honor of Lackawaxen's own Zane Grey.

A double-header will pit the Mountain Athletic Club vs. the Atlantic Baseball Team. The first game at 12:30 p.m. will be played by 1864 baseball regulations, while the next at approximately 2:15 p.m. will use 1895 rules that were in effect in Grey's day.

The free vintage games will take place at the baseball field located across the street from the Lackawaxen Fire Hall at the junction of Rt. 590 and Scenic Drive.

Plans for additional festivities, which could include a Zane Grey Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the museum grounds in Lackawaxen, will be announced.

Land-Water-People Shirts

The Upper Delaware Council announces that the Equinunk General Store is now a Pennsylvania outlet for its royal blue t-shirts featuring a map showing the 15 Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River communities and a front logo with the land-water-people partnership theme.

The shirts are available for a \$15 donation to help support the non-profit organization's work. The UDC is newly able to accept PayPal payment as well. Visit www.upperdelawarecouncil.org to order.