

The Upper Delaware

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

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**The Upper Delaware
available on-line or by mail!**

Access this newsletter at 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.

Borrow a life jacket. It could save a life!

Pida prestado un chaleco de Salvavidas.

Puede Salvar una vida!



1. Pick out a life jacket.
2. Try it on.
3. Make sure it fits! It should be snug but not tight.
4. Return the jacket before you leave for the day.

1. Escoje un chaleco de Salvavidas.
2. Pruebeselo.
3. Asegurese que le quede! Debe de ser comodo pero no apretado.
4. Regrese el chaleco antes de irse por el dia.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River

Upper Delaware Life Jacket Loaner Stations to Debut

With statistics proving that swimming is the #1 drowning activity in the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, the National Park Service will begin installing life jacket loaner stations in May.

"Swimmers are 52% of our drownings. It's alarming," says Ranger Kevin Reish, manager of the Upper Delaware's (UPDE) Water Safety Program.

What's important to remember is this next fact shared by Reish:

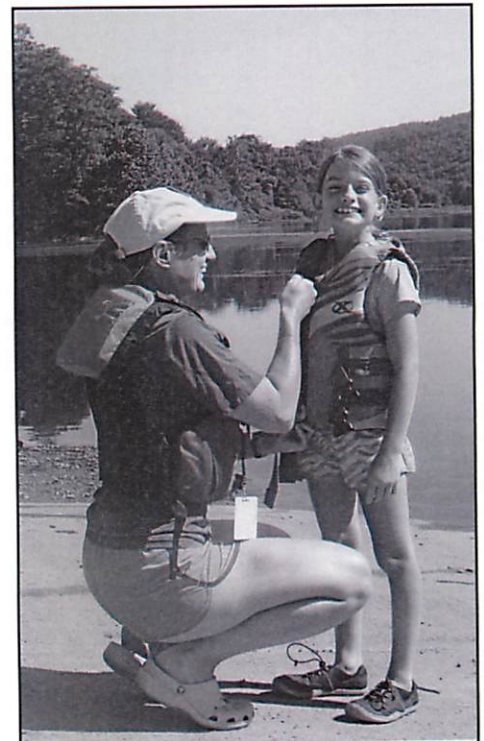
"We've never had a drowning with a life jacket on and securely fastened."

Of the 68 drownings that occurred on the Upper Delaware River from 1980 to 2016, 65 individuals were not wearing a Personal Flotation Device. Poorly fitting PFDs came off in the other three cases.

These 65 males and 3 females, with an average age of 28.5 years old, might be alive today if they heeded UPDE's simple safety message to wear a life jacket while swimming, boating, fishing or floating.

Life jacket use is mandatory for children 12 and under on the river, while all ages are required to wear them in high-water situations (6 feet and above as measured at the gages in Callicoon and Barryville).

The latter rule was enacted in 2010 through authority vested in the NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Superintendent's Compendium.



SNUG FOR SAFETY: National Canoe Safety Patrol member Georgina Winfield of Allentown, PA makes sure daughter Addison's life vest is securely fastened before they head out on the Upper Delaware River. The bilingual sign above will identify the three Life Jacket Loaner Stations that will be installed this May. (Contributed Photo and Graphic by NPS)

"That has helped. Twenty-eight percent of our drownings have been boaters," Reish says.

UPDE has offered loaner life jackets at

Please see LIFE JACKETS on Page 10

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

Upper Delaware Profile: Doug Case

Doug Case is among an increasingly rare group of intrepid anglers to harvest eels from the Delaware River.

"My 'hobby', for 33 years now, is that I've been putting an eel rack in the river by the Narrowsburg flats," he says.

When he started out, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued more than 20 regional permits through its regulatory authority.

Now there are only nine left, which points to the intense labor and time demands that come with this historic business.

The 1986 *River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River* notes that "American eels are found throughout the corridor, sustaining one of the finest commercial eel fisheries in the world during the fall, when mature eels return to the sea to spawn."

The Plan guaranteed that the commercial taking of eels through traditional methods would continue after the Upper Delaware's federal designation approval.

Case consulted with the legendary Floyd Campfield to teach him the tricks of the trade, motivated by a simple desire.

"I like smoked eels and you couldn't get them, so I decided to catch my own," the 58-year-old says.

Case starts building his eel rack each July and maintains it daily to monitor the harvest and make any repairs or adjustments until it is removed in November.

A V-shaped stone weir directs eels into the trap. Though it may appear primitive,



Doug Case, Lackawaxen Township, PA

there's an art to the piling of the rocks.

"I learned over time. You need to understand the natural flow of the river," he says.

Case sells and delivers 95% of his eels live to various markets, smoking the rest.

In filing monthly reports with the DEC, Case observed that 2016 was his second best year ever, rivaling the 1990's for numbers which he opts not to disclose.

When the opportunity came up to represent Lackawaxen Township on the Upper Delaware Council, Case spoke with former representatives John McKay and Tom Cardinale, who each agreed that he was well-qualified to contribute and would benefit from the experience.

"Being in the river for this many years, I thought I would learn more by getting involved with the UDC," he says.

His appointment was effective on August 15, 2016. Case subsequently joined the UDC's Water Use/Resource Management Committee on October 18.

Case grew up in Welcome Lake, PA, where his late parents Bill and Jean operated Case's Grandview House. The former boarding house now serves as the office since the 1960s of the family's Case Construction business, for which Doug specializes in excavation work.

The 1976 graduate of Wallenpaupack High School, 40-year member and current auditor of the Welcome Lake Volunteer Fire Company helps maintain the 200-acre family farm and its beef cows.

Doug and his wife Susan wed in 2007 after a long relationship. She has two children, B.J. and Christine, and the couple has two sons, Chris and Jason, and six grandchildren ages 4-8.

"I take them down to the river all the time," Case says. He also enjoys hunting, ice fishing, visiting the Case cabin in Potter County, PA, and driving the '69 GTO classic car that he restored 15 years ago.

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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.

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In Memoriam...

Tom Cardinale, 1953-2017

Lackawaxen Township Supervisor, Treasurer, and former Upper Delaware Council (UDC) Representative Thomas Anthony Cardinale died at home on Jan. 21, 2017 at the age of 63.

"Tom" took elected office as a township supervisor in January 2016 and served for six months until July 26, 2016 as Lackawaxen's UDC delegate.

Retired from a distinguished 20-year career with the U.S. Navy, Tom also worked for the National Park Service at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area for 12 years.

Tom was born on July 21, 1953 in Paterson, NJ. Survivors include his wife, Gwen (Worzel) Cardinale; daughter, Nicole Harrell; two sons, Sean and Joseph Cardinale; four grandchildren; two brothers, Anthony and Philip Cardinale; and sister-in-law Patricia Worzel.

Arrangements were with the Stroyan Funeral Home in Milford, PA. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association (www.heart.org).

Fremont Representative Takes UDC Helm

James A. Greier became the first Town of Fremont representative to chair the Upper Delaware Council in the organization's 29-year history when he was elected by his fellow board members at the UDC's annual meeting on January 5, 2017.

He was joined by Vice-Chairperson David M. Dean, Town of Deerpark, and Secretary-Treasurer Alan F. Henry, Berlin Township, in taking their oaths of office administered by Town of Fremont Supervisor and UDC Alternate George Conklin at the February 2 meeting, which ended with a celebratory reception.

Jim Greier was originally appointed as the UDC alternate for the Town of Fremont in January 2000 through Nov. 10, 2004, then returned to the board as a 2nd alternate on March 18, 2013 to replace Jim Rodgers after he moved from the area.

After the death of 19-year UDC Representative John B. Niflot, Greier accepted the town board's appointment for him to fill that role, effective August 14, 2013.

Greier has experience in municipal leadership as a former town assessor, councilman, and 12 years as town supervisor starting in 1999.

He previously served a four-year term on the Board of Education for his alma mater, Delaware Valley Central School, and chaired the Sullivan County Democratic Committee.

He earned a Mechanical Engineering degree from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn in 1955.

The 83-year-old resides on the same property in Obernburg, NY where his grandparents, the Tempels, ran a boarding house.

The Greier family expanded that business into the 200-acre Little Texas Ranch which they operated as a working dude ranch and hotel from 1962 to 1987.

Today they continue to care for a stable of 25 Arabian horses, board other horses, farm hay and oats, host antique auctions, and put on occasional catered events.

Since 2011, Greier has been employed by the New York State Gaming Commission as a racing inspector at Monticello Raceway.

Previous jobs included working as a tool

and die maker on Long Island and then at the Bard Parker plant in Hancock, four years automating the production system at Dedeco International in Long Eddy, and part-time work as a machinist at Ike's Auto Parts in Monticello.

Greier toured steadily throughout the Catskills and upstate New York as a guitarist and vocalist with "The Texans", and continues to perform country and western music.

He is a member of St. Mary's Church and Holy Name Society of Obernburg, where he conducts a weekly guitar mass; chairman of the Town of Fremont Democratic Committee; helps plan the town's Memorial Day Parade that is now in its 133rd year; serves on the Sullivan County Farm Bureau Board of Directors; and belongs to the Knights of Columbus.



OATH SWORN: Town of Fremont Supervisor George Conklin, right, congratulates 2017 UDC Chairperson Jim Greier after Conklin officiated the swearing-in ceremony on Feb. 2 at the UDC office in Narrowsburg. (UDC Photos by Laurie Ramie)

Hobbies include hunting, float fishing, and sports, with a special love for baseball which he coached at every youth level.

Jim and his wife of 44 years, Rita, have three children: James of Obernburg; Anthony of Hopewell Junction, NY; and Patricia of Middletown, NY. They have four grandchildren.

Vice-Chairperson and Town of Deerpark Councilman Dave Dean is serving his first officer's role with the UDC since his appointment to the UDC on Oct. 17, 2011. He is also a member of the Project Review and Operations Committees.

Al Henry has served two prior stints as Secretary-Treasurer from Aug. 1, 2013 to Dec. 31, 2014 and again in 2016, after he chaired the Council in 2015.

He was appointed by Berlin Township on Jan. 3, 2012. Henry sits on all three UDC standing committees, and chairs its Personnel Subcommittee as well as the new Solar Position Subcommittee.

UDC ROSTER: Gathered at the UDC's Feb. 2 meeting were, seated from the left, Secretary-Treasurer Alan F. Henry, Berlin Township; Vice-Chairperson David M. Dean, Town of Deerpark; and Chairperson James A. Greier, Town of Fremont. Standing from left to right are: Steve Tambini, Delaware River Basin Commission; Michael Barth, Westfall Township; Jeff Dexter, Damascus Township; Susan Sullivan, Town of Tusten; Fred Peckham, Town of Hancock; Virginia Dudko, Town of Deerpark; Zoriana Gingold, Town of Lumberland; Larry H. Richardson, Town of Cochection; Aaron Robinson, Shohola Township; Doug Case, Lackawaxen Township; Jeff Haas, Town of Highland; Harold Roeder, Jr., Town of Delaware; Bill Rudge, New York State; and Carla Hahn, National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was absent.



Delaware River Basin Conservation Act Passes

Outgoing Congressman Chris Gibson (NY-19) predicted that the passage of the Delaware River Basin Conservation Act will be a game-changer in bringing national attention and resources to a major watershed that has been overlooked.

"This is the dawning of a new day," he said in applauding the Dec. 10, 2016 Congressional approval of the bill included in the Water Infrastructure Improvements Act for the Nation. Then-President Obama signed it into law on Dec. 16.

After bouncing around Congress for six years, the legislation establishes for the first time a non-regulatory Delaware River Basin Restoration Program that will be administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

It will create a coordinated approach for identifying, prioritizing, and implementing restoration and protection projects throughout the Delaware watershed, relying on a "bottom-up" strategy to support



GAME-CHANGER: Speakers at a Dec. 22, 2016 press conference in Hancock to celebrate passage of the Delaware River Basin Conservation Act were, from the left: Madeline Emde from the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed; then-Congressman Chris Gibson (NY-19); Friends of the Upper Delaware River Inc. Executive Director Jeff Skelding; and Town of Hancock Supervisor Sam Rowe. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

on-the-ground conservation efforts.

"This bill is all about local participation and decision-making," said Friends of the

Reservoir Management in Flux: Inflexible on Flexible Flow Plan?

The Upper Delaware Council was investigating developments in the Flexible Flow Management Plan (FFMP) 2017 renewal process as this issue went to press.

The FFMP is the agreement among the 1954 Decree Parties (New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New York City) for how the city's Delaware River Basin reservoirs will be managed.

The interim plan must be acted upon by the June 1st start of the new "water year" with unanimous consent to any changes.

It has been subject to one-year extensions for the past five years with no significant adjustments, despite pleas from the public and groups like the UDC for more consistent releases and consideration of

adopting a thermal stress relief protocol to protect the aquatic habitat and economy.

At the Feb. 16 meeting of the Delaware River Basin Commission's Regulated Flow Advisory (RFAC) Committee, Chairman Brennan Tarrier (NY) stated, "The Parties are still negotiating" and attempting to address "various and often competing objectives" in recognition that "the FFMP must remain flexible to accommodate changing conditions."

NJ representative Steven Domber, however, then read a statement demanding that seven "incremental but wide-ranging equitable improvements" to the FFMP be made immediately while a "thorough and transparent assessment" of the entire operational plan is pursued.

"NJ seeks agreement from the Decree Parties on these concepts before proceeding to further negotiations," Domber said. "At this time NJ is not able to commit to a one-year extension of the current FFMP as other options are being more seriously considered if reform is not achievable."

If no FFMP is in place by May 31, management will revert back to "Revision 1", which the Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Inc. calls "a devastating step backwards for the cold water ecosystem of the Upper Delaware River" due to drastically decreased releases all year.

Dr. Peter Kolesar was set to discuss this topic with the UDC's Water Use/Resource Management Committee on March 21.

Upper Delaware River, Inc. Executive Director Jeff Skelding.

"It's way overdue. We have these large, iconic aquatic areas around the country but for some reason, the Delaware River never achieved that status and we never had a federally authorized program. We now have that national attention," he added.

While the legislation sets up the mechanism to provide grants for restoration projects and technical assistance, a proposed \$5 million to fund it was pulled from the bill at the last hour.

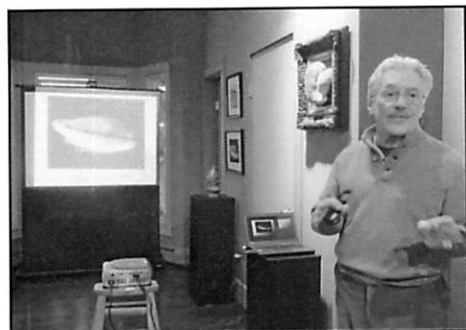
Rep. Gibson, retiring from Congress after six years in order to teach at Williams College in Massachusetts, recommended focusing on securing the necessary appropriations in 2017.

"The key going forward is efficacy. Look at picking a project that is popular with tangible returns so that everyone sees the utility of supporting funding for the basin," he advised.

Even without the attached dollars, Rep. Gibson noted, "This is a big win. The Delaware River Basin Conservation Act is constituent-driven and this was a thoroughly bipartisan effort. Now we're going to have an opportunity to build this coalition even further."

The incoming 19th District Congressman John J. Faso issued a statement noting, "This measure protects a critical ecosystem and wildlife habitat; supports a river-based tourism, recreation and hospitality economy and the jobs it creates; and sets clear goals for federal, regional, state and local entities to work together on water quality projects and more."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is collaborating with partners to develop the Delaware River Basin Program by May 29, the timeframe required in the legislation.



SOUNDING ALARM: Dr. Peter J. Kolesar of Eldred, professor emeritus at Columbia University, showed his art and gave a talk on advocacy for the Upper Delaware River at the March 4 opening of the "Elements: Water Works" exhibit at Gallery Eva in Callicoon, NY. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

UDC Holds Awards Ceremony April 23

The Upper Delaware Council will hold its 29th Annual Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 23, at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA.

The public is invited to attend to pay tribute to those who have made positive contributions to the Upper Delaware River Valley. Reservations at \$27 per person are requested by April 14.

United States Congressman John J. Faso will deliver the keynote address.

Faso was elected to represent the 19th District of New York on Nov. 8, 2016.

The district encompasses all or part of 11 counties in the Capital Region, Hudson Valley, Catskills and Central New York, including all of Sullivan County.

As a first-time Member of Congress, Rep. Faso has been appointed to the House Committees on Budget, Transpor-

Congressman Faso to Deliver Keynote Address

tation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture.

A graduate of SUNY Brockport and Georgetown University Law Center, Rep. Faso is a former Republican leader of the New York State Assembly.

He and his wife Mary Frances, a



John J. Faso, NY-19
United States Congress

registered nurse, have two adult children and reside in Kinderhook, NY.

The banquet begins with a 3 p.m. hors d'oeuvres and cash bar reception.

A 4 p.m. buffet dinner will offer tossed salad, rolls, fresh fruit, cheese tortellini vinaigrette, slow-roasted prime rib, chicken breast with cranberry sage stuffing, eggplant rollettes, garlic mashed potatoes, long grain & wild rice, glazed baby carrots, and a dessert choice of brownie a la mode or cheesecake with strawberry puree.

Congressman Faso's address and presentation of awards to individuals, organizations, and communities in numerous categories will follow.

To access a reservation form and a list of 2017 honorees, visit www.upperdelaware-council.org, stop in the 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg office or call (845) 252-3022.

Skidders Falls-Milanville Bridge Re-opens, Regional Work Set

The 1901 Skidders Falls, NY-Milanville, PA Bridge reopened to traffic on Nov. 10, 2016 after undergoing \$684,864 of emergency repairs.

Dave Illman, a nephew of Milanville Bridge Company President Milton Skinner, had the honor of being the first to cross the bridge after its 11-month closure.

Crews replaced 44 steel stringers, 250 square feet of wood plank running boards and other materials, and installed two new overhead clearance bars to allow the Baltimore truss one-lane crossing to go back into service with a 4-ton weight limit.

Emergency repairs were also necessary on the 1953 Cohecton, NY-Damascus, PA Bridge for two weeks in November, gearing up for a deck replacement due in 2019 or 2020.

A public information meeting on plans for a \$9.9 million rehabilitation of the 1961 Callicoon, NY-Damascus, PA Bridge took place on Nov. 2 to preview this anticipated Spring 2018-Fall/Winter 2019 project.

While the work will require installing a stone causeway partially across the river for several months, vehicle traffic will continue on one signal-controlled lane.

More immediately, long-awaited repair work on the 1953 Narrowsburg, NY-Darbytown, PA Bridge that has been reduced to a single lane since August 2013 will begin this spring and last for two construction seasons.

The approximately \$12 million project will require detours during a maximum of 15 overnight closures to allow for installation of temporary center barriers.

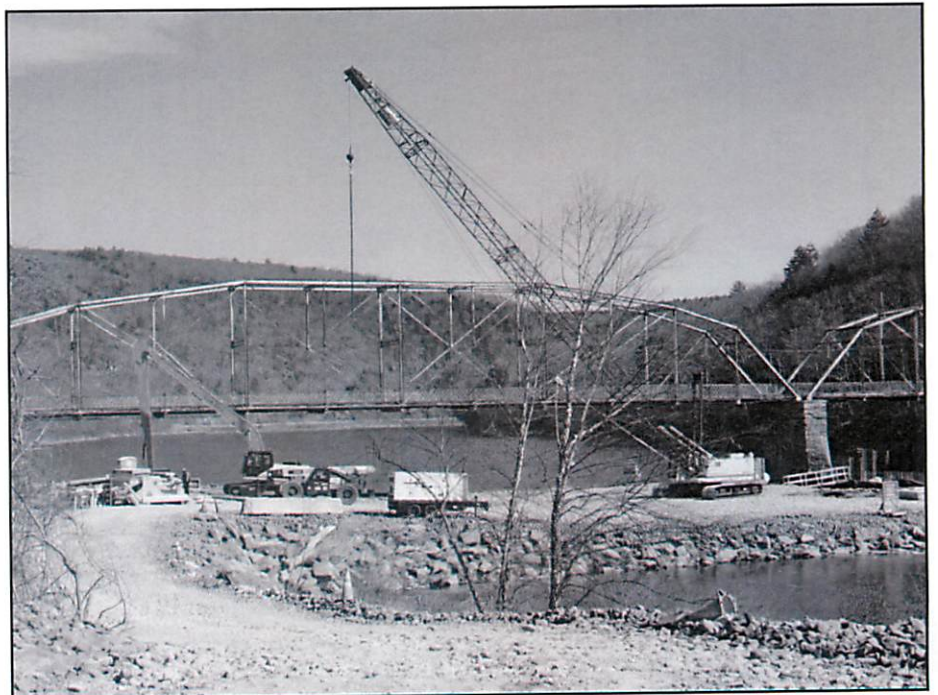
Summer 2017 will find would-be travelers on the 1990 Kellams, NY-Stalker, PA

Bridge occasionally detoured to the Callicoon-Damascus Bridge to enable a \$4.3 rehabilitation but the public fishing access and parking area will remain open.

The New York-Pennsylvania Joint Interstate Bridge Commission will hold its annual meeting to review developments and vote on future capital projects on May 10 at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation headquarters in Dunmore.

In railroad bridge news, the No. 2 bridge that connects Mill Rift, PA and Sparrowbush, NY, and serves as a landmark boundary for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, will benefit from a \$630,000 grant through New York State's Passenger and Freight Rail Assistance Program.

The project will primarily consist of steel repairs to the deck truss bridge, according to Central New York Railroad (CNYR) which operates the line on behalf of the New York, Susquehanna and Western Railway Corp. CNYR will contribute \$270,000 and awaits a decision on its funding application to Pennsylvania's equivalent program.



AT POND EDDY: Construction by D.A. Collins of a new \$18 million bridge at Pond Eddy remains on track for a late 2018 opening despite a Feb. 25 storm that washed away a portion of the causeway before the concrete pier footer was poured. (UDC Photo by Cindy Odell)

Upper Delaware Council Activity Highlights

Highlights of Upper Delaware Council activities and river valley issues from mid-September 2016 to mid-March 2017, not mentioned elsewhere in this issue, include:

EARLY WARNING

The UDC pursued its campaign to encourage the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) to improve its public early warning system for any emergencies involving its reservoirs, which garnered 11 letters of support from various towns, townships, counties, and NYS Senator Bonacic.

Actions included exploring the successful use of 20 outdoor warning sirens along Gilboa Dam's Schoharie Creek servicing NYC DEP's Catskill Water Supply System, communicating the recommendations of the river valley's county emergency offices, and requesting progress updates in Sept. 19, Nov. 3 and Mar. 2 UDC letters.

On Nov. 23, NYC DEP Deputy Commissioner Paul Rush wrote that "DEP is pushing forward with a deliberate process to find and examine all the viable options to accomplish ... our mutual goal of reaching more people faster in the case of a genuine dam emergency."

UDC LETTERS

9/29 to Frontier Communications Inc. requesting an engineering evaluation of potential Red Alert Telephone call box sites that the UDC identified along NYS Rt. 97 and sharing results of a U.S. Senator Schumer informal study on Cell Phone Dead Zones; 10/6 to the Sullivan County Division of Planning and Environmental



GEOLOGICAL MARVEL: Winifred Boyd of Westbury, NY submitted this photo taken from the Hawk's Nest section of New York State Route 97 to win first place in the Geological category of the National Park Service's Centennial Photo Contest. (Contributed Photo)

Management objecting to the Narrowsburg, NY-Beach Lake, PA Bridge identification sign as inaccurate (should be Darbytown, PA); 10/18 sign-on letters by the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed informing Congress of the timelines to develop joint legislation for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program; 11/7 to NPS UPDE Superintendent

Kris Heister on the River Corridor Acreage Determination; 11/8 to the Pennsylvania Environmental Council in appreciation for their local landfill remediation program which funded two river valley clean-ups; 12/20 to the Sullivan County Legislature to express support for an Upper Delaware River Valley Visitor Center with visitation and economic statistics provided; 1/5 to Equinunk Watershed Alliance to support their PA Growing Greener grant application; 3/2 to NPS with UDC recommendations for river height signage installation on bridges; and 3/2 to Sullivan County Visitors Association on Water Safety Messaging in the 2017 Sullivan Catskills Travel Guide.

PROJECT REVIEWS

Some land use projects reviewed were:

-Town of Delaware: Hearings on Local Laws Codification and Amending Zoning Laws for Solar Energy Systems to lift a moratorium; Special Use of Wineries, Cideries, Microbreweries & Distilleries added to the Callicoon Business District; Approval given for a 2 MW solar array on 10 acres along Baer Road in Callicoon, moved out of the river corridor

-Town of Cocheton: Moratorium on large-scale solar energy generating systems or power plants approved

-Town of Tusten: Solar moratorium extended; Conditional site plan approved for gas station at Pete's Market in Narrowsburg; 3-month moratorium on all

Please see HIGHLIGHTS on Page 7

Natural Gas Issues Round-up

A confirmed Nov. 29 meeting between staff of the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection prompted speculation that the DRBC's commissioners are reactivating their development of regulations for natural gas extraction in the basin, which has been under a moratorium since the first draft rules were published on Dec. 9, 2010.

Industry supporters were encouraged by the news while gas drilling opponents began rallying at DRBC meetings in February and March, circulating petitions, and writing letters calling for a permanent ban on this activity in the river basin.

Since the DRBC issued a revised set of regulations on Nov. 8, 2011 as its last public action, New York implemented a state-wide ban on high-volume hydraulic fracturing on June 29, 2015. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania allows it under Act 13. In May of 2016, the Wayne Land and Mineral Group based in Lake Ariel, PA filed a lawsuit challenging the DRBC's authority over gas development and alleging a taking of property rights. It's the latest in a series of legal challenges that the DRBC has faced.

Locally, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) announced that it will issue an Environmental Assessment for the Millennium Pipeline Co.'s Eastern System Upgrade Project on April 7, and render a decision by July 6 on its application to build a new natural gas compressor station in the Town of Highland and expand the existing 22,400 horsepower compressor station in the Town of Hancock.

The Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. began work in January 2017 on its \$143 million Orion Project to place a 36-inch diameter pipeline parallel to the existing 300 Line through 13 miles of Wayne and Pike Counties, PA to carry natural gas.

HIGHLIGHTS, continued from Page 6

major subdivisions approved

-Town of Lumberland: Camp Simcha commercial sewage discharge upgrade

-Berlin Township: Stourbridge Energy to construct a small-scale distributed generation project on Adams Pond Road

-Town of Highland: Limited commercial solar moratorium imposed

-Damascus Township: Zoning ordinance for alternative energy systems drafted

GLASS PROHIBITED

The possession of glass containers on the river and to the ordinary high water mark is now prohibited by authority of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Superintendent's Compendium.

EVENTS & MEETINGS

In addition to regular committees:

9/28 - Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) webinar;

10/4 and 2/8 - Catskills Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP), Arkville, NY;

10/18 - Economic Benefits of Tourism Forum, sponsored by Delaware Highlands Conservancy, Narrowsburg;

10/19 - 7th Annual "Water, Water Everywhere: The Future of the Upper Delaware River" conference by Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Hale Eddy, NY;

10/20 - NYC DEP Public Hearing on Plans to Repair Leaks in the Catskill and Delaware Aqueducts, Ellenville, NY;

10/27 - Scenic Wild Delaware River Geotourism Stewardship Council fall meeting, Newton, NJ (see MapGuide update at www.scenicwilddelawareriver.com);

11/3 - Common Waters Partnership, Monroe County, Stroudsburg, PA;

12/14 - US EPA Hydraulic Fracturing for Oil and Gas: Impacts on Drinking Water Resources, final assessment webinar;

12/15 - Stream Corridor Management Plan Project Advisory Committee, to create a multi-jurisdictional, non-regulatory blueprint for waterways below NYC's Delaware Basin Reservoirs, Hancock;

3/4-5 - "Bringing Communities Together" 2017 PA Statewide Conference for Watershed Organizations, State College.

UDC RESOLUTIONS

2016-10, Approving Technical Assistance Grants for FY 2017; #11, Granting Permanent Employee Status to Resource Specialist Pete Golod; #12, Awarding the Printing of *The Upper Delaware Newsletter* to Courier Printing Corp. for FY 2017; 2017-01, Contract with Eckersley and Ostrowski for FY 2017 Financial Review; #02, Authorizing Account Signatories.

SOLAR POSITION

The UDC established a Solar Position Subcommittee to revise its 9/30 Draft Position Paper on Large-Scale Solar Energy Systems after receiving comments from 9 of 13 municipalities by mid-March.



PHOTO CONTEST: Published freelance photographer Alex Westner of Greeley, PA won two first place prizes in the Scenic (above) and Cultural (below) categories of the National Park Service's Centennial Photo Contest celebrating the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. More of his images are on display at www.alexwestner.com. (Contributed Photos)



National Park Service Announces Centennial Photo Contest Results

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River is pleased to announce the winners of its second photography contest focused on the outstanding resources of the park unit, and the connection between those resources and the public.

Over 50 photographs were submitted between March 1 and August 25, 2016. Judging took place in November by a panel that included Upper Delaware Superintendent Kristina Heister, locally renowned photographer David B. Soete, and Upper Delaware Council Executive Director Laurie Ramie.

During November, the public was provided the opportunity to vote for "People's Choice" winners on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's Facebook page.

The submitted photos captured the unique beauty, opportunities for recreation, and biodiversity that can be found in the Upper Delaware region.

In this round, visitors and local residents were allowed to enter up to three photographs in each category: Scenic, Cultural, and Geological.

After careful consideration, the winners were:

Cultural - 1st place, Alex Westner (Greeley, PA); 2nd place, Jeffrey Sidle (Hawley, PA); 3rd place, Winifred Boyd (Westbury, NY)

Scenic - 1st place, Alex Westner; 2nd place, Pat Ashley (Laurel, NJ); 3rd place, Karen Colalaco (Matamoras, PA)

Geological - 1st place, Winifred Boyd; 2nd place, Alex Westner; 3rd place, Pat Ashley
People's Choice: Cultural - Dena Fiscus (Hobart, NY); Scenic - Andrew Baker (Hancock, NY); Geological - Winifred Boyd.

Winning photographers received monetary awards. The People's Choice winners also received a "Passport to Your National Parks" book.

The public may view the winning photographs on the park unit's Facebook and Instagram sites at UpperDelawareNPS.

"We sincerely thank all participants who entered their photos in the 2016 Upper Delaware Photo Contest," said Superintendent Heister. "Seeing the park through the lens of our visitors and community residents reinforces how special the resources of the Delaware River and surrounding area are to everyone. Thanks to all the entrants for making 2016 a successful 100th anniversary for the National Park Service."

Upper Delaware Council Hears Presenters

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) received an update on the **rehabilitation of Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct** from National Park Service Chief of Facility Management Loren Goering on Oct. 6.

Goering characterized the work on the National Historic Landmark bridge as cyclic maintenance, with the road work phase on the approaches, deck, and sidewalks taking place through Nov. 17.

Phase 2 to repair the ice breakers and repoint the piers below the water line is expected to occur this July.

While that area must be de-watered to replace ice breaker beams, the river's center channel will remain open to boaters.

Wayne Conservation District Watershed Specialist Jamie Knecht shared results of the US Geological Survey's "**Baseline Assessment of Groundwater Quality in Wayne County, PA**" with the UDC Nov. 3.

Funded through a \$250,000 grant, the 2014 study tested 79 wells and re-sampled 10 wells from 2013 with the objective of obtaining baseline measurements before natural gas drilling may come to the area.

Knecht said the biggest issue found was radon gas. The full report is available at <https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sir20165073>.

A National Park Service (NPS) contract with Shippensburg University to **develop a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based map of the Upper Delaware river corridor** was the subject of a Jan. 5 presentation by Dr. Claire Jantz.

Initiated in October 2016, the agreement to create a spatial decision support tool that will assist with the project review and substantial conformance process is anticipated to last for five years.

Data collection and processing is the first step, with outreach to river valley counties and other sources underway.

The Shippensburg team will then develop a web-mapping application, evaluate and finalize the system, roll it out to end



GIS WORK: Dr. Claire Jantz, director of the Shippensburg University Center for Land Use and Sustainability, presented a Geographic Information System program to the UDC on Jan. 5. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)



GEOLOGY MAPPING: James Leone, second from left, from the New York State Geological Survey, discusses the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Geologic Resource Mapping Inventory project with UDC Town of Hancock Representative Fred Peckham, far left, as National Park Service Chief of Resource Management Don Hamilton, center, and UDC Chairman Jim Greier consult a draft map at the Mar. 2 UDC meeting. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

users with instructional support, and maintain it so that it remains up-to-date.

The work builds on a prototype Upper Delaware GIS map created by Dr. Shannon Thol for her Master's thesis project from 2014 to 2016.

A progress report on the **Upper Delaware Geologic Resource Mapping Inventory Project** was given by James

Leone, project geologist with the New York State Geological Survey, on Mar. 2.

Additional field investigations, sample drillings, and geo-probes will be deployed before the \$150,000 project funded by NPS is due to wrap up in July.

The information will be combined with an inventory previously conducted on the PA side and the maps will be available.

Digital Corridor Boundary Released

The National Park Service has released a digital version of the official boundary of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River for use by local towns, townships, counties, the two states, and other partners such as the Delaware River Basin Commission and Upper Delaware Council (UDC).

Instead of consulting the hard copy river corridor map spread across eight pages of the 1986 Upper Delaware River Management Plan, users will now be able to display the boundary in a Geographic Information System (GIS) program on their computers to more quickly and easily evaluate the general location of a project in the corridor.

In no circumstances does the digital boundary extend beyond the official acreage of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River that Congress designated in its 1978 legislation, specifically 55,574.5 acres.

Although the digital boundary is not survey quality or intended to be used for survey purposes, Superintendent Kristina Heister says, "We hope that through the use of modern tools for planning that we will all be better able to fulfill our joint mission to protect the river and manage it for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations."

This project was completed in response to a request from the UDC to create a modern boundary using GIS software. It represents the first step of a larger project being conducted in partnership with Shippensburg University to create a GIS Decision Support Tool. Demonstrations and trainings will be provided once that tool is ready.

For additional information, please contact Carla Hahn, Management Assistant, at Carla_Hahn@nps.gov or (570) 729-8251, ext. 2226.

Mile-a-minute: An Unwelcome Guest

By Pete J. Golod,
UDC Resource Specialist

The Upper Delaware River Watershed receives many visitors, however, some are extremely unwelcome. Such is the case with Mile-a-minute (*Polygonum perfoliatum*, *Persicaria perfoliata*), an invasive annual vine to the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River (UPDE) and native to eastern Asia.

Mile-a-minute possesses distinctive triangular leaves on thorny stems with clusters of blue berries produced at the stem tips. Seeds are enclosed in the attractive looking berries which are fed upon by birds and animals, aiding in dispersal.

Mile-a-minute is a fast-growing, fast-spreading vine that is a threat in open sites, along forest edges, riverbanks, and any place that allows substantial amounts of light to reach the ground.

Mile-a-minute can easily grow up to 6 inches per day and 20 feet annually!

Mile-a-minute forms dense mats that cover herbaceous plants, shrubs, and trees, stressing and weakening them

through smothering and physical damage.

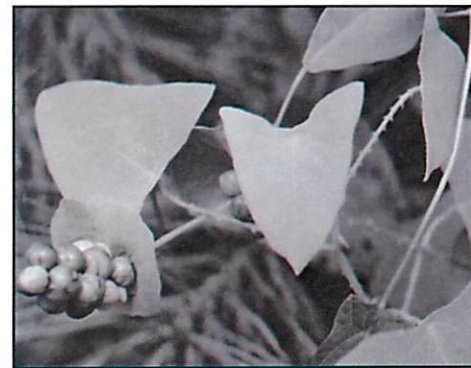
Sunlight is blocked, thus decreasing the covered plant's ability to photosynthesize; and the weight and pressure of the mile-a-minute vine can cause poor growth and eventually smother and kill overtopped plants.

Mile-a-minute is listed on the Pennsylvania Noxious Weed List because it can "directly or indirectly injure crops, other useful plants, livestock, poultry or other interests of agriculture, including irrigation, navigation, fish and wildlife resources, or the public health."

Mile-a-minute officially made its appearance in the Upper Delaware in 2011 and was confirmed by the National Park Service in 2013.

The two areas along the river in the Upper Delaware where this invasive species has been spotted are at and around the access in Lackawaxen Township, PA and in the Skinner's Falls area in the Town of Cocheton, NY.

Management of this invasive species in the Upper Delaware has consisted of



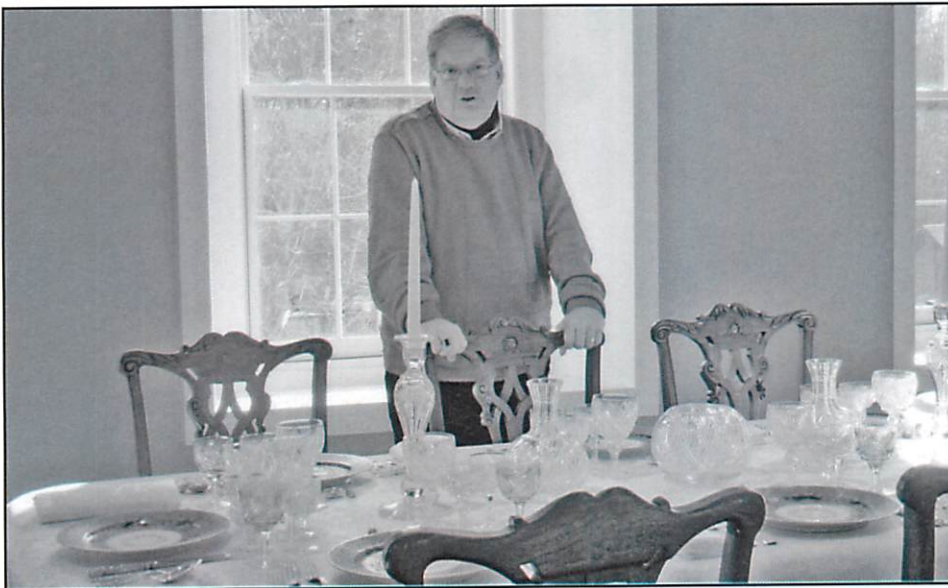
Mile-a-minute Invasive Vine

manual control or hand pulling, and most recently herbicide use.

In 2016 the Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) treated mile-a-minute with an herbicide and will return this summer to pull and treat the plants.

Mile-a-minute will be one of the targeted invasive species UPDE will be inventorying the river for this year.

If you spot mile-a-minute vine growing in the Upper Delaware River Watershed, you can call the NPS Resource Management Division at (570) 729-7842.



COUNTY HISTORY: Pre-eminent local authority Kurt Reed explains the history and significance of Dorflinger cut glass during a Dec. 16 tour of the Dorflinger Factory Museum in White Mills, PA provided to Wayne/Pike Local History Roundtable members. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

Wayne County Historical Society Turns 100

The Wayne County Historical Society will mark the 100th anniversary of its 1917 establishment with numerous special activities.

A major new exhibit, "History of Wayne County in 100 Objects", will open to the public on April 22 with a 4-7 p.m. reception at the main museum in Honesdale. A book containing the centennial history of the Society and a description of each of the 100 artifacts will be released simultaneously. The exhibit will be on display through Spring of 2019.

A symposium, "Celebrating Our First 100 Years", will be held on June 24 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Dorflinger Factory Museum in White Mills. The day includes lectures, panel discussions, breakfast and lunch for a \$40 fee. Visit www.WayneHistoryPA.org or call (570) 253-3240 for reservations. Public voting is underway until Aug. 31 for the 2017 Centennial Historic Preservation Award that will be announced during the Oct. 21 awards ceremony at the museum. See the website or Facebook page for a list of 11 nominees.

UDC Awards Grants

The Upper Delaware Council has awarded \$36,280 in Fiscal Year 2017 Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs).

The latest round brings the cumulative amount to \$845,605 that the UDC has provided to its member municipalities since 1988. In all, 247 projects have been funded.

The new projects that must be completed by Aug. 18, 2017 are:

Town of Highland - \$10,000 to update the Town Zoning Law;

Town of Tusten - \$8,000 to begin the codification process of town laws and ordinances (completed);

Berlin Township - \$5,000 to create a stormwater culvert inventory to add to the base township map (completed);

Shohola Township - \$4,675 to produce a pictorial reference book of local boarding houses;

Town of Lumberland - \$3,105 to purchase, install and provide training for Highway Superintendent software;

Town of Deerpark - \$3,000 to develop a historical marker brochure; and

Town of Hancock - \$2,500 to contribute to an Environmental Assessment of Impacts to Communities Below the New York City Reservoirs study.

The UDC is accepting member applications for its 2017 River and Shoreline Clean-up Grants Program until April 17.

The full Council will vote to award those grants at its May 4 meeting. Clean-ups must be completed by August 14.

In Memoriam...

Rep. Ben Gilman

1922 - 2016

Benjamin A. Gilman, who co-sponsored the 1978 Congressional legislation which created the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, died on Dec. 17, 2016 at Castle Point VA Medical Center at the age of 94.

Rep. Gilman served in Congress from 1973 to 2003, only retiring then when New York State's 20th District was reapportioned.

The Republican served under seven presidents during his 30-year tenure.

Congressman Gilman was honored with the Upper Delaware Council's Distinguished Service Award on April 27, 2003.

The presentation written by UDC Public Relations Specialist Laurie Ramie stated, in part, "With this award, we applaud Ben Gilman as a true statesman and an effective champion for all his constituents throughout his nearly four decades of public service."

"Born in Poughkeepsie, NY on Dec. 6, 1922, Mr. Gilman was educated in the Middletown public school system.

"During World War II, he earned military honors for flying 35 missions over Japan as a Staff Sergeant in the 19th Bomb Group of the 20th Army Air Force.

"He returned home to earn a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business and Finance, and a law degree in 1950 from the New York Law School.

"His first political foray occurred in 1966, when he was elected to the first of three consecutive terms in the New York State Assembly, representing western Orange County.

"In 1972, Mr. Gilman went to Washington to commence a remarkable 15 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives that included the high-profile chairmanship of the House International Relations Committee from 1995 to 2001.

"During his 30-year Congressional tenure, Rep. Gilman exhibited a strong personal commitment to serve his district. His participation in local events, memory for names and faces, mobile offices, and follow-through when called upon for assistance endeared him to people of all political persuasions.

"The timing of his role as a Congressional representative coincided with the development of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

"Rep. Gilman was an eyewitness to the local controversy that erupted over the federal government's initial plans to invoke



RIBBON-CUTTING: Congressman Ben Gilman, left, was a special guest at the Sept. 21, 2002 ceremony in Port Jervis to dedicate the New York State Route 97 Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, along with NYS Assemblyman Jake Gunther, right, of Sullivan County. (UDC File Photo by David B. Soete)

large-scale land condemnation to create an Upper Delaware National Park. He participated throughout the early 1970s in the tumultuous negotiations that ultimately resulted in a compromise model - unique for its time - that would provide federal protection for the river while keeping the surrounding land in private ownership.

"His introduction of the enabling legislation certainly didn't come without criticism from protesters who feared any level of government involvement. Rep. Gilman faced it head-on though, assured in his belief that protection of the river's resources was vital and right.

"As the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships and its predecessor groups labored for years on drafting an acceptable River Management Plan, Rep. Gilman was there, chairing contentious public hearings, listening to the different points of view, offering help, and suggesting solutions.

"From the plan's final adoption in 1986, through the incorporation of the Upper Delaware Council to coordinate implementation of its goals in 1988, and to his last days in office for the 20th District, Rep. Gilman was always responsive to the Upper Delaware region's needs and issues.

"John Hutzky, who served as the first superintendent of the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and

Please see GILMAN on Page 11

LIFE JACKETS, continued from Page 1

its staffed kiosks located at the Mongaup, Lackawaxen, Skinners Falls, and Ten Mile River Accesses since 2010 for boating usage when needed. They can be returned to any NPS facility or commercial livery at the end of the trip.

Thanks to seed money provided by a \$1,000 grant from the National Safety Boating Council, UPDE's new campaign will target swimmers for use on site.

Three 4x8-foot stations are being custom-built by Harrison Signs of Tyler Hill, PA with instructions provided in English and Spanish. There will be three specially silk-screened life jackets per size available, ranging from infants to extra-large.

In this pilot year and with the full support of the property owners, the stations will be installed at Kittatinny Canoes Luke's Landing area in Barryville, its Riverside Campground 1.5 miles south of the Roebling Bridge, and under the Skinners Falls Bridge near Lander's River Trips.

Reish is philosophical about any thefts or vandalism that may occur if the borrowed life jackets are damaged or not returned.

"It's by the honor system. If a few are lost to sticky fingers, they might save a life somewhere else," he says.

The Life Jacket Loaner Stations are one component of a multi-pronged approach that NPS UPDE has taken since the Water Safety Program organized in earnest in 2012 to help raise awareness.

Their efforts have gained prominent attention for strategies to model.

The National Park Service's Public Risk Management Program asked Reish and UPDE Acting Chief of Interpretation Ingrid Peterec to participate as presenters in a nationwide webinar on drowning prevention on March 21.

One topic they covered was the latest available results of the Life Jacket Wear Rate Study, which showed an increase from 52.5% observed in 2012 to 62% in 2015. During high-water periods, 86.4% wore life jackets as required.

Comparatively, the national average of life jacket usage is only 11.2%.

Other efforts of the Water Safety Program include annual school programs, festival appearances, give-away items bearing the "Wear It!" message, a public lawn sign campaign, water safety interns, filmed videos, print media, and social media for visitor contacts.

Adams Outdoor Advertising of Stroudsburg, PA is donating a new bulletin board on river safety that will be posted at Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct.

NPS will hold its Annual Water Safety Partners' meeting on April 28 at the Upper Delaware Council office. For river safety information, visit www.nps.gov/upde.

Recreational River from 1979 to 1995, has characterized Ben Gilman as 'one of the Upper Delaware's greatest advocates'.

"A great debt is owed to him for his far-sighted and steadfast support for obtaining and sustaining the national will to protect this beautiful stretch of free-flowing river that we love so well," Mr. Hutzky wrote in a recent tribute.

"Among Rep. Gilman's major contributions in recent years was the 1999 Congressional legislation authorizing the National Park Service to construct a long-awaited Upper Delaware visitor facility, his subsequent acquisition of funds for the planning and design of that Mongaup Interpretive Center to be built near the Hawk's Nest, and his participation on the Delaware River Basin Congressional Task Force.

"His presence could be counted on to lend immediate prestige to any event. Last summer during a May 31 kick-off reception at Grey Towers in Milford, PA, Rep. Gilman was literally saluted in an emotional ceremony as Lord High Admiral for the 2002 Delaware River Sojourn, a designation bestowed upon individuals who have fostered stewardship of the Delaware River.

"This fall found him in Port Jervis on Sept. 21, helping to cut the ribbon dedicating the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway (Route 97) as a new component of the New York State Scenic Byways System.

"Though his time was much in demand, Rep. Gilman always came prepared to events with seemingly unstoppable energy and infectious good humor.

"We are thrilled to add our voice today to the multitude of accolades that Mr. Gilman has received ... on behalf of his constituents, our nation, and the international community."

Funeral services were held Dec. 21 in Temple Sinai, Middletown, and interment was in the West Point Cemetery.

Arrangements were with the Cornelius, Dodd & Connell Funeral Home (visit www.connellfuneralhome.com for a complete obituary notice).

UDC 29TH ANNUAL FAMILY RAFT TRIP

Sunday, August 6, 2017

Join the Upper Delaware Council for an exciting and scenic six-mile raft trip on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River from Staircase to Matamoras. Kittatinny Canoes will provide the rafts, paddles, life jackets, safety instructions, and shuttle transportation. Minimum occupancy per raft is four people. Parties of less than four will be matched at the UDC's discretion. Participants should be in good physical condition. Children must weigh a minimum of 40 lbs. and be able to swim. For optimum safety, all UDC participants (adults and children) will be required to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device when they are on the water for the duration of the trip. For more information on water safety, refer to the National Park Service website at <http://www.nps.gov/upde/planyourvisit/safety.htm>.

Pack a picnic lunch and plenty of drinking water (no glass containers allowed). Dress to get wet, wear sunscreen and foot protection, and avoid bringing valuables. Small coolers and waterproof bags for items such as cameras and keys may be tied into the raft. This average trip length is 3.5 hours, though the timing varies according to river level, wind, and each group's desired pace.

Rendezvous Information:

*Park at Kittatinny's Matamoras Base located at 1147 Delaware Dr., Matamoras, PA 18336. Check in between 9-10 a.m. at the UDC table.

*Guests will be shuttled to the Staircase Access in the Town of Lumberland, NY to begin their trip.

*Cost of advance reservations required by July 28: \$27 ages 13+; \$17 ages 5 to 12.

*All rafters must sign waivers prior to launching from the Staircase Access. The adult and minor release forms are available on the Kittatinny website under "Forms".

*For driving directions or information on Kittatinny Canoes, please visit www.kittatinny.com or call 1-800-356-2852.

PRE-REGISTER BY JULY 28. Return this coupon to Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg, NY 12764, with cash or checks payable to "UDC." Direct questions to Cindy Odell at (845) 252-3022 or cindy@upperdelawarecouncil.org.

Reservation Name: _____

_____ Guests at \$27 = \$_____ + # _____ Guests at \$17 = \$_____ Total = \$_____

Please list all members of your group and ages of any minor children (18 & under):

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail (for confirmation): _____

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 cindy@upperdelawarecouncil.org.

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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'

Celebrate Earth Fest

The Downtown Hawley Partnership and Pike/Wayne Conservation Partnership will sponsor the 4th Annual Hawley Earth Fest on April 21-23.

Activities include an Environmental Expo on Saturday at Bingham Park with educational entertainment, live demonstrations, interactive exhibits and creative crafts.

There will be a "Wild Hawley" Parade with a free costume contest and a volunteer clean-up along Rt. 6 into Hawley.

Visit www.HawleyEarthfest.com or their Facebook page for a complete itinerary.

Foods of Delaware Highlands

"Foods of the Delaware Highlands", an annual dinner benefit for the Delaware Highlands Conservancy which celebrates the region's beauty and bounty, will take place on May 6 at Silver Birches Waterfront in Hawley, PA from 5:30-9:30 p.m.

The event features a four-course farm-to-table dinner made with locally grown and produced organic ingredients, paired with fine wines. Exciting live and silent auctions highlight the evening.

The \$140 tickets include a \$75 charitable

contribution to DHC. Call (570) 226-3164 or email info@delawarehighlands.org.

River Sojourn June 17-23

The 2017 Delaware River Sojourn will launch on June 17 with a 6-mile river trip from the Zane Grey Access in Lackawaxen, PA to the National Park Service Corwin Farm property in the Town of Lumberland, NY.

Early arrivals are invited to camp on the grounds of the Zane Grey Museum on June 16 and participate in a river clean-up from 1-5 p.m. starting at the Ten Mile River Access in the Town of Tusten.

On June 17, there will be a morning train excursion aboard the Stourbridge Lion from Hawley to Lackawaxen before a kick-off lunch and the afternoon paddle.

The June 18 paddle will be from Staircase Rapids, NY to Matamoras, PA, with camping that night at Worthington State Forest in Warren County, NJ.

Register by June 11 at \$80 per day for adults, \$60 for children ages 15 and under, or add \$10 after that date. The fee includes guided river trips, educational programs, a t-shirt, most meals, and camping.

Visit www.delawareriversojourn.org.

Zane Grey Fest July 15

The 13th Annual Zane Grey Festival is set for July 15 from 10-4 outside the National Park Service's Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen, PA.

This year will feature a live birds of prey show by the Delaware Valley Raptor Center, horse-drawn wagon rides, food, music, special programs, and activities for children and adults.

Please contact NPS Park Ranger Susie Kaspar at (570) 685-4871, ext. 6610.

Broadband Grants Won

The New NY Broadband Program has awarded grants to expand high-speed Internet access to homes and businesses via Frontier Communications.

In the river valley, the Town of Highland will receive \$406,400 for 81 broadband units while the Town of Tusten will get \$30,104 for six units.

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo commented, "Broadband is today what electricity was nearly a century ago - essential to creating economic opportunity, driving innovation and an absolute necessity for our way of life."