

# 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!**

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print subscription, return  
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Thank you for your interest.



**NEW LOGO:** Freelance illustrator Eric J. Hinkley created this custom artwork to serve as the 4th Annual Upper Delaware Litter Sweep logo. It will be featured in dark magenta and purple sunset shades on the safety pink color t-shirts that all volunteers will receive for participating in locally organized clean-ups throughout the 15 municipalities of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Valley in April. (Artwork contributed by E. Hinkley Illustration & Design)

## Upper Delaware Litter Sweep Targets Trash from April 20-28

Sporting shirts with a tranquil river scene reminding all of the beautiful scenery there is to protect, 4th Annual Upper Delaware Litter Sweep volunteers are ready to clean up the valley's landscape April 20-28.

Some Litter Leaders in the 15 river corridor towns and townships will organize earlier or later events surrounding Earth Day.

The Upper Delaware Council stands ready with coordination, fundraising, and promotional assistance, permitting, insurance, and dispensing supplies like bags, grabbers, gloves, and safety equipment.

Every volunteer will receive a commemorative t-shirt screenprinted by Platform Industries with new artwork donated by

graphic designer Eric J. Hinkley.

"I am originally from Clarks Summit and grew up hunting and fishing in Northeast PA. My connection to the Delaware Valley really started when my father moved to Beach Lake, PA (he's just about 2 miles from the Delaware River) in 2006. Since then I have visited the Narrowsburg and Lackawaxen area countless times to fish, look at eagles, and just enjoy the views," Hinkley says.

"In 2016 I moved to Philadelphia to pursue my career in art. This only strengthened my connection to the river and I started to appreciate just how valuable the re-

*Please see LITTER SWEEP on page 7*

## Upper Delaware Profile: Christine Martin

As a trained artist who earned a law degree, worked in crisis communications, consulted on high-profile court trials, and has a passion for the environment, meditation, and helping people, Christine Martin comes to the Upper Delaware Council with a perspective of diverse experiences.

The Highland Town Board appointed her on Jan. 2, 2024 as its UDC representative.

Martin succeeds Andy Boyar, who served on the board for 19 non-consecutive years and whom she characterizes as “a role model for me and many others for his lifetime of public service” at multiple levels.

Newly elected Town Supervisor John Pizzolato, who took on the UDC alternate role, asked Martin if she was interested.

After a few requests, some research, and audit of meetings, she said yes.

“I feel a spiritual connection to the river, which is about wonder and mystery. Trees and rivers are sacred. The UDC is a unique organization. The Council is a great coalition. When I found out about the Council’s funding crisis, I felt this was too important to be at risk. It needs volunteers to support it,” Martin says.

Besides serving as the town’s voting delegate at full Council meetings, Martin joined all three of its standing committees, and will be a Litter Leader for the Upper Delaware Litter Sweep.

“I like to help out, and I’m not new to jumping in and learning complex histories. I want to maintain a clear mind and open heart so I can be present for all the issues. It’s so pristine and natural here. I’m very concerned about overdevelopment or corporate takeover in the river valley. The biggest threat to the environment is greed,” she says.

Martin was born in Toronto, Canada.

She studied art and communications variously at the University of Toronto, Ontario College of Art & Design, and Concordia University in Montreal, including a one-year independent study graduate “think tank” program at the Whitney Museum of American Art in Manhattan.

After moving in the 1990s to the United States, of which she became a citizen in 2018, Martin earned a 2002 Juris Doctor Degree from the New York Law School.

“Art was my first love. I started as a painter then a performance artist and I was also interested in a broad range of com-



Christine Martin, Town of Highland

munications. I consider myself to be an artist who went to law school,” Martin says.

Rather than becoming a practicing attorney, Martin entered the field of litigation and jury consulting. She was credited for founding a new research area known as Social Media Analysis and lectured on that subject to legal organizations.

Other positions included senior director of communications & strategic planning at Moving for Life, a non-profit cancer recovery program for underserved communities, and executive assistant for private clients with large art collections and estates.

She met her husband, author and musician Mike Edison, in 2012 when he was performing at a friend’s gig. The couple found a “perfect” 99-year-old Dutch Colonial house with a studio on five acres in Barryville, had a pandemic wedding on Sept. 12, 2020, and fully moved up from Brooklyn in 2021.

“One of the reasons I fell in love with the Upper Delaware River Valley is that it reminded me of Canada with the climate, trees, and water,” Martin says.

“We wanted to get involved in our community as soon as possible. We’re neighbors first before we have any differences of opinion. We have more in common than not and need to work together,” she says.

Martin began meditating 25 years ago, has been a volunteer with The Art of Living Foundation since 1998, and a SKY Breath Meditation instructor since 2018, for which she organizes online and local classes and has started to work with those in recovery.

She’s also a contributor to the podcast “Everything’s Better in Barryville” hosted by Edison and Pizzolato, and enjoys tending to her vegetable and flower gardens.

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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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# Upper Delaware Council Reorganizes for 2024

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) board elected Town of Deepark Representative Virginia S. "Ginny" Dudko to serve as its 2024 chairperson at the non-profit organization's annual meeting held January 4th.

UDC Representatives Jeffrey R. Dexter, Damascus Township, PA, and Alan F. Henry, Berlin Township, PA, were elected vice-chairperson and secretary-treasurer, respectively.

Dudko is serving her first term as UDC chairperson, after being elected as vice-chair in 2023. She succeeds Shohola Township, PA Representative Aaron Robinson in that leadership role.

The Town of Deepark first appointed her to the Council on October 17, 2011 as an alternate representative before she took over as its voting delegate in January 2022.

Dudko carries on a family legacy of UDC service, given that her father Lew Schmalzle was the Town of Highland Representative for 12 years, during which she often accompanied him to meetings.

The Minisink Ford, NY native is a 1968 graduate of Eldred Central School. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from SUNY Oneonta in 1972 and Master's degree in the same field from SUNY Cortland five years later.

She taught Kindergarten in her home school district from 1972-2002 before retiring, then resumed her time in pre-K through 6th grade classrooms as a volunteer and substitute teacher in 2004.

Dudko had chaired the UDC's Water Use/Resource Management Committee for the past three years and also sits on the Operations and Project Review Committees, as well as the UDC-NPS Telecommunications Subcommittee and Personnel Subcommittee.

She serves on the Town of Deepark



**I SWEAR:** Town of Deepark Town Justice Michael J. Worden administered the oath of office to 2024 UDC Chairperson Ginny Dudko on Feb. 1st. Worden is a City of Port Jervis Police Department retiree after 22 years of service as an officer, detective, and sergeant, serves as the Town of Deepark Historian, and is an award-winning true crime author, speaker, paranormal researcher, and TV commentator.



**DELEGATES:** Gathered at the UDC's Feb. 1 monthly meeting were, seated officers: Vice-Chair Jeff Dexter (Damascus Township), Chairperson Ginny Dudko (Town of Deepark), and Secretary-Treasurer Al Henry (Berlin Township). Standing from the left are: Larry H. Richardson (Town of Cochection), Doug Case (Lackawaxen Township), Evan Padua (Town of Tusten), Aaron Robinson (Shohola Township), Harold Roeder, Jr. (Town of Delaware), Jim Rodgers (Town of Fremont), Bill Dudko (Town of Deepark), Nadia Rajs (Town of Lumberland), Christine Martin (Town of Highland), and Carly Marshall (National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River federal partner). Absent from the photo were Fred Peckham (Town of Hancock), Michael Barth (Westfall Township), Ryan Coulter (State of New York), Tim Dugan (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania), and Kristen Bowman Kavanagh (Delaware River Basin Commission). (UDC Photos by Laurie Ramie)

Board of Assessment Review, the Bon Secours Hospital Ethics Board, is an active member of the Pond Eddy United Methodist Church, and belongs to the women's educational society, Delta Kappa Gamma.

Dudko has been a town-appointed member of the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway (UDSB) Committee since 2011 and was that non-profit organization's 2021 vice-chair before switching to the alternate position in 2022.

Ginny and her husband since 1972, Bill, live on a 30-acre property behind the NYS Route 97 Hawk's Nest in Sparrowbush.

Operating as a team, Bill Dudko is the Town of Deepark's UDC alternate and their UDSB representative.

She enjoys hiking, fishing, hunting, and reading in her spare time.

The bi-state UDC alternates its chair and vice-chair positions between New York and Pennsylvania representatives.

This is Jeff Dexter's fifth stint as UDC vice-chair (2012, 2016, 2019, 2020, and 2024), and he has chaired the Council twice in 2013 and 2021. He was secretary-treasurer in 2015. Dexter, a former township supervisor, has represented Damascus as an alternate since 2010 and its representative since 2012.

Al Henry was also first appointed to the UDC by the Berlin Township Board of Supervisors in 2012. This is his 11th stint as secretary-treasurer following a partial term in 2013, full year in 2014, his 2015 election as UDC chairperson, then resuming this role in 2016. Henry was formerly a Chief Ranger of the NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

## UDC Voting Membership Updates

**Town of Fremont** - Following the Dec. 13 death of Dennis Bernitt, the Fremont Town Board appointed Jim Rodgers of Long Eddy as its UDC representative on Jan. 10, 2024.

Rodgers previously served on the UDC board as an alternate from Nov. 10, 2004 through Jan. 2013 due to his relocation. Jim Greier of Obernburg, a 2017 UDC chairperson and 2023 Distinguished Service Award recipient with 15 non-consecutive years on the board, now serves as the alternate.

**Town of Highland** - The Highland Town Board appointed Christine Martin as representative and Supervisor John Pizzolato as alternate on Jan. 2, 2024. Martin succeeds Andy Boyar, who was the UDC delegate from 1990-94 then 2010-2023, a two-time chairperson in 2014 and 2022, and recipient of four River Valley Awards, after he retired. The alternate position was previously vacant. See Martin's profile on page 2.

All other incumbent UDC representatives and alternates remained in their posts.

# Roebling's Delaware Aqueducts 175th Anniversary Recognized



The first crossing of the Roebling Aqueducts over the Lackawaxen and Delaware Rivers occurred on April 26, 1849.

The D&H Transportation Heritage Council (DHTHC) will celebrate the 175th anniversary of this historic event with a community celebration on Saturday, April 27.

The schedule of events

starts with a 10 a.m. walking tour of the National Park Service's Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct guided by Professor and Historian Paul C. King, an architect, teacher at the New York City College of Technology, and author of the upcoming book, "Roebling, Before the Bridge."

Festivities then move to The New Inn at Lackawaxen at 188 Scenic Dr., Lackawaxen, PA for a program from 12-4 p.m. It will feature a buffet lunch with canal era-inspired food; remarks and presentations by Sullivan County Historian John Conway, DHTHC President Bill Merchant from the D&H Canal Historical Society and Museum in High Falls, NY, and Professor King; a canal music sing-along with Dan Engvaldsen; exhibits; and a commemorative program.

Admission is \$25 per person, with an April 19 deadline. To reserve, please provide names to DHTHC Secretary Laurie Ramie at (845) 252-3022 or [laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org) with advance payment via checks payable to "DHTHC" and mailed/delivered to 211 Bridge St., P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764 or electronically through the Venmo or PayPal icons at the [www.dhthc.org](http://www.dhthc.org) home page.

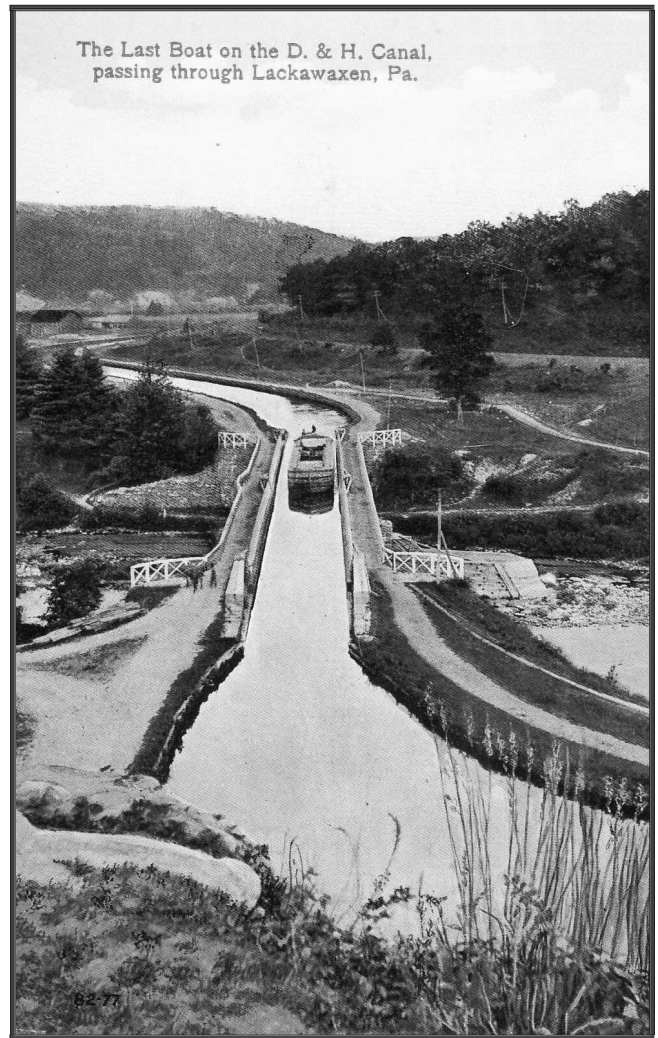
Support for this volunteer-coordinated event was gratefully contributed by: Lackawaxen Township (\$500 Angel); Sullivan County (\$300 Patron); Historic Preservation Trust of Pike County, Lackawaxen River Conservancy, Upper Delaware Council, Rowland Cooperative, The Delaware Company, D&H Transportation Heritage Council, The New Inn at Lackawaxen, and Rohman's Pub (all as \$200 Sponsors), and Woodloch Pines (\$150 Sponsor).

The first crossing of the aqueducts gathered expectant crowds on April 26, 1849 to witness the event and signaled a new chapter for the Delaware & Hudson Canal.

The D&H Canal and Gravity Railroad was an important and successful American enterprise throughout the latter three-quarters of the 19th Century, supplying anthracite coal to New York City and beyond which had a significant impact on economic development and industrialization.

The D&H Company embraced innovation, which helped foster its prosperity. They hired engineer John Augustus Roebling to design and oversee construction of four suspension aqueducts to carry the canal's traffic over the Lackawaxen, Delaware, and Neversink Rivers, and Rondout Creek.

Today, the aqueduct in Lackawaxen, PA-Minisink Ford, NY is the oldest existing wire suspension bridge in the United States and the only one of the four that continues to function as an active bridge.



The Last Boat on the D. & H. Canal,  
passing through Lackawaxen, Pa.

(Historic postcard image dated 1899)

## Sojourn Celebrates River of Inspiration

**By Kerry Engelhardt, UDC Resources  
and Land Use Specialist**

There may be one more early-Spring snow in the forecast by the time you're reading this newsletter, but soon it will be summer, and time for the 29th Annual Delaware River Sojourn!

This year's theme is River of Inspiration, and we'll be exploring how the Delaware River has inspired scientists, artists, writers, and more throughout the centuries.

Just as the mission of the Sojourn is to inspire stewards of the river through recreation and experiential learning, art has a powerful way of inspiring people to value water and its impact on our everyday lives.

This year the Sojourn will take place over eight days, from Saturday June 15 to Saturday June 22.

The Sojourn is a paddling and camping excursion where participants paddle a different section of the Delaware River each day and camp together at night. The final day of this year's Sojourn will be in the tidal section of the river, paddling from one location to another and then back again in

just one day!

The paddling sections of the Upper Delaware River will be June 15 (Zane Grey to Pond Eddy) and June 16 (Pond Eddy to West End Beach in Port Jervis).

Participants can opt to camp out on the grounds of the NPS Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen, PA. There is also a "Day 0" river cleanup scheduled for Friday June 14 focused on the river segment between Lackawaxen, PA and Barryville, NY.

From June 17 onwards, participants will journey further downstream, through the middle (camping at Worthington State Forest, NJ) and lower (camping in Washington Crossing, PA) sections.

Visit [delawariversojourn.com](http://delawariversojourn.com) for the full schedule and more information. Registration will be open in April. A ticket includes a guided river trip; kayak, life jacket & paddle rental; camping & meals; lively transport and shuttling, and educational programming in the evenings.

Paddlers of all experiences and ages are welcome. Join us this year and discover how the Delaware River inspires you!



# Uncovering the Contours of the Narrowsburg Deeps

By Lisa Glover (reprinted from her blog post at [www.lisathemaker.com](http://www.lisathemaker.com))

As someone new to paddle boarding, I've become fascinated with rivers. My curiosity leads me to test out questions like, "Is that rock close enough to the surface to bonk my fin?" or "Is this spot deeper than my paddle is tall?"

Though I might fall off my board or chase after some gear, I rarely leave a river journey without an answer to a new question.

The Delaware River town of Narrowsburg, New York, is a good place for questions and curiosity. There's little cell service there, so instead of turning to the internet, it's easier to ask nearby friends, look to the places around you, or delve inside your own head for answers.

Questions about the river abound here - in part because it's home to the deepest and narrowest points in the Delaware's 330-mile course.

A historical marker on a public deck overlooking the "Big Eddy" shares stories from the past, theories about the bathymetry, and a simple map with a cross section diagram of "The Deeps." For a pedantic person like me though, it invited more questions than answers.

"113 feet deep, whoa! Is that in the narrowest part? It's not? But isn't that what that Catskills map said? Wait, the deep part is in the wider area here? Then where is that cross section going through? Is the scale off? Where exactly is the deepest part?"

There was no information on the marker about where these illustrations had come from. However, the Upper Delaware Council office was just two blocks away; maybe our local river keepers would have some more context.

Laurie Ramie, Executive Director of the UDC, was kind enough to dig into their archives for me. An issue of their newsletter from 1993 featured The Deeps, with in-depth speculation about its formation and interviews with divers who had been to the bottom. Accompanying the article were two familiar, more detailed illustrations [See Publications: Summer 1993 newsletter at [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org).]

It seemed that whoever copied the map and cross section had left off some important information, including key geography in the Big Eddy and a helpful note that the cross section had been compressed in width by a factor of ten. The mystery of the context-less cross section had been solved! But in the process, the article's author, Keith Fletcher, had pointed out a new one:

"So which theory is right, glacial water-



**BIG EDDY MAP:** Lisa Glover displays the Big Eddy Narrows map she created and donated to the Upper Delaware Council as a fundraiser. The 11 x 17" color poster is available for a \$20 donation. Stop by the UDC office or call (845) 252-3022 to request one. (Contributed Photo)

fall or the swirling rocks? Small details are the key to answering this question, the kind of details that only divers can provide. A detailed and accurate map of the river bottom is also very important. No such map now exists - an illustration based on the best one available accompanies this article. But thanks to inquiries made on behalf of the Upper Delaware Council for this article, the interests of staff members at the New York State Geological Survey have been piqued. And perhaps, with the help of Park Service personnel and the Council, we will one day determine what made the hole in the river."

More than 30 years had passed since Keith mused about a missing map and what it might lead to. I asked Laurie if she'd come across one. She hadn't, but suggested that I reach out to the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River office or the Delaware River Basin Commission.

When I had internet connection again, I checked the map resource sections of each group's website - and a few others, for good measure. Finding a lot of nifty resources but nothing from around Narrowsburg, I emailed them all.

Of those who responded, no one had made such a map. So I scoured the wider internet; someone, somewhere, had to have mapped this feature. While the county GIS map had contour lines, they stopped at the riverbank. Everywhere else seemed to be a dead end too.

Until I circled back to Keith's hint about the Geological Survey and found a 2012

USGS LiDAR scan of the Upper Delaware River, published in 2020 by a research biologist. It had to be in there! Except the many files were all meaningless without the correct program to open them. So I emailed the research biologist to see if he had a.jpeg of just the Big Eddy.

Three weeks later, I had a response:

"Hi Lisa, Sorry, your email got routed to my spam folder. We did do some bathymetric mapping about 10 years ago of the Narrowsburg area. Here is a quick and dirty map. It appears that the 'hole' at the narrows is over 110 feet deep! Hope this helps," wrote John Young, USGS Research Scientist.

I was ecstatic. The detailed data of the river bottom Keith had dreamed about had been scanned, 19 years later! Had anyone else in the watershed even seen this? I didn't know, but it didn't seem right to have answered these questions for myself alone and to move on.

There were plenty of public topobathymetric maps of nifty places. The deepest and narrowest part of the Delaware River should have one too. Surely other Narrowsburg-visiting nerds without an internet connection would want to see one.

Gathering together everything I'd learned, I designed an 11 x 17 topobathymetric map and had posters made at a print shop in the neighboring watershed that I call home. I'm giving copies away to those who provided insights along the journey and those who reviewed the resulting map to make it better. The rest

*Please see MAP on Page 11*

# Upper Delaware Council Activity Highlights

Highlights of UDC and river valley issues since late November 2023 include:

## UDC FUNDING

The UDC engaged the National Park Service on the topic of lobbying restrictions, while continuing to educate U.S., NY and PA elected officials on the budgetary impacts from the lack of state operating aid and flat federal funding since 1988.

The NPS Solicitor issued an opinion which the UDC challenged on the basis that no new legislation or changes in policy are proposed to seek the partner funding commitments referenced in the 1986 River Management Plan.

The applicability of 18 US Code 1913 to the UDC as a 501(c)3 organization and federal funding recipient was in question.

The River Reporter newspaper described the situation in a 2/8 article as "The Upper Delaware Council's Catch-22."

## COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

The UDC approved Resolutions 2023-08: Commendation for Don Hamilton Upon His Retirement from the National Park Service (12/7); 2023-09: Contract with Eckersley and Davis LLP for Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Review (12/7); 2024-01: Signatories for 2024 Bank Accounts (1/4); 2024-02: Granting Permanent Employee Status to Administrative Support Stephanie Driscoll (1/4); 2024-03: Reaffirming a 2024 Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy (1/4); and 2024-05: Revising Employee Vacation Leave Policy (3/7).

## PROJECT REVIEWS

The Highland Planning Board voted to accept the Final Scoping Document for the Camp FIMFO Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on 12/20 after the town's consultant, Keystone Associates, had



**REDESIGNED SPACE:** The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has refurbished the Long Eddy Fishing Access in the Town of Fremont, creating an entrance and exit that facilitates maneuvering drift boats and trailers, marking parking spots with raised pressure treated lumber, installing gravel and proper drainage, placing a split rail fence around the perimeter, erecting an information kiosk, and offering invasive species disposal boxes. Additional signage is pending. (Contributed Photo by Ryan Coulter, NYS DEC)

requested that the applicant make 91 additions or revisions. The UDC had submitted 23 questions and recommendations in its 11/22 comments. No timeline has been provided for completion of the DEIS which is needed to advance the redevelopment plan.

The UDC approved Substantial Conformance Review 2024-01: Pavilion at The Flats in Narrowsburg on 3/7, recommending that the National Park Service make a positive final determination on the Town of Tusten's proposal to build a 30' x 36' open-air, concrete slab pavilion in an existing playground.

Other Project Review activity included attending a 12/21 pre-application discussion by the Shohola Planning Commission for a conditional use variance to establish a deli/restaurant at 117 Richardson Ave. and a 1/2 public hearing in Berlin Township on a Solar Electric Facility Ordinance; providing comments on the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan on 1/25; receiving Technical Assistance Grants Mid-Term Progress Reports for the projects underway by the Town of Tusten and Damascus Township; reviewing the functionality of a Decision-making Support Tool GIS River Corridor Map and Park Atlas; and embarking on a UDC-NPS "Project Review road show" to visit all 15 towns and townships to familiarize board members with procedures, offer helpful resources, and answer questions.

## RIVER CLEAN-UPS

Member towns and townships have until 4/19 to submit proposals for the UDC's 2024 River & Shoreline Clean-up Grants Program, which has disbursed \$48,403.13 since 2014. The Council will vote May 2 to award funds and municipal sponsors must complete their projects by Sept. 10 for reimbursement.

## WATERSHED PLAN

UDC Executive Director Laurie Ramie serves on the Upper Delaware River Watershed Plan Steering Committee, tasked with preparing an Action Agenda as a non-regulatory blueprint for future management of water resources in the watershed's New York portion and builds on existing documents such as the Upper Delaware River Management Plan.

Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Inc. secured \$300,000

*Please see HIGHLIGHTS on Page 7*



**PASSING THE GAVEL:** It was a peaceful transition of power when outgoing Chairperson Aaron Robinson (Shohola Township) congratulated Ginny Dudko for her 2024 election to the office. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)



## HIGHLIGHTS, continued from Page 6

in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 NYS Environmental Protection Fund to establish this program, with a second round of \$350,000 awarded in FY 23-24.

Its four main objectives are to sustain abundant and healthy wildlife populations; ensure clean water for healthy people, plants, and animals; protect flood and drought-resilient communities; and provide ample recreational facilities that enhance the natural environment.

Strategies are outlined for each goal and a 2025 re-grant program will be created to fund projects and to help meet the 1:1 matches required to apply for the federal Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation must approve the Upper Delaware River Action Agenda.

### ANNUAL REPORTS

The UDC released its Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Corridor Code Enforcement Activities Report for 2022 on 12/1, detailing 228 permits, variances, ordinances, and zoning changes issued within the designated boundaries of the 13 member towns and townships (a 27% increase over 2021); submitted its Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Financial Report (10/1/22-9/30/23) to NPS on 11/28; and finalized a 22-page Performance Progress Report for FY 2023 on 2/26.

### MEETINGS & EVENTS

In addition to serving on committees including NPS Water Safety, Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Delaware River Sojourn, DRBC Water Management Advisory, Pike/Wayne Conservation Partnership, Upper Delaware BioBlitz, D&H Transportation Heritage Council, and Delaware Highlands Conservancy Eagle Conservation, UDC staff attended: 1/10 and 1/17 training overview webinars for New York State Planning Boards and Zoning Boards of Appeal; 1/18 U.S. Senator Fetterman aides discussion; 1/19 UDC funding presentation to Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed; 1/23 U.S. Senator Casey aides discussion; 1/25 NYS DEC Open Space Plan comments preparation; 2/20, first Roebling's Delaware Aqueducts Celebration Planning Committee; 2/28, Skinners Falls Bridge Project Advisory Committee Meeting #5; and 3/18, NYS Hospitality and Tourism Association's Catskills Legislative Networking Breakfast.

### UDC AWARDS

Public nominations are welcome for the 36th Annual River Valley Awards that will be bestowed Sept. 22 at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA to recognize individuals, organizations, agencies, and communities acting to protect or enhance our way of life. Send suggestions to [info@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:info@upperdelawarecouncil.org).



## LITTER SWEEP, continued from Page 1

source is to this city and many others. It was a few years later that I created my Fishes of the Delaware shirt and started donating a percentage of the profits to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy to ensure that the river stayed as clean and healthy as possible for hopefully decades after my time. Then over the pandemic, I took up fly fishing for the first time and started regularly making trips to the East and West Branches of the Delaware, and gained further appreciation for the organizations trying to preserve or better the river," adds the 2012 BFA graduate of the PA College of Art and Design.

As for his motivation to donate this piece to the UDC, Hinkley says, "If I can use my talents to draw attention to that cause, then it's a no-brainer for me. This river provides something like 13 million people with their drinking water. If I can have a positive impact on the well-being of 13 million people (even indirectly) by just drawing a picture, I would do it in a heartbeat."

The Council has ordered 350 shirts that are sure to become collector's items.

This event is wholly funded by donations from those who love the river corridor.

Sullivan County Legislators Nadia Rajsz (also 2024 Chairperson), Matt McPhillips, and Catherine "Cat" Scott each allocated \$1,000 of their respective Districts 2, 1, and 5 discretionary funds for a \$3,000 contribution toward the Litter Sweep.

WJFF Radio Catskills stepped up as the 2024 media sponsor, offering public service announcements and live interviews on its "Radio Catskill" 90.5 FM program.

Additional supporters and Litter Leaders for the Towns of Hancock, Fremont, Delaware, Cocheton, Tusten, Highland, Lumberland and Deerpark (NY); and Buckingham, Manchester, Damascus, Berlin, Lackawaxen, Shohola, and Westfall Townships (PA) will be acknowledged in the Summer issue of "The Upper Delaware." Contact Stephanie Driscoll at [stephanie@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:stephanie@upperdelawarecouncil.org) or (845) 252-3022 to find out more.



**RETIRING:** DRBC Executive Director Steve Tambini spoke at a Regulated Flow Advisory Committee meeting at Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Education Center in 2016. (UDC File Photo by Laurie Ramie)

## DRBC in the News

\*\* The Delaware River Basin Commission will come to the Upper Delaware region this June for its 2nd quarter meetings.

On June 5, the Commissioners will meet at the Tusten Theater, 210 Bridge St., Narrowsburg. Earlier that week, the agency will arrange local tours and walks, as well as a DRBC caucus meeting hosted at the Upper Delaware Council office.

DRBC Water Resources Engineer Michael Thompson, P.E., will present the findings of their 2012-2021 Water Audit Study at the UDC's 7 p.m. June 6 meeting.

The DRBC will announce details of the public portions of the itinerary soon.

\*\* DRBC Executive Director Steve Tambini announced on March 6 that he will retire effective December 1, 2024 after serving in the post since 2014.

"Leading and furthering the DRBC's worthy mission of managing, protecting, and improving the shared water resources of the Delaware River Basin has been the highlight of my 42-year career in water resources," said Tambini.

He is only the fourth appointed Executive Director since the DRBC's 1961 founding.

\*\* U.S. Representative Marc Molinaro (R-NY-19) introduced the Ensure Funding for Our Environment Act on Feb. 5.

This bipartisan bill would provide consistent and reliable funding for the Delaware River Basin Commission, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin.

Together, these Mid-Atlantic commissions serve over 24 million residents across seven states. They are supposed to receive federal funding through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but it has failed to be regularly delivered. Rep. Molinaro's bill would change the source of the funding to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

It was co-introduced by U.S. Rep. Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA-6).

# Historic Bridge Alternatives Discussed

The public will have an opportunity April 25 to weigh in on alternatives under analysis for the barricaded Skinners Falls, NY-Milanville, PA Bridge.

A required Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study was formally initiated in October 2020 after the 1902 bridge failed an emergency inspection October 16, 2019 and was closed indefinitely.

At a Feb. 28, 2024 Project Advisory Committee meeting, the PEL Study Team consisting of personnel from the PA and NYS Departments of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and consulting firm AECOM outlined six alternatives.

Three options fall under a “No Build” scenario to: 1) do nothing; 2) remove and relocate the bridge for other use; or 3) eliminate the crossing. While none of these are considered reasonable or safe, they will be carried forward to create a study baseline.

“Traditional Rehabilitation” to a 4-ton, 7-ton or 10-ton weight limit could involve moving the running boards to one side to create a bicycle/pedestrian lane on the other side, installing signals on both ends, and adding a dry hydrant adjacent to the bridge. These alternatives are estimated to range from \$16.9-\$19.1 million.

Choosing “Rehabilitation Not Compliant with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation”, meaning a 2-span modern steel bridge with a truss that retains some historic materials, could cost \$22.7-\$35.1 million in 2023 dollars.



**FATE UNKNOWN:** A metal barricade was installed to prohibit motorists or pedestrians from crossing the single-lane, wooden-planked, 446-foot Skinners Falls-Milanville Bridge which has been closed since October 2019 while awaiting a decision on its future. The 1902 bridge connects the Town of Cochection, NY and Damascus Township, PA. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

The sixth option is “Full Replacement”, building a new bridge to carry full loads on the same alignment or immediately adjacent to the existing bridge. That is tagged at \$11.5-

Skinners Falls, NY-Milanville, PA Bridge Planning & Environmental Linkages Study Draft Report Public Meeting: **April 25**, from 5-7 p.m. at the Narrowsburg Union, 7 Erie Ave., Narrowsburg, NY.

Annual Meeting of the New York-Pennsylvania Joint Interstate Bridge Commission: **May 29** at 10 a.m. at the PennDOT District 4 Office, 55 Keystone Industrial Park Road, Dunmore, PA and via Microsoft Teams.

\$26.5 million. In each case, the preliminary analysis estimated lifecycle costs for 100 years of maintenance ranging from \$0 for No Build to \$84 million for Full Replacement.

Whichever alternative prevails, the study team acknowledged that they currently do not have sufficient funding in place. They are exploring sources such as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act; however, the bridge doesn't score high for qualifying due to its low traffic volumes. The costs of mitigating for adverse effects under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and ongoing maintenance expenses must be factored into meeting the bridge's transportation purposes and need.

In a Philadelphia Inquirer article published Aug. 2, 2022, Jason Nark wrote, “For bridge advocates and residents on the river's Pennsylvania and New York shores, the Skinners Falls Bridge has evolved into something more than its parts and purpose over the last century. The single-lane bridge is ingrained in the landscape of the Upper Delaware, they say, as much as the surrounding hills and the fish that swim beneath it, the kind of structure tourists photograph and put on postcards. On the list of National Register of Historic Places, the bridge has been described as ‘utterly spectacular’ and ‘extremely ornate, beautiful and significant’.”

For project updates or questions, call (610) 234-5148 or email [skinnersfallsbridge@aecom.com](mailto:skinnersfallsbridge@aecom.com).



**STEPPING DOWN:** New York State Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther (D/C), left, has announced that she will not seek re-election this fall to the 100th District which includes the Sullivan County river towns of Delaware, Cochection, Tusten, Highland, and Lumberland that she has served since 2003. NYS Senator Peter Oberacker (R-51st District) paid tribute to her two decades of advocacy during the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association's Catskills Legislative Networking Breakfast held March 8 at the Resorts World Catskills casino in Monticello. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)



# Meet NPS Community Planner Carly Marshall

By Kerry Engelhardt, UDC Resources and Land Use Specialist

Carly Marshall, the new Community Planner at the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, grew up in Susquehanna County, on the river, in an area even more rural than the Upper Delaware.

While growing up, she would occasionally take trips up to the Deposit area with family.

She lived in Binghamton while obtaining her master's degree in planning from SUNY Binghamton. There she also worked for Nelson Development Group, a private developer, working on projects mostly in the Finger Lakes area. This developer specialized in historical re-use projects, for example Water Works Center, which turned part of a historic water pump house on Seneca Lake in Watkins Glen into a mixed use development for both commercial and residential use.

Carly worked at the planning office of Adams County, PA for five years, before taking the position of Director of Planning, Zoning, and Code Enforcement in Gettysburg, PA. At both the County and Gettysburg, she worked with communities in which the National Park Service plays a large part. The dynamics between the NPS and local governments had similarities and distinct differences from the relationships in the Delaware River Valley.

When Carly saw the posting for the Community Planner position at NPS, she jumped at the chance to apply. While she didn't grow up in the Upper Delaware



**ON THE JOB:** Carly Marshall joined the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River staff on December 4, 2023 after working as the Town Planner for Gettysburg. (Contributed Photo)

region, it's closer to her parents, and "it feels like home. I was ready to come back to the hills."

Carly started at her new position on December 4th of 2023. She and her partner Adam are now living in a home in Honesdale, PA with their two dogs: Millie, a very smart Australian shepherd, and Birdie, a "terrible terrier mix." They're enjoying their new home and the community, with easy access to both the shops and restaurants of downtown Honesdale, and the nature and trails of the Upper Delaware. Carly is looking forward to gardening this spring (especially growing dahlias!) and dabbles in several fiber arts like sewing, cross stitch, and weaving.

The Upper Delaware unit (UPDE) had been lacking a Community Planner since the previous planner, Cody Hendrix, left at the end of 2022.

The Community Planner has some responsibilities that run parallel to that of

the UDC's Resources and Land Use Specialist, like reviewing projects in the river corridor for Substantial Conformance to the Land and Water Use Guidelines of the River Management Plan, and attending UDC and Project Review committee meetings.

Additionally, she reviews projects in Buckingham and Manchester Townships, the two municipalities located in the river corridor that are not members of the UDC.

This position is the go-to at UDPE for anything lands-related: access and other easements, rights-of-way, and assorted other agreements.

And her Master of Science in Geography provided her with a thorough background in GIS, which she is using for various tasks at UPDE: data management, developing maps to help with interpretation, and producing interactive maps online to help the public and UDPE employees explore the park unit and all of its features.



**WATER SAFETY:** Summer volunteers are sought for the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's "Wear It Watchers" program which collects observational data on the number of people wearing life jackets (or not), with no contact and minimal training required. Sit out at designated locations for a shift and report back. Please email [UPDE\\_Interpretation@nps.gov](mailto:UPDE_Interpretation@nps.gov) for more information. (Contributed Graphic)

## Paddle for Pride on Upper Delaware River

By Corrine Hinton, Community Volunteer Ambassador, NPS UPDE

The LGBTQIA+ community is historically underrepresented in the national parks.

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, and TriVersity Pride Center are coming together to provide an opportunity for LGBTQIA+ people and allies in the tri-state area to learn to paddle a canoe, kayak, or raft while getting to meet new people and gain education on LGBTQIA+ history in our national parks.

This one-day family friendly paddling event will take place on Saturday, July 27.

The day will start out at the Matamoras boat launch, where planned activities related to LGBTQIA+ history and river recreation education will be facilitated by NPS rangers and TriVersity. Then, we will arrange to shuttle participants to Staircase Rapids, where we will begin the 3-4 hour paddle to Matamoras with guidance and safety from UPDE park rangers and volunteers. The capacity is 100 participants. Registration details are pending. Direct questions to Ingrid Peterec at [UPDE\\_Interpretation@nps.gov](mailto:UPDE_Interpretation@nps.gov) or (570) 493-1020.



# Round-up of Presentations to the UDC

## Dec. 7, 2023: "Update on the Sullivan County Wireless Broadband Initiative"

Sullivan County Legislature 2023 Vice-Chairman and Broadband Local Development Corporation Chairperson Michael Brooks was joined by Lorne Green, Sullivan County Commissioner of Information Technology Services, to provide the latest news on the multi-year catalyst project to extend high speed broadband service to as much of the county as possible.

Sullivan became the first county to establish a public-private partnership with Archtop Fiber of Kingston, NY.

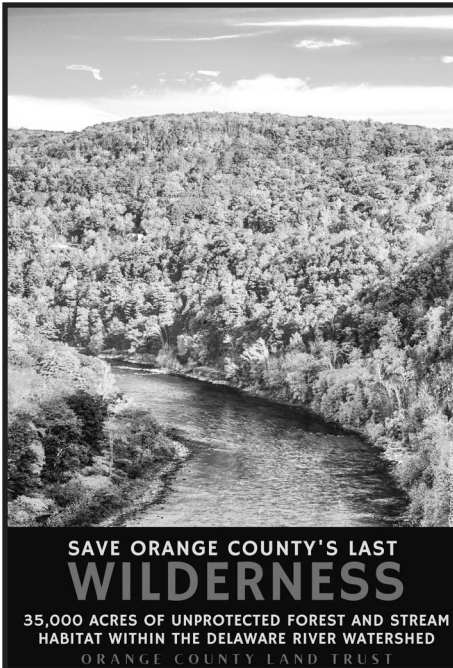
Their Memorandum of Understanding allows Sullivan County to contribute to the planning of the estimated \$300 million private investment.

Archtop's installation of a multi-gig fiber optic network is due to start in 2024, potentially using micro-trenching rather than relying solely on utility pole infrastructure.

The route is anticipated to begin in the northern part of the county near Roscoe, come down into Narrowsburg, cut over to Liberty, and proceed through Ulster County down Route 209 into Kingston.

The plan includes connecting Sullivan County's emergency communication towers to Archtop's network to provide wireless broadband service to areas that are difficult or expensive to reach with fiber.

## Jan. 4, 2024: "Saving Orange Coun-



**CAMPAIGN KICKOFF:** The Orange County Land Trust will hold a press event on April 18 at noon at the NYS DEC Sparrowbush River Access located at 111 Hook Road to launch its "Save Orange County's Last Wilderness" initiative. (Contributed Poster)



**BETTER BROADBAND:** Sullivan County Commissioner of Information Technology Services Lorne Green, speaking at left, and Sullivan Broadband LDC Chairperson Michael Brooks, provided a broadband update at the Dec. 7, 2023 meeting as UDC Resources and Land Use Specialist Kerry Engelhardt, far left, and Administrative Support Stephanie Driscoll listened. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

## ty's Last Remaining Wilderness"

Orange County Land Trust Director of Conservation Kyle Sanduski spoke about OCLT's commitment to protecting 35,000 acres of unprotected Delaware River Watershed forest and stream habitat in Orange County through a multi-year initiative targeting priority areas in the City of Port Jervis and the reservoir system within the Town of Deerpark.

The area encompasses the Delaware, Neversink, and Mongaup Rivers, and Shingle Kill and Basher Kill streams.

OCLT's goal is to help maintain their quality by partnering with willing landown-

ers on conservation easements, which protect natural resources while keeping the land privately owned and on the tax rolls.

Easement restrictions are tailored to each landowner's objectives to maintain existing uses while providing a public environmental benefit.

OCLT's three land conservation programs focus on Corridors & Buffers, Water Quality, and Farmland Protection projects.

On Feb. 1, the UDC approved signing on as a Supporting Organization for the SaveOCWilderness.org campaign and will participate in an April 18 noon announcement at the Sparrowbush River Access.

# Upper Delaware BioBlitz is Back

The 2024 Upper Delaware BioBlitz will be held June 28-29 on the Highlights Foundation Retreat Center property in Boyd's Mills, Wayne County, PA.

Over 40 renowned scientists and amateur naturalists comprising eight teams will convene on an approximately 200 acre portion of the property that contains over a mile of the South Branch of Calkins Creek. For 24 hours they will collect, identify, and catalogue every living species visible to the naked eye and share their findings during the public portion of the event on Saturday with families from the region.

The goals of the BioBlitz are to create a publicly accessible snapshot of biodiversity on a particular site while providing an opportunity for scientists to collaborate on interdisciplinary field work and to introduce young people to science. There have been five past events in 2013, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2021 in the Upper Delaware watershed.

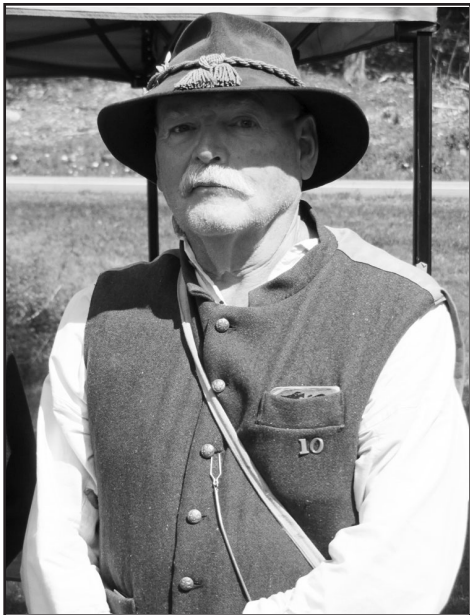
On June 29, the public is invited from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to come and meet the scientists, see what they have collected, take tours of the property to see the species in context, and participate in educational programs. There will also be science-themed arts and entertainment programs offered by Farm Arts Collective and other local artists.

The Upper Delaware Council unanimously voted on Feb. 1 to help sponsor the BioBlitz with a \$500 donation.

For more information, contact coordinator Steven Schwartz at [info@upperdelaware-bioblitz.com](mailto:info@upperdelaware-bioblitz.com), and visit their website for updates and reports.



## In Memoriam...



**Dennis W. Bernitt**

**June 5, 1947 ~ December 13, 2023**

Town of Fremont Upper Delaware Council (UDC) Representative Dennis William Bernitt of Hankins, NY died on Dec. 13, 2023 at home. He was 76.

He had served on the UDC since June 14, 2023 and was profiled in "The Upper Delaware" Fall/Winter issue.

The Fremont Town Board published a memorial resolution in the Sullivan County Democrat, which also covered his funeral.

The son of Willis and Agnes Lennon Bernitt, Dennis was born on June 5, 1947 in Callicoon.

He was married to Kathleen Gavitt Bernitt, who survives him along with his children and their spouses Kevin Bernitt (Morgan) of Hortonville, NY; Scott Bernitt (Shannon) of Grand Island, NE; Tonya Dirie (Mike) of Hortonville; and Lara Mota (Penera) of Pinellas Park, FL; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister Barbara Hahl and brother Michael Bernitt; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was prede-

ceased by his brother Kenneth.

Dennis and Kathy operated Bernitt's General Store in Hankins from 1980 to 1987, after which Dennis worked for Fox Ledge Spring Water for 20 years before retiring.

Dennis proudly served his country during the Vietnam War in the U.S. Army.

He was a member of the Hankins Volunteer Fire Department and served as Chief for 15 years.

He was an Elder at the Hortonville Presbyterian Church, and a member of the 143rd New York Volunteers Civil War reenactment group, the Allan Milk VFW Post in Long Eddy, NY, and the Cocheton Preservation Society.

The Dec. 22, 2023 funeral arrangements were made by Stewart-Murphy Funeral Home in Callicoon, with interment following at the Hortonville Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hortonville Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 15, Hortonville, NY 12745.

**MAP, continued from Page 5**

are for the Upper Delaware Council to share as they'd like.

I tried to make a map that was easy to understand. There are 10 ft contour lines and to-scale cross sections of The Narrows and The Deepes. Additional features like roads, buildings, and boat launches help one to understand the context around the Big Eddy Narrows. It's all based on the best data I have available in 2024. Yet any map, no matter how detailed, is a rough facsimile that could never capture the fullness of the place it is meant to represent. The Big Eddy Narrows is a performance of water's dramatic relationship with rock: a poster is nothing without the show, and the show should be seen live.

This project was a collaboration with many people across time, and the resulting map was designed to invite more questions. It leaves ample room for speculation. Perhaps it can be another step toward a final ruling on the formation of The Deep. If nothing else, I hope it invites you to be more curious about your local landscape and takes you into uncharted territory.



**RENDEZVOUS:** Gather at Lander's Minisink Base between 9-10 a.m. Aug. 4th for the 36th Annual Raft Trip. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

## Join UDC's Aug. 4 Family Raft Trip

The Upper Delaware Council will sponsor its 36th Annual Family Raft Trip on Sunday, August 4, and all are invited.

Advance reservations with payment are requested by July 26.

Enjoy a scenic paddle from the Ten Mile River (TMR) Access in the Town of Tusten to Minisink Ford in the Town of Highland.

Check-in begins at 9 a.m. at Lander's Minisink Base at 3909 State Rt. 97. The last shuttle bus will depart for the TMR launch site at 10 a.m.

Lander's River Trips will provide the rafts, paddles, required life jackets, transportation, and safety instructions.

Minimum occupancy per raft is four people. Children must be at least five years of age, 40 lbs., and able to swim.

This 10-mile itinerary takes an average of four hours, depending on the river level, wind, and each group's desired pace.

Dress to get wet, apply sunscreen, and wear foot protection. Pack a picnic lunch and drinking water. No glass containers are allowed. Small coolers and waterproof bags for items such as cameras and keys may be tied into the raft.

The deeply discounted cost for this raft trip is \$29 for adults and \$19 for children ages 5-12.

To request a reservation form or find out more information, please contact UDC Administrative Support Stephanie Driscoll at [stephanie@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:stephanie@upperdelawarecouncil.org) or (845) 252-3022.

## Please Help the UDC to Update Our Mailing List

The Upper Delaware Council offers its free newsletter online at [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://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 email [info@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:info@upperdelawarecouncil.org).

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Upper Delaware Council  
P.O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St.  
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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 6:30 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](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org) for details.

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

### Plucking in Sullivan

The Upper Delaware Council office has disposal coupons to hand out for Sullivan County's Roadside & Trail Litter Pluck underway from **April 1 through Oct. 31**.

Litter plucked from the county's roadways and public trails will be accepted for free at county-operated transfer stations.

Contact the Sullivan County Parks & Recreation Office at (845) 807-0287 or [scparcs@sullivanny.us](mailto:scparcs@sullivanny.us) for information. Visit [trailkeeper.org](http://trailkeeper.org) for a full list of trails.

### For River Safety

To prepare for the 2024 recreational season, the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River will hold its Annual Water Safety Partners meeting **April 12** at 10 a.m. at the Upper Delaware Council office in Narrowsburg and host its Annual Fishing Guides meeting on **April 18** at 8:30 a.m. at the Hancock Town Hall at 661 West Main St.

### DHC 30th Anniversary Dinner

The 30th anniversary of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy will be celebrated

at a special Foods of the Delaware Highlands dinner on **May 4** at Silver Birches in Hawley, PA from 5:30-9 p.m.

It will be an elegant evening of glamour and generosity. Enjoy a locally sourced, four-course dinner from Chef Ronald O'Rourke, silent and live auctions, and a program highlighting three decades of success in protecting the Upper Delaware River region.

Tickets are \$185 per person with sponsorship opportunities available by calling (570) 226-3164. Reserve by **April 19**.

### Seasons Along Delaware

Hancock Partners, Inc. has been awarded a New York State Council on the Arts 2024 Support for Artists Grant to fund a project by Laura McManus titled "Four Seasons Along the Delaware."

The owner of The Camptons Gallery on East Front Street in Hancock will produce two horizontal and two vertical paintings, each measuring 8x10 feet or larger, that will capture the subtle and dynamic changes that occur across the seasons along the Delaware River in Hancock, NY, expected to generate public excitement.

### July Festival Dates

The UDC plans to exhibit at the 18th Annual Zane Grey Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. hosted by the National Park Service in Lackawaxen, PA on **July 13** and at the 34th Annual Riverfest sponsored by the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance from 10-4 on Main Street in Narrowsburg on **July 28**.

### Volunteer Vacation

The American Hiking Society approved adding the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River to its 2024 Volunteer Vacation itineraries.

They seek a 5-6 person group that will camp out at the base of the Tusten Mountain Trail near Ten Mile River from **September 8-14** and help re-route a half-mile portion of the 3-mile loop trail, including the removal of a wooden bridge, covering up the old trail, painting new trail markers on trees, adding signage, and constructing a new trail registration box. Tools and oversight are provided, along with a guided river trip.

Visit [www.americanhiking.org](http://www.americanhiking.org) for further details on this Volunteer Vacation.