Berry’s Creek Gets Green Light for Cleanup

...and it’s about time

By Michele Langa

Berry’s Creek has been subject to horrific mercury contamination over many decades and has been included as a study area of the Ventron/Velsicol Superfund site in Wood-Ridge, NJ since 1984. Since Berry’s Creek flows into the Hackensack River, it is and has long been a priority of Hackensack Riverkeeper to see that a cleanup takes place.

With the recently signed Record of Decision (ROD) by EPA Region 2 Administrator, Pete Lopez, on September 25, 2018, Berry’s Creek will finally have a chance at recovery.

The Superfund program exists through the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), enacted in 1980. As the title of the Act suggests, it was designed to enable the EPA to respond swiftly to environmental emergencies, compensate injured parties, and assign liability to those responsible. However, the success of the Superfund program hinges on the availability of funds to enable the initiation of costly cleanups and emergency response actions. Thanks to a recent EPA priorities list, which identified some of the direst sites in need of remediation, Berry’s Creek will be addressed and cleaned up through the announced interim plan.

After seven years of dedicated research into the levels of contamination in sediment, plant and animal life, and the water column, EPA has approved an interim plan to remove the worst areas of contamination over the next 5 years. The plan is aggressive, with a bank-to-bank removal of two feet.
At the Helm

Captain Bill Sheehan

2018: A Year of Challenges Met

Despite bad weather and other challenges, we persisted.

As far as our 2018 program season was concerned, it was a steep climb to the summit. However, while unprecedented weather, weather-related destruction, and mechanical issues set us back, we were still able to deliver on our mission of education and advocacy to the community. I won’t bore you with this season’s setbacks. Instead, I’d like to focus on our shared accomplishments. With your help, we continue to take action, advocate, educate, and enforce protections for our watershed. No matter what challenges are thrown at us, we remain ever focused on our vision of a fishable and swimmable Hackensack River for all to enjoy.

Advocacy

• We helped draft a stronger Public Access bill, codifying your right to access your water resources across the state.
• We fought (and continue to fight) to have our river included in the National Priorities (Superfund) List.
• We continue to lead the fight against the proposed Meadowlands Power Plant.
• We continue to oppose the unsafe transport of Bakken Crude oil through our watershed.

Action

• We mobilized close to 1,000 volunteers to clean up tons of garbage from our River.
• We provided paddling opportunities for over 7,000 people, to explore their watershed from Lake DeForest in New York State, down to the Newark Bay.
  • We provided angling opportunities for 400 children and “children-at-heart” through our educational programming and free fishing derbies.

Education

• 3,000 students and adults joined us aboard Eco-Cruises, to learn, explore, and enjoy their river.
• 2018 was the inaugural year for our new Junior Stewardship Program, an after school program that introduces middle school students to their community’s water resources.
• 200 students participated in our award-winning Urban Watershed Education Program.

Enforcement

• We appealed NJDEP’s weak Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits.
• We worked with NJEPA and NJDEP to ensure the initiation of the Berry’s Creek cleanup plan.

During this time of charitable giving, we hope you will consider these shared accomplishments when making your tax-deductible donation in support of the causes you care about. This year proved tougher than most, but with your help, we persisted.

[Signature]
Berry’s Creek
continued from page 1
of sediment to be replaced with clean fill in Upper and Middle Berry’s Creek. Additionally, a dredge of one foot of marsh sediments will occur in Upper Peach Island Creek Marsh. This cleanup plan, with a price tag of over $330 million, is a remarkable example of cooperation among responsible parties and the EPA.

The contaminants most prevalent in the Berry’s Creek Study Area are mercury, chromium, and PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls). The contamination moves up the food chain from sediment to wildlife, even to humans, were we permitted to consume the fish from Berry’s Creek. In time, with this cleanup and the cleanups to come along the Hackensack River, we may finally see a day when it is safe to consume fish caught throughout the Meadowlands again. The cleanup at Berry’s Creek is a crucial step towards a healthier Meadowlands District and cleaner water flowing through the Hackensack River.

While this cleanup plan is not the end, it is a crucial first step towards a healthier Berry’s Creek. Once the specified areas are dredged and filled, the area will be monitored to determine how it recovers naturally. Depending upon the results of the continued monitoring, there may be further cleanup plans and RODs. However, the worst of the contamination will be gone, and the creek will have a significantly greater chance at a natural recovery from any remaining contaminants; particularly as surrounding sites also undergo extensive cleanups.

Regardless, Hackensack Riverkeeper will be there to monitor and comment on the cleanup progress at Berry’s Creek.

For more details on the Berry’s Creek Interim Clean Up Plan, visit EPA’s Superfund site: https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cur/sites/csinfo.cfm?id=0200674.

Power Plant Rally
continued from page 1
host) Anthony Suarez made an impassioned speech calling on other elected officials to join his town in opposing the plan, “The proposed plant is a direct threat to our public health, safety and environment, not just in Ridgefield but for the whole region.”

As of this writing, fifteen municipalities have passed resolutions condemning the plan and calling on the state to deny any Hudson County towns from joining the resistance. On October 3, Hoboken came tantalizingly close to being the first until resolution sponsor Councilman James Doyle mysteriously pulled it from the 10/3 agenda.

“This smacks of typical Hudson County strong-arm politics,” explained Captain Bill. “Having lived here almost all of my life, I’ve seen it too many times. Using a carrot-and-stick approach, powerful politicians like Sacco influence the actions – or force inaction – within towns they have no right to influence.”

Quick recap: The companies proposing to construct a 1,200 megawatt gas-fired plant on a 17-acre tract of land in North Bergen, NJ located along Bellman’s and Wolf Creeks and directly adjacent to protected wetlands with the NJ Meadowlands District. The site also sits on the North Bergen-Ridgefield border in close proximity to hundreds of homes in both communities. If built, the plant would negatively impact human health, water quality and wildlife habitats in New Jersey while sending 100% of its power to New York City alone.

You can register your opposition to this ridiculous plan by calling Governor Murphy at 877-814-5667. Also, sign the petition at: www.nomeadowlandspowerplant.com.
Riverfest: Pirates of the Hackensack

101 Fish and That’s No Tall Tale.

By Lisa Vandenberg

On September 16, Hackensack Riverkeeper held our 4th annual fishing derby at the Laurel Hill Park Promenade in Secaucus. It was a free, catch-and-release event geared towards families. It was a sunny, hot and humid day but that didn’t keep close to 150 people from coming out to fish. There were well over 100 fish caught plus 2 live oysters – a species not usually hooked by anglers. All the species caught and released were delightful signs of the river’s continuing recovery. Prizes were awarded in several categories. The largest non-eel fish caught was a White Perch 11.5 inches long. Marc Yaggi, Waterkeeper Alliance Executive Director was in attendance with his two children, who each caught several fish.

In addition to fishing, there were booty bags for the kids, free temporary pirate tattoos, free hotdogs, chips and plenty of water and iced tea to keep everyone hydrated and having fun. Thanks to Captain Hugh and our Paddling Center staff, we were able to offer mini Eco-Cruises as well. A special thanks to the Hudson River Fishermen’s Association for lending us the rods and tackle to keep everyone going, and to our volunteers who set up, cooked, cleaned up and helped make the day a success! The event was a SPLASH event hosted by Waterkeeper Alliance and sponsored nationally by Toyota.

Christine Favorito is the WMA 5 ambassador this year, hosted by Hackensack Riverkeeper. Christine graduated in May with a BS in biology from George Washington University. She is available to help with community projects and to give free presentations to classes or community groups. Christine’s favorite part about being an ambassador is collecting macroinvertebrates for stream assessments, and she looks forward to educating people about watershed stewardship. Contact her to schedule a presentation at ambassador@hackensackriverkeeper.org or 201-968-0808 x108.

You may recall that we missed out on having an Ambassador last year. However, we were fortunate to have the services of WMA-7 Ambassador Chelsea Moxley. We thank her for her service as much as we welcome Christine.
Clean Water Celebration

Acknowledging the work of great honorees, in our 21st year.

On October 18, friends and supporters of Hackensack Riverkeeper celebrated our 21st Anniversary at Florentine Gardens in River Vale, NJ. Those honored made a positive difference in our watershed through their efforts and support. Capt. Bill Sheehan presented Norman Guerra, CEO of the Hudson County Improvement Authority, with the Excellence in Public Service Award. Sam Pesin, President of Friends of Liberty State Park, received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his nonstop vision and mission for Liberty State Park. Samsung Electronics America was presented with the Corporate Environmental Stewardship Award for their years of support for Riverkeeper and other environmental groups throughout the region. Special thanks to our long-time Master of Ceremonies, Brian Thompson and our auctioneer, Brendan Reskakis. More photos by Joe Frazz Photography can be seen at: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org/photos.

(l-r) Mayor Lamatina, Councilman Belgiovine, Mayor Ghassali, Capt. Bill, Mayor Birkner and Mayor Cywinski enjoy the gala.

Honoree Sam Pesin addresses the crowd.

Representatives from Samsung Electronics America join Captain Bill and Caitlin for a photo.

Emcee Brian Thompson, NBC News4NY, helps Capt. Bill present Norman Guerra with his award.

Thank You Sponsors!
This past spring, Captain Bill and I had the privilege of assisting our colleagues at NJ Audubon with a survey of passerine (songbird) species in the Meadowlands District. Field Biologist Taleen Dimerdjian, working under the direction of Dr. Nellie Tsipoura, NJAS Director of Citizen Science took part in a series of eight early-morning surveys aboard the Geraldine Theresa or Robert H. Boyle II. We also provided her with a kayak and paddling gear from our then-closed Paddling Center at Laurel Hill Park so she could reach wetland locations inaccessible to our 30-foot pontoon boats.

Retracing much of the same ground and water as NJAS did fifteen years ago during their last Meadowlands passerine survey, we motored to predetermined GPS-delineated locations, throttled back, listened and scanned with our binoculars. As the project was focused on songbirds, it took a lot of willpower to ignore the numerous herons, shorebirds, raptors and other birds not being counted. But being seasoned citizen-scientists, we conducted ourselves as needed and completed our work in late June. Despite her young age, Taleen was a professional in all she did; and we wish her all the best in her career.

In our next issue I look forward to sharing the project’s results as well as numbers from the 2018 Harbor Herons and Colonial Waterbirds (HHCW) nesting survey and highlights from the autumn hawkwatch at Stateline Lookout. Until then, keep sending me your wildlife reports and during our offseason be sure to visit a NJ Audubon sanctuary. In the meantime, have a look at what other naturalists have seen over the past few months:

**American Mink** – On May 6 several members of Greenbrook Sanctuary, located in Palisades Interstate Park, were treated to the sight of a mink wresting a large Chain Pickerel towards its den; one can assume to feed its young.

**Bald Eagle** – Despite a less-than-stellar breeding season, many late summer/early fall Eco-Cruise participants were treated to views of eagles roosting in trees along the river in Ridgefield, NJ. Adult eagles were also observed along the river in Hackensack, Secaucus and Kearny.

**Belted Kingfisher** – Always a late-season treat, Kingfishers were spotted along the river from Jersey City north to Oradell beginning in mid-August. It’s hard to miss their flashy wing beats and rattling call.

**Common Tern** – Not nearly as “common” along the Hackensack River as Forster’s Terns, nonetheless, one sharp-eyed Eco-Cruise participant noted one atop a channel buoy on 9/22.

**Double-crested Cormorant** (with Oyster Toadfish) – Eco-Cruise participants had a ringside seat on 9/23 as one of our most common fish-eating waterbirds took an uncommonly long time to secure and swallow one of the river’s spiniest – and therefore dangerous to swallow – fish.

**Forster’s Tern** – As usual, we were treated to good numbers of these terns in post-breeding dispersal throughout the Meadowlands and Newark Bay in August and September.

**Laughing Gull** – Large flocks of this common Jersey Shore gull were seen along the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers and Newark Bay throughout late August and into September.

**Minke whale** – Yes, you did read that correctly. On 8/30 our friend Raritan Riverkeeper Bill Schultz – who also volunteers with the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine, NJ – monitored an adult Minke as it fed on a school of Menhaden in the Kill Van Kull near the Bayonne Bridge. No further reports were made as the whale swam successfully back out to sea.

**Osprey** – A correction regarding the number of chicks that fledged last spring from the nest located on the NJ Transit Upper Hack railroad bridge (Lyndhurst, NJ side): *three*, as opposed to the aforementioned two. That makes a total of twelve Ospreys hatched, raised and fledged in our watershed region between Shooter’s Island, Elizabeth and Overpeck Park, Teaneck in 2018.

**Peregrine Falcon** – Back in June, both male fledglings of “Big Mama” had misadventures while learning to fly and wound up in the river. Luckily, several of our colleagues who were near at hand rescued both birds and transported them to The Raptor Trust in Millington, NJ for rehabilitation. And both were successfully released back to the “wilds” of our watershed. And Mama herself contin-
ued to be seen around the Route 3 bridges through early October.

**Queen Butterfly** – An extreme rarity, which is almost never seen north of the Deep South, nonetheless one was observed and photographed at DeKorte Park on 9/2. Fortunately one of our naturalists noticed the difference between it and the much more numerous and similarly-patterned Monarchs among the milkweed plantings.

**Yellow Warbler** – Not rare by any stretch since the species nests throughout our watershed; however it’s almost never a “backyard bird”. Despite that fact, smalls flocks visited a Secaucus, NJ yard throughout late September.

Thanks to our contributors and a tip o’ the naturalist’s hat to: Anonymous, Joe Augeri, Sandra Bonardi, Daniel Carola, Taleen Dimerdjian, Ray Duffy, Patricia Hilliard, Jill Homey, Lynn Kramser, Joe Labriola, Lorraine McCarty, Mike Ruscigno, Bill Schultz, Bill Sheehan, Bernie Sobieleski, Rory Sutherland, Don Torino, and Mary Ellen Woods.

**Postscript:** On September 15, Captain Bill conducting three “birding by boat” tours for festivagoers during the 2018 Meadowlands Birding Festival. The event – a partnership between the NJ Sports & Exposition Authority and Bergen County Audubon Society (a chapter of the National Audubon Society) – was the second such event in as many years and attracted a large number of birders from beyond our watershed region. For many it was their very first experience on or near the river.

Their “fresh eyes” on the Meadowlands were a real eye-opener to Captain Bill who remarked, “You know, I spend so much of my time on the water, in the field and all around the Meadowlands that I forget there are way more people who’ve never been out on Sawmill Creek or birded DeKorte Park than who have. Seeing those folks’ enthusiasm and hearing their “oohs” and “ahs” was a strong reminder to me of the power our ‘floating classrooms’ have to connect people with the Meadowlands – their Meadowlands.”

---

**Are You “Building Green?”**

**NO!**

**YES!**

**What is Green Building?** Green building is a design and construction practice that promotes the economic health and well-being of your family, the community, and the environment. A smart step toward personal economic rewards, Green Building also has positive social and environmental ramifications that assert your commitment to the future and the way we live for years to come.

**CONCRETE WASHOUT SYSTEMS INC.**

179 RYERSON AVENUE • PATERN, N.J. 07502

PHONE: 973.942.3131 • FAX: 973.958.8056

www.haftekwcs.com • E-mail: Info@haftekwcs.com
Volunteer Corner
By Caitlin Doran

Mackay Park Cleanup – Englewood, July 22, 2018
This year’s Mackay Park Cleanup yielded twenty-eight full bags of garbage, several shopping carts, and a hard-to-get hot water heater, all recovered from Overpeck Creek and Metzler Brook. We could not have done this without the help of some very persistent volunteers, and the financial support of Englewood Hospital. Thank you!

Rutkowski Park Cleanup –
Bayonne, August 26 2018
With lots of support from our cleanup partner and “home team”, the Bayonne Nature Club, thirty-seven environmental heroes took out a thirty-yard dumpster’s worth of trash and debris and seven tires from the shoreline at Rutkowski Park in Bayonne. One of the highlights of the day was when the crew found an Airsoft gun, which Bayonne PD assured us was a toy!

International Coastal Cleanup –
Woodcliff Lake Reservoir September, 9, 2018
The International Coastal Cleanup is a global day of action, aimed at reducing the amount of trash, especially plastic, that ends up in our oceans. We know that 80% of ocean pollution comes from land, and the ICC cleanup, held in partnership with SUEZ Water, is a great day to reinforce our work as the upstream solution to marine pollution.

ING Cleanup – 16th Street Park
Bayonne, September 14, 2018
This tenacious team of twenty-four cleaned up a mighty sixty-seven bags of trash from the shoreline at 16th Street Park in Bayonne, backdropped by the busy shipping port in Newark Bay. One of our longtime partners, ING understands the connection between litter they find in our parks and what they see floating out in our bays and harbors.
Overpeck Park Cleanup – Palisades Park, September 30, 2018

What a homecoming! It’s been a few years since we organized a community cleanup at the Palisades Park section of Overpeck Park, and we had a small army of volunteers join us, including a big group of supporters from nearby Pilgrim Church. The day’s haul included a whopping ninety-three bags of garbage, three tires, and three shopping carts, for more than 2,000 lbs. of recovered trash.

Ernst and Young Cleanup – Laurel Hill Park, October 5, 2018

Leave it to the volunteers from Ernst and Young to find all the buried “treasure” hiding in and around Laurel Hill County Park in Secaucus. With a lot of help from Captain Bill and the Geraldine Theresa, we ended up with an impressive pile and nine tires – after just a few hours in an otherwise clean-looking spot!

River Sweep – Kenneth B. George Park, River Edge, October 7, 2018

A week of rough weather and high water altered our plans to “sweep” the river from Grove Street in Oradell down to Kenneth B. George Park in River Edge, but that didn’t stop our intrepid volunteers from starting in River Edge instead, and simply make it a “round trip”! With support from Bergen County Clean Communities, this annual cleanup is a great collaboration between Riverkeeper and three local environmental commissions: Oradell, River Edge, and New Milford. We are also extremely grateful for Monticello Consulting Group’s sponsorship and additional people-power. The result? Sixty-four volunteers removed a 20 yrd. dumpster’s worth of debris!

Slam Dunk the Junk Cleanup – Hackensack, October 28, 2018

With a Nor’ easter bearing down, the City of Hackensack moved its fall Slam Dunk the Junk cleanup to the following day, which didn’t deter our group of volunteers, who combed Hackensack River County Park for trash. They pulled some unusual items from the riverbanks, including an old grill!
Third Annual HACK Race

End of season fun for elite paddlers on the Hackensack River.

It was a cold, rainy day but that didn’t keep eighty dedicated paddlers from competing on Sunday, October 13. It was Wanda Canoe Club’s third year hosting its annual HACK Race to benefit Hackensack Riverkeeper. “We really appreciate the paddlers coming out to support recreation on our river. It helps raise awareness for our public access concerns and water pollution issues” said Captain Bill Sheehan.

Veteran paddlers from as far away as Canada came to participate in Wanda’s end of season competition; the race course starting at Wanda’s headquarters in Ridgefield Park. The 9-mile elite course ran north to the New Bridge Landing and back. The 5-mile novice course went south to the Rt 46 Bridge and returned to Ridgefield Park.

Mayor George Fosdick joined us and spoke to the attendees, after which the paddlers organized a silent protest of the North Bergen power plant proposal. The first racer crossed the finish line with a time just under 1 hour, 13 minutes. Following the race was a brief awards ceremony, and lunch provided by Inserra ShopRite. The traditional and highly coveted HACK Race socks were distributed to all participants and race day volunteers.

The event was sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper, Goodboy Paddlesports, and Netta Radice Design.
Recently, we sat down with Corrado Belgiovine to thank him for everything he’s done for our organization and the river, and to understand his connection to our watershed a little better. Corrado, a forty-year Bergen County (and Hackensack River Watershed) resident responds:

When did you first hear about Hackensack Riverkeeper?

I first heard about Riverkeeper through my work as a property manager. I was overseeing a waterfront townhome development in Secaucus and an environmental cleanup project was underway nearby. I learned that Hackensack Riverkeeper assisted local, state and federal agencies to uphold environmental laws and regulations.

What is it about Riverkeeper’s mission that resonates with you?

Our local waterways are critical to the health of our communities. Through its long standing environmental action, advocacy, and education programs, Riverkeeper helps ensure their protection. And when those things aren’t enough to get the job done, there’s always the option to litigate – something you folks never do half-cocked.

What is your vision for our river and its watershed?

I hope more people will participate in community cleanups to see the effects pollution has on our watershed; but also to experience the good things you can do on and around the river like paddling, fishing and wildlife-watching. Getting out in a canoe or kayak for an up-close and personal experience of the river is just great. But don’t do like I did once and fall in; that’s a bit too up-close in my opinion.

Do you feel your support is making a difference? If so, how?

Absolutely. As a councilman serving the residents of Woodcliff Lake for the last five years, I’ve helped raise awareness about our river - a cornerstone of our borough. One initiative about which I’ve been passionate since I was first elected is creating a walkway around the reservoir so the area is more accessible to our residents and others. This would have been a much heavier lift without Hackensack Riverkeeper’s help and hard work.

Any other thoughts you’d like to share with our readers?

When I drive down the Turnpike nowadays, I love seeing boats in the water. We’ve come a long way since 1997 and I look forward to seeing more positive changes as a result of Hackensack Riverkeeper’s efforts and involvement.
Jill Bennetta, Education Director at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center in Englewood, NJ, passed away on July 11, 2018 after fighting a terribly relentless enemy: cancer. A native of York, PA, Jill held a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from the University of Tennessee – a degree she put to very good use.

During her time at Flat Rock – where she worked from 2003 until just before her death, Jill was loved and appreciated by many in the Bergen/Hudson/Rockland County environmental community, especially the trustees and fellow staffers at the nature center.

Jill represented Flat Rock Brook with the Hudson Valley Hawk Watch Program, the Bergen-based Nature Program Cooperative, and the Alliance for NJ Environmental Education (ANJEE), where she was a fixture at conferences, meetings and gatherings of environmental educators. Jill was a natural leader and teacher who had the uncanny ability to use every teachable moment for what it was worth. She was often assisted by Flat Rock’s resident birds of prey, five hawks and owls she dearly loved.

Jill is survived by her husband Michael “Tor” Bennetta, their son Logan, age 11 and Jill’s father, Dr. A. Douglas Hunter III along with many other family members, friends and colleagues. She will long be remembered by the many people whose paths she crossed and whose labors she joyfully shared.

Freedom Bank proudly supports the Hackensack Riverkeeper as it works to provide environmental advocacy, education and conservative programs to the local community.

Fair Winds and Following Seas...

We bid sad farewells to two dear, departed sisters and friends

Margaret Utzinger, founding Trustee of Hackensack Riverkeeper, passed away on August 24, 2018. A longtime resident of Ridgewood, NJ, she was instrumental in assisting Captain Bill Sheehan with the creation of our organization back in 1997.

After helping launch Hackensack Riverkeeper, Margaret served an unbroken twenty-one years as Trustee, including serving as our first Board President and for several terms thereafter. A lifelong environmentalist, in the years prior to her role with our organization – and at a time when virtually no one gave a thought to our river well as her steadfast commitment to Hackensack Riverkeeper’s mission of a fishable, swimmable – and livable – Hackensack River continues to inspire us all. We miss her dearly and think of her constantly as we work to make her vision – clean water for all to enjoy – a reality.

Margaret Utzinger, founding Trustee of Hackensack Riverkeeper, passed away on August 24, 2018. A longtime resident of Ridgewood, NJ, she was instrumental in assisting Captain Bill Sheehan with the creation of our organization back in 1997.

After helping launch Hackensack Riverkeeper, Margaret served an unbroken twenty-one years as Trustee, including serving as our first Board President and for several terms thereafter. A lifelong environmentalist, in the years prior to her role with our organization – and at a time when virtually no one gave a thought to our river — Margaret founded the Hackensack River Coalition, the precursor organization that in many ways laid our foundation.

Even after declining health required her to move to Scarsdale, NY to be closer to her daughter Morgan and other family members, nothing kept Margaret from her ongoing involvement with Hackensack Riverkeeper. She actively participated on the board’s Executive, Finance and Governance committees, rarely missed a meeting, and remained a thoughtful, engaged Trustee until her death.

Margaret’s passion and deep understanding of the issues, as well as her steadfast commitment to Hackensack Riverkeeper’s mission of a fishable, swimmable – and livable – Hackensack River continues to inspire us all. We miss her dearly and think of her constantly as we work to make her vision – clean water for all to enjoy – a reality.

Margaret’s passion and deep understanding of the issues, as well as her steadfast commitment to Hackensack Riverkeeper’s mission of a fishable, swimmable — and livable — Hackensack River continues to inspire us all. We miss her dearly and think of her constantly as we work to make her vision – clean water for all to enjoy — a reality.

Margaret’s passion and deep understanding of the issues, as well as her steadfast commitment to Hackensack Riverkeeper’s mission of a fishable, swimmable — and livable — Hackensack River continues to inspire us all. We miss her dearly and think of her constantly as we work to make her vision – clean water for all to enjoy – a reality.