

NEWS from the Catskill Watershed Corp

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Scenic Route 28 Exhibit at CWC

An exhibit detailing the history, scenic qualities and community connections along the new Catskill Mountains Scenic Byway is on view through October at the Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC), 905 Main St., Margaretville.

The exhibit can be seen Monday through Friday, except holidays, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

“Historic Route 28: The Making of a Scenic Byway” was co-curated by planner Peter Manning and Jo Margaret Mano, a SUNY New Paltz Geography professor, who researched the historic background of Route 28. It was first displayed in November 2010 at the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development’s Erpf Gallery in Arkville.

Since that time, the Central Catskills Collaborative – representatives from six Route 28 communities between Olive and Andes -- completed the byway nomination process, and the NYS Scenic Byways Advisory Board approved the byway management plan in May 2015. In June, the NYS Legislature approved a bill formally designating the Catskill Mountains Scenic Byway.

The exhibit features selected works from Landscape Architecture students of Prof. Margaret Bryant at SUNY School of Environmental Science and Forestry, who focused a regional planning studio on the Route 28 corridor in 2009.

The project, Community Resilience in the Central Catskills, posed the questions: How do the towns and villages of the Central Catskills position themselves for a new future, a new economy, which capitalizes on their significant natural resources and cultural heritage and allows them to ride out the inevitable economic highs and lows that will come? How can these communities become more resilient?

The students traveled to the Catskills, met with community members, conducted interviews and research, and completed a landscape inventory. The inventory looked at key elements of the ecological, social, economic, cultural, historic and recreational landscapes.

The exhibit was funded in part by the SUNY New Paltz United University Professions, with further support provided by the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development and the CWC.

The CWC is a non-profit, Local Development Corporation responsible for several environmental protection, economic development and education programs in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River. www.cwconline.org.

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