

For Immediate Release

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Inaugural Hudson Crossing Triathlon to Highlight Hudson Crossing Park, Old Saratoga along the Champlain Canal

Schuylerville, NY (January 26, 2010) - On June 13, 2010, Hudson Crossing Park in Schuylerville, NY will host triathletes from around the Capital Region at the inaugural Hudson Crossing Triathlon, a swim-bike-run event that aims to celebrate the history of the park, the history of Saratoga County and also the many multi-sport enthusiasts in the area.

The race will be sprint-distance triathlon -- 500 yard swim, 12.15 mile bike ride and 5k run -- taking place at the park and on roads throughout Northumberland and Schuylerville.

Race organizers are currently in the permit process and have sanctioned the race through USA Triathlon.

"Our region has some fantastic triathlons that take place throughout the season," says race organizer Chris Bowcutt. "They all sell out though, so we're looking to add another professionally-organized event to the calendar that athletes and the community can enjoy, while bringing a spotlight to Hudson Crossing Park and the history of Old Saratoga along the Champlain Canal."

Newly evolving, Hudson Crossing Park is centered around Lock 5 on the Champlain Canal, part of the New York State Canal System, just one mile north of Schuylerville in Saratoga County. The land has plenty of historical significance. In 1777, British General John Burgoyne led thousands of British soldiers and German mercenaries across the river where the park is situated to engage American forces at Stillwater and other points during the American Revolution. To cross the river, soldiers lashed together a number of flat-bottomed wooden crafts to form a floating "Bridge of Boats," and then marched across. The resulting Battles of Saratoga are considered to be sparks that precipitated a turning point in the war and to eventual victory for the Americans.

Marlene Bissell, President of Hudson Crossing Park, sees the race as a positive event for the park and for the community. "The Board of Directors of Hudson Crossing Park is delighted to host this exciting event. It will provide an excellent venue to showcase our newly evolving Park and to encourage folks to enjoy the recreational opportunities along the Champlain Canal."

Hudson Crossing Park is the recent recipient of several grants to build out trails, construct a kayak launch and to restore the Historic Dix Bridge as a shared use recreational trail. The park's long-term goal is to build a multi-million dollar Environmental Education Center that will further the park's mission to tie environmental responsibility to economic revitalization.

Carmella R. Mantello, Director of the New York State Canal Corporation, said, "The Champlain Canal, and the New York State Canal System as a whole, offers a plethora of recreational opportunities. The Canal Corporation is pleased to work with our partners to organize the inaugural Hudson Crossing Triathlon, which will help to highlight the many benefits of the Canal System."

The inaugural race is limited to 200 athletes. Registration opens February 1st, 2010.

If you're interested in volunteering or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Chris Bowcutt at 917.371.1108 or e-mail chris@bluepoint0.com. More information is available at www.bluepoint0.com/hct. Information about Hudson Crossing Park is available at www.hudsoncrossingpark.org.

