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Vol. 135 No. 283 · 43 Main St., Bradford, Pa. 16701 · Monday, Aug. 27, 2012 · www.bradfordera.com · 75 cents

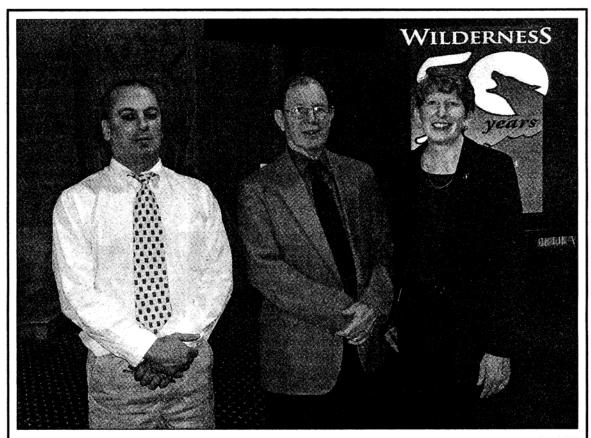


Photo courtesy of FAW

From left, Kirk Johnson of Warren, executive director for the Friends of Allegheny Wilderness; Ed Zahniser of Shepherdstown, W.Va., son of Tionesta native and Wilderness Act author Howard Zahniser, and senior writer with the National Park Service; and Leanne Marten, former forest supervisor for the Allegheny National Forest and currently the national director for Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers for the U.S. Forest Service, recently took part in a ceremony for the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the four federal land management agencies who steward wilderness recognizing the importance of the approaching 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964. The ceremony took place at the U.S. Department of Interior in Washington. Many citizen wilderness advocacy organizations from around the country, including the Warrenbased Friends of Allegheny Wilderness, were represented at the ceremony. Locally, for the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, Friends of Allegheny Wilderness and Warren's Crary Art Gallery are teaming up to plan a monthlong photography installation for September of 2014 featuring high-profile photographers and photographs taken within units across America's National Wilderness Preservation System.