

# FILM MAKER BRINGS GASLAND II TO WALTON



*GASLAND, Part II* director Josh Fox speaks with fractivist Tammy Reiss at the Walton Theatre in June. Photo by Helen McLean

## An Interview with Director Josh Fox

By Eugene Marner

Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, was the first clear, warm day after nearly a week of cold and rain. Even so, over two hun-

dred and fifty people came to the Walton Theatre that afternoon to see *Gasland Part II*, a two hour film, then stayed for another hour to discuss it with the director,

See **GASLAND**, continued on Page 6

Josh Fox.

It was almost three years to the day since Josh brought his first film, *Gasland*, to Walton in 2010. That film told the stories of ordinary people whose lives were suddenly subjected to an invasive and ruinous process called fracking for gas. *Gasland* went on to win international acclaim and to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary.

I had a chance to speak with Josh, and asked why he felt the need for a sequel.

“Well, honestly,” he replied, “I was completely shocked by the success of the first film. It went all over the world, it went to thirty countries. We saw a movement grow around this fracking issue, nationally and internationally. And I couldn’t understand why the government wasn’t really paying attention. We saw an incredible reaction to this crisis from the people: multinational corporations were coming in to despoil the atmosphere, toxify the landscape, jeopardize the people’s health and then leave with their



Aerial view of the former Kellogg school building in Treadwell

## SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

By Patricia Knapp-Tyrell

At a time when national and state politics could not appear murkier, our local government is proving itself to be equally unenlightened. Case in point: the short-lived, highly charged proposal to move Delaware County’s Community Services, including the Mental Health Clinic and the Drug and Alcohol Clinic, to the former A. L. Kellogg School in Treadwell, in the town of Franklin.

This controversial proposal was presented by Community Services

Board’s (CSB) then-chairman Martin Donnelly to the Delaware County Board of Supervisors (BoS) at their April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, as a done deal based on the CSB’s authority under the New York Mental Hygiene

See **SCANDAL**, con’t on Pg. 4



## ALL FOUR WALLS: The Renovation of Chapel Hall

By Carole Marner

It is with pride much tempered with relief that the Board of Franklin Stage Company can announce that the four exterior walls, three doors and forty-seven windows of Chapel Hall have been restored to their full, shining-white, Grecian beauty. It took thirteen years to raise the money to install a drainage system, rebuild the stone foundation and restore the facade - with its awesome three-story, eighty foot long porch, supported by six massive columns. Another 4 years completed the fundraising for the remaining three sides. As it is an historically significant



*The facade of Chapel Hall* building, all work on Chapel Hall had to conform to preservation guidelines for excellence. For example, missing or damaged window mullions and siding had to be rebuilt to 19<sup>th</sup> century specifications. But Chapel Hall is worth it, and this is why.

Stone Hall, and later its sister, Chapel Hall, were built by the tradesmen and farmers of Franklin in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Their

See **FOUR WALLS**, continued on Page 5

## IN DEC WE TRUST? O&G Pollution in New York State

Part III: Causes and Cures

By Brian Brock

In New York State, current oil, gas, and brine regulations are insufficient, pollution is significant, and enforcement is deficient. Why and what can be done about it?

### Dysfunction

Within the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Division of Mineral Resources (DMN) is principally responsible for the permitting and regulating of drilling. It has statutory responsibility for production of oil, gas, and brine, which it does credibly

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## Your Neighbor's View...

### HEALTHY NEW YORK

By Carla Nordstrom

This past May, Governor Andrew Cuomo introduced a program called Tax-Free New York to attract new businesses to upstate New York. Tax-free zones will be located on college campuses in the SUNY system "to empower regional and local communities to grow the economy."<sup>1</sup> "This is directed primarily to upstate New York...because that's where we have an economic problem."<sup>2</sup>

While Tax-Free New York may benefit cities like Oneonta or Syracuse, it is unlikely that it will improve circumstances in rural villages like Franklin. As so often happens, rural communities are left out of programs that promote job development and economic security. Instead of promoting growth through tax breaks for businesses, our state could change its focus and provide a benefit to all its citizens, allowing them to participate as full partners in growing the economy. A single-payer health plan, providing for the healthcare needs of all New York citizens might be just the thing to stimulate the economy of cities and rural communities alike.

To give some perspective on healthcare costs in the United States in comparison to countries with single-payer systems, take a look at OECD Health Data 2012: How Does the United States Compare<sup>3</sup>. In 2010, the per capita cost for healthcare in the U.S. was \$8,233, while costs in countries with single-payer systems was half that amount. In Canada, the per-person cost was \$4,445.

Health care costs are huge for individuals and families. A recent study<sup>4</sup> found that an average family of four, with an employer sponsored health program, will spend approximately \$22,000 on healthcare in 2013. This is more than the family will spend on food for the year. While it is true that taxes will increase with a single-payer healthcare system in New York, premiums paid to health insurance companies, co-payments, and other medical costs would drop dramatically or disappear entirely, providing New Yorkers more money in their pockets.

A single-payer health program would help small rural communities like Franklin become active participants in the local economy because it would give farmers, craftspeople, and independent shop owners a cash infusion that would allow them to participate more freely in the

local economy.

A single-payer healthcare bill has been introduced in the New York State Assembly and Senate, New York Health Bill (A5389 a/S2078)<sup>5</sup>. Private insurance would be replaced with a publically financed healthcare system for all New Yorkers. It will be financed two ways: through a payroll tax where employers pay 80% and employees pay the balance and a "progressively-graduated assessment on taxable income" such as interest, dividends, and capital gains. Higher income participants would pay more than lower income wage earners based on "ability to pay."

This writer contacted Senator James Seward's office for comment on the New York Health Bill but did not get a response. Assemblyman Clifford Crouch's office did respond to my request. Crouch opposes the bill because it goes way beyond Obamacare and it would increase payroll taxes for businesses. Assemblyman Richard Gottfried, Chair of the Assembly Health Committee and the bill's prime sponsor suggests that one of the limitations of Obamacare is that it leaves farmers, small businesses and individuals in the hands of the insurance companies, where the prices are higher due to administrative costs. Those in our area who now buy



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individual insurance are among the people most severely overcharged by the current system. But New York Health would be paid for with taxes based on ability to pay, and small businesses and farmers tend to have lower incomes than many others.

With the rolling out of Obamacare, some legislators question whether now is a good time to introduce single-payer healthcare in New York State. Assemblyman Gottfried disagrees: "I think this year is really a superb year to refocus that effort on this issue, and I expect that to happen." In fact, on May 21, 2013, 10,000 signatures were delivered to Governor Cuomo and legislative leaders supporting the New York Health Bill.

There is a tendency in government to use tax cuts for businesses to encourage economic develop-

ment in the hope that it will improve the lives of the citizens. Governor Cuomo's tax-free zones initiative is an example of just that approach. Tax-Free New York will have little impact in rural communities. A tax approach that provides services and decreases costs for individuals, such as the New York Health Bill, could potentially benefit New Yorkers in all communities, including Franklin.

1. <http://www.governor.ny.gov/2013-tf/tax-free-ny>
2. [http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2013/05/gov\\_andrew\\_cuomo\\_to\\_businesses.html](http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2013/05/gov_andrew_cuomo_to_businesses.html)
3. <http://www.oecd.org/health/health-systems/BriefingNoteUSA2012.pdf>
4. <http://thinkprogress.org/health/2013/05/22/2048481/health-care-grocery-costs/>
5. <http://open.nysenate.gov/legislation/api/1.0/lrs-print/bill/A5389-2013>

## ELECTION AHEAD!

By Brian Brock

Elections for town government are held every other year.

In November of odd years, elections are held for Supervisor, Clerk, Highway Superintendent, Justice, and two of the four Councilmen. (Councilmen serve for four years, with two up for reelection each time.) This year Susan Fairbairn and Garret Sitts will be up for reelection, should they choose to run again.

At the end of the May Town Board meeting, Supervisor Smith announced that he will not stand for reelection, after serving for eleven terms over twenty-two years and before that, a few terms as a Councilman. In Franklin, most elections have the Republican candidate running unopposed.

Candidates of political parties may petition between June 4<sup>th</sup> and July 11<sup>th</sup>. In Franklin, a place on the Republican ballot requires the signatures of at least five percent of registered party members, which would equal thirty-five.

There is no September primary for unaffiliated candidates, so they may petition later, between July 9<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup>. A place on the ballot requires the signatures of at least five percent of all residents who voted in the last gubernatorial election. In Franklin, that would equal forty-two.

Besides candidates, petition question may be placed on the ballot. Signatures can be collected likewise in July and August. The minimum number of signatures needed for ballot questions is much higher than for candidates: at least twenty-five percent of those who voted in the last gubernatorial election. In Franklin, that would be two hundred and eight.

This year the election is Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, with the polls open in the Town sheds from 6 am to 9 pm. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by September 9<sup>th</sup> or delivered in person by the following day.

The NYS political calendar: <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/law/2013OfficialPoliticalCalendar05072013.pdf>



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# FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News  
Local Events

Local Issues  
Local Concerns



## MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

By Carla Nordstrom

Five years ago, the village of Franklin experienced a renaissance; the Franklin Stage Company was celebrating its 12<sup>th</sup> season with a production of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*, the Beehive was serving breakfast and lunch with occasional dinners, and antique shops were opening up along Main Street. It looked like our village would benefit from the influx of new businesses and the energy of entrepreneurs. Of course, that was the summer of 2008. By the fall, the country had slid into the Great Recession and business in Franklin began to dwindle. Aside from White's Farm Supplies, Meadowbrook Farm, Dawn's Deli and smaller businesses that serve the needs of local customers, the village sank back into quiet solitude. The restaurant is gone and only a few antique shops are still in business.

Though business currently looks bleak, there is good news: The Franklin Stage Company is currently celebrating its seventeenth season.

Why is this good news? In 2010, Le Moyne College conducted a study on the impact of arts and cultural institutions in Syracuse, NY. While Franklin can hardly be said to mirror Syracuse, perhaps we can learn from the Arts and Economic Prosperity IV study and apply some of its discoveries to our own community.

For instance: "*Nationally, the industry* (nonprofit arts and cultural organizations) *generated \$135.2 billion dollars in economic activity -- \$61.1 billion by the nation's nonprofit arts and cultural organizations in addition to \$74.1 billion in*

*event-related expenditures by their audiences. This economic activity supports 4.1 million full-time jobs. Our industry also generates \$22.3 billion in revenue to local, state, and federal government – a yield well beyond their collective \$4 billion arts allocations.*" (<http://lemoyne.edu/Portals/11/AEP4.pdf>)

In other words, nonprofit arts and cultural organizations are big business. As an admission-free theater relying on grants, donations, and volunteer help, the Franklin Stage Company does not have a large effect on employment, but it does spend money locally for building supplies and services. Recently, the theater engaged in a large restoration project, and all that business went to local contractors.

But, the major impact of the theater on the local economy is to bring people to Franklin for the summer productions. The audiences come from local communities and from as far away as Binghamton. One finding in the Arts and Economic Prosperity IV study was that, on average, people who attend a production at a cultural institution spend approximately \$25 locally in addition to the admission. People from outside the community actually spend twice as much as local patrons. In the case of Syracuse, locals spend \$17 while visitors spend approximately \$40 per person for such things as meals and shopping in local retail stores.

Donna Briggs, proprietor of The Squire's Tankard, says, "People want something to do besides going to the theater. They will walk up and down the street and come to town early to visit my store. They

See MISSED, continued on Page 8



Eleanor Blakeslee-Drain and Patrick Hennenbery

Photo by PatriciKnapp-Tyrell

## OPERATION CSA: FOOD INDEPENDENCE

By Patricia Knapp-Tyrell

You may not be aware of the war being waged against you and your family. It's been going on for decades, and it is not fought with guns or outright violence, but by distant, silent assassins, contracted by government and corporate businesses.

Are any of these buzz words familiar: GMOs, artificial flavors, Monsanto, pesticides, Made in China, hormones, high fructose corn syrup? If these words don't ring a bell, perhaps you will recognize some of these: cancer, diabetes, obesity, heart disease, Alzheimer's, ADD/ADHD, anti-biotic resistant, sterility.

But do you know that the first group lists some of the weaponry that is often partially if not wholly responsible for inflicting the life-altering or life-threatening wounds in the second? That's right! Your food from the grocery store may be hazardous to your health.

So maybe this comes as a surprise to you, and maybe not. Regardless, let me introduce you to one of several exciting ideas in the food revolution that is working to create food justice...and it's happening near you!

It's Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). Essentially, a CSA is an investment opportunity offering significant returns for shareholders. But instead of talking about dividends, stock value and corporations, we talk about local farms, food supply, and relationships.

While there are a variety of CSA types, in the traditional form members invest in a local farm by providing startup (planting) capital before the growing season begins. In return, CSA members receive a portion of the crops harvested as the season progresses, directly from the farm.

At the risk of sounding melodramatic, these CSA farmers may be a front-line defense in the food war being waged against you and yours. They could also become your friends and favorite business partners, as well as providing opportunities to

meet and greet your neighbors.

For instance: meet Eleanor Blakeslee-Drain and Patrick Hennenbery, managers of Berry Brook Farm CSA at Stony Creek Farm, Walton, NY. Two remarkable individuals who share an enthusiasm for Delaware County dirt, the variety of vegetables they can grow in it and the sense of community it can help support. Under their joint management for a year now, Berry Brook Farm CSA has secured a base of thirty members. Their goal is to become an integral partner in a thriving and vibrant community brought together by a mutual demand for transparent agriculture and safe, healthy, local food.

Who doesn't love non-violent alternatives to war? You can free yourself from the grocery store ritual of having to ask, where does this tomato come from? Or, who sells it, what's on it, or are there fish genes in it? Join a CSA, and your tomato will come from just up the road, at your friendly, maybe even USDA Organic Certified local farm. And that's only one benefit.

Fish-gene jokes and war analogies aside, you may be asking for the fine print at this point, or thinking it's too good to be true. Sure, there are risks. If, for instance, there is a drought that severely affects crop yields, your bounty will not be so bountiful. But, all things considered, we've been feeling the financial impact of droughts in distant places on our food supply for years. It's not a new risk – it's just closer to home.

Berry Brook Farm CSA's Eleanor and Patrick note other possible downsides to joining a CSA. For one, some members may receive more produce than they can manage to eat, so might feel wasteful with such over-abundance. But consider the range of preservation techniques, or simply give it away. Remember, sharing is caring! And if you keep a compost bin or pile, nothing that goes into it is ever truly wasted.

Also, while a wide variety of vegetables  
See CSA, continued on Page 9

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Route 28, North Franklin  
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Pastor: Pat Judd  
Sunday Service: 9:30 A.M.  
Location: 1/2 mile east of the Ouleout Golf Course

### Franklin United Methodist Church

Main and Water Streets  
Franklin  
Phone: 607-829-2956  
Pastor: John Hill  
Sunday Service: 10:45 A.M.  
Coffee hour following  
Sunday School for children  
following Children's Time  
Holy Communion, first Sunday of each month.

### Treadwell United Methodist Church

68 Church Street,  
Treadwell  
Pastor: John Hill  
Sunday Service: 9:15 A.M.

### St Paul's Episcopal Church

307 Main Street, Franklin  
Phone: 607-829-6404  
All faiths welcome

Service every first Sunday of the month at 1:30 P.M. followed by fellowship dish-to-pass dinner.

Service every second thru fourth Sunday at 8:15 A.M.

First Thursdays Soup Dinner every month, by donation, to benefit roof replacement fund. 5-7 P.M. Join your friends for homemade soups, chili, salad and conversation!

### Community Bible Church

89 Center Street, Franklin  
Pastor: Dr. Walt Schlundt  
Phone: 607-829-5471  
Sunday School (Sept. Through May): 9:45 AM  
Morning Worship: 10:45 AM

We are a church that faithfully teaches the word of God and seeks to glorify Him through worship, service and in all that we do. We seek to fulfill the great commission through evangelization, missions and training. We offer two Ladies' Bible Studies and one Men's Bible Study.

*This space sponsored by Handsome Brook Farm.*

**SCANDAL, con't from Page 1**  
Law, Article 41.

However, this law (§41.13, *Power and duties of local governmental units*, (a)-6) says that every unit, such as the CSB, has "the power, *with the approval of local government*, to enter into contracts for the provision of services, including the provision of community support services, and the construction of facilities" (italics added). But the only advisement offered by Mr. Donnelly came during the previous March 27<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisor's meeting with his invitation to tour the Kellogg School in the hamlet of Treadwell, and the Del-Met, on West Street in the Village of Walton, as possible future homes for the consolidated Community Services.

In addition, according to §41.13, (a)-12, every local CSB shall "seek the cooperation of and cooperate with other aging, public health and social services agencies..." This particular section of the law must have been misread by the CSB, given that they made a public, multi-service-involved, resource consuming, never mind unprecedented decision without any consultation with consumers, service providers or elected officials.

But "done deal" or no, the local press took notice, which is fortunate because

most of the public was unaware of the proposal until the meeting's events became front-page news. Likely, it was the presumptuousness of the CSB's proclamation that caused the outcry of disapproval (putting it mildly). The public responded with letters to the editor, calls and comments to local and county law makers. When asked, Jeff Taggart of the Franklin Town Board expressed firm opposition to the move, citing both community and fiscal concerns, not to mention common sense.

Yet, at the May meeting of the Franklin Town Board, Mr. Taggart did not receive support from his fellow board member for passing a resolution against moving the county's Community Services. Instead, they resolved to request a meeting with the Delaware CSB to discuss the proposed move, in order to be better informed when addressing taxpayer concerns. Please note that this meek resolution was the sole expression of the Town Board's dismay, largely in response to having been left out of the decision making process, not to any disapproval of the relocation plan.

Rumors swirled around the proposed move, prompting questions about the CSB's authority, possible "relationships" between county officials and busi-

ness owners, closed-door deals, taxpayer costs, and whether our county officials are even in touch with the realities of service provision within Delaware County.

Had it not been for the political and public outcry against the move, and the diligent research into the CSB's authority under the law, the proposed plan might still be ongoing. But it has become clear that several on the CSB were not even legal members, their terms having already expired. According to § 41.11, Composition of boards, (d): "No person may serve as a member of a board of a sub-committee for more than two terms consecutively unless otherwise provided by local law."

Specifically, *four* of the nine-member group had to step down or resign, including Sup. Martin Donnelly, Dr. Michael Freeman, Joan Hale and Joanne Sampson. The remaining five members are Sup. Tina Mole, Mary Stilde, Pastor Earnie Varga, Dr. Janice Stalter and Rina Riba.

Mr. Donnelly has since commented, "I've served over the designated time limit, which is not an issue in rural areas unless someone makes an issue of it." How interesting that laws can "set you free," as with the CSB's power grab, or not apply at all, so long as no one knows about it, or cares.

Also in May, BoS Chair-

man James Eisel informed the supervisors that once new appointments are made to the CSB, the entire relocation plan should be reevaluated. And it turns out that the county and the CSB will have no choice but to reevaluate, as they have been advised by Jackie Clark of Clark Companies that Treadwell property owners Scott Clark and his business partners have withdrawn their offer to the county for the leasing of the space, due to the public controversy surrounding the move.

The dust-up is entertaining, but utterly disappointing. This is a time when government should strive to transcend backroom conniving and self-serving manipulation. It is hard to take anyone seriously when they're talking out of both sides of their mouth. Trust is reserved for those with integrity, and we've seen this virtue to be in short supply.

And at the end of the day, the question remains: what future now for the former Kellogg School?

*For legal references:*

<http://codes.lp.findlaw.com/nycode/MHY/E/41/>

*For BoS meeting minutes:*

<http://www.co.delaware.ny.us/departments/cob/meetings.htm>

*Patricia Knapp-Tyrell is a concerned resident of the Town of Franklin.*

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## BETTER, BUT NOT GREAT

*Franklin Central School vs. NY State, Round Two*

By Jim Mullen

It was only a year ago last March that several hundred people attended heated meetings about the Franklin Central School budget, which had been mauled by state aid cuts that targeted small rural schools much more than they did large and mostly downstate schools.

This year, FCS got about \$211,000 more than last year, enabling the restoration of some part-time positions to full-time, but leaving state aid at roughly the same level as

during the 2007-2008 school year.

Governor Cuomo's new NY Education Reform Commission held eleven public hearings in 2012 in response to the school crisis, and their recommendations are now part of the Governor's legislative agenda. None of the reforms directly address the plight of small rural schools like FCS, except one. The commission proposed changing state law to make it easier for such schools to consolidate into bigger, regional schools. The problem, said one disappointed school parent, "is that the Commission thinks that Binghamton is rural."

Nor did the Commission address the fact that budget cuts for downstate schools were much smaller than the cuts to upstate rural schools. Several lawsuits against the state that call the formula used to allocate school aid unfair to small rural schools have yet to be decided.

Franklin's ad hoc Save Our Schools movement of last year has been formalized as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation called the Franklin Community Educational Foundation ([www.FranklinCommunity.org](http://www.FranklinCommunity.org)), with the goal of making sure FCS remains viable for the future. This includes funding for items and projects not in the school's budget and keeping politicians updated on the needs of the staff and the students. The FCEF Board welcomes public input and participation.

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# PET TALK

with Dr. Joan Puritz

Hello, readers.

I would like to discuss ticks and the transmission of Lyme disease.

We live in a Lyme endemic area for dogs. Almost every day, we see a dog at our hospital with this disease. We seem to have more ticks than ever this year. Spring and fall seem to be the worst. The vector of this disease is the deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*). The female tick lays about two hundred eggs in the spring, which very soon hatch into small larvae that immediately begin feeding on a host. The host is usually a small mouse, which then can become infected with the spirochete, a microscopic organism called *Borrelia burgdorferi*. The tick needs to be on its host for about forty-eight hours in order to transmit the disease.

The next stage, called the nymph, and the adult stage feed on larger animals such as deer and humans, cats and dogs. We are seeing more ticks due to warmer winters and to suburbanization, which brings together people, wildlife and ticks; also, to an increase in white tailed deer and migratory birds that carry ticks to new areas. Also contributing are the increased preservation



of open space and the replanting of trees, together with the use of fewer insecticides.

Ticks carry over a dozen human and animal infections in addition to Lyme disease. Signs that your dog may have it would be limping, fever, lethargic, and sometimes decreased appetite. In a really severe case, there can also be kidney damage. So what can be done to prevent the ticks? Treat your dog with a spot-on tick preventative for four months of the year. This will greatly reduce chances of infection. There is also a Lyme vaccine available at your veterinary office. The treatment for the disease is Doxycycline. But it is off the market at this time, due to some manufacturing problems, so another antibiotic is being used which hopefully will be as effective.

Strangely enough, though cats get ticks, there have been no cats reported to have Lyme disease.

Have a great summer and watch for ticks.

I would have written more on this subject, but have been doing a lot of late night emergencies to remove porcupine quills!

Sincerely,  
Joan Puritz DVM

**PET TALK READERS:** If you have questions for Dr. Puritz, please email her care of us at [nfr@franklinlocal.org](mailto:nfr@franklinlocal.org). She will answer you in a future column.

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### FOUR WALLS, con't from Page 1

goal was to provide both elementary and secondary education for their children. They made buildings to suit their noble goal, distinguished by both beauty and craftsmanship, and surely at a considerable expense in labor and money for families that had settled in virgin forest only decades earlier. The Federal-style Stone Hall was built in 1836. Remarkably, the school was built for the education of both boys and girls, with separate entrances.

The same high architectural standards held for Greek Revival Chapel Hall, built in 1855. The school was now called the Delaware Literary Institute, and its reputation quickly grew, attracting residential students from elsewhere, even from abroad. Interestingly, school brochures from the 19<sup>th</sup> century mention that Franklin, at more than 1200 feet of altitude, is "malaria free."

In 1909, the Delaware Literary Institute closed. New York State had established universal secondary education and DLI



Chapel Hall's new porch floor Photo: G. Marner

was incorporated into the public school district. Chapel Hall became the home of the local Masonic chapter. On its top floor, the Masons built a wonderful meeting room, with polychrome pressed tin walls and ceiling. They turned the simple chapel and assembly hall on the main floor into a charming theatre with a stage at one end and a balcony at the other. In 1997, finding its maintenance too great a burden, the Masons were advised to transfer the building to a not-for-profit group. My husband Gene Marner, Tom Butts (then Franklin Village Mayor) and I - all with backgrounds in theatre - approached them with the idea of establishing a theatre in Chapel Hall. The Masons willingly transferred the building to the not-for-profit Franklin Stage Company, with the provision that we commit ourselves to its preservation as well as its service to the public.

Did we understand what it meant to take on a building with three stories plus basement, measuring forty by eighty feet? Not exactly.

But we did decide on the following, in our mission statement: "We believe that the world's dramatic heritage is so splendid that helping to keep it alive will enrich all our lives and that a policy of 'Free Admission, Donations Accepted' will allow

### CSA, continued from Page 3

bles and herbs are grown by CSAs, some people do not like everything they receive. If this is your concern, and you're not apt to try new tastes and textures, discuss the contents of your weekly packet with your farmers. What you don't want, someone else will.

Despite the minor inconveniences, the CSA partnership is pretty darn exciting, in both practice

and theory. In a time of potential crop instability, food-borne diseases and environmentally destructive industrial farming, a CSA offers the opportunity to take control of what goes into your body, at the same time supporting the local economy as well as practices of sustainable agriculture that help maintain a healthy environment.

We are lucky to have a

network of such entities in the area, including Farmers' Markets, community gardens and local farm operations. So, take control of what is yours. Strike a blow for food freedom! A CSA can help.

For more information about Berry Brook Farm CSA, visit: [www.stonycreekfarm.org](http://www.stonycreekfarm.org)



Chapel Hall being painted Photo: G. Marner

anyone and everyone access."

This policy has survived and so has Franklin Stage, now under the direction of Carmela Marner. Every summer, Chapel Hall becomes an Equity theatre with actors coming from far and wide (London, Moscow, Vancouver, Texas), a paid staff and a buoyantly enthusiastic group of student interns. Most importantly, there is a loyal audience drawn primarily from a seventy-mile radius. And to keep us going, there has been the support of the New York State Council on the Arts, several regional foundations, a group of local patrons dedicated to the arts and historic preservation, and, most importantly, the contributions of our audience.

In the recent renovation, Tim Horvath of Redpoint Builders in Cherry Valley restored the windows. Exterior painting was done by historic preservation experts Lee Liddle of Second Nature Construction in Delhi, and Redpoint Builders. Larry Stevens of Stevens Excavating in Otego rebuilt the foundation and installed a drainage system. Franklin's Lee Cohen of Cohen and Frazier rebuilt the porch floor and the column bases.

The Chapel Hall exterior restoration was made possible with a grant from the Village of Franklin Main Street Program, administered by the Delaware County Local Development Corporation, and with the generous support of the George A. & Margaret Mee Charitable Foundation; the A. Lindsay & Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, The 1772 Foundation, Assael, Inc., and Sylvia Sichel.



Checking for interior damage Photo: G. Marner





# FOCUS ON ENERGY

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PART II

**Walton Theatre**  
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**Special Film Screening**  
**With Director Josh Fox in Person**

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Citizens Energy & Economics Council of Delaware County (CEEC) • Ommegang Brewery  
DAG-Delaware Action Group • Concerned Citizens of Otsego • Friends of Sustainable Sidney

Gasland Part II is an  
HBO Documentary Films release  
presented by Gasland Grassroots

For additional information  
please visit **Franklin Local**  
[www.franklinlocal.org/Gasland](http://www.franklinlocal.org/Gasland)  
[www.gaslandthemovie.com](http://www.gaslandthemovie.com)

**Walton Theatre • 31 Gardiner Place • Walton NY**

**GASLAND, continued from Page 1**

profits. It's a classic old story. This is what energy extraction companies do. So why wasn't our government stepping in to protect Americans? Why in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with this huge amount of media attention on the issue, was there no action anywhere but, basically, New York? And Obama was going in the opposite direction, quoting oil and gas industry talking points in his 2012 State of the Union address, which is in the film. What was going on? That's what I wanted to look at this time. So this is an investigation into another level of contamination due to fracking—the contamination of democracy. And what we found was equally shocking to the water being lit on fire in the first movie. This is our democracy being lit on fire."

The first *Gasland* film came out as the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico unfolded. At the time, Josh was struck by the response of the government to that crisis, together with the inability of the media to gain access.

"It was apparent that BP was running the government response down in the Gulf of Mexico. If this is the case with the largest environmental disaster in the history of the United States, what is it going to be like with fracking? That set us off."

Fox brought *Gasland Part II* to Walton as part of a national grass-roots tour

before the film premieres on HBO on July 8th.

Why tour now?

"We wanted to give the film directly to the people who created it with us. I toured with the first *Gasland* to two hundred and fifty cities across America. It took a year and

"I felt like I could see it. A horizontal well bore snaking under the congress, shooting money up through the chamber at such high pressure that it blew the top off our democracy. Another layer of contamination due to fracking, not the water, not the air, but our government."

- Josh Fox, *Gasland II*

a half. It was absolutely insane. It was a full-time job, meeting with people, talking to people in communities and showing the film and having a discussion. And, to me, that was another layer. Movies don't change the world. Movies raise awareness. But when you really want to change something, you have to show up and you have to be there. I don't think I'll do two hundred fifty cities again. Too exhausting. I'll do as many as I can. But, before the film goes on HBO, I wanted to give the film to the people to whom it matters the most, the people who are fighting these battles locally."

*Gasland Part II* is powerful and moving. From the horrifying aerial shots

of the oil-streaked Gulf of Mexico, to the wrenching stories of the people struggling on the front lines of fracking, to the shock of Josh being handcuffed and arrested in our Capitol for trying to video a congressional hearing, we begin to see that we are on our own.

"It's hard," he told me, "to watch your government literally being taken away from you by the oil and gas industry, and that's what we saw as we tracked these different EPA investigations, DEP investigations, in Wyoming, Texas, Pennsylvania. We follow the New York situation. We follow the frackers as they expand world-wide. We look at climate change—fracked gas is the worst fuel you can use with respect to climate change because methane together with carbon dioxide is worse than coal.

"What we're trying to say is, look, when your democracy isn't functioning correctly...you have to invent new forms of democracy. And those new forms of democracy are this movement. Last

night I was with Pete Seeger in Waltham, Pennsylvania, and I had to introduce him...I said, 'This is a man who is not just a songwriter. He's one of the authors of America.' Then I said to the people in the crowd, in the fracking movement, 'you have to think of yourselves as authoring America, as authoring the next stage of our country.'

"I was playing the Star Spangled Banner on the banjo which I do at the end of the movie as the credit music, and Pete told me that it was the biggest hit of 1814 and it was a bar song and this guy sang it in a bar and they loved it so much

that he had to sing it twice and, at four miles an hour, clip-clopping up and down the East Coast, they spread the lyrics around and it became the National Anthem.

"This is amazing: if a bar song can become the National Anthem, it says that America is something you're making up as you go along and that's what I'm witnessing when I'm watching people fight off the gas industry, these multinational corporations.

"They pose as American, but they're not. They're BP, they're Royal Dutch Shell. Exxon Mobil has no country."

## PIPELINE POSTINGS: A Continuing Chronology of Events

Compiled by Brian Brock

**March 15<sup>th</sup>: Constitution Pipeline Company LLC** deadline for applications for the second round of community grants. The total number of applications was 120, up from 85 in the first round. By contrast, the number of applications from Franklin nonprofits was only two, down from five in the first round.

**March 20<sup>th</sup>: Leatherstocking Gas Company LLC** proposed a franchise agreement with the Village of Delhi.

**March 29<sup>th</sup>: US Army Corps of Engineers** submitted comments on Constitution's pre-filing to FERC, including the requirement that all parcels along route must be surveyed in the field.

**April 9<sup>th</sup>: Leatherstocking Gas Company LLC** made a presentation to the Town of Meredith.

**April 18<sup>th</sup>:** Eleven members of **Stop The Pipeline** traveled to Washington DC to join with dozens of protestors from five states at the monthly meeting of FERC. Afterwards, all marched to the Capitol to meet with their elected officials.

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Stop The Pipeline** rallied in front of a pipeline safety meeting at Foot-hills Performing Arts Center, Oneonta.

**May 14<sup>th</sup>: Leatherstocking Gas Company LLC** proposed a franchise agreement with the Town of Delhi.

**May 28<sup>th</sup>: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation** submitted comments on Constitution's pre-filing to FERC, including requirements that streams be drilled beneath rather than trenched across and that any entry of streams be confined to June 1<sup>st</sup> to September 31<sup>st</sup>.

**May 31<sup>st</sup>: Williams Partners LLC** sold 10% of their interest in Constitution Pipeline to a venture capital firm for \$68 million. The resulting partnership is Williams 41%, Cabot 25%, Piedmont 24%, and WGL Holdings 10%.

**June 6<sup>th</sup>: Stop The Pipeline** celebrated its first anniversary in Sidney.

**June 13<sup>th</sup>: Constitution Pipeline Company LLC** filed the project (CP13-499) with FERC. Revised route now runs slightly longer at 122 miles and the estimated cost has de-

**See PIPELINE, con't on Page 8**



Josh Fox admires the local signage

Photo by Helen McLean



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### DEC, continued from Page 1

well. But it has little or no statutory responsibility to protect people, communities, or the environment.

This arrangement in New York is by no means unique. Rather, it's the situation in state after state. Their statutes are based on the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact of 1935, intended to maximize production and minimize waste -- including minimizing product left in the ground. Today, these two goals (as well as protecting the "correlative rights of all [lease] owners and the rights of all persons [corporations, governmental subdivisions, etc.], including landowners and the general public") remain the only general purposes of the DMN specified in the Environmental Conservation Law §23-0301. And this is despite the revolution in environmental awareness that has developed during the intervening seventy-eight years.

The DMN was criticized for this lack in the only outside review of the DEC regulatory program of oil and gas, done by the IOGC Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency in 1994. In response, it was proposed to add to the general purposes "to protect from hazards to public health, safety and welfare" and "to protect the environment and prevent pollution of lands, soil, surface waters, groundwater, plant and animal life and other natural resources on and off site." However, the DMN has failed to codify these additions, or make any changes in its general regulations since 1981.

This is a problem not just of laws but of people. There is a revolving employment door between regulator and industry. For example, the current director of DMN, Bradley

J. Field, worked for Getty Oil and Marathon Oil, and the former director (1979-2001), George Sovas, now works for a leasing coalition.

Citizens must wonder at the commitment of the DMN to apply the best science when its Director denies the reality of global warming. Mr. Field signed the notorious

gas industry. This situation arose because of the major budget cuts in the 1960s and the resultant reduction in staff at the State level."

Twenty years later, from the IOGCC-EPA review of 1994: "Important program tasks are simply not done or substantially delayed as a result of personnel and dollar

to keep the regulation of drilling under state control, and to keep the federal government out. State legislators and regulators are easier to influence, and states have fewer resources for oversight and prosecution.

In a letter to the DEC in September 2011, the Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York questions "the wisdom of proceeding with broad rule-making" because of "the economic impacts to the oil and gas industry." Apparently the Association is pleased with the absence of any regulations that resulted from the Generic Environmental Impact Statement: "The original ... GEIS has served the state and operators extremely well since its adoption in 1992." And IOGA-NY reminded that "DEC's statutory mandate [is] to promote the development of resource and protect the correlative rights."

Currently the DMN is principally concerned with industrial production, not environmental protection.

### Reforms

Before horizontal drilling followed by high-volume hydraulic fracturing (HVHF) begins, the Division of Mineral Resources should begin to serve the people of our State at least as well as it serves the transnational oil and gas industry. New York government should institute all necessary reforms including the following top ten.

**Records:** Compile the record of the industry pollution caused by exploration and production in New York. This should be done by an outside agency with full access to records of county Departments of Health and state DMN.

See DEC, con't on Page 15



Global Warming (Oregon) Petition that urges the U.S. government to reject any policies based on concerns over global warming because of the absence of "convincing scientific evidence."

Another way to minimize environmental oversight is to starve the regulator of resources. The DMN has been chronically under-staffed and under-funded since it was formed.

Former Director Sovas has testified about the early years of the Division (then called the Bureau): "In the 1970s, New York experienced many problems with the regulatory program for the oil and

shortfalls. Some of the significant programs impacted include: ... No routine inspections over the last three years. Intermittent limits on non-routine [emergency] inspections ... due to shortages of gasoline and overtime dollars."

And fifteen years after that, from a 2009 questionnaire by STRONGER (the successor to the IOGCC): "Retirements and vacancies within the Division and an aging workforce are impacting the delivery of services to the regulated industry."

Naturally, this status quo works to the advantage of industry and is one of the reasons that the oil and gas industry works so relentlessly



# A NEW SET OF PIPES

By Brian Brock

The Village of Franklin finally has a new set of pipes. Some of the hundred and fifty-year-old pipes were so clogged that you could not see daylight down the length of a few feet. Now homes on Center Street no longer get water that looks like tea. Pressure at all the hydrants is sufficient to fight fires. In bathrooms, vigorous showers are enjoyed. Some households are ordering dishwashers.

The Village gets its water from wells in the Ouleout Valley off Otego Street. The main and back-up wells go eighty to ninety feet down into gravels. A bigger pump was installed in the village near these wells. From there, a six inch pipe was laid to the reservoir on the hill to the southeast, off Franklin Heights Road.

The 225,000 gallon reservoir holds enough water for three to four days of use. In case of longer blackouts, a back-up generator can operate the pump. New power was run to the reservoir to provide lights.

Although not still connected to the system, the original spring source off Bissell Road remains available in case the wells fail.

A ten inch pipe was returned down to the Village that can supply two thousand gallons of water per minute. From there, eight inch pipes were laid down the length of Center Street and along Main Street, except for the stretch between Otego and Institute Streets where pipes were replaced during the 1978 repaving. Branching off from these, six inch pipes were laid down the other streets.

A total of twenty-nine hydrants were connected

directly to the mains, including a few in new locations. One is conveniently near the firehouse to fill the tanker.

From the water mains, hook-ups were made to a hundred and ninety five customers. New services and valves were required in a hundred thirty five of these installations.

Mayor John Campbell initiated this project and saw it through to completion. Engineering was done by Delaware Engineering of Oneonta. Construction was by LRS Excavating of Lansing, with a crew of a half dozen workers.

The work began in the last week of September, 2012, and continued through the first week of December. Most of the trenching and laying of pipe was done and some services were connected. The gravel underlying the Village made excavation easy. A horseshoe was unearthed – the only artifact found.

This year, work resumed in March and was completed in June. NYSDOT would not allow Main Street (State Highway 357) to be excavated, so the pipe had to be laid under the sidewalk on the northwest side and directional drilling under Main Street was required to connect the customers on the other side.

Finally, concrete curbs were extruded, and then the excavated streets were ground down and repaved with asphalt.

This project was financed by U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development though a grant of \$1.1 million and a low-interest loan of \$1.4. That horseshoe must have brought luck because this \$2.5 million was below the original estimate of \$3.5 million.



**PIPELINE**, con't from Page 6  
creased from \$750 to \$683 million. The number of cut-off valves has increased from 7 to 11 including Main Line Valve #6 in Franklin on Stewart Road. Application process is expected to take more than a year.

**Note:** Complete application and supporting documents are available as hard copy at the Franklin Free Library and as computer files on the FERC website: [http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp).

**The NFR welcomes Sue Avery, who will offer us delicious recipes on a regular basis.**

## IN THE KITCHEN

With Sue Avery

### CREAMED PEAS AND CUCUMBERS (serves 6 generously)

- 4 cups shelled green peas
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 2 small cucumbers, peeled and diced
- 3 tbsp. butter
- 1 cup cream, scalded
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 cups boiling water

Combine peas, onion and salt in a saucepan. Add the boiling water and cook, covered, until the peas are almost tender - about 15 minutes.

Add cucumbers and cook until these are almost tender. Drain (you can reserve the liquid for soup).

Add butter and scalded cream, and let boil up once.  
Serve very hot.

*Note: sour cream may be used for a particularly delicious and unusual dish.*



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MISSED, continued from Page 3

also make return trips back just to shop in my store." She mentioned that the people who perform in the productions also come into the store to buy things for themselves. "They say, it's such a great town, they wish there were more stores and places to eat a meal or get a cup of coffee."

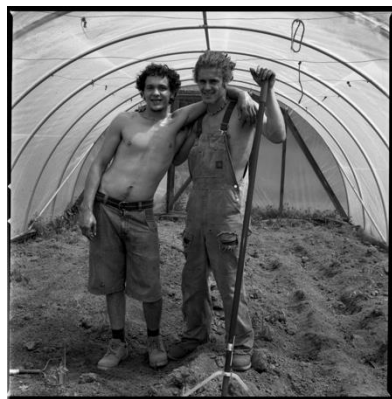
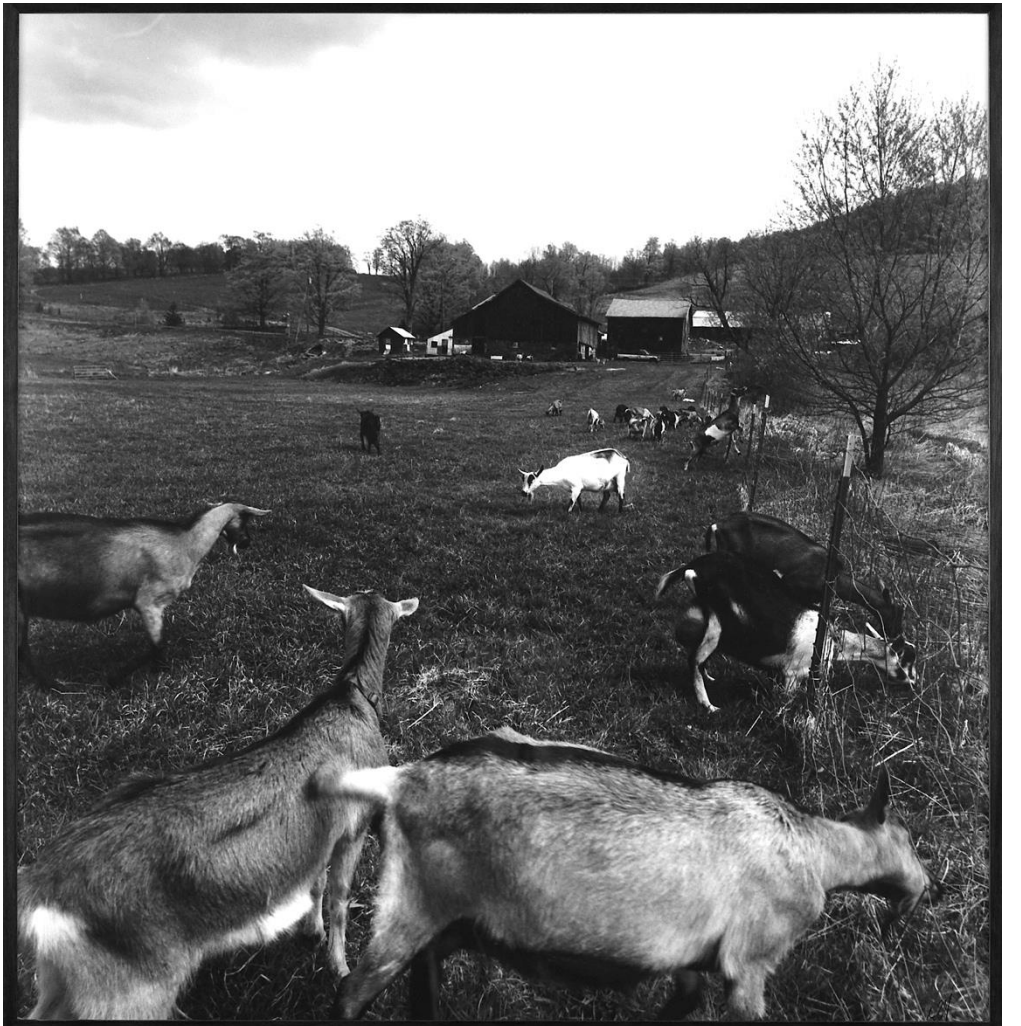
Most would agree that having a full-service restaurant in town, as we had five years ago, made a real difference for the people who attended the theater, and for many locals as well. With a place to eat a late lunch or dinner, other shops opened up, providing something to do. In order to take advantage of the potential dollars that patrons of the theater bring into our com-

munity, we need to have places for them to spend their money.

State Senator John De Francisco is quoted in the Le Moyne College study: "The arts are not only the heart and soul of the community, but are essential to economic development. Without the arts, we cannot attract people who run businesses to locate and stay in Central New York."

While past experience may suggest that a full-service restaurant cannot support itself in Franklin, if we looked at our resources, the major one being the Franklin Stage Company, it should be possible to take better advantage of this treasure and benefit the entire community economically.





Photography by Dana Matthews. See more farm work at [danamatthews.com](http://danamatthews.com)



music  
literature  
education

# ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

fine arts  
poetry  
holiday fun

## AT THE LIBRARY

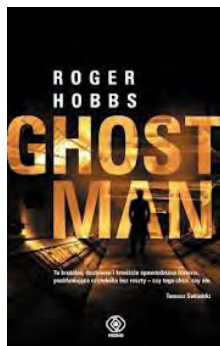
### JIM MULLEN REVIEWS NEW BOOKS



#### GHOST MAN

By Robert Hobbs

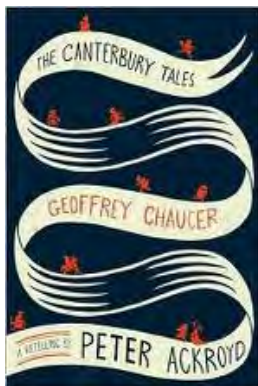
Our hero is is professional hit man. He has no name, no phone number, no kids, no pets. And he's, maybe, the nicest guy in the book. Like Dexter, the serial killer who only kills other serial killers, our guy only kills people that deserve it. This is like a great police procedural in reverse: the bad guy is trying to figure out the rat-a-tat mysteries with plenty of violence and Soprano/Godfather moments. But the real mystery of this book is its author, Robert Hobbs. This is his first novel and it's certainly as plot heavy as anything by Lee Child or James Patterson, yet a few steps up the literary ladder -- below P.D. James, but above Sue Grafton. And here's the kicker: Robert Hobbs graduated from college in 2012. He's twenty-three. Be afraid. Be very afraid.



#### CANTERBURY TALES: A Retelling

By Peter Ackroyd

Since I didn't have to learn French to read or Russian to read *War and Peace*, I've always academics think we should only read the Can- in the original Middle English, with its archaic tic spelling. Most of us have slogged through of that and given up. Enter Peter Ackroyd with prose translation into contemporary English of famous work. I've always wanted to know why mous; it sounds so very old-fashioned and out- found was a book that was written six hundred years ago with large parts that seem as if they were written yesterday. The Wife of Bath's Tale will still make you laugh. Chaucer also writes about a pilgrim named Geoffrey Chaucer who gets interrupted halfway through his tale by the other pilgrims because he's soooo boring. How meta-modern can you get? And Chaucer worked blue - the tales are surprisingly full of four-letter words and dirty jokes for a group of people on their way to visit a religious shrine. My next hope is that Ackroyd will translate James Joyce into English. I'd really like to get past the first chapter of *Ulysses* someday.



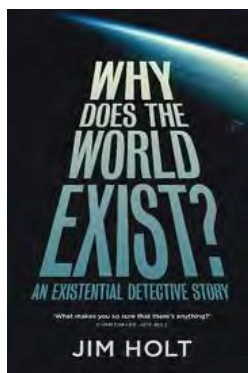
*Madame Bovary* wondered why terbury Tales words and crip- a page or two a wonderful Chaucer's most this book is so fa- of-date. What I

#### WHY DOES THE WORLD EXIST?

By Jim Holt

If you ever wonder why the publishing business is in the toilet, it's not because of the internet or Kindle or Facebook. It's because they continue to publish forest destroying, navel-gazing crap like this. This tome tries to pass itself off as a deep-thinking, philosophical treatise written for those of us unlucky enough not to have a PhD in Philosophy. It is not. It is page after endless page of absolute twaddle demonstrating that if you ask a silly question, you'll get a silly answer.

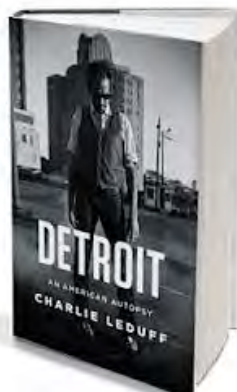
Actually, there's a thought experiment that will let you experience this book without reading it. Think of the worst, most boring required course you ever took in college and multiply it by how many angels can dance on the head of pin. Then imagine that you will get no credit for taking the course. This will not come close to the misery of reading this pointless piece of junk, but at least it will warn you off.



#### DETROIT: An Autopsy

By Charlie LeDuff

On the surface, this is a book of Detroit, but it is really a book about reporter named Charlie LeDuff. It's is a core dump. Reading it is like sit- table with him in his t-shirt and box- after story of his home town. He has fails, and he has plenty to tell about of its population since its heyday, who cannot afford to leave. Detroit's can automobile executives who let Japan blow the city's jobs away while they themselves walked away with all the silverware. Yet no FEMA trailers showed up, no levees got fixed. Detroit was left to die. And Charlie says what happened to Detroit is slowly happening to other cities all over the country. It just happens so incrementally, you don't notice until it's way too late to do anything.



about the Decline and Fall a very clever, appealing not a memoir so much as it ting across the breakfast er shorts, telling you story a brash charm that rarely a city that has lost one half leaving only the people Katrina was stupid Ameri-

## LITERARY WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS

By Bertha Rogers

Bright Hill Literary Center has been offering its Literary Workshops for Kids Program since 1994, originally at the home of founders Bertha Rogers and Ernest Fishman - in the dining room, studio, living room, outdoors, etc. - until the organization purchased the 1865 house at 94 Church Street in Treadwell. Within a few years, Bright Hill renovated and winterized the two-car garage on the property, turning it into the BH Education Wing. The space is a long rectangle with wide doors at either end - perfect for the workshops, especially in the summer, when the students have only to lift their heads to see walls of growing trees and shrubs and the BH Literary Garden, complete with a "Secret Garden" for the children.

The workshops focus on the interaction between writing and visual arts and are enhanced with such themes as Native America; the Catskills, when these hills were under the Devonian Sea; and origin legends and folktales from all over the world. This year's workshops look at the tales and folktales of Nigeria and Ethiopia, Mexico and Guatemala, and Southern Spain and Italy. The workshops are open to kids 6-14; veterans of the programs often serve as interns in both summer and winter.

This year's summer intern is Meredith Hammerslag, now 16, who has participated in the program since she was six. After taking some years off, Meredith rejoined Bright Hill in the winter of 2012 and is with us again this summer. Meredith is a master of many of the techniques used at Bright Hill, i.e., papier mache sculpture, watercolor painting, pop-up books and cards, and drawing. Roxbury native Marlise Cammer, who just graduated from SUNY Oneonta and who served as college intern at Bright Hill this past spring semester and also as editorial intern, will be teaching in the workshops and other summer programs at the Center.

This past winter, Bright Hill launched its amazing new tool, the SMARTBoard Electronic Learning System, a portable system that is a whiteboard, a movie screen, and interactive internet implement with intuitive, multi-touch capabilities that enable natural collaboration and bring more magical moments to the classroom. Bright Hill uses the SMARTBoard to explore participants' place in the local and wider world by viewing webcams of animals from the regions we study. This past winter, workshop kids studied the Waterbear (Tardigrade), a microscopic creature that is one of the most complex



The SMARTboard at work

of all known polyextremophiles, an organism that can thrive in physically or geochemically extreme conditions detrimental to most life on Earth. The Tardigrade has survived trips to space, and can seem to die yet be rehydrated after ten years. The SMARTBoard made it possible for students to understand these animals on a more intimate and active level than with traditional forms of learning. Workshop participants then wrote about the Waterbear and created dioramas that included it.

Pooh Kaye of Worcester, filmmaker, animator and internationally-known performance artist, will be teaching an animation workshop this summer for the older students; they will collaborate with Kaye to produce an animated film, which will be shown on the SMARTBoard; Doug Jamison of Treadwell, painter and printmaker, will use the SMARTBoard to teach classical drawing.

Bright Hill, founded in 1992, is dedicated to literature in its many forms and to encouraging and developing the skills of talented Catskills youth.



# UpState Arts

By Jane Carr

Treadwell is a sleepy little hamlet of less than three hundred people situated on Delaware County Route 14, less than a half hour from Delhi in one direction, and a half hour from Oneonta in the other. But it's only "sleepy" on the surface. Actually, Treadwell is a thriving enclave of artists, writers, musicians and photographers, with the Treadwell Museum of Fine Art, the Bright Hill Literary Center and the homes and studios of dozens of artists.

And on July 6 and 7, many of those studios will be open to the public during the 18th annual Stagecoach Run Art Festival. Over forty artists will be showing their work during this free two-day tour.

Treadwell has had various names at various times: Jug City, East Franklin, and Croton. At the crossroads is Barlow's Store, in business since 1841. Here you can buy fresh produce, a

gourmet sandwich or a pair of socks. Barlow's carries local organic lamb from Faraway Farm, and organic eggs from Handsome Brook Farm, both in Treadwell. The Croton House on the other side of Roaring Brook Creek was in the past an inn and an ice cream shop. Today it is apartments, and

the portico furnishes space for artists to set up a pottery display and paintings during the Festival. Across the street is the Oddfellows Lodge,

now the studio of Joseph Kurhajec, who spends summers in Treadwell and winters in Paris and the Yucatan. Down Church Street is The Bright Hill Literary Center, where children can sign up for classes, locals can use the library's computers and guest poets read their work twice monthly.

The Methodist Church next door is a fine example of early architecture. Her-

mon and Minor Treadwell were both carpenters and built many of the first residences in the village. The name "Jug City" may possibly be due to their custom of filling a 3-gallon jug of liquor every morning from the distillery near the village. Minor served as the first postmaster of the village, holding that office for fifteen years, beginning in 1824.

In later years he made fanning mills (to clean grain) in a shop adjoining his home across the brook from the Methodist Church. Most of the homes along the main road were built in the nineteenth century and the architecture is fantastic.

This year, the Stagecoach Run Art Festival features several new venues. The barns at the intersections of Warren Road and Warner Hill Road will house a dozen artists showing their work together. Down Route 14, visitors will find the barn at "Old Soul," where reconditioned furniture, up-scale crafts and paintings are located. On the Treadwell Green beside

## Treadwell Stagecoach Run ART FESTIVAL



the creek, artists will be selling their work under tents.

There are also three venues in the village of Franklin

- a building showing two artists, a barn containing a large installation and a group show at the Franklin Stage Company on Institute Street.



A Door Must be Kept Open or Shut by Alfred de Musset

Village Wooing by George Bernard Shaw

Friday June 28 - Sunday June 30; matinee Saturday at 2  
Wednesday July 3 - Sunday July 7  
Wednesday July 10 - Sunday July 14

The Winter's Tale by William Shakespeare

Friday August 16 - Sunday August 18; matinee Saturday at 2  
Wednesday August 21 - Sunday August 25  
Wednesday August 28 - Sunday September 1

for information about additional events at FSC including concerts, rehearsed readings and performances by Mettawee River Theatre Company and Opera Oggi New York, please visit [www.franklinstagecompany.org](http://www.franklinstagecompany.org)

admission is free  
(donations gratefully accepted)

reservations are recommended  
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25 Institute St.  
Franklin, NY

"Marriage with Albatross" by Zena Gurbo



2013-14 Season at  
the Walton Theatre,  
Walton, NY  
7:30pm

## Music on the Delaware

September 14, 2013  
North Sea Gas

Direct from Scotland, this group has toured all over the world and will only be in the United States for one month this year. The group has existed for 30 years and is one of the most popular folk bands in Scotland.

October 5, 2013 • Molasses Creek

A return appearance in Walton after several years, this very popular and fun group from the Outer Banks of North Carolina, always fills the house. High energy and phenomenal songwriting bring their love of their coastal home to our stage. The five talented musicians have recorded 13 albums and have followers all around the world. They have also won on Garrison Keillor's Prairie Home Companion.

November 16, 2013 • Brother Sun

An explosion of musical diversity and harmony, fusing folk, Americana, blues, pop, jazz, rock, and a cappella singing. Joe Jencks, Greg Greenway and Pat Wictor join to form this trio that has been described as "warm as a campfire, stirring as a gospel church, and rousing as a call to arms".



February 8, 2014 • Amy Gallatin & Sweetwaters

Amy sings with a silvery, captivating voice as distinctive as Alison Kraus whether it is blues, western swing or country standards. She is accompanied by Sweetwaters vocals, dobro, guitar, mandolin and acoustic bass. This is Amy's second visit to Walton's stage and she is one of the performers that people have requested a return visit.

March, 2014 - Family Concert

April 5, 2014 - Cherish the Ladies

A very exciting end to our season. For 25 years, one of the busiest, best, and most popular Irish groups in the world - Boston Globe. Seen frequently on PBS specials, now on the Walton stage.

Concerts are preceded by an hour long upstairs open jam session for anyone wishing to join in or just listen.

Visit [www.waltontheatre.org](http://www.waltontheatre.org)

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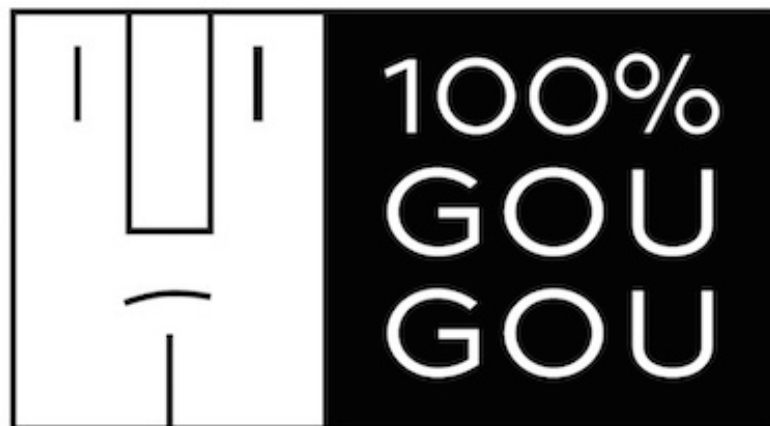
THE NEW FRANKLIN REGISTER

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## annals of sustainability: solar leasing - two satisfied customers

Bruce Habbegger and Marianne Neuber homestead a scenic hillside near Roxbury, caring for extensive orchards and vegetable gardens, bees and cats. Recently, they went solar, placing the panels on a barn Bruce had built with trees from his own land. The NFR asked them to share this experience.

**NFR:** Why solar?

**BRUCE:** Solar electricity is a benign, cool system--no noise or moving mechanical parts, as with wind turbines. Geo-thermal was considered for heat but it's expensive and we'd have the additional expense of installing ductwork for forced-air, or piping for hot water baseboard or radiant heat. We built the barn in 2007/2008 with the intention of installing solar, so it is oriented for optimum performance. Last year, we finally made the move, because of SolarCity, who offered an affordable solution via their leasing program.

**NFR:** Why choose to lease?

**BRUCE:** Purchasing the system was too expensive. There are generous tax credits available, both federal and state, for those whose tax burden is greater than ours. There are also rebates from NYSEDA, but one must use a certified (by NYSEDA) installer, so, for example, doing it on one's own would not qualify for the rebates. SolarCity offers a purchase option

that is affordable, but then all equipment and maintenance costs become the owner's responsibility.

SolarCity's great innovation, and one reason why



Bruce and Marianne at home

their stock has tripled in six months, is that by bundling their projects nationwide, they are able to reap all credits, rebates, and carbon offsets, and then pass the savings on to the consumer through affordable energy projects. So leasing provided the best value and frees us from having to undertake repairs or replacement of any parts or equipment.

**NFR:** And maintenance?

**BRUCE:** The company pro-

vides 24/7 remote monitoring of the system via their "SolarGuard Monitoring." But for this, the homeowner must have a continuous high-speed internet connection, with open ethernet connection. We have only a dial-up connection, so they ask us to do "hands-on" monitoring, which simply involves a look-see of the inverter box once a day or every few days. If the green light is on, all is OK. Should the system be underperforming or down, warning lights appear and we phone or e-mail the company and they respond.

In four months of operation, we've had no problems. They also ask that we periodically hose down the panels, but with all the rain of late, plus the 45 degree angle of the panels, they are as clean as new. I don't anticipate a problem here.

**NFR:** If there is a problem?

**BRUCE:** I expect them to be prompt and professional. They have guaranteed a certain amount of energy in the lease contract, and they must pay us annually for

any failure to deliver what they have promised. Based on the positive experience we've had with them, I expect them to be responsive.

**NFR:** And over the years...?

**BRUCE:** Aging or underperforming equipment is replaced by the company. The "Performance Guarantee" factors in normal

cally (each is approx. 3x5 feet) making a rectangle of approx 10x33 feet. SolarCity gave us a choice of frame color, black or silver, but we had no say in the panels themselves, which turned out to be Kyocera, a high quality product, and an indication to me that they are making an investment in



Bruce in his garden and the solar panels on the barn Photo: M. Neuber

aging, weathering and deterioration. I expect any drastic aging issues would be dealt with immediately.

**NFR:** Equipment details?

**BRUCE:** We have 22 panels, arrayed 2 by 11, with each panel oriented verti-

their and our energy future.

**NFR:** And other equipment?

**BRUCE:** Since the panels produce DC power, a device called an inverter is required to "invert" the power to AC, which can then be

See SOLAR, con't on Pg. 15

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# THE GARDEN GATE

By Penelope R. King

## Low Maintenance Gardens

Many people want low maintenance gardens.

Some people like to look but don't care for much weeding, tweaking, pruning or moving and adding plants every year, perennial or annual. Some folks just don't have the time to devote to keeping beds looking good. And some of us have been gardening for years but are getting on in age. Aging gardeners may need to cut back. I am one of them. We don't have the energy or muscle mass we used to. I used to work easily every day for eight hours, and lift and carry fifty pound bags of fertilizer without any effort. No more. Now I work six hours and carry twenty pounds. If you are like me, you don't fancy the changes too much, but there isn't anything to do but adapt.

So how do we create low maintenance gardens? There are several criteria: we need plants that usually take care of themselves; designs that look good throughout the year; tough plants that can handle our winters and are rarely chomped on by wild critters; plants that have a long bloom period, and plants that look good even when not in bloom.

Weeding is also an issue, but it helps to create edging that can be maintained by a mower. So does mulch. And mulch keeps moisture in, so there's no need to water unless a plant is new to the garden or we are having a drought as we did last summer.

Shrubs take less care than most flowers, and they create interesting textures in the garden. They can bloom for substantial periods and create winter interest. Pick either very slow growing evergreens or shrubs whose mature size will fit in your borders, foundation plantings or island gardens. Here are some that always behave themselves and look good all year around: horizontal Junipers (pick ones that stop spreading at four to five feet, so read labels carefully or consult a shrub book),

Dwarf Albert Spruce, Bird's Nest Spruce, Mugho Pine, Spiraeas, Potentillas, low-growing Ninebarks, Hydrangeas (watch out for those not hardy here, such as the much touted 'Endless Summer'), Barberry varieties, some shrub roses (including 'Drift' roses and rugosa roses), short lilacs like 'Miss Kim' and meyeri palibin), and tree peonies.



Some shrubs are more stand-alone plants, such as common lilac, smoke bush, Peegee Hydrangea, full sized Burning Bush and nearly all trees. Once they are established, you need do nothing but enjoy them.

Perennials that are easy to grow and maintain their looks throughout the season include all hostas and day-lilies. Critters will sample

them and slugs may attack hostas, but they are still worth it as they establish quickly, grow fast and are versatile. Some day-lilies are called re-bloomers, meaning they bloom in flushes throughout the summer. Only buy re-bloomers that start in early or early-mid season, usually noted in catalogs at E for early and EM for early mid-summer. If you choose a variety that blooms mid or late, you will rarely get more than one flush of bloom. Two varieties I find reliable are 'Pardon Me,' a nice clear red and 'Happy Returns', a light yellow sport of the famous 'Stella D'Oro' which was the first all summer re-bloomer. There are others. I recommend the Gilbert Wild catalog which has hundreds of varieties listed and pictured.

More good long-blooming perennials that animals are less likely to eat include peonies, Centaurea Montana (it flops after bloom but a quick sheer and it will bloom again and again), Coreopsis verticillata, Phlox, Heucheras (many new cultivars with beautiful foliage but be careful to choose those with a good track record), Dianthus varieties, perennial Geraniums (buy 'Brookside' to replace other blue cultivars as it flops much less), Nepeta, Hel-lebores, Allium varieties, Anthemis kelwey, Anchusa, Boltonia, Astilbes, Rogersia, Stachys (or any silver foliaged plant as animals don't eat them), and Sedum varieties (ground covers and 'Spectabile').

If you already have flower beds, you can start replacing pain-in-the-neck plants with some of the above, though there are certainly more to choose from. If you are planning new beds, make sure someone does good bed preparation, digging at least a fork and a half deep, getting out rocks and adding new soil if necessary. Then design beds so that new plants have plenty of elbow room. The bed may appear a bit thin at first, but plants will grow so that in three years you will have mature-looking gardens. Check for the ultimate width size of plants as you plan, so your bed will not be crowded. Add slow release organic fertilizers or compost to the holes as you plant. Then water well and mulch so that the stems or trunks of plants are not covered. You will enjoy more with less work.



## NOTES ON LOCALLY HARDY ROSES

By Jack Siman

I hope you were able to attend the first of the Franklin Garden Club's Garden Lecture Series on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. If not, or if you would just like a reminder, here are the roses I mentioned in my talk that night, in their context. Old garden roses hardy in our area are *albas*, *centifolias*, *damasks*, *gallicas*, *mosses*, and the recurrent *portlands*. A handful of *bourbons* and *hybrid perpetuals* will also make it here. Two of them are the *bourbon* "Bourbon Queen" and the *hybrid perpetual* "General Jacquemont." Check with your dealer about the cold hardiness of others in these two classes. One of the toughest groups is the *rugosas* and their hybrids. The three hardy, architectural shrubs for the larger border are *rosa roxburghii* f. *normalis* or "Chestnut Rose" (with single blooms - the double form is not hardy up here), *rosa moyesii* "Geranium" and the larger specimens of the *rosa rugosa* group.

Smaller-scaled roses for the perennial border include all of the lower growers of the antique roses. *Gallicas*, *damasks* and *portlands* have quite a few members at three feet and under. I specifically mentioned *rosa polyantha* "The Fairy" (recurrent), the *moss rose* "Alfred de Dalmat" (recurrent), the *rugosa hybrid* "Frau Dagmar Hartopp" (recurrent) and the *portland* "Comte de Chambord" (recurrent). Of the climbers, two that

are capable of climbing into a tree are *rosa alba* "Mme. Plantier" (as a class, the *albas* tolerate shade better than most other roses), and the *gallica* "Complicata". The *gallica* "Charles de Mills" does well on a trellis, as do any other medium to tall growing roses with long, wiry canes and an open growth habit. I suggested *rosa centifolia* "Tour de Malakoff", the *alba* "Madame Legras de St. Germain" and the species *rosa rubrifolia* (also known as *rosa glauca*). All double as excellent roses to train on pillars. For hardiness in modern roses, I mentioned the Canadian Department of Agriculture's Explorer series (purportedly hardy to zone 3), the Brownell "Sub-Zero" group, the Griffith Buck roses (hardy to zone 4b), and some of the German bred Kordes group. The four suppliers I recommend are: Roses of Yesterday and Today ([www.rosesofyesterday.com](http://www.rosesofyesterday.com)), Antique Rose Emporium ([www.AntiqueRoseEmporium.com](http://www.AntiqueRoseEmporium.com)), Hortico, in Canada ([www.hortico.com](http://www.hortico.com)), and Pickering ([www.pickeringnurseries.com](http://www.pickeringnurseries.com)) - also in Canada. Be warned: Pickering seems to be struggling lately with getting their orders straight, but I've used them for decades and do like them. Hope this is helpful. It's only a bit of the enormous amount of information available on roses, and the sources are endless.

If you would like to contact me for more information, feel free to do so.

([JackSiman@AOL.com](mailto:JackSiman@AOL.com))

Happy gardening!

## GARDEN LECTURE SERIES A BIG SUCCESS

By Deborah Banks

The Franklin Garden Club put Franklin on the map this spring with its garden lecture series. The six Saturday-night series started on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and ran through June 22<sup>nd</sup>, with the biannual Franklin Garden Tour providing a colorful finale to the activities on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Each lecture drew a crowd of forty to sixty people to St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Franklin. The talks ranged from specifics on hardy roses and unusual woody and herbaceous plants, or practical thoughts on low maintenance and planting for four seasons of interest, to putting principles of art to work in garden design and designing a garden with rooms. Many of us delighted in Sondra Freckleton's slides of her roses and peonies, followed by photos of her paintings of those same flowers. Another highlight was Don Statham's photos showing the early days of his Totem Farm Garden and its evolution to present day, accompanied by his explanation of the design choices he made in creating his garden.

All six lectures were enjoyable and educational, and the refreshment/discussion hour afterwards was also a hit. Many of the attendees expressed delight in the series, and the hope that a garden lecture series will be offered again next year.



Stem infected with late tomato blight.

Will we see any this year?



Here we go again...get ready for your favorite literary dark ride. It's our latest installment of...

Advice from Jack: always carry a plastic baggie and remember to turn off the garden hose...

# MURDER AT THE FARMERS' MARKET!

Had the strangest dream the other night. The Mississippi overflowed its banks and washed away most of the town, including the Masonic Temple. Strange because it wasn't raining and the Mississippi is about 1000 miles away. Downhill from here too.

But the sound of rushing water persisted. I couldn't get it out of my head. Then I realized I'd heard that sound recently. Couldn't place it. The river, the carwash, my leaking water pump, my neighbor watering her dead zinnias? None of the above.

Then like a flash, I knew. And I knew why. Think I'll borrow Wilson's mutant dog and go for a walk.

I like to support local high school students with big ideas, but when I handed my truck keys to the runner at the Farmers' Market Valet Service, I had a bad feeling. Not only did he refuse to return my keys without enough tip, but there were two hundred thirty-two miles added to my odometer.

Don't you hate that?

It doesn't hold up that the old ways are best. Plain old sticky flypaper vs. toxic pesticide sprays.

Old Man Wilber came into the General Store last week to renew his annual subscription of flypaper. The print was so small.

We were shocked. He used to have plenty of scraggily hair that hadn't been cut in years except by accident. But now his head was as smooth and shiny as a Fava bean.

Anyway, he was sitting at his kitchen table having a midday meal when an old flystrip, so heavy with dead flies that the thumbtack pulled right out of the ceiling, dropped onto his head and into his plate.

He lost his lunch. And his hair. There was no other way but to shave it clean off.

Like they say; a thumbtack in the ceiling is like a bad bank robbery.

It doesn't hold up.

Dogwalking is the perfect cover. Whenever there's an interesting window, pretend the dog is pulling you over to a convenient bush.

As long as you have a baggie over your hand, you're safe.

Wilson's dog was so weird looking now that other dogs ran away with their tails between their legs. And cats, attracted by the feathers, collapsed on the ground laughing.

We were headed for the Temple.

When I returned Danny's tools and caught Clyde doing a Rotary two-step, I'd heard the sound of rushing water. It got louder as I headed down the stairs. Like it was coming from the basement.

Willie's farmstand looked like a hunter's blind, but he was a little confused.

His dad was an expert and highly sought-after decoy artist. Duck hunters from all over the world were paying top dollar for his intricately carved and painted decoys.

They were beautiful. Stunning in fact.

When Willie found out that the Amish originally invented ShooFly Pie as a decoy for flies, he set to work carving, painting, and selling perfect replicas of ShooFly Pie.

The executive mandate of responsibility to stockholders is presented with the holiness of the Hippocratic oath when in fact it's an excuse for lying, cheating, and stealing for corporate gain. Good business is judged by how many people you fool. Just because it's corporate policy, that makes it okay?

I don't think so.

Two guys pulled up to the pneumatic drive-through bank teller, waved a gun and said, 'Put all the money in a bag and send it out'.

The teller told them to get lost.

So they shot the pneumatic tube machine and drove off.

These were the same two guys that robbed the same bank a few years ago.

They wore stockings over their heads. Christmas stockings. With their names on them.

Ho, ho, ho.

Delicate creatures, those butterflies. Territorial combat between male butterflies

is a nasty affair. Notice that they never touch as they battle. If you listen closely you'll hear tiny squeaks. They hurl insults at each other until one caves in and flutters away, sobbing.

If you took 100 identical sheets of glass and dropped them from the same height in the same place, no two patterns of breakage would be the same.

This is Catskill geology. Each pane of glass is a different well.

NOBODY can predict what pattern of seismic fracture will result from hydrofracking.

Anything can happen. Many things have already. We're just waiting for the Big One.

Wilson's dog shied away when I started into the crawlspace under the porch at the Temple. This was where we found the first body. It still smelled of benzene.

I pushed open the swinging basement window and aimed my flashlight at the sound of rushing water. The window slipped because of the baggie over my hand and banged against the sill. Wilson's dog moaned and dropped a few feathers.

Clyde is certifiably first-class bonkers. He'd set a running garden hose at the base of the central stone foundation pillar slowly washing away the earth that supported the stone. Sooner or later that foundation would shift if not collapse and the building would settle substantially. Who could say whether it would crack the roof, split the walls, or cave in altogether?

I knew it. If he could get the building condemned and the grounds cordoned off as dangerous, it's bye-bye Farmers' Market and Coffin's legacy would be worthless. Clyde could argue that the only safe and appropriate action would be for the town to require the sale of the property.

If that just happened to be to the frackers, the town could make a bundle on the initial sale and long term taxes.

Suddenly, a flashlight lit me from behind. Wilson's dog peed on my leg. I turned, held up the hand with the baggie on it and smiled.

To be continued...

## Franklin Free Library Presents...2013 Summertime Arts, Education, & Just Plain Fun

All programs are FREE and take place on Tuesdays at 10 AM at the Franklin Free Library, 334 Main St., Franklin

- July 2

**SHREWD TODIE & LYZER THE MIZER** - Performed by Grian MacGregor & The IvyVine Players .(www.GrianMacGregor.com)
- July 9

**MUSIC FROM THE TOP OF THE WORLD : Tibet**
- July 16

**BAWSHOU & THE DRAGON** - Presented By Bells & Motley , Music, Dance & Storytelling, accompanied by Chinese traditional stringed, wind & percussion instruments. (www.bellsandmotley.com)
- July 23

**THE PAPER BAG PRINCESS** – Presented by the Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre (www.merry-go-round.com)
- July 30

**MOZAIC WINDS** - Discover the styles, moods & sounds of music, presented by this talented woodwind quintet.
- August 6

**Li'L GALUTE KLEZMER GROUP** - Join us for a lively presentation featuring: clarinet, violin, bass & guitar.
- August 13

**A SONG IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS** - A roof-raising performance with Jesse, Rebecca, Sadiq, & Tina\_
- August 20

**LITTLE DELAWARE YOUTH ENSEMBLE** - Come hear a string performance of these local & very talented musicians !(www.LDYE.org)
- Saturday, August 24

**ANNUAL FRANKLIN DAY BOOK SALE** – A huge selection of books at bargain prices. All proceeds go to support our library! Sale runs from 9 am to 4 pm, Institute Street, Franklin.
- August 27

**FIDDLE TUNES & FUNNY SONGS** - With John Kirk & Trish Miller: music, dance & songs. (www.johnandtrish.com)

For more information, call Linda Burkhart at 829-2941

Programs made possible, in part, by funds from The A. Lindsay & Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, the N.Y.S. Office of Children & Family Services through the auspices of the Delaware County Youth Bureau, and the N.Y.S. Council on the Arts Decentralization Program, administered in Delaware County by The Roxbury Arts Group, Inc.



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DEC, con't from Page 7

**Testimony:** Compel testimony by Director Field before the legislature on the history and status of oil, gas, and brine pollution in New York State and of regulation and enforcement by DMN.

**Review:** Request a formal follow-up review by STRONGER of the current oil and gas regulatory program and the proposed HVHF program.

**Statutes:** Amend statutes and the resulting regulations that govern the DMN to add the purpose of protecting people, communities, and the environment.

**Regulations:** Codify the guide lines in the SGEIS and the earlier GEIS into law through regulations. Permit conditions, which have been substituted for regulations, should be restricted to those conditions unique to individual sites and new developments.

**Resources:** Budget

for sufficient staff and the funds for effective enforcement of the new robust regulations. Also, convene Governor's Advisory Committee on HVHF, which was to consider the costs of implementation but has not met in a year and a half.

**Reporting:** Post on line the results of routine inspections and responses to non-routine incidents, at least in summary.

**Transparency:** Extend the existing publically-accessible electronic database to include the pollution record of wells, and fully report on pollu-

tion incidents and violators in New York State Oil, Gas and Mineral Resources annual reports.

**Investigations:** Transfer responsibility for investigation of reports of oil, gas, and brine pollution to a state agency that has a proven history of putting the interests of the people first, such as the Department of Health, perhaps working with the Attorney General's Environmental Protection Bureau.

**Compensation:** Implement Comptroller DiNapoli's proposal for a Gas Compensation Fund for those cases where regulations fail,

But as things stand now, the Division of Mineral Resources has shown that it lacks the resolve and resources to protect New York State. This long list of necessary reforms shows how far there is to go.



SOLAR, con't from Pg. 12

fed to the grid or used in the home. The inverter is installed between the photovoltaic panels and the electrical service box for the house. In our case, the AC power from the barn panels is backfed to the house, where the NYSEG meter reads it. There is a DC disconnect switch, mounted separately or incorporated with the inverter, which shuts down the system in the event of a power outage or to service a malfunctioning system. **NFR:** What does your system power?

**BRUCE:** The house is nearly all-electric: hot water, kitchen stove, water pump, two freezers, one fridge, lights etc. We heat primarily with wood--four cords a winter, with a supplementary kerosene heater ("Monitor") in the kitchen--approx. 80 gallons per year. The house is also equipped with electric registers, zoned by room. We use electric for heat only on the coldest days or when we leave for an extended time. A future concern vis a vis our lease agreement is the heating. Should we be unable to manage the labor of woodstove heating and have to rely on electric, then

ly inexpensive for us. The reasons we chose it is are higher ones - the environment, fossil fuels, coal burning, global warming, local utility monopoly, the future. The real problem is that we all use too much energy. I'd rather see more conservation happening, but since America seems to have closeted Jimmy Carter's warm sweater, I guess we must accept that energy use will escalate - so better that the power come from a non-fossil fuel source. By investing in solar, we help stimulate the industry, which should bring prices down and make it truly affordable in the future. One should not have to rely on a company like SolarCity and the government to make energy affordable, but that's where we are right now.

Finally, producing one's own power is both an act of independence and a commitment to others' needs. It is feels good to know that by being connected to the grid, we are supplying power to others who need it, say in a city on a sweltering summer day, while here in the mountains, our panels are knocking out excess energy for others to use.

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HAVE AN OPINION? WRITE TO US!

At: The New Franklin Register

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What are we about?

The Franklin Citizens' Commission on Peak Oil was authorized on December 6th, 2005 by a Town Board Resolution. Our purpose was to assess the needs and resources of the Town of Franklin in the face of Peak Oil, and to report back to the Town Board and to the people of Franklin.

Renamed as Franklin Local Ltd., we are a not-for-profit corporation made up of Franklin residents. We meet once a month, at 7 P.M. in members' homes. All are welcome, to offer questions and help us answer them, to share thoughts and ideas.

Please join us!

We have a number of projects that we hope to move from idea to action:

- Local food production network
- Skills and services exchange
- Goods exchange
- Ride sharing bulletin board and/or website
- Farm to School Program for school lunches
- Community Greenhouses
- Community Energy Production
- Community Health Network

In a nutshell, we propose to imagine a more energy efficient habit of living, and to put it to work here in Franklin, for a brighter, more sustainable future..

We hope you will join us!

For meeting times, location and directions, email us at

nfr@franklinlocal.org  
or

check us out at our new website:  
franklinlocal.org

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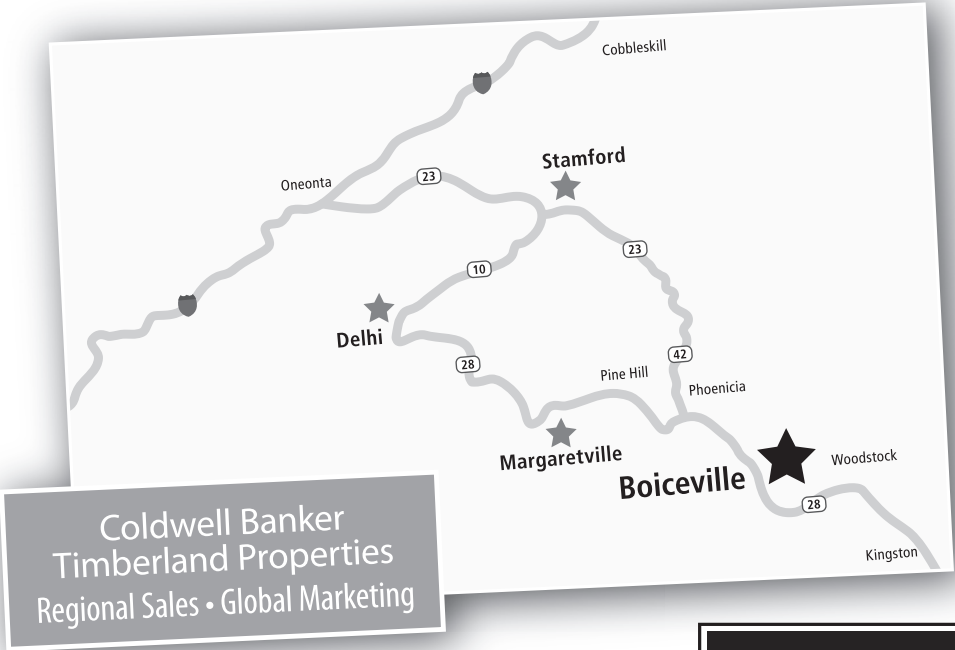


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2/14/2013	1059 Grange Hall Rd	17.50	Rural res	94000	56000	Vicino, John F	Tzortzatos, Markos
2/15/2013	Campbell Estates Rd	9.51	Rural vac<10	20000	10000	Gutbrod, Elmar	Brummer, Cornelia
2/28/2013	586 Round Top Rd	5.49	1 Family Res	158000	166100	Giordano, Robert	Erdman, Francis H Jr
3/10/2013	5071 E. Handsome Brk Rd	77.63	1 Family Res	231000	41000	Cozza, Natale	Curcio, Franco *
3/15/2013	76 Water St	0.28	1 Family Res	103000	82000	Bard, Susan M	Eubanks, Charles
3/18/2013	2835.2837 Case Hill Rd	13.20	Rural res	87690	19900	Tash, Betty	Barbieri, Nicholas
3/22/2013	1669 Ed Klug Rd	53.45	Rural res	170000	195000	Fini, Robert	Smith, Thomas R.
3/22/2013	Dougherty Rd	98.80	Rural vac>10	84000	57000	Delango, Louis	Pravato, Nicholas
3/27/2013	790 Campbell Rd	6.03	1 Family Res	1510001	85000	Ludwig, Jutta	Guerci, James J.
4/3/2013	6583 Dunk Hill Rd	135.90	Rural res	290000	540000	Soke, John	Blue Chestnut Farms LLC+
4/5/2013	1379 Fleming Rd	6.00	Mfg housing	20000	18500	Graham, Sharie Kim	Salig, John A
4/12/2013	Grange Hall Rd	16.00	Rural vac>10	34000	32000	Klamerus, Lorraine	Harrington, Kevin
4/25/2013	1480 Leland Hull Rd	20.00	Mfg housing	70200	71000	Wengenroth, E. L.	Wenke, Thomas A.
4/26/2013	7185 Dunk Hill Rd	10.20	Dairy farm	91000	21950	Terry, Matthew L	Decker, Maia MT
* Relative, Partial interest				+ Substantial change			

#### FRANKLIN TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

Town Board meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise specified, and are held at 7:30 PM at the Town Sheds at the intersection of NY State Route 357 and County Route 21.

The current schedule is as follows:

July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	
August 6 <sup>th</sup>	
September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	
October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Budget workshop
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Budget hearing
December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	
December 27 <sup>th</sup>	Organizational Meeting

To confirm, call the Town Clerk at 607-829-3440



**Your locally owned farm & pet store**

Afton, NY (607) 639-2331	Sidney, NY (607) 563-9797	Delhi, NY (607) 746-2314
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