

## FRANKLIN REUNION

By Carole Marner

“I would never think that I’d hitch up with Sadiq up here. But when you said Archie Taylor was up here, I couldn’t believe my ears. I didn’t know anything about up here.”

The speaker was Charles Eubanks, a new resident in the village of Franklin and a distinguished, semi-retired jazz pianist. He was talking to Gene Marner, a jazz lover and friend of drummer Sadiq Abdushahid, a Masonville resident. That name did not ring a bell with Charles until Marner mentioned Sadiq’s birth name, Archie Taylor Jr. Then the story of a magical past life came pouring out.

Both Sadiq and Charles grew up in Detroit — Motown — in the 50s and 60s.

“Motown then was Hitsville,” noted Charles. “There was music everywhere you turned.” Both come from

See REUNION, continued on Page 3

## GEO THERMAL GREEN

*An Energy Revolution at CVCS*

By Marjorie B. Kellogg  
*Photos by the author*

What does it take to make change happen? A forward gaze and a lot of determination.

Ask Mark Dupra.

The Charlotte Valley Central School superintendent made energy savings a priority when he came to his job nine and a half years ago. It also mattered that the new energy source be as green as possible.

Built in the 1930s, Charlotte Valley Central School (CVCS) had been buying 35,000 gallons of oil a year to run its steam heating system, at a cost (less taxes) of \$2.80 per gallon. The average price of oil was going up about thirteen percent a year. Wielding facts and



Eubanks and Abdushahid on Water St. Photo by Gene Marner

### HOLIDAY EVENTS IN FRANKLIN

**The Holiday Market  
The Christmas Stroll  
A Visit with Santa and MORE!**

**December 14th**  
See Pgs. 2 & 3 for details



Dupra explains the system.

figures, Dupra organized a steering committee to examine the district’s building and energy needs. That committee, despite dealing with fair measure of angst, eventually convinced the CVCS school board and the community

See GEO, continued on Page 7

## RUNNING ON EMPTY

### Shale Gas in the Southern Tier

By Jerry Acton and Brian Brock

Future production of shale gas from Marcellus wells in New York has been hyped by industry lobbyists, leasing coalitions, and the Division of Mineral Resources (DMN). In reality, the producing region would be small and production modest.

Four features of the shale largely control gas production within the Marcellus: organic content, maximum temperature, thickness, and depth.

For shale gas to have been created, there must have been source material and it must have been heated enough – but not too much.

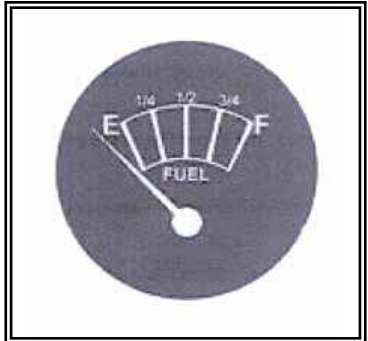
As shale is heated, organic matter breaks down to kerogen, kerogen to oil,

oil to methane, and finally methane to carbon dioxide and water.

For most of the Southern Tier, the Marcellus had enough organic matter to create gas and was heated enough to yield methane. However, beneath the Catskills and some surrounding regions, the shale is barren and over-cooked

For there to be enough gas to be profitably produced, the shale layer must be thick enough and deep enough.

Where the shale is thickest, there is the most rock to drain gas from. Where the shale is deepest, the most gas is squeezed into the natural spaces. Also, the maximum difference in temperature between the shale and the surface is critical. See *EMPTY, cont. on Page 6*



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# Your Neighbor's View...

By Patricia Tyrell

I am writing this sometime before the NFR's copy deadline of October 31<sup>st</sup>, so I do not yet know the results of the November 5<sup>th</sup> election. I hope I won a seat on the Town Board and can look forward to serving the citizens of Franklin, NY. But regardless of the outcome of my candidacy, the fact remains that you, I, we are all responsible for the direction and quality of our collective environment. Equally, we are all subject to the consequences of inaction and ambivalence.

During my closing remarks on October 8<sup>th</sup>, at a meet-and-greet forum in Treadwell, I asked the audience: "Do you want to be champions of change or victims of it?" Because change, for better or worse, is coming. How we react as a community, especially to already anticipated future change (i.e. new energy infrastructure, heavy industrialization, agricultural decline, federal insanity, etc.), will determine whether this town we call home thrives, or suffers a slow death of decline and decay.

Maybe we are dead already? One might think so, with all the talk going around about how "they (corporations) have big

money and bigger lawyers," or "there's nothing we can do, we just have to deal," or "best we can hope for is to try to regulate." To these, and similar statements and sentiments, I say: hogwash!

I am sorry, but I did not graduate from this era's National University of Powerlessness, where students are trained over a lifetime to see action as futile and new ideas as terrifying or impossible. Nor did I major in Greed, where the only assignment is personal profit. Of course I recognize how hard it is to become and remain informed and active, and I have great admiration for hardworking, successful people. But I refuse to accept the status quo of "sheeple" maintenance, by means of the disenfranchisement of local communities by larger systems intent upon exploiting and oppressing smaller ones.

We cannot realistically rely on individuals, or boards, or government to adequately address



our concerns if we are not involved in the problem-solving process. We cannot relinquish civic responsibilities for the sake of convenience, and not expect to lose our rights in the process. We can not keep our community, much less "take America back", if we throw in the towel in the face of big business. We cannot continue down this path of total disempowerment!

But, I digress. My point is not to dwell upon what is wrong, nor to further divide our community. No doubt there is already an offended reader or two out there. No, my point is that you, each of you, without a doubt, hold the power to make things happen. You are part of the solution. I recently read that the answer to organized money is organized people. Together, we can achieve the so-called impossible. We can take on threats to our land and community. We can pursue a future that benefits our town as a whole. We can have a better overall quality of life. We are victims only so long as we allow ourselves to be.

Win or lose this election, I choose to be a champion of change. I hope, if you haven't done so already, you will choose the same.

## THE CHRISTMAS STROLL 2013

By Kim Hyzer

Mark it on your calendar: Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Plans for the Stroll are well underway! Again, it is shaping up to be a great day in Franklin!

Events will start with Grandma's Pantry at the Methodist Church from 11 AM to 3 PM. Many homemade items for sale, rummage sale, bake sale. They will also offer a soup and sandwich lunch. It always gets rave reviews.

A Holiday Market from noon to 4 PM at the Firehouse will also have a variety of items for sale. Many of the vendors are from the Sunday Franklin Farmers' Market. Goods will include homemade and natural foods, knitwear, soaps and gifts. If you are interested in participating as a vendor, call, Carla at 829-5412.

Monica Wilber will sell her handcrafted jewelry, "Scriptural Creations" at her house at 856 Main Street. Betty Fischer will also offer craft items there.

Nine houses will be open for touring from 1 to 7 PM, in the usual self guided tour format. If you would like to open your house, or are thinking about it and have questions, call Kim at 829-8820.

For a quiet place to rest from all the activities, the Franklin Garden Club will have a Franklin garden slide show at the Episcopal Church from 3 to 5 PM.

The Senior Class will serve a lasagna dinner from 4 to 7 PM at the school. DJ Potter and A Company of Two will play great music during dinner, including holiday songs. Hometown Pizza will be open, offering a dinner special.

The Community Bible Church on Center Street will have a Cocoa (and Coffee) House with Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long, special music and DVD presentations of the Nativity Story.

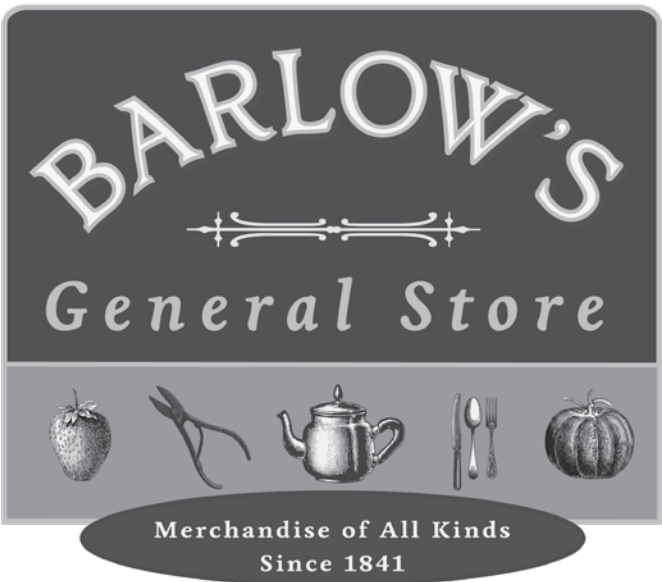
Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive at the village park at 6 PM to greet children of all ages. There will be a Christmas sing-a-long,

then all are invited to the Firehouse for free pictures, snacks and the opportunity to make a Christmas craft to take home.

Franklin Stage will host a reading of The Snow Queen. Watch for time info!

NOTE: Donations are being taken to help purchase the Christmas Trees that line Main Street for the season. Make check out to "Franklin Improvement Society" and mail to Chris Geertgens, PO Box 948, Franklin, 13775.

If you have anything additional to offer as part of our fabulous December 14<sup>th</sup>, give Kim a call at 829-8820.



## COINS FOR KIDS!

**Raising Funds for FCS**  
By Jim Mullen

The Franklin Community Education Foundation announced its latest fundraising activity—*Coins for Kids!* The proceeds will help fund field trips for Franklin Central School students. Due to decreasing state aid to rural schools over the past few years, once-common class field trips have been drastically reduced. With help from

the FCEF, Franklin Central School was able to send students on four field trips last year, including one to the Museum of Natural History in Manhattan.

Almost all businesses in Franklin have put *Coins for Kids* collection jars in convenient, high-visibility areas, where patrons can donate their loose change to help support FSC students. Look for them in a business near you!

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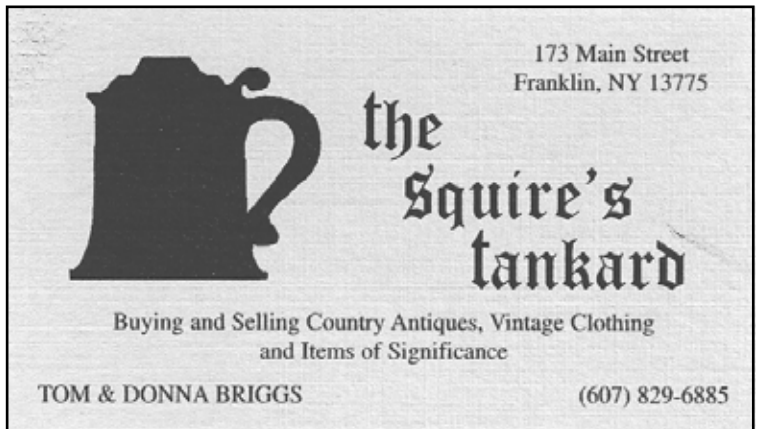
## FCS ALUMNI DINNER AND DANCE

**FCS Alumni** – mark your 2014 calendars now!

On Saturday, June 21, 2014, the Alumni Dinner and Dance will be held in the Franklin Central School cafeteria.

Social time will start at 5:00, then a catered dinner at 5:30 followed by a short meeting. After that, things will get lively with Country Express from 7:30 – 10:30. Dress casually and wear your dancing shoes!

Everyone, whether a FCS Alumni or not, is invited to the dance – admission for the dance is \$6.00 each.







# FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News  
Local Events

Local Issues  
Local Concerns



## FRANKLIN HOLIDAY MARKET



By Carla Nordstrom

"Socks?" my daughter lamented. "Why would anyone give socks as a gift?" True, if you live in Southern California where sandals can be worn year round, socks may not be the perfect present, but here in Upstate New York as we prepare for the chill of winter, socks are a welcome gift. Socks and many other gift possibilities will be available at the Franklin Holiday Market.

Franklin's annual holiday market will be held indoors on Saturday, December 14, 2013 from 12 noon to 4 PM at the Franklin Fire House at the corner of Main and Institute Streets. The

fire trucks will be moved to the side to make room. Local farmers and crafts people will display and sell handcrafts and delicious edible treats.

Last year's Holiday Market was a ringing success, the perfect place to find holiday gifts for the hard to please. People came from as far away as Roscoe to purchase trinkets and delicacies at the market and enjoy the other activities taking place throughout the village.

Items to satisfy all holiday gift needs will be available for sale this year, including baked goods, knitted, sewn, and felted handcrafts, holiday wreaths, soaps, candles, chocolates,

and local cheeses.

Cordwood Acres will sell goat milk soaps and lotions with gentle floral scents such as lavender and rose. Braestone Farm will have yarn and wool handicrafts, including felted woolen inner soles, ideal for combatting cold feet. And, yes, they'll have socks as well.

The Holiday Market sells more crafts than the summer farmer's market, though some fresh produce may be available. Last year, I bought a bag of shallots that I used for the entire year. Fokish, our local bread bakery, will sell breads and rolls as well as special treats for the holidays. Sherman Hill Goat Farm will offer chèvre, aged goat cheeses, and baked delicacies. Laura's Chocolates will have a wide variety of gourmet chocolates, many of them themed for the holiday season.

Antiques and More, a new shop on Hodge Road, will be at the market with old and new holiday items. Thirty One Gifts will sell purses, totes, and accessories. Handcrafted jewelry, hand painted note cards, and knit items will also be

for sale. And this is an opportunity to buy your holiday wreath; the Boy Scouts will be at the market with reasonably priced hand made Christmas wreaths.

There will be plenty to do in Franklin on December 14<sup>th</sup>. The Annual Franklin House Tour, a self-guided tour of village homes decorated for the holidays, will take place [see infor-

mation on Page 2], and a slide show of local gardens will be offered by the Franklin Garden Club. The afternoon will be capped with a visit in the village park from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Bring the whole family for an afternoon and evening of merriment, good cheer, and excellent shopping.

## LOOKING FOR A COMMUNITY PROJECT

Now that the village park is well established, The Franklin Improvement Society is looking for its next community project.

Our mission statement: "Our Society endeavors to encourage revitalization of our commercial district and preservation of Franklin's historic character. We hope to encourage improvements that will create a positive effect on our economic conditions and quality of life in Franklin. We hope to help our community to grow and prosper for generations to come. We hope to attract new residents, business and visitors to our community. We desire to work with and encourage organizations that already do so much for our community. We have such a wealth of beautiful architecture in our village that has been well maintained and preserved. We would like to see our downtown area rejuvenated with viable enterprises."

If you have any ideas for a project that would benefit our community, please call Kim at 829-8820.

## REUNION, continued from Page 1

comfortable musical families who encouraged their playing. Sadiq's father, Archie Taylor Sr., was a well-known drummer and bandleader. Charles' father had been a trumpet player and bandleader in the South who, after moving north, worked for the Ford Motor Company as a tool-and-die maker, retiring as foreman.

Charles went to an art high school everyday, but after school it was, "Come and play music. Surprised I ever graduated...We kids hung around, listening outside recording studios, clubs, cabarets and coffee houses. As word went out who was playing where, you would go and wait for a chance to sit in and then if you were good, you got called to play backup for people who were famous or soon would be."

Rhythm and blues, soul, jazz. "We'd go anywhere there was music - Ann Arbor, Pontiac, Grand Rapids. So many artists coming through Detroit. It was the center of the music universe." At fifteen, Charles became a studio musician at Motown records, making "real money. I even had a '66 mustang - blond with red interior."

But soon Motown was not swinging enough. "Sadiq and me, we were just kids but we both were blown by the forward-thinking guys like Charlie Parker," says Charles. "And when I first heard John Coltrane, I could hardly believe my ears." Coltrane transformed jazz in the mid-twentieth century with his bold and adventurous improvisations which liberated jazz musicians from the constraints of traditional jazz structures and harmonies. "The chords they played...they opened me up. After that, I

just wanted to play that music — to swing, the swing you feel in your bones. From then, all I aspired to was to go to New York and play like Coltrane."

In 1971, it was Sadiq, married with kids, who went to New York first. "New York was culture shock," he says. "We landed in the Bronx. It was a war zone. I left three times before I finally stayed." But soon Sadiq was playing and tour-



Making music

Photo by Gene Marner

ing Europe with cutting edge groups like Pharoah Sanders, Sun Ra and Ornette Coleman.

Charles arrived in New York in 1973. "I slept in Washington Square Park. In the day, I played in a practice room at NYU. I just walked in and they gave me a practice room. Nobody questioned me. I slept on the ground, played in the practice rooms, then I would go hang around

the clubs, picking up gigs with guys who were out there, like Rashid Ali. One day, Sadiq came through the park and after that I slept on his sofa. Just in time, because it was getting cold in the park."

By the late '70s, Charles was playing with Sonny Fortune and Dewey Redman, and touring Europe and Africa with groups like Archie Shepp, Kenny Clarke and Art Blakey.

Sadiq and his wife Latiefa had become devout Muslims. In the '90s, wanting to home-school their children, they decided to leave the city. "We heard about up here and came up and found Masonville. We left the city for the kids' sake - there are twelve children now, aged 21 - 56. They are all home-schooled, all doing real well."

The two men lost touch. Sadiq and his family homesteaded in Delaware County. Charles, when hip hop came in and times got hard for jazz, finished his degrees and started teaching. From 1986-91, he was music director for the City of New York Parks and Recreation Department. Last year, Charles bought a house in Franklin to be close to his little daughter, who lives with her mother in Treadwell.

And now Charles and Sadiq are playing together again. Charles talks about starting a group called Detroit Cats Kill. They have been performing at the B-side Ballroom in Oneonta to enthusiastic audiences. One night this past summer, just the two of them played a gig. They were in their own world, each hearing and responding to every nuance of the other's playing. And they were swinging.



## FRANKLIN CHURCHES

### Aldrich

#### Baptist Church

Route 28, North Franklin  
Phone: 607-829-5502  
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.*

## PET TALK

with Dr. Joan Puritz



Hello, Readers,

Today I'd like to talk about getting a new pet.

How is it that you decide to take one in? Is it a family decision or a solo decision? Is it an impulse purchase, or do you research for traits that you want in a pet?

I see a lot of dogs and cats at my veterinary hospital. I always ask about where the pet came from. The pure-bred registered puppies mostly come from a breeder, the designer small-breed puppies usually come from an impulse purchase at a pet store, and the older or mixed breed pups come from a shelter. I also see a fair amount that come from the Pennysaver or Craig's List or the internet. Many dogs and cats come from someone who cannot take care of them, due to having to move or if an older person becomes physically unable to care for them. I got one of my dogs because her owner passed away. I wasn't in the market for a dog, but in a few minutes I gained a friend I will have for nine or more years. Most of the cats I see are either strays from the shelter or from a free cat ad. Many strays are pregnant or unneutered when found.

So, which pets are or will stay the healthiest? First, let me talk about the puppies to be found at most pet stores and puppy mills. Most were raised in a small wire cage, given many kinds of medications and very often are unhealthy. The puppy's parents were not treated as pets but as breeding machines, and are given to homes only after producing many litters, or if they cannot breed. Many of the puppy mills are in Pennsylvania or out in the Midwest. If there is a problem or the puppy is sick, and the store takes them back, they are often euthanized rather than treated. Many people do not take them back because they know this, so pet stores will keep selling bad puppy-mill pups because there are few consequences. But if people stopped buying dogs and cats from pet stores, the puppy mills would have to close. Many states are toughening their laws to guarantee that the animals get at least some basic care. The latest bill put forward in New York hopes to make it safer for the pups sold online, because buyers cannot really know what they are getting without seeing the puppy firsthand.

What about the people who have one or two females that they breed at home? Be very careful of these breeders. Sometimes the pups are fine. Too

often, they have congenital problems, such as hip dysplasia, heart disease or orthopedic problems. Get references and check them out carefully before you buy.

The rescue organizations are another way to find a dog or cat. Some charge a lot of money, so ask first. Find out where the animal came from and whether it has been tested for any diseases. These places are not all alike. Many are great, with the pet already vaccinated, tested and altered. Some will check your references first and have you fill out a long application. The same goes for shelters, but in shelters that are over-crowded, diseases can spread easily. You can find the most wonderful dog at a shelter or rescue but should consider each one carefully. Most shelters screen potential owners carefully, so that the dog or cat will find a home for life. There are so many wonderful dogs and cats out there in the shelters that I wonder sometimes why anyone would look anywhere else. There are also rescue organizations that transport dogs from "kill shelters" down south, bringing them north to be adopted. These are mostly small-breed dogs. The South must have a greater overpopulation problem than we do up here, because they kill a lot of dogs and cats, and have little to no spay/neuter programs for low income people.

So which pets are the healthiest? Very hard to answer. Start by picking one without an illness unless you are willing to accept that the problem may not have an easy fix. I call many of the barn kittens I see "fixer-uppers," because once you get rid of the worms, ear mites and fleas, they can actually turn into beautiful cats.

So best of luck finding your next dog or cat, and remember to be careful when making your choice.

Hope to hear from you!

### Pet Talk Readers!

**Do you have a question for Dr. Puritz, or a subject you'd like her to discuss in Pet Talk?**

**Send your questions and ideas c/o  
PetTalk, either by email to  
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or by regular mail to:  
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IN THE KITCHEN

With Sue Avery

SHERM WATERMAN’S MINESTRONE SOUP

Serves 10

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 1 cup string beans, cut up
- 2 small zucchini, sliced
- 2 cups spinach, torn
- 1/4 small cabbage, shredded
- 2 medium potatoes, diced
- 1 tbsp. parsley, chopped
- 1 can kidney beans
- 2 quarts meat stock
- 2 tbsp. tomato paste
- 1 cup Tubetoni (Maccaroni # 42)
- grated Parmesan cheese
- salt and pepper to taste

Heat oil in a large pot. Saute onions until soft. Add all other ingredients except the Tubetoni and cheese. Cover and cook for 30 minutes. Add Tubetoni. If too thick, add a little more meat stock. Cook, covered, for another 20 minutes. Sprinkle grated cheese on top before serving.



Photo by Jim Mullen

A WELCOME FACELIFT

The United States Post Office may be in deep financial trouble, but our own Franklin P.O. is looking spectacularly gorgeous these days!


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> |                 |

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



Carol Brock  
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on your  
90th  
Birthday





# PEAK OIL FOCUS

## THE TURNING

By James Howard Kunstler

In these northern climes, this turning into the year's final quarter feels written in the blood, or at least into the legacy code of culture. The leaves skitter across the streets in an early twilight, chill winds daunt man and dog, the landscape buttons itself up for the long sleep, and human activity moves indoors — including the arduous festivities around the spooky solstice. We take the comfort that we can in all that. But a strange torpor of event attends this year's turning. In the year's final happenings, nothing seems to happen, and what little does happen seems not to matter. The world sits with frayed nerves and hears a distant noise, which is the cosmic screw of history turning.

The nation gets over everything without resolving anything — fiscal cliffs, debt ceilings, health care implosions, domestic spying outrages, taper talk jukes, banking turpitudes, the Syria bluster, the Iran nuke deal fake-out. It's dangerous to live as though there was no such thing as consequence. Societies have a way of reaching a consensus about something without ever stating it outright. The American public has silently agreed to sit on its hands though one more Christmas and after that things shake loose.

What happens, for instance, in the limbo months of ObamaCare

ahead, when people either won't sign in for health insurance, or can't because of the stupidity of the website design, and the failure of its workarounds, and the number rises of people falling seriously ill without insurance, and the ludicrously extortionate hospital bills start rolling in and the machinery of bankruptcy and re-po turns the screws on tens of thousands of families — while the insurance company executives spend their 2013 bonus money on Beemers and McMansion additions? There must be some threshold for criticality there, some breaking point that prompts a swindled population to break out its fabled arsenals. Say, somewhere in America a child tragically dies after being hit by a car and three unsuccessful surgeries to try to fix the damage, and thirty days after the funeral, the uninsured dad gets a bill for \$416,000? I doubt a society can withstand many insults like that.

Above all, this big nation has failed to reckon the central quandary of our time: the fatal hypertrophy of finance. This ghastly engine of rackets and swindles is the enlarged heart of a dying body politic, and all we know how to do is feed it more monetary Cheez Doodles. This has been going on far longer than the doctors and the witch doctors thought possible, and there is a foolish hope among the credulous that the larger organism of the economy must therefore be immortal. But the reality-based minority stoically awaits the final congestive infarction.

Everything points to 2014 as the moment the pretending stops and things get real. Nobody believes anymore that the Federal Reserve can replace an economy of authentic transactions with promissory notes. There is only one final thing that can happen with the Fed, and that is losing all control over rising interest rates. Janet Yellen is being set up as one of the epic chumps of history, and proof of her academic fecklessness is the mere fact that she accepted the post as Fed chair. She will preside over a fabulous disappearance of wealth in America. The blame for it will be epic, too, but it will not represent any genuine understanding of what happened.

Much is being made of the loneliness of Barack Obama these days. He also occupies a rather tragic niche in history — or the arc of his story at least points that way these days. Right now, it is very hard to tell whether he has been a hostage or a fool. He could have moved to break up the big banks in January of 2009, and any time since then he could have sent a memo to the Department of Justice instructing the prosecutions of financial crime to begin in earnest (or replaced the Attorney General). Didn't happen. Was he being blackmailed by the likes of Jamie Dimon and Lloyd Blankfein, or did he just not know what was at stake?

The history of Barack Obama will be one long record of omissions to act, not just overt failures. He is the Bartleby the Scrivener of our politics. He "prefers not to..." Hence, the powerful lure of the charismatic figure who is sure

to act. Adolf Hitler was very clear about his proposed program in the early 1920s, a decade before he came to power. He spelled it out unmistakably in his speeches and his political testament, *Mein Kampf*: do away with pain-in-the-ass democracy and destroy the Jews. He couldn't have put it more plainly. The residual admiration for Hitler among the extreme right-wingers of today derives mainly from the simple fact that the man actually did what he said he would do. You can't overstate the potential hunger for that sort of thing. The current climate of US politics being Weimar-on-steroids, I'm sure that an American corn-pone Hitler would have huge appeal for a beaten-down citizenry.

The means for such a coup of the zeitgeist are rather frightful now: drone aircraft, computer surveillance, militarized police, a puppet press. It makes thoughtful folks queasy. My bet, though, is that a fascist takeover of the US would end up being as inept and ineffectual as ObamaCare. It is one of the great hidden blessings of our time, actually, that anything organized on the massive scale is doomed to failure. But it is likewise the great mission of our time to prepare to get local and smaller, something we're not really ready for and certainly not interested in. The intertwining of these dynamics will be the story in the year to come.

*Reprinted with permission from Clusterfuck Nation – Blog: November 11, 2013*

### EMPTY, continued from Page 1

ence in pressure is there (between the rock and the well) to push the gas out of the shale.

Just across the border in Pennsylvania, thousands of horizontal shale wells have been drilled during the last few years. Results in PA's Northern Tier can tell us about the prospects for gas production here in the Southern Tier.

We compared production in each town with the underlying geology of the Marcellus Shale. Production is greatest in the "sweet spot," where the counties of Susquehanna, Bradford, and Wyoming meet. There the shale layer is thick and deep.

Away from the sweet spot, production drops off sharply as the shale layer thins and shallows. Production depends on the volume of shale fracked, which decreases with the square of the thickness. Production also depends on the depth of shale, and falls to zero as the shale layer reaches the surface where the pressure is zero.

For example, the shale in Franklin is a third as thick as in the sweet spot (100' vs. 300'), meaning there is one ninth the volume of rock to be fracked. In addition, the shale layer here is half as deep as in the sweet spot (3,500' vs. 7,000'), meaning pressure differential is half as great. The result is that production in Franklin would be one eighteenth ( $1/9 \times 1/2$ ) of that in

the sweet spot, i.e. only five percent.

Looking at the whole of the Southern Tier, production would be comparatively low in the vast majority of towns. Drilling would be most profitable in the border towns of Broome and Delaware counties. As you would expect, recent



applications for five drilling permits by XTO (a subsidiary of Exxon) are for the adjacent towns of Sanford, in Broome County and Deposit, in Delaware County.

Should gas prices rise, we expect that the fairway for drilling (i.e. where drilling would be profitable) would expand further into the border towns of Chemung and Tioga counties, as well as to additional towns in Broome and Delaware.

These results should not come as a surprise because academia and industry have been

forecasting fairways of a similar extent since the Marcellus boom began. However, in the Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement, the DMN has spread confusion by depicting the Marcellus fairway as including the whole of the eastern half of the Southern Tier, all the way to where the shale breaks the surface in visible outcroppings.

A low potential for production does not guarantee that there will be no drilling in a county. Small operators are incurable optimists. In the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania, counties with low potential such as Potter and McKean now have dozens of horizontal wells — despite every well being a low producer.

Costs of drilling could be substantial to people and towns. But outside of the fairways, the benefits of drilling from royalties could be meager. The only way a town can guarantee control of the costs of drilling is by exercising its home rule powers through local zoning.

State-wide comprehensive regulation, rigorously enforced, could reduce costs — although not eliminate them. But after five years of moratorium, we are no closer to either. Regulations were proposed and then dropped. (The DMN is operating with regulations codified in the 1970s, with none resulting from the GEIS.)

**See EMPTY, continued on Page 14**



# PIPELINE POSTINGS V: A Continuing Chronology of Events

Compiled by Brian Brock

*June 17<sup>th</sup>:* **Constitution Pipeline Company LLC** sends second issue of Update newsletter (Spring 2013), including articles on its recent application to **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission** and frequently asked questions.

*July 7<sup>th</sup>:* **New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets** submits comments on application.

*June 24<sup>th</sup>:* **CPC** announces distribution of \$400,000 in the second round of community grants to non-profit groups, including \$24,980 to the Franklin Fire Department for safety gear.

*July 17<sup>th</sup>:* **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation** submits comments on the application.

*July 24<sup>th</sup>:* **Leatherstocking Gas Company LLC** and **CPC** agree to four taps in the pipeline for the Local Distribution Company. One will be in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania and three in Delaware County, New York.

*July 24<sup>th</sup>:* **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** submits comments on the application, including criticism of the inadequate evaluation by **CPC** of Alternate Segment M in the I-88 corridor.

*July 24<sup>th</sup>:* **CPC** issues supplementary materials for its application, including revised route maps. Because of their adoption of Alternate Segment S in Pennsylvania, the location measures in the June submissions are now off by over two miles. Also included are hundreds of pages of additional Resource Reports and Appendices.

*August 9<sup>th</sup>:* **CPC** sends third issue of Update newsletter (August 2013) including articles on their July supplemental filing, next steps in the review process, a revised economic impact study, and recent community grants. It still plans to begin construction no earlier than June of 2014.

*August 29<sup>th</sup>:* **FERC** requests more data from **CPC**, with a deadline of September 18<sup>th</sup>.

*September 25<sup>th</sup>:* **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation** submits comments on the application, concurring with ACE's criticism of the inadequate evaluation by **CPC** of Alternate Segment M in the I-88 corridor.

*September 30<sup>th</sup>:* Deadline for submission of applications for community grants from **CPC**. Eighty five were submitted, but none from the Town of Franklin.

*October 9<sup>th</sup>:* **FERC** releases second Project Update newsletter, including outlining the next steps in their review process following the release of their draft Environment Impact Statement.

*October 11<sup>th</sup>:* **CPC** submits supplementary data requested by **FERC** on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Some data was reformatted and resubmitted on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

*October 22<sup>nd</sup>:* **Stop the Pipeline** begins a \$50,000 fund raiser for their response to the upcoming EIS from **FERC**. In the first ten days, they raise \$10,000.

*October 29<sup>th</sup>:* **CPC** announces that one quarter of the pipe will be manufactured by Dura-Bond Pipe LLC in Steelton, Pennsylvania for approximately \$20 million.

*October 30<sup>th</sup>:* Lawyers Dan Biersdorf and Jon Santemma presented the legal options for landowners along the pipeline route to an audience of 100 at the Marriott Hotel in Oneonta.

*November 6<sup>th</sup>:* **FERC** requests additional information from **CPC** that is necessary for them to complete their draft EIS. Deadline is November 26<sup>th</sup>.



Diane Nixon at a recent rally in Delhi

lutely along, holding up an anti-gas drilling poster with one hand, while wheeling along with the other the oxygen tank that made it possible for her to breathe.

Diane Constance Nixon had COPD - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

Years and years ago, Diane Nixon had visited Delaware County and fallen in love with it. When she brought her husband and business partner Robert Ashley here, he also was won over by the fresh beauty of our hills and valleys and rivers.

So, twenty five years ago they bought a country house on Delaware County Route 14 and moved their successful fabric design business, Ashley Studios, from London, England to Delhi, NY.

They also created a wild and wonderfully mysterious shady garden with small ponds and winding streams and stony banks which they lavished with plantings of native shrubs and flowers.

Though British like her husband, Diane had a cosmopolitan See **NIXON, cont. on Page 8**

## LOCAL ACTIVIST DIES

By Carole Marner

Anyone who has gone to the many anti-fracking rallies and forums and hearings held in central upstate New York over the past few years has probably come away remembering the tall, handsome silver-haired woman striding reso-

## GEO, continued from Page 1



*The heart of the system: pumps and manifolds in the basement* to approve a building project that would switch to geothermal heat.

The make-over was not going to be cheap. CVCS has over sixty classrooms. The air ducts throughout the building had to be retrofitted, and one or two heat-exchange units installed in each room, depending on the room's size. The ancient boilers had to be decommissioned and removed from the basement. The electrical service for the entire school complex had to be upgraded in order to power the heat exchang-

ers and the big pumps that circulate the heat-transfer fluid through the vast, closed loop of pipes, bringing fifty degrees up from the ground even in the dead of winter. Using the same technology that a refrigerator uses, heat is extracted from the fluid and circulated throughout the rooms of the school. In the heat of summer, the system automatically reverses to create air conditioning (AC).

"AC is usually expensive," notes Dupra, "but ours is very moderate," as the cooling part of the sys-

tem was installed at essentially no additional cost.

All the retrofitting (indoor work) was done while school was in session, so kids and classes did get moved around a lot. But the greatest disruption was the creation of the bore field (outdoor, digging work) under the school parking lot. That work began during the preceding summer.

A test well was sunk to be sure that the site was suitable, as large amounts of drilling has been known to interfere with underground aquifers, and in fact, CVCS's water did show some disturbance at first but not enough to cause concern. Forty bores were drilled, each four hundred feet deep and fitted with inch and a half diameter pipe, which were then connected to a horizontal network of three inch pipe laid across the parking lot, about eight feet below the surface, to carry the circulating fluid (80 % water, 20% food-grade glycol) to the pumps in the school basement.

All this was covered with fill up to grade, and

then allowed to settle over the winter. Dupra notes that this waiting period added to the overall expense, but was well worth it as the ground was firm and flat when it came time to pave it over with asphalt the next spring. Today, you'd never know there was anything but soil below all those parked cars.

By now, despite a forty percent rise in electrical costs and the fueling of a propane back-up system that also heats the gyms, the energy savings have exceeded expectations, at least \$125,000 in three years. In addition, there has been a big reduction in maintenance costs, particularly without those cranky old boilers. Finally, there's a geothermal "assist" in the heating of hot water. So why don't more schools and public institutions make this green and money-saving schange?

No doubt it's because the initial outlay is so intimidating, especially in a weak economy. The total cost of the project came to nearly \$8 million, three fourths of which was the heating

system. "But," Dupra says, "because we're a 'poor' school, state aid covered eighty percent of the total." The other twenty percent, or \$1.5 million, was borrowed through bonding.

Dupra's wife, Maureen Sullivan, points out that he has also brought propane school buses to CVCS, which now has its own propane pumping system. Dupra is relieved that all the conversion disruption is over with, but the system is functioning well and he's proud of it, happy to show it off to visitors and be given another chance to preach "the gospel according to geothermal."



Touring the basement



**MARCY, cont. from Page 1**

Edic to New Scotland) and north to south in the Hudson Valley (New Scotland to Leeds to Pleasant Valley).

**Edic to Fraser:**

In addition, for north-west to southeast transmission along the Catskill route, NAT proposed a second 345 kV line adjacent to the existing Marcy South line. Their Statement of Intent is notable at being detailed, with as many pages as the other five combined. This company is a wholly owned subsidiary of LS Power, an employee-owned power company founded in 1990 and based in St. Lewis, Missouri.

By June, when the PSC sent a letter to local governments, this Catskill corridor had been added to the projects map.

The deadline for developers to submit application materials, scoping documents, and proposed schedule was October 1<sup>st</sup>.

A week or two before, NAT published a public notice of this Catskill project in local daily and weekly newspapers. The EF2 project would run overhead 345 kV transmission lines 78 miles from Utica to Delhi between substations in Edic, Oneida County and Fraser, Delaware County. This would require second easements on the eastern side of the existing easements, an additional 160 feet of width. Most of the support towers would be pre-stresses spun concrete monopoles, typically 130 feet high. Options would allow double circuiting to double capacity.

At this time, this is only one of many proposals before the PSC, but NAT's is the only one for this Catskill corridor. Documents for the Edic to Fraser project are filed on the commission website [dps.ny.gov](http://dps.ny.gov) under case 13-T-0454.

**Oakdale to Fraser:**

In a second addition to the program, for west to

east transmission along a Southern Tier route, Transco's Statement of Interest proposed an overhead 345 kV line adjacent to existing Oakdale to Fraser route. This company is a partnership of eight New York utilities.

In their October application for the same route, Nextera Energy Transmission New York, Inc. detailed a fifty-seven mile route from Binghamton to Delhi between substations in Oakdale, Broome County and Fraser, Delaware County. It would be built almost entirely within the existing right-of-way, although locally, there may be required as much as an additional 100 foot easements on the south side of existing easements. Also additional construction easements will be necessary. Like EF2, concrete monopoles would be used, but here shorter at 95 feet high. NETNY is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy, Inc. of Juno, Beach Florida, which was renamed from Florida Power and Light, founded in 1925.

Documents for the Oakdale/Fraser project are filed by NETNY on the commission website under case 13-T-0456.

While Transco was assigned a case number (13-T-0457), they have filed no documents on a Oakdale-Fraser project.

It is not clear that this project will be approved. In its April evaluation of Statement of Intent, the PSC concluded that "the West-East Southern Tier transmission corridor upgrades are not likely to produce the increases in transfer capacity sought." On the other hand, NETNY judged it worth submitting their application six months later.

These two projects have in common that they end at the Fraser substation, which is two miles northwest of State Highway 10. Each company claims

that upgrades would fit in the existing substation, but neither discusses the consequences if both upgrades were approved.

**Consequences:**

If EF2 is approved, procurement of easements could begin in 2015, by eminent domain if necessary. Construction is planned to begin in the summer of 2016 and transmission in late 2017. In addition to the poles and lines, there would be upgrades to both substations and construction of a new facility for series compensation somewhere along the line. Costs are estimated at \$270 million.

NAT estimates that annual property taxes would include \$150,000 to Franklin Central School, \$190,000 to Town of Franklin, and \$250,000 to Delaware County. But this is calculated only on the value of the permanent installations. On the value of the electricity through these lines (or of the gas through the Constitution pipeline), Franklin will receive not a cent.

If OF2 is approved, procurement of easements could begin in 2016, by eminent domain if necessary. Construction is planned to begin in the summer of 2017 and transmission in summer of 2018. In addition to the poles and lines, there would be upgrades to both substations. Neither costs or property taxes were estimated.

Energy infrastructure projects in a town are like the fable of the camel and the tent. The first project is like the camel talking its way into being allowed to stick his nose in the tent. Once that precedent is set, each additional encroachment is easier to get in, and you can never be sure how much you will eventually lose. In the end, the camel comes to occupy the whole, and you have been pushed outside of your own tent.

## KENNETH L. BENNETT FUNERAL HOME

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FRANKLIN, NY 13776

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**NIXON, continued from Page 7**

ubringing -- born in Curaçao, living as child in Venezuela and growing up in Scarsdale, NY. Robert is proudly a London boy, half cockney. Starting as custom fabric designers and printers to the architectural and design trade in London in the 60s, Robert provided the creative talent while Diane excelled in "vendor/client handling skills."

Their business thrived in the pre-recession economy, creating distinctive and innovative designs for industry and private clients, employing both ancient silk screening techniques and new methods of their own devising on silk, wool, linen and leather.

Work created at Ashley

Studios can be seen in The Louvre and in the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Diane died of COPD at the age of 71 on Friday, October 25th. Her indomitable spirit will be sorely missed, as will her sharp intelligence and gracious manner. In her name, Robert is setting up a foundation, The Diane Constance Nixon Foundation for Justice, which will support the preservation of the pristine natural environment.

"The air we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat are not healthy as they used to be, as they should be," Ashley insists. "This is a matter of basic human rights, of justice."



## THE PIPELINE PAPERS

Looking for a little light reading? Here's everything you ever wanted to know about the Constitution Pipeline, and a lot more besides. Available at a library near you

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# THE GARDEN GATE

By Penelope R. King



## Winter care of Trees and Shrubs

### Pruning:

Winter is nearly here, so any fall pruning is appropriate. Trees that bleed sap, such as birches and maples, should be pruned now. Always make your cuts close to the larger branch or trunk, so the tree can heal properly. You can see where to cut if you look closely at the attachment point. You will see a demarcation between the branch and the larger branch or trunk. Cut so that the tissue on the larger branch or the one closer to the trunk is intact. That tissue will be stimulated and heal over the cut. DO not leave stubs. If you do, the tree cannot heal and diseases or bugs can get into the tree.

Some apples and other trees sucker freely, sending up shoots from the roots to compete with the tree's energy. They may have been grown on the rootstock of another variety to make them healthier or hardier. You should cut off those shoots whenever you see them emerge. Want to see how those suckers can ruin the look and health of a tree? Look at the entrance to the cemetery in Delhi on Route 28, where crabapples with reddish leaves have masses of green-leaved suckers shooting up through and even above the branches. Ick.

Shrubs are woody plants with multiple stems. Some shrubs can be trained to one stem by selective pruning. Nurseries will often carry shrubs pre-pruned to one trunk, such as Peegee hydrangeas and some roses. These should be pruned to maintain the single trunk.

Many shrubs also sucker freely - for example, most lilacs, some viburnums and most forsythias. Unless you may want a shrub to spread, its suckers should be pruned any time you see them, as they may ruin the shape of the plant. With the leaves gone, it will be easier to see the preferred shape of the plant. If you see branches crossing each other and rubbing the bark off, prune one, keeping the one that will maintain the desired shape. Now is also the time to make sure your shrubs are not rubbing up against

the house where they can be damaged by ice or snow sliding off your roof. If you don't have gutters, you will see exactly where the falling moisture hits the ground: there will be a line of gravel there. And remember that ice and snow can fall further out from the roof than rain water.

### Winter Care:

As noted above, your shrubs can be damaged by falling ice and snow, so now is the time to decide how to prevent that. You can build triangular "hats" using two pieces of plywood hinged where they meet, and place these over shrubs, or you can tie them up with burlap and string, pulling stems together to make a strong bundle. Burlap bundles are also great protection against wind. Evergreens are particularly susceptible to drying winter winds. I have used circles of rolled roofing to protect them, but it sure wasn't pretty. I have also used burlap to protect trees and shrubs from deer damage. Deer browse woodies after the grass has lost its nutrients, and they prefer evergreens because they are green! They love yews, apples, rhododendrons, and cyprus of all kinds. They tend to leave pines until really hungry as well as Junipers, and they don't eat spruces, so keep that in mind as you plan your landscapes. Dogs are good deterrents, but fencing is surer.

Make sure the fence is high enough so they can't reach over and your stakes

are in the ground deep enough so they can't lean in. I have used plastic fencing which is nearly invisible from 10' away but it doesn't always work if the deer are really hungry. And deer aren't the only critters that will chew on your beloved plants. Rabbits have eaten one of my spiraeas to the ground. Luckily, these plants are really tough and the shrub grew right back the next year, though it was certainly shorter than before. Now I fence it, too. Plastic netting doesn't work on bunnies; they chew right through it. You may not be able to protect from rabbits completely as they can hop right across the surface of snow, so use the highest fence you can afford. Finally, there are rodents who may chew the bark right off a shrub. You can fence against these fellows with hardware cloth, wrapped around roots.

I know this all seems a pain in the neck. If you're lucky, you may not have all these creature and conditions, or you may have planted resistant varieties that are weather tough and avoided by animals. Otherwise, the effort is worth it unless you want your valuable landscaping to become a critter smorgasbord.

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## HOLIDAY SALE!

WHEN: December 7<sup>th</sup> 10am-5 pm

Where: GreenTree Home's Studio

4586 Main St. (Cnty Rt 14) Treadwell, NY 13846

Phone: 607-829-3272

GreenTree Home is pleased to welcome holiday shoppers to their annual Holiday Sale on December 7<sup>th</sup> 2013, from 10am to 5 pm.

Located in their Treadwell studio, the event will feature goods from five artisan-based businesses. Shoppers will have an opportunity to browse, eat and shop for locally produced goods and gifts, as well as meet the artisans. The vendors represent an eclectic mix and offer some of the best hand-made products this area has to offer.

Vendors include: Annie Hayes Rugs and Organic Soap of Delhi, NY, Wallywoodshop of Franklin, NY, JLF Jewelry Design of Delhi, NY, Bread Fellows of Bovina, NY and GreenTree Home Candle of Treadwell NY.

Embracing the holiday season, the group will donate a portion of their proceeds to Habitat of Humanity of Delaware County. Don't miss this exciting community event.

For more information, contact Jenifer Green: 607-746-7095



Craftworks, clockwise from top:  
GreenTree Candles  
Craft Medley  
Wallywoodshop Cutting Boards  
Bread Fellows savory treat  
JLF Jewelry  
Annie Hayes Rug



By the end of that spring and into the next few springs and falls, I



## Planting Wildness

By Bertha Rogers

The stooped and swaying labor  
that planted a thousand seedling  
spruces is not wasted; immediately

they take to the mountain. In  
seven days, and as if they were native  
to this thin earth, they display

bright, wild needles from the tips  
of their fingers. While  
you wane, the trees increase,

their bodies adding arms, adding  
digits. In ten years they attain  
a giant's height. Fifteen years,

and there is no trace of the meadow  
that tried to choke their roots;  
the sun's light cannot penetrate

their density. Birds nest, bears  
test their circumference. You,  
remembering the old, tamed slope,

avert your eyes as you enter;  
walk cautiously among spiraling  
branches. This is the reason you

lift your head off the pillow  
each morning, you go willing  
to sleep every night. Even when

the bleakness is hard upon you.



## UpState Arts

By Jane Carr

### The Wednesday Painters - Yesterday & Today

In the mid 1990s, the first group of Wednesday Painters met in the home of Hal Chazen & Patsy Breiling outside the hamlet of Treadwell, NY. Patsy and Hal had just moved from Croton on Hudson, and met fellow artists through the Delhi Art Group. Hal worked for thirty years as a graphic artist for the F.W. Woolworth Company in New York City. Patsy had studied painting with Rueben Tam at the Brooklyn Museum Art School in the early 1960s. She painted daily in her large studio and decided she needed some "company." The original painters at Patsy's were Carolyn Huyck, Alice Hall, Laura Hussey, Bill Lee, Betty Kratzenstein, Ruth Cole and Jane Carr.

The idea was to get together each week to paint and "see each others' paintings with our own special different set of eyes," as Patsy would say. Some artists were self taught, some art-schooled and some in-between. But all observed a work differently and verbalized what they saw. It was a valuable learning experience to hear so many different takes on the same thing. And we were always supportive,

never attempting to "teach."

Patsy had a full length mirror in the studio and we used it to see our work (in reverse) differently with our own set of eyes. A mirror is a very important tool for a painter. Every day I came home from Patsy's, I set up and painted more. It kept me charged. It did the same for all of us.

For nearly fifteen years, we met for our weekly working get-togethers. When Patsy became ill, we met at other members' homes. Over the last twenty years, we have lost Carolyn Huyck, Patsy, and her husband Hal, but because of Patsy's vision, the group lives on.

We paint now at my home in Treadwell every Wednesday. Laura Hussey and I are the remaining members from Patsy's studio, and now I paint with Laura, Bruce Goddard, Kathy Dorn, and Laura Massey each week. Five members is the perfect number to meet and quietly paint at my studio. I look forward to learning something each week and I hope that it will continue for a long time.

If you paint or sculpt or draw or whatever...start a group of friends to work together a few times a month. It will help you, it will keep you charged - believe me!



Trees with Bear

### WILDNESS, continued from Page 10

duff dusted among and over surface roots. It has always seemed to me that trees are one of earth's greatest miracles; I'm lucky to have witnessed the growth and maturity of these stalwarts first hand, even luckier to live with them.

I planted because of my love for trees, but it turned out that the state of New York had loved trees much longer than I. After the Catskills had been mostly denuded in the late 1700s and early 1800s, after almost every hill and mountain were barren as a desert, and the wildlife had disappeared, the people of New York saw a sad future and took steps to change that future for the better.

In 1902, they implemented a massive reforestation project that has continued, with some fits and starts due to economy and other issues, throughout the years. Today, the Catskills and Delaware County are rich with forests, many planted by people like me, by schoolchildren (Walton is a great example), 4-Hers, and other groups.

*The preceeding is an Artist's Statement for an interdisciplinary exhibit at the Elijah Thomas Gallery at the Delaware County Historical Association, funded by the Decentralization Program of the New York State Council on the Arts.*

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### The Perfect Holiday Gift...

But where will you find it?

**A hint: Where's Wally?**

You'll find him in the pages of The New Franklin Register.

**Happy Holiday Shopping!**



# annals of sustainability

Compiled by Vicki Davis

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is supporting renewable energy with a variety of Solar technology programs. The Photovoltaic (PV=electricity) and Solar Thermal (ST=Hot Water) Programs provide homeowners with incentives for purchase and installation. From the NYSERDA website - **Standard Offer PV Program Key Benefits:**

Save 40-70% off the purchase cost and install a solar electric system by combining this program with other New York Energy Smart<sup>SM</sup> programs.

Automatically receive a full five-year parts and labor warranty.

Generate excess electricity with a system smaller than 25 kW and get credited on your utility bill for the amount of electricity you produce over and above what you use.

In addition, there is currently a 25% state solar tax credit and a 30% federal tax credit for PV systems.

When combined with home improvements to make your home as energy efficient as possible, advanced technologies like PV will reduce your energy bills and environmental impact. Start with a Comprehensive Home Assessment or Energy Audit performed through NYSERDA's Home Performance with Energy Star program to evaluate your home and make a plan for efficiency improvements. Program participants can

also access low-interest loans to cover upgrades or use the On-Bill Recovery Financing Program to have loan payments built into their energy bills.

For most New Yorkers, home assessments are free or offered at a reduced cost. Participating accredited local contractors will do the assessment in about two hours covering visual inspection, health and safety tests for major combustion appliances (furnace, boiler, hot water tank and stove), energy efficiency tests for air leaks and insulation, analyze and report the findings, then propose solutions.

Interested in solar power but not ownership and maintenance? Consider a Solar Lease.

Typically, this is a no-money-down option where you pay a flat fee that locks in your energy costs for a 10-20 year period.

**Pros:** the leasing company owns, installs, maintains and manages the system. so it is hassle free for the homeowner. **Cons:** the lease company owns the panels and therefore receives the tax credits, any cash incentives from the state or utility and any renewable energy credits (REC's). REC's can be sold to companies to offset carbon emissions. These are lucrative benefits.

Solar City, Sungevity and Sun-Run offer solar leasing in parts of New York. When contacted. none of them are currently in our immediate neighborhood, but all are expanding their service areas.

## Bright Hill Literary Center Workshops for Kids Winter 2014 Programs

*New!*

### Hazel Poetry Workshops For Teens

Grades 7 - 12 (Ages 12-17)

5 Saturdays:

January 4, 11, 25 & February 1, 8

### Winter Literary Workshops For Kids

#### Beowulf & Other Heroes

Grades 1 - 8 (Ages 6 - 14)

5 Saturdays:

February 22 & March 1, 8, 15, & 22

94 Church Street, Treadwell, New York

Full & Partial Scholarships Available

Contact 607-829-5055

Or wordthur@stny.rr.com

Bright Hill's Workshops Programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



*The work begins...*

And now, furniture that is *truly* green:

The **Sod Sofa**, created at the Daniel Stow Botanical Garden in Belmont, NC, by **Alex Lovallo Living Sculpture** of Ithaca and Bainbridge.

More information at [lovallo@gmail.com](mailto:lovallo@gmail.com)

*All done. Time to relax.*



*This holiday season...*



*Give a gift  
of  
lasting beauty.*



Get ready, get set...it's another installment of your favorite off-center soap opera. It's...

# MURDER AT THE FARMERS' MARKET!!

Fffft!  
What the,....  
Fffft, fffft!!  
Mr. Flashlight went dark with a quiet curse.  
Get down, he said. Clyde's got a silencer.  
Wilson's dog took off like a shot.  
A hand grabbed my shoulder and began to drag me out from underneath the porch.  
Run for it, he said.  
We sprinted across the lawn and circled around opposite sides of a squad car. We sat down hard breathing harder.  
A few more ffffts, one chinging off the car.  
Well, well, Trooper Cooper. Say, thanks, I said.  
You're welcome. We've been watching this guy for awhile, he said.  
Suddenly we heard a scream. Scrambling to look over the top of the car we saw a body fly out the third floor window, drop through the dark, and land with a loud thump on the lawn. We looked up toward the window.  
Two glowing orange eyes stared from the dark square of the window. Wilson's dog was standing on the ledge. I swear he was laughing.  
Good boy!...or whatever you are, I thought.  
Suddenly he leaped into the darkness.

Y'know your dog isn't really part of the family until you start sharing the china. Which begs the question, dog or dishwasher?

For guys who like to pee outside, there's a way to check your diet. If you're eating organic, it takes at least three days to kill a burdock. Processed food with chemical additives only takes about a day.

Dave invented a gas-powered shaver but you could tell by the number of beards in town that it wasn't selling well.  
Previously, he'd decided to get the one-up on U-Pick-Em farms by starting a U-Milk-Em business.  
Were those cows pissed!

I returned home after taking Jeanie in for a sonogram and found a landsman standing in my front field. Thought I'd give him a chance to be nondisclosing and he was, remarkably so. I asked a number of questions and he talked alot

but said almost nothing.  
So I gave him my spiel about my land being part of a network of ancient white European burial grounds under the watchful eye and protection of the United Nations Ancestral Protection Act of 1966.  
He didn't even leave me his card.

When the market season ends, vendors take turns walking the food cart through town.  
My turn.  
Well, this distinguished older man came toward me holding the hand of a very young and very pretty little girl. I guessed she was his granddaughter.  
They bellied up to the cart and looked things over. The man bent over to give the little girl a few dollars and told her to pick anything she wanted.  
She looked at me sheepishly and pointed to a big shiny red apple.  
I like to play with the kids so as I handed her the apple, I said six thousand dollars. Her eyes widened in confusion and alarm and she turned to her grandfather for help.  
He leaned over to her while looking at me and said, use your card, honey.  
When we laughed, she knew we were kidding, so she laughed too.

Holy Jesus. Actually it was St. Francis. We dug up St. Francis the other day.  
The shovel went thunk! Not metal, not wood. Something softer. Plastic?  
Wrapped in two shopping bags buried deep in what was the lawn before it became garden.  
He's about two feet tall and badly needs a bath.  
A peculiar resurrection.  
Why would someone wrap Frank in shopping bags and bury him in the lawn?  
Wull, I don't care if it jumps or dances, Long as I got my plastic Francis, And I don't care if it's dark and dank, Long as I got my two-foot Frank, Standin' on the fencepost of my chard.

Trooper Cooper and I came out from behind the squad car slowly, both of us staring at the dark lump far below the third floor window. No movement to speak of. TC had his gun out. I

still had my plastic bag.  
Wilson's dog had jumped to the second floor landing of the exterior staircase. Now that he had feathers, I guess he thought he could fly.  
Clyde was out cold but still alive. TC lifted Clyde's rifle from the ground, ejected the clip and returned to his car to call an ambulance.  
My friend Patsy was a tourguide on one of the many New York double-decker buses roaming the city everyday. She memorized and repeated a long monologue describing the many wonders of the Big Apple to tourists from all over the world.  
She did this every day except Sundays.  
But one day she visited a friend who did the same thing in Washington D.C.  
And replaced her.  
Patsy gave the New York monologue on the D.C. bus.  
And nobody said a word.

Well, Grandpa asked for a chainsaw for his birthday but no one in his or her right mind was going for that. So we ponied up for an electric carving knife instead.  
Come Thanksgiving Grandpa was all excited about his new toy and got a little carried away slicing up the entire turkey like a big old tube of bologna.  
Unfortunately, during his performance, his cell-phone rang and he let his hand drop, cutting off the corner of the dining room table.  
But the worst part was that he got confused and tried to talk into the knife.  
White meat? Dark meat? Ear?

My favorite roadhouse saloon must be doing well. They're getting bands that are advertised and popular all over the country. Some of my favorites are Open 'Til Midnight, Help Wanted (they're really good), and Closed for the Season.  
Tonight it was The Pathetics. Their fanclub was called the Sympathetics.

Wilson's dog came trotting over and rubbed against my leg. How about a drink pal? I said. He said something that sounded like youbuyin?  
I waved so long to TC and walked off with Wilson's dog slithering along beside me.

**To be continued...**



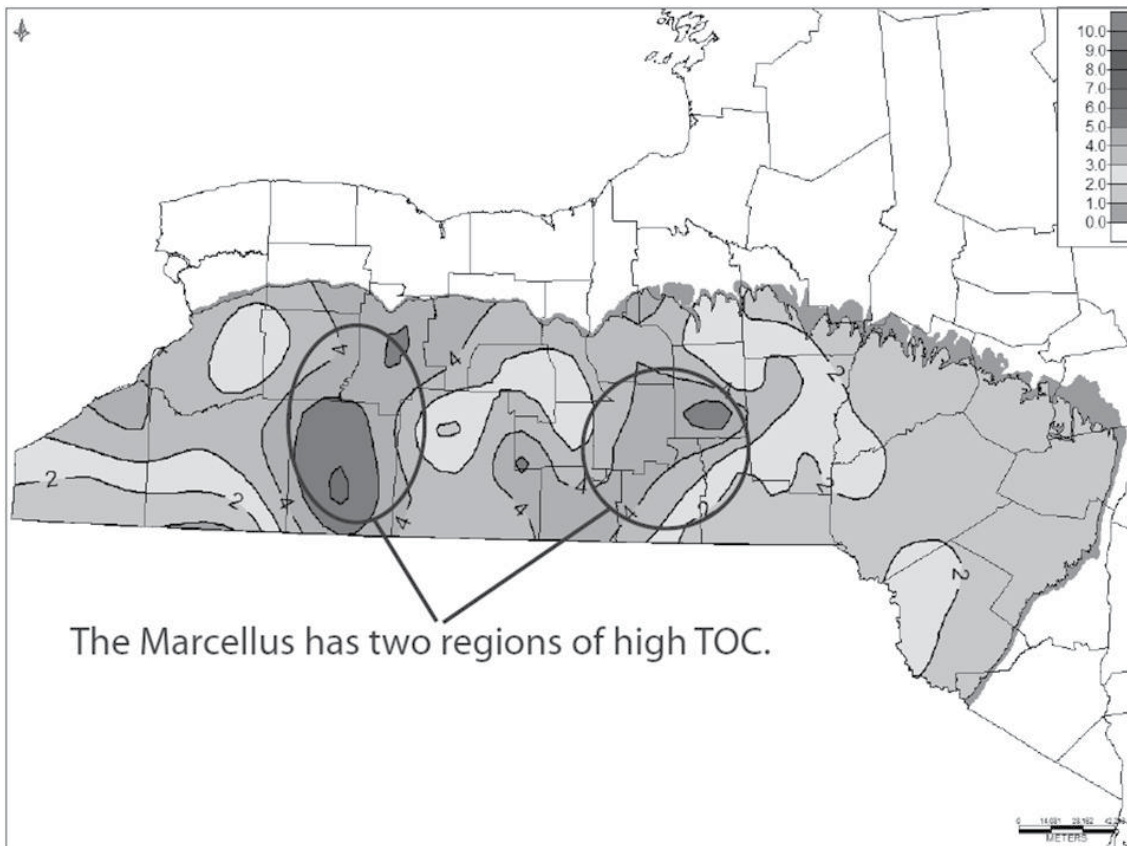
Envy, by Jack Beal

**In loving memory of Jack Beal  
Jack, we miss your gallant and irascible spirit.**

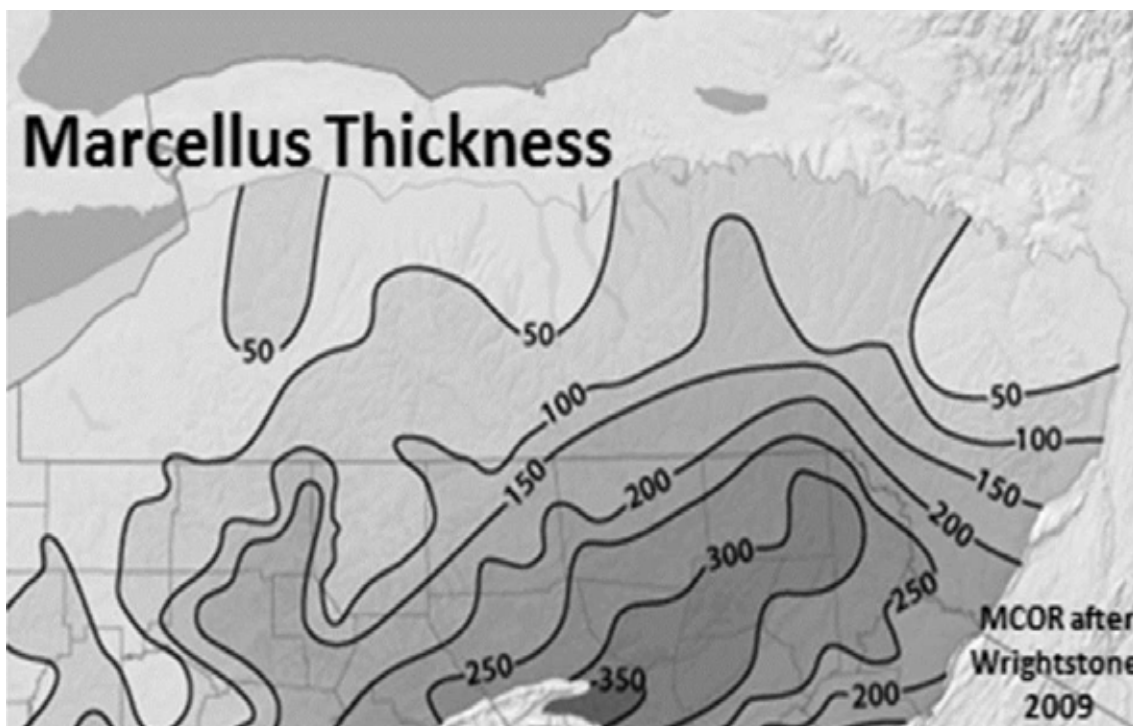


**HAPPY HOLIDAYS & THANK YOU to all the people that give so much of themselves to ban fracking & promote renewable energy.  
Matthew & Tammy Reiss**





The Marcellus shale beneath most of the Southern Tier contains enough organic matter to have produced gas. However the Total Organic Content of the Marcellus beneath the eastern Southern Tier (the Catskills and surrounding regions) is less than 2 percent, and therefore the shale is unlikely to have produced much gas.



#### EMPTY, continued from Page 6

The governor's Advisory Committee on Hydraulic Fracturing, which is to plan for the practical details of financing and staffing, has not met in almost two years. And while the industry talks of "safe and responsible drilling," it works relentlessly to avoid safe regulations and taking responsibility for the consequences of its actions.

## NEW YORK GAS POTENTIAL TOUR 2013 - 2014

10/30 Ithaca  
1/16 Manhattan  
1/17 Oneonta  
1/31 Vestal

Videos of the presentations at Cornell University, Ithaca can be viewed at:

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJ4sBXNT-ET-p0aZilXGWBikMJgNoTeW2K>

1. Tony Ingraffea 9 min. Introduction
2. Chip Northrup 22 min. Geographical Extent of Shale Gas Potential in New York
3. Brian Brock 10 min. Shale Gas Geology
4. Jerry Acton 27 min. Forecasting Marcellus Productivity in New York
5. Lou Allstadt 24 min. New York Shale Gas Potential
6. Panel 49 min. Question and Answer

The Marcellus is most productive where it is thickest in northeastern Pennsylvania. The shale is thinner under the Southern Tier, and wells there would be much less productive. While that shale has gas, there just isn't much shale. The Marcellus is thickest in New York along the border, under southern Broome and southwest Delaware counties



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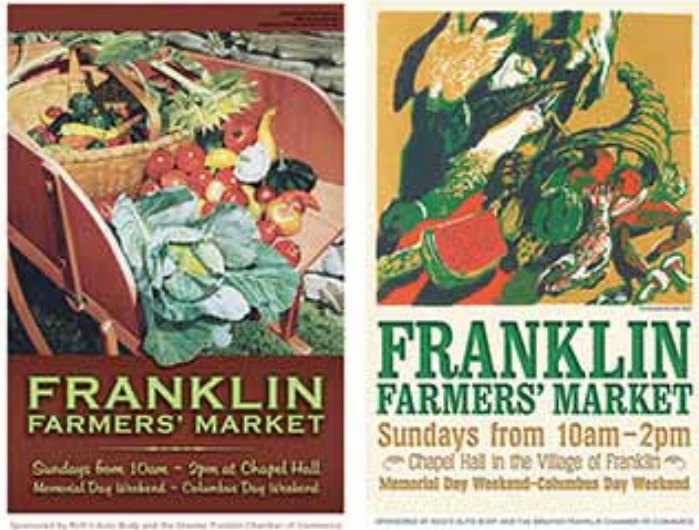
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Looking for  
our next  
local artist  
poster  
for 2014

From top left, past poster images by Edmond Rinnooy Kan, Doug Jamieson and Marie Cummings.  
From bottom left, posters by Sondra Freckelton and Jack Beal

Franklin Farmers' Market manager Ellen Curtis has asked North Franklin artist Sondra Freckelton to pick the Franklin Market poster image for the coming year. The poster has become a prestigious and sought-after assignment, much to our small town's surprise. We would like to offer an opportunity to participate to all artists in the surrounding area. Sondra says, "Ellen does not feel qualified to choose from such an array, and I promise not to judge by who is my best friend or even whom I think is the best artist. I'm going to look at who came

up with the best and most fitting poster for the Franklin Farmers' Market. Thank you, friends and fellow artists." Please send your image by February 15, 2014. Send to: Sondra Freckelton c/o Franklin Local PO Box 258 Franklin, NY 13775 Or email to: posters@franklinlocal.org

The NEW  
Franklin Register.

The Newsletter of Franklin Local

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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 the Town Board Room. 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:

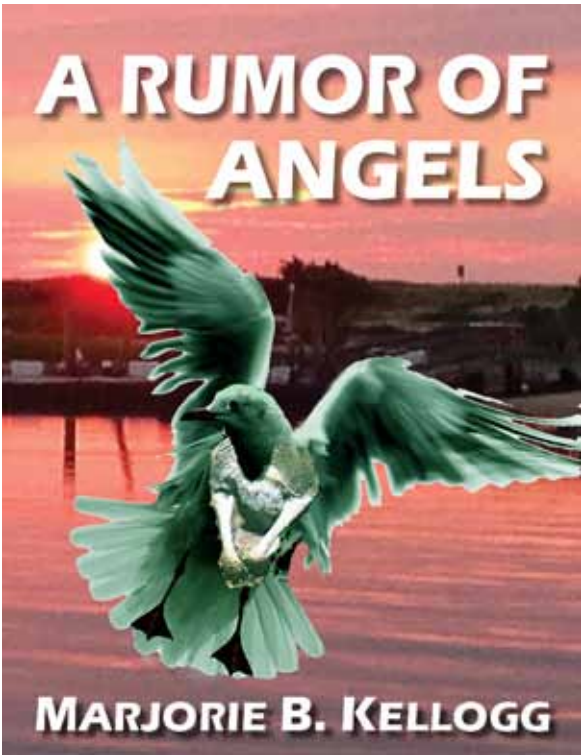
- Local food production network
- Skills and services exchange
- Goods exchange
- Ride sharing bulletin board and/or website
- Farm to School Program for school lunches
- Community Greenhouses
- Community Energy Production
- Community Health Network

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](mailto:nfr@franklinlocal.org)  
or  
check us out at our new community website:  
[franklinlocal.org](http://franklinlocal.org)

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The New Franklin Register is an independent entity funded by our local advertisers and contributions from interested friends. We have no granting organizations to answer to, and no taxpayer dollars come our way.



Available in January as an e-book from Amazon, and as an audiobook at Audible.com.

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## RECENT REAL PROPERTY SALES IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

Date	Location	Acres	Property Type	Assess.	Price	Seller	Buyer
5/6/2013	6075 County Hgy 21	11.77	Rural res	127,000	52,000	Wilmington Savings Soc.	Agatha James Part. LLC
5/7/2013	698 Franklin Heights Rd	6.72	Mfg housing	79,000	100,000	Beverly I Jackson Trust	Vacchio, Phillip
5/7/2013	2927 State Hgy 28 S	0.50	1 Family Res	72,000	130,851	Ross, Angela N	Hickling, Jeremiah P
5/20/2013	Church St	15.61	Vacant comm	New	0	Del. Academy Central	Town of Franklin
5/24/2013	139 Center St	0.22	1 Family Res	103,000	1	Lynne, Faith N	Ott, Elizabeth J
5/29/2013	9197 County Hgy 16	97.70	Rural res	226,000	230,000	Phillips, John	Phillips, Aaron R
5/30/2013	787 Franklin Heights Rd	4.74	1 Family Res	119,000	118,500	Hetterich, Thomas	Gorton, Rose Lee
5/31/2013	201 Center St	0.30	1 Family Res	128,000	0	Braen Scott, Sarah	County of Delaware
6/ 3/2013	1121 Sherman Hill Rd	16.85	Rural res	180,000	225,000	Ruple, George H	Parascandola, James J
6/ 3/2013	592 Main St	0.46	2 Family Res	108,000	75,000	Dorothea Brundege Est.	Young, Jaime L
6/ 3/2013	527 Round Top Rd	1.20	1 Family Res	122,000	140,000	Netherwood, Elizabeth	West, Benjamin S
6/ 6/2013	Christian Hill Rd	68.20	Rural vac<10	2 Parcels	89,000	Woodruff, Ramona	Lougiakis, Emmanuel @
6/ 6/2013	6396 County Hgy 21	6.80	1 Family Res	126,000	145,000	Bedford, Harris	Menyhart, Robert
6/ 7/2013	E Handsome Brook Rd	20.00	Rural vac>10	41,000	20,000	Stupakoff, Victor	Schnabel, Gregory S
6/ 7/2013	7483 E Hand. Bk Rd	40.00	Rural res	180,000	412,000	Stupakoff, Victor	Schnabel, Gregory S
6/ 7/2013	567 Leland Hull Rd	28.70	Rural res	165,000	186,000	Elvezio, Joseph	Bellino, Joseph P
6/14/2013	Round Top Rd	1.00	Vac w/imprv	12,000	12,500	Andrews, Michael W	Burghardt, Candace
6/15/2013	3405 County Hgy 14	106.67	Rural res	250,000	225,000	Grefe, William	Tramunti, Robert
6/26/2013	Campbell Rd	17.69	Rural vac>10	51,000	5,551	County of Delaware,	Loguercio, Margaret @
6/28/2013	State Highway 357	2.35	Mfg housing	44,000	45,000	Nolf, Kenneth J	Barlow, Jeffrey R
7/ 2/2013	162 Main St	0.38	1 Family Res	98,000	127,000	Archbold, Larry	Newton, Adam
7/ 8/2013	4754 County Hgy 14	1.90	1 Family Res	120,000	151,000	Cook, Ian A	Wood, Dustin M
7/12/2013	12144 State Hgy 357	5.10	1 Family Res	85,000	1	County of Delaware,	Bassett, Brooke
7/22/2013	Sanly Rd	488.30	Rural res	766,000	675,000	Vogel, Adolph W	Taggart, Scott @
7/24/2013	996 Gay Brook Rd	1.30	1 Family Res	67,000	6,103	County of Delaware,	Driggs, Fred B
7/24/2013	1068 Merrickville Rd	5.00	Vac w/imprv	25,000	16,500	County of Delaware,	Taggart, Joshua M
8/ 1/2013	2675 State Hgy 28 S	0.50	1 Family Res	79,000	46,000	Eggler, Dorothy	Eggler, Robert F
8/19/2013	789 Main St	0.50	1 Family Res	96,000	132,000	Nordstrom, Car	Oliver, Chad J

@ Two or more parcels



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