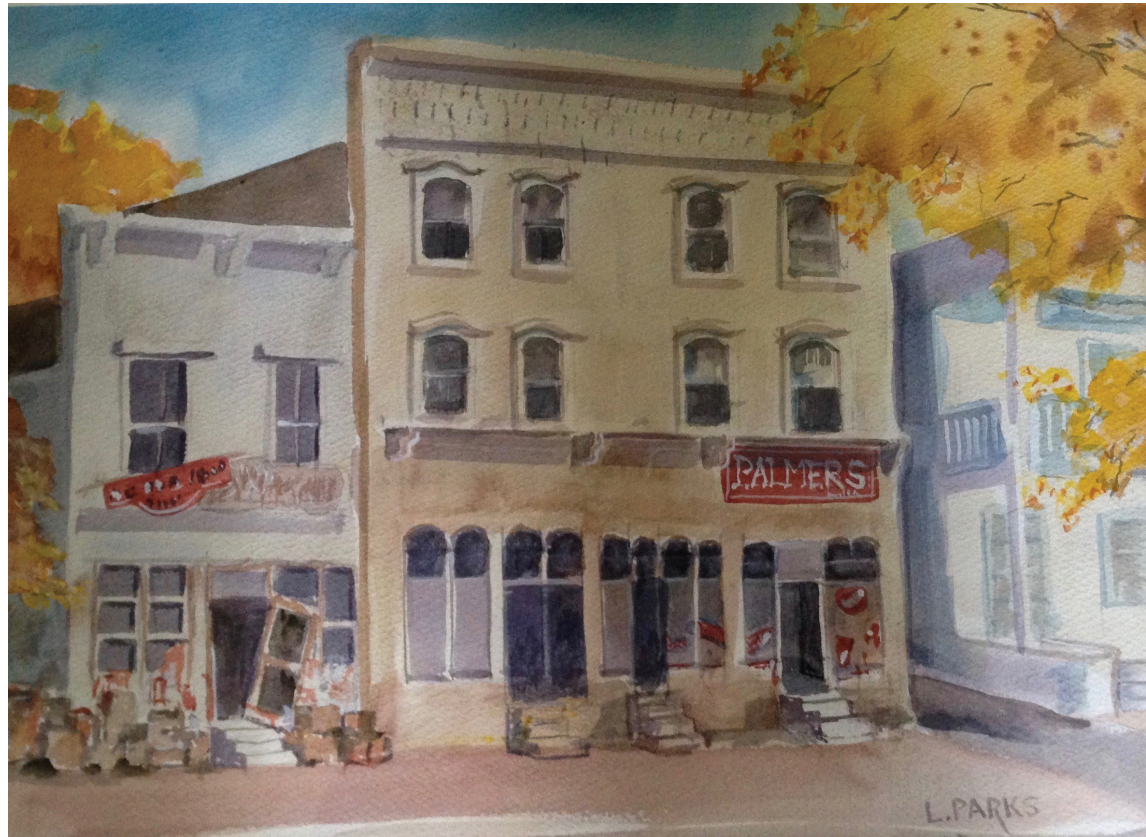


DAWN’S DELI TO CLOSE JULY 15th



The building housing Dawn’s Deli shown in 1945 painting by artist L. Parks

By Carla Nordstrom

On a recent Tuesday, high school seniors and juniors arrived at Dawn’s Deli for their regular lunchtime visit. Dawn was leaving for a trip, so she joined them with an ice cream cake to mark a special occasion: Dawn’s Deli will be closing on July 15th and this was her last lunch with students from Franklin Central School.

Dawn Ritz opened Dawn’s Deli in September of 2003. Her goal was to keep the store as long as it took that year’s kindergarteners to graduate from high school.

“I’m one year short,” she said. The kindergarteners from 2003 are now juniors in high school.

Dawn’s Deli has always been a hub for the Franklin community. A group of regulars gather for coffee most

See DELI, continued on Page 5

THE ROAD TO
MICROGRIDS

NFR

ALL FRANKLIN BUSINESSES
The Greater Franklin
Chamber of Commerce
invites you to its annual meeting
and pot-luck picnic
PLEASE JOIN US ON
Saturday, July 16th, 5 to 9 p.m.
at
Babcock’s Blueberry Barn
R.S.V.P.
PO Box 814, Franklin NY 13775
607-386-1369 or franklinny.org

By Stuart Anderson

Astute and tireless readers who foraged all the way to page nine of the NFR’s spring issue encountered a brief explanation of New York State government’s current vision for our energy future: an electrical system based on *distributed generation*, a greatly expanded use of renewable energy resources, and reorganization of the statewide grid into a patchwork of microgrids. Each of these is capable of providing at least essential services without importing power from other geographic areas.

If this sounds technical

and complicated to you, you’re right. The enormity of the undertaking swells even more when the Governor’s new clean energy mandates are considered. Not only are we to rebuild a vast electrical infrastructure, but we’re to achieve our first hurdle – fifty percent renewable energy generation - in only fourteen years. The changes envisioned for the next decade and a half will be dramatic, both in the hearing rooms and chambers of Albany, as Captains of Industry battle Captains of State, and right here at the grass roots level as well.

The plan for getting us

See GRIDS, cont. on Page 11

...AND THEN THERE WAS ONE

By Brian Brock

Not so long ago, Franklin was slated for five major infrastructure projects: two pipelines, two powerlines, and one roundabout. They have fallen one-by-one until only the roundabout project remains.

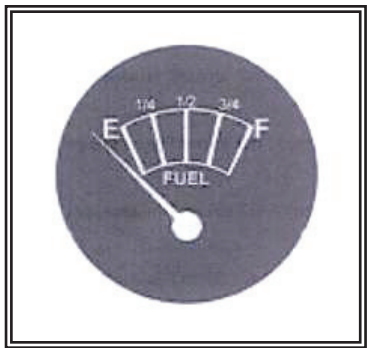
Powerlines:

Both powerlines would have brought electricity from upstate to a refurbished Fraser substation and then downstate: from the north, the Edic to Fraser line (Marcy South II) and from the west, the Oakdale to Fraser line. Both projects were proposed to meet

Governor Cuomo’s challenge to increase supply downstate by thousands of megawatts, his Energy Highway, in part to offset the loss from the anticipated closure of Indian Point [Nuclear] Energy Center.

New York State Public Service Commission has jurisdiction over intrastate energy infrastructure. Its technical staff reviewed several proposals for this Energy Highway and decided that the effects of these two projects would be unacceptably large. Otsego 2000 contributed a detailed critique. Last December, the PSC affirmed

See ONE, cont. on Page 17



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Your Neighbor's View...

REAL CHANGE COMES FROM THE BOTTOM

By Felix Bridel

Hard not to notice that it's election season again. Everywhere, we are constantly bombarded with commentary - what the candidates say, why they said it, and what it means for November. Across the country, people debate the presidential candidates' merits, sure that only theirs will make life better in America, convinced that a person running for president can be the vehicle for change.

The fact is, they can't. Not on their own. Most important change does not come from the top.

Of course your national vote is important. The president and the federal government have immense power when it comes to things like foreign policy and the economy. But, based on pure statistics, your vote for a congressman or presidential candidate is far less important than a vote for school board members, or town supervisors, or any of the many other less glamorous but important jobs. Local officials can enact policies with far more relevance to your everyday life than most laws passed in Washington ever have.

Change does not stem from politicians - it stems from concerned communities uniting and fighting to achieve something. Any sort of real change - be it reform or revolution - must stem from grassroots organizations. That is simply the efficient way to change the world. If this campaign season has taught us anything, it is that grassroots organizations made up of every-

day people can be rapidly mobilized to support a candidate. Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump, like them or not, have shown that a great number of people are eager to make and can make a difference in the political process.

The anti-fracking and anti-pipeline movements active in this area over the past few years are wonderful examples of the power of citizen-organized movements. Through hard-fought effort, a movement was created which put enough pressure on the state government first to ban fracking, and then to stop the pipeline.

But local liberal and progressive movements are not the only ones that should be applauded. Whatever your political affiliations, small, organized networks of people fighting for something they believe in should be respected, no matter what ideas they are fighting for. Whether you agree with someone's ideas or not, our First Amendment right to free expression belongs to every American.

The idea that societal change comes from the bottom is not a new one. In fact, in a democratic society, change should always come from the bottom. Any country 'for the people' should be, in some real way, run by them. The government must be beholden to the people, not the other way around. A group of active and committed people can and have changed the world, time and time again. From activism in the 1960s and 1970s around Vietnam and the Civil Rights

Movement, to many more recent displays of solidarity with minorities and fringe groups, movements have pushed politicians to enact progressive reforms and new laws.

Politicians need a push when it comes to new laws and regulations. Pressuring them is a fundamental feature of democracy. The way to fight for progress is to hold them accountable. Landmark laws and decisions like the Civil Rights Act and Obergefell v. Hodges had to be pushed for, fought for, to achieve the change people desired.

But it is important to not get caught up in the Big Picture, when the small is also so important. Who would have guessed how much change one woman who stayed seated on a bus could bring about? All movements must start somewhere, and most start small.

Local elections are important in their own right, but also because a local movement can be the seed of a larger one. Small meetings, debates, agreements, letter-writing, petition signing - this is what democracy looks like. If we want to make changes, we have to unite as communities and organizations and fight for those changes. We cannot expect anyone to do our work for us.

Felix Bridel is a sophomore at Franklin Central School. He is interested in political science and economics, along with literature and the natural sciences.



FRANKLIN FARMERS' MARKET SUNDAYS from 10am to 2pm

Memorial Day thru Columbus Day Weekend
Chapel Hall in the village of Franklin

Sponsored by Rich's Auto Body & the Franklin Chamber of Commerce

"Working Tractor in Summer Field," 16" x 12" gouache, 2014 / by Lisbeth Firmin

FRANKLIN TO JOIN THE 21st CENTURY?

Staff Report

Franklin is catching-up with the communications revolution, but slowly.

Several businesses in the village now provide Wi-Fi for their patrons. This modern convenience is available at: Franklin Railroad and Community Museum, Tulip and Rose Café, Gone Local Market, Franklin Free Library, Franklin Guest House, Wise Guys Pizza, and in season, at Franklin Stage Company. Each is protected by a password, which is available for the asking.

Cellphone service for Verizon subscribers is coming to fill the gap along the central stretch of State Highway 357, which includes the Village of Franklin. Service for ATT subscribers has been available there since the cell tower was erected next to the

town garages. An added benefit is that rent on this tower, which is paid by the owner Crown Castle, will double to \$35,000 per year. No word yet as to when this coverage from Verizon will be available. Unfortunately, service from either provider will still be lacking along the county highways 14, 16, and 21, including in the hamlet of Treadwell - fully two-thirds of our town.

Frontier Communications Corporation is bringing in high-speed internet service, placing poles and installing boxes along local roads and stringing fiber optic cable. They have been working from southwest to northeast along the route of the Catskill/Susquehanna Turnpike and roads branching off it: Sherman Hill, Merrickville, East Handsome Brook, County Highway 14, Blue School, Case Hill, and County

Highway 16. No word yet as to when the network will be operational and homes can be connected.

There are too many Franklin businesses with websites to list here. Those belonging to the Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce can be found on the chamber website: franklinny.org. But once again, our town council is a mere spectator to progress. Of Delaware County's nineteen towns, Franklin is one of only five lacking a website.

Business Liquidation of Dawn's Deli & Grocery

Monday 25th July, 6 p.m.
Auction on the premises
Preview after 3 p.m.

Equipment, fixtures and inventory

Frank Walker Auctions

Information at
frankwalkerauctions.com

SUMMER AT THE MUSEUM

By John Campbell

The Franklin Railroad and Community Museum has several new exhibits, among them an Army uniform worn by Congressman Chris Gibson, and new historical photographs of school events and adult groups.

Also, the railroad car is now open so that folks can walk through it to see the incredible workmanship done back in the late 1800s. And we're very excited about

another item we are waiting to have delivered: a Train Simulator.

As most of you know, we are open the last Sunday of each month from 1 to 5 p.m., or by appointment, made by calling 607-829-2692. We try to have speakers when we are open on Sundays. I have some lined up but have not scheduled them yet.

Something new that not everyone might be aware of is that the Foundation's officers are now all from Franklin. They are myself, Tom Worden, Chris Downin, Sue Taggart, and Kim Hyzer. If anyone has exhibits they would like to display in the museum, please contact me or any of the other board members.

BRUNCH:
TUES, WEDS, THURS
11AM-3PM
SAT & SUN
8AM-3PM

DINNER:
TUES, FRI
SAT, SUN
5PM-8PM

Every Tuesday night dinner features a new menu highlighting a different regional specialty
Steaks and home-smoked ribs every Friday night

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WWW.TULIPANDTHEROSE.COM



FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News
Local Events

Local Issues
Local Concerns



THEATRE AS COMMUNITY SERVICE A CLEANER FUTURE FOR FRANKLIN

By Denise B. Dailey

This summer, the Franklin Stage Company (FSC) celebrates its twentieth season of theatrical productions of a variety, quantity and quality that has surpassed



those of other local summer festivals in New York and surrounding states. It got there by including its constituents and by creating a community of people who felt they, too, contributed to the transformational power of theatre.

You'd hear in the early days:

"We need a sewing machine. And someone who can run it. Also measure for costumes. Anyone who can be backstage to run wardrobe?"

"Anyone got an extra lamp, table, fan, couch?"

"Vintage clothing? Costume jewelry?"

"Tom needs help with carpentry. Gene and Carole need help feeding the crew."

Tom is Tom Butts, theatrical handyman extraordinaire and Mayor of Franklin in 1996. Gene is Eugene Marner, pioneering co-Artistic Director of FSC with Carole Lu-

cia Satrina, his wife. Founders of FSC with Tom, the couple are a well-travelled duo whose professional lives as documentary film-makers led seamlessly into a life in the theatre.

Gene and Carole first lived in Franklin for six years in the 1970s. But it was upon returning full time in 1996 that Carole fell in love with Chapel Hall and thought about staging **See FSC, continued on Page 15**



Carmela Marner as Caliban in *The Tempest*

By Don Hebbard

The last ten days of May were exciting and gratifying for most of the residents and landowners in the Town of Franklin. In modern times, David does not often defeat Goliath. This time we did it, and we did it together, at least temporarily.

Two pipeline companies had applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] to construct two thirty-inch natural gas transmission lines through the Town of Franklin: the Constitution Pipeline, and the Northeast Energy Direct [NED] Pipeline to run beside the Constitution, with the added feature of a 30,000 horsepower [later raised to 50,500] compressor station on Otego Road. Both companies were hoping

to transport hydro-fracked natural gas from the Marcellus shale play in Pennsylvania to Canada for lucrative export markets as liquefied natural gas [LNG].

As more information about pipeline failures, compressor station emissions, methane leaks, health issues, and the fact that methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, many of us Davids became concerned and started to speak out. In Franklin, eight hundred Davids signed a petition opposing the compressor station and the pipelines.

You made all the phone calls, sent the cards and emails to the Governor, DEC, Attorney General and FERC. You wrote letters to the editor and opinion pieces to local and statewide newspapers. You came to Town Board meet-

See FUTURE, continued on Page 16

THE MAYOR'S CORNER

With Tom Briggs

I have always had a deep interest in history. From dinosaurs to human-made objects, from battles to ancient tales, all have captured my imagination. Today I buy and sell antiques as an extension of this fascination. Because I prize artifacts and household items of questionable worth from the everyday life of common folk long gone, my success as an antique dealer is questionable. That's okay by me, for the most part. I can reconcile my limited net worth against the treasure house of musings that constitute my passion for things and events of the past.

Practically every day, a new discovery is being made in places around the world that draws new light on the past. It intrigues me that entire civilizations can form, develop, carry on for centuries, wane, and then disappear. One starts to understand that the process of "civilizing" has for the most part been followed by a process of "de-civilizing", often in the form of mass impoverishment.

Recently I had the occasion to travel up State Route 8 from Sidney

OUR WORK IS NOT FINISHED

to Edmeston. The terrain along Route 8 is quite picturesque, with glimpses of the Unadilla River wending its way against a backdrop of rolling hills and abandoned farmland in the process of being reclaimed by Mother Nature. Less palatable are the empty and decaying farmhouses or the still inhabited shacks and trailers that dot the countryside, the latter often surrounded by a collection of derelict cars, machinery, plastic toys faded by the elements and other discarded flotsam and jetsam. They signal the dispiriting nature of minimum wage employment and the lives of down-beaten people who have become one with their beaten-down surroundings: a growing problem in parts of rural America.

In the most recent issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, there is an article entitled 'The Graying of Rural America'. The author focuses on the plight of the citizens of Fossil, Oregon, a dying community with a population of 450, located some two-and-a-half hours from the nearest city, Bend. Fossil has seen better days. With the loss of agriculture and small manufacturing jobs, many of the young people have moved to metropolitan areas to seek employment. Remaining behind are the elderly and the shell of

what was once a busy little town.

To those of us who have lived most of our lives in rural communities, this article reveals little that we don't know already. Delaware County has one of the highest percentages of elderly in the state, not because of our living the good life, but because in the 1980s and 90s, we experienced our own outmigration of young people. Most of those who remain can look forward to minimum wage jobs in box stores and fast food operations, as nursing assistants working in assisted living facilities, or as care providers for the elderly in their homes.

When rumors started surfacing within the last decade that a fracking boom was about to take place and would be coming our way, many locals took heart. There were going to be employment opportunities that would pay well even for unskilled labor. People from parts elsewhere would be moving in and they would need housing, food, entertainment, cars and services and they would pump serious money into the local economy. It's no wonder then that there was deep resentment when others rose in opposition to fracking and pipeline initiatives.

For those who stood up against these energy-related issues, cel-



ebration was in order after the fracking ban was imposed and the immediate threat of the pipeline had been thwarted. Although I agree that fracking and compressor stations might pose a serious risk to the well-being of all who live in this region, another threat remains that is even more serious. Sustainable habitation is not solely an environmental issue. We jeopardize the future of this beautiful area by failing to apply the same activism to addressing the grim employment prospects that face our young people.

If we truly care about sustaining the natural beauty and the positive quality of life that we now enjoy in this community, our work is not finished. We owe it to our young people, to future generations, and to ourselves to develop a plan to rebuild our local economy. Failure to do so will most probably lead to the slow death of this lovely village and its surroundings, leaving others in the future to muse over the objects and artifacts we left behind.



FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!

Dawn's Deli is closing. Let's turn this loss for Franklin into an opportunity for community.

Would there be any interest in opening a cooperative grocery store that we can run ourselves, saving us so many trips to Oneonta, Sidney and other towns for food and staples?

If we were to get together and buy foods in bulk for our own use, we might be able to save some money as well as travel. Unlike a supermarket chain that must turn a profit in order to send dividends to its shareholders, a co-op needs only to break even. And right now, gasoline is relatively cheap but this is unlikely to last. A store in town would save all of us the time and expense of driving to the big town supermarkets.

If you are interested in meeting to discuss this idea, please email me at gene.marner@franklinlocal.org or call me at home at 829-8451.



Franklin Guest House

113 center street, franklin, new york ☎ 917 428 8253
✉ franklin.guest.house@gmail.com @ [franklin.guest.house](https://www.instagram.com/franklin.guest.house)

MOVING TO TREADWELL: Part V

By Magali Veillon

In the autumn 2015 issue of the New Franklin Register, my notes on settling in Treadwell after moving up from Brooklyn, NY and buying a house in desperate need of TLC, ended with my growing affection for this old house, yet feeling that at any moment I might go astray.

The economics of renovating a house are, as always, a heavier burden than I anticipated. Plus, I am aware of my house's ecological footprint, and that guides my wishes and actions with any construction. So this winter, as most people around here tried to make time to go south, I went north to Vermont for the month of February and took a building science course on Net Zero Design.

Looking at sustainable options for building, there are many different levels and schools. The Natural Building people focus on embodied energy and global warming potential. This is a highly laudable approach, because in this country, in this day and age, attempting to reduce your footprint as much as they do without living in a tepee or an igloo seems like moving a mountain. Others work to create Passive House buildings that rely exclusively on technology to consume so little that the energy used to produce the building materials and tools is offset in the very long term. Net Zero Design falls somewhere between these two movements.

Discussion between the different practices is endless and fascinating. Technology has gone far and is a wonder of human evolution, but it plays a giant role in the destruction of our planet as well. The Net Zero Design course at Yesterday Design/Build School in Vermont took the discussion seriously. Different subject matters were introduced with different instructors, each with his or her own opinion. This created an atmosphere without any particular dogmatic view about one technique or the other, even about Net Zero Design, underlining the lesson that whatever we do, there are always other ways of doing it.

'Net Zero' refers to a measure of the energy that a structure will use to function—as a factory, as a personal home, as a commercial space. By scientific calculation, we can project the energy that will be required to light, heat, cool, power the structure, then set up a system of renewable energy that will offset it. Building a totally Net Zero house is expensive and complicat-

ed. But anyone can use some of the systems or technology, and with not much more cost than a regular home, make a home that is much more efficient.

But with an existing house, like mine, you encounter a different set of issues. Most old houses in the northeast are built of wood and are typically very drafty. Air circulates through the walls, coming in



Living with demolition and reconstruction

and out randomly where holes allow it to pass. Meeting the comfort level that a person expects today requires an incredible amount of energy spent in heating or cooling. In terms of building science, these houses are still standing because the drafts allow the wood to take in water, both from leaks and from moisture in the air, and dry out naturally as the air passes through. The drafts that make the house so uncomfortable are, at the same time, saving it from rot and decay. The first step in converting a house to Net Zero energy is to tighten up the walls, keeping the air from moving in and out and hence keeping the heat in the house in the winter and out in the summer. But then, water and moisture become your number one issue.

Now that the weather has warmed up, I am working inside my house again, continuing the demolition of interior walls that I started last fall. It is exhilarating to take away that thin layer of sheetrock and move an equal amount of heavy dust to discover the story of the house behind the walls. In my preliminary drawings of the layout, I had envisioned stairs in the back of the house, leading from the second floor down to the garden level. During demolition, a doorway appeared, then stairs going down just a couple feet from where I had wanted them.

My "new" vision for the house was nothing new after all!

To be continued.

DELI, continued from Page 1

mornings to chat about anything that comes up, whether it is something from the newspaper or a topic of the day. Jerry Hebbard has been going to Dawn's for several years. "I enjoy Dawn's and look forward having breakfast there. We are going to miss the routine."

The store started as a grocery store, which Dawn expanded by serving breakfast and lunch. Dawn's Deli is known for scrumptious sandwiches and subs and, in addition to the high school students, is frequented by customers working in and around Franklin. One specialty of the house is freshly baked cookies, especially the favorite, chocolate chip.

For a time, Dawn served monthly dinners. She is an experienced cook who can prepare meals for large groups. She phased out the dinners because her kitchen was not equipped for cooking for so many meals. "I had to start cooking three days before the dinners and it became too much."

Dawn also had ice cream nights when the

According to Fairchild, "Nobody went to Oneonta to shop." She began working at the store when she was five and helped her father in the business throughout her childhood. Later, he brought in others to manage the store until the 1980s when his grandson Mark Fairchild took it over. The store then became Mark's Grocery.

Around 1990, the store was sold to Ruth Marshall. She ran the grocery as R. K.'s for thirteen years until Dawn took it over.

The history of Dawn's Deli is a good example of how buying habits have changed over the past seven decades. The idea that our village once had four or five grocery stores is strange to today's way of thinking. Now people shop at Oneonta supermarkets because of the larger selection and cheaper prices. But a local shop offers a community like Franklin more than the big box stores ever can. It is a place where friends can gather and visit with each other. It is a neighbor who can keep an eye on your teenagers, and home cooked food is



Dawn's Deli today. Photo by the author

community would gather for ice cream sundaes and a visit with neighbors.

There has been a food store at this location for over seventy-five years. In 1940, Palmer Clark bought the store and it was part of the Victory Market chain until it became independent and was called Palmer's Store. Clark's daughter Joyce Fairchild remembers her father going to the Oneonta Market once a week to purchase groceries to sell in the village. Palmer's took up the right side of the current space. On the left side was a real estate office. Eventually Clark took down the dividing wall and expanded the store into the entire space.

There were four or five grocery stores in Franklin when Palmer's was in business. Everybody bought their groceries in town.

made there, just the way you like it.

As Dawn watched her business dwindle, she adjusted by focusing more on breakfast and lunch and cutting back her hours, but in the end, she was unable to sustain it.

"I'm going with a fight," she said, referring to how hard she worked to keep Dawn's Deli in business.

A sign posted in the window next to Hilltop Live Bait asks customers to Shop Local. We should all keep that in mind when we ask where folks can go for morning coffee or why there aren't any good chocolate chip cookies around.

Luckily for Franklin, we haven't lost Dawn. A year ago, she became the Franklin Town Clerk and will continue to be a much appreciated pillar of our community.

IN THE KITCHEN

With Sue Avery

ALSATIAN CABBAGE SALAD

1 round green cabbage (about 2 lbs.)
12 ounces bacon, cut into 1/4" chunks
1/4 cup wine vinegar
1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
salt and pepper to taste

Remove the outer leaves of the cabbage, slice off ribs, wash, cut in half vertically. Remove the core and shred the two halves as for cole slaw. Discard thick sections from inside ribs.

Pack cabbage into a warmed salad bowl, add boiling water to cover, and leave, covered, to steep for 25 minutes.

Cook bacon chunks over moderate heat, starting them with a spoonful of olive oil and tossing them regularly until crisp on all sides.

Drain the cabbage, pressing to extract maximum liquid. Return to the hot salad bowl. Season with salt. Add a generous amount of freshly ground black pepper, add the bacon and its fat, the vinegar and the oil, and toss quickly but thoroughly.

Serve on preheated plates.

SAVE THE DATE! SELL YOUR STUFF! SATURDAY, AUGUST 27TH IT'S OLD FRANKLIN DAY



Food

The Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce is organizing the annual Franklin day of festivities.



Doodle Bugs

It's never too late, so all interested vendors, talents, and other participants are invited to get in touch and start planning. Contact us via email or by the contact form on the website: franklinny.org.

Join us in making this a great, fun day for all!



Franklin Free Library's annual book sale



Mini Farmers' Market



est. 2014

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WEEKEND BREAKFAST

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Walton, NY
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www.featherandstonerestaurant.com



OLT EARNS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

OLT has received accreditation from the Land Trust Alliance, a mark of distinction in land conservation. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Alliance, awarded OLT accreditation after a comprehensive review process, signifying its confidence that OLT lands will be protected forever.

Accredited land trusts across the country have permanently conserved more than fifteen million acres of farms, forests and natural areas that are vital to healthy, vibrant

communities.

OLT just completed its second most successful year in land conservation, protecting 1600 acres in partnership with ten private land owners in Otsego, Delaware, Herkimer and Schoharie counties. The organization also reached the prestigious 10,000 acres conserved landmark in 2015, and is looking to protect another 1000 acres this year.

OLT continues to improve public access to its Blueway conservation areas, and provides fun and free educational programming.

KENNETH L. BENNETT FUNERAL HOME

425 MAIN STREET
FRANKLIN, NY 13776

607-829-2272



THE BARE TRUTH

By Robert Lamb

Happiness is a personal responsibility. To everyone who ever said, "I would love to go to Alaska, but...", I say just do it.

There are two ways to "do" Alaska. You can cruise. Or you can do it your own way. The best DIY advice I can give, no matter why you want to go, is to buy a Mile Post (MP) travel guide. It tells you what is along the way by mile marker. After landing in Anchorage and arranging transportation, take your time leaving town. Pick a direction and open your Mile Post.

Road tripping Alaska is very different from the lower forty-eight. Many states can be traversed in a day or less, but from Homer to Coldfoot is three or four-day adventure barring any breakdowns. You need an extra gas can and spare tire, and at least one roll of duct tape. Alaska is huge, almost three times the size of Texas. There are less than five thousand miles of paved highways, with pull-outs along the way (see MP) where a tired traveler can stop and set up camp for the night.



Mt. Denali, the Great One

The highway from Anchorage to Fairbanks is the George Parks Highway, opened in nineteen seventy-two, and named after its designer. Mr. Parks laid out three hundred and twenty-three miles of highway to make to most of the majestic views along the way, so there is always a new exciting view coming into focus. There are miles-long straightaways, giving the most of a view. There are scenic valleys tens of miles wide and snowcapped mountains that span the horizon.

A hundred miles north of Anchorage, you can turn off and visit a favorite town of mine: Talkeetna. Climbers headed for Denali start out here with one of the local flight services. Non-climbers can fly over and land on Alaska Range glaciers for a small fortune. I once took a jet-boat charter miles up the Susitna River and spent a week camping and fishing for Susitna rainbow trout, then another week rafting back to town.

Continuing north: at mile one-fifteen is Trapper Creek and the jumping off point for gold seekers tending west to Petersburg and the gold fields beyond. Gold fever does strange things to strange people. Yes, I am one so stricken, and have spent many weeks back in the bush chasing the dream. But that's another story.

From Trapper Creek to Cantwell at

mile two-thirty-seven, look for great views of the highest mountain on the North American continent: Denali. Denali means 'the great one' and it lives up to its name. I have seen The Mountain from Fairbanks, over one hundred and eighty miles away. I have spied it from my land in Port Fidalgo, on Prince William Sound, four hundred and fifty miles away. And I have spent hours enthralled by the color changes as daylight wanes in the evening from my cabin only forty-two miles away. It is truly a sight to be seen, if it allows. At twenty thousand three hundred twenty-two feet above sea level, it makes its own weather. Many have spent their whole two-week vacation without seeing it, while others are blessed with bluebird days. I could not get enough mountain time, so bought some land and built a cabin at mile one sixty-nine to be as close as possible.

After leaving Trapper Creek, you soon enter Denali State Park on the right and Denali National Park on the left. Denali State Park is half a million acres offering hiking, fishing, camping, and boating at Byers lake. Denali National Park is six million acres of wilderness, and for the next hundred and twenty miles, provides great views on the right side of the highway. My cabin is half way between Fairbanks and Anchorage, in the middle of nowhere.

At mile one sixty-nine, the Alaska Railroad crosses the highway and is the northern boundary of the State Park. Just past the tracks is a pull-out parking area. From here, a trail leads to my cabin site a half mile back. I can catch the flag-stop train and go to Talkeetna for supplies or go to the confluence of the Susitna and Indian rivers to fish for salmon and rainbow trout.

At mile one eighty-eight, you cross the Hurricane Gulch bridge. It is an impressive structure only five hundred feet long but it spans a two hundred and sixty-foot deep, narrow gorge (see photo). Moving north to mile one ninety-six, you come to one of my favorite streams in Alaska. Here at Honolulu Creek, I caught and released a fifty-five-pound king salmon. You are allowed to fish for them only three weekends during the run.

Next time on the way north, we'll explore the Denali Highway and the Tangle lakes fishing opportunities.

All photos by the author



Hurricane Gulch seen from the bridge



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PET TALK

with Dr. Joan Puritz

This week, I waited for an emergency to show up - another possible bloat coming in.

This is one of the worst emergencies any veterinarian sees. A person calls to say their dog is retching but not vomiting, his sides look full and distended. Usually, the dog has just eaten or drunk a lot of water, then run around outside.

These are the signs of bloat or even worse, gastric dilation and volvulus (also called GDV). This means the dog's stomach has twisted. The dog is going to be in dire distress. The stomach twists at the opening to the esophagus, so that the circulation to the stomach, spleen and intestines is cut off. The body goes into shock and the dog soon dies if left untreated.

To correct this, we first treat the shock with intravenous fluids. An X-ray is usually taken to determine the position of the stomach. Then the dog might be sedated, so a stomach tube can be passed through the mouth to the stomach to release the gas. This doesn't always work because the stomach is so twisted that a tube cannot pass through the opening. If this happens, I will put a needle into the stomach to release the gas and relieve the pressure building in the abdomen. Sometimes the stomach will go back to the normal position at this point, but not usually. To save the dog, as I have done on numerous occasions, surgery is required immediately. Unfortunately, many dogs die because their owners noticed the bloat signs too late.

In this surgery, the veterinarian will open the dog up and manually untwist the stomach and intestines.



Sometimes the circulation has been compromised for so long that the spleen or stomach is black from lack of oxygen. In this most recent emergency, the dog needed to have her spleen removed. Once the stomach is untwisted, the organs get pink again as circulation is restored. If it doesn't, a part of the stomach may have to be removed as well.

All this is pretty devastating, which is why I dread it. What's worse is that many dogs die before they even get to me.

So, what can be done to keep this from happening?

First, GDV mostly, though not always, occurs in deep chested dogs: Great Danes, Dobermans, Poodles. This last dog was a Golden Retriever, also deep chested.

Second, don't let your dog drink or eat a large amount of food or water, and then exercise heavily. Feed your dog twice a day, with smaller amounts rather than one huge meal. Keep an eye out for signs that your dog may be bloating.

It may be a good idea to have a bloat kit handy. Keep Gas-X around and give at first signs of gas buildup, such as belching. The Golden Retriever with GDV lived and is doing well, thanks to her owner, who thought quickly and brought her right into the hospital.

Watch your pets. There are dangers in the simplest of things.

Meanwhile, write to me. Ask me questions. I love a challenge.

Have a great summer.

Dear Readers:
Do you have a question for Dr. Puritz?

Email her c/o the NFR, and she will answer in a future column:
nfr@franklinlocal.org
Subject line: Pet Talk



annals of sustainability

EAT FOOD, NOT TOO MUCH

A Cancer Patient's Approach to Nutrition

By Carmela Peters

In 2012, at age fifty-nine, I was diagnosed with stage IV ovarian cancer. What lifestyle activities, I asked, led to the diagnosis? Was it weight gained from comfort eating during the ten years I spent caring for my parents? Or the two-year junk food binge when I returned to college at fifty-seven? A genetic mutation? Too much stress? Environmental toxins? Had mono, shingles and other risk-related medical factors contributed?

Within weeks, I was commuting to New York City for nine months of chemotherapy and major surgery. In the meantime, I learned of Inspire.com, an online discussion forum covering just about any kind of cancer, disease or disorder. I joined Inspire's Ovarian Cancer National Alliance board and launched into a research frenzy.

Forum members suggested diets ranging from raw and juicing to vegan, vegetarian, Mediterranean, Paleo, sugar free, or low carb/high fat. Some claimed diet didn't matter. Others recommended eating apricot pits, ingesting Frankincense, seeking treatment in Mexico, drinking Essiac Tea, or trying the Budwig Protocol. The list was endless. Fortunately, experienced patients, including doctors

and scientists diagnosed with the disease, made the majority of posts. These were well-informed and compassionate.

But one woman's story stood out. She spoke of a naturopathic doctor (ND) who specialized in oncology. An ND takes a holistic (whole body) approach to illness. The goal is to encourage the body's inherent ability to restore and maintain optimal health.

Taking an integrative approach to my health care was the best decision I ever made. Postponing surgery a week, I went to Colorado to meet my naturopath, and eagerly adopted her holistic instead of tumor-centric approach, melding allopathic (mainstream) and alternative and complementary therapies.

For the organic farmers reading this, my tale is nothing new. My self-care had gone awry. For those of you whose lives are also off track, perhaps my story will help.

First of all, nutrition matters. Controlling what we put in our mouths is one of the easiest and most impactful steps we can take toward making our body inhospitable to cancer. As author Michael Pollan says, "Eat food, not too much, mostly plants."

When my new ND recommended a gluten free diet, as well as eliminating all sugar, reducing carbohydrates by avoiding white

starchy foods such as rice and potatoes, and treating meat as a condiment while filling my plate with nine cups of vegetables a day, I said "OK." After all, she herself is a twenty-plus year survivor of ovarian cancer.

In addition to this diet change, I found a supportive primary care physician who orders blood tests that measure inflammation and growth factors, identify potential viral or bacterial loads, and monitor cancer markers. While food is the primary source of nutrition, I take supplements and use therapies such as mistletoe extract (used in Germany since the 1920s) to provide immune support and employ intermittent fasting to enhance mitochondrial health.

Just three months after completing treatment, my oncologist reported, "Your scan shows signs of disease progression." A biopsy confirmed the cancer was already back. But, I believed in the path I had chosen. My eyes were no longer puffy when I woke in the morning. My joints didn't hurt. I had lost seventy pounds and I felt great. I declined further treatment. Six months later, a new CT scan showed my



The author and her Black Angus provider, Fred Giffen

cancer had stabilized.

More than three years have passed. I have not resumed chemotherapy. I am living well with active, but indolent, cancer. For me, the exponential growth of organic farms could not have come at a better time.

Resources:

"Minding Your Mitochondria," a YouTube video by Dr. Terry Wahls. His Wahls Protocol explains why nine cups of vegetables a day.

Milk: Grey Rock Farm in Cazenovia is an outstanding source for raw milk, (non-certified) organic pas-

at (www.ewg.org) for the EWG's Dirty Dozen™ and Clean Fifteen™ 2016 Shopper's Guide to Pesticides in Produce.

Eggs: Grocery store organic egg cartons boast of "vegetarian fed" chickens – a marketing gimmick. Chickens are omnivores – they feed on plant and animal materials. The Cornucopia Institute (www.cornucopia.org), is a resource for agricultural and food issues, including scorecards for eggs and farms in your area.

Meat: Fred Griffen's High Lonesome Farm is an Animal Welfare Approved operation in Cincinnatus, NY. My 40-pound share of a grass fed and finished Black Angus yields assorted cuts averaging three servings a week for under \$300, or less than \$6.00 a week. Search out a similar provider in your area.

Other: NOFA (www.nofa.org), NE Organic Farming Association of NY; Farmers Market Federation of NY (www.nyfarmersmarket.com), listing summer and winter market locations; NY State Department of Agriculture and Markets (www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/Organic/FarmsNearYou.html)

Carmela Peters lives in Fayetteville, NY. She enjoys making art, gardening, and developing gluten free recipes. She offers support to cancer patients and works part-time as a consumer reviewer reading grants for the Department of Defense-funded Ovarian Cancer Research Program (OCRP).



tured butter and eggs, organic produce and locally sourced grains, honey, yogurt, cheese, and meats. For information on the myths and facts concerning raw milk products, see A Campaign for Real Milk (www.realmilk.com), which contains a Real Milk Finder by state.

Produce: Eat organic apples. The skin harbors the majority of pesticides on this heavily treated fruit. Visit the Environmental Working Group's website

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FOCUS ON ENERGY

FELLING FOLLIES!

By Brian Brock

The Constitution Pipeline Company, LLC has yet to turn so much as a shovel of dirt for the project. Nevertheless, it has been hemorrhaging money at the rate of \$100 million per year since 2012.

To stanch the bleeding, CPC needed to begin construction this spring. Before they could begin, trees needed to be cleared from all 125 miles of the right-of-way. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service only allows such massive mechanized tree clearing from October 1st to March 31st, and the clearing would take months. Therefore, CPC was desperate to start so that it could finish by the spring deadline. But in New York, the company was blocked from starting until the Department of Envi-

at least two in Franklin.

Coincidence or conspiracy?

The Attorney General of New York opened an investigation into why all these landowners acted in late winter. Senior investigator Kathleen Coppersmith spent three months flying over the ROW, photographing sites, reviewing documents, and interviewing landowners, loggers, and witnesses in Broome, Delaware, and Schoharie counties.

In May, AG Schneiderman filed a complaint with FERC that CPC "expressly or tacitly authorized, encouraged and/or condoned the tree and vegetation cutting, clear-cutting, and other ground disturbance activities within the pipeline right of way in New York." He made the points that:

- Clearing trees in the ROW is illegal until FERC issues a Notice to Proceed
- Easement agreements gives CPC rights and responsibilities for activity in the ROW.

Immediately after FERC granted per-

NO R.P. TAX EXEMPTION FOR SOLAR? Who benefits?

By Don Hebbard

Alternative energy systems (solar, wind, and farm waste) have a fifteen-year exemption

from property taxes under New York State Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) Article 2 Section 487, adopted in 1977.

These energy generating systems are considered to be capital improvements to the real

property, and received this exemption from taxation to encourage their construction. The Franklin Town Board is considering an "Opt Out" provision of Section 487 that will allow all residential, municipal, and commercial systems to be added to the real property base.

This idea to remove the NYS tax exemption was first proposed to the Delaware County Board of Supervisors, and is now being considered by the Franklin Town Board. Every municipal entity (County, Town, Village) and all school districts will have to make a decision to continue the NYS exemption,

or choose to "opt out." The fact that each entity can make its own decision will create a taxation inequality for landowners,

and a nightmare for the taxing authority. Some may opt out and tax the systems, while others may continue the tax exemption.

What drives the opt out idea?

For forty years, residences, small businesses, schools, and municipalities have been installing solar

and wind systems to reduce their energy bills, and often as a personal effort to reduce greenhouse gases created by the burning of fossil fuels.

What changed?

New York State adopted the "Reforming the Energy Vision" [REV] Plan in 2015. (You can look up the REV Plan on the internet.) The plan sets goals for increas-

"...under the current provisions of the law, taxing commercial enterprises means taxing all residential and agricultural wind and solar systems as well. This would effectively remove part of the incentive for installing private renewable systems."

ing renewable energy production from sources such as wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, and biomass, rather than increasing energy generation from fossil fuels. Energy companies began to approach landowners about the construction

of small solar electric generation systems in Delaware County. These would be commercial systems up to twenty acres in size. The commercial nature of these systems triggered a greed reflex in the Delaware County Board of Supervisors. These systems are small when compared to a coal, oil, or natural gas fired mega system, but are commercial operations, so the Board of Supervisors decided they should be taxed.

However, under the current provisions of the law, taxing commercial enterprises means taxing all residential and agricultural wind and solar systems

as well. This would effectively remove part of the incentive for installing private renewable systems. It also removes some of the incentive for

companies to invest in the smaller systems, which are needed to move forward with the REV Plan in New York State.

Some have noted that commercial systems are already subsidized and thus must be taxed. Let's look closer at that. Many commercial scale fossil

See SOLAR, continued on Page 16



Illegal clearcut of ROW of Constitution Pipeline in Masonville NY, March 2016
Photo: Kathleen Coppersmith

ronmental Conservation certified that the project would not degrade water quality along the route.

In early January, CPC tried to convince the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) that the pending Water Quality Certification was not necessary for selective manual felling of trees. At the end of January, FERC allowed tree felling in Pennsylvania (where the Department of Environmental Protection had issued a certification) but did not grant similar permission in New York.

CPC did fell the trees in a fifth of the ROW in Pennsylvania despite uncertainty that the project would ever be approved, thereby leaving behind a cleared swath 100 feet wide and twenty-five miles long. It even took down the Holloway's sugarbush, while the loggers were guarded by armed U.S. marshalls, denying the farmers another sugaring season.

With the company legally prevented from clearing the trees along the rest of the route, time was running out on CPC. Did it ask: *Who will rid me of these troublesome trees?* As winter thawed into spring, reports trickled in that several landowners in New York had done the deed, including

mission, CPC sent letters to landowners updating them on progress of the project, including immediate tree clearing in Pennsylvania and expected construction along the route in the spring. Absent was a reminder that tree felling in the New York ROW was still illegal.

Its employees visited some of the properties, yet CPC informed neither the landowners that their clearing of trees was illegal, nor FERC of these illegal activities.

Supervisor Taggart misunderstood when he said "If they've gone and logged their own woods, that's only good business." These landowners had sold off their rights in the ROW to CPC when they signed the easement agreements. What is more, some landowners did not just log, they clear-cut.

The AG petitioned FERC for:

- Investigation into acts and omissions by CPC concerning felling of trees in ROW in New York
- Assessment of civil and administrative penalties
- Initiation of enforcement against CPC
- Stay of federal final certification of pipeline until these issues are resolved.

See FOLLIES, continued on Page 19

PIPES AND POWER

Compiled by Brian Brock

January 29th: **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)** grants CPC a partial Notice to Proceed. Non-mechanical felling of trees may begin, but only in Pennsylvania.

January 30th: **Constitution Pipeline Company, LLC (CPC)** sends a letter to landowners concerning its plans for imminent tree felling and springtime construction.

February 5th: **CPC** begins felling in the right-of-way of Constitution Pipeline in Pennsylvania.

February 29th: **NYS Attorney General** objects to CPC's renewed request for a partial Notice to Proceed for New York.

March 1st: **FERC** rejects emergency motion by Megan Holleran for suspension of manual tree felling of her sug-arbush in Pennsylvania.

March 10th: **CPC** informs FERC that it is abandon-ing plans for springtime felling of trees in New York and posts a press release about same. Plans are now for lim-ited construction to begin in summer of 2016 and general construction in the following October.

March 18th: FERC contractor **Cardno** reported that in Spread B (Delaware and Schoharie counties) "It appears that the selected tree cutting conducted on the Project right-of-way was performed by individual landowners and/or roadway maintenance crews, which are activities outside of the FERC's jurisdiction."

April 18th: **Gas Transmission System LP** confirms that its plans to reverse the flow of its pipeline to Ontario, Canada (the Sono Project) depends on construction of Constitution Pipeline. Capacity of Constitution and Sono would be identical at 650 million cubic feet per day.

April 20th: Board of Directors of **Kinder Morgan (KM)** suspends NED Market Path.

April 22nd: **Department of Environmental Conser-vation (DEC)** denies Constitution Pipeline Project an ap-plication for a Water Quality Certification.

April 25th: In press release, **CPC** claims that the basis for the DEC denial of WQC is untrue.

May 13th: **NYS AG** files a complaint and petition with FERC concerning premature tree felling within Constitu-tion ROW by landowners in New York.

WE HAVE NO CHOICE but to work together

By Gene Marner

The trouble started when the Cabot and Williams Companies first came to Franklin with their pipeline proposal.

Someone thought that it would be a good idea to have an armed deputy sheriff at their first infor-mational presentation in Franklin Central School. The meeting was peaceful, if a bit raucous at times, but the message of the armed guard seemed to be, "The Govern-ment is coming to take your land at gunpoint. Shut up and get out of the way." And for a while it looked like that would be the story.

The Constitu-tion Pipeline di-vided the people of Franklin as it did most communities that the Federal Energy Regula-tory Commission agreed to let the pipeline plow through. As most of our readers probably know, on April 22, 2016 the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation denied the pipeline company's application for a Sec-tion 401 Water Quality Certificate and the project is now on hold. For the next couple of years, the matter

May 16th: **CPC** appeals DEC denial of a WQC with the U.S. Court of Appeals Second Circuit in Albany. It plans for construction to begin in second half of 2017.

May 16th: **CPC** files an action with the U.S. District Court for the North-ern District of New York seeking a declaration that the federal law pre-empt's State of New York's authority to exercise permitting jurisdiction over certain other environmental matters.

May 23rd: **Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC** – subsidiary of KM – withdraws its application to FERC for Northeast Energy Direct, both Supply and Market Paths.

June 2nd: **CPC** files response to complaint and petition by NYSAG. Requests the appointment of an administrative law judge and fast-track processing.

June 7th: **FERC** issues a sub-docket number (CP13-499-002) specifi-cally for the NYSAG complaint and petition.



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will be argued and appealed be-fore the courts.

I don't propose to discuss here the merits of the case. We have covered the pipeline story in detail for a long time. What I would like to address is the bitterness and rancor that have ended friendships and created so much mutual dis-trust in this community. This comes at a bad time because the day is swiftly approaching when histori-cal and economic forces far be-yond our control will alter our lives in dramatic and unpredictable ways. We are all going to need our neighbors and fellow citizens as never before. (For a brief review of the economic and energy predicament we face, please see graphs and commentary on Page 16)

The word "community" origi-nates in what we have in common, in what we share. At the simplest and most basic level, we share needs: for food and water, for shel-

ter, for love and companionship, and for the opportunity to accom-plish tasks in collaboration with others. Many of the things we now call "needs" are probably really just wants - things our ancestors didn't know about and that we will have to learn to live without. One of the most satisfying things about living in a rural community is that many residents still know so much about how to simply and inexpen-sively satisfy real needs. People know how to raise and preserve food, how to build houses, how to harvest firewood, how to care for animals, and many other things that are no longer part of the vocabu-lary and life experience of most city dwellers. But even today's old-timers have learned the habits and expectations - and use the tools and technologies - of modern in-dustrial life. In a contracting econ-omy and simplifying society, even

See **CHOICE**, continued on Page 16

FUTURE, con't from Page 3

ings and to rallies in Albany and other cities. You were the Davids who stood up to billion-dollar Goliaths and won this battle in the evolve-from-fossil-fuels war.

The Constitution Pipeline was denied the 401 Water Quality permit by the DEC and has been forced to suspend construction. The NED Pipeline faced severe opposition across New York, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire and was not able to get enough commitments from customers to purchase enough gas to fill the capacity of the pipeline, so the NED application to FERC was withdrawn.

Both pipelines have been stopped for now, but we must not become complacent or think that this is

our helpers can support. I encourage all Davids to review the NYS "Renewing the Energy Vision" literature, the debates over the oil trains from Albany to the Metropolitan area, the CPV gas-fired electric generation plant being built in Orange County, the pipelines and compressor stations being proposed for other areas of New York State. At a moment in history when mankind should be moving rapidly away from our fossil fuel addiction, the dying oil and gas industries are holding on by expanding the infrastructure to burn even more fossil fuels.

Other areas of concern for Franklin are reviving the economic vitality of the area, encouraging residential and municipal energy

COMPRESSOR FREE FRANKLIN

over. Goliath was knocked down, but may get back up. The Constitution has appealed the DEC's decision. A rise in natural gas prices could make the economics of the NED favorable enough for a reapplication to FERC.

Meanwhile, there are other lines to be drawn in the fossil fuel sand, other critical concerns that Compressor Free Franklin and

generation, and stimulating alternative agriculture and local food production. Franklin has the land and water to help feed New York City. Come to Compressor Free Franklin meetings, Town Board meetings, Chamber of Commerce meetings, and bring your ideas.

We have shown that when people work together, we can achieve positive results.

GRIDS, continued from Page 1

from where we are now to where Albany is sending us in 2030 is being formulated as we speak. With so much change affecting so many business interests and public interests, many of the planning participants are becoming pragmatists: the chaos of change uncovers a wealth of opportunities, and opportunities for wealth. How will projects be financed? Who will bear what risks? Who will design the components? What special incentives and policies will be needed to achieve our goals? The docket of energy policy issues at the Public Service Commission lengthens weekly.

The evolution of our microgrid future is being managed with a series of initiatives. Already in play is a group of programs designed to get renewable energy into the public consciousness, using rebates, incentives and investment credits for behind-the-meter renewables such as solar electric and geothermal heat pumps. On a home-by-home basis, these investments can greatly improve energy economics; but as an instrument of public policy, the tiny amount of energy produced is irrelevant. The exposure of the general public to these technologies, and the increase in public interest in energy issues in general, are the real objectives. The population is being awakened and educated, and in virtually every New York town and village, a small portion of the public is participating vigorously and educating their neighbors.

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With a few energy activists planted in nearly every community, the next phase now begins: Community Choice Aggregation (PSC docket # 14-M-0224) has had little discussion compared to other cases, with only twenty-two listed parties, eighty-five filed documents, and twenty-six public comments. On April 21st of this year, an order authorizing the framework for a Community Choice Aggregation Opt-Out program was issued, enabling "establishment of CCA programs by municipalities statewide." Village, town, city, and county boards are now allowed to bargain with electricity supply companies (ESCOs) on behalf of their constituents; ratepayers will have the ability to opt out of such arrangements by either choosing to use a different ESCO, or allowing the local utility to choose for them.

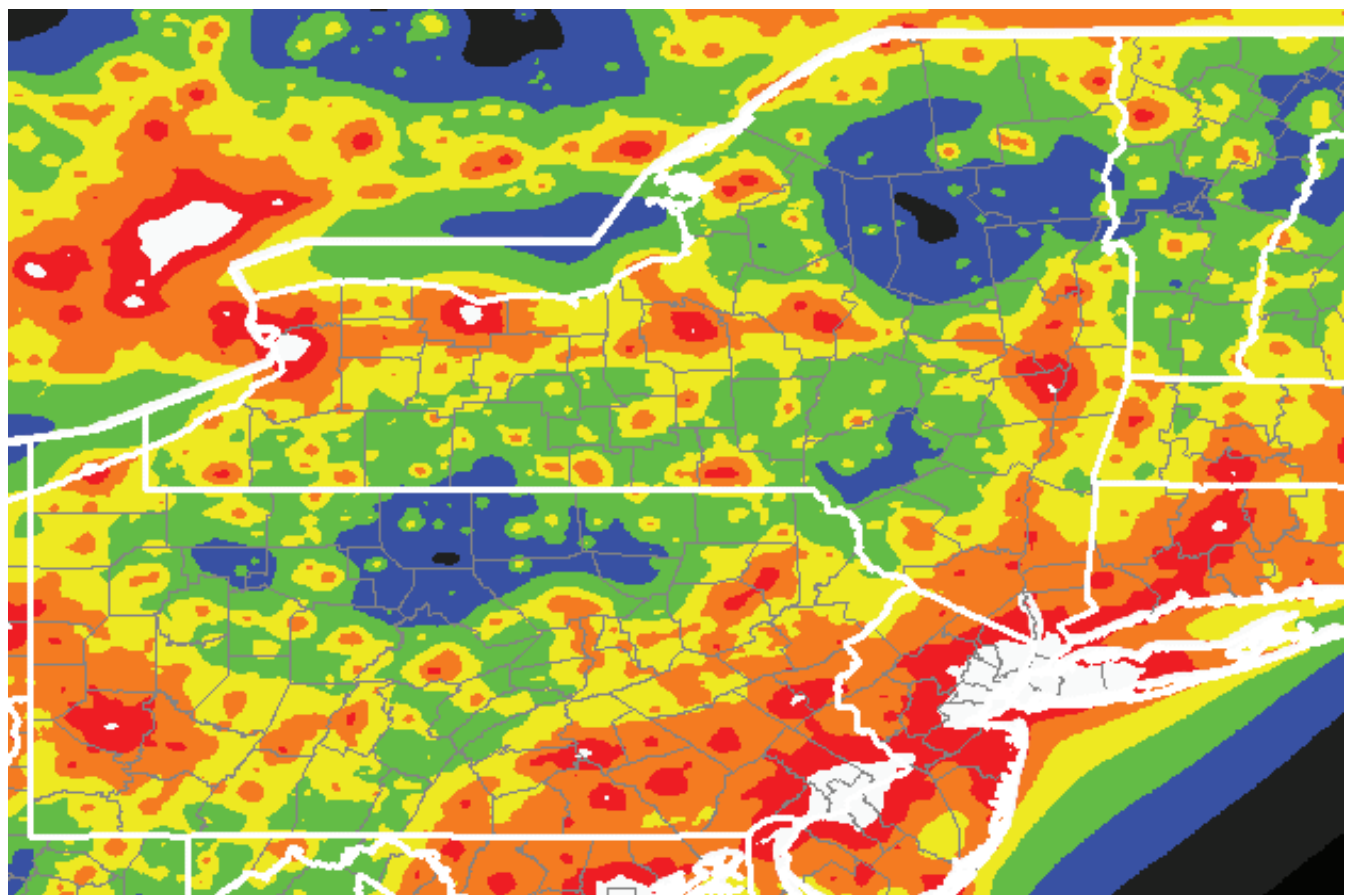
Here's where you need to pay attention. NYSEG will do what's good for their investors. If the town boards can be prodded to take up the responsibility, are you alarmed at the prospect of your town board negotiating your energy future on your behalf? How happy were you with their performance of their civic duties when the compressor station lurked above the village? Were you amazed as governmental dysfunction was enshrined as an objective?

Participation in the Community Choice Aggregation program should come with a WARNING: There is NO requirement that municipalities choose an ESCO that provides renewable energy - gas-fired works just fine in CCA. Unless your community is confident in its ability to push your elected officials to offer a green ESCO alternative, you're probably better off not starting a discussion about CCA as an option for your village or town. If you can trust your local officials to offer a green path, then starting a CCA program might be a good idea, because communities that have CCAs will be better prepared to participate in the next stage of our energy evolution: organizing communities into microgrids.

Since the dawn of the commercial electric age, we have relied on government to balance the opposed objectives of high reliability and low cost; we pay a lot for energy, but it is virtually always available, even in extremes of weather and demand. Moving to the distributed generation/microgrid paradigm will enable (but not guarantee) more democratic management of our local resources and facilities, but only if we pay attention and lock in options for local control.

If we remain aloof and uninvolved, we'll get what we deserve, either at the hands of our local curmudgeons or the managers at NYS Electric & Gas.

Stuart Anderson is a green energy activist living in Otego.



LIGHT POLLUTION MAP: Calculated darkness of the night skies over New York State based on light sources in the nighttime images of the Earth obtained by the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program. Darker tones represent darker skies.

Note light domes around Franklin: villages of Sidney and Walton, and City of Oneonta.

Credit: P. Cinzano, F. Falchi (University of Padova), C. D. Elvidge (NOAA National Geophysical Data Center, Boulder). Copyright Royal Astronomical Society. Reproduced from the Monthly Notices of the RAS by permission of Blackwell Science.

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JIM MULLEN REVIEWS NEW BOOKS



INGREDIENTS

By Steve Ettlinger
Photos by Dwight Eschliman

For all the talk about the problems with processed food, few of us know what most of the questionable ingredients on the label would look like if they were in our pantries at home, or why manufacturers put them in their food to begin with.

The why is pretty easy -- when you bake a meal at home, it's not going to sit on a shelf for a week or two, so you don't need



to add citric acid as a preservative. We don't worry about shelf-life. You don't have to add color to each cake you bake so it looks exactly like the last one. What color is cream? When butter is made from cream,

it comes out white. Would you bother to churn it at home?

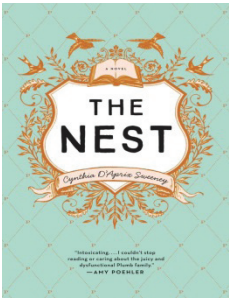
This book is not a defense of ingredients in processed food, but a simple explanation of the seventy-five most used ingredients, and why they are used. Sweeteners, in all their many forms, make up the bulk of ingredients; the most widely used ingredient in processed food is something most of us have made in our kitchens at one time or another -- caramel. Its danger comes from us swilling so much of it in Coke and Pepsi, not from its chemical make-up.

The same is true of most thickeners, emulsifiers, colors and catalysts. Ettlinger's explanation of the difference between baking soda and baking powder makes so much sense, you'll never confuse the two again, or why you would use one and not the other. The page on the "natural" red coloring agent cochineal is a revelation. It's made from the dried out and ground up husks of dead insects. It won't kill you but most of us have been able to make meals at home for years without it.

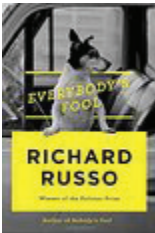
The real message of this book is in the choice of title. Not the pejorative "additives," but the neutral "ingredients." It's not (usually) that the additive itself is inherently bad. It's that we have invented a food delivery system that requires so many of them.

Jim Mullen will be retiring as our first and favorite book critic, but the hard-working librarians at the Franklin Free Library have offered to keep NFR readers up to date on the latest additions to the Library's collection.

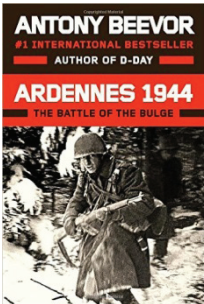
Here is their first installment:



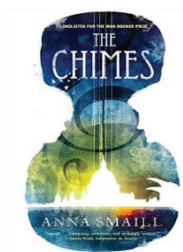
THE NEST, by Cynthia Sweeney, is about a dysfunctional New York family told with humor and compassion.



In **EVERYBODY'S FOOL**, a sequel to Richard Russo's popular novel, **NOBODY'S FOOD**, the writer returns to New Bath, NY years later, with Sully and many of the same characters.



The new look at the Battle of the Bulge, Hitler's last offensive against the Allies.



THE CHIMES, by Anna Smaill, explores an alternate London after a brutal civil war. All "befores" are considered blasphemy. An orphan named Simon has the gift for retaining memories and joins the struggle for freedom.

DRAGONFLY

By Bertha Rogers

*I sensed you in the shadows;
your wings worked, summoned
me through congested streets.*

*Yours was the face bemused
by the glass-reflected sky;
those were your faceted eyes
proclaiming pain
beautiful magnification,
iridescent in the afternoon,
your needling body
green as emeralds spilled
from some god's careless hand
to the city's floor
where I happened
to be standing, awaiting you.*

*I turned you over:
Do you look at me!*

*I cradled you, jewel creature,
like a dying king
on a catafalque; carried
you to the weed patch.*

*You hesitated; disengaging,
you reeled among the leaves,
flashing blue, then green
in the late light.*

*Dreamer! I loved you
and, loving, left.*

First published in *The Flutes of Power Anthology*

MUSIC HERE AT HOME

By Jason Starr

*One good thing about
music/ When it hits you,
you feel no pain.*
- Bob Marley



A long time ago, I was involved with a group called Earth Day International. Our mission, as I saw it through my idealistic twentysomething eyes, was to Save the Earth. Which we did.

You're welcome.

It was during that time I first heard the phrase, "Think Globally. Act Locally." Far as I knew, I was thinking and acting globally, so I didn't put that sticker on my guitar case.

Music has always been crucial to the success of social movements. Why? Maybe because it puts some fun into an otherwise difficult, un-fun process.

Singing songs about one's struggle, or just listening to them, puts life back when it's been sucked out by the effort of confronting big forces, big companies, and people lined up against you.

If you are reading this column, you probably know that Franklin has been spared the damage to its property values and rural character which would have occurred had the DEC granted the 401 Water Quality Certificate to Constitution Pipeline. But you may not know how music helped sustain the local effort to convince the state agency to act on behalf of

See **MUSIC**, continued on Page 14

The life-force of summer in our Upper Catskill Heartland is truly amazing.

If you do nothing more than watch the seasons evolve outside your door, your eyes and ears will witness a mystery of such proportion that any one of us could spend several lifetimes trying to translate or record the smallest portion of what surrounds us each day. Walk through a field or meander up a stream. The mind is treated to a visual calliope of natural wonder, an infinite source of mythic inquiry. Whatever your approach to understanding, it is a living network that gives and takes, lives and dies, and provides us all with nourishment for body and mind.

The color palette of this vital landscape changes by the hour. Hued by moisture and sunlight, responsive to wind and warmth, its textured canvas is alive with motion, its rich green wisdom reaching towards the sky. We cultivate the dream of our lives within this garden, this amazing collection of living pigment. Like an art supply room of blood root and sunflower, morning glory, primrose, aster and wild vetch, the consistency and durability of each chromatic player yields to the light of the season, transforming our understanding of what is possible.

For most of us, another presence captures our awe in a completely different way: the remarkable complexity of human technological connection. Like the movement of clouds in an afternoon sky, a phone will ping, a screen light up, and messages are delivered. Our sense of place is transformed by something very distant and yet immediate. Every split-second, this invisible electronic fluid, flowing with color, text and music, arrives from the cloud to fertilize our mindscape with anything imaginable. This disembodied consciousness grows more sensitive and deeply connected every day, creating a climate change in human relationship.

Though these two realities may seem contradictory, they will continue to co-evolve and play a vital role in the years ahead. Living in this verdant upstate New York landscape, we are gifted with a connection to wilderness. Though shrinking, it can still, here and there, be experienced on its own terms. It is the natural background from which we learn and teach the artisan skills of living well. Our need for life knowledge and a healthy landscape means we must know how to protect, preserve, utilize and sustain the natural world around us. Future generations will require all efforts to create a globally sourced, diverse and innovative program for maintaining and share-holding this collaborative and creative world.



MARJORIE'S SHADOWS, by Jane Carr

ARTIST PROFILE:

FRANKLIN'S BRUCE GODDARD

By Jane Carr

Bruce Goddard will be showing his acrylic paintings at the Jane Carr Studio, which is Art #2 at the 21st Stagecoach Run Art Festival, Saturday & Sunday, July 2 & 3.

Bruce and his wife Amy moved to Franklin in 2008 where he became interested in metal sculpture and took welding classes at BOCES. Bruce had dabbled with painting before, but now joins other artists at egg tempera painter Jane Carr's "Wednesday Painters" sessions at her studio in Treadwell, NY. He loves the imme-

UpState Arts with Charlie Bremer

If you desire a thoughtful artistic sojourn to see new artwork being created around our region, you are in luck. Our beautiful watershed is alive with art this summer. Below is a short listing of some excellent must-see group exhibitions and festivals, plus remarkable solo shows to be viewed across this region during July, August and September.

Further details can be found by checking the on-line sites of the local art organizations and venues listed here.

July 2nd & 3rd: The 21st Annual Stagecoach Run Arts Festival - In and around the villages of Treadwell & Franklin, 20 locations featuring 50 artists, brochure guide map available. This year, the festival is in honor of its two founding artists: Jane Carr and Joseph Kurhacek. A must-see event. For details, visit www.stagecoachrun.com



TROUT, by Jack Beal

July 9th, 2-4 p.m.: Opening: **Jack Beal: Print Retrospective**, solo exhibition, **MURAL on Main Gallery**, Hobart, thru Aug 21

July 15th, 5-7 p.m.: Opening: **National Juried Art Exhibition**, large group exhibition, **Cooperstown Art Association**, 22 Main St., thru Aug 19

July 16th, 3 p.m.: For Arts Sake, art auction fundraiser, **Roxbury Arts Group**, Roxbury. On-line preview available

On-going thru July 22nd: **Art of the Model: Interpretations & Representations of the Human Presence**, large group exhibition, **Smithy Gallery**, Cooperstown.

August 1st, 5-7 p.m.: Opening: **Interior Spaces: Exploring Vignettes & Environments**, group exhibition, **Smithy Gallery**, Cooperstown, thru Aug 28th

August 6th, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.: **City of the Hills Arts & Music Festival**, Main Street, Oneonta

August 19th, 6-8 p.m.: (tentative) Opening: **Anna Sea**, solo exhibition. **More Art Space**, Oneonta



GUTHRIE 853 by Bruce Goddard

August 27th, 2-4 p.m.: Opening: **Engel & Finkenberg**, two person show. **MURAL on Main Gallery**, Hobart, NY thru Oct 22

September 2nd, 5-8 p.m.: Opening reception: **Gray, Hudanish, & L'Heureux**, group show, **CANO**, Oneonta, NY, thru Sept 18



TONY'S SHELF, by Chelsea Gibson

September 16th, 6-8 p.m.: Opening: **Chelsea Gibson**, solo exhibition, **More Art Space**, Oneonta.

3rd Friday solo show openings: Aug, Sept, Oct, TBA at **Michael Stolzer Fine Arts**, Oneonta.

For other details and more on our local arts: connect • share

Bushel, Delhi: <http://bushelcollective.org>
CANO - Community Arts Network of Oneonta: <http://www.canoneonta.org>
Cherry Branch Gallery, Cherry Valley: <http://cherrybranchgallery.com/>
Cherry Valley Artworks, Cherry Valley: <http://cvartworks.org/>
Cooperstown Art Association (CAA) Cooperstown: <http://www.cooperstownart.com/>
Fenimore Art Museum, Cooperstown: <http://www.fenimoreartmuseum.org/>
More Art Space (MAS) Oneonta: <http://moreartspace.com/>
Mural on Main Art Gallery, Hobart: <http://www.muralartgallery.org>
Roxbury Arts Group (RAG) Roxbury: <http://roxburyartsgroup.org/>
Smithy Center for the Arts, Cooperstown: <http://www.smithyarts.org>
SUNY Martin-Mullen Gallery, Oneonta: <http://www.oneonta.edu/academics/art/gallery/gallery.html>
Walton Theater, Arts in the Parlor, Walton: <http://waltontheatre.org/arts-in-the-parlor/>

diated feedback from his fellow artists.

Bruce paints in acrylic on gesso board. He has shown his work for three years at the Stagecoach Run Art Festival. He was accepted into the Cooperstown Art Association's 23rd Regional Juried Show in 2014, and into the 81st National Juried Art Exhibition this year. He and Carr mounted a two person show, *Duo Loco*, in 2015, at the High Country Gallery in Andes NY. During July and August, he will show at the Arts in the Parlor Gallery above the Walton Theatre with three other Wednesday Painters. His current favorite subjects are cowboys, portraits and old trucks.

Bruce Goddard was born in Washington, D.C. in 1947 and grew up as a "service brat" in east coast, midwest

See **BRUCE**, continued on Page 16



Summer & Fall 2016 at Bright Hill!

Readings & Exhibits & Book Signings & Workshops!

Word Thursdays, 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 pm

Featured Poets & Writers: July: Carol & Richard Frost; & Cheryl Clarke & Alice Fogel;
Aug.: Patricia Carragon & John O'Connor & Richard Pearse;
Sept.: Gil Fagiani & Maria Lisella & Alba Hernandez & Meredith Trede;
Oct: Nancy Esposito & Richard Foerster & Richard Newman
Nov: William Duke & Judith Kerman

The Word & Image Gallery Exhibits

July: Stagecoach Run Annual Fundraiser Auction All Month
Aug.: Joseph Kurhajec; Sept.: Uri Shulevitz; Oct.: Jim Chatelain;
Nov.: M. Davis & Harold Lohner

Annual History / Nonfiction Day - July 23

Timothy Duerden, Ray LaFever, Edythe Quinn

23rd Annual Bright Hill Summer Literary Workshops for Kids Program (Ages 6-18) (call for details)

Celestial Travels Among the Planets- June 27 - July 1
Catskills Flora & Fauna Videography with Jessica Vecchione (HS only) - July 11-15
Long Ago & Not so Far Away - Fossils & Earth - July 25 -29
Alternate Universe Animation with Pooh Kaye (MS only) - Aug. 8 - 12
There Be Dragons - The Ancient Eastern World - Aug. 16 -20

Great American Poets Day - August 20 + More!



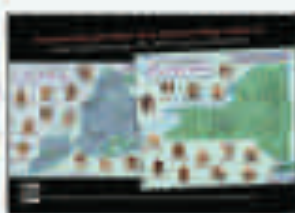
Volunteer in the Garden



Bright Kids Book Club



Community Gatherings in the BH Library



NYS Literary website

Here We Are!

Voice: 607-829-5055

Email:

wordthur@stny.rr.com

Websites:

brighthillpress.org

nyslittree.org



Kids Summer Literary Workshops

MUSIC, continued from Page 12

its citizens, instead of the corporations.

Back in December of 2015, after months and months of meetings, letter-writing, phone calls, and a sustained petition drive, the group of Franklin residents doing all this work decided to have a party. At the party was some live music. One of the musicians had come up with a song "I Will Resist Your Pipeline," set to the tune of "I Heard It Through the Grapevine." Just having a relaxed social atmosphere was nice, but I know for sure the people in that room felt mighty good singing, "I will resist your pipeline, yes, I will resist your pipeline, baby/Yeah, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!"

They practiced another song that night: "Kinder Morgan's Coming to Town," which they sang to lead off

a protest at an event Kinder Morgan held at Franklin Central School later that week. It didn't completely disrupt the event, but singing the song gave the citizens a jumping off point to creatively and peacefully express their opposition to the threat of fossil-fuel infrastructure.

The following March, Compressor Free Franklin held a benefit concert, headlined by folksinger and Franklin resident, John O'Connor.

A longtime activist for many progressive social causes, John said, "I think movement events are always more effective (and less boring) when organizers take the time and attention to make music a part of rallies, demonstrations, etc. My experience going back many decades



Singer/poet John O'Connor

is that too often organizers of such events neglect to use music, especially song, when almost every event is made richer by inclusion of music.

"I enjoyed the CFF concert immensely. For me, it was an opportunity to share with my community what I do best, to set aside an evening of celebration as a respite from the struggle without ignoring the struggle. I believe my songs deal well with our condition. They attempt to treat serious subjects in a way that inspires hope rather than despair."

It was a great community event. John put on a great show, inspiring the people attending that concert to continue the effort to stop the pipeline and compressor station from coming to Franklin.

Bringing it back to "Think Globally. Act Locally," the Higgins family of Otego recorded a music

video of the song "Sing for the Climate (Do it Now)."

A YouTube search reveals the song is "a big singing manifestation that first took place on September 22 & 23, 2012, in Belgium. More than 80,000 people in more than 180 Belgian cities and communities sang the song "Do it Now," urging

their own version of Sing for the Climate."

You can also view the Collateral Damage video (YouTube search "eminent domain Franklin NY"), which features the Franklin-inspired song "Up on Hebbard's Farm."

So music and song, as they always have and always will, helped carry people through the recent battle to keep our local communities as places we want to live in and sustain for our children and our



The Higgins Family


politicians to take more ambitious climate measures on local, national and international levels...we appeal to local groups and organizations worldwide to organize

children's children.

And in case you hadn't heard, the decision by DEC to deny the WQC was announced on April 22nd. Earth Day.



Jason Starr (at right) and friends



173 Main Street
Franklin, NY 13775

the Squire's Tankard

Buying and Selling Country Antiques, Vintage Clothing
and Items of Significance

TOM & DONNA BRIGGS (607) 829-6885

FSC, continued from Page 3

productions there. She brought a philosophy shared with Gene and with Carmela, their daughter and the present Executive/Artistic Director of FSC: the idea that theatre is a necessary shared experience and therefore should come admission free. At FSC, support would have to be voluntary or through grant applications.

Thus followed the magic and the education that has engaged me with FSC ever since. Where else can I go night after night, free of charge, to see changes large and subtle in productions of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*, Seneca's *The Trojan Women*, Ionesco's *The Chairs*; or in a monologue of original work by Patricia Buckley in *Evolution* or Tim Crouch's wildly engaging *I, Peaseblossom*, based on one of the fairies in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*? Where could I interact with the cast immediately after productions? Or teeter on the steep embankment behind Franklin's school with an audience of all ages to watch the Mettawee River Theatre Company transform their puppets into messengers of sorrow and laughter and thought?

All this is in line with FSC's basic tenet: to include, one must reach out.

host the Franklin Farmer's Market on the grounds of Chapel Hall as it gathers local farmers on summer Sundays, along with wool weavers, wood workers, chefs, bakers and honey producers. Jazz bands, guitarists and singers entertain both merchants and buyers. There are tents and tables and chairs where one may savor everything from lamb kebabs to Swedish cinnamon buns. And the market is so much more: a forum to admire new babies, sound out books and programs with the librarian, learn about different crops and planting, debate the pros and cons of fracking and pipelines, a generous spilling over of food for thought and action, philosophy and practice. All this activity places Chapel Hall and FSC at the center of its welcoming community.

Best of all is the fun and intelligence FSC provides, a continuity we thank Carmela for guaranteeing and developing further. As the Artistic Director of FSC, she refutes the confines of contemporary sound bites by bathing us in multiple plunges into Shakespeare's language (four productions this year alone), finds props and settings to make intelligible what the audience might find foreign, seduces us with the delight



Mettawee River Theatre Company performing behind Franklin Central School

From professional Equity actors to youngsters eager to try their hand at acting, directing, lighting, set designing, music-making or editing sound tracks, FSC procured talent. They mixed ages and genders with experienced mentors. They proposed hot ideas over cooling coffee, and established the specifically funded internship program to create a legacy of inquiry, trial, error, and daring. FSC reached out to artists from the surrounding communities to show their sculpture, paintings, photographs and masks on the tables and walls of Chapel Hall.

"Even though it's intermission, you're still in the world of transformation," FSC seemed to challenge. "Check out these other creative forms."

Then came FSC's larger embrace. People need a place to meet, shop, eat and talk. Why not

of words purposefully chosen and presented. For instance, in her fine portrayal of Caliban from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, a simple set of costume fangs transformed her appearance, yet she was able to enunciate every quick bit of wit that Shakespeare gave the character. Or, remembering clown noses, fairy wings on rain slickers, sound tracks that alternately fed the audience with Beethoven or thunder, trick traps on stage, actors entering and exiting through the audience, I purr in delight.

Congratulations, Franklin Stage Company, and thank you!





FRANKLINSTAGECOMPANY.ORG
607-829-3700

CARMEN - JUNE 17, 18, 19
SLEEPING BEAUTY - JULY 8
WE 3 - AN ADAPTATION OF THREE SISTERS
JULY 13 - 31
THE OPHELIA PROJECT - AUGUST 5, 6, 7
KING LEAR - AUGUST 12, 13, 14
THE MERCHANT OF VENICE
AUGUST 26, 27, 28
SO PLEASE YOU - AUGUST 30
EVOLUTION - SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4
THE TARNATION OF RUSSELL COLVIN
SEPTEMBER 16 - 25

CHAPEL HALL / 25 INSTITUTE STREET / FRANKLIN, NY




The 2016 season at Franklin Stage

Our 20th season image, painted by Lisbeth Firmin, captures perfectly its theme. With an inviting glance back to the past, we set off into our future. Productions include works created by long-time FSC collaborators - works which have evolved in Chapel Hall and emerge now in dazzling fresh form! - presented alongside exhilarating interpretations of classics from a dynamic new generation of professional theatre artists.

While events at FSC are open to all ages, it should be noted that **Sleeping Beauty** on July 8 and **So Please You** on August 30 are especially suitable for all ages, including young children.

Carmen

June 17, 18, 19; Friday & Saturday at 8, Sunday at 2

A powerful, contemporary interpretation from Detroit's Operamodo of Bizet's ravishing lyric masterpiece featuring a countertenor as

Sleeping Beauty

July 8, Friday at 7
David Gonzalez transfixes a family audience with his award-winning storytelling.

We 3 - an adaptation of Three Sisters
July 13 - 31, Wednesdays thru Saturdays at 8, Sundays at 5

FSC presents Chekhov's masterpiece in a vibrant new production which has matured and blossomed since its first glimmerings as a work-in-progress in 2015.

The Ophelia Project

August 5, 6, 7; Friday & Saturday at 8, Sunday at 5

Soprano Cree Carrico explores the many colors of Ophelia's madness in her riveting one-woman theatrical creation, part opera / part play, about the doomed heroine of Hamlet.

King Lear

August 12, 13, 14; Friday & Saturday at 8, Sunday at 5

FSC presents a rehearsed reading of Shakespeare's towering tragedy, an ever-relevant tale of power, politics and familial strife.

The Merchant of Venice

August 26, 27, 28; Friday & Saturday at 8, Sunday at 5

Two strangers discover the text of William Shakespeare's play. Armed with costumes and books-in-hand, what starts as a game turns into a confrontation of personal prejudice and reconciliation.

So Please You

August 30; Tuesday at 7
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival's Conservatory Company revels in the classic art of clowning in this inventive comedy for all the family.

Evolution

September 2, 3, 4; Friday & Saturday at 8, Sunday at 5

Patricia Buckley performs again her compelling play about the mysteries of transformation.

The Tarnation of Russell Colvin

September 16 - 25; Fridays & Saturdays at 8, Sundays at 5

Oliver Wadsworth reprises his virtuosic turn as a motley medley of characters including his play's competing narrators in this full production, first presented as a reading in 2014.

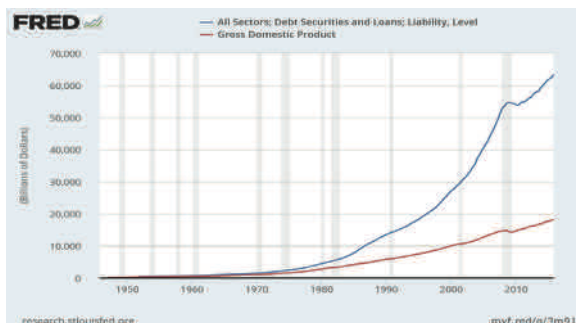
CHOICE, continued from Page 10

the old-timers will need to learn again and teach old skills and ways of dealing with the world.

As the increasingly nonsensical and destructive global economy contracts (as it is already doing) into an ever more local subsistence economy at a much simpler technological level, we shall need more hands to perform tasks that we have become accustomed to having machines do for us. Skilled workers with scythes, for example, can cut quite a bit of hay. Of course, they can make only a tiny fraction of what a farmer on a tractor with modern equipment can make. On the other hand, with the exception of the blade itself, they can make for themselves every tool they need with zero investment in costly agricultural machinery, no fuel to buy,

no bank loans, no interest payments.

This may sound at first like a silly fantasy but, to me, it looks like a good ending to our present trajectory. Perhaps we need to start discussing realistically amongst ourselves how we might get through the coming great transition. We are all in this together. We don't have to eat together (though it helps) or treat each other with affection (though respect will also help) but we do share the same world. History tells us that when things get tough, people often behave badly, make a great mess of things for a very long time and eventually pick themselves up out of the muck and chaos they have made and start over. Perhaps we can choose to skip the nasty parts this time around.



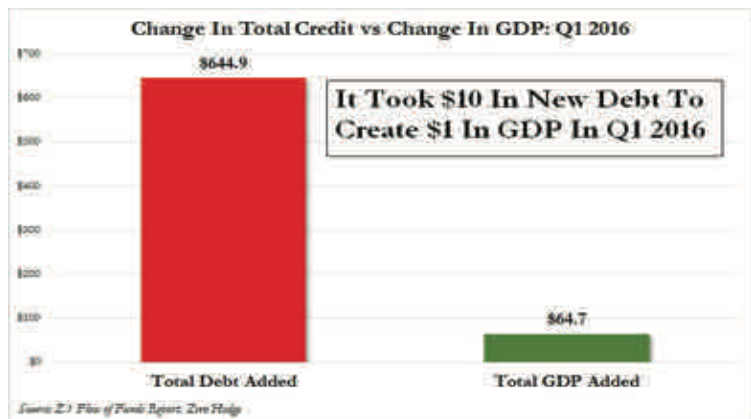
RUNNING THE NUMBERS:

As I have pointed out in these pages, our industrial civilization and our expectation of economic growth have, for a couple of centuries, depended upon the ever-increasing availability of cheap and abundant fossil fuels. In order to have growth, we needed ever more energy to fuel that growth. As long as we could cheaply increase the flow of fossil fuels, everything was fine and we came to believe that somehow this condition of endless growth on a finite planet could continue indefinitely. But in 1970, cheap and abundant crude oil peaked in the United States and we went in a few years from the world's biggest oil exporter to the world's biggest oil importer. Other countries wanted to grow their economies, too, so they competed for oil. Supplies dwindled and it became necessary to go after crude oil that is harder and

more expensive to find and refine so prices rose. When we could no longer grow our economies by adding more cheap oil, we kept the game going by burning expensive oil. To keep up the appearance of economic growth, we added ever more debt. This graph from the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank tells the shocking story: from 1970 to the present, debt rose nearly four times as much as GDP.

Another graph based on Federal Reserve numbers shows that in the first quarter of 2016 \$10 of debt was added to generate \$1 of GDP.

There is no way to repay with interest debt that is growing at ten times the rate of the economy that must repay it. Since our children and grandchildren will have to repay that debt, we are stealing their future in order to continue to enjoy our high-energy fossil-fueled way of life.



SOLAR, continued from Page 9

fuel investments are already receiving tax breaks, and subsidies for exploration and production. Oil Change International is a research and advocacy group (find them on the internet).

Their research shows five major oil companies - BP, Exxon, Chevron, Shell, and ConocoPhillips - receive \$2.4 billion in tax deductions annually. Data indicates U.S. government subsidies to fossil fuels is \$37.5 billion per year, with \$21 billion going directly to production and exploration. Global subsidies from governments to fossil fuels is \$775 billion annually. These figures pale when compared to the economic, health, and social cost that the public bears due to exemptions granted to provisions in the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts: exemptions that allow oil and gas companies to avoid the costs associated with leaks, emissions, and waste products.

Now let's look closer to home at the agriculture industry. There are numerous subsidies provided to agriculture in the Farm Bill. The production of ethanol from corn, to be used in gasoline, is probably the poster child for agricultural subsidies.

What about tax breaks? Locally, many land parcels receive a tax break with the agricultural exemption for farm land in production and farm buildings. These are commercial enterprises. Why should we subsidize and give tax breaks to some commercial enterprises and not to others? Why agriculture and fossil fuel energy, but not renewable energy?

Perhaps governments are so mired in the mud of partisan politics that these questions cannot be answered. But local, county, state, and federal governments must soon focus on how we and the world will transition away from low cost fossil fuel energy. A smart start would be to remove incentives from fossil fuels and increase incentives for renewable sources. The Opt Out provision moves in the wrong direction: backward. It will create inequalities

Some will say, "But there is plenty of oil. See how far the price has fallen." Yes, the price has fallen but only because demand has fallen in the slowing global economy and because fracked oil wells (which produce a lot at first and then quickly fall off) gave us a temporary surplus. The fall in oil prices led in turn to oil companies abandoning exploration for new fields, so when today's flush ends in a year or two, we are likely to find ourselves with a shortage, with rising prices, and people and businesses unable to pay the price. In a contracting economy, many debts will not be paid and the economy will fall off the cliff of debt deflation, the global economy will vanish, and we are likely to find ourselves living much simpler low-energy lives in a very local economy.

between municipalities and school district taxation of properties. It will slow the adoption of renewable energy sources.

What is the financial benefit the County and Town can expect from these small distributed solar systems? First, a twenty-acre solar farm requires a location with the correct sun exposure and a connection to the national grid. There are very few areas in Delaware County, fewer still in Franklin, with the proper exposure, an electrical substation, and the local power lines capable of transmitting the generated power to the grid. Few if any will ever be built in our area.

The average installation cost per acre for a solar farm is about \$500,000, so a twenty-acre system would cost in the neighborhood of \$10 million. At the current tax rate of \$13 per \$1000 of assessed value, this multiplies to \$130,000 per year. Sounds like a lot of money. Compare this to the compressor station at Hungry Hill in Hancock. The cost of the installation was \$42.7 million, but the agreed-upon assessed value was a mere \$12 million, so the County in effect

subsidized Millennium Pipeline by \$30 million upfront. The taxes on that \$12 million would have been \$156,000 per year, but then the PILOT program from IDA further reduced their tax bill by fifty percent over the fifteen-year agreement, allowing a \$78,000 tax break.

Why should the County subsidize natural gas and pipeline companies and provide them tax breaks, but penalize solar by removing a tax exemption?

The Franklin Town Board is likely to address this issue. To Opt Out will require creation and adoption of a local law, and we know the Board does not like to adopt new laws. I urge you to research and review the facts behind the Opt Out provision. I encourage you to support the current tax exemption as provided by RPTL Section 487, and oppose the Opt Out provision by attending a Franklin Town Board meeting to express your opinion.

BRUCE, continued from Page 13

and southern states. In 1969, he graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in psychology. Bruce left Atlanta for the San Francisco Bay area and lived in Alameda, Oakland and Berkeley where he was the stock manager at the Organic Foods Co-op. Weekday afternoons he crossed the Bay Bridge to take photography classes at the San Francisco Art Institute. Back in NYC in the 80s, Bruce rediscovered the right side of his brain and studied painting and life drawing with expressionist painter Peter Cox at the New York Academy of Art.

He and Amy live on thirty-three acres in Franklin NY, where they grow organic garlic, and keep two Icelandic horses, a miniature donkey, a cat and several chickens.



OATMAN, by Bruce Goddard

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stagecoachrun.com.

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ONE, continued from Page 1

those decisions and requested that both proposals be withdrawn.

Constitution Pipeline

The Constitution Pipeline would have brought natural gas from the Marcellus Shale of north-eastern Pennsylvania to Ontario, Canada in conjunction with the Iroquois Pipeline. The capacity of Constitution, 0.65 billion cubic feet per day, was fully subscribed from the start and so profitability was assured. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has overall jurisdiction of interstate gas pipelines. In December 2014, FERC gave federal certification to the Constitution conditional on its obtaining the required state certifications. At the end of April of this year, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation denied the Constitution Pipeline Company, LLC the water quality certification because the company had failed to provide sufficient information concerning:

- Its choice of a greenfield route for the pipeline along ridge tops rather than co-locating along I-88 in the valley
- Its choice to trench across all but a handful of the 251 streams to be crossed in New York
- The depth of burial of pipe beneath each stream to avoid exhumation by storms specifically where along the ridges would blasting be necessary and methods for crossing eighty-five acres of wetlands.

In a press release the next business day, CPC claimed that all this is untrue. This release was the opening salvo in an attempt to overturn the DEC denial in the U.S. Court of Appeals. Generally courts are reluctant to second-guess a regulatory decision unless it was arbitrary and capricious – otherwise lawsuits for such reviews would be endless. Just such a claim was made in the complaint against the DEC filed by CPC on May 16th with the Second Circuit in Albany.

Ferocious opposition to Constitution was led by Stop the Pipeline, a coalition of several hundred residents, mostly from Delaware Coun-

ty but also from the other affected counties of Broome, Chenango, Otsego, and Schoharie. DEC credited the contributions of over 15,000 comments – contrary to the contention of Supervisor Taggart that, “They [DEC] deserve the credit and no one else.” Many comments from Franklin residents concerned the effects on the Ouleout watershed. Twice cited in DEC’s letter of denial is the disruption of the Ouleout Creek and twenty-seven of its tributaries, including fifteen with trout-spawning areas.

CPC plans to begin construction in the second half of 2017, but this date seems optimistic for resolving just the initial lawsuit. After

capacity of the project from a 36 inch pipe carrying 2.2 Bcf/dy to a 30 inch carrying 1.2 Bcf/dy. Even after, TGP was unable to find customers for more than half of this reduced capacity. In July of 2015, the board of directors of Kinder Morgan, parent of TGP, approved the eastern part of NED (the Market Path) from Wright NY to Dracut MA, hoping that additional customers would be found.

The board passed over the western part of NED (the Supply Path) from Susquehanna PA to Wright NY. There work was scaled back for the remainder of 2015. The 2016 budget for KM did not allocate any funds for work on the

ergy Partners.LP. That project is an expansion by 1.0 bcf/dy of capacity along existing pipeline through southern New England. Spectra brought-in two large electrical utilities as partners, thereby guaranteeing them as customers. (Similarly CPC brought-in Cabot Oil & Gas both as a partner in Constitution and a supplier of seventy-five percent of the gas.) Here again, the widespread opposition to a greenfield pipeline, the Market Path, could delay or deny certification, which created apprehension for potential customers of NED. Much of the opposition was from towns along the Market Path, but Compressor Free Franklin fought hard against the Supply Path and its mid-stream compressor.

Should there be sufficient demand, one day NED could be revived in some form. “TGP will continue to work with customers to explore alternative solutions to address their needs” according to spokesman Richard Wheatley.

Roundabout

Last and least, the Federal government granted NYS Department of Transportation millions to rebuild unsafe intersections as part of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. In Franklin, the intersection of state highways 357 and 28 was one of those selected, having totaled thirty-one accidents in the decade between 2004 and 2013. From the start of this project in 2007, a roundabout was the solution preferred by DOT.

This, the first infrastructure project proposed, the smallest and least consequential, has outlasted billion-dollar projects.

The Franklin Town Council was a bystander to opposition to powerline and pipeline projects. None are progressing, thanks to citizen intervention and to state regulation. But after some vacillation, our council did come down firmly in opposition to the roundabout. Construction of the roundabout is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2017 or the spring of 2018. If residents opposed to the roundabout want to stop it, they will have to do it themselves.



that, whichever side loses is likely to appeal.

NED Pipeline

The Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline would have likewise brought natural gas from the Marcellus Shale of northeastern Pennsylvania, but to New England. In November of 2015, the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC applied to FERC for the required certification of convenience and necessity.

Despite the claim that NED was necessary to supply gas to New England, TGP was unable to find enough customers. It reduced the

Supply Path according to president and CEO Steve Kean. A twenty-five-acre compressor complex off Otego Road in Franklin was to serve the Supply Path, and therefore is now unnecessary.

The hoped-for additional demand for the NED Market Path was never found. After the release of its first quarter 2016 financials, with profits down 27 percent, the company needed to economize. By suspending the Market Path as well, KM saved over \$3 billion.

NED was doomed by competition for customers from the Access Northeast project by Spectra En-

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MURDER AT THE FARMERS' MARKET

Wilson's dog dropped the arm at his feet, licked his lips, and smiled at me. Either he wanted to play fetch or he was telling me what he wanted for Christmas.

Should I throw it or throw up?

Dog loves his game of throwsns.

When I left the movie theater after watching one of those new 3D superhero movies, I didn't realize that I was still wearing those nerdy heavy black plastic 3D glasses.

Now I may never take them off.

The world is an interesting place in 6D.

It has become apparent that the surveillance systems of self-driving cars may become terribly confused by potholes, street graffiti, and fast food trash blowing across the street.

Not surprising.

Just last week my Rhumba robotic vacuum cleaner chased a small mouse around the living room floor for an hour. Poor thing died of a heart attack. Then the robot gagged on it.

The Terminator is now.

One reason for the failure of the gas pipeline surfaced during the class action lawsuit against the gas companies. While crossing private property, pipeline accidents and damages remain the responsibility of the landowner, not the gas company.

Well, fair is fair. If the above assertion holds true, landowners could legally set up toll booths for the passage of gas across their property. Some could charge coming in and going out. Some may set up EasyPassGas.

Please disregard the implications of that.

Odd how the National Guard wears deep forest camouflage when they respond to urban incidents. They don't exactly blend in with the buildings and sidewalks. Puts them in danger. Shouldn't they be wearing brick and concrete camo or perhaps three-piece suits?

When the ducks come back from the winter, it's easy to tell where they're coming from. The wild ducks head for the river. But the swimming pool is the water of choice for the ducks from Miami.

Getting closer to Wilson's dog, I realized that the arm was that of a mannequin, but fixed up to look much more like a real bloody arm. Perhaps a leftover Halloween prop or something.

At that moment a tall blond-haired man came out of the diner and turned toward downtown. Dog pointed. Didn't know he could do that.

Was he the guy who blew up my mailbox and torched my birdhouse?

I looked at Dog and he looked at me. He shrugged. Okay fine, we'll follow him.

He led us to one of the more popular shops but turned into a driveway just short of the store entrance. Behind the store was a large long sheet metal warehouse, its dirty windows covered with rusty chicken wire. Moments after he entered the building, we could hear the winning song from the latest Eurovision competition.

This does not bode well.

That SOME camp up on the mountain (remember them?) had changed ownership again. Strange karma for that place beginning as a nunnery, being taken over by an anti-organic survivalist militia, and now what?

Huge bulldozers rumbled and roared up the mountain and came back down three days later. The newspaper sent me up to see what was going on and take pictures if possible.

I arrived to find a huge crater with great berms only just seeded and covered with hay. It was too big to be a pond. More like a lake. At least I assumed.

Wrong.

They were stringing lights in concentric circles around the perimeter and erecting a large sign at one end. It read 'AREA 52'.

Oboy. Now we're talkin seriously undocumented aliens.

At the warehouse, I had to wipe off the window before I could see inside. Dog insisted I pick him up so he could see too.

It was very dark inside. Massive shelves crammed full of crates and boxes with pieces of tubing, wires, and machinery hanging down. There was a desk lit by a single low wattage bulb, covered with diagrams, laboratory glassware, and empty beer bottles.

Down on the floor near the window was a large crate with big black stenciled letters on the side reading, 'LITHIUM CONSORTIUM'.

Uh-oh.

When the federal government sold off its stockpile of lithium cheaply, it generated a great deal of private research and development. Massive deposits in Chile, China, Canada, and Argentina have convinced an energy-hungry world that lithium is the next great energy source for transportation and manufacturing.

Some of the down sides are unique in terms of handling and storage. Lithium can catch fire when in contact with water and is highly reactive.

It has its place in weapons propulsion and was used in the first controlled nuclear reaction in 1932.

But it's also used in medications for bipolar disorder and in the production of methamphetamines.

So we can have batteries, weapons, and drugs, all of which have massive black market appeal.

What's most troubling though, is the thought that people with severe mood swings are able to procure, store, and process lithium. On a good day, feeling joyful and confident, a visit to Home Depot, buying sixteen cordless drill and weed whacker batteries, going home to wire them together, and then waiting for a day of utter depression to set the whole mess off? This may not be so farfetched. Licenses issued to carry concealed lithium. Totally therapeutic.

The tall blond guy walked into view to replay the Eurovision winner. He grabbed a beaker and some rubber tubing off the desk and disappeared into the darkness.

I put the dog down. When he had seen the lithium crate, he started licking his lips.

The blond guy returned with a large sign. It was an entrance sign for the farmer's market.

He pulled out a rolled up sticker from the desk, peeled the backing off and applied it over the word 'Farmer's'. It now read, 'SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FAIRTRADE ORGANIC BLACK MARKET'.

Sure beats the Main Street Monorail proposal. Get ready for the tourist stampede.

To be continued...

LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEBSITES

Delaware County:
co.delaware.ny.us
Andes: townofandes.com
Bovina: bovinany.org
Colchester: townofcolchesterny.com
Davenport: No Website
Delhi: townofdelhiny.com
Deposit: No Website

Franklin: No Website

Hamden: hamdenny.com
Hancock: hancockny.org
Harpersfield: No Website
Kortright: No Website
Masonville: masonville-ny.us
Meredith: townofmeredith.com
Middletown: middletowndelawarecountyny.org
Roxbury: roxburyny.com
Sidney: townofsidneyny.org
Stamford: townofstamfordny.us
Tompkins: townoftompkins.org
Walton: townofwalton.org

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Franklin Town Board Minutes

FRANKLIN, NY
Franklin Town Board - February 3, 2015

Franklin Local / Town Board Minutes / audio

The minutes of the January 15, 2015, Town Board Minutes will be posted as soon as approved and sent to Franklin Local. Below is a link to an audio recording of the meeting.

Franklin NY
Town Board Meeting
February 3, 2015

Continue reading...

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FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Schedule of meetings for 2016

Meetings are held 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, except for November due to the conflict with election day.

January	5	Franklin	Organizational
February	2	Franklin	
March	1	Treadwell	
April	5	Franklin	
May	3	Franklin	
June	7	Treadwell	
July	5	Franklin	
August	2	Franklin	
September	6	Treadwell	
October	4	Franklin	Budget workshop
November	10*	Franklin	Budget hearing
December	6	Treadwell	

* Thursday

In Franklin, meeting are held at the town garages.
In Treadwell, meetings are held at the firehouse.


FOLLIES, continued from Page 9

The AG did not request any action against the land-owners, and said that he would oppose any such.

CPC responded to this complaint and petition in early June. Then FERC opened a subdocket (CP13-499-002) specifically for these issues.

In 2011, the NYS Public Service Commission investigated a similar tree felling

by landowners in the ROW of the Bluestone Pipeline, which now runs from Tennessee Gas Pipeline 300 in Lenox Township PA to Millennium Pipeline in Sanford Township NY. (Suppliers of gas for Bluestone and Constitution are the same: Cabot Oil & Gas and Southwestern Energy.) The Bluestone Gas Corporation settled for \$400,000.



The NEW

Franklin



Register.

The Newsletter of the Franklin Citizens Commission on Peak Oil

Editorial Board

Ellen Curtis Carole Satrina Marner
Eugene Marner Hank Stahler
Associate Editor: Brian Brock

Editor
Marjorie Bradley Kellogg

HAVE AN OPINION? WRITE TO US!

At: The New Franklin Register
P.O. Box 258
Franklin, NY 13775
or by email: nfr@franklinlocal.org

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 one Monday a month, at 7 P.M. at a member’s home TBA. All are welcome, to offer questions and help us answer them, to share thoughts and ideas.

- 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, healthier habit of living, and to put it to work here in Franklin, for a brighter, more sustainable future.

PLEASE JOIN US!

For meeting times, location and directions,as well as lots of other information about our town, check our website:

franklinlocal.org

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ACTIONS BY THE FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

DATE	MOTION	VOTE				
		Taggart	Bruno	Grant	Sitts	Smith
1/05/16	Support renaming part of St Hwy 357 for Corporal Nicholas Uzenski	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1/05/16	Rescind Council’s previous support for 357/28 roundabout	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1/05/16	Spend Consolidate Highway Improvement Program (CHIP) monies	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2/02/16	Nominate Councilman Bruno to board of Kellogg-Treadwell Trust	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2/02/16	Sell excess Highway Department equipment for \$12,660.47 total	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2/02/16	Buy three Action Garage Doors at \$3,596 each	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2/02/16	Rent a dozer from Bisler at \$2,000 per week	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3/01/16	Move into executive session to discuss road-use agreement	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3/01/16	Rent a mechanical broom from Able at \$2,250 per month	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4/05/16	Accept bids by Cobleskill Stone for gravels	Y	Y	Y	a	Y
4/05/16	Accept bids by Peckham Materials for calcium chloride solution	Y	Y	Y	a	Y
4/05/16	Accept bids by Mirabito for fuel oil and diesels, pre-paid prices	Y	Y	Y	a	Y
4/05/16	Rent excavator from (?) for May at (?)	Y	Y	Y	a	Y

Y=Yes, N=No, A=Abstain, a=absent
Note: Monthly motions to accept minutes and adjourn meeting are not included



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RECENT REAL PROPERTY SALES IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

DATE	LOCATION	ACRES	TYPE	ASSES	SALE	SELLER	BUYER
12/22/2015	2039 Palmer Hill Rd	6.50	Res w/Comuse	\$88,000	\$15,241	Delaware County	Finnegan, Ralph E Jr
12/22/2015	2039 Palmer Hill Rd	6.50	Res w/Comuse	88,000	60,000	Finnegan, Ralph E Jr	Decker, Elmer
12/23/2015	Christian Hill Rd	6.21	Rural vac<10	17,000	18,000	Kriz, Randolph W	Reynolds, Henry
1/7/2016	265 Otego Rd	1.10	1 Family Res	72,000	55,000	Constable, Harpur R	Bonker, Gary L
1/21/2016	Case Hill Rd	17.00	Rural vac>10	27,000	11,500	Foster, Raymond E	Gardepe, Leslie
1/22/2016	17 West St	0.50	1 Family Res	84,000	139,000	Sheppard, Mark C	Oliver, Matthew T
1/29/2016	2909 Merrickville Rd	2.62	1 Family Res	120,000	120,000	Pozalante, William	Speruzzi, Joseph L
1/29/2016	4189 Freer Hollow Rd	5.28	1 Family Res	112,000	160,000	Tarbell, Michael R	Glavin, Nada A
2/12/2016	1955 St Hwy 28 S	62.41	Rural res	100,000	165,000	Boger, Robert	Perrella, Frank
3/30/2016	1513 Snake Hill Rd	38.00	Rural res	214,000	167,300	Conway, Deborah A	Elmendorf, Brian
3/31/2016	2050 St Hwy 28 S	45.10	Rural vac>10	79,000	56,500	Costello, Richard M	Terry, Brian L
4/4/2016	Poet Hill Rd	7.07	Rural vac<10	20,000	15,000	Donnelly, Paula	Bratton, Adolphus
4/28/2016	9253 St Hwy 357	1.70	1 Family Res	99,000	125,000	Timoney, Hugh	Hotchkin,Christopher

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