

FRANKLIN FISCAL FOLLOW-UP

By Brian Brock

After having read in the spring issue of this newspaper about the 2014 audit of the Town of Franklin financial operations by the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), you might have wondered how it could be the first time that you learned of this critique. Arguably, this is because the town board did what it could to keep this report from the citizens -- legally and then some.

Now Report 2014M-32 can be inspected at the town hall during office hours. (It had been lost in the files.) The OSC is more accommodating. Anytime,

this audit can be read at your leisure, printed, or downloaded for free at: osc.state.ny.us/localgov/audits/towns/2014/franklin.pdf.

This audit of the fiscal year 2012 was extended into 2013 and then published in 2014. After reviewing a draft of this report, the town board responded with a letter to the OSC in April of 2014. After the report was published, the town board placed a copy in the town files and placed the required notice in the back of The Walton Reporter in May. After reviewing the final report, the town board submitted the required Corrective Action

See **FISCAL**, con’t on Pg. 17



View of Field with Barn, 1986, Charles Winters, film negative. The Farmers' Museum, Cooperstown, New York, Museum Purchase, F0002.2016(067)d.2.

TOO WET TO PLOW

Documenting Delaware and Otsego County Farmers, Thirty Years Later

By Christina Milliman

In 2015, The Farmers' Museum acquired all of the negatives and photographs by Charles Winters taken for his book with

Jean Simonelli, **TOO WET TO PLOW**. The book documents the story of farmers' lives through a compilation of stories and Charlie's memorable photo-documentation. Intimate portraits of men and women

who worked together to keep a farm running, and children who helped on the farm, were shown in black and white and vivid color. For some children, the farm was a playground of sorts, for others it was a means to learn about animals, the earth and growing food, or hard work. They saw their parents put in time, twenty-four/seven. A life of work; a life without long vacations and with little break.

The mid-1980s saw one of the greatest farm crises in the United States, when government involvement seemed necessary to keep the industry alive. Simonelli and Winters, both SUNY Oneonta professors, embarked on more than a year of late nights, early mornings and weekend jaunts to the hills and valleys of

See **TOO WET**, con’t on Pg. 7



1903 endurance rally automobiles at the start of the second day in Pine Hill, Ulster County NY. Courtesy of Robert Selkowitz, Catskill Conquest Pilot Rally Director.

VINTAGE AUTO RALLY TO RUN THROUGH FRANKLIN

Staff Report

Franklin will be one of seven checkpoints along the route of the Catskill Conquest Pilot Rally, from the Harley-Davidson Dealership in Stony Hollow, Ulster County to the Unadilla House, Otsego County, passing through Delaware County on Saturday and Sunday, September 23rd and 24th.

The course will be along State High-

ways 28 and 357, a distance of 90.9 miles. Any vintage auto may be entered for a fee of \$75. (The first entry is by Karl Darby, a past president of Horseless Carriage Club, with his 1913 Maxwell.) A dinner for as many as ninety will be held on Saturday night at the Andes Hotel, near the halfway point. The tab is \$45. The rally is not competitive, but there will be awards such as for the oldest car, the farthest entry, the most landmarks noted, and the person most knowledgeable of their entered car.

This rally commemorates an endurance run organized by the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers in 1903. It ran 800 miles from Weehawken NJ to Pittsburgh

See **RALLY**, con’t on Page 6

FIBER-OPTIC FINALLY!

A Leg-Up for Local Businesses

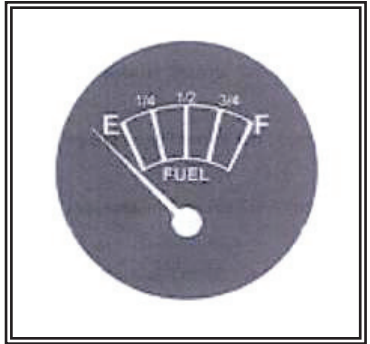
By Brian Brock

By the end of 2019, most of the Town of Franklin should finally have high-speed internet service delivered via fiber optic cable strung to your door. This is financed, in part, by a grant from Broadband New York to the Delaware County Broadband Initiative (DCBI), a partnership of Delhi Telephone Company, Margaretville Telephone Cooperative, and Delaware County Electric Cooperative, which formed in 2013.

Recently, an existing service provider, Frontier Communications, strung fiber-optic cable. Their system runs glass cable to Adtran boxes on poles but relies on twisted-pair copper wires from the box to the customer, possibly for miles. It currently delivers 20 million bits per second [Mb/s] or more, downloading.

From the group, DTC would be the service

See **FIBER**, con’t on Page 16



INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

REGULAR FEATURES:	
Neighbor's View	Pg. 2
In the Kitchen	Pg. 5
Green Bank Garden	Pg. 6
The Bare Truth	Pg. 10
Murder at the FM	Pg. 15
Real Estate Sales	Pg. 20
The Rumor Mill	Pg. 11

FRANKLIN LOCAL:	
Old Franklin Day	Pg. 2
Chamber Dance	Pg. 2
SCIG benefit auction	Pg. 3
Barlow's Redux?	Pg. 3
Sidney Center auction	Pg. 3
Dairy Princess	Pg. 4
Chamber gets grant	Pg. 4
Franklin Rotary	Pg. 4
Edible Trail Map	Pg. 5
Farmhouse I.D.	Pg. 18

FOCUS ON ENERGY:	
No Solar For Franklin	Pg. 8
No Nukes	Pg. 8
Infrastructure Update	Pg. 9
Colonizing Energy	Pg. 9

LOCAL ARTS:	
Garden Tour	Pg. 10
Book Reviews	Pg. 12
Bright Hill Poem	Pg. 12
Stagecoach Run	Pg. 13
Gallery Listings	Pg. 13
David Byrd Exhibit	Pg. 13
Summer at the FFL	Pg. 14



Your Neighbor's View...

PEERPRESSURE

For the past few years, grassroots organizations such as Stop The Pipeline, Compressor Free Franklin, People Not Pipelines, and Sustainable Otsego have provided environmentally conscious citizens with outlets for our social and political angst. More recently, when faced with the prospect of ratepayer subsidies for our aging nuclear fleet, the environmental community has bickered over the relative dangers posed by another ten years of nukes versus replacing the nukes with gas-fired generation. Everyone agrees that the third option - replacing all that nuclear capacity with renewables - would be a better course of action, but unfortunately, the go-green alternative lacks one fundamental prerequisite: public participation.

The environmental community is falling victim to its own successes: our grassroots organizations have gotten Albany's attention and whacked a few fossil fuel infrastructure projects on the head, but we may have allowed satisfaction with our collective efforts to tamp down our sense of *individual* responsibility. Most of us have used some version of the following excuse: "I'm part of the larger efforts, so wiser management of energy in my own life is not urgent enough to spark any immediate action."

Letting ourselves off the hook for our individual choices is to some extent directly responsible for our nuclear dilemma: if we had more renewable capacity coming on line faster, we would not be faced with

having only two bad options (keep the nukes or rely even more on gas.) Yes, we as individuals each have a tiny footprint, but if our collective efforts could enable even one nuclear plant closure, wouldn't that be a good thing? How can we get ourselves and our friends onto a greener home energy path?

Our inaction is abetted by many factors. There are so many green options, each of which may be appropriate for some situations and totally impractical in other situations. Worse still, reliable information about these options is comingled with advertising hype and corporate new-speak, so it is difficult to discern the real truth. And of course there is green fatigue - I'm all rallied out and can't deal with this right now - plus there's the inertial tendency of objects on the couch to stay on the couch.

One small action that we can all take is literally at our fingertips. Each of us could start using a signature on our emails that lists the individual energy efforts that we've made in our personal lives. Think of them as initials after your name, like MD or PhD or CSW. Here are a few suggestions:

5kwPV: I have 5 kilowatts of photovoltaics supplying my electricity

WTR-E: I have a small scale hydro-electric generator

WND-E: I have a wind turbine

Geo: I have a geothermal heating and cooling system

PEV: I drive a plug-in electric vehicle

HEV: I drive a hybrid

electric vehicle

STS: I have a solar thermal system

AR-ESCO: I buy my electricity from an all-renewable Energy Service Company

PSH: I have a passive solar house

HEA: I have had a home energy audit

CFL/LED: I have replaced all my incandescent light bulbs

MFFI: I have minimized my investments in fossil fuel companies

Appending this personal information to your emails and postings would serve several purposes. It would let people who are considering a green investment know that you've got some experience that they might find helpful. It would get people to think about alternatives that they have thus far not considered. And, possibly most importantly, putting all those appendages in people's faces might stimulate them (via embarrassment or envy) to make the decision to take a green leap themselves.

Some might call this proposal egotistical, or elitist, or even divisive, and they may be right. But after years of fighting off gassers and trenchers and climate deniers, I've grown a pretty tough skin, and I'll gladly take the barbs if it gets my friends to move from talking the talk to walking the walk.

Sincerely,

Stu Anderson, Otego
10kwPV

Geo

HEV

AR-ESCO

HEA

PSH

CFL/LED



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Franklin, NY 13775

the Squire's tankard

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ADDENDUM:

The Editor offered the following additions to Mr. Anderson's list:

CE: I compost everything

RE: I recycle everything

FV: I grow my own fruit and vegetables.

Proving that everything has its humorous side, Mr. Anderson replied:

SOTC: still on the couch

DIE: denial is easier

IWIYW: I will if you will

SSDSACC: someone (else) should do something about climate change

CHIVES CHARLIE BREMER

FRANKLIN FARMERS' MARKET

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Georgie Wonder
Orchestra

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SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST
2 TO 5 P.M.



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FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News
Local Events

Local Issues
Local Concerns



LUCKY DAY AUCTION: JULY 30th

By Michael Sellitti (Photos by the author)

The Sidney Center Improvement Group (SCIG) is an entirely volunteer community organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in and around the Hamlet of Sidney Center. To accomplish this, SCIG focuses on three main areas: community events, beautification projects, and clean water. To further this mission, SCIG must engage in fund raising. One of those efforts is the annual **Lucky Day Auction**, to be held on Sunday, July 30th from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Sidney Center Fire Department. The target of this year's fund raising will be to restore the only playground in Sidney Center.

Several years ago, the relocation of a stream to mitigate flooding in Sidney Center effectively cut the town park in half, requiring the removal of the baseball field and other features. Even before the stream relocation, no improvements had been made to the park in decades. Only a basketball court and four swings remain. The park is in dire need of being rehabilitated to create a safe, healthy, outdoor space for the children and families in our area. With the help of volunteers from the community, which will also include children, SCIG will work to revamp the park over the next year. All of the funds raised in this auction will be used to revitalize the Sidney Center Park & Playground in the following ways:

- Rehabilitation of the basketball court, swing set, and signage identifying the park
- New equipment and features to enhance the park for kids will include a slide, infant swings, playhouse, and other playground equipment
- Improvements to include picnic tables, permanent benches along the stream, safety lighting and other features that will make the park more enjoyable and safer for those of all ages in the community

• Making safe, easy access to the stream for educational purposes and for trout fishing

The Lucky Day Auction is a silent, quarter-auction event. You can bid on items donated by local, regional and national businesses, as well as unique, themed baskets put together by volunteers and works by local artists. There will be live music and plenty of children's entertainment.

This year, we are hosting a chili cook-off and pie bake-off. If you're interested in entering this event, please go to our Facebook page or our website to participate.

While this is happening, several other organizations will join in a community meet & greet. It's sure to be a fun-filled day of raising money for a great cause.

We hope to see you at our Lucky Day Auction, but if you would like to donate directly to this project, please contact us. Any donation made to this event is greatly appreciated and has our sincerest thanks. It is due to your support that SCIG has been able to accomplish so much already, of-



fering a chance for positive change in our community for over 10 years.

For more information about the SCIG and our events, projects and initiatives, please visit our website: www.SCIGNY.org or Facebook page: www.facebook.com/scigny. You may also call: 607-301-0479.

BARLOW'S REDUX?

By Marie Cummings

Good news about the Treadwell General Store, formerly Barlow's!

Glen Gaetano and his wife Rachel Phillips have a plan. The store needed extensive renovation, and Glen, a master carpenter, has been working on refurbishing it. To date, he has gutted the building with the intention of making the ground floor into two separate rooms. One will be occupied by a designer dog food operation that has used the space for their business since last fall. The meat comes from their own farm, and the food is frozen and shipped around the country.

The other part of the store will become a wholesale bakery run by the Gaetanos' daughter. Glen's plan is to make the whole front of the store into a cafe, serving sandwiches and baked goods. He hopes to open by summer of 2018. He will finish the upstairs as an apartment that he and Ra-



The former Barlow's store in Treadwell

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

By Patricia Tyrell

Congratulations to Franklin Central School's Class of 2017.

In the immortal words of Dr. Seuss:

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.

You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.

You're on your own. And you know what you know.

You are the person who'll decide where you go."

Good luck and best wishes in your endeavors!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Franklin Community Education Foundation's spring flower sale. A total of 176 flower baskets were sold, raising a total of \$860. We could not have been more pleased! A special thank you to John Campbell and the Franklin Railroad and Community Museum for use of the barn and parking lot for easy customer pick-up.

To carry-on the positive momentum, tickets for the first annual Huge End of Summer Raffle will be on sale beginning in late June, with winners to be drawn at New Old Franklin Day, Saturday, August 26th. Tickets are \$20 each and only 300 will be sold. Each ticket enters you in three prize drawings: for \$400, \$300 and \$200 gift cards at Wal-Mart. [See advertisement on Page 19]

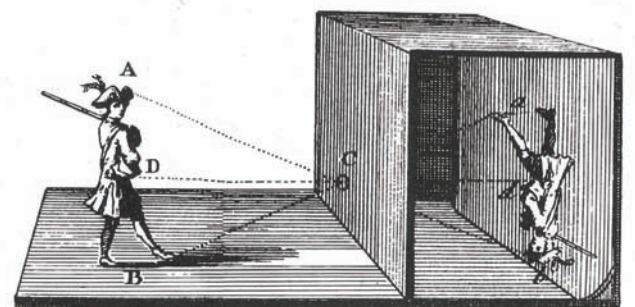
Tickets can be purchased from any Franklin Community Education Foundation member and at advertised locations or events. For more information, or to purchase tickets, call (607) 829-3492.

The Franklin Community Education Foundation supports extracurricular and supplemental educational opportunities to the youth and students of Franklin - from cradle to career.

chel will eventually occupy.

During the Stagecoach Run Art Festival, Glen will collaborate with his brother-in-law Aaron Phillips and Yasmeen Hoosenally to create a Camera Obscura installation inside the store. Visitors are invited to come inside to watch the projection: a meditation on life on the Treadwell Road, featuring the comings and goings of festival goers.

A perfect opportunity for the curious among us to take a peek inside the store and see how much has been accomplished!



Antique drawing of a camera obscura
Courtesy of Wikipedia

Also referred to as a pinhole image, a Camera Obscura is the natural optical phenomenon that occurs when an image of a scene on the far side of a wall is projected through a small hole in that wall, and is seen as a reversed and inverted image (left to right and upside down) on a surface opposite to the opening.





CHAMBER NEWS

GFCC GETS GRANT TO PROMOTE BUSINESS

By Patricia Tyrell

The Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce, through a collaboration with Franklin Local, Ltd., has won a grant of \$322 by the Delaware County Tourism Advisory Board, as part of the newly formed Tourism Promotion and Development Grant program. The award, along with matching dollars from project sponsors, will pay for Franklin business information rack cards, event and visitor information pamphlets, and local event advertising on social media platforms.

PERSON/BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARDS:

The Chamber is also pleased to announce the winners of the annual Person and Business of the Year Awards.

The Person(s) of the Year award recognizes community-minded individuals within the Greater Franklin area who have distinguished themselves through outstanding contributions of support and service to the area, thereby making a positive impact on the community. This year's award goes to Tom Morgan and Erna Morgan-McReynolds.

The Business of the Year award goes to a member business, established for more than three years, and having an outstanding record of business stability and growth, as well as community involvement. This year's winner is The Squire's Tankard and owner, Donna Briggs.

FCS senior Mallory Jordan is the recipient of the Chamber's annual \$200 graduating student college scholarship prize.

Awardees will be honored at the Chamber's Annual Picnic on Saturday, July 22, 2017.

Wrapping up the summer with New Old Franklin Day on Saturday, August 26th, the Chamber is working hard to organize an even better celebration, with more children's activities, live music all day, vendors, sales and special events. Please join us for a fun filled day.

Visit our website at www.franklinny.org for tickets and information about the Annual Picnic and updates on New Old Franklin Day.

The Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce strives to foster a thriving business environment in our community by sponsoring events and facilitating business relationships.

FRANKLIN ROYALTY YET AGAIN

Staff Report

This May, for the third year in a row, a Franklin Central School sophomore became the reigning county Dairy Princess. At the 55th Annual Delaware Country Coronation in South Kortright Central School, Juliana Archibald, age 16, was crowned princess. Morgan Hungerford of South Kortright was crowned alternate princess.

They were crowned by last year's princess, Sabra Warner, and alternate princess, Malorie Jordan, both of Franklin. Previously Ms. Archibald served as a dairy ambassador for five years.

Last year, in turn, Ms. Warner was crowned by the previous princess, Ms. Jordan.

Juliana Archibald is the daughter of Jamie and Amanda Archibald. Mr. Archibald is deputy superintendent of Franklin High-

way Department.

Ms. Archibald comes from several generations of dairymen. She is a member of 4-H and the Jersey Cattle Club, and for several years has shown her cows at the Delaware County Fair.

At FCS, she is a member of the Student Council and the National Honor Society. Out on the field, Ms. Archibald plays baseball, soccer, and softball.

Her first official duty was to ride in Franklin's Memorial Day Parade until the threat of rain moved the ceremonies indoors. Ms. Archibald looks forward to her role as the local spokesperson for the dairy industry and as educator to children about dairy products.

This annual coronation is hosted by the Delaware County Dairy Production Committee and the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce.

WHAT ROTARY DOES FOR YOU:

THE FRANKLIN ROTARY CLUB

By Donald Hebbard

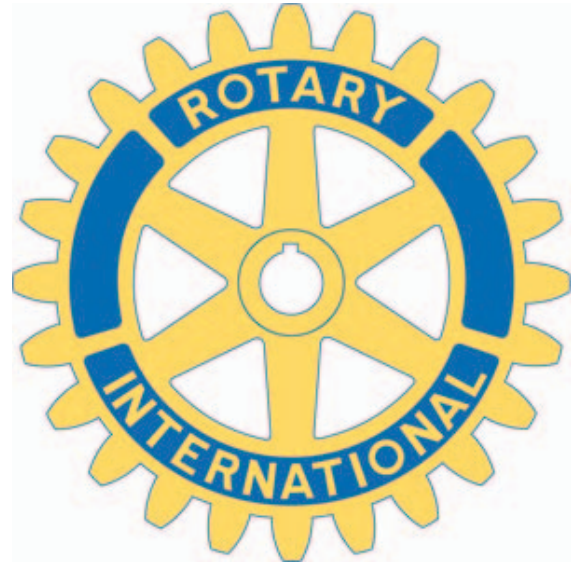
Rotary International is a service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and to advance goodwill and peace around the world. It is a non-political and non-sectarian organization open to all people regardless of race, color, creed, religion, gender, or political preference. There are currently 34,282 member clubs worldwide, with 1.2 million members, called Rotarians.

Rotary's operational year runs from July 1 to the following June 30. The Franklin Rotary Club was chartered in 1946-47 by Franklin business professionals, so 2016-2017 represents seventy years of community service by the Franklin Club, with twenty-two civic-minded men and women from the Franklin-Treadwell area volunteering their time to fulfill the Rotary motto: "Service Above Self".

Visible, hands-on Rotary activities include placing and decorating the Christmas trees that line Franklin's Main Street each year, removing the trash along Route 357 for a mile in both directions from the Village, maintaining the abandoned Baptist cemetery on the knoll on the Stalter farm at the intersection of 357 and County Route 14, and placing flags for Memorial Day on the resting places of soldiers buried there.

Less visible, but no less important, is the support Rotary provides to the Franklin-Treadwell Food Bank, the Franklin Fire Department, Catskill Area Hospice, Franklin Stage Company, as well as providing refreshments at local events like Old Franklin Day and Frank Walker's Auction. On a wider scale, Rotary supports the Delaware County Dairy Princess Program, Delaware County 4-H Program, and has sponsored education beyond grade school for children in Mexico. Contributions to the Shelter Box Program have provided emergency housing for families experiencing disasters in the U.S. as well as abroad.

We are especially proud of the support provided to our children. Rotary provides books for the Head Start Program, dic-



tionaries every year for each child in the Third Grade, graduation awards to four seniors each year, and supports the Franklin Honor Society and the Franklin Community Education Foundation. We send one member of the Junior Class to the Rotary Youth Leadership Program, held at Hartwick College each summer, to work with trained leaders and other youths, gaining skills they will use all their lives.

Over the years, Franklin Rotary has sponsored many youths in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. Since 1964, Rotary International has sent young people around the globe to experience new cultures. This is usually a reciprocal arrangement where one of our students goes abroad and in return, we host a student from that country. Currently, about 9,000 students are sponsored by Rotary clubs every year. Typically, students will live with multiple host families during a year-long stay. They are expected to perform daily tasks within the household, as well as attend school in the host country.

This experience has a profound effect on these students, fostering an understanding of cultural differences and international brotherhood. For many, it is a life-changing event: the basis for future travel or vocational opportunities. Franklin Rotary has participated in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program since its beginning, often resulting in life-long relationships with students we hosted in our homes.

A challenge over the years has been to identify families in the Franklin Central School District willing to host an international student. Often, a visiting student arrives with a vision of America based upon movies or videos they have seen, so it is preferred to have the student stay with three different families during the school

See **ROTARY**, continued on Page 17



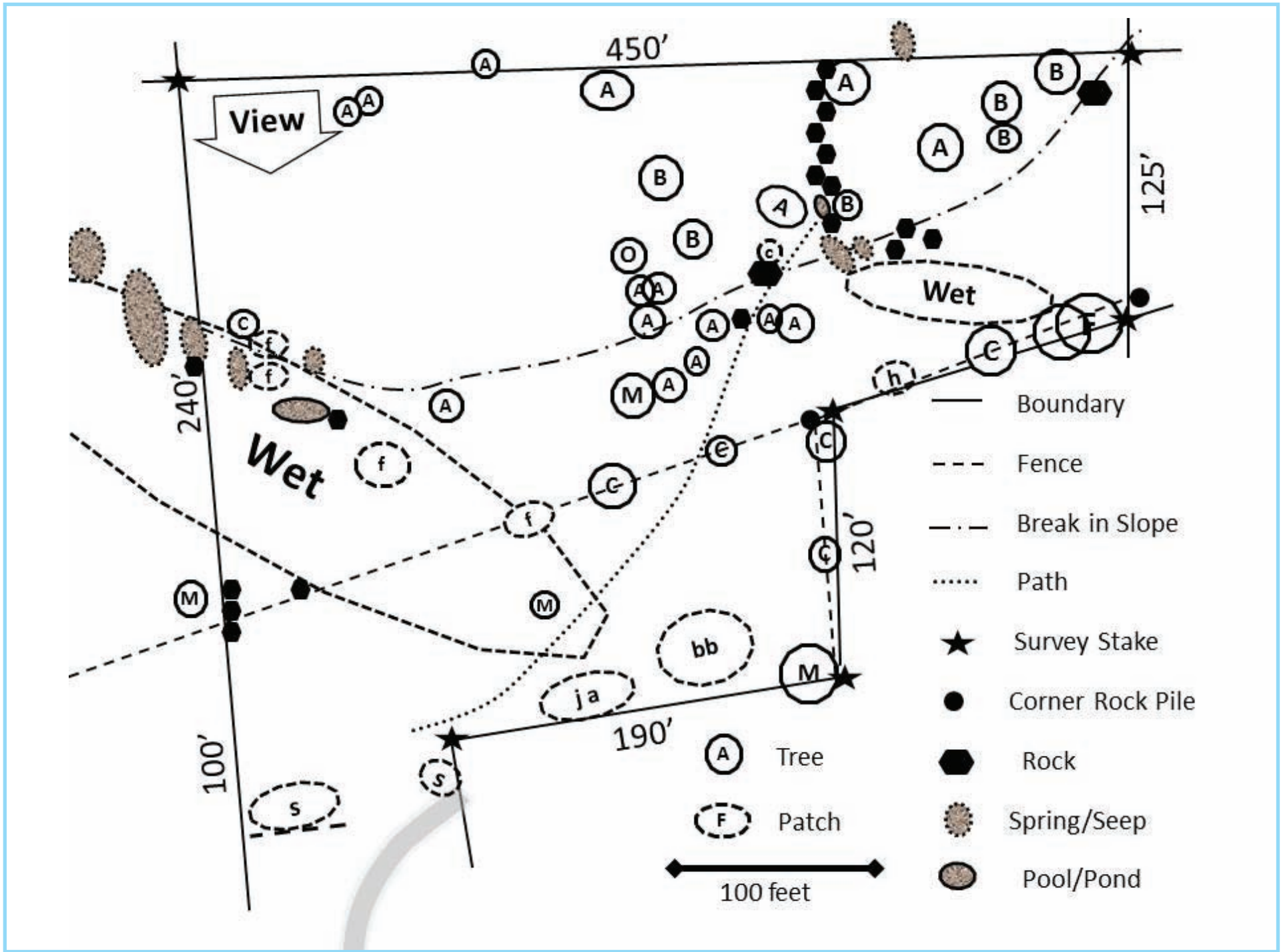
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MAP OF EDIBLE PLANTS TRAIL IN OUR VILLAGE PARK



Key to plants:
A=Apple, B=Beech, C=Cherry, F=Fir, M=Maple, O=Oak
bb=black berry, c=currant, f=ferns, j=jerusalem artichokes, h=hops, s=sumac
Map compiled and drawn by Brian Brock



Public Health
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Delaware County
Public Health Services

Promoting
Healthy
People Living in
Healthy & Thriving
Communities

FRANKLIN RABIES CLINIC
Franklin Fire Hall
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607-832-5200

http://delawarecountypublichealth.com/event/franklin-rabies-clinic-2/?instance_id=257
<http://delawarecountypublichealth.com/programs/rabies/>

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IN THE KITCHEN

With Sue Avery

ZUCCHINI WITH CORIANDER VINAIGRETTE
Yield: eight or more servings

1 1/2 - 2 lbs. zucchini (or yellow squash)
2 -3 large, sweet, seedless oranges
1 large red onion, peeled, cut into rings
2 tbs. white vinegar
1/4 cup good olive oil
1/4 tsp. sugar
3/4 tsp. ground coriander
salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Trim and discard ends of the zucchinis.
Cut into half inch lengths.
Place in basket of vegetable steamer.
Steam for about 5 minutes, till crisp-tender.
Do not over-cook.
Transfer zucchini to a bowl. Let cool.
Peel the oranges. Cut into wedges or slices. (Should be about 1 1/2 cups.)
Add to bowl. Add onions, mix gently and chill thoroughly.
Meanwhile, combine remaining ingredients and blend thoroughly. Pour over the chilled contents of the bowl and toss well.

GREENBANKSGARDENING

With Deborah Banks

THE SUMMER GARDEN Mid-summer is approaching, with its bouts of heat and humidity, and its plague of Japanese beetles. In the garden, we're tired of weeding and perhaps a bit bored now that all the excitement is over. The tulips and daffodils are long gone, along with the shade garden thrillers like trillium and primulas. The lilacs, rhododendrons, irises, peonies, even many of the roses have had their day and left only green leaves behind. What's left to keep us in the garden until fall?

Daylilies are the mainstay of many a summer garden, of course. The hybridizers have given us flowers with frills, double and triple petals, and complex color combinations. You can find daylilies to complement any color scheme you can imagine. They require sun, a good deal of space and the willingness to deadhead the plants nearly every day. A daylily in bloom is a beautiful sight... unless the dead flowers from day before yesterday are still hanging from every stalk and plastered to the new buds just trying to open.

There are many other plants to love in July and August. *Hydrangea paniculatas* like 'Quick Fire' and 'Limelight' provide weeks, no, months of pleasure. I have one called 'The Swan' near the back door that has outsized petals of pure white. Glorious! *Penstemon digitalis* varieties like 'Dark Towers' and 'Mystica' are handsome plants with reddish leaves and stalks of flowers shaped like foxglove. They last for weeks, then leave glistening dark red seeds. Veronica 'Royal Candles' and V. 'Sunny Border Blue' add long-lasting blue spires much loved by

bees. *Crocsmia* 'Lucifer' adds gladiolus-like foliage and blooms of scarlet red.

There are ligularias for every damp shady spot you can find. *Ligularia dentata* 'Britt Marie Crawford' has round burgundy leaves and stalks of gold daisies. *Ligularia dentata* 'Desdemona' is a larger scaled version with green leaves. *Ligularia* 'The Rocket' has large green leaves with toothed edges and dark stalks furred in yellow blossoms. My favorite is *Ligularia japonica*, a magnificent plant forming a mound of large deeply cut leaves. When its stalks of golden daisies appear, it tops five feet. This one is worth the effort of limbing up whatever tree you stuck it under. All the Ligularias are attractive to slugs, so be vigilant with your beer traps, iron phosphate bait, ducks, or whatever your favorite weapon is.

Phlox paniculata or



Hydrangea 'Limelight'

summer phlox will enthusiastically fill your garden if you let it, with uninspiring foliage that may mildew when crowded. And any spot you put it *will* be crowded by phlox in short order. Then in late July and August, you remember why you planted it as the long-lasting fragrant blooms appear. There are mildew resistant varieties like David, Jeana, Bright Eyes, Blue Paradise, Miss Lingard and others. Be careful not to choose varieties that have no fragrance.

There are others. The

prairie plants like *Echinacea* (coneflower), *Rudbeckia* (black-eyed Susan), *Coreopsis* and *Liatris* flower happily through the summer's heat. Variegated perennials and shrubs relieve the masses of green foliage. One of my favorites is *Cornus alba* 'Elegantissima', the variegated red-twig dogwood. It has leaves of pale green edged in white and is beautiful in a shrub border or planted in front of that dark spruce in the corner of the yard.

But I've saved the best for last. Lilies! Asiatic, Chinese trumpets, Oriental, Orienpet, Martagon – they all offer beauty, perfume and magic in the garden. The Asiatics bloom in June and July. The Chinese trumpet, Oriental and Orienpet lilies come later in July and August.

Lilies do best with some sun, great drainage and a little compost or manure. They need almost no space. Planted in the fall, they can be tucked in between clumps of perennials, or next to ornamental grasses. They look amazing in the middle of a bed of daylilies. Lily bulbs are big and expensive, so your chances of hitting them with a shovel when digging in their bed are pretty good. I try to leave the browning lily stalks in place until I am finished with my autumn bulb planting to remind me of their location.

Some of my favorite lilies are tall, including *Lilium* 'Samur', L. 'Casa Blanca', L. Conca D'or and L. 'Rio Negro'. The blackish red of shorter *Lilium* 'Landini' adds drama to a garden bordering on too much pastel. Martagon lilies like 'Black Beauty' and 'Sunny Morning' look nice at the edge of the shade garden.

Plant lilies and the world will know you for a smart and experienced gardener. You will also become a vigilant one, as the chipmunks and squirrels that loved your tulip bulbs are getting hungry again. And rumor has it that the red lily beetle is headed north, so plant your full quota of lilies now and enjoy them while you can.



Construction has begun on a handicapped accessible entrance to the Franklin Free Library. Once completed, patrons will no longer have to climb three flights of stairs to enter the building. Instead, they will use a level path from the sidewalk to the basement, where they can take an elevator to the main floor.

These improvements are being financed by generous grants from the O'Connor Foundation and a New York State Library Construction Grant. The work should be completed by the end of the summer.

Photo by Jim Mullen

RALLY, continued from Page 1

PA. Thirty-four competing automobiles from seventeen different manufacturers departed on October 7 and traveled north up the Hudson Valley, then west through the Catskill Mountains. Reaching Delhi on the second day in a driving rain, they slogged onward through Franklin and Unadilla, and from there, farther west through Binghamton, Bath, and Buffalo, before turning southwest through Eire to Cleveland. The route then turned southeast to Youngstown and Pittsburgh, arriving on the 15th. Twenty-five autos finished, including two from the Franklin Automotive Company of Syracuse – a third car caught fire just before reaching Franklin.

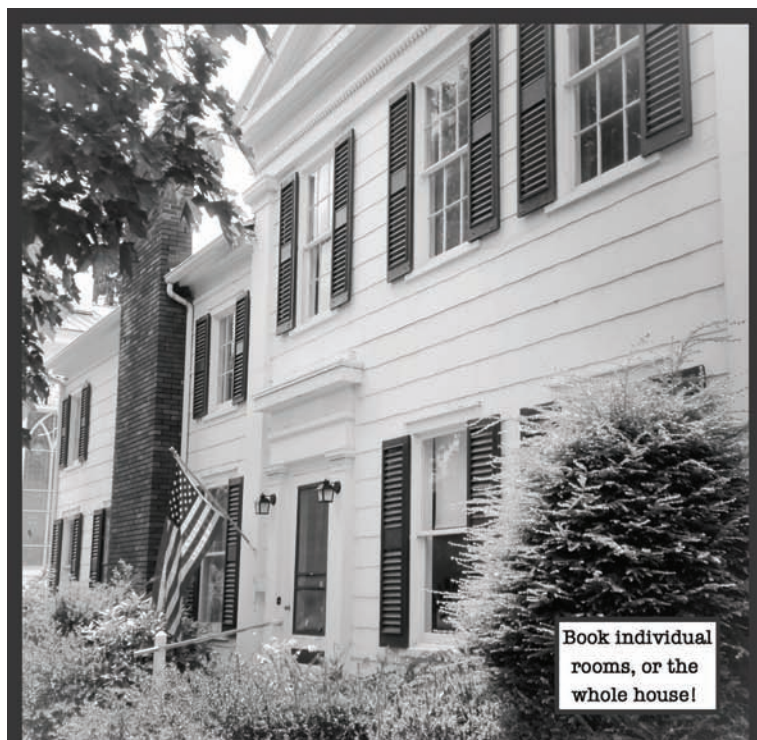
The seven checkpoints are the villages and hamlets of Mt. Trempler, Pine Hill, Margaretville, Andes, Delhi, Franklin, and finally Unadilla. At the Franklin checkpoint, the Franklin Railroad and Community Museum will be open and offering light refreshments. Rotary will sell lunches at the Rich Family Farmhouse.

Plans are for this to be the first (i.e. pilot) of an annual rally with an extended route.

For information and registration, go to:

1903autorun.com.

The organizer is Robert Selkowitz of Shokan. The local contact is John Campbell.



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TOOWET, continued from Page 1
Delaware and Otsego Counties to document the small farming communities of upstate New York.

They met many a farmer. From young couples just starting out, to seasoned pairs, to children taking over after several generations.



Discing the Field, 1987, Charles Winters, film negative.
The Farmers' Museum, Cooperstown, New York, Museum Purchase, F0002.2016(045)c.1.

Life may have appeared bucolic at times, but it was dirt and grit. Long summers in fields of hay and corn; long winters keeping animals fed hauling grain, hay and silage; keeping cows milked, entryways and buildings plowed out. Winter was only a slight break from the weary, well-worn days of summer work. Spring brought new life in the way of nature, whether in the form of new crops or new calves born that would later succeed their mothers in keeping the herd going. At the turn of the summer season, autumn brought with it the bounty and harvest that was the reward of hours of hard work put in during the spring and summer.

Winters and Simonelli documented the sense of community built from the annual Memorial Day parade, church dinners, and the daily chats with the letter carrier, whom you could always count on to be on time. The photographs offer an intimate glimpse inside barns and into the cleaning and sanitizing of equipment. They show the life of a farm family, affectionately recording the two-year-old learning to ride his tricycle in the barn aisles or the couple about to retire from farming after decades of commitment.

They illustrate to us the fun times of basketball, and the hard times of losing a farm. Other parts of daily life such as barn dances, hair-cuts, Sunday dinners and fixing the seeder or tractor that just keeps breaking down, are personified. Life on the farm was hard, but in many ways rewarding, too. When it was too wet to plow, there was always more work to be done, you needn't look too far. As Jean Simonelli quoted one farmer: "Can't dance, too wet to plow...but then, we don't plow in the fall anymore, anyway. We just

wait for springtime."
As part of this collecting initiative, The Farmers' Museum is asking for your help in identifying some of the people, families and farms recorded in 1986 and 1987 for TOO WET TO PLOW.
In the collection are portraits of folks that we hope to identify and learn more about, as well as farms that we would like to identify....please contact us if you are interested in helping out!



Farm in Delaware County, ca. 1986-1987, Charles Winters, film negative.
The Farmers' Museum, Cooperstown, New York, Museum Purchase, F0002.2016(069)e.5.


If you are from any of the following towns or hamlets: Treadwell, Bloomville, Delhi, Masonville, Meridale, Delancey, Davenport, Stamford, Jefferson, Coventry, Milford,

Oneonta, Cherry Valley, Laurens or others, please contact us if you are interested in helping out!

If you, a family member, or someone you know was involved in the making of this book, please contact Christina Milliman, Curator of Photography at c.milliman@Farmersmuseum.org or (607) 547-1442. We look forward to hearing about you, your family, friends or neighbors and learning the stories of the last thirty years of folks involved in this great book and project!


To see more of Winters' photographs and others in the *Plowline* collection, visit plowline.farmers-museum.org.

Christina Milliman is Curator of Photography, The Farmers' Museum and Fenimore Art Museum.



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FOCUS ON ENERGY

COLONIZING THE COUNTRYSIDE

By Dan Sullivan

Most New Yorkers think of our Colonial period as that long-ago era when the European powers held our real estate, tried to control our ancestors to an unreasonable degree, and were summarily kicked out by the Patriots and allies. They may also remember the Colonial periods in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, if they can remember Social Studies class in any detail. Whatever their depth of thought, though, almost all New Yorkers consider the Colonial period over and done with. Gone.

Not so, perhaps, if you are a resident of rural New York State.

A practice that may be referred to as Economic Colonialism has been and is being practiced by energy companies in an area of the state that certain developers fondly call the "Golden Triangle": that is, the area within the triangle roughly defined by Albany, Binghamton and Syracuse, with I-90, I-88 and I-81 as approximate boundaries.

Why this designation?

Developers love this area because it's one they can easily exploit. Towns, villages and cities in this region tend to have poorly developed land use or zoning regulations, often none at all. The majority of these municipalities have no comprehensive plans in place. The great majority possess scant resources, human or capital, to fend off development that they may not be in favor of.

So it should be of little surprise that the area is crisscrossed with pipelines underground and transmission lines overhead, and studded with wind turbines and solar arrays. More recently, the area's roads and rails have carried Pennsylvania fracked gas and Bakken crude; the terms "bomb trains" and "bomb trucks" are frequently heard.

It's been going on, and it's likely to continue, due to the factors outlined above, but it doesn't mean that people aren't noticing. And many of those are fighting back.

Take the issue of industrial wind development.

While several projects have been built and have been operating, some have been stopped in their tracks. Two projects, in East Meredith in Delaware County (the subject of the 2011 documentary film *Windfall*) and in the Town of Richfield in Otsego County, have not been built. In both cases, strong local opposition has so far prevailed. It should be pointed out that the opponents of these



projects are not against renewable energy; they are against the economic colonization of their communities by unscrupulous developers.

Other communities have fought off these projects by means of effective legislation. The Towns of Columbia and Litchfield are two that come to mind. The Town of Richfield passed a resolution opting out of tax exemptions for renewable energy projects. In this last instance, the Town is not opposed to renewable energy, only to projects of the huge scale the motion is designed to protect against.

It should be noted that small wind power can be a viable option for individuals who wish to generate their own electricity, or a portion of it. Small windmills have been in use for centuries the world over; they do not blight the landscape; they are easily avoidable by birds and bats, and finally, they are the antithesis of industrial wind in the sense that they harness energy for strictly local consumption: no colonizing of the resource to extract and profit from.

The fight against fracking and fracking infrastructure is better known across the region, and the State ban on fracking within our borders has not diminished the struggle. Aside from

the Constitution Pipeline fight, many other battles are being fought against fracking infrastructure. The Franklin compressor project and the Minden compressor station expansion, and the growing problem of the aforementioned "bomb trucks" winding their way along our roads, are three issues within the Triangle. Local resistance to these projects is growing, and becoming increasingly organized, through ad hoc citizen groups like Compressor-Free Franklin, and more established organizations, like Otsego 2000.

Which leads us to the realization of a silver lining of sorts. Through all these battles runs the trend of growing citizen involvement. All across the region, town and village boards are being attended by more residents and, as documented in the film *Windfall*, the composition of some town and village boards is changing. With its home rule structure, New York State is a place where participatory democracy can be practiced effectively, and that is exactly what's happening in response to the threats posed by Economic Colonialism.

Let's keep up the good work!

Dan Sullivan is an organic farmer and Town of Richfield Planning Board member who advocates for the redevelopment of small, local communities through economic development, historic preservation and energy conservation.

NO SOLAR FOR FRANKLIN...AT LEAST NOT YET

By Don Hebbard

With a heavy heart, I report that the Community Shared Solar grant has been denied. While this does not mean the project is dead, it does force an extension of the timeline for implementation until we find another source of funding. The grant was intended to cover the upfront costs of a feasibility study, which would confirm or deny our project as a viable one.

In January 2017, the Franklin Railroad and Community Museum offered to be the sponsoring community organization to apply to the Environmental Justice Community [EJ] Impact Grant Program from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. DEC's Office of Environmental Justice offers Community Impact Grants to provide community-based organizations with funding for projects that address various environmental and public health concerns.

The Community Impact Grants program started in 2006. Since then, DEC's Office of Environmental Justice has awarded more than \$4 million in 121 grants to organizations statewide that have made exceptional improvements in the communities they serve. Funded projects include research, community gardens, tree plantings, education and curriculum de-

velopment, urban farming training, habitat restoration, water quality monitoring, and air quality monitoring.

Another grant area was aimed specifically at addressing climate change impacts and included improving energy performance of buildings, weatherization, smart grid options, and low or no emission energy. Our application for a Community Shared Solar facility grant fell under this low or no emission energy production category. Working with Southern Tier Solar Works and Taitem Engineering, we developed a detailed budget for the required feasibility study. Then John Campbell and Justin Ash worked tirelessly to get through the pre-application qualification and then the detailed grant application process.

This grant program has a specific focus on low-income and minority communities that have historically been burdened by environmental problems. Those environmental problems include a large number of regulated facilities, contaminated sites, noise, air and water pollution, health problems and lack of green space and waterfront access. The Community Impact Grants empower stakeholders to be actively engaged in finding solutions to the disproportionate burdens that EJ communities may experience. It is

See **SOLAR**, continued on Page 16



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INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Compiled by Brian Brock

January: **Xpress Natural Gas** begins receiving tanker-truck shipments of compressed natural gas from Forest Lake, Susquehanna County PA at their Manheim Center Station in Little Falls, Herkimer County NY for input into the Iroquois Pipeline, which runs just to the west of this station. The preferred local leg of this transport route from State Highway 17 to Oneonta is north up State Highway 41 and then northeast up Interstate Highway 88. An alternate route is northeast up State Highway 10, north up County Highway 21, and northeast up State Highways 357 and 28, which would pass through Franklin for 20 miles. Compressed gas is stored in four carbon-fiber tanks (two over two) which are enclosed in a typical rectangular trailer box, white, and unmarked or with the XNG logo.

Last year, US DOT approved these trucks, but NYS DOT has not. Natural gas is compressed to 3,500 psi in these tankers -- twice the pressure of a transport pipeline. Each truck can transport the equivalent of 0.35 million cubic feet at standard pressure and temperature. Manheim station can transfer 50 mcf/d, which would accommodate 142 trucks or roughly 6 per hour. By comparison, the Constitution Pipeline could transport 650 mcf/d or 13 times the rate of this virtual transport pipeline.

May 8th: President Trump nominates Neil Chatterjee and Robert Powelson to **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)**. Currently FERC lacks a quorum and therefore can not transact business. If these two are approved by the senate, then a quorum could be re-established.

May 24th: Jason Miller, general manager of **Delhi Telephone Company**, presents to a special meeting of the town board a plan to string fiber-optic trunk lines for broadband internet through most of Franklin in 2017/18, thereby competing with existing service-provider Frontier Communications.

NO NUKES!

By Gene Marner

Sometimes, the best constructed arguments may fail by neglecting the wider context for the discussion. On May 12, engineer and environmentalist Keith Schue published a guest commentary in the Oneonta *Daily Star*, arguing that existing New York State nuclear plants should not be decommissioned before the expiration of their licenses in about twelve years. Their electrical production, he argues, would be replaced by fracked gas, and the resultant production of greenhouse gases, he demonstrates convincingly, would be very damaging to the climate. “Up to 180 million tons of additional carbon dioxide pumped into the atmosphere,” writes Schue. “That translates to many hundreds of Marcellus gas wells — a lot more fracking. Add methane leakage, and the greenhouse gas impacts are beyond enormous.”

I believe that this is correct—as far as it goes. But there is another way to limit the greenhouse gas impacts and I feel it is the one that will, in the end, do the job.

Keith begins his piece by declaring, “As an environmentalist, engineer, and veteran of the shale wars, I appreciate facts.” Although I am no engineer, I share his respect for facts. But there aren’t enough facts here and not enough context. Towards the end of his piece, Keith writes, “many engineers and scientists... view advanced nuclear power as a necessary component of any realistic strategy for combating climate change while meeting the energy needs of a growing world.”

Keith’s argument founders on the assumptions con-

tained in this sentence, for there is a vast difference between *energy wants* and *energy needs*, an important distinction. We all want energy to relieve us of life’s onerous labors. For nearly two centuries, fossil fuels have done just that. Almost every human being alive is the beneficiary of the easy life that fossil fuels enabled. Very few of us, at least in the industrialized world, have toiled as our ancestors did. If the earth can no longer satisfy our *energy wants*, it would be well to examine our true *energy needs*.



Even more egregious is the notion that we live on a *growing world*. Of course, Keith knows that the earth and its materials are not growing. What is growing is the human presence on the earth and the colossal destruction we wreak. As an environmentalist, Keith knows very well that our species has reached a turning point. If we continue to grow our numbers and the desolation that industrial civilization leaves behind, we’ll prove ourselves no smarter than yeast. As Richard Heinberg wrote years ago, if you add yeast to a vat of grape juice, those simple single-celled organisms will rapidly consume the sugars in the juice while secreting alcohol and reproducing like crazy until the amount of alcohol becomes toxic and the yeast dies. Our present climate crisis and our many toxic waste crises are just more complex versions of



XNG tanker trucks waiting to be filled with compressed natural gas in the parking lot of the Forest Lake compressor station, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania.
Photo by William Huston

the vat of grape juice. Are we cleverer than yeast? We shall see.

Keith’s argument for the nuclear plants is another version of the “bridge fuel” claim made for fracked gas. Nuclear power, just like the so-called “renewables” - wind, solar, hydro, biomass, etc. - is an artifact of the fossil fuel age. No nuclear plants could have been built without diesel fuel to haul the materials, power the machinery, mine the fuel, run the back-up generators, and some day, let us hope, dispose of the spent fuel now accumulating in pools adjacent to nuclear plants where earthquakes or terrorists can suddenly make hundreds of square miles uninhabitable.

Similarly, the components of solar panels, wind turbines, hydro dams, etc. are all mined, manufactured, installed and maintained using fossil fuels. Neither nuclear power nor the renewables can deliver the tremendous energy return on energy invested that fossil fuels have given us, so keeping the nuclear plants boiling away while we wait for a dubious renewable future leaves us in a far more precarious position than ever before. How so?

Nuclear power plants usually have a license life of forty years. Then, because the owners don’t want to

invest money in them, they often apply for license extensions, and they get them because politicians don’t want to be accused of wrecking the economy by closing the facilities. But these plants - there are 450 around the world - eventually must be decommissioned and a place found for the vast quantities of contaminated materials left over when the plants are closed. Decommission-

world will face 450 potential Chernobyls and Fukushima (neither of which has been resolved at a time of still abundant resources).

I promised an alternative proposal for reducing greenhouse gases. It is not as appealing as the idea that there really is a renewable substitute for fossil fuels that will keep life easy and comfortable. But it is, in my view, the most hopeful outcome. That is a

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ing a nuclear plant is expected to take something like twenty years and cost billions of dollars. Where are those resources going to come from in the energy constrained future we now face? We should decommission those 450 plants while we still have the financial and energy resources to do it, or the

radically simpler life and a less complex society. That means, among many other things, a return to local economies, artisanal rather than industrial production, local governance. Given the preferences of most people, I doubt that we’ll get there voluntarily. But I believe it is where, with luck, we shall end up.



annals of sustainability



We are what we experience throughout our lives. Reading has inspired me to do the things I have done and to live a lifestyle outside of mainstream society.

Much of my early inspiration came from the National Geographic magazine. Unlike many young boys, I devoured stories about the wilderness for the content, not the nude natives. One article described life in Siberia and featured a rugged fifty year-old living a sustenance lifestyle. Another described the end of gold mining in Alaska due to low prices and the Second World War. There were articles about the caribou herds and huge salmon runs, and bears, lots of bears. Black bears and giant brown bears inhabit Alaska's great lands. Monstrous man-killing polar bears stalk villages in the north.

Film also influenced my life decisions. In the sixties, theaters would show fillers between the main features. These short film clips of Alaska and its people had a profound effect on my young psyche. I began to view society as something to take in small doses. I once read a time study of modern man's lifestyle. A man with a family of three would work ten years to provide food for them. Twenty years to provide a home, etc., etc. I vowed to break out of that mold. I decided early on to become a homesteader. Like the early settlers, I would take a barren piece of land and build a home and life for my family.

THE BARE TRUTH

By Robert Lamb

(Photos by the author)

After graduating high school in 1975 with a young bride and first child, I was devastated to learn Alaska no longer offered land for homesteading. The program had ended a year earlier. After the birth of my second child, their mother left. With custody of two children, the prospect of ever seeing the land I dreamed so much about seemed remote.

As fate would have it, I met a beautiful young woman who shared my vision of a simple lifestyle. We purchased fifteen wooded acres on the edge of the Catskill Mountains. We started out in an old office trailer and with my two children and our six-month-old son, we began our lives as urban homesteaders. We put in gardens and raised animals. We had cows and pigs, chickens and turkeys. We hunted and fished. Meanwhile, we had to keep jobs. Unlike homesteading in Alaska, here in New York we have to pay taxes for the privilege of owning land. We needed autos to get to work, and of course we needed insurance on the cars and property. So many demands on a man's time can leave little time to enjoy it all. I have no regrets about my choices. I am proud to have never used fossil fuels to heat my home. I still cut my own firewood.

As the years went by and the

kids moved out on their own, I was suddenly flooded with the desire to follow some of my earlier dreams. I applied for a job in Denali, Alaska, and that is how Alaska became my mistress. While working there allowed me to see Alaska, it was not enough; I had to experience Alaska. I wanted to feel it, smell it and revel in its

wildness. I wanted a piece of it for my own. I purchased five acres near Indian River from the state, and my best friend Jared helped me build a cabin with views of

bought another piece of wilderness heaven.

President Roosevelt set aside five thousand square miles of wilderness around Prince William Sound called the Chugach National Forest. It sits among several state parks. Wilderness as God created it, with no humans for sixty miles around. It is here, surrounded by towering glacier-topped mountains and a bay full of life, that my soul feels at home. With eagles soaring overhead and bears inhabiting my dreams, I am home. The breaching Minke whales and chattering rafts of otters make the bay a natural entertainment. There are five kind of salmon, as well as halibut and rockfish. Moose and Sitka deer share the forest and tundra with the black and brown bears.

What more could a wandering spirit ask for?



The cabin near Denali

Denali, the tallest mountain on the North American continent. I felt I had finally come home. Home to something I had only ever read about. The land was fifty miles from the nearest phone, yet still I felt the need to get further away from civilization.

So my friend Jared and I

Many things, I might reply.

I have yet to swim in the Arctic Ocean or raft the mighty Yukon River.

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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LOCAL ART GALLERIES

Bright Hill Press, Word & Image Gallery Treadwell, NY: <http://www.brighthillpress.org/>

Bushel, Delhi NY: <http://bushelcollective.org>

CANO - Community Arts Network of Oneonta: <http://www.canoneonta.org>

Cherry Branch Gallery, Cherry Valley NY: <http://cherrybranchgallery.com/>

Cherry Valley Artworks, Cherry Valley NY: <http://cvartworks.org/>

Cooperstown Art Association (CAA) Cooperstown NY: <http://www.cooperstownart.com/>

Fenimore Art Museum, Cooperstown NY: <http://www.fenimoreartmuseum.org/>

More Art Space (MAS) Oneonta NY: <http://moreartspace.com/>

Mural on Main Art Gallery, Hobart NY: <http://www.muralartgallery.org>

Roxbury Arts Group (RAG) Roxbury NY: <http://roxburyartsgroup.org/>

Smithy Center for the Arts, Cooperstown NY: <http://www.smithyarts.org>

SUNY Martin-Mullen Gallery, Oneonta NY: <http://www.oneonta.edu/academics/art/gallery/gallery.html>

Walton Theater, Arts in the Parlor, Walton NY: <http://waltontheatre.org/arts-in-the-parlor/>

West Kortright Centre, East Meredith NY: <http://westkc.org/events/category/exhibitions/>

THE RUMOR MILL

The Rumor:

Betsy and Bryan Babcock have fled to Antigua to escape the long arm of U.S. law after being sued.



The Reality:

Betsy and Bryan now have their primary residence along the southern coast of Antigua but spend much of the year in their cabin in the mountains of North Carolina, to be near their daughter and granddaughter.

In May of 2016, via email to dozens of grocery chains including ten of the largest, Humane Farm Animal Care alleged that Handsome Brook Farms was mislabeling its eggs by claiming them to be from pasture-raised hens. (HBF was not paying for certification by HFAC, at \$.05 per 36 dozen eggs.) HBF obtained an injunction against HFAC after a finding that these claims were mostly erroneous – see Case # 16-cv-00592 in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. The judge required that HFAC send retractions to all concerned.

In August of 2016, the Organic Consumers Association sued HBF in Superior Court of Columbia District, making similar allegations. In September, this case was moved to District Court – Case # 1:16-cv-01906.

HBF farms and packing facilities are annually audited by the American Humane Association. In June of 2017, the AHA released a statement that they stand by their certification as pastured raised: <https://www.americanhumane.org/blog/statement-on-handsome-brook-farm>

In addition, the Cornucopia Institute gives HBF a rating of excellent: https://www.cornucopia.org/organiceggscorecard/egg_profiles/FarmID_319_HandsomeBrook.html

The judge, Christopher R. Cooper, has yet to render a decision.

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WHAT DO FOOD LABELS REALLY MEAN?

According to environmental advocates, Food and Water Watch:

Cage Free Eggs

“Cage free” means that birds are raised without cages, but it tells you nothing about any other living conditions. For instance, cage-free eggs could come from birds raised indoors in overcrowded spaces at large factory farms.

Pasture-raised

“Pasture-raised” or “pastured” means that animals spent at least some time outdoors on pasture, feeding on grass or forage. This traditional farming method is typically done on a smaller scale than conventional factory-farmed animals. However, there are no government standards for this label, including how much of its life the animal spent on pasture.

Free Range

“Free range” labels are regulated by the USDA only for poultry produced for meat – it’s not regulated for pigs, cattle or egg-producing chickens. Nor are the requirements very high: poultry can use the label if the chicken had any access to the outdoors each day for some unspecified period of time; it could be just a few minutes, and does not assure that the animal ever actually went outdoors to roam freely.

Natural and Naturally Raised

According to USDA, “natural” meat and poultry products cannot contain artificial colors, artificial

flavors, preservatives or other artificial ingredients, and they should be “minimally processed.” However, this label does not tell us how the animals were raised, what they were fed, if antibiotics or hormones were used, or other aspects of production that consumers might logically expect from something labeled “natural.”

Certified Organic

USDA Organic Label

Right now the most meaningful label on your food, in terms of upholding specific government requirements, is the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) organic seal. For a product to be certified organic, it’s required to meet specific standards:

Organic crops cannot be grown with synthetic fertilizers, synthetic pesticides or sewage sludge.

Organic crops cannot be genetically engineered or irradiated.

Animals must eat only organically grown feed (without animal byproducts) and can’t be treated with synthetic hormones or antibiotics.

Animals must have access to the outdoors, and ruminants (hoofed animals, including cows) must have access to pasture.

Animals cannot be cloned.

From the Food and Water Watch website: www.foodandwaterwatch.org

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OLIVE KITTERIDGE By Elizabeth Strout

The novel *Olive Kitteridge* is actually a series of thirteen short stories with a common central character. Its setting in a small Maine town, though fictional, will feel totally familiar to up-state New Yorkers. The town itself, in its growth and evolution, is like another character.

Growing up in rural Maine, author Elizabeth Strout longed to be like the Summer People, arriving just for vacations. Almost everyone she knew from her community was a relative. Many were old and cantankerous. Strout attended Bates College and then went to grad school in Syracuse for her law degree. She also got a degree in gerontology and her understanding of older people is present in her writing.

“I come from Maine,” Strout says, “and both my parents come from eight or nine generations of Maine people. Even though I’ve been in New York for so many years, there’s something deeply familiar to me about that kind of small town. There is a way of life up there that’s disappearing. I did not set out to do it. Not at all. But the pressure inside of me was asking me to write about these people, and it occurs to me that I am sort of documenting the end of an era.” *BookPage* interview by Alden Mudge

Olive Kitteridge is that scary math teacher who terrified us in junior high school. We learned math from her, but also other things. Olive is also a wife, mother and neighbor. It’s sometimes difficult to remember we’re reading about the same woman as we see Olive through so many lenses. She can be wonderful, terrible, overwhelmed, stingy, generous, plodding, petty, hilarious

and extremely perceptive. Did your scary math teacher have a life outside of your classroom?

In some stories, Olive is the main character. In others, she and her husband simply pass through a room in someone else’s story. Strout has said that if Olive were on every page, the reader would soon be exhausted. Nearly every chapter alludes to her large physical size, but she also takes up psychic space. She is a complicated woman who doesn’t always seem comfortable with herself or with others. And that’s what makes her so interesting.

EVERYBODY’S FOOL By Richard Russo

Everybody’s Fool picks up a decade after *Nobody’s Fool* (another favorite by this author). There has been a shift of focus from Sully, the damaged hero of *NF* to Douglas Raymer, last seen as a young policeman. Raymer is now Chief of Police. His wife Becka has died falling down stairs, just as she was leaving him. Afterwards, Raymer finds an unfamiliar garage door remote hidden in Becka’s car. For a year, Raymer has been trying to open garage doors in search of his wife’s lover.

Russo brilliantly captures the lives of ordinary, small-town people. Fictional North Bath in upstate New York has seen better days. Industry is fading and tourism was tried a decade ago. The town is still recovering from that particular disaster.

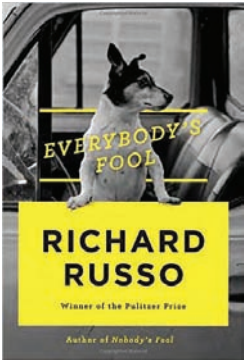
North Bath is filled with sad, funny, complicated people. Their story could be a comedy - and there are many great lines - but there is also a deep undercurrent of violence and

sadness. As Russo gives each character a chance in the spotlight, we come to understand and care about these neighbors and their town.

In *Nobody’s Fool*, Miss Beryl Peoples is an eighth-grade English teacher who shares many qualities with Olive Kitteridge. She believes in her students and tries hard to teach them critical thinking and life skills. Often, she is the only person who seems to understand them.

In *Everybody’s Fool*, Miss Beryl has been dead for several years but is about to be honored by the town. In a flashback, she says: “We don’t forgive people because they deserve it...We forgive them because we deserve it.”

There are several other subplots in this beautiful story of people doing their best to survive. You will laugh, cry, and recognize many people you know.



ILLUSIONS:

By Elizabeth Gorsch, Delhi, NY

Illusions are like magic on a page
They can disappear without a trace
They also sometimes don’t work
But they still look cool

They can disappear without a trace
They leave you stunned
But they still look cool
They bend your mind in all which ways

They leave you stunned
With their mystical tricks
They bend your mind in all which ways
They don’t make you crazy

With their mystical tricks
But they will if you let them
They don’t make you crazy
With their magic

But they will if you let them
So don’t let them drive you crazy
With their magic
It’s the curse of the optical illusion

So don’t let them drive you crazy
Illusions are like magic on a page
It’s the curse of the optical illusion
They also, sometimes, don’t work

The poem is a Malaysian Pantoum. Ms. Gorsch is a 7th Grader at Delaware Academy

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August 10-13 Magdalen • August 17-September 3 Arthur Miller’s The Price

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©2017 Franklin Stage Company. Painting by David Byrd.

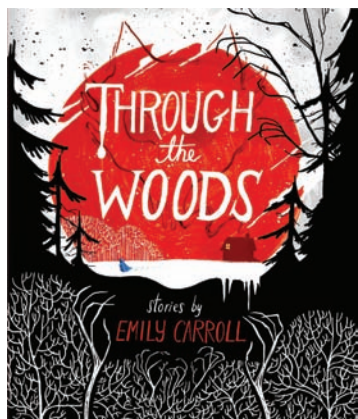
YOUR LIBRARIAN'S PICKS FOR FUN SUMMER READING

I'M TALKING AS FAST AS I CAN By Lauren Graham

From the book cover: "In this collection of personal essays, the beloved star of *Gilmore Girls* and *Parenthood* reveals stories about life, love, and working as a woman in Hollywood...Lauren Graham hits pause for a moment and looks back on her life, sharing laugh-out-loud stories about growing up, starting out as an actress, and, years later, sitting in her trailer on the *Parenthood* set and asking herself, 'Did you, um, make it?'"



THROUGH THE WOODS by Emily Carroll



'It came from the woods. Most strange things do.'

Five mysterious, spine-tingling stories follow journeys into (and out of?) the eerie abyss. These chilling tales spring from the macabre imagination of acclaimed and award-winning comic creator Emily Carroll. Come take a walk in the woods and see what awaits you there...

Summer 2017 at the Franklin Free Library



Encourage summer reading for your child. Sign up for the FFL's Summer Reading Program.

Registration is from June 7 – 30 (call, email, or stop by)

Programs run from July 11- August 29

SCHEDULE:

July 11 @ 10 A.M.: Storycrafters

July 18 @ 10 A.M.: Story Laurie

July 25 @ 10 A.M.: BeeBee the Clown

August 1 @ 10 A.M.: Danna Banana

August 8 @ 10 A.M.: The Dirtmeister

August 15 @ 10 A.M.: Merry Go Round Players

August 22 @ 10 A.M.: Ivy Vine Players

August 29 @ 10 A.M.: End of Summer Program and Awards

ART, continued from Page 13

traditional boundaries are being challenged all the time. Most figurative work has abstraction built into it and most abstract work is figuration based. Look at the work of Christine Alexander, Bill Lee and Terry Fox. All examples of how the world of reality overlaps with the world of abstraction.

- Unexpected explorers
Some artists' work is unexpected because they use unconventional materials in an unconventional way. Be surprised by the photographic work of Charlie Bremer. Is this photography as you (used to) know it? Experience the color treatments of Marie Cummings. How are these special color nuances created? Gaze at the amazing sculptures by Stefanie Rocknak. Can this still be wood?

- Spot the lone wolves.
And then, there are the mavericks, the ones who defy all classification. Douglas Jamieson's fantasy world, the playful abstractions of Simone Mantelassi and the cartoonish explorations of Edmond Rinnooy-Kan.

- Meet the next generation of artists.

Experience exciting work by young painters

Colleen O'Hara and Chelsea Gibson, both first-time exhibitors in the Festival this year.

- Art or illustration?
Check out the scale models and working drawings of theatrical set designer Marjorie Bradley Kellogg.

- Visit The Treadwell Museum of Modern Art.

A category of its own, the museum is home to the sculptor-painter-printer Joseph Kurhajec. This multi-tasking artist - together with Jane Carr - was the grand initiator of The Stagecoach Run Art Festival. Stroll into the museum and be in awe.

The Stagecoach Run Art Festival is as diverse and extensive as ever. Excuse or no excuse, rain or shine, it is a delightful opportunity to experience what's going on in the arts in our region.

Enjoy the art, enjoy the nature, enjoy the hospitality.

Stagecoach Art Festival
July 1st and 2nd
Franklin and Treadwell
Delaware County, NY

For more information, go to our website:

www.stagecoachrun.com



Join us in Celebrating 25 Years of Word-Glory!

- * Summer Literary Workshops for Kids & Teens
June - August (<http://brighthillpress.org/children-youth-programming/>)
- * Bright Hill Community Library (free, check out books)
Mon., Tues., 10 am - 4 pm; Wed. 9 am - noon; & by appointment
- * The Word & Image Gallery at Bright Hill
Stagecoach Run, July 1 & 2, + Exhibits Each Month
- * Eat, Drink, & Be Literary - 25th Anniversary Fund-Raiser Gala
Willow Drey Farm, Andes, NY, Aug. 5, 6 - 9 pm
- * Poetry Out Loud for High-Schoolers, (National Recitation Program)
Nov. 11, 18; Dec. 2; 11 am
- * Word Thursdays Readings
June - Nov., 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 pm
- * Celebrating Robert Lowell, Great American Poets Day
Saturday, Oct. 14, Noon - 5 pm
- * Special Veterans Day Readings & Workshops Event
Saturday, Nov. 11, 10 am - 5 pm
- * 25th Anniversary Anthology Celebrations
November 3, December 16, 10 am - 5 pm



Bright Hill Press and Literary Center, 94 Church Street, Treadwell, NY 13846

Here we are!

94 Church St.
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607-829-5055
wordthur@stny.rr.com
www.brighthillpress.org

A scenic NY road trip, featuring the home & studio of artist David Byrd
10 exhibitions from July 1–Sept 30 highlighting the work of David Byrd from Brooklyn to Peekskill and
West Point, continuing north to Delhi, Franklin, Sidney Center and Cooperstown, with a final stop in Seattle.

607-369-3059

DAVID BYRD Ten Stops

- 1 FRANKLIN STAGE COMPANY**
FRANKLIN, NY
The Dramatic Gesture: Paintings of David Byrd

2 DAVID BYRD HOME & STUDIO
Sidney Center, NY | *David Byrd, A Life*

3 WEST POINT MUSEUM | West Point, NY
David Byrd at West Point

4 STUDIO 10 | Bushwick Brooklyn, NY
David Byrd: Flicks, Bouts, Blocks
- 5 DELAWARE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION** | Delhi, NY
VIGNETTES: David Byrd Paints Delaware County

6 SMITHY GALLERY | Cooperstown, NY
Sanctuary: a refuge or safe place

7 ART GARAGE | Cooperstown, NY
Auction Action: The Art of David Byrd

8 THE FIELD GALLERY | Peekskill, NY
On and Off the Ward: David Byrd Paints Montrose V.A.
- 9 DAVID BYRD HOME & STUDIO**
Sidney Center, NY
END OF THE LINE AUCTION AND CLOSING CELEBRATION

10 GREG KUCERA GALLERY | Seattle, WA
David Byrd-Coming Alive: Drawings & Paintings

David Byrd, COUPLE, 14 x 12 inches, 2003 oil on canvas

www.DavidByrdEstate.com

Come one, come all! It's the next baffling, mind-bending installment of ...

MURDER AT THE FARMERS' MARKET

When the helicopter landed beside my pond, I was sure that the Office of Homeland Obscurity had found me. Turned out to be an old schoolmate now working for OHO. Carl.

Carl had become a private investigator years ago until he got caught up in a sting operation where his superiors had refused to recognize him as undercover after the bust.

Luckily, by chants or chance, he narrowly escaped incarceration by blackmailing his bosses. They settled by downgrading him into some obscure little backwater Office of Homeland Obscurity outpost where he could deal with cases nobody cared about.

Ostensively, he had come to update me on the status of an application for their witness protection program that I had submitted years ago.

Not that I had ever actually seen or heard anything important, but in the present atmosphere of fear and loathing it was easy enough to imply that I had. Thing was, the witness protection program was the ultimate retirement setup, better than social security, pensions, annuities, anything. Obviously, I wasn't the only one who knew it.

My school chum knew it well enough. He actually came because they'd pegged me to do a little side job for the agency.

I was to go to the International Farmers Market conference being held this year in some small town in New York. While there, I was scheduled to present a paper entitled 'Farming is Murder' and to otherwise keep my eyes open for

certain persons the agency had been watching for some time.

Not exactly TED Conference stuff.

We went inside the house and while I washed the china Carl stared at Wilson's dog.

We sat and I poured some beer. Carl pulled out his wallet and handed me some photos.

These are my kids, he said. Kinda flat aren't they? I said.

Then he pulled out some other shots. These were the folks I was to look for at the convention.

I recognized almost all of them. There was Donna. I pointed out that she was dead.

Ya think? said Carl.

The tall blond Eurovision guy from the Septic Sam incident. He was maybe dead too.

Area 52 characters, and SOME people, and oh, Hizonor, Small Potatoes the mayor. Uncle Dan, the all night underwear salesman and Delores whose husband ran off (maybe). Others I'd seen around town at one time or another.

Feeling that a weak presentation would be a bit obvious, I told Carl that I better get to work on my paper for the convention.

He agreed as long as I promised not to copy him.

Much of what you, dear reader, have been reading for the past many years was part of that speech. The names have not been changed because no one is innocent. Everything actually happened and will probably happen again if we're not careful. And once again...

Everything is true except the part about the dog.

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FIBER, continued from Page 1

provider to Franklin. DTC has divided its work in Franklin township into phases by census blocks.

As part of Phase 1, work has already begun in the eastern corner of our township, mostly along County Highway 16 and connecting town roads.

Work in Phase 2 includes the towns of Kortright, Meredith, and Hamden, but not Franklin.

Phase 3 is in the planning stage. Current plans are to cover the Town of Franklin along and west of County Highway 14 and along and south of State Highway 357. New York State will pay \$4.3 million and DCBI \$6.6 million. Work on the trunk lines is expected to begin in late of 2017 and finish in late 2018. Hook-ups to businesses and homes will continue into 2019 and maybe 2020.

Unlike the Frontier network, every customer of DTC network will have a dedicated optical fiber

strung to the box on their building. Current capacity for the glass network is 1 Gb/s (1,000 Mb/s), with the potential for upgrading to 10 Gb/s.

In case of power outages, each installation will have an eight-hour battery, with room to add two more. This base unit plugs into an electrical outlet, and therefore battery power would be unnecessary if you have a generator. Service could still be lost to a falling limb or a gun shot.

Installation is free. While the grant requires DCBI install for free only up to 150 feet from the road, it will do so for distances a few times greater. However it will only string along existing poles or through existing buried conduit. For underground installation, landowners would have to trench across their property and bury conduit.

The grant also requires that DCBI provide a minimum of 25 Mb/s at a fixed price of \$60 per month for

five years. (It defines customers with internet service less than 25 Mb/s as unserved by broadband, and those with service less than 75 Mb/s as underserved.) Currently DTC offers its customers a base internet service at a download to you of 75 Mb/s and an upload from you of 10 Mb/s for \$60 a month. Conditions of the grant require this price be offered for five years. Available are several options at higher rates up to 1 Gb/s.

Phone service is available through voice-over internet protocol for \$40 a month. In switching over, you should be able to retain your existing number. Basic internet service and phone service is \$80 a month.

Video is available with base internet or with phone or both. There are three choices of level of video variety: lifeline (15 channels), basic (115), and expanded (134). Several additional digital music channels are included. Phone, ba-

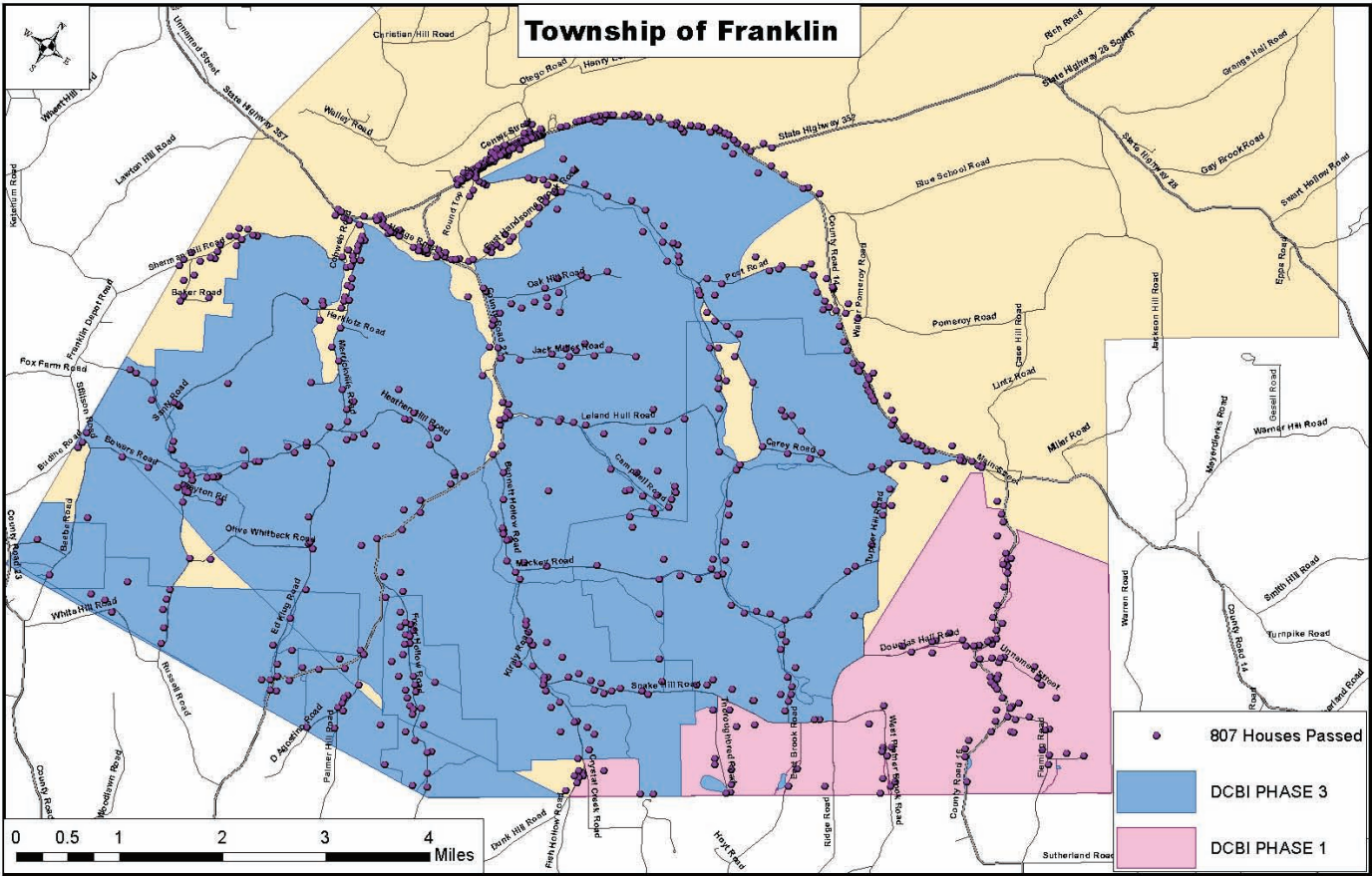
sic internet, and expanded video is \$175 a month. Premium-channel packages cost extra after a free 90-day trial.

DTC requires that the Town Board sign agreements before work may begin. A public hearing on these agreements will be held before the monthly meeting on Tuesday July 11th at the town garages. As part of the easement agreement, DTC will pay the town \$2,500 for an equipment shack to be located on town property adjacent to the garages. As part of the franchise agreement, DTC would provide free internet and video service to the town garages. As a courtesy, it will likewise provide free service to municipal buildings along its routes: Franklin Fire Hall, Treadwell Fire Hall, Franklin Town Hall, and Franklin Village Hall.

For more than a decade, people of Franklin have suffered from a substandard communications infrastructure. Technology progressed greatly, while our service remained little changed. This limited both our economy and our population. Businesses are handicapped without broadband internet. Residents can only live where they can make a living. Second-home owners, who contribute to the local economy, cannot work from here, necessitating shorter vacations. Also broadband offers entertainment: almost half of the bandwidth is used for video. Meeting people's needs and wants encourages them to make Franklin their primary residence.

Thanks to the Delaware County Broadband Initiative and funding from New York State, communications in Franklin will soon join the 21st century.

Brian Brock is president of the Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce.



FRANKLIN TOWN BOARD meetings: 2017

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

Jan. 3, 2017	Franklin
	Organizational
Feb. 7, 2017	Franklin
Mar. 7, 2017	Treadwell
Apr. 4, 2017	Franklin
May 2, 2017	Franklin
June 6, 2017	Treadwell**
July 11, 2017	Franklin
Aug. 1, 2017	Franklin
Sept. 5, 2017	Treadwell
Oct. 3, 2017	Franklin
	Budget Workshop
Nov. 8, 2017	Franklin*
	Budget hearing
Dec. 5, 2017	Treadwell

*Wednesday
**Thursday

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



Beekeepers Dan Hauptfleisch and Angela Hugschmidt in the Ouleout Valley hope to increase their crop while helping the bees thrive.

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SOLAR, continued from Page 8

a fact that, compared to urban areas, low-income, low population areas bear a larger burden of public infrastructure, such as interstate highways, power generation plants, landfills, utility rights of way, and pipelines.

The Community Impact Grants have been an important source of support for communities impacted by pollution and toxins. The grants have helped communities generate data through citizen science and have helped to engage residents in addressing and understanding the challenges and opportunities for improving community health, public safety, and sustainability. These grants are essential support for engaging underserved communities throughout the state.

The intent of a Community Shared Solar Project for Franklin was to provide a low emission, lower-cost energy option to traditional fossil fuel-fired electric generation.

We'll keep trying.

KENNETH L. BENNETT FUNERAL HOME

425 MAIN STREET
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ROTARY, continued from Page 4

year – about three months per family -- to provide diverse opportunities for the student to observe family life. It is also helpful, although not mandatory, if the host family has children at home to help with the adjustment to a different culture. We always are looking for host families, and welcome any inquiries about the Rotary Student Exchange Program.

Through contributions to the Rotary Foundation, Franklin Rotary has provided community grants for local projects and supported international grants that are used to provide clean water, sanitation facilities, promote world peace, provide education supplies, and health care improvements for mothers and children. One such project is the campaign to eradicate polio world-wide. Rotary has been the lead organization providing oral immunization against polio to children world-wide. This campaign is close to completion, with only three countries -- Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Nigeria -- reporting cases in 2016.

You are cordially invited to visit Rotary as our dinner guest on Wednesday nights at 6:00. We meet at the Franklin United Methodist Church on the corner of Main and Water Streets.

Visit the website Rotary.org or contact Don Hebbard at 607-829-8664 to learn more.



Paeonia Gansu Mudan - Chinese Rockii - Moon Above Jade Pass
Photo by John Fitzpatrick, from his Franklin village garden

RESIST

FISCAL, continued from Page 1

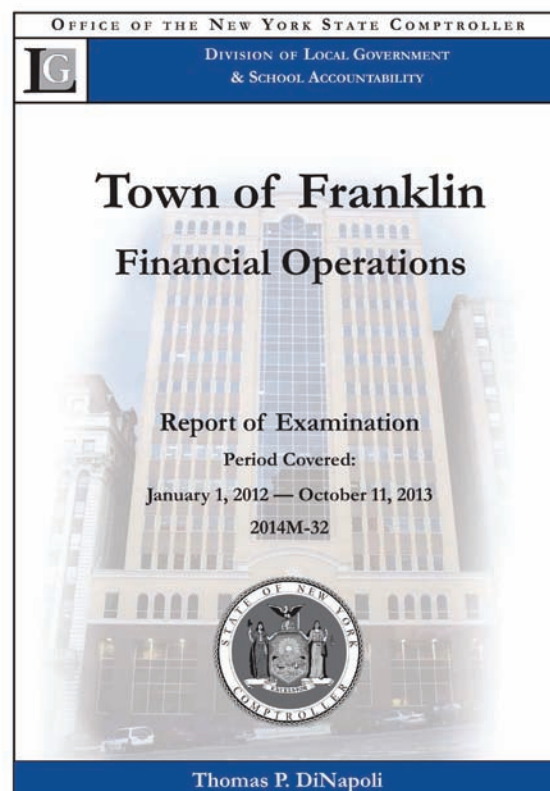
Plan (CAP) to the OSC in July. In all this time, there is no written record of this audit being discussed in the public meetings of the town board. Unfortunately, video-recording of the monthly meetings did not begin until later in December 2014.

This is extraordinary. Though there is no law requiring that the town board inform the townspeople of an audit, this is the accepted common practice. Last year, the proposed biogas digester project for the Village of Walton was audited by the OSC. The resulting report was discussed at the April 2017 meeting of the mayor and trustees, and their discussion was covered in the next issue of The Reporter. In contrast, the Franklin Town Board kept its own council. In the last year, audits of local governments were done for towns of Colechester (financial condition), Walton (incompatible duties), Hancock (transfer station operations), and Sidney (budget review). In 2015, Delaware County was audited both for third-party contractual services and for vehicle usage and disposal. These boards kept their residents informed through monthly public meetings.

The NY Open Meeting Law does require that the business of the town board be conducted in front of the townspeople, with a few exceptions. From the Public Officers Law, Article 7, §100, **Legislative Declaration:** *It is essential to the maintenance of a democratic society that the public business be performed in an open and public manner and that the citizens of this state be fully aware of and able to observe the performance of public officials and attend and listen to the deliberations and decisions that go into the making of public policy. The people must be able to remain informed if they are to retain control over those who are their public servants. It is the only climate under which the commonweal will prosper and enable the governmental process to operate for the benefit of those who created it.*

The New York Department of State advises on

compliance with the Open Meetings Law through its Committee on Open Government. In response to an inquiry by this newspaper, the committee rendered an advisory opinion of April 21, 2017 (OML-AO-5544) that the submission of an official CAP to the Office of the State Comptroller requires a motion by the town



<http://osc.state.ny.us/localgov/audits/towns/2014/franklin.htm>

board. The minutes of the Franklin Town Board record no such motion. Our board, in continuing to avoid discussing the audit in front of the townspeople, violated this law.

Under the OML, town boards may go into executive session to discuss some confidential matters. Topics that may be discussed in private are limited under the law and must be declared beforehand. Franklin Town Board went into executive session in April, May, and June (but not in July) of 2014 to discuss contract negotiation. No mention was made of discussing the audit. (This is just, as well as an audit is not a legal topic for an executive session according to COG.) What is more, any motions made in executive session must be recorded in the minutes.

Supervisor Taggart and councilmen Grant and Sitts

were in office when OSC issued its audit. Councilmen Bruno and Smith (Donald T.) were elected in November 2015.

Our board did not use the opportunity of their past two years of dissembling to correct the lapses by the supervisor submitting the overdue financial reports (now totaling eight) and by the councilmen performing annual audits. Instead, in the absence of pressure from the townspeople, our board continued business as usual.

This secrecy is part of a long-standing pattern of governance by the Franklin Town Board. Before their monthly meetings, the lack of an agenda leaves we-the-people uninformed on what will be discussed. During meetings, the lack of periodic reports by appointed officials (assessor, code enforcement officer, etc.) leaves we-the-people uninformed of what

their government has been doing. After meeting, the lack of postings to a website leaves we-the-people uninformed of what just happened. We have a board that that informs its townspeople as little as is legally possible.

More disturbingly, it raises the question: What else do we not know about decisions that our town board makes illegally outside of public meetings?

Correction:

In the spring issue, we misstated that Mr. Taggart was appointed supervisor before being elected in November of 2013. Therefore, Supervisor Smith (Donald M.) is responsible for failing to file annual financial reports for the years 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012. Supervisor Taggart is responsible for the years 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

We regret the error.

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LUNCHING SCHOLARS

A special luncheon celebrating the Scholars of the Month was given at the beautiful home of Tom Morgan and Erna McReynolds.

Student Scholars (Bottom row, L to R) Alexis Hilton (standing), Oliver Lamb, Michael Cox, Jillian Parascandola and Madelyn Prisk with Franklin Community Educational Foundation Board and Community Members (Top row, L to R) Donna Cox, Nancy Cloonan, Naomi Lima, Patricia Tyrell, Brad Zilliox, Superintendent, and Steve Cox, Board of Education.

The honor comes with a scholarship, to be awarded when the student graduates.

Congratulations, Franklin scholars!

Photo by Jim Mullen

ACTIONS BY THE FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

DATE	MOTION	VOTE				
		Taggart	Bruno	Grant	Sitts	Smith
1/03/17	Accept new four-year contract for highway dept. employees	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1/03/17	Make appointments for 2017	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1/03/17	Go into executive session for employee issue	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2/07/17	Go into executive session for employment	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3/07/17	Rent a mechanical broom	Y	Y	Y	Y	a
3/07/17	Rent a boom tractor with cab	Y	Y	Y	Y	a
3/07/17	Buy an air compressor for garage	Y	Y	Y	Y	a
4/04/17	Accept bid for trucking stone from Cobleskill Stone at \$7.90 a ton	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4/04/17	Accept bid for liquid calcium chloride from Peckham at \$0.823 a gallon	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4/04/17	Accept bid for crushed stone from Pope's Excavating at \$4.00 a cu yard	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4/04/17	Accept bid for heating oil and diesel fuel from Mirabito at fixed price: heating oil at \$2.26/gal, diesel fuel at \$2.10/gal, and 60/40 fuel at \$2.56/gal.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5/02/17	Accept and post at Town Hall the Standard Work Day report	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5/02/17	Recess for legal advice	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Y Yes, N No, A Abstain, a absent

Note: Routine motions to accept minutes, return after executive session, and adjourn meeting are not included.



Franklin NY residence, 1906, Arthur Austin, glass plate negative.
The Farmers' Museum, Cooperstown NY

A SEARCH FOR IDENTITY:

In our Summer 2017 issue, Ms. Milliman wrote:

"If you recognize any of the homes or locations documented by Arthur Austin now [available] on the Plowline website, and can provide more detailed information, please email or call Christina Milliman, Curator of Photography at images@nysha.org or 607-547-1442.

Please share the title of the image, object ID number and/or web link. Thank you for your help, and we hope you enjoy this wonderful and early collection."

The Plowline websight address is: plowline.farmersmuseum.org. There you can search nearly 15,000 images documenting the history of rural New York.

FARMHOUSE, THEN AND NOW

In the Spring 2017 issue of this paper, Christina Milliman, Curator of Photography at the Fenimore Art Museum, wrote about Arthur Austin's early 20th century photographs of Franklin and the surrounding area. We printed one of an unidentified Franklin residence in 1906.

The image on the left is another Austin work from the same period. The modern photo below was taken recently of Janine and Bill Steely's farm at the intersection of Oak Hill Road and Route 21 in Franklin, which the Steelys have owned for over twenty years as a vacation home. Matt Terry runs his dairy operation on the property. This farm has passed through many hands over the years. The Steelys, as well as their neighbor Brian Brock, are sure that this house is the one shown in the Austin photo. The much-grown trees make a secure identification difficult but the layout does seem very much the same.

Do you live in an older farmhouse? Perhaps you could match yours to one of Austin's early images. If so, Ms. Milliman would like to hear from you. Read further, at left and below.





Support the Franklin Community Education Foundation

ONLY 300 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!!!!

\$20/each

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PRIZES: \$400, \$300, \$200 Wal-Mart Gift Cards

Winners Drawn at New Old Franklin Day

Saturday, August 26, 2017

(Winners need not be present)

Tickets may be purchased from any FCEF Board Member, and will be available weekly at the Franklin Farmers' Market on Sundays from 10am -12pm. Additional opportunities to purchase tickets will be announced.

Get Your Tickets Today!

The Franklin Community Education Foundation (FCEF) is dedicated to the academic and educational needs and endeavors of Franklin's youth.

The FCEF's activities include:

payment for college level courses for high school students;
scholar of the month program;
providing school supplies to students in need; assistance with field trip expenses;
and, funding for programs like the Robotics Club.



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The Newsletter of Franklin Local

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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?

Franklin Local Ltd, the parent organization for The New Franklin Register and of the Franklin Farmers' Market, is a not-for-profit corporation founded by Franklin residents.

Our mission statement: to work to preserve the rural character of Franklin, to build the local economy, to encourage volunteerism, and to raise awareness of economic and social challenges that may result from climate change and the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable energy.

We typically meet once a month, at 7 P.M.; the date and location are posted on our website. All are welcome, to offer questions and help us answer them, to share thoughts and ideas, to make things happen.

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

Together, let us imagine a more energy efficient, healthier habit of living, and put it to work here in Franklin, for a more prosperous and 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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Restroom doors in a local public library
Photos courtesy of Stacey Tromblee



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RECENT REAL PROPERTY SALES IN FRANKLIN

DATE	LOCATION	AC.	TYPE	ASSESS.	SALE	SELLER	BUYER
1/26/2017	31 Third St	0.25	1 Family Res	110,000	141,752	Huber, John B	Laing, Gerald W
1/27/2017	604 State Highway 28 S	4.54	1 Family Res	90,000	92,500	Fink, Richard G	Spohrer, Joseph M O
1/29/2017	Grange Hall Rd	18.58	Rural vac>10	41,000	20,000	Kuchta, Adam	Kalamaras, Nikolaos NW
2/13/2017	93 Water St	0.31	1 Family Res	110,000	117,000	Kenneth DeRoche Estate	Crowell, Eileen
2/13/2017	Rod & Gun Club Rd	4.60	Rural vac<10	13,000	12,000	Accurso, Vincent	Weite, Daniel S
2/23/2017	148 Case Hill Rd	0.25	1 Family Res	77,000	69,000	Eubanks, Jessica B	Patterson, Jessica B/S
3/17/2017	2864 County Highway 14	5.09	1 Family Res	82,000	84,800	Flynn, Patrick	Gillette, Holly N
3/23/2017	259 Main St	0.75	1 Family Res	97,000	97,500	Morgan (Estate),	Shivers, Margaret E NW
3/23/2017	4327 County Highway 14	6.20	1 Family Res	71,000	55,674	Dedominicis, Aaron	Dedominicis, Noah R
3/29/2017	211 Main St	0.58	1 Family Res	94,000	111,000	Finch, Ann M	Vandermark, Jeremy T
3/31/2017	202 Main St (2)	2.40	1 Family Res	118,000	64,133	Buffington, Jennifer	First Tennessee Bank
4/11/2017	Olin Evans Rd	1.40	Rural vac<10	8,000	7,500	Thompson, Carol	Thompson, George R
4/20/2017	11920 State Highway 357	35.00	Rural res	135,000	115,000	Dunne, Harriet C	Bonker, Michelle
4/20/2017	6583 Dunk Hill Rd	135.90	Rural res	400,000	625,000	Blue Chestnut Farms LLC	Baxter, Mathew David A
4/21/2017	4132 E Handsome Bk Rd	5.10	1 Family Res	186,000	264,600	Babcock, Bryan C	Holliman, Emily
4/21/2017	14 Maple St	0.23	2 Family Res	74,000	18,500	Ruth B Laing (Estate),	McCormack, Jeffrey J NW
4/26/2017	287 Hodge Rd	0.50	1 Family Res	72,000	117,000	Buel, R. David	Cooman, Sheila Jean
4/26/2017	387 Otego Rd (2)	8.56	1 Family Res	104,000	165,000	Smith, James R	Buel, R. David
4/27/2017	10581 State Highway 357	1.82	1 Family Res	128,000	175,100	Reynolds, Amy	Hattenrath, John H
4/28/2017	11 Main St (2)	16.50	Rural res	154,000	230,000	Suozzo, Nicholas	Hoffman, Rinna
5/4/2017	645 Round Top Rd	0.50	1 Family Res	92,000	50,000	Taylor, Kenneth A	Taylor, Kenneth A B/S
(2) Two Parcels				R Relatives	O Other	B/S Buyer=Seller	NW Not Warranty