

NEW TOWN OFFICE BUILDING

APPEALING YOUR UNAPPEALING ASSESSMENT

By Don Hebbard

Business offices for the Town of Franklin are housed in two separate buildings. The town clerk, tax collector, code enforcement officer, and justice court are at 554 Main Street, Franklin. Offices for the town supervisor, fiscal officers, superintendent of highways, assessor, and other town officials are in the Franklin Town Sheds at 1240 County Route 21, the intersection with State Route 357. Voting for all three Franklin Districts, meetings of the town board, the planning board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Board of Assessment Review are all held at the Town Sheds.

The town offices at the Town Sheds have been utilized since 1986, when the current Morton pole-barn building was constructed from funds received in a Marcy South Powerline



Map: Delaware County C.O.M.I.T.

grant. The Main street offices have been used for years on a long-term, one dollar per year lease from the Walter Rich Charitable Foundation, benefiting Franklin taxpayers.

Relocating the town offices from Main Street has been discussed at town board meetings for the last three years. Consolidation of services, common record storage, a need for more space in Justice Court and voting areas, and updating current facilities are cited as advantages of relocating town offices to one location. The town board has been reluctant to invest public monies in improvements

See OFFICE, con't on Pg. 16

LOCAL AUTHOR

IS PULITZER

NOMINEE

By Lynne Kemen

Early into our conversation, Alice Lichtenstein said, “I can’t not write.” Alice has recently published her third novel, *The Crime of Being* (Upper Hand Press LLC, 2019), and she agreed to talk about her life as a writer, about her experiences living in upstate New York and about her newest book, which has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in Fiction.

At an early age, Alice knew that she wanted to be a writer. She tells a story about a “book” she wrote at age seven, *Cowgirls on the Range*. “I think it had

four sentences.” Novels, short stories, and poems followed. She graduated from Brown University and received her MFA in Cre-



Alice Lichtenstein

ative Writing from Boston University. She has won a New York Foundation of the Arts Grant in Fiction, received the Barbara Dem-

See AUTHOR, con't on Pg. 17



By Brian Brock

PART I

Over two thirds of the budget of the Town of Franklin is paid for by taxing property owners, which costs us \$1.22 million this year. While the town board sets the amount of the annual tax levy, the assessor sets the distribution of this amount among the almost 2,200 parcels in Franklin. You can voice your opinion on the town budget in November and on your assessment in May. The Village of Franklin trustees sets its own tax but uses the same assessment.

The assessment roll is revised annually, with the goal to fairly reapportion a burden which averages \$550 per parcel. These tentative assessments are published before or on May 1st so that townspeople can learn their new assessment and compare it to those for other properties in the town. It is your responsibility to check if the assessment of your property is fair. A printed version of the tentative assessment roll will be available in the office of the town clerk, viewable on the days that

the office is open: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and afternoons Saturdays. Once available, a notice will be published among the Classifieds in the back pages of The Reporter, which is the official newspaper of Franklin. Although there is no town website, this tentative roll could be available on the Delaware County website: <http://www.co.delaware.ny.us/departments/tax/rolls.htm>. In recent years Franklin’s have not been posted, one of only two such towns in the county. Instead they were available at our assessor’s website <https://townof-franklinny.wordpress.com/departments/assessor/documents-assessor/>

If you are a non-resident, then you can request the information on your property be sent to you, provided that your request is received at least 15 days before the roll is released.

This year, our Franklin government did a town-wide reassessment. In a typical year, only some of the properties are revalued; those where there is new information

See ASSESS, continued on Page 18



Franklin’s victorious Purple Devils

REPORT FROM FRANKLIN’S

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT:

By Brad Zilliox

Dear Franklin Community,

We hope you are enjoying winter season as we are now more than halfway through the current school year. The process of developing our school budget for the 2020-21 school year is currently underway, which will meet the needs of our students while being fiscally responsible. We will be out in the community soon to share our plan for next year. Also expect our mailed April-May newsletter, with all the relevant information. Thanks to our community for the ongoing support of our students, as well as the district.

The start of 2020 is an opportunity to reflect on the fine work that has been done over the last several months. Here are some of our district highlights that we are proud to note:

Establishing revised mission, vision, and core belief statements, created collaboratively by a wide range of stakeholders.

Developing a goal-setting process for employees that

See FCS, continued on Page 11



INSIDE

THIS ISSUE...

REGULAR FEATURES:

Neighbor’s View	Pg. 2
Mayor’s Corner	Pg. 3
Kitchen Basics	Pg. 4
Inside Local Realty	Pg. 4
Green Banks Garden	Pg. 5
Pipeline Update	Pg. 9
Real Estate Sales	Pg. 20

LOCAL ISSUES:

Kim Smith	Pg. 3
Memorial Flag	Pg. 3
Local Heroes	Pg. 7
Making Winter Count	Pg. 10
Spring Tree Planting	Pg. 10

HONORING ROTARY:

A Second Family	Pg. 6
What is Rotary?	Pg. 6

FOCUS ON ENERGY:

Constitution Obit	Pg. 8
CLCPA	Pg. 8

LOCAL ARTS:

FCS poets	Pg. 11
Book Reviews	Pg. 12
Poetry Shelf	Pg. 12
Upstate Arts	Pg. 13
Catskill Cats	Pg. 13
Library Events	Pg. 14

Your Neighbor's View...

To the Editor:

Who will pay the price for a Second Amendment Sanctuary County?

Recently, there have been stories in local papers about an effort to make Delaware County a Second Amendment Sanctuary County. A group known as 2AWNY is promoting an effort to discourage local officials from enforcing state gun control laws. They consider “the *SAFE act and the state’s pistol permit policy as ‘the primary tools used by the state to forcefully disarm and punish New York gun owners.’*”

Gun violence has costs, whether it is due to suicide, murder, or accident. In fact, considering that **Delaware County had the highest rate of gun deaths from 2011 to 2016**, I wonder who will shoulder the cost of gun tragedies if Delaware County adopts this policy?

Will the victims of crime be expected to pay for their own injuries, burials, or mental healthcare needs? If Delaware County or Franklin were to become a 2nd amendment sanctuary and I or a member of my family were the victim of gun violence, I would hold responsible the place that took away my protections from gun violence.

Will the county indemnify the victims and their families for gun violence to insure itself so that the taxpayers don’t end up bearing the burden? The implications of promoting lax safety standards can be risky, not only to victims but also to a community that is responsible for the safety of its citizens.

Carla Nordstrom
Franklin

EDITOR’S NOTE:

According to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation:

“Wetlands (swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas) are areas saturated by surface or ground water sufficient to support distinctive vegetation adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

“Wetlands serve as natural habitat for many species of plants and animals and absorb the forces of flood and tidal erosion to prevent loss of upland soil.”

According to David Diaz, Land Protection Manager at the Otsego Land Trust:

“Wetlands also serve as filters for chemicals and other pollution, resulting in improved drinking and recreational water quality.”

To the Editor:

In 2019 the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) updated the Master Plan for East Sidney Lake, where the Ouleout Creek is dammed, providing flood control. ACE describes the topography in the watershed as deep valleys having moderately steep side slopes.

ACE, in a 2019 Flood Damage Reduction Study, reports that “the goal to control flooding is to keep precipitation close to where it falls, encouraging infiltration into soils, storing water.”

We know that trees and vegetation help hold soils in place, that wetlands will slow water runoff.

There are several tributaries to the Ouleout Creek. There are several wetlands, as well, which provide a natural filtration system for the watershed.

The village of Franklin’s drinking water supply comes from the underlying aquifer of the Ouleout Creek. The aquifer is recharged daily from these tributaries and wetlands. The village treats the water, but it does not need costly filtration.

The possible impacts of the nine-and-one-half mile path of the Constitution Pipeline through the Ouleout Creek Watershed is documented in the NYSDEC Water Quality Certification/Notice of Denial, April 22, 2016. The project would “cross the Ouleout and its tributaries twenty-eight times,” using open cut methods and possible blasting through bedrock to form the two-foot deep trenches for the pipeline. “As a result of chronic erosion from disturbed stream banks and hill slopes, consistent degradation of water quality may occur.”

Recently, Williams and partners announced it has “halted investment in the proposed Constitution project.” There are matters to settle before we can be certain the Constitution Pipeline is never built.

Every political candidate who advocates for the Constitution Pipeline, advocates for the destruction of the Ouleout Creek Watershed.

That’s a no vote for me.

Jan Mulroy
Franklin

save the date!
Sunday, May 24th
“defending beauty”
A SILENT ART AUCTION
1 P.M. - 5 P.M.
AT THE FARMHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTER
ON MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN

Come bid on work donated by local artists and support the STP Legal Defense Fund. This fund will help landowners pay legal fees needed to recover full title to land taken by eminent domain for the Constitution Pipeline right of way.

HEBBARD FENCE, LLC

558 Otego Road, Franklin, NY 13775
donhebbard44@gmail.com
607-829-8664

Your high tensile,
woven wire, barbwire,
board fencing specialist.
Fully insured.

KENNETH L. BENNETT
FUNERAL HOME

425 MAIN STREET
FRANKLIN, NY 13776

607-829-2272

The NEW
Franklin Register.

The NFR in your inbox!

Live out of the area, or just too far from town?
You can still read the NFR.

Send us your email address, and we’ll email you an announcement of where to find the latest issue on line, as soon as it comes out.

To request an e-notification, email us at:
nfr@franklinlocal.org



FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News
Local Events

Local Issues
Local Concerns



SARGENT SMITH HONORED

Staff Report

The Carl Draxler Award was presented to Sargent Kim Smith of Delaware



From L to R: Sheriff Ron Spike (Yates County), Chairman New York State Sheriffs' Institute; Sgt. Smith; Sheriff Robert Maciol (Oneida County)

Photo credit: NYS Sheriffs' Institute

County Sheriff's Office by the New York State Sheriffs' Institute (NYSSI) at the annual Winter Training Conference of the NYS Sheriffs' Association.

Annually, this award recognizes one sheriff's office employee for exceptional achievement over the course of his or her career, as demonstrated by a conscientious devotion to duty and a spirit of selfless public service. She was selected from several candidates who were nominated by their counties.

"It was my honor and privilege to nominate Sargent Smith for this well-deserved award" said Craig DuMond, Delaware County

See SMITH, con't on Page 9

DELGADO PRESENTS SPECIAL FLAG



Last November, Congressman Antonio Delgado presented the Village of Franklin with a flag that had flown over the nation's capitol. It is to replace the flag presented by Congressman Gibson four years ago.

The dedication ceremony at the village park included members of the Franklin American Legion, Franklin Central School Superintendent Brad Zilliox,

and village Mayor Thomas Briggs. Franklin Central School student Zoey Warren sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" after the new flag was raised. Sixty people were in attendance.



PAUL D'ANDREA

At the end of the January village board meeting, trustee D'Andrea quietly announced that he would not be running again for the board. After many years of dedicated service, Paul will no longer oversee village matters in an official capacity. It would be an understatement to say that we will miss him. Few small municipalities have people of his professional and ethical caliber serving on their boards.

Paul is a 'native son': born, raised and educated in Franklin. After leaving for college and earning an engineering degree, he returned to the village and for many years served as an electrical engineer at NYSEG (New York State Electric and Gas). He eventually married his wife (Linda) and raised a family in his current residence, across the street from his childhood home.

During Paul's seventeen-year tenure on the board, he often served as the go-to person for professional advice regarding village infrastructure repair and development. He knows the water system as well as the power system, and his natural curiosity about things technical has been of great value in our discussions during board meetings. As it is said, sometimes it takes asking the right questions to come up with the right solutions.

To me as Mayor and relative newcomer, Paul's keen awareness of the village's history, plus his sense of what Franklin residents value, has been helpful in planning and addressing the conflicts and challenges that the village has had to address.

Thank you, Paul, for your donation of time and expertise in service to your community.

THE FRANKLIN 20

On another subject, I have been asked to weigh in on the "Franklin 20," a situation which has drawn so much anger and concern from people locally. For readers who haven't heard, the Franklin 20 refers to the twenty dogs that were discovered crowded in cages under deplorable conditions in a barn in the Town of Franklin. When the police arrived and the dogs were rescued, all the evidence seemed to point to the dogs being part of a dog-fighting operation. Pictures of the dogs, many emaciated and injured, brought out a local groundswell of

THE MAYOR'S CORNER

With Tom Briggs

compassion for the dogs and outrage toward the owner, especially from pet lovers.

Being a dog owner myself and enjoying the special connection that I share with Mimi (my dog), I find it hard to comprehend how someone could be so cold as to raise dogs for the sole purpose of watching them tear each other apart, often to the death in a fighting pit just for sport. But I've worked long enough in human services to understand that not every person who mistreats pets is a sociopath. There are some whose spirit has been so badly fractured in their own lives that their behavior is directed toward abusing weaker people and animals as a form of retribution for how they themselves were treated. And then there are those whose cultural upbringing desensitizes them from seeing anything wrong with dog fighting. Indeed, almost all of Asia including China and India have populations that regard dog fighting in the same way we look upon boxing and recognize it as a legal form of entertainment. We should also be aware that dog fighting in this country, as a criminal endeavor, is an easier and more financially lucrative undertaking than robbing a bank or peddling drugs, with the added advantage of having a much lower penalty for the perpetrator when he is caught.

After speaking with friends and reading posts about the "Franklin 20" episode, I've watched this indignation take on a kind of vigilante mindset. There's frustration that the perpetrator might not receive the punishment that he deserves, and there's anger with the shortcomings of the justice system as a result. To me, although I understand why people are angry, I also wonder if there might not be a more effective way of dealing with this person or these persons than just incarcerating him (them). As an example, if you put your child in timeout but fail to convey the essence of why they're being punished, then

they may repeat the offense but learn how to do so in a more devious manner. Likewise, if the dog abuser is convicted and sentenced, would it not be wise as part of his sentence to immerse him in a program designed to shift his disposition toward adopting a more humane and positive treatment of animals?

This whole thing is so unfortunate and totally misrepresents the overall character of our community. It does however bring to light a problem that is much more pervasive than most of us realize. Dog fighting is not something that is limited to rural areas and conducted by backwoodsmen. It's also practiced in cities in isolated locations like vacant warehouses. Pit fighting is promoted by white collar types as well as by gang members, and in some cases has a sophisticated underground network complete with social media and gambling infrastructures. I agree with those who are angry that a harsher punishment should be developed for this brutal type of animal abuse. I also feel that a media campaign at the national level could be developed that would help bring this issue to the fore.

One comment that I feel I've got to share, though it may rub some people the wrong way, is this: it is my sense that we sometimes get more emotional about how defenseless animals are treated than about how our society is treating innocent children. Why is our nation still incarcerating migrant children and refusing to reunite them with their parents? Why isn't there a nationwide uproar of indignation, demanding that these children be reunited with their families? Why have we allowed this to become old news?

We have business to take care of, both at the local level and at the national level. It's good that we're indignant when we witness behavior that is cruel and inhumane. It's better when we work to create a better world because of it. We must not lose ground.

After our ages long journey from Savagery to civility, let's hope we Haven't bought a round trip ticket

- Cullen Hightower

Editor's note: dogfighting was not outlawed in the United States until 1976.

kitchen basics

By
Carla Nordstrom

FISH TAGINE

If you are looking to make a one pot dinner that is tasty and satisfying, this is a recipe you'll enjoy. I've been making it for years because it is easy and serves up in no time. You need to remember to give yourself at least two hours before you make it so that the fish can marinate.

This recipe has been adapted from <http://titlisbusykitchen.com>.
Yield: 3-4 servings

Tagine Marinade

- ½ cup finely chopped cilantro
- ½ cup finely chopped parsley
- ½ cup olive oil
- 6 minced garlic cloves
- Lemon juice from half lemon
- 1 tsp. paprika
- ½ tsp. ground cumin
- Pinch of saffron (optional)

- 1½ pounds of firm white fish filet such as scrod or halibut
- 1 Tbl. olive oil

- 1 large sliced onion
- 2 medium sliced potatoes
- 2 carrots peeled and cut into matchsticks
- 1 sliced green pepper
- 3 sliced tomatoes
- 2 tbl. chopped cilantro

Combine all the ingredients for the marinade.

Cut the fish into one-inch chunks and place in a bowl. Mix in the marinade, reserving 3 tablespoons for later use. Put in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours.

Place olive oil in the bottom of a casserole with a lid. Layer the ingredients, starting with onions on the bottom, potatoes, carrots, marinated fish, peppers, and tomatoes on top. Pour the remaining marinade over the top and sprinkle with fresh cilantro.

Cook covered on the top of the stove over medium low heat for approximately 30-40 minutes.

Serve with salad and crusty bread.



Photo by Andy Bobrow

INSIDE LOCAL REAL ESTATE with SUSAN BARNETT

FIVE TIPS TO SELL YOUR HOUSE THIS SPRING

I'm thinking spring. It's coming. It's time to get ready for the spring real estate rush.

Upstate New York real estate has always slowed down in the winter months. Sellers want to concentrate on the holidays and aren't keen on strangers tramping through their homes in slushy boots. Buyers back off, too. Unless you've got a need to move fast, it's a lot more pleasant to look at houses when the mercury holds steady above forty degrees.

The red-hot mid-Hudson Valley is the current exception to that rule. The area around Kingston has always drawn downstate buyers, but that market now resembles a feeding frenzy. Multiple offers are the norm. Buyers find themselves shut out of two or three homes before they finally win a bidding war.

Further to the west, Delaware County and Otsego County have been seeing an increase in activity as well. I sold two large properties just days before Christmas.

And prices are going up.

If you're selling, here are five tips to make the most of the spring market.

1. Spruce up before you list.

Add thousands in value and cut your marketing in half by taking a critical look at your home. Be ruthless. Can you de-clutter? Box up those beloved dust catchers. Could the paint be freshened? Are the rugs worn or dirty? Clean

them! If there's hardwood underneath, pull them up and scrub the floors. The internet boasts a million how-to videos on home staging. Watch one or five.

Outside, optimize your home's curb appeal as soon as weather permits. Rake up the winter mess. Touch up exterior paint and repair any damage. Power washing can do wonders. Trim overgrown bushes. If you're not a gardener, add some strategic potted and hanging plants, or stick in some annuals.

Not sure what your home needs? Any realtor worth his or her salt will give you free tips and point you in the right direction. If they can't, find one who can. Demanding expertise won't upset a good realtor. Sellers willing to properly prepare a home for marketing are a realtor's dream.

2. Don't wait for summer.

Buyers look all year long. They may get more active in March, but they're shopping online in January. They want to be in their new home by summer. If they have children, they'll want to move before a new school year begins. It takes time to find the right place, so they start early. Make sure they see your home before the late spring listing rush begins.

3. Hire a realtor.

So what can a realtor do for you that you can't do for yourself? Everything.

Yes, I'm a realtor. Of course I'm biased. But a full-time realtor is a professional whose only job is selling your home. We have the systems in place, the experience, the knowledge, and the time to do what's necessary to sell a home in today's marketplace.

We know the community, we know what's selling or not, and why. We have a long list of clients, former clients, and other agents.

They will help spread the word about your house.

We understand the process of buying and selling homes. We can handle the paperwork, answer your questions, and save you hours of frustration.

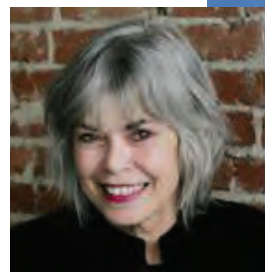
We know how to negotiate. And good negotiations are essential for a good sale experience.

You want to sell it yourself? Prepare for hours online inputting data, researching websites to see if they're worth the money they'll charge you. You'll pay for professional photographs or you'll be investing in a good camera and learning how to use it to attract buyers. You'd better be a good writer, too, because your marketing information is part of what draws buyers to your listing. And if you get defensive when people are critical of your home, you're going to hate being a For-Sale-by-Owner. Buyers are always critical. It's how they negotiate.

For a percentage of the sale price, you'll have a guide through the process who'll do all the work. Plus, because you're the client, you can (and should) be clear about what you expect and be sure you get the service you were promised. Remember, your realtor doesn't make a dime unless the house sells. Hire a good realtor.

4. Keep it tidy.

Your house is for sale. It looks amazing. Your realtor promises twenty-four hours' notice before a showing. Nobody mentions the struggle to keep your house show-ready once it's on the market. A pain in the neck, but it's worth it. Live like you're visiting a cranky relative – keep it neat. When there's a showing, get the animals



out of the house if you can. Some folks are allergic. Some don't like cats, dogs, whatever. Even if they're animal lovers, you're trying to sell your house, not Fido. Keep the focus on the house.

5. Keep an open mind.

There's a fair chance the first offer will seem too low. Don't let it bother you. In today's market, every buyer wants a bargain. But if they want your house, and only your house, that first offer is just an opening bid. Here's where your realtor proves her worth, by working to get those buyers to a number that works for everyone. A good realtor will explain what benefits an offer might have (a slightly lower cash offer can be more attractive than a higher one with a lot of contingencies and some tricky financing) and help you see where there may be room for movement and where everyone is standing firm. A good realtor has been through this many times, and the voice of experience is a real comfort in the heat of negotiations.

A final word: be realistic. Selling a house is exciting, it can be fun, but it's also stressful. Be ready for that. Use those five tips and you'll cut down on the stress, and be well on your way to your next chapter.

Good luck!



KNOW THY GARDEN

Self-awareness is difficult to achieve. Garden awareness can be just as difficult. Gardens change over time, and your real garden may no longer look much like your mental image of it. This causes problems when our memories of our gardens direct our plans and actions.

I remember laying out wide paths, painstakingly leveled and mulched. My initial planting scheme allowed a few plants to cascade endearingly into the path, but just a bit and it added to the charm. One day I watched a friend squeeze her way down the path in my front garden and it dawned on me that things have gotten out of hand. People aren't walking through my garden; they're swimming in it, first pushing back a wave of summer phlox with one arm and a wall of delphiniums with the other, then fighting past the viburnums. It's not the garden experience I intended my guests to have.

And then there's my favorite picture of my garden, in which clumps of Siberian iris are blooming

in two shades of purple next to white *Campanula persicifolia* and a lavender cloud of *Nepeta* 'Six Hills Giant', punctuated by *Stachys grandiflora* 'Superba' with its short reddish violet spikes. Yes, that's my favorite picture. Only... I haven't seen the Siberian irises in bloom in a while - actually, not in years - and the *Stachys* has nearly died. In fact, that whole section of the garden is now in deep shade, as those wonderful trees I planted have thrived.

I think fondly of the 'Miss Kim' lilac offset I carefully transplanted from my mom's garden and nurtured into a lovely shrub. But it's struggling now amidst a thicket of *Baptisia*, visible for only a few days each spring and barely alive. And where are those daylilies I planted along the fence, next to that cute little threadleaf arborvitae?

Gardens change. Plants grow and spread, bloom and die. It's what we love about gardening, after all - that it is ever changing and full of possibilities. It keeps us charging back out there every spring, full of plans and dreams and resolutions. This will be the year

I spread compost and mulch on all the beds before the new growth starts. This will be the year I divide all the irises, dig those blasted buttercups out of the primulas, trim the old leaves out of the hellebores in late winter before they bloom, cut back the rhododendrons and lilacs just after they bloom. This will be the year that...

But before we dive in, let's take a few minutes to look through pictures of the garden from years past. Look closely at how it has evolved. Do you have more shade these days than you realized? Maybe it's time to cut back shrubs and limb up trees or move those sun-loving plants that are barely surviving in the shadows. This might be an opportunity to expand your hosta or epimedium collection into a new bed. Or you might have the opposite problem of having lost a tree or some large limbs, resulting in shade-loving perennials suffering in the sun. Move them or plant a fast-growing shrub like *Physocarpus* (ninebark) to block some of the light.

GREEN BANKS GARDENING



With
Deborah Banks

Investment analysts tell us to rebalance our financial portfolios periodically. We should do the same for our garden beds. Has the *Astrantia* taken all the available space in a bed that also contains other perennials? Does your prairie-inspired mixed border now just look like a sea of *Echinacea*? Maybe your terraced hill is so full of *Alchemilla mollis* (lady's mantle) that you can no longer see the stone walls, let alone those little alpine treasures you collect. It's time to dig out some of that abundance to share with friends or the garden club's plant sale. Rescue your cherished plants from the thugs. Move your daylilies and irises into the sun.

I also plan to replace some of those perennials I once loved that disappeared during an unusually hot summer or late spring

freeze or wet winter or rabbit/deer/beetle/slug attack. I want to plant more of the alliums and lilies that now look so sparse after years of chipmunk predation and accidents with shovels. And I will remove or cut back those plants that took over my paths. (Brave words; it's so hard to take out plants that are thriving.)

While studying your garden in your old photos, you may realize that your garden now looks established in a way that you thought it never would. Mature. Lovely. Yes, it needs work, but look how tall your trees are. How beautifully those shrubs have grown. Take the time to celebrate what your garden has become from its small beginnings.

Then get on out there and reclaim it.



QUANTUM MSP
cloud technology

Delivering modern technology solutions from the beauty of the Catskill Mountains

- Cloud Migrations
- Security Solutions
- Backups and Business Continuity
- Enterprise IT Architecture

www.quantummsp.com
sko@quantummsp.com



ROTARY: A SECOND FAMILY

By Louise Hebbard and
Lynne Kemen

"You find yourself in a second family" said Franklin Rotary President Johanna VanDeusen, who joined the group three years ago because she wanted to be involved in her community. It is hands-on with lots of work to be done. VanDeusen says she has been given many training opportunities. "They [Rotarians] are a wonderful group of supportive people."

Service above Self is Rotary's mission statement, and it has a big impact in the town of Franklin. Rotary, an international volunteer organization with a membership of over 1.2 million, meets in almost 200 countries. Rotary's aim is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as the basis of all worthy enterprise. Rotarians have helped to eradicate polio, promote peace, encourage literacy, provide safe and pure water wells, provide housing packages for emergency situations, and have pursued many other activities in more than twenty Rotary

HONORING ROTARY

Action Groups.

Rotary is also known for its mentoring of youth and support of youth leaders. RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Award – is a three-day seminar on leadership training given each summer. A school-nominated youth, age 14 or over, attends, financed by Franklin Rotary. Students are also encouraged to engage in community activities as volunteers, working alongside Rotarians. "Rotaractors" is a program for young adults, ages 18-22. Some of our local youth have participated while at college.

With the help of the Unadilla chapter, the Franklin Rotary Chapter was formed on February 21, 1947, charter number 6519. Some of the charter members were: Cecil Fowlston, William J. Hyzer, Robert L. Peake, George Lattin, Donald Law, John McIntosh, Clyde O'Hara, and Earl Tilyou. The Franklin Rotary has sponsored Scout troops, cleaned roads, planted trees, helped maintain the Franklin Free Library, village house numbers, street signs, etc. In 1957, Franklin Rotary undertook the project of a community swimming pool. The pool was opened in 1959 after many hours of effort by community volunteer labor, fundraisers, machine operators and able-bodied workers. Franklin Rotary donated and installed the iron fence surrounding the new handicap-accessible entrance at the Franklin Free Library as well as in the Franklin Village Park.

These projects were enabled by grants from The Rotary Foundation, a fund distributed for worthwhile projects on a local and international level. Rotary purchased and planted trees in the Ouleout Valley Cemetery.

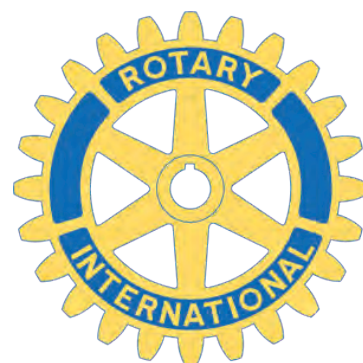
Jack Law is currently the longest-serving member of the Franklin Rotary. He joined in 1969 with encouragement from his uncle, Donald Law. He immediately took over the chairmanship from Don for the student exchange program, chairing it for twenty-five years. Jack stated he is most proud of the international exchange program which introduces many students and families to this unique experience. He became Treasurer in the 1970s and has served as an officer and/or chairman of many projects. He and his wife Ann continued the annual Roast Beef Dinner begun and organized by Floyd and Arlene Tarbell. This project has been the most successful fundraiser for the Rotary. Jack says he joined Rotary to become part of a community organization. He appreciates the fact that Franklin Rotary continues to fulfill its obligations on a local and international level.

Another very active and long-time member, Rodney Hebbard, one of three Hebbard members, says that one of his favorite projects has been the annual lighting of the Christmas trees lining Franklin's Main Street. He has helped for many years, maintaining

lights, procuring and setting up trees, and enjoying the charm and atmosphere this project provides. He also enjoys having been involved in the Rotary Student Exchange Program. He feels it is very important that the town and school experience students from other countries and send our students overseas. This exchange of cultures promotes understanding, goodwill, and contributes to worldwide peace and fellowship.

Rodney has been a member since about 1980. He was personally invited to join by "Zeke" (Cecil) Fowlston and Doug Mateson, past active and influential Franklin citizens. Rodney would like to see Rotary and other service organizations in the Franklin Township work together cooperatively on various goals and projects enhancing the quality of our lives.

Many of the Facebook posts by Franklin Rotary show men and women working to beautify Franklin. On-going projects include annual cleanup of roads in the Adopt-a-Highway Program, maintaining the no-longer active First Baptist Cemetery on Rt. 357, sponsoring the Easter Egg Hunt in coordination with the Franklin Fire Department's annual pancake breakfast, doing the grilling of food for the New Old Franklin Days, and selling the delicious refreshments before and during intermissions at Franklin Stage Company performances.



To volunteer:

Franklin Rotary Club:
<https://franklinlocal.org/event/rotary-2019/2020-12-02/>

Rotary collects dues from its members and financially supports the weekly dinners before their business meetings.

Email:

Franklinrotary7170@gmail.com

Meetings:

Every Wednesday at 6:15pm

Location:

United Methodist Church
465 Main Street
Franklin, NY 13775



This is the third in a series of articles about volunteering in our community.



WHAT IS ROTARY?

By Don Hebbard

Rotary International was founded in Evanston, Illinois in 1905. It has grown to over 1.2 million members in 195 countries around the globe. Rotary is an international service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace around the world. Rotary forms partnerships with service, civic, and non-governmental organizations [NGO's] to leverage monetary donations and volunteer service hours. Partners such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in the challenge of eradicating polio, Shelter Box in providing immediate aid following natural and man-made disasters, partnering with other organizations to provide wells, water systems and sanitation



RYLA Rotary Young Leader Award:
L to R: Collin Campbell, Kayla Campbell, Lily Bevilacqua

facilities, as well as issuing grants, scholarships and educational materials.

Locally Franklin Rotary supports many civic projects and other organizations' efforts, provides four scholarships to graduating Franklin Seniors, performs roadside litter pickup multiple times each year on Route 357, maintains the Baptist cemetery Leonta [junction of County Route 14 and State Route 357], supports the Treadwell-Franklin Food Bank, has received Rotary grants for constructing the

safety fences in the Village Park and at the Franklin Free Library, and for planting trees and shrubs in the Ouleout Valley Cemetery.

Rotary International Youth Exchange Program

Through the Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotary International hopes to create a more interconnected and understanding world. One of Rotary's primary goals is promoting peace around the world, and through the Rotary Youth Exchange, it aims to make the world a more peaceful place one exchange at a time.

The Franklin Rotary Club sponsors local youths for a school year-long visit to a foreign country, where they live with families and attend school. At the same time a student from a foreign country is sponsored to come to Franklin and attend Franklin Central School.

Rotary is seeking local families who will open their homes

for these students and share in a life-changing experience. Three families are selected and will each host the visiting student for three months of the school year. Often the relationships formed during this exchange continue over a lifetime for the student and the host family.

RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Award

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award is an intensive leadership experience where young people can develop leadership skills while having fun and connecting with other youth. This is a three-day event held annually at SUNY Oneonta, usually the week after school is over. One Franklin Central School student is selected to attend this event sponsored by the Franklin Rotary Club. RYLA often results in a life-long commitment to leadership, community service, and volunteerism for the student.

LOCAL HEROES: JOAN AND BOB CRONAUER

By Susan Barnett

Recent photos by the author

(This is the first of a series of profiles of local residents, sharing their perspective on the community we all love.)

Joan and Bob Cronauer were born and raised in Franklin. They raised their family in the house where Bob grew up, on what is now Cronauer Road.

"He was born in that room behind me," Joan said, as we sat in the living room of their farmhouse. "I grew up in the village and I always wanted to live on a farm." She laughed. "Until I got on one. You could write your name in the frost on the window here. We had an oil furnace where I grew up!"



The Cronauer homestead

Their house used to be "right on the main road," before County Route 21 was rerouted and expanded.

"It was a four way intersection," Bob remembered. "And there were a lot of accidents. One Thanksgiving night we had to go help a fellow get his car out of our field. Then there was the truck loaded with storm windows that went into the creek. Windows all over the place."

"We were always helping people who'd crashed their cars," his wife said. "When they moved the road in the eighties, I didn't like it at all."

She remembered clouds of construction dust that drove her inside with her children.

"I love it now," she admitted.

The name of the new road was a surprise to them, Joan said. "I



Joan and Bob in their farmhouse kitchen

was working at the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) when they started assigning 911 addresses and I heard them say, 'Cronauer Road.'"

"First we heard it," Bob agreed.

Bob farmed his family's land, and gradually transitioned into his own plumbing and electrical business. His wife of sixty-five

years taught in the Franklin School for three decades. They were both active on the Franklin Emergency Rescue Squad.

Franklin, they said, always had a strong community spirit.

"When I was really small, 1935 or '36," Bob said, "there was a huge flood. The water came right up over

the banks toward the house. Our cows were stranded on the other side."

"People from the village came over the hill," Joan continued, "and they milked the cows morning and night until Bob's father could get to them again."

A conversation with the Cronauers generally means a lot of engagement from Joan, and a few interjected comments from her husband.

"I really don't know why we got together," Joan laughed. "We are two completely different people. I remember Bob as one of the older boys in study hall. He never said two words. And he wouldn't today if I didn't make him."

Her husband smiled. "I'm a better listener, I guess."

In fact, they got together because Joan's older brother, Richard

Burnside, decided they should.

"My brother took it in his head that he was going to decide who I should marry," Joan said.

He picked Bobby Cronauer, a quiet, hardworking farm kid who was a star athlete in basketball and baseball, and a talented trumpet player.

"Her dad took us to see the Dodgers at Ebbets Field," Bob remembered.

"After seven innings I was ready to go home," Bob said.

"It was so dirty," Joan exclaimed. "The bathrooms were disgraceful!"

They agreed on that. And after they were married, they seemed to agree on what their lives together would be. They both worked, they both took care of their children and Bob's parents, Alex and Martha, who lived with them. Bob's dad was bedridden for fifteen years, and stubbornly resisted the increasing mechanization of farming.

"He didn't like machines. He didn't believe bigger was better," Joan said. "And even when he couldn't do the work and his wife was doing it, he insisted on us doing it his way. In the end, maybe he was right. All those machines and the big farms are putting small farmers out of business."

And they agreed on the value of education. They both are proud of their own education, and the achievements of the younger generations of Cronauers.

"I worked different jobs," Bob said, "and then decided to go back



A wedding photo

to school to become a teacher. I got my Masters," Joan said. "Education is the thing. I'm still on the School Board. And Bob went to school at Delhi Tech to take electrician courses, but of course he could already do most anything because he'd been helping out people with odd jobs for years. And when we

had to study to do advanced EMS training, that was equivalent to two years of med school."

Bob now smilingly refers to himself as the CEO of Cronauer Plumbing and Electric. His grandson, Jason, who started working with him when he was ten, after school, now does the work while Bob occasionally checks in.

The Cronauers remember when Franklin was a thriving market town. They ticked off the names of four groceries, three department stores, two garages, a hairdresser, a creamery, two slaughterhouses, a hardware store and two feed stores.



The sign on Cronauer Road

"It's gone from agrarian to a tourist town," Joan noted. "There were five hundred kids in the Franklin school in the sixties. Now there are about 250. Franklin seems to draw retired people, college professors, families who want their children to go to the Franklin School. And there are the weekends, the people who come here part-time. There's a divide now."

"I think the school is the industry here now," Joan continued. "And we've got a great library. You see people who haven't had access to the Internet using the computers there. Education is the world."

Joan said the local divide isn't political; it's philosophical – a growing progressive worldview smacking hard into a deep-rooted conservative one.

"I think there's a resentment of people seen as 'elites,'" she said.

But she also described a frequent tendency of so-called elites to be very rigid in their thinking, unwilling to hear any views that aren't their own.

"If everyone could get together, we could get things done," she said.


VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES!

Thank you! The Franklin Rotary Club is grateful for your support of the annual Main Street Christmas Tree Program. Your donations to the program in 2019 helped raise \$1250 for the benefit of Franklin's youth. Franklin Rotary Club participates in the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program and the Rotary Youth Leadership Award Program (RYLA).

At left, Rotary members cleaning up the Baptist Church Cemetery. L to R: Tom Briggs, Paul White, Rodney Hebbard, John Wilson, Tom Collier, Gary Orton, Jerry Hebbard



173 Main Street
Franklin, NY 13775



**the
Squire's
tankard**

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

TOM & DONNA BRIGGS

(607) 829-6885



FOCUS ON ENERGY

OBITUARY

CONSTITUTION P. PROJECT

This February 19th, the family announced the passing of Constitution Pipeline Project, following a long regulatory process. Grievously injured by denial of a Water Quality Certificate at age four, it was kept on life support for almost half its life by regulatory and judicial appeals, slipping in and out of hearings. Immediate cause of death was withdrawal of economic support by its parent companies.

Constitution P. was born on February 21st, 2012, to Williams Partners and Cabot O&G of Tulsa, Oklahoma. In its brief life, this misguided Project cost its parent companies over \$350 million while contributing little to affected communities.

It had the potential to grow to be a big fellow at 124.4 miles with an XXL waist of 124 inches (30 in diameter). Though generally understated, preferring a subterranean lifestyle, it would wear a showy chain of 100-foot communication towers, including one off Otego Road. And its parent Williams had never forsworn crowning it with a midstream compressor station to be located here.

Constitution Pipeline Project made a habit of acquiring easements at below market rates through threats of eminent domain and when necessary acting on those threats in the courts. Constitution stiffed the landowners by refusing to pay rental despite its intention to use the landowner's property to earn millions of dollars annually for decades. A veneer of generosity came from comparatively small gifts to local nonprofits such as Franklin Community Educational Foundation, Franklin Fire Department, and Village of Franklin.

One of Mr. Project's lasting legacies in Franklin is scattered stretches of prematurely logged right-of-way. Blocked by New York State from doing the clearing themselves, contractors for Mr. P's parent company Williams misled landowners into believing that construction was imminent, so they'd better harvest the ROW timber ASAP. These landowners are left with a 100' wide clear-cut through their woods.

With the community's rejection of Constitution P. Project, it turned vindictive. After a critical certification was denied by DEC, Mr. P. uselessly cleared trees along the 25-mile ROW in Pennsylvania just because it could – including most of the sugarbush critical to a family's maple sugar business. A photo of Project showed this work area patrolled by guards wearing body armor and toting assault rifles.

Constitution P. died just shy of its eighth birthday, unwanted and unloved except by those who could exploit it for a quick buck.

Mr. Project is survived by Dominion, Iroquois, Millennium, and the rest of the family of transport pipelines with the capacity to supply domestic demand in the northeast.

It will be best remembered for having inadvertently inspired a revolution. Fervent opposition to Constitution P. Project and Keystone P. Project brought people together in common purpose. No longer could infrastructure companies routinely steamroll over communities along a pipeline route plotted out somewhere in Oklahoma.

THE CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT

By Don Hebbard

You may believe mankind burning fossil fuels causes greenhouse gas [GHG] emissions and affects the climate, or you may not. You may think we can reduce GHG emissions, or you may not. You may think GHG emissions will not change the way we live here in little old Franklin. But GHG emissions are already affecting Franklin, and the whole world.

The evidence is hard to ignore: sea levels and temperatures are rising; polar and mountain glaciers are disappearing rapidly; coastal cities and low-lying islands are slowly going under water; arid regions are suffering increased droughts; wet areas are seeing more rain and mudslides; wildfires are raging; illnesses from air pollution and drinking water contamination are rising sharply. Bird and plant species are declining, or moving north. The list continues.

The future of the world's environment will be determined by choices made in the near future: continue with a fossil fuel economy, or move to a renewable energy economy. Either path will mean an enormous financial cost: continue on a fossil fuel economy and finance efforts to mitigate the environmental results - remember Hurricane Sandy? - or invest in renewable energies, conservation measures, and cleaning up the environment. This cost will be borne by government, that is, tax payers - both industries and private households.

New York State has decided to move away from fossil fuels. The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act [CLCPA],

signed into law July 2019, is designed to provide a roadmap to achieve an ambitious goal: economy-wide, net-zero emissions by 2050.

Zero emissions is pretty straight forward: stop creating emissions, that is, do not burn coal, oil, or gas. Or take measures to ensure the GHG compounds are not released or allowed to escape to the atmosphere, when fossil fuels are extracted or consumed. For example, collect natural gas at oil well heads versus flaring or direct venting.

Net-zero emissions allow some GHG emissions to continue, if a method can be found to offset those emissions. Net-zero emissions is the most controversial part of CLCPA, a sore spot between environmentalists and industrialists.

Previous emission goals, such as variations on a Green New Deal, only addressed electric generation. Economy-wide goals refer to **all** segments of the economy: electric generation, commercial, industrial, agricultural, residential, housing, transportation, education, energy conservation, etc. Every power-producing and consuming segment in New York State's economy will be affected.

The CLCPA is a very aggressive approach that mandates the development, enactment, enforcement, and monitoring of programs to reduce GHG emissions throughout New York State. The CLCPA requires an economy-wide 85% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The remaining 15% of emissions must be offset through carbon credits, carbon capture, or new technologies to create a carbon-neutral economy. How to reach those goals

is the multi-billion-dollar question being asked in government offices and corporate boardrooms across the state.

Setting GHG emission goals was as simple as enacting the CLCPA. Now comes the hard part. Choosing and implementing actions to reach those emission goals will be the real challenge. The fossil fuel industry was federally subsidized as an emerging technology in the late 1800's. It continues to be subsidized today. The industry has spent billions over the years to cover up the true environmental cost of their emissions. Only relatively recently have we seen serious public push-back to fossil fuels.

The first step in enacting the CLCPA was to set up the means of implementing the law. *Article 48: Environmental Justice* was added to the Environmental Conservation Law on December 23, 2019 and took effect on January 1, 2020. Article 48 establishes the New York State Climate Action Council and environmental justice Advisory Groups.

The council, co-chaired by DEC and NYSEERDA, will be composed of the heads of various New York state agencies, along with members appointed by the governor, Senate, and the Assembly. The council will be advised by public comment hearings and work groups.

Advisory groups will be composed of panels which will report to the council on specific subjects such as transportation, industry, construction, land use, local government, etc. The advisory groups' roles will be to ensure all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups are treated fairly. Traditionally, energy options have

See CLCPA, continued on Page 18

FUTURE OF EV CHARGING?

Staff Report

All the villages around us have an electric vehicle (EV) charging station, and we want one.

The village trustees are willing to be the official recipient of available grants, and Chamber of Commerce board members are willing to do the paperwork.

The problem? Right now in Franklin, the project is homeless. Before we can apply for a grant, we need a workable site. It should be off Main Street, in the center of the village. A parking lot would be suitable, such as those beside the railroad museum, Wayne Bank, or the old grocery/deli. A charging station does not take up much room. The Chamber would like to be able to apply during the next round of funding. Suggestions, anyone?



PIPELINE UP-DATE

Compiled by Brian Brock

May 9th **Consolidated Edison of New York, Inc.** announces a contract with Iroquois Gas Transmission System, LLC to receive natural gas via the Iroquois Pipeline for borough of the Bronx and parts of Manhattan and Queens starting in November 2023.

October ?? **IGTS** announces the Enhancement by Compression (ExC) project to add 48,000 Hp of compression and additional cooling at four compressor stations along its pipeline south of the Wright compressor station. This will increase capacity to import from Canada 125 MM cuft/day of natural gas at the interconnect on the boarder at Waddington NY. This project replaces the SoNo reversal project, which was to export gas from Constitution to Canada.

October 25th In the earning call concerning its financial results for the third quarter of the fiscal year, **Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation** reveals that after FERC had removed the DEC block to the project (August 28, 2019), the Constitution Pipeline Company was uncertain how to proceed. Senior vice president for marketing, Jeffrey Hutton, says that over the next few months the partners would evaluate the project with regard to “further permitting” and “commercial aspects.” Then the four would “collectively decide on a path forward.”

October 25th In that earning call, **Cabot** expresses doubts of viability of Constitution Pipeline. Chairman and CEO, David Dinges, discusses the “ills of prior decisions” to commit to transporting gas to foreign countries. While CPC has never identified who would be the ultimate consumer of gas from Constitution (other than the belated allocation of a few tenths of percent to Sidney township), evidence pointed to export to Canada via the SoNo reversal. In addition, Mr. Hutton discusses the “advantages of opportunities” to supply “in-basin demand projects.” In the last few years, Shell has begun construction of a huge gas-to-plastics plant in northwestern Pennsylvania. In addition, gas-fired electric generator plants are being built throughout the Marcellus/Utica basin.

December 9th **Supreme Court of the U.S.** declines to review *Hoopla Valley Tribe v. FERC*.

December 12th **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission** denies requests to rehear its Order of Voluntary Remand that NYS DEC had waived its authority over a WQC for the Constitution Pipeline project. Requests were made separately by NYSDEC, Catskill Mountainkeeper et al, and STP.

December 30th **NYS Department of Environmental Conservation** petitiones U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit to review and stay FERC’s Order of Voluntary Remand (August 28, 2019) and denial of request for review.

January 10th **Stop the Pipeline** petitiones U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit to review and stay FERC’s Order of Voluntary Remand and denial of request for review.

January 31st **IGTS** filed ExC project with FERC, docket number CP20-48

February 19th In its financial results for 2019, **Williams Companies** takes a \$145 million impairment of project. The company confirms to NFR that CPC “has halted investments in the proposed Constitution project.”

March 3rd During Q&A at the end of a panel discussion at the Bipartisan Policy Institute, CEO of Williams, Allen Armstrong, responds that during the delay in the final approval of the Constitution pipeline project, Williams started three larger pipeline projects to move gas from Marcellus fairway to southeastern states. By the time FERC waived the denial by DEC, the Constitution project was no longer the best risk-adjusted return on capital.

ABBEY MOVERS

40 Years Experience
Households-Offices
Pianos-Antiques-Heavy Equipment
Storage-Local-Long Distance-NYC
Family Business

607-437-1878 - abbeymovers@gmail.com

The Ultimate Wood Heat.

Set the thermostat where you want for a more comfortable home.

- **More Comfort** - Thermostatically controlled wood heat.
- **Peace of Mind** - Keep the fire outside and eliminate the dangers associated with indoor wood heating.
- **Save Money** - Wood is a renewable, inexpensive and often free energy source.
- **Durability** - Long-lasting, stainless steel firebox.

Halloran Outdoor Boilers

~ Sales & Service ~

Phone/Text - 845-594-7504

(24 Hours A Day)

[click here: www.halloranoutdoorboilers.com](http://www.halloranoutdoorboilers.com)

Central Boiler outdoor furnaces adapt easily to new or existing heating systems. It's important that your outdoor furnace and system be properly sized and installed. *Save off the MSRP of select in-stock Central Boiler outdoor furnace models, at participating dealers only. See dealer for details.



The Classic Edge is U.S. EPA Certified

CLASSIC EDGE

TITANIUM HD SERIES

Outdoor Wood Furnace

CentralBoiler.com

18-1701

SMITH, continued from Page 3

Sheriff.

Sargent Smith has served Delaware County for over two decades. In 1997, she began as a correction officer. Smith advanced to Sheriff’s Deputy in 2000, Corporal in 2015, and Sargent in 2018.

Additional responsibilities that she assumed included Evidence Technician, Evidence Room Supervisor, Field Training Officer, Director of Training, Director of the Delaware County Law Enforcement Academy, Director of Public Relations, Deputy Press information Officer, and Agency Accreditation Manager.

At the presentation ceremony, one of her supervisors said, “Kim is a well-rounded and knowledgeable police officer. Kim is not afraid to tackle any assignment that is given to her. She exercises sound judgment and is meticulous in her performance.”

The NYSSI citation continued, “Sergeant Smith sweats the small details.

She doesn’t perform her job for the glory or recognition. She never dodges difficult assignments and is never afraid to work long hours, get wet or get her hands dirty. She can always, without hesitation, be counted on. Sergeant Smith is an outstanding ambassador for the Office of Sheriff.”

This award was first presented in 1984. It is named for the late Carl Draxler, Chemung County Sheriff, who personified these qualities.

Ms. Smith was born and raised in Delhi. She moved to Franklin where she and her husband Donald Smith raised their four children: Cody, Gabriel, Jared, and Taylor.



annals of sustainability

SIX YEARS OF SUMMER

By Shanelle Ko

Growing up in rural Missouri, I greeted snowstorms with the same joy as any child hoping for a day off from school. When I left for college, I discovered that snow generally does not stop the hustle and bustle of a city and therefore all your commitments are still valid. When the swirling winds of puffy snow switch from gifting a day off to heralding delays, cancellations, and traffic, you start to hate snow.

Then I moved to New Orleans.

As I write this, a million people are flowing into the streets of New Orleans to participate in a celebration with no equal. Mardi Gras consumes almost a month of your life regardless of your level of participation. But here I am in the dead of winter watching the revelry from afar and feeling a mixture of longing and relief. You see, this place called the "Big Easy" places demands on your schedule that are both completely unnecessary and irresistible. The party never really stops and consequently neither do you. *Laissez les bon temps rouler.*

When we moved to Franklin, my family braced for summer to end for the first time in six years. If you have ever lived through the season affectionately known as "Hell's front porch" then you know that August down south is not the

carefree time of picnics and lazy afternoon strolls like we enjoy upstate. Rather, it is a period of hunkering down and seeking shelter from the intense afternoon sun. Since there is no such thing as taking a "Sun Day" you carry on.....sweaty. Life doesn't stop, it just



crawls under the heat.

From this perspective, you may understand how much I looked forward to my first snow day in our new home. Working from a home office with truly nowhere to go, I fantasized about what I would do with all of that spare time. Before long, I got my wish. I won't claim that my family has not experienced its fair share of cabin fever. In fact, in the pit of that boredom, new ideas were born. For the first time in recent

memory, I had a chance to pause and reflect. What to do with these newly acquired winter hours?

Fortunately, I had just purchased a "large and commodious former boarding house...." Built in 1822, my house has seen its fair share of additions, renovations and remodels. The wallpaper, now yellowed and peeling, is matched by broken hinges slumbering under layers of old paint. My newly acquired free time seemed destined for the DIY challenge before me.

It all began innocently enough. Peeling back a stray corner of wallpaper revealed a pattern underneath. But wait, under that pattern lies another. Before I knew it, I was removing the last of the fifth distinct pattern encountered on my journey to the wall underneath. I am grateful to my family and friends who participated in what soon became an obsession. If you have ever gone through the process of restoring an old wall from under a lifetime of wallpaper, you will understand when I say that this was an act of love. A gift for my new home and a shiny new interior for its 200th birthday.

Maybe this is why everyone around here is so incredibly competent. Not only do you need a variety of skills to navigate the challenges of winter in the Catskills but you have a season during which the pace of life slows enough for your thoughts to catch up with you. When else will you find time to unscrew that broken hinge? Restore the delicate curve of an ancient molding?

So, I propose a bit of gratitude for the hours of winter toil. I look forward as much as anyone to seeing the first signs of spring and feeling the warmth of the summer sun but I am already scheming for next winter project.

In New Orleans there are no winter months to toil away. No clear demarcation between the explosive growth and activity of spring, and



the quiet lull of winter. I wonder if modern life masks this rhythm too often? In a world that exalts the new and the now, I am restoring something old from the past.

I am honored to be the custodian of this piece of history and welcome you to join my family on this journey toward our bicentennial by following us online. View all five layers of wall paper and a surprise sixth pattern by visiting www.quantummsp.com/makingremotework.

Cronauer/Brower

Electric & Plumbing

56 Cronauer Rd
Franklin, NY 13775
607-829-5092

Family Owned & Operated

Doing Business Over 50 Years!

NEW TREES FOR OUR STREETS

(Updated from our Fall 2019 issue)

By Jane Hebbard

The Village of Franklin Tree Board plans a street tree planting for this spring. This will be the first phase of the project to replace the trees that have died along our village streets.

Planting site measuring took place last summer, and the proposed sites were marked with stakes. If a stake was placed on the public easement in front of your house, please call a member of the committee (listed below) to discuss having a tree planted at that

site. This will involve your agreement to water it for the first year. The committee will ask where your water supply line is, to avoid planting the tree near it.

We will need a crew on spring planting day. Most of the volunteers who helped plant trees fifteen years ago have 'aged out', so new volunteers are needed to step up and take their place. The village backhoe will dig the holes, but able volunteers will be needed to place the trees, settle the roots, and cover them with soil. The trees arrive 'bare root' and

weigh only a few pounds. The roots will have been gel-sprayed to prevent drying out, but they need to be kept damp while waiting to be planted, and then watered after planting.

Other less active jobs include picking up the trees at a drop-off site, transporting the trees to their sites on an open trailer, making sure each tree is in its proper planting site, and planting grass seed. **Please get in touch with a tree board member to volunteer.**

A group of volunteers, including Franklin Rotary members, took a training session from a DEC forester last spring and pruned many of the existing street trees. They pruned again when the trees went dormant last fall. A training video is available if anyone would like to learn to prune trees and join the group.

The village board has a line for trees in their budget. With some of these allotted funds, dead and diseased trees were cut down and old stumps ground up. The tree board wants to save some money for trees that will need to be taken down in the future and their stumps ground. So

the available funds can be supplemented in two ways. One is to donate a tree, perhaps in memory of someone or in honor of a birthday, anniversary or holiday. Each tree is approximately \$100. A plaque will be attached to memorial trees. There are currently seventeen memorial trees scattered around the village from former plantings.

Donations may be sent to Paula Niebanck, Village of Franklin, Box 886, Franklin NY 13775, or you may give it to a member of the committee. The other method is to match funding

from a proposed matching grant. That way, each donation will be doubled.


So far, there have been donations for three trees, including prize money donated from the Blueberry Festival.

Together we can fill the holes in the urban forest that graces our streets, and make Franklin a more beautiful place to live, raise a family, shop and visit.

Jane and Jerry Hebbard
(919-616-4872)

Joan and Gary Orton
(607-230-4059)





East Brook Community Farm

Sign Up Online for a CSA Share:
eastbrookfarm.com

Franklin Farmers' Market -
Sundays June-October
10am-2pm

Walton Farmers' Market -
Fridays July-September
10am-2pm

eastbrookcommunityfarm@gmail.com

2253 County Highway 22
Walton, NY 13856
(607) 865-5529

Two voices from Franklin Central School

MY HOMETOWN

My shelter, uncovered
You gave us our smiles
Thank you to the people who hovered
Even though you only stretch a few miles

You encouraged me to make you proud
Our names sprinkled all over town
Even though we could all fit under one cloud
You are filled with the best kind of people around

You gave us a place to rest our heads
You taught me to never to take for granted
Even when the world is pulling at your threads
A seed of desire in each of us you planted

So from me and and all the rest
Thanks for my little part of the world that in my opinion is the best

Zoe Warren
Grade 10

WARMTH

Warmth is more than what comes from fire,
A feeling within one's heart.
Think of one's most deep desire,
And understand their art.

See as someone smiles at nothing,
Their gaze is full of love.
Soon enough, you'll think of something,
A song arrives by dove.

A memory through each warbled note,
Reminds you of someone dear.
You hear the song the dove has wrote,
The end of it draws near.

The song will end with gentle silence,
Freeing your heart from corrupt violence

FROZEN

You sit in front of a dying hearth,
cursing as it goes.
Wishing for news from the North,
Seething as it snows.

The coals could warm the house for weeks,
but you can't find the oak.
"Oak could warm for months, you see.
Coals only make more smoke."

You deny help from others,
For they don't know what's best.
Betrayed by your brothers,
Your mind will never rest.

Hatred grips your thoughts and heart,
Those frozen morals you impart.

Tori Decker
Grade 10

SCHOOL, con't from Page 1

moves us closer to providing our vision of a world-class education for all students.

Delivering social/emotional instruction and skill development at our K-6 grade levels.

Promoting critical thinking in the classroom through review and enhancement of essential learning targets and associated assessments.

Creating an Alternate Learning Center for credit recovery and assignment completion.

Allocating over five million dollars in facility upgrades that range from new doors and windows to improved technol-

ogy infrastructure.

Defeating Cherry Valley-Springfield to win our second consecutive Girls' Basketball Tri-Valley Championship. Congratulations to all players and coaches.

We look forward to working together in the future to enrich opportunities and experiences for our students. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices at any time with questions, concerns, or ideas. I can be reached at bzilliox@franklincsd.org or 607.829.3551 (Ext. 302).

I am proud to be the superintendent in a district that is committed to our students now and in the future.

BRIGHT HILL CENTER SPECIAL EVENT:

MAY 5 to JUNE 9: "TRANSFORMATIONS: AUTOBIOGRAPHY INTO FICTION – FINDING YOUR STORY"

TAUGHT BY ALICE LICHENSTEIN, TUESDAY EVENINGS, 6-8 PM, "Transformations" is a workshop devoted to helping writers or would-be writers transform their autobiographical material into fiction.

In this 6-week workshop, participants will learn to find their stories by identifying and focusing on the truly resonant details of their lives. Through a series of writing experiments, participants will uncover the significant memories and experiences that might form the basis of stories and novels. Participants will learn about the importance of using precise details and images to create vivid prose. They will learn to use precise sensory detail and images, rather than abstraction, in telling a story. This will be a warm, supportive community of writers helping each other to transform experience into fiction.

Workshop Registration: 6 weeks, Fee: \$200.
Materials: pencil (or pen) and paper—and an eagerness to get started!

FOR SALE

A selection of
the egg tempera paintings of

GAIL BUNTING

Contact John Ott
607-723-0728
JHOTT727@gmail.com



Wood Anemone



Night Heron

AT THE LIBRARY

NEW BOOK REVIEWS

THE NEAR WITCH By V.E. Schwab

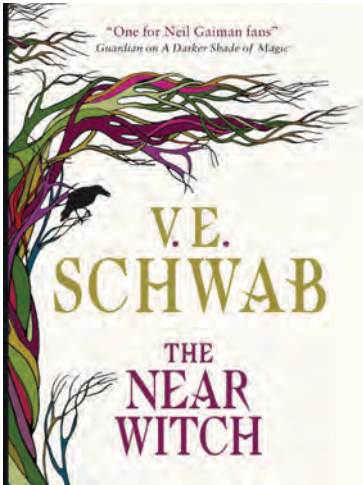
“The Near Witch is only an old story told to frighten children. If the wind calls at night, you must not listen. The wind is lonely, and always looking for company. There are no strangers in Near.”

These words begin a bedtime story told by Lexi’s late father that she tells to her younger sister. Their widowed mother is prostrate with grief, so Lexi must take on most of her father’s household tasks.

One night, Lexi sees a strange man lurking outside her window. Unlike the insular, prejudiced villagers of Near, Lexi doesn’t blame The Stranger when children start disappearing. Yet each night a child hears the wind singing a tune and is lured onto the moors, vanishing before morning. Suspicion of complicity with the Stranger falls on two witchy women who live at the edge of the village.

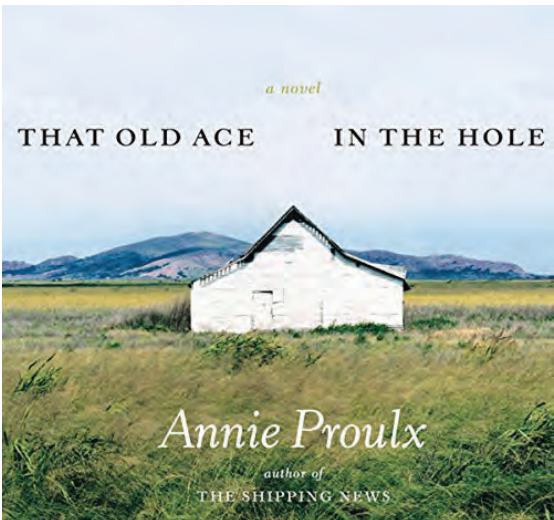
Lexi’s hunter/tracker father has taught her his skills, so she sets out to find the Stranger and to recover the missing children.

THE NEAR WITCH is Young Adult (YA) in the form of a folk tale that feels old and familiar, but also current and timely. In Lexi’s xenophobic village, fear and polarization cause terrible things to happen.



Reviewed by Lynne Kemen

THAT OLD ACE IN THE HOLE By Annie Proulx Audiobook read by Arliss Howard



Young Bob Dollar can’t seem to settle on a path in life. But he needs a job, and the start of Annie Proulx’s antic novel finds him driving an aging rental car toward the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles to scout hog farm sites for a company called Global Pork Rind. Bob knows nothing about industrial hog farms, so it’s not till he’s

confronted with one that he suspects this might not be his dream job. And as well-intentioned as he is hapless, Bob can’t help falling in love with the oddball folks he meets in Woolly Bucket, Texas.

This is a book begging to be read aloud – and listened to. You know you’re in for a tall tale the moment veteran actor and director Arliss Howard starts rolling out Ms. Proulx’s muscular syllables. You feel the weight of the sun, taste the dust in the wind. The author paints her characters and their landscape just this side of larger-than-life without ever tipping over into caricature, with perhaps the exception of GPR’s monstrously callous executives. There’s no question whose side Ms. Proulx is on, but Mr. Howard voices each individual with humor and empathy, while giving full comic rein to their eccentricities. He lets the story barrel along without ever a hint that he’s rushing you.

How marvelous if all books could be this much fun, or if more young people could find their mission in life like Bob Dollar does, mostly by letting it happen to him.

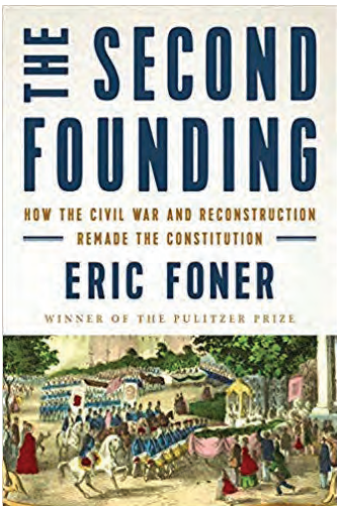
Reviewed by Marjorie B. Kellogg

Librarian’s Pick: THE SECOND FOUNDING By Eric Foner

Civil War and Reconstruction historian Eric Foner examines how the Reconstruction Amendments to the Constitution were necessary to ensure equality (at least for men). The Thirteenth Amendment freed the slaves but did not guarantee equal rights. The

Fourteenth Amendment stated that anyone born in the United States was a citizen and was due equal protection under the law. And the Fifteenth Amendment gave black males the right to vote. Foner traces how various Supreme Court decisions eroded these rights and led to Jim Crow laws. Foner is a pre-eminent historian on the Civil War and Reconstruction. This book offers a lot to ponder, as challenges to these amend-

ments are ongoing today.



from *The Vision of Sir Launfal* by James Russell Lowell (1819-1891)

And what is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days;
Then Heaven tries the earth if it be in tune,
And over it softly her warm ear lays:
Whether we look, or whether we listen,
We hear life murmur, or see it glisten;
Every clod feels a stir of might,
An instinct within it that reaches and towers,
And, groping blindly above it for light,
Climbs to a soul in grass and flowers;
The flush of life may well be seen
Thrilling back over hills and valleys;
The cowslip startles in meadows green,
The buttercup catches the sun in its chalice,
And there’s never a leaf nor a blade too mean
To be some happy creature’s palace;
The little bird sits at his door in the sun,
Atilt like a blossom among the leaves,
And lets his illumined being o’errun
With the deluge of summer it receives;
His mate feels the eggs beneath her wings,
And the heart in her dumb breast flutters and sings;
He sings to the wide world, and she to her nest,—
In the nice ear of Nature which song is the best?

Now is the high-tide of the year,
And whatever of life hath ebbd away
Comes flooding back with a ripply cheer,
Into every bare inlet and creek and bay;
Now the heart is so full that a drop over-fills it,
We are happy now because God wills it;
No matter how barren the past may have been,
‘Tis enough for us now that the leaves are green;
We sit in the warm shade and feel right well
How the sap creeps up and the blossoms swell;
We may shut our eyes, but we cannot help knowing
That skies are clear and grass is growing;
The breeze comes whispering in our ear,
That dandelions are blossoming near,
That maize has sprouted, that streams are flowing,
That the river is bluer than the sky,
That the robin is plastering his house hard by;
And if the breeze kept the good news back,
For other couriers we should not lack;
We could guess it all by yon heifer’s lowing,—
And hark! how clear bold chanticleer,
Warmed with the new wine of the year,
Tells all in his lusty crowing!

(This poem is in the public domain.)
*This excerpt is from James Russell Lowell’s epic poem **The Vision of Sir Launfal** (1848). This poem was memorized and recited in schools across America, but the first line is the most quoted. To me, the poem is a perfect rendition of June in Delaware County; just read it, and then go out and sit in “the warm shade and feel right well / how the sap creeps up and the blossoms swell.”* - Bertha Rogers

Shop Drawings for Architectural Millwork
Custom Home and Interior Design

Michael Zurn
(607) 437-5060
catskilldesignstudio@hotmail.com

UpState Arts

with
**Charlie
Bremer**

model & artist

For the last thirty-five years, I have explored a unique question in my figurative artwork: what does it look like when someone coats themselves in wet slip clay, then slowly dries in the warm summer sun?

What we notice first is that their skin becomes more like a reptile than a mammal. It begins to share elements with a dry desert lakebed: very primal, incredibly earthen. Out of



this, one might imagine the earliest primate rising up to become human.

Like a spa mud treatment, the clay functions as a body mask, very enjoyable, slowly contracting, and ultimately cleansing. With a clay-coated model, my camera records the beautiful moments that unfold short-lived during this transformation of skin and drying clay. This simple process gives me the visual starting point for much of my current figure work.

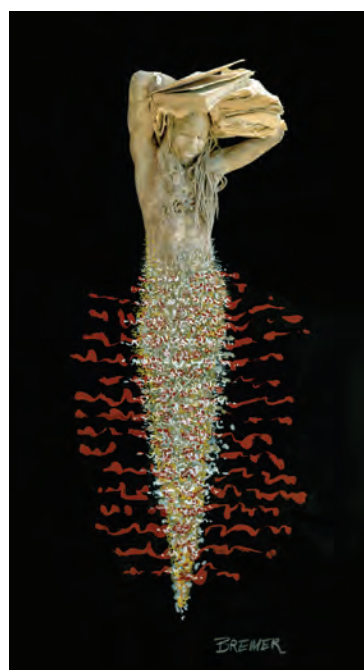
To make the composition more complex, I add numerous large books to partner my clay-coated volunteers. I use discarded single-volume encyclopedias from the mid-20th century, or outdated nursing textbooks, or unused volumes that friends donate to the creative cause. I view books with much respect and great pleasure. The ancient Chinese believed that books could ward off evil spirits, and the French symbolist Rene Guénon suggested that "the universe is an immense book" symbolically related to weaving. I like these ideas. When Michelangelo painted the

Sistine ceiling in the early 1500s, he included among the Prophets a series of women with books - the Sibyls - celebrated in ancient Greek and Roman mythology as prescient, each possessing a Book of the Future.

A most recent addition to my clay body images is the application of opaque watercolor. The compatibility of contemporary digital print ink and gouache paint, first developed in the 16th century, is remarkable. The ability to transform and shape a photographic im-

man form with pencil and paper through the classic life drawing process. Along this path, I learned, as all artists do, to dedicate time and concentration to achieving a level of focus where eye and hand become one, in order to transform what is seen or imagined into the artifice we call art. There are several identifying characteristics of being in this zone: losing your awareness of time, for one, but more importantly, the hyper-attention that allows you to examine form, color, and composition with heightened intuition. As artists, we cherish this expanded awareness. With the body coated in clay, the beauty of the moment, for both the model and the artist, lies in that unique brief experience of entering into a different world.

Paint has a mind of its own and its possibilities often seek anchor in very different realms. Slip clay and paint were one and the same for our ancient ancestors. Classical linear ideals of western philosophy travel east to take refuge in the sheltering circle of the beginner's mind. At other moments, paint will inhabit a landscape where past, present and future meld into an endless Dreamtime. While the philosophy of art has been evolving for millennia, the last few decades have felt like there has been an infinite number of fractures in the body of art. Sometimes the image seems like a massive, jumbled debris field, out of which emerge



Bouyancy - by Charles Bremer

human beings holding on to vessels of possibility. Paint becomes a root system linking knowledge to nutrient. As Ernst Gombrich said, "There really is no such thing as art. There are only artists." To which I would like to add: but also models.

CATSKILL CATS MUSIC NOTES BY JOHN O'CONNOR



WHERE'S KATHY?

When I think of Kathy Shimberg, I think of the Waldo books. In every picture you're challenged to find Waldo because he will be there in the crowd somewhere. Where's Waldo? When I'm at a musical event or a political event or rally, especially if music is involved, I tend to look around and say to myself, where is Kathy? Because she always seems to be there. Most readers of the New Franklin Register will know Kathy Shim-



Kathy Shimberg at the Hartwick Harvest Festival

berg as the fiddler who has played at the Franklin Farmer's Market in different configurations, most recently with her trio, Local Seisiún.

Kathy came to my attention when I heard her play at the market several years ago, as I was first starting to sing there. We introduced ourselves and we talked about music, and I invited her to join me at a subsequent market performance. She accompanied me on banjo, fiddle and vocals and seemed to be a wealth of knowledge when it came to old time country music. This compelled me recently to ask her to sit down over a beer one afternoon and tell me about her background and what makes her tick. It seemed a good bet there'd be an interesting story.

Kathy started playing piano at age two and began classical lessons at six. But her love for improvisation and her piano lessons with Ruth Crawford Seeger of the famous Seeger folk dynasty led her on a circuitous route through a life of meeting and playing with some of the mainstays of the DC, Berkeley, and Boston folk scenes and finally, her eventual settling into her home in Mount Vision to enroll in the American Folk Studies graduate program in Cooperstown. She had heard long ago some of the original Alan Lomax field recordings that Seeger was transcribing for him and it stuck.

Her foremost love is playing for dances and particularly contradances, a style derived from Scottish, English and French origins. This is where lively music, dance, rhythm and social interaction meet in a kind of social frenzy. In the eighties, she was involved in the dance scene in Oneonta at the Yam Coffeehouse. Though the scene no longer exists, there are still monthly dances in Cooperstown. Kathy is often asked to play guitar for dances, but she insists that the rhythm instrument best suited for these traditional dances is the piano.

Local Seisiún is so called because it came out of an informal music session that has been happening in Bainbridge for the past dozen years. The trio's focus is on Irish and Scottish fiddle tunes and features Kathy on fiddle, Jean Withrow on concertina, and Jim Haggerty on flutes and whistles. The group straddles the line between performance and jam session. Kathy declares that the "social aspect is the essence of the music." And this philosophy guides her in her many musical pursuits, whether they be Appalachian, country, Irish, or classical music, which was her first love. Proof of that? She's been with the Catskill Choral Society since 1980.

HARRIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

EVENTS FOR SPRING

Book Clubs continue with more Health Book Club readings and World War II Book and Movie Club Meetings--see our website at **harris-houselibrary.org** or find us on Facebook at **[@harrislibrary](https://www.facebook.com/harrislibrary)**. Meetings include a light meal and an educational chat, so please RSVP.

Mondays at 1:00 P.M. - Join our Stitchers group for crochet, knitting, and other stitch or needlework!

2nd and 4th Mondays at 3:30 P.M. – The return of Maker Mondays – kids can make a project from our craft cart.

Tuesdays and Saturdays, through the start of June: Spanish for Kids, and for the young at heart

3rd Wednesdays at 5 P.M. - Game Nights! Bring dinner from one of our local eateries and enjoy a board or card game with community members!

Saturdays at 9:30 A.M. - Coffee Klatsch - come chat with friendly, well informed community members and enjoy coffee and a snack.

FRANKLIN FREE LIBRARY

EVENTS FOR SPRING

MARCH

3/23, 3/30: Spring Days Stories and Crafts - 11:30 A.M.
Children of all ages. Come to the library for music, crafts, stories and fun.

3/26: French Conversation Club - 3:00 P.M.

3/31: Genealogy workshop led by Brian Lee from Four County Library System – 11:00 A.M.
Game Night - 7:00 P.M.

APRIL

4/8, 4/13, 4/20,4/27: Spring days Stories and Crafts - 11:30 A.M.

4/4: Read to Victory the Therapy Dog. Children ages 6-12 - 10:00 A.M.

4/14, 4/28: Game Night - 7:00 P.M.

4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30: French Conversation Club - 3:00 P.M.

MAY

5/2: Read to Victory the Therapy Dog. Children ages 6-12 - 10:00 A.M.

5/4, 5/11, 5/18: Spring Days Stories and Crafts – 11:30 A.M.

5/12, 5/26: Game Night - 7:00 P.M.

5/7, 5/14,5/21, 5/28: French Conversation Club - 3:00 P.M.

JUNE

6/5: Read to Victory the Therapy Dog. Children ages 6-12 - 10:00 A.M.

6/9, 6/23: Game Night - 7:00 P.M.

Kick off of our Summer Reading Program – Date to be determined

***Please check our website www.franklinfreelibrary.org for more programs as we add them.**

BRIGHT HILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

EVENTS FOR SPRING

PAJAMA STORY HOUR - FRIDAYS, 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Pajama Story Hour includes readings of themed books, themed coloring; stuffed animals and blankets - bring your own or snuggle with one of ours - until everyone has gathered for story-time.

DATES AND BOOKS:

FRIDAY, APRIL 10 - *Rabbit Pie, Can't Sleep Without Sheep, Chicken Bedtime is Really Early*

FRIDAY, MAY 8 - *Bedtime for Mommy, Who Will Tuck Me in Tonight, I Love You, Stinky Face*

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 - *Daddy's Zig Zagging Bedtime Story, I Love You, Daddy, Looking for Sleepy*

FRIDAY, JULY 10 - *Bedtime is Canceled, Take Ted Instead, Dinosaur VS Bedtime*

BOOK-INSPIRED CRAFT DAYS:

MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 2, 1 P.M. - 3 P.M.

READING MENTORS & YOUNG COLLECTORS CLUB - SCHEDULE TBA

SPECIAL EVENT:

APRIL 4 - 24 Word and Image Gallery

Celebrating the Life and Work Of Sondra Freckelton

OPENING RECEPTION: APRIL 4th from 3 - 5 P.M.



For Sale



UPSTATECOUNTRYREALTY.COM

Susan Barnett

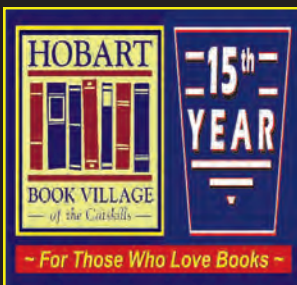
Licensed Associate Broker
sbarnettre@gmail.com

Sold





HOBART IS ALIVE!



Located on NY State Route 10, the Hobart Book Village of the Catskills is an eclectic center of 4 bookshops. Each with a unique atmosphere as generalist and specialist subject shops, and focusing on used, new, and antiquarian books, art, prints and postcards.

If you love books, you will love the Hobart Book Village!

~ **2** More Bookshops Opening Spring, 2020 ~

Open Daily from:
Memorial Day Weekend
thru Columbus Day Weekend: 11 - 5pm.
Thereafter, Weekends Only: 11-5pm.

Adams' Antiquarian Books
Blenheim Hill Books
Creative Corner Books
Liberty Rock Books, LLC

www.hobartbookvillage.com



MOUNT UTSAYANTHA REGIONAL ARTS LEAGUE
"MURAL on Main" Art Gallery & Gift Shop

*SERVING THE LOCAL ART
COMMUNITY FOR 37 YEARS.*

OPEN: Noon - 4 pm SAT. & SUN.
April to December

www.muralartgallery.org



A Weekend for All in Hobart, NY Celebrating
and Exploring the Work of
National & Local Women Writers.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Sept. 11th, 12th & 13th, 2020

Writers, Workshops, Readings and a
Women's Art Show.
All are welcome! Details at:

www.hobartfestivalofwomenwriters.com



WEST KORTRIGHT WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Staff Report

On March 8th, the West Kortright Centre officially welcomed its new executive director, Patrick Barnes.

Patrick grew up in Stamford, NY and attended Stamford Central School, graduating in 2008. During high school, he served as a West Kortright Centre Junior Board Member, helping to book singer-songwriter Amos Lee.

He then attended Ithaca College, majoring in Photography and minoring in Art History; lived in Philadelphia, where he ran a digital fine-art printing studio; then moved to New Orleans to pursue a M.A. in Arts Administration, which he received in 2018. For the past four years, Patrick has worked at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art in Louisiana.

"I am so thankful for New Orleans," Barnes says, "and the incredible community and cultural exposure it has afforded me, but living there only crystallized my desire to advance the arts in my own hometown. Upstate New York, and culture bearers like the West Kortright Centre,

gave me so much growing up, and I am honored, humbled, and beyond thrilled to be coming home to continue that legacy.

"One of the reasons I felt compelled to pursue a Master's in Arts Administration was the importance of my interaction with the arts growing up, namely at places like the West Kortright Centre. The performances I saw at The WKC as a kid and teenager still loom large in my memory, and were integral in shaping the person I became.

"Growing up in the Catskills, it was an awesome privilege to see these luminaries - Greg Brown, Colin Hay, Leon Redbone, The Carolina Chocolate Drops, The Holmes Brothers, and the list goes on - grace the West Kortright stage.

"I owe a debt of gratitude to my community for providing me these experiences, but also for creating a uniquely Catskills space in which we could all come together and celebrate the arts."



Patrick Barnes



Est. 1992

SPRING AND SUMMER 2020 PROGRAMS

WORD THURSDAYS

THE WORD & IMAGE GALLERY

SUMMER AND FALL LITERARY &
VISUAL ART WORKSHOPS

BRIGHT KIDS BOOK CLUB

BRIGHT HILL
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

READING MENTORS

YOUNG COLLECTORS CLUB

PAJAMA STORY HOURS

(607) 829-5055

info@brighthillpress.org

For season schedule visit

www.brighthillpress.org



HELLO!

YOU ARE INVITED TO EXHIBIT AT STAGECOACH RUN 2020.

As the biggest art festival of the Catskills in its monumental 25th year, we're thrilled to welcome so many returning artists who have paved the way, as well as an exciting group of new artists who have shown interest. This year promises to encompass the most diverse art Stagecoach Run has ever exhibited.

We are powered by a small but dedicated group of volunteers and we need help from all exhibiting artists to assist with marketing and distribution. We especially need a leader to join our committee and oversee the distribution of materials. Maybe that's you! Please let us know if you can take on this important role, starting as soon as possible. Details will follow on ways to participate so we can launch this year to new heights.

Go to <https://stagecoachrun.com> for the online application and payment form. If you have questions, please contact Meg Lavalette at artists@StagecoachRun.com.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Submit your application by mail or online:

Use online form, submit images online, pay by credit card or check (preferred)

Download and mail PDF form, send images by email, pay by check

Deadline: March 31st, for inclusion in brochure

Mailing address: Stagecoach Run Art Festival
P.O. Box 186 - Treadwell, NY 13846

OFFICE, con't from Page 1

at 554 Main Street without ownership of the building.

Delaware Engineering was hired to investigate a Morton pole building addition on the side toward the cell tower by the Town Sheds. Advantages of this option were: no land purchase necessary; existing electric, water, and septic could be utilized with minimal added costs; familiar location for voting and business at current town offices; lower cost of addition, by abutting current building requires only constructing three sides. Initial cost estimates for construction of an approximate 1000 square-foot building shell was \$150,000.

Several potential floor plans and entrance options were reviewed. After considering energy conservation and building flexibility for the future, a decision was made to pursue cost estimates for conventional stick-built construction versus pole construction. Utilizing geothermal radiant heating in the floors requires conventional footers and frost walls to reduce heat loss, and stick-built construction is easier for remodeling to meet future needs. Another issue was the space limitation caused by a drainage ditch in the proposed area between the building and the cell tower: even if a culvert was installed and back-filled, this would not create enough square footage for the new building.

Public safety was the final factor. The circular driveway from NYS Rte. 357 to County Rte. 21 is utilized

by town equipment and trucks. Auto traffic, pedestrians, and parking on that access road create a liability for the Town during daily operations.

Focus shifted to alternate locations. The area along the Town Shed property boundary on the village side was considered, with modular construction on a pad. This option was eliminated because the area is utilized for storage of road maintenance materials and equipment. Town-owned property at the closed landfill at Bartlett Hollow was considered, and rejected as too remote and too costly to prepare for construction.

The former Bradley home and garage at 202 Main Street was investigated. Delaware Engineering provided floor plans and cost estimates to convert to offices. This site was rejected when it was determined construction of a new, energy-efficient building would cost less than purchasing, renovating, repairing, and meeting building code requirements in an old building.

In July, 2019 the Town Board investigated acreage at 12292 County Route 21, directly behind the Town Sheds. The previous owner sub-divided the acreage into two parcels: twenty-one acres adjoining the current Town Sheds on the north side, and twelve-plus acres further up the hill on County 21. Improvements on the property included an access road between the parcels and buried electric service to both parcels. The parcel

adjoining the Town Sheds also had a well, septic system, and 30' x 42' building foundation with decking. The foundation is sited on the slope with ground level exits from the cellar as well as from the first floor uphill. Parking would be available at both levels. The parcels had been on the market for while, and were offered at a reduced price.

The Town of Franklin purchased both parcels in October 2019, using a building fund set up in 2015 with income from the cell phone tower at the Town Sheds. Actual construction would be funded by a combination of grants, bonds, and loans. Delaware Engineering was hired to provide floor plans, parking lot concepts, and cost estimates for a two-story structure. The basement floor would house offices for town clerk, assessor, and code enforcement and provide records storage. The top level would house the Justice Court, court clerk, and be utilized as the polling place and town board meeting room.

After the purchase, a deeper examination of the building site revealed some disappointments. The well is dry and located within the proposed parking lot area. The septic tank is full of silt and located too far from the structure. The foundation was determined unusable. Due to this and the cost of building on the steep slope, the Town Board considered alternate locations on the site.

One possibility is the top of the hill near the electrical entrance already on

that parcel, using the existing driveway access. A second idea would be to create a level area at the bottom of the hill, directly behind the cell tower and the current Town Sheds. This area is more accessible, close to the current building, removes traffic and parking issues on voting days, and avoids having to maintain a long driveway up the hill. Building design and floor plan development continues with Delaware Engineering. The new building would be single-story, 2400 to 2600 square-foot, with handicap entrance. Designing for energy efficiency would reduce utility costs over the life of the building.

Construction behind

the current Town Sheds also would allow the option of subdividing the twenty-one-acre site and recouping some of the investment by reselling two parcels along County route 21 on the existing access road. The view toward East Sidney Lake from those parcels is stunning!

Discussions with the Walter Rich Charitable Foundation are underway for the offices to remain at 202 Main Street until the town can move into a new building.

Cost to purchase land: \$90,000

Estimated cost to build: \$750,000

DOLLAR GENERAL RENEWS EFFORTS

Staff Report

Nationally, Dollar General operates over 16,000 stores. Last year alone, it opened almost 1,000 and has another 12,000 sites in its crosshairs. Locally, DG has stores in Davenport Center, Masonville, Oneonta, Otsego, Sidney, and Walton. In 2020, the company plans to open one in Downsville. This aggressive roll-out of new stores has not been all smooth sailing. In Jefferson, Schoharie County, a proposal to tear down two houses in the hamlet for a store was rejected by the town Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) there. In Laurens, Otsego County, the parcel for its proposed store was bought out from under them.

There, DG is back looking at a neighboring parcel. More precisely, GBT Realty of Brentwood, TN proposes and builds new stores, and then Dollar General leases from them.

What about its proposal for a 9,130 square foot store in Franklin? When we left this story in mid-November, the Albany office of Bohler Engineering (subcontractor for GBT Realty) was about to appear before the Franklin ZBA concerning its requests for three variances that would be necessary for the construction of a Dollar General on State Highway 357 just east of the town highway garages. The day before the hearing, it withdrew the application without explanation.

At the March meeting

of the Franklin town board, a representative from GBT proposed an alternative site along State Highway 357, this one at the corner with County Highway 21. This store would be on land currently used by the town highway department. The Town would have to sell them a property where there are two buildings, admittedly in poor condition.

The town board was not willing to lose two acres of flat land along the highways, in addition to those buildings. What is more, this site has the same problem as the first, being just across the street from a residence.

Our board countered with a suggestion to sell a few acres on County High-

See DG, con't on Page 18

AUTHOR, continued from Page 1

ming Memorial Award for Fiction, and has twice been a fellow at the MacDowell Colony.

She discovered upstate New York almost thirty years ago, when a friend who lived in Morris invited her to come and see the beauty of the area. Alice and her husband, Jim Bercovitz, rented a home and commuted from New York for several years. They first lived in East Meredith, then later moved to Oneonta, where she teaches creative writing, both fiction and poetry, at Hartwick College. "I love teaching! I call my class Awareness 101. Blinders off, it's time to use your peripheral vision, and it's about giving yourself permission to write what you have to write."

Early in her career, Alice attended several month-long writing retreats. They were productive, but eventually she decided it was more important to work on her own over a longer time. This required carving out time to write every day, and more mundane tasks like cleaning and gardening took on a less important role. Alice says she writes first for herself and enjoys the process of honing words. Later comes the pleasure of sharing her work with readers.

We moved on to a conversation about fiction versus non-fiction, of being a novelist versus being a journalist. This was a perfect segue way into *The Crime of Being*. The book is based on an incident that occurred in upstate New York. A white teen shoots a black teen, then turns the gun on himself. The shooter survives, as does the victim. There are racial, religious, economic issues, and the entire small town is polarized as the media descends upon a town that believed itself free of these issues. This is the launching point of Lichtenstein's novel. But it is about characters she created and situations she imagined. "I inhabit the interior life of my charac-

ters with a level of truth, of universal experience. I don't want to know the real people or hear about them from people who know them. It's a novel."

All three of Alice's novels have been well received. Her first novel, *The Genius of the World* (2000), explores religion, family dynamics, death, and acceptance. It is set in New Jersey and California. Her second book, *Lost* (2011) is about losing your way on many different levels. A man with memory problems wanders off during a brutal snowstorm. The novel is told from three points of view: a mute boy who has unintentionally caused a fatal fire, the wife of the man suffering from dementia, and the tracker/social worker.

The Crime of Being is set in the Western Catskills. Particularly in the last two novels, the place and its communities play a significant role in the stories. Alice has a way of examining the interior lives of her characters and admits that the characters sometimes take over. It is possible to look at a situation and then write a fictional account of what is happening. Family inter-relationships, belief systems, religion, and love all figure heavily in Alice's writing.

Currently, she is doing interviews and readings of her current book. Alice read at both Hartwick College's Visiting Writers' Series and at SUCO, and has been interviewed by NPR. She has been invited to participate as a panelist, featured reader and faculty member for the prestigious Tucson Festival of Books, sponsored by the University of Arizona in mid-March. She will be reading at Bright Hill in Treadwell on June 11 at 7 pm.

What's next? She smiles and says that she's working on something but isn't ready to talk about it, yet.

We Not Only Prepare Your Taxes... We Plan Them At Maiorano & Associates, Inc. you get:

Over
25 Years
Experience



- Full time tax planners & office open year-'round
- One-on-one appointments with your private tax consultant
- Free tax-planning appointments throughout the year
- Assistance with audits and other tax concerns
- Personal & small business income tax

COUPON

\$125

CERTIFICATE

This coupon entitles you to have your 2019 FEDERAL, STATE and LOCAL TAXES Prepared for a total fee of \$125.00.*

Offer expires April 1st, 2020 Please call for an appointment!

607-563-8588

Maiorano & Associates, Inc.
7 Main Street, Sidney, NY 13838

* Restrictions: New Tax Clients only. May not be combined with any other offer or promotion. Promotion includes Federal forms 1040, Schedule A, B and NYS/NYC Form IT201 only. Any additional schedules will be billed at half price.

MAIORANO & ASSOCIATES, INC.
Providing for a sound financial future!!
7 Main Street, Sidney, NY
607-563-8588

FCS SMART SCHOOLS INVESTMENT PLAN

From the FCS website:

In November of 2014, New York State voters approved the Smart Schools Bond Act.

This Bond Act provides funding for improvement related to school connectivity and security measures.

Franklin Central School received an allocation of \$337,323. We are proposing to use this funding as detailed below.

High-Tech Security Features:

1. Exterior Door Access Control – Provide key fob readers at all exterior entrance doors. We currently only have key fobs at two of our six exterior doors. Key fobs at all exterior entrances would allow secure entrance into our building at all times.

2. Security camera system - Replace the existing analog security camera system with new IP cameras and recording devices.

The current security camera system is not sufficient to meet expected future requirements.

Estimated project Costs:

High-Tech Security Features:

Security Camera System \$245,262

Exterior Door Access Control \$62,757

Other costs: \$29,304 (misc. wiring & architectural fees)

Total High-Tech Security \$337,323

A public hearing for this plan was held on December 8, 2016. The plan was approved by the Board of Education and posted on the District website.

Due to budgetary limitations, the scope of the planned work was modified, and an updated plan was approved by the Board of Education in January 2019. The modified plan will be posted to the District website for an additional thirty days.

Questions can be directed to John Girton via email at jgirton@franklincsd.org or by phone at (607) 829-3551.

It is hoped that this work will be completed over the summer.

The NEW
Franklin Register.
P.O. Box 258 • Franklin, NY 13775

Dear Subscriber:

Mailed subscriptions are no longer being offered. Once your subscription runs out, you will not be able to renew.

But: the NFR is available on line at

www.franklinlocal.org/nfr

ARE YOU A WRITER? EVER WANTED TO BE?

THE NEW FRANKLIN REGISTER IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW WRITING TALENT!

WRITE ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND YOU.

WRITE ABOUT WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU AND TO OUR COMMUNITY.

IF INTERESTED, CONTACT THE EDITOR AT:

NFR@FRANKLINLOCAL.ORG

ASSESS, continued from Page 1

such as a private appraisal, remodeling, new construction, or a sale. In contrast, this year all properties were reassessed. It has been more than a decade since Franklin had a town-wide reassessment. At that time, our town was assessed at 100 percent of market value. Since then, assessments have fallen to as low as 78 percent. For 2019, it is 89 percent. (A presentation by our assessor on the need for such a reassessment can be viewed at the above web address.) Typically, a company is contracted for this substantial task, but for Franklin this work is being done by our assessor, as it was before.

The final assessment roll is set by July 1st and then sent to the county for the billing of school tax. Until then, landowners have an opportunity to contest their assessment. However, you must begin in May. By the time your next tax bill arrives in early September, it is too late. What is more, you may contest your assessment only for future billing. You will not obtain a refund for past tax bills, no matter how large the error.

Consulting with Assessor

To contest, your first step is to talk with our town assessor, Jim Basile since 1996, during his office hours at the town sheds at the intersection of State Highway

357 and County Highway 21. His hours during May are published in the notice{?}. Most years, typically, a few land owners meet with Basile. However with a town-wide reassessment, there are likely to be many more. If you both agree on a revised assessment of your property, then complete and sign part six of Form RP-524. Be sure to retain a copy of the signed stipulation for your records.

BAR Administrative Review

If you and Mr. Basile are unable to reach agreement on a value for your property, then your second step is to appeal for an administrative review. The Board of Assessment Review is comprised of three residents of Franklin, 18 years or older, who are appointed by the town board for a term of five years. At least two of the three may not be officers or employees of our town. They should have at least a general knowledge of property values in the town and are required to attend training by Office of Real Property Tax Services. Current members are Thomas Collier, Robert Egger, and chairman Peter Nero, who serve on the board without pay. The assessor will be present at the review to justify his valuation.

Typically, BAR hears testimony on only one day a year, Grievance Day. Usually this is the fourth Tuesday in May, although towns may choose their own day as late as

the second Tuesday in June. This date is given in the notice of the release of the tentative assessment roll. Last year, in Franklin the meeting was delayed two days because Mr. Basile, who serves both Franklin and Hancock, cannot be in two places at once. Attendance at this hearing is quite variable. Some years, no one shows. Years with a town-wide reval, BAR could see two dozen landowners.

An eight-page booklet detailing the review process is available from NYS ORPTS: tax.ny.gov/pdf/publications/orpts/grievance-booklet.pdf

You must to fill-out the four-page Form RP-524, which is available from Mr. Basile or can be downloaded from ORPTS: tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/orpts/rp524_fill_in.pdf Its booklet contains instructions for completing this form. Your completed form must be received by assessor or BAR before or on Grievance Day, or you will lose your opportunity to appeal for the current year.

A non-resident landowner can request a hearing date within 21 days after Grievance Day. This request must be submitted with your Form RP-524.

You do not have to appear on Grievance Day. However, if not, then you will pass up a chance to make your strongest case. Appointments will be scheduled on

the basis of first-come, first-heard. You may be accompanied by your lawyer. If you authorize on your Form RP-524, then your lawyer may represent you in your stead.

It is a quasi-judicial proceeding where those testifying are sworn in. Under Open Meeting Law, anyone may attend and proceedings are recorded. BAR does not hand down its decision at the meeting, but must notify the landowner before the final assessment roll is filed in July with a Form RP-525. Each decision must be approved by a majority of the board. BAR may not increase assessment above the value recommended by assessor nor decrease value below the value recommend by you. You should be notified of their determination and the underlying reasons through the mail.

In August, the final tax roll should be posted on the county website. It was through 2017, but not for the last two years. Instead the complete record of over a decade of final assessment rolls are available at the Franklin website cited above.

If you are unsatisfied with the assessed value from BAR, then your third step is to apply for a judicial review.

This will be discussed as Part II in our summer edition.

DELAWARE COUNTY RESOLUTION NO 175-2018, CONTINUITY OF TAX DATA RECEIVED FROM ASSESSORS AND THE INSTITUTION OF A PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES.

In 2018, the fall bills for school taxes were mailed late because some assessment rolls were late in being transferred from some towns to county, which then prints and mails the bills. In response to these delinquent filings, our county board of supervisors passed a resolution (16 to 3) to fine towns \$1,000 for each day they were late in transferring their tax roll to the county in a compatible format, plus twelve percent interest until paid. Supervisor Taggart first asked this motion be withdrawn, then to be amended to reduce financial penalty, and finally voted against it. Others opposed were the supervisors of Hancock and Sidney. The final rolls for Franklin and Hancock for 2018 and 2019 are not posted on the county website.

LISTING OF URLs:

Franklin Assessor, Documents:
<https://townoffranklinny.wordpress.com/departments/assessor/documents-assessor/>
Delaware County RPTS Tax Rolls:
<http://www.co.delaware.ny.us/departments/tax/rolls.htm>
NYS ORPTS Contesting Your Assessment, Form RP-524:
tax.ny.gov/pdf/publications/orpts/grievancebooklet.pdf
NYS ORPTS Complaint on Real Property Assessment
tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/orpts/rp524_fill_in.pdf

CLCPA, continued from Page 8

been located in and affect rural, low-income areas the most, such as Appalachia, which includes Delaware County..

What can we do in Franklin? The CLCPA is now law. It will not go away. The public needs to participate in this process. We need to stay informed about proposed changes, make our concerns known when public forums are held, seek representation on advisory groups, and make decisions appropriate for our households.

As we transition away from a fossil fuel economy,

we will experience dramatic changes in our daily life, perhaps not as dramatic as the transition from man and animal power to fossil fuel power after 1850, but still significant. Leaving a fossil fuel economy will not be a quick or easy task, but it is necessary for our long-term survival as a species.

"The use of solar energy has not been opened up because the oil industry does not own the sun."

- Ralph Nader

DG, continued from Page 16



way 21 just a few hundred feet south of that highway intersection, beside the driveway on the land recently purchased for the new town offices. This sale could help finance the ever-growing cost of a new town office building.

GBT is not willing to build there for several reasons. First, it is not on a state highway. Second, it is on a curve with short sight lines.

Third, the land is steep and therefore would require considerable excavation, retaining walls, and drainage, almost doubling the cost of construction.

The company rep said that Dollar General continues to be interested in building a store here. (It even incorporated a subsidiary Franklin Land Associates, LLC.) He said that after his last presentation, GBT received emails in support.

Currently this effort is complicated by Section 358 of the Franklin Zoning Laws, which bans new commercial construction within 1,000 feet of a residence. To build on either of DG's two proposed sites, a variance from this would be required. This set-back is so large that there are few if any legal sites along state highways

in Franklin where a business could build. Our board expressed a willingness to compromise by reducing set-back to 500 feet, which would still exclude these two sites. Such a revision would require a resolution followed by public hearing.

While the board did not support either of the first two proposals, they encouraged GBT to continue its efforts.



MEETINGS OF THE FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL
2020

January 7	6:00pm	Franklin
February 4	6:00pm	Franklin
March 3	6:00pm	Treadwell
April 7	7:30pm	Franklin
May 5	7:30pm	Franklin
June 2	7:30pm	Treadwell
July 7	7:30pm	Franklin
August 4	7:30pm	Franklin
September 1	7:30pm	Treadwell
October 6	7:30pm	Franklin
November 4 (Wednesday)	6:00pm	Franklin
December 1	6:00pm	Treadwell



Corn Field, by Franklin Farmers' Market 2020 poster artist, Jane Carr

SAVE THE DATE!
THE FRANKLIN FARMERS' MARKET REOPENS
on SUNDAY, MAY 24TH, 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
AND EVERY SUNDAY UNTIL OCTOBER 11TH, OFFERING FINE LOCAL FOODS,
HAND-MADE PRODUCTS, GOOD COMPANY, AND EXCELLENT MUSIC.



The Newsletter of Franklin Local
Editorial Board
Ellen Curtis Helen McLean
Eugene Marner Manette Berlinger
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 the Franklin Farmers' Market, is a not-for-profit corporation made up of Franklin residents who volunteer their time to serve this community.

Our mission statement: to work to preserve the rural character of Franklin, to grow the local economy, foster community solidarity, encourage volunteerism, and raise awareness of economic and social challenges that are likely to result from the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable energy.

We generally meet once a month, at 7 P.M. at the Franklin Free Library. The date is 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
- EV Charging Station
- 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 brighter, more sustainable future.

PLEASE JOIN US!
For meeting times, location and
directions, as well as lots of other
information about our town,
check our website:
franklinlocal.org

Printed in Norwich NY by Sun Printing, Inc.

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

**ADVERTISE
IN YOUR
HOMETOWN
NEWSPAPER!**

**THE NEW
FRANKLIN REGISTER**

contact Manette Berlinger
manette.berlinger@gmail.com



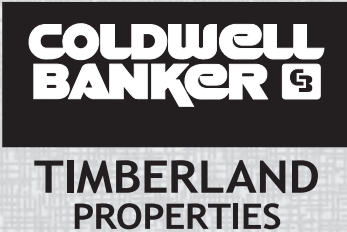
Coldwell Banker Timberland Properties:

Top Dog

The longtime leader in Catskill Region Real Estate
More than \$900 Million in Sales since 1971

OFFICE LOCATIONS:

3998 Route 28 BOICEVILLE (845) 657-4177	74 Main Street DELHI (607) 746-7400	75 Bridge Street MARGARETVILLE (845) 586-3321	109 Main Street STAMFORD (607) 652-2220	19 Union Street SIDNEY (607) 604-4394
---	---	---	---	---



Integrity/Leadership/Innovation Since 1971 TimberlandProperties.com CatskillPremier.com

RECENT REAL PROPERTY SALES IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

DATE	LOCATION	ACRES	TYPE	ASSESS.	SALE	SELLER	BUYER
09/13/19	Freer Hollow Rd	19.81	Rural Vac>10	42,000	60,000	Hartman, Jerry P	Signore, Vincent Jr
09/18/19	143 Main St	2.90	1 Family Res	142,000	117,000	Booker, Rossco M	Gonopolskiy, Gennadiy
09/20/19	7125 State Hwy 357	4.00	1 Family Res	168,000	207,447	Dunne, Laura	Harrell, Jennifer
09/24/19	12292 Cty Hwy 21 (2)	33.29	Vac w/Imprv	84,000	89,000	Schneider Doig, Patricia	Town of Franklin
09/27/19	Otego Rd (2)	8.52	Rural Vac<10	30,000	21,000	Schliessman, Warren A	Robinson, Ronan
09/27/19	856 Main St (2)	1.26	1 Family Res	124,000	135,000	Wilber, Thomas F	Pantale, Jeffery A
10/09/19	3215 Freer Hollow Rd	19.60	Rural Res	165,000	126,400	Laimo, Thomas	Fed Home Loan Mort
10/10/19	11599 State Hwy 357	0.58	1 Family Res	82,000	75,000	Linder, Mary Ann	Stein, Jared L
10/11/19	258 Walley Rd	0.27	1 Family Res	80,000	81,914	Romano, Mary	Ziegler, Deborah Lee
10/11/19	234 Campbell Est. Rd	7.51	Rural Vac<10	16,000	13,500	Soja, Thomas	Scofield, Gary
10/23/19	28 Third St	0.13	1 Family Res	54,000	86,000	Ehrlich, Judith A	Florin, Annette
10/28/19	879 Pomeroy Rd (2)	234.30	Rural Res & Ag	362,000	490,000	Sugihara Irr Family Pr	Gillon Properties NY
10/28/19	61 Water St	0.15	1 Family Res	54,000	92,000	O'Connor, James C	Dawson, Justin R
10/31/19	7338 State Hwy 357	10.70	Rural Res	185,000	200,000	Snider, Kenneth M	Abedh, Basel
11/01/19	71 West St (2)	1.42	1 Family Res	180,000	253,000	Barstow, Robert S	O'Connor, James C
11/06/19	194 Sweet Pea Dr	4.60	1 Family Res	47,000	52,000	Patsy A Moretti Liv Trust	Utter, Kay L
11/07/19	Round Top Rd	9.28	Vac w/Imprv	36,000	35,000	Alhofen, William	Polsinelli, Elio
11/15/19	1089 Merrickville Rd	10.80	Rural Res	175,000	147,500	Mark, Raymond	Panopoulos, Xrestos
11/19/19	202 Main St (2)	2.40	1 Family Res	48,000	39,000	Downin, Chris	Campbell, Matthew D
11/22/19	9055 State Hwy 357	0.91	1 Family Res	125,000	120,250	Bean, Carol	Brady, Joan E
12/10/19	1068 Merrickville Rd	5.00	Rural Vac<10	25,000	22,000	Taggart, Joshua M	Ruff, Robert L
12/19/19	202 Gay Brook Rd	1.24	1 Family Res	65,000	69,000	Skovsende, Georgetta	Sitts, Garret J (R)
12/19/19	3215 Freer Hollow Rd	19.60	Rural Res	165,000	66,000	Fed Home Loan Mort	Murphy, Karalin Rose
12/20/19	305 Pomeroy Rd	107.68	Rural Res	317,000	410,000	Jones, Stephen	Klass, Elliott
12/20/19	1540 Blue School Rd	152.61	Rural Res & Ag	210,000	-	Ogborn(Estate), Rita M	Harley, Joshua (R)
01/06/20	161 Christian Hill Rd	6.10	1 Family Res	165,000	172,000	Reynolds, Henry	Lee, Cynthia
01/15/20	State Highway 357	18.00	Vac Farmland	10,000	-	Taggart, Scott	Komenda, James S Jr (R)
01/17/20	2059 Sherman Hill Rd	10.80	Rural Res	106,000	128,500	Mazza, Irene	Bennett, Mark
01/22/20	2156 County Hwy 14	37.14	Vac w/Imprv	50,000	70,000	Linabery, Sonja	Manella, Stephen L
01/23/20	Mackey Rd	77.00	Rural Vac>10	119,000	100,000	Basso, Raymond	Fancher, Daniel A

(2) Two parcels

Bold Government

(R) Relative