

ANATOMY OF A GAS LEASE

Part I:

By Brian Brock

Deciding to lease your property for gas drilling may be the easiest step. Next you have to negotiate the wording of that lease. This article offers a basic lexicon of leasing.

A gas lease is a binding contract with you (the lessor) granting a company (the lessee) the right to extract gas -- and possibly other minerals -- from your property. Adults are considered competent to sign, and therefore a lack of knowledge provides no excuse to demand later renegotiation or termination of the lease. You could have to live with your lessee -- and your deal - for decades.



Meredith Town Supervisor Keitha Capouya

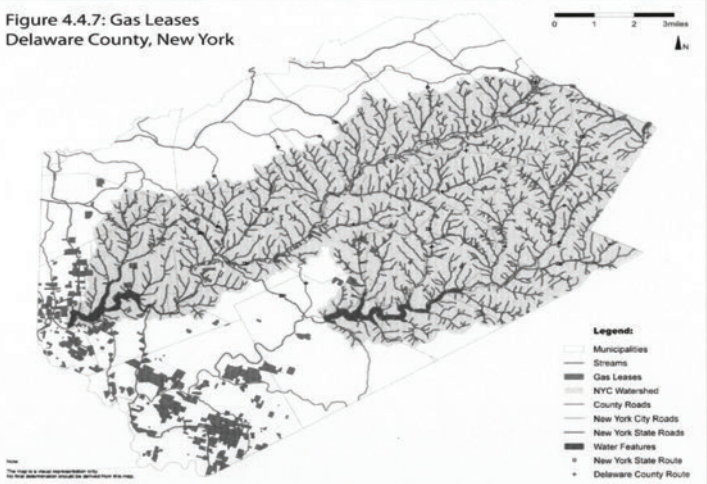
SERVING HER COMMUNITY

A Delaware County Town Supervisor

By Carole Marner

Keitha Tompkins Capouya's mother was born on land that now lies under the Pepacton Reservoir. Her grandmother was born in Rock Rift, now under the Cannonsville. Most of her uncles were quarrymen, and her parents met when her father took a job hauling bluestone from the western Catskills to Westchester County. Would they be surprised that their daughter is the Town Supervisor of Meredith? Perhaps, but then, after what happened to them and their homes, perhaps nothing would have surprised them much.

By 2006, Capouya had spent many years on the Town of Meredith Planning Board - several of them as chairman. Recently widowed and deep into the controversy over wind turbines, she decided to run for Meredith Town Supervisor. She campaigned by traveling around knocking on doors. The beauty of the land - "it takes one's breath away" - made the campaigning pleasant, and the responsiveness of Meredith's diverse and interesting population only increased her sense of mission. "I ran with two candidates for Town Council. Industrial wind was the issue. See **SUPERVISOR**, continued on Page 11



Courtesy of Delaware County Watershed Affairs

The Interstate Oil (and Gas) Compact Commission wrote a model law that served as the basis for NYS Article 63, Oil, Gas, and Solution Mining Law, which regulates oil and gas leasing. This law was passed in 1963 and last revised in 2005.

There is no standard lease. All the terms of every clause are negotiable. The heart of the lease con-

cerns the length of time it remains in effect. These sections are referred to as the *habendum* (Latin: to have) clauses. They can be added or deleted in their entirety, except for the clauses that must be part of any lease for the company to extract gas legally.

These clauses are: primary term, secondary term, identification, granting, pooling and royalty or payment terms.

The Primary Term is See **LEASE**, con't on Page 7

STILL GOT MILK?

Moving New York Farming Toward Sustainability After Peak Energy

By Karl North

This article is dedicated to the proposition that the wet, temperate climate of New York State will favor live-stock production in the coming years, but only if it is grass based, and only if its animal food function is subordinate to its primary function of soil building. It further argues that the soil building system I describe is one of the best foundations for a kind of farming that can continue to feed New York communities in the years of energy descent.

Grain production for any purpose has never done well in the hills that cover much of our state. In fact, its main result over time has been serious, soil-depleting erosion. Even in New York's limited supply of flat, fertile soils, feed grain production demands fertilizer, pesticide, and machinery inputs whose costs are growing increasingly prohibitive as we move into the post-petroleum era. As a result, grain-fed milk production already costs \$16 per hundred pounds, compared to significantly lower production costs for grass-fed milk (\$12/hwt is a currently attainable estimate). And the gap will widen rapidly as escalating energy prices drive up the costs of high-input industrial dairying.

The organic farming movement in the Northeast has produced a few farmers who have used livestock to nearly eliminate fertilizer and pesticide purchases, and even much machinery. They have designed a careful manage- See **GOT MILK?**, continued on Page 6

IN DAYS OF OLD...

ANNUAL WATER RATES.

Dwellings.

Sprinklers.

Bath Tubs.

Water Closets.

Urinals.

Franklin water rate pamphlet, 1899

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The Newsletter of the Franklin Citizens Commission on Peak Oil

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HAVE AN OPINION? WRITE TO US!

At: The New Franklin Register

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What are we about?

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

We are a group of Franklin residents who meet for one evening a month at a member's home. We begin with a pot luck supper before we get down to actual business. All are welcome to join us, to ask questions and help us answer them, to share thoughts and ideas

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

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

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

We hope you will join us!

For meeting times, location and directions, email us at thenewfranklinregister@gmail.com

You can also join our Peak Oil AwarenessYahoo Group.

It's POA_CNY@yahoogroups.com.

That is, Peak Oil Awareness_Central NewYork.

This group fosters discussion of local efforts, potential or ongoing, to deal with the effects of Peak Oil on our communities.

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The NFR thanks Seathrun O'Corrain for his unflagging support.

SAVE THIS DATE !

Saturday, **October 2nd**, will be the **Annual Fall Fund Raiser** of the **Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce**.

It will take place at the Franklin Firehouse, and the dinner featuring Brook's BBQ chicken will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the music of Country Express until 10 p.m.

Results of the silent auction and 50/50 raffle will be announced before the entertainment

The Chamber maintains the Franklin web site, sponsors scholarships, beautifies the business districts with banners, benches, flags, and flowers, and honors a person and business of the year. Recent honorees can be seen at the Chamber's web site: franklinny.org.

And now, friends and neighbors, kids and dogs, it's time for the next installment of...

MURDER AT THE FARMERS' MARKET!

Previously, on MFM:

Seven vendors discover a corpse. One of them (Jack) decides you can't just go covering such things up. And so...

A confusing coterie of cohorts, a finger, more murder.

Jack sketches, scotches, and raises the dead.

There's **Donna**. She was the model for Cruella DeVille.

She used to design pop-up book catalogs for funeral parlors.

She thinks money is disgusting. After all, who knows where it's been? She sprays her bills with disinfectant and soaks her change in ammonia. The police made a visit once because someone told them she was money laundering.

I saw her sniffing around the Temple porch. I think she knows something.

Fern's silo fell over yesterday.

In New Hampshire, they tow old cars out onto frozen lakes in deep winter. Then they lay bets on the day and time the car will fall through the ice in Spring.

We did the same with Fern's silo. It fell over at exactly 2:00 p.m.

Jeanie won the bet. She hit it exactly. The prize was about a hundred bucks and all the mushrooms growing inside.

She was one of the seven, but she wouldn't share the mushrooms.

When the lakes get full, the cars don't fall through the ice at all.

What was it about 2:00?

Police reports from a cursory investigation of the explosion at Tommy's said that Tommy was still alive when they found him. Delirious, burnt and babbling.

They said he kept repeating 'Belladonna' and 'Bloody Butcher' before he expired. That last was one of his prize tomato plants. Along with potatoes, chili peppers, tobacco, and eggplant, tomatoes and belladonna are of the Solanaceae family. Belladonna is poisonous.

What was he really saying?

What's going on?

I don't think this was an accident.

There's been a lot of theft at the market lately. We need a Farmers Market lockdown. There's a company. Ex-Blackwater/Homeland Security, so they say.

Plainclothes, video cameras, metal detectors, barcode scanners, the whole nine yards. Or maybe, invisible fence collars for humans.

The same company that makes those electroshock collars makes cellphone vibrators. Hope they don't get them mixed up. Zzzap!

Steve's another seven. He makes wine. Somewhere he got one of those huge wooden barrels and he used to stomp the grapes by himself. Then he built a small caged platform running around the top edge of the barrel with a Lionel train track along the inside edge. Instead of a toy train, there's a small furry plastic mouse that zips along the edge. When he puts his cat on the platform, it chases the mouse round and around just like the dogs chase the robobunny at the races. He throws his chickens into the barrel and they get so excited the grape juice flows like wine.

But that's only his living.

His hobby is alchemy. He knows you can't turn lead into gold. That's stupid. Instead, he's been trying for years to turn maple syrup into petroleum. I have the same argument with him every time I go

over there. A gallon of maple syrup is worth about \$80.00 and it's not even Peak Syrup.

The seven had a meeting during the deli's weekly ice cream social.

Try saying 'murder' while you smile. And wave.

Everybody was complaining about eminent domain, home rule challenges, and the publicized plans to cross our area with huge new power line towers.

Somebody brought up fracking and talked about the chemicals, water, and sand being pumped down to crack the rock. They said the drilling companies were pumping in Sterno.

Wilson thought they said inferno and went off on a jag about circle 6, round 1 of Dante Alighieri.

Well, we weren't in Kansas anymore but this wasn't getting us anywhere.

We needed an autopsy. Bad.

I was going to have to take care of it myself.

Dr. Coffin was a quack. No doubt about it. He thought he was St. Francis reincarnated. I used to find him asleep, sprawled against a tree in monks' robes in the woods near his ridge-top yurt.

He'd lost his practice after a lengthy court case concerning assisted suicide. Sealed garage carbon monoxide type. What'd he do? Wash the car? Buy the gas? Change the tires?

Actually, yes. It was his car.

I felt bad for him.

Needless to say, he bore enough resentment toward the system that he wouldn't expose our secret. He could do an autopsy easy.

But Coffin refused to set foot in a church. So I had to get the body to him.

I saw Donna walking down the street with **Small Potatoes**. She was waving her arms and talking a blue streak but I didn't get any of it. When he lifted his head, I could see he had a big juicy black eye.

Donna, you ruffian!

Anyway, I saw her reach into her carry-all, pull out a small brown paper bag, and hand it to Jimbo. He looked both ways and put it in his pocket.

Somehow I don't think it was his lunch.

Poor **Joey**. They used to play hide 'n seek. When Joey was 'it,' all the other kids would go home and watch TV. He'd be out there searchin' past dark.

Boy, he loved comic books. There was Batman, Captain America, Spiderman, Iron Man, Wolverine, Spellcheck, and Deadpool. So many heroes. So many powers.

Eventually, Joey developed the power to become invisible, but only when no one was looking.

Poor invisible Joey.

Oh. Jeez, another finger. Hangin' like a Christmas tree ornament from my okra.

This one wasn't the dead guy's either. Too much finger again. I had the feeling another body was going to turn up.

To be continued...

Your Neighbor's View...

By Word of Mouth: The Flatlander Diaries

By Sunny Hill

A Flatlander is anyone who is not local. If your grandparents didn't grow up on a Catskill farm, you are a Flatlander. But word of mouth, whether it be from a local or Flatlander, is how we discover the best things about Catskill life. This column will invite locals and transplants to share their knowledge of lesser known events, old school tips and personal experiences.

Seasonal home owners come to the Catskills for an enriched life: fresh air, clean water and garden vegetables. We like to sit by the pond, cut the lawn, bake bread and make new friends at the Farmers' Market. We love barns. For instance, we go antiquing in barns, buy milk and eggs in barns and even go to concerts in barns. Barns beat brick any day. For these preserved wonders, we are in debt to our farming heritage.

The longer you are in Franklin, the more you pick up. A PTO is a drive shaft behind the tractor, a PV is for lifting logs, a CSA is a type of farm co-op, and a "line tree" is a large old tree living along the boundary line. Living close to the land, we learn more about wildlife, agriculture, geography, physics, meteorology, as well as discovering our own true nature.


I've learned that I prefer the evening sunset to the evening news, random destinations to planned trips, the sound of birds to the sound of music. "Over the mountain" means taking Route 28 over Franklin Mountain to Oneonta. Chicken and biscuits replaces Monday night football. Having a plumber or electrician over to fix something means fixing lunch as well.

I'm still learning about the comparative value of horse vs cow manure (horse ripens sooner, cow has fewer weeds). When transplants first meet, our conversation usually revolves around where your primary home is, how many acres you have and if you have a Kubota, New Holland or John Deere.

We have a symbiotic relationship with the locals. Through them, I have learned where to find wild ginseng, watercress, and yellow dock; how to fell a tree, and most of all, how to slow down. Everyone's friendliness is the true Catskill breath of fresh air. All in all, we love our second home.


If you would like to share your favorite discoveries about yourself, or lesser known sites, please write me at: The New Franklin Register/ The Flatlander Diaries, PO Box 258, Franklin NY 13775 or email c/o the-newfranklinregister@gmail.com.


Sunny Hill is a naturalist, musician and empath living in Franklin.





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CARRYING ON

A Somewhat Geriatric Love Affair



Emily Walter Mikulewicz

A funny and poignant story of a late life romance by local author, Emily Mikulewicz.

The book is available at Amazon.com or by mail from the author at 95 East River Road, Walton, N.Y. 13856 for \$12.50.

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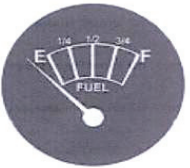
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PEAK OIL FOCUS

DISASTER IN THE GULF: *PEAK OIL AND FRANKLIN*

By Gene Marner

Almost daily we are greeted by new catastrophes, often related to drilling deep holes in the ground. First and worst, of course, the disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. Then we have the leaching of radioactive tritium from a nuclear power plant into the aquifer that supplies drinking water to southern New Jersey. Recently, we had the explosion in nearby Pennsylvania of a hydrofracked gas well and the failure of its blow-out protector, resulting in millions of gallons of highly polluting fluids spewing out onto the ground. We must add the gas pipeline explosion in Texas, the gas well explosion in West Virginia, and the ongoing devastation of people's health, lives and livelihoods in 34 states. One would think that any one of these events would have caused New York State to immediately call a halt to the planned high-volume hydraulic fracturing ("hydrofracking") in the Marcellus Shale.

Alas, no such thing.

The huge and heart-breaking oil disaster in the Gulf was the consequence of many failures: government agencies were inept, understaffed, or indifferent to their duty to protect the public and the environment. The companies that did the drilling were motivated not by safety but by getting the job done at the cheapest price. One of those companies was Halliburton, which also devised the hydrofracking process for extracting shale gas.

In the New Jersey case, the nuclear reactor operator asserted that the spilled radioactive tritium would not affect the water table. Yet, months later, the radioactive water is slowly migrating into the aquifer. Accidents happen,

some say. True enough, but when the risk is not of a broken leg that will heal, but of a broken ecosystem that can no longer support life, perhaps it's a signal that our capacity to evaluate risk has also been degraded.

The truth is that no one really understands what goes on deep underground. Oil and gas a mile below the surface are under tremendous pressure. All that is needed is a fracture in the overlying rock and the chemicals used in hydrofracking will be forced into aquifers. Before long, there will be a toxic plume like the one left by IBM in Johnson City, delivering cancer, birth defects, collapsing property values and ruined lives.

The Deepwater Horizon explosion in the Gulf may have been a one-time event, but even once is much too often. The oil column beneath the surface of the sea is now moving into the Gulf Stream and will travel through the Florida Keys and up the East Coast of the United States, destroying fisheries, beaches, whole communities and ways of life. Residents along the Gulf Coast are already beginning to suffer from exposure to hydrogen sulfide, benzene, toluene and the like, and may have to be evacuated. Fisheries, tourism, property values everywhere in the Gulf will not recover for many decades, at best. We are going to see a migration of economic refugees from the affected areas whose lives and livelihoods have been destroyed by this disaster. If, as some industry sources think is likely, the blow-out continues for months or even years until the oil field is exhausted, the entire Gulf of Mexico may become an oily dead sea, leaching its poisons into the rest of the planet's oceans, and carried inland and north on the winds of hurricanes.

This disaster was caused partly by the negligence of energy-giant BP and its contractors, and partly by the failure of the regulators to regulate. But it is also directly related to Peak Oil. Conventional oil extraction peaked in 2005. The easy oil and gas are nearly gone; the only way to get at the stuff more difficult to reach is to drill and tap in ways that are technologically precarious and clearly threaten our lives and the health of the biosphere on which we depend. Does anyone really believe that it is worth destroying the world our children and grandchildren must live in so that we can continue our wasteful energy consumption for a few more years?

Why do our representatives in the Congress, in the State and local legislatures fail to apply the precautionary principle to the dangerous hydrofracking process? The precautionary principle means, first, be certain that we are not wrecking the world before proceeding to drill a hole into hell. Instead, they glibly assert that we are somehow going to achieve "energy independence," a goal that can never be reached as long as we continue to burn up increasingly scarce, non-renewable resources.

The Chairman of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors, Kurt Eisel, was recently quoted in *The Daily Star of Oneonta* as saying that the process has been used safely around the world. Only part of his statement is true: hydrofracking has indeed been used around the world. While there may be some hydrofracked wells that, so far, have caused no problems, gas drilling of every kind, especially horizontal hydrofracking, has created environmental disasters everywhere, many in this country—in Texas, Wyoming, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and soon New York unless we put a stop to it.



Cessna 404 outfitted with a Magnetic Anomaly Detector

Photo by Daniel R. Carneiro

SEEN THIS ROUND YOUR NEIGH- BOR- HOOD?



Courtesy of Walter Gurbo

PROSPECTING BY PLANE

By Brian Brock

Drilling for natural gas is preceded by geophysical surveys. What lies beneath the surface of the earth can be estimated using measurements of various forces: magnetism, gravity, or sound (seismic).

In late May and early June, an airplane was measuring the strength of the earth's magnetic field across our region. The plane has twin engines on underslung wings and a polished metal skin. What is distinctive is the magnetometer that is housed in a boom projecting straight back from the tail for some ten feet.

During an aeromagnetic survey, the plane makes a series of closely-spaced, parallel flights north and south, flying low at a constant height above the ground. It flew out of the Sidney Municipal Airport for three weeks and has since moved on to its next job in Canada.

Airborne magnetic surveys are used to estimate the thickness of the sedimentary rocks, some of which hold natural gas.

PEAK OIL GLOSSARY

NATURAL GAS:

Natural gas is a fossil fuel usually found trapped in porous underground rock formations, often alongside petroleum. The primary component of natural gas is methane, which is the gas used for cooking and home heating in much of the United States. Refining the gas also produces products like propane, the "bottled gas" used in many rural homes and barbecue grills. It is considered a "cleaner" fuel than oil or coal, but still produces carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) when it is burned.

GASLAND, the Movie

By Marjorie B. Kellogg

On Monday night, June 7th, an estimated 400 people crowded into the historic Walton Theatre

to view GASLAND, winner of the Special Jury Prize for Documentary at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. The event was sponsored by Franklin Local, admission was

free, and the film's director, Josh Fox, was in town to talk about the making of the film and to answer questions. Brian Brock, a geologist and Franklin resident, provided up-to-date local information and a scientific perspective at the Q & A session. Most of the audience stayed for the lively discussion, which continued for over an hour after the screening. The Meredith Landowners Coalition made available their well-balanced pamphlet, "A Resident's Guide to Gas Drilling." Even *The New York Times* was there.

GASLAND tells the story of the effects of the largest domestic natural gas drilling boom in history, now sweeping across the United States. The Halliburton-developed technology of hydraulic fracturing (or "fracking") could unlock a "Saudi Arabia of natural gas" beneath our soil. All the energy companies that use "fracking" to extract natural gas assure us continually that the technique is

safe.

But is it?

Josh Fox had never made a documentary feature before. When a drilling company offered \$100,000 to lease the acreage surrounding his beloved home in Pennsylvania, he embarked on a cross-country odyssey that uncovered a trail of secrets, lies and contamination. On Monday night, viewers gasped as they watched residents of nearby Dimock, PA, where gas wells have been drilled recently, set fire to their drinking water with simple kitchen matches. They heard testimony from chronically ill residents of drilling areas across the United States, all with the same mysterious and debilitating symptoms. The film also reports on huge pools of toxic waste from the drilling process that kill cattle and vegetation, and on well blowouts and gas explosions that occur while state and federal regulatory agencies look the other way.

GASLAND premiered on HBO at 9 PM, June 21st, and will be available on DVD later this year. For more information and a schedule of screenings around New York and Pennsylvania this summer, go to gaslandthemovie.com.

Thanks are due to the Walton Theatre, which provided the space, projection facilities and an operator for this screening.

Marjorie B. Kellogg is a set designer, novelist and editor of The New Franklin Register



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THE JELLY FISH EFFECT, or how everything we do affects everything else.

' My hon. Friend the Minister would perhaps laugh if I told her that I had put off upgrading my mobile phone for the past 16 months because a little girl was stung by a jellyfish on a beach in Devon in 2007.

However, it is the growing demand for the latest mobile phone that has made coltan so valuable. Mining for this resource has fuelled the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and central Africa. That conflict has led to deforestation. This has seen the loss of habitat and a reduction of forest mammals. That has resulted in an increased demand for an alternative animal protein.

That has seen the depletion of high-trophic fish stocks. That has resulted in fishing down the food chain. That has led to blooms of jellyfish, which have replaced fish as the dominant planktivores. And that has resulted in the beaches of south-west England being invaded by jellyfish.'

(quoted from *The Times* of London, 2008)

A MESSAGE ABOUT RECYCLING

If you have still-usable but no-longer-needed stuff, there are other options besides storing it until your next yard sale. Delaware County eCycle is one such. This local Google Group can help you find a home for things that are too good to throw away but, as we all know, sometimes wind up getting discarded anyway just to avoid storing them. Offering your item for free on Delaware County eCycle will solve your storage issues, keep good stuff out of the landfill, and help you help others - and probably make some new friends into the bargain.

Its sister group, Delaware County

EGG-CITING FACTS:

A 1998 study in *Animal Feed Science and Technology* found that eggs from pastured hens had higher omega-3s and Vitamin E than eggs from caged hens.

from Laurie at Pepaction Natural Foods

Cafe, is a place to post events of interest for free so that others will hear about them by e-mail. Again, it's a great way to build community.

Join either group or both by sending an e-mail to dcec.mod@gmail.com and ask to be **added directly**. Email volume is low, and you can control how you receive it: individual e-mail, summary, or digest versions.

For more information, visit: <http://groups.google.com/group/delawarecountycycle> <http://groups.google.com/group/delawarecountycafe>

GOT MILK?, con't from Page 1

ment system that uses ruminant animals on perennial grass (and winter hay or grass silage) to build soil fertility and the resultant soil, grass, animal, and general farm health. This system provides other benefits as well. Farms covered with perennial grass experience no significant erosion. Because a grass diet is what they were originally designed for, grass-fed ruminants are healthier than grain-fed. Recent studies have shown their milk and meat to be more nutritious as well. (Cited at <http://www.eatwild.com/healthbenefits.htm>)

But how does grass-based animal production build soil? First, it is important to realize that healthy soil is the foundation of total farm health. Therefore a low input soil building system is essential to liberate, not only livestock farms but all of today's agriculture, from the many purchased inputs which industrial farming requires. This liberation is essential

because the end of cheap energy will make these inputs increasingly unaffordable, and the high-input agriculture that we rely on today will gradually fail.

Healthy soil built with the farm's own resources comes most rapidly from using cows, sheep, goats, and other grazing animals to start a beneficial chain reaction. It begins with an intensive type of grazing management that maximizes grass production by frequent, well-timed shifts of livestock from one paddock to another. This increases animal production but, more important, maximizes manure production per acre. Properly handled, the manure drives an accelerating cycle of soil improvement based on accumulating soil organic matter and its stored nutrients. Processing grass through livestock recycles nutrients quickly. However, it is important to compost the manure with the stems and other lower feed value

parts of the grass harvest (first used effectively as livestock bedding), which creates a high carbon organic matter compost to put back into the soil. The high carbon organic matter provides the energy and tilth that, among its numerous beneficial functions, grows a dense community of soil organisms. This community then supplies several free ecological services: it stores, transforms, and transports food to plants in the most efficient way possible – the way nature does it. As a core tenet of organic farming states: 'Feed the soil; the soil will feed the plant' (http://tclocal.org/2009/09/visioning_county_food_2.html provides a detailed description of this soil-building system).

Built around the free services offered by natural ecosystems, this farming system can experience a spiral of rising growth in productivity of soil, plants, and animals that will continue until the land reaches its full potential for productivity. This productivity is built

and sustained mainly by sunshine, not fossil fuel. At some point in the trajectory of soil building, the system will produce enough surplus fertility to support row cropping of vegetables and fruits on part of the farm. In this way grass-based animal production, integrated generally into farming, becomes the basis for a more sustainable way of producing food for humans than most of the agriculture practiced today.

We all know that things continually fall apart. Without steady inputs of energy, everything runs down. Farm machinery requires maintenance, men and beasts need food. Merely keeping our high-maintenance society and agriculture going in the low-energy future will prove impossible, and trying to keep it actually growing is even more illusory. We can begin now to convert to lower maintenance systems of farming like the model described here, or it will be forced on us when the socioeconomic

cost of conversion is much higher. The conversion to a new agriculture at a significant scale, like any major social transformation, requires time and the investment of new resources. As our economy declines in response to depleting energy and other finite raw materials, the necessary resources will be scarcer and the infrastructure to deploy them--governmental, financial, industrial, etc.--will gradually become helpless to facilitate the conversion.

The biodiverse, integrated system that I have described here is not new. In different versions and iterations, it exemplifies the best of agriculture before the oil age in many parts of the world. We will need to draw lessons from these examples if we are to continue feeding our communities as the era of cheap energy draws to a close.

Karl North and his wife Jane ran the Northland Sheep Dairy, an organic, 100% grass based farm near Marathon, NY



Windsurfing at the Farmers' Market: Gene Marner holds on for dear life while wind and rain try their best to discourage shoppers and vendors alike, to no avail. Photo by Betsy Babcock

RAIN OR SHINE!

By Ellen Curtis

The 2010 Franklin Farmers' Market had a very good opening day. The weather was great. Some new vendors came to offer their products while the established vendors welcomed last season's customers back and accounted it a successful day. Bread and fish sold out within the first hour of the market.

The Garden Club raised money for the park by selling plants donated from members' gardens. The Franklin Free Library had a bake sale.

The second market day was quite a different story. At eight o'clock in the morning, the weather looked questionable but on Saturday, gray skies had cleared up around 10 A.M., and we were hoping for the same on Sunday. No such luck. Instead of clearing, the rain and wind picked up rapidly, and the storms descended, one after the other. For the entire morning, we all literally had to hold on to our tents, hats and goods.

But despite the weather, some very brave and loyal customers arrived with umbrellas and rain gear for their weekly shopping. Thanks to all vendors and customer alike.

The Farmers' Market will be open every Sunday until Columbus Day weekend – rain or shine.

THE TWO TOWERS

By Brian Brock

Horizon Wind Energy's plan for a Franklin wind farm advances with approval by the Planning Board and Town Board this June for the erection of a second meteorological tower.

The first is on the western slope of Northfield Mountain (at 2,100 feet) and can be seen from Russell Road. The second will be on the western slope of "Herklotz" Mountain (at 1,800 feet), which is east of Sherman Hill and north of Northfield Mountain. Both are near the crest of the mountain, at the upper edge of cleared fields.

Unlike the towers of Tolkien's trilogy, these two will be identical. Guy wires support a triangular steel lattice mast 30 meter or 198 feet high. Near the top, orange spheres on the wires are for visibility from aircraft. The second tower will be sited approximately three miles north of the first. Multiple towers are typical on such projects and will provide more data for technical and financial analysis.

The size of this proposed wind farm has not been finalized. For the purpose of required technical studies, the maximum capacity has been set at 50 megawatts, although it could be much smaller. Such a wind farm would require at most thirty turbines. Most likely, a few hundred acres of land will be leased, although the working site for each turbine will be less than an acre.

Horizon Wind Energy LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of EDP Renovaveis S.A., which designs, develops, manages, and operates power plants running on renewable energy. In turn, EDPR is owned by Energias de Portugal S.A., which is a vertically integrated utility company and the third largest wind-energy generator in the United States.



Madison County, NY

Photo by Horizon Wind Energy

LEASE, continued from Page 1
the definite number of years that a lease remains in effect if no production begins. Some leases substitute operations for production, in which case necessary operations should be listed. Typically, leases run for two to ten years, but a lease may allow for an option to renew for a second two to ten years. In the Barnett Shale of Texas, three years is typical, whereas in the Marcellus Shale of Pennsylvania, five years is typical.

A Secondary Term provides that a lease remains in effect for an indefinite time: as long as production or shut-in payments continue. Again, as some leases substitute operations for production, necessary operations should be listed. Secondary term can also be extended through dry-hole or cessation-of-production clauses. (See box at right)

The other necessary clauses are:

Identification includes: date that the lease begins, name of the land owner (lessor), name of the company (lessee), town & county, tax map number, boundaries (metes and bounds), neighboring properties, and acreage. By tradition, a well is named after the landowner. For example Grant 6 in Franklin was drilled in 2003 on land owned by David Grant, off Gay Brook Road.

Granting typically grants rights to explore, drill, produce, measure, and market oil and gas. Some leases substitute minerals for oil and gas, and if so, those should be specified. Unless specifically excluded, the right to use as much surface as is reasonably necessary is an implied covenant.

Pooling: A company may combine or pool some or all of your property with adjacent properties to form a spacing (drilling) unit. Your royalty payment then would be proportional to the area of your

property in the unit. For example, if your royalty is fifteen percent on a third of the acreage in a drilling unit, then your share of gas from that well would be five percent.

Payment terms: The lease first presented by a landman (the boiler plate offer) contains clauses and terms that are most favorable to the company. It is remarkably short because much is unsaid but accepted as settled interpretation, such as implied covenants. A lease more favorable to you would have many more pages explicitly

the thousands. In Texas, where production from the Barnett Shale has been proven, bonuses can be over \$20,000 per acre.

Delay rental is an annual payment, after the first year, if the drilling of the well has not begun. In effect, it is a penalty on the company for delaying drilling. Delayed rental is paid until operations begin or the lease expires. Typically it is one dollar to fifty dollars per acre per year. Nonpayment should terminate the lease. To avoid this, the entire

sale price. If this is the case, these post-production costs should be listed; for example: dehydration, compression, transportation, additional processing, and marketing. These costs can be ten to fifteen percent of the price. The royalty can also be based on proceeds (sale price), market value (tricky to calculate), or in kind (landowner sells his share of gas). Timing, method of payment, and penalties for nonpayment should be specified. The lease should allow for your access to the company's records and books. (New York State makes no attempt to verify production figures -- unlike any other state). Some leases require a minimum royalty, which discourages a company from maintaining a marginal well to keep a lease in force. For producing wells, royalties are many times greater than the signing bonus, making this clause the most important, economically.

A shut-in royalty is a payment if the company does not sell the gas once the well is completed - for example, if a pipeline is not available or if the price of gas is low. This should be for a limited period. Like the delay rental, nonpayment should terminate the lease. You should receive an amount similar to that for delay rental, but wells are rarely shut-in for long. A storage fee is rental for the underground storage of gas pumped down the well.

Leasing your property for gas drilling is a gamble, and if carefully negotiated and monitored, the clauses and terms of the lease can improve the odds of a good outcome. This article is informative and not a substitute for competent legal advice.

This is the fifth article in a series on gas extraction.

LEASE LANGUAGE

"5. Except as provided for in Paragraph 3 above, if Lessee drills a well which is incapable of producing in paying quantities (hereinafter called "dry hole") on the leased premises or lands pooled therewith, or if all production (whether or not in paying quantities) permanently ceases from any cause, including a revision of unit boundaries pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 6 or the action of any governmental authority, then in the event this lease is not otherwise being maintained in force it shall nevertheless remain in force if Lessee commences operations for reworking an existing well or for drilling an additional well or for otherwise obtaining or restoring production on the leased premises or lands pooled therewith within 90 days after completion of operations on such dry hole within 90 days after such cessation of all production. ..."

protecting your interests. New York State does not protect you by regulating the content of leases, except to require that the royalty fraction is, at minimum, a one-eighth share or 12.5 percent.

The body of a lease consists of the clauses that involve payment to you. The numbers there are referred to as deal terms.

The signing bonus is a one-time payment, typically calculated on a per acre basis. This bonus is paid at signing ("in hand paid"), but the amount is rarely included in the lease. For decades, bonuses paid in this area have been in the tens of dollars per acre, but recent bonuses in Hancock have been in

rental can be paid in advance in a paid-up lease.

A surface use fee is a payment for the use of your property, if granted. It should provide for compensation of any damages to the property.

The royalty is the fraction of the value of the gas that will be paid to you. (Royalty has its roots in medieval law as the King's share from the use of his property.) In the Hancock area, they are as high as fifteen percent, and for wells in the Barnett Shale of Texas, as high as twenty-six percent. Commonly your royalty is paid on gas at the wellhead, and therefore all downstream costs are deducted from the



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FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News
Local Events

Local Issues
Local Concerns



LOCAL HERO(INE)

By Marjorie B. Kellogg

Sometimes a community feels called to recognize its unsung heroes: those folks who work tirelessly for the good of us all, without much fuss or fanfare. At the suggestion of Ann Law, the NFR looked into the contributions of one Franklin resident who has been particularly generous with her time and energy: Jane Hebbard.

According to Joe Hart, who works closely with Jane and her husband, Jerry Hebbard, on many of her favorite projects, Jane is a whirlwind of productivity. She is on the board of the Franklin Free Library, which involves attending board meetings and working as a volunteer in the library, baking for cake sales and helping with the various public programs. Last fall, Jane and Jerry presented an evening of talk and slides describing their trip to South America, and including native refreshments.

Jane also chairs the Franklin tree board, which sees to the planting of trees in village public areas. She did extensive research on the right kinds of trees for our area, canvassed the village for tree needs and preferences. Then she found the necessary grant money, chose and ordered the trees, and organized a large crew of volunteers into teams to plant them. She also did a tree inventory of the village and created a database where the information is kept. Each year, Jane supervises the maintenance of the planted trees and solicits the help of the Department of Transportation and NYSEG when necessary.

As if this wasn't enough to keep any two people busy, Jane also rounds up the good citizens who take care of the cheerful barrels along Main Street twice a year, once to provide flowers in summer and again for the greens in the winter. She keeps track of the money, pays the bills, and picks up the plants, as well as the growing medium, and fertilizer from Oneonta and the nurseries.

May Miller, who works with Jane at the Franklin Garden Club, says: "She must be a great leader, as she seems always to get other people involved. Even me, and sometimes, Bob. All that planting didn't begin until she came back to Franklin."

Jane has been instrumental in organizing several Garden Club events that have raised money for the barrel flowers and for the plantings in the new village park. Last year, she helped plan a tour of Franklin gardens, taking part in the selection of the gardens and in gathering descriptions for the tour guide and for publicity releases. She took care of many of the details that went into making it a very successful fund raiser. This year, she was a driving force in the sale of plants from Franklin gardens, which drew many people from nearby towns to the Franklin Farmers' Market on Memorial Day weekend. Many of the plants sold were cuttings and divisions from Jane's own extensive gardens, and she was on hand throughout the sale to share planting tips with prospective buyers. Over a thousand dollars were raised.

Incredibly, she also provides regular displays of cut flowers for the Beehive and the Franklin Free Library.

So, Jane: what more can we say?

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all that you do.



Eager gardeners buy from Jane Hebbard's table at the Franklin Farmers' Market. Photo by Lynne Kemen



PARK ON THE MAIN

By Kim Hyzer

Now we are seeing progress! We are so grateful for all the time and equipment that have been donated so far!

So much thanks goes out to those who are making this park possible:

The major excavating has been done. Our thanks go out to Fred Prinz for his large gift of his time and equipment. Mike Wallace has been our "overseer" and has also donated a lot of time and expertise. Thank you both so much!

The electric service installation was donated by Bob Cronauer.

The fountain is here and the pool for it has been put in. The water lines have been installed, thanks to Joe Taggart's donation of time and equipment.

Mike Hyzer has donated his time with his tractor and backhoe to do the smaller jobs and dig the trenches for the electric lines.

Dick Brower, as the new Village Superintendent, has capably stepped in and managed this Spring's activities.

The Garden Club is helping us make plans for getting our plantings done.

Robert Johnson has been doing the work on our stone walls.

Mike Zurn at Catskill Drafting is working with Dillon Costello to make an architectural drawing of the kiosk. These drawings will then be used by the builder. Dillon is looking for a contractor who is willing to donate his time to build the kiosk. If interested, call Kim at the number below. This is Dillon's Eagle Scout



Old Franklin Day

Old Franklin Day will be on Saturday, August 28th, from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. We are lining up our entertainment. See the current schedule below. If you would like to perform please call Kim at 829-8820.

The monument honoring all Franklin veterans who have died in active duty, past and present, to be placed in the new Franklin community park, will be dedicated on Old Franklin Day. at 11:00 AM at the park.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 9:00 – 9:30 | Orpheus Musical Kids on the Go |
| 9:30 – 10:30 | Sidney Community Band |
| 11:00 | Dedication of Monument in honor of Franklin residents who have lost their lives in active duty |
| 12:30 - 1:00 | Folk Singer John Paul O'Connor |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Vintage Fashion Show |
| 1:00 – 1:30 | Jazzy Violin and Guitar with Amy Fix and Barry Kornhauser |
| 1:30 – 2:00 | Folk Singer John Paul O'Connor |
| 2:00 – 2:30 | Jazzy Violin and Guitar with Amy Fix and Barry Kornhauser |

Also coming: K-9 demonstration, Just Clowning Around, a Civil War contingent, Doodlebugs, Antique Tractors.

If you or your organization would be interested in a booth, call Cindy at 829-8694.

project.

Plans are well underway for the monument in the back left quadrant. The American Legion monument presently in front of the Episcopal Church will be moved to the park. The new monument in memory of all from Franklin who have lost their lives in active duty will be next to the Legion monument. The Legion is donating a flag and telescoping pole. This area will also have a granite bench. Bob Miller has offered blue stone for the patio around the monuments and the walkways in other areas of the park.

We've applied to the Rotary for a grant for the fencing that is needed at the top of the stone walls. The fence will be black with a wrought iron look.

We've ordered three benches and they are in. We will order more as we decide where to put them.

We thank all who have supported us with donations and volunteer work throughout the past three years, including all who cut down trees, chipped them up, pulled out brush and gave advice. Of course, we still gladly accept any donations. We've almost matched our \$15,000 O'Connor Foundation grant. Donation can be money, healthy plants (when we are ready to plant), benches, labor, etc. Mail monetary donations to Chris Geertgens, P.O. Box 948, Franklin, NY 13775. These will be matched by the O'Connor grant.

If you have any questions call Kim Hyzer at 829-8820.

FRANKLIN STAGE COMPANY: Where We Are

By Carmela Marner

Since the announcement that Franklin Stage Company would not be producing plays this summer, the response has been inspiring. Never has it been so apparent that our multi-generational and diverse audience - diverse both geographically and economically - this audience who returns year after year, feels a powerful sense of shared ownership in the endeavor that is Franklin Stage Company. Franklin Stage Company is the people who run it and the people who attend it - all of us. FSC is all of us together, sharing the room. We both serve and are served by our community. I am grateful and proud to say that this is indeed the people's theatre that we envisioned, one that stimulates thought and provokes discussion, that illuminates as it entertains, a theatre where all are welcome, all are included. FSC's policy of free admission (*donations gratefully accepted*) ensures that all are indeed welcome, audience and artists alike, gathering together to celebrate the enduring power of stories.

But it is important to remember that while we work for our community and are supported by it, FSC is not a community theatre but a professional admission-free one with tax-free status. As such, FSC has an obligation to make sustainable its vision of a people's theatre, to ensure that our art is also a means of livelihood for those who run it. Since 1997, the same people are busy preparing, presenting and dismantling each season, and there is never enough time either to assess and learn from our accomplishments or to analyze and redirect our missteps. Our administrative infrastructure has not grown with our impact, and it has become necessary to correct that. So, optimistic, but realistic, in 2010 FSC is taking some time to restructure, hone our vision, and fortify a group of dedicated supporters who believe in the power of shared stories and the urgency of a community's need to share those stories.

To facilitate change and ensure this future will take time and energy, so instead of the all-consuming work of creating and presenting productions, FSC will host a series of special events representing a variety of performing arts. For those who feel the tug of our company's mission, there will also be a rehearsed reading of T.S. Eliot's startling verse comedy *The Cocktail Party*. I am very excited about the variety and quality of work coming your way soon!

Founded with a dual mission, to preserve our home, Chapel Hall, and to bring the classics of world theatre to this beautiful region, FSC is veering slightly, and I think justifiably, from its mission in order to keep the doors of Chapel Hall open during this transitional time. But as far as Chapel Hall goes, we are fully in sync with our mission. From its beginnings, FSC chose

to restore our home slowly but steadily, equally addressing safety, comfort and historic preservation needs while offering theatrical presentations. However, this summer necessary work on the building's foundation and the installation of an effective drainage system will demand more coordination and oversight.

This work is Chapel Hall Preservation Phase I: Foundation Stabilization, and has been generously funded by The A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, the Community Foundation for South Central New York, and with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency. The project is overseen by Kaitsen Woo Architect, P.C. and the contractor is Larry Stevens of Stevens Excavating in Otego. Chapel Hall will be safe and accessible for the performances, the Franklin Farmers' Market will continue every Sunday through Columbus Day weekend on the lawn, and the building will be open for certain community events such as the Treadwell Stagecoach Art Run in July and for Old Franklin Day in August.

At FSC, we believe that theater is a catalyzing force. The unique ability of theatre is to create dialogue: dialogue between characters, dialogue between actors and audience, and, ultimately, dialogue among members of the community who gather in the same room at the same time. FSC chooses to produce classical plays, new works adapted from classic texts and 20th century plays with classical themes, because we believe that this work most effectively confronts and exalts the breadth of shared human experience. FSC chooses to offer free admission because we believe that the shared experience of theatre is crucial for the health of society. FSC chooses to present plays in Franklin because we are honored to make a difference.

Please join us in 2010 as we pave the way towards a full slate of FSC programming in 2011. Thank you.

Carmela Marner is the Executive Director of the Franklin Stage Company



Drew Perrin, Marshall Shnider, Kimiye Corwin, Kim Paterson, Johana Arnold and Carmela Marner in JB Priestley's "An Inspector Calls." Photo Credit: Steve Monosson, FSC 2009



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The Christmas Stroll

We know this is a bit early but we just wanted to let everyone know that The Franklin Chamber of Commerce and the Franklin Improvement Society have permanently moved the date of the Stroll to the second Saturday in December. Therefore, the Stroll this year will be on Dec. 11th. This gives those who have houses on the tour more time after Thanksgiving to prepare. We'll start making plans in August.

If interested in participating, call Kim at 829-8820.



UpState Arts

By Christopher Lloyd Wright

I have the great fortune of chance when it comes to meeting interesting and talented people. I met **Gloria Nero** nearly five years ago and as one would from any great mind, I learn something new and intriguing with every visit. Gloria is a woman with many gifts to offer our region - and the world, for that matter. She is an accomplished novelist, painter, photographer and gardener, all of which she lives to revel in.

We hadn't been able to catch up in a long while, since both of us have full time jobs to pay the bills and support our creative work. When I arrived at Gloria's Chenango County home, I noticed some changes since my last visit. The weather was chilly and damp, but her little house looked comfortable and content, surrounded by the many flourishing life forms. I'm certain Gloria knows the name of every single plant growing on her property.

As always I was greeted at the door by two joyful dogs, Beanie and Felicks, then Gloria. It never takes us long to dive right into conversation about our art, this time about Gloria's recent completion of her fourth novel, now going through the final publications stages. I have read (and own) her first three books; *Crazysad Heart of a Fool*, *Full Wolf Moon Going Down*, and *Warm Dust, Summer Rain*. I found each of them a compelling and enjoyable read. There's no better introduction to Gloria Nero than the first chapter of *Crazysad Heart of a Fool*. She creates such dimensional lives for her characters. Everyday yet dynamic characters are depicted in ways that leave you wanting to know more, more, more about these people. There's something alive in her style that other authors just don't offer.

I asked Gloria where she finds inspiration for her novels.

"I'm inspired by what's around me," she replied. "By things that are going on in my world." She said her characters come to life inside her, that she lives with them and their developing lives well before and well after their stories have been written down. She showed me notebook upon handwritten notebook, a pile that would amount to a hundred novels about these characters, as if there were real lives in these pages, some that make their way into her novels and others that remain hidden in a spiral bound book. Such is the life of a fictional soul.

Gloria says she loves the writing process and how

the story becomes so completely alive in her head that the characters become part of her. Her novels are dialogue-driven, in comparison to much of mainstream literature. This lends her novels a strong sense of place, time and mood. Her writing has been described as "evocative," "visually captivating," "poetic," and "honest."

On that rainy evening, Gloria and I sipped wine and chatted in chairs set by a window overlooking her garden. Her little dog Beanie sprawled at my feet, Felicks slept on the couch with his head buried in a pillow. Leutha the cat had found a cozy spot on Gloria's lap. It was a very normal sort of visit to Gloria's house. On brighter, warmer days, we would stroll in her beautiful garden while we talked. Gloria's love for plants and animals flows always into her writing, helping to place the reader in lyrical but believable settings.

Let me finish with the description provided on the back cover of *Crazysad Heart of a Fool*, as a sort of teaser:

"He's a desperate, lonely man on the run with no place to go. Tormented by old hatreds and a recurrent nightmare that threat-

ens to shatter his sanity, he's doomed when he refuses to pay attention to the reality of his circumstances. She's a dreamy, young art student dropout retreating to a deserted farm left her by her grandmother. Wishing only to ride her motorcycle and paint, she becomes emotionally entangled against her will. Set within the idyllic hay meadows, woods and back roads of the vividly depicted Catskill Mountains, which in themselves are a binding force, the plight of a melancholy man and the flighty girl unfolds..."

Gloria Nero's novels can be found on Amazon.com

Local artist to exhibit: Painter Tommy Klehr has a one man show of his latest work, titled "My Paintings." It runs for the month of July at The Sidney Memorial Public Library, 8 River Street, Sidney.

Christopher Lloyd Wright is an artist living in Sidney, NY.

Local artists, musicians and writers are encouraged to notify him of their events by email to: clwrightgallery@yahoo.com, with the subject line "Franklin Register."

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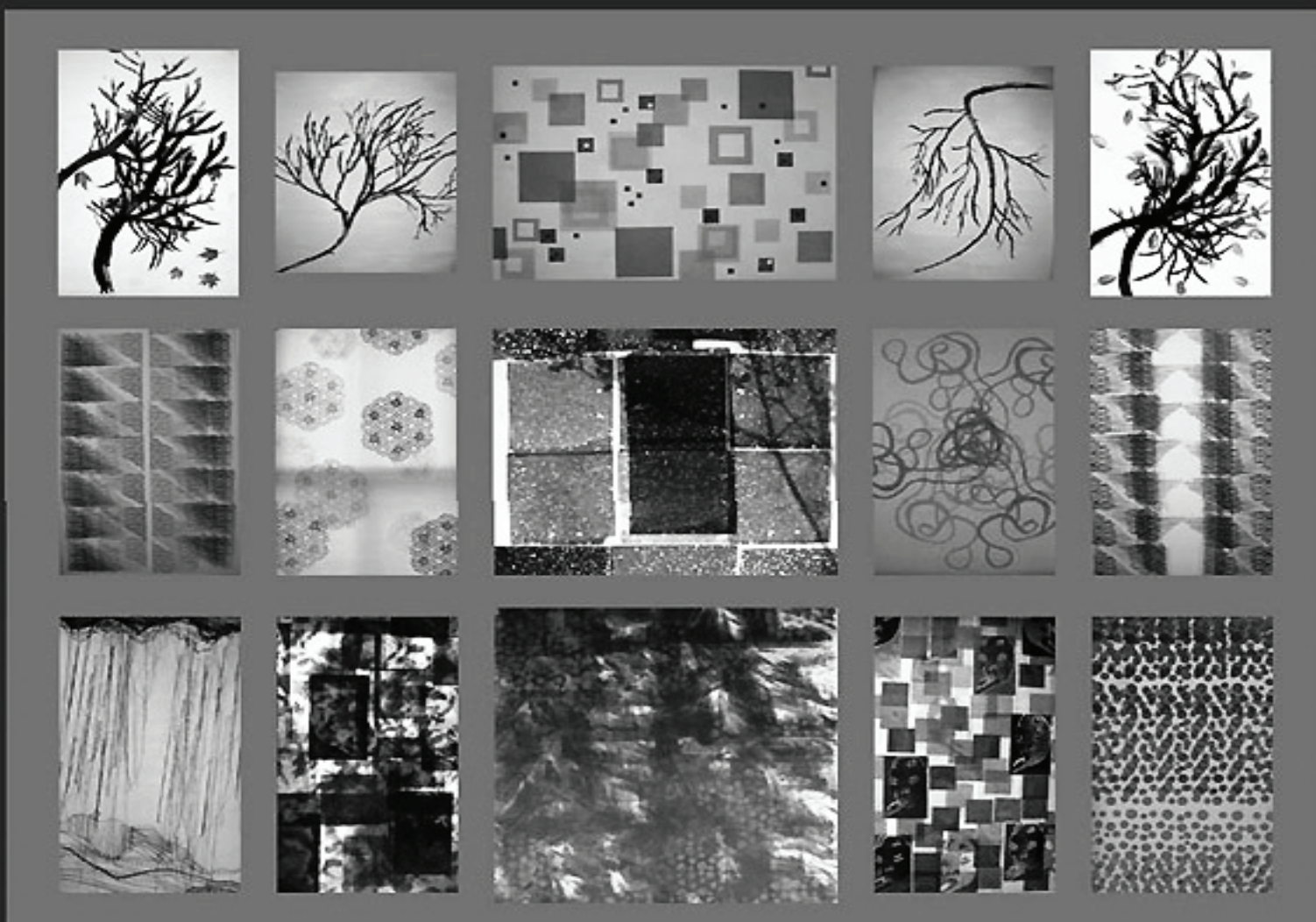
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SUPERVISOR, continued from Page 1

The turbines are huge, and our research had convinced us that large setbacks were needed to mitigate the effects of noise and shadow flicker on nearby residents. So we determined to add protective setbacks to the town wind regulations, which would effectively ban industrial wind. And we won."

Capouya grew up in Woodstock with no indoor plumbing and went to a one room schoolhouse. "My mother had a great spirit. She would say "we all work and then we all play." Woodstock had a lively community of anarchists and artists "and many people like us, with small farms and limited resources. We shared equipment and labor, going from neighbor to neighbor to hay, butcher, dig potatoes - you name it."

Her professional life began when she went to NYC at 17. Here she plunged into the heady excitement of a multicultural world which she learned to love. "But I always knew my mother's home town was under 185 feet of water and that I was drinking that water." In New York in the late fifties, if one worked hard, all kinds of jobs were available. "Although women were paid next to nothing, they were often given whatever responsibility they would take and the opportunity to learn just about any job—as long as they didn't expect to be formally in charge."

Capouya's first job was wrapping empty boxes in fancy gift paper for window dressings. She attended City College at night and impressed her English professor, who got her a job writing catalog copy. A couple of years later, she was at Funk & Wagnall, editing their encyclopedia. She went on to become a lexicographer on their dictionary, and started a new line of quality paperbacks. Subsequently she worked at several major publishing houses, including Pantheon Books. In 1985, she and her late husband, the writer, editor, and educator Emile Capouya, started their own publishing firm, New Amsterdam Books. In 1991, they moved their office to the old bank building in Franklin, to live full time in Meredith where they'd bought a house in 1974. They published

literary fiction, translations, travel and art books. Besides dealing with manuscripts, Capouya designed book jackets, handled the payroll, supervised printing, even picked the paper. She also wrote the contracts - excellent preparation for examining town contracts "with a very critical eye." They sold the business in 1997.

The Town of Meredith has 1,588 people, the county has 48,000. A Town Supervisor has two distinct jobs: serving the town and serving the county. They are both demanding, and sometimes at odds.

Capouya takes great pleasure in serving her town. The Town Council works well together, with dedication and good will. In Meredith, as elsewhere in the county, three-quarters of the town budget goes to keeping the roads in good repair. Capouya describes Highway Superintendent Bill Jester and the Meredith road crew as "remarkable - hard working, conscientious and very able. The atmosphere in the Town garage is great."

One long-range plan on the council's agenda is a new Town Hall. "We do not have incorporated villages - we have 3 tiny hamlets. A spacious town hall with good public space would help bind our small communities together."

The most immediate issue is, of course, gas drilling. Capouya has deep concerns about the safety of hydrofracking, having done extensive research on the process and its effects. "If we make a mistake, the consequences can be catastrophic. It is absolutely essential that the gas drillers find and demonstrate safe fluids and safe methods of drilling, and then bind themselves to their use. They must also find a way to deal with methane, the release of which is a dangerous byproduct of drilling. And, of course, we must have good, comprehensive regulation of the gas and oil industry." Capouya and the Meredith Town council are writing a fairly stringent road preservation law. "It is practically the only aspect of this industrial process we can legislate. The trucks taking immense loads of water to gas well sites destroy country roads,

and I will not stick the taxpayers with the cost of damages caused by some large corporation in the course of doing business."

Capouya's biggest long-term concern is the disappearance of local agriculture. What Meredith residents value most is the town's rural atmosphere and way of life. But "the landscape that we all love only exists with active agriculture, and even in these hard economic times, farmland is being lost to development. Milk prices are terrible, dairy farms are disappearing, and there are limited resources for building an alternative agriculture." Indeed, a proposal before the Planning Board would turn historic Meridale Farms into building lots.

Capouya's primary goal - and her greatest challenge - has to do with her other job: serving the county. "The relations between the county and NYC need to change—there should be a natural alliance between the two. It will take hard work and diplomacy, but I believe there is a real possibility for relations of mutual support. I can see the City depending not just on our water, but on our milk, our produce, our landscape, thus providing a firmer foundation for new agriculture and local businesses built around the clean water we share."

So her dreams for Delaware County go beyond the restoration of agriculture. The displacement of Capouya's family and all the other families for the NYC reservoir system was devastating. "Especially terrible because young men had just gotten back from service in WWII where they saw things they could not have imagined. They were beginning to feel they might have a life again when the valley was condemned. The effect was like the Industrial Revolution in little - where people were forced off the land they loved and depended on. It was a way of life destroyed." A new partnership between the city and the watershed might banish the rancor of so many decades and "help the young people of Delaware County stay on the land they grew up loving, doing the work that they understand and value."

The Garden Gate

By Penelope R. King

Natural Solutions to Summer Problems:

Here we are at mid-summer with our work finally showing fruit: vegetables are growing, perennials are blooming, shrubs and trees are thriving...and the weeds and bugs are getting ready to eat it all.

Keeping aware and having a quick response is your best defense, so get out there every day and pay attention.

JAPANESE BEETLES are showing up. So many gardeners have asked me how to get rid of them. All I can say is pick them off and squash time or toss them into a can filled with soapy water, alcohol or kerosene. They will die. Do it early in the day while they are sluggish. Hold your container under where they are eating, as they are likely to drop into your can when you tap the plant before they decide to fly away. Do not use the pheromone bags: that just draws them to your site. Some may be captured on their way to your garden if you keep the bags up wind, but most will just go on to eat your plants. I recommend picking off---not fun but effective.

Another idea - I haven't tried this yet, but I intend to. Throw a handful of Larkspur or Delphinium leaves into a blender. Add the blend to a gallon of water and spray on plants. The alkaloids (deliosine and delsoline) should zap the beetles.

You might also consider spreading "DOOM" (milky spore) on your lawn to kill the grubs, but this is expensive, doesn't work right away and lasts only 7 years or so. Plus it doesn't do anything about beetles coming in from other lawns.

As for **DEER REPELLENTS**, the best is fencing, but in lieu of that try dangling strips of Mylar or compact discs from branches to alarm them. You can also poke a hole in a bar of soap (leaving the wrapper on) with a heavy needle and fishing line and hang those from stakes or shrub and tree branches. I always thought Irish Spring was the smelliest, but have recently read that the Smithsonian Institution's research team says Lifebuoy is best.

You can also make smelly liquids to spray around plants. One I just read about makes me gag, so I assume deer won't like

it either. Break a dozen eggs into a bucket, add 4 cubes of beef bouillon and fill the bucket with water. Cover until it stinks. Add 2 tablespoons of liquid soap per gallon of liquid, pour the mixture into a spray bottle and go to it. Don't spray on anything you intend to eat: around those plants but not on them. You will have to re-spray after rain.

RABBITS are cute but they will eat nearly any plant. Try shaking garlic powder on plants; rabbits have good noses and won't like it. Or plant garlic or wormwood around beloved shrubs. Make collars of prickly plants (like teasel tops) on the ground around plants to make it hard on their feet.

I haven't seen many **SLUGS** so far this year but tons of **SNAILS**, which are slugs with houses. I pick these off Iris and Daylily foliage, but Sluggo (comes in a canister and won't kill your pets or kids) works well. But if you want to avoid spending your hard-earned money, put small boards in the garden, especially in sunny areas. Slugs and snails will hide under them during the day, so you can lift them and scrape the buggers off with your foot. Pine needles and diatomaceous earth are useful as prickly barriers.

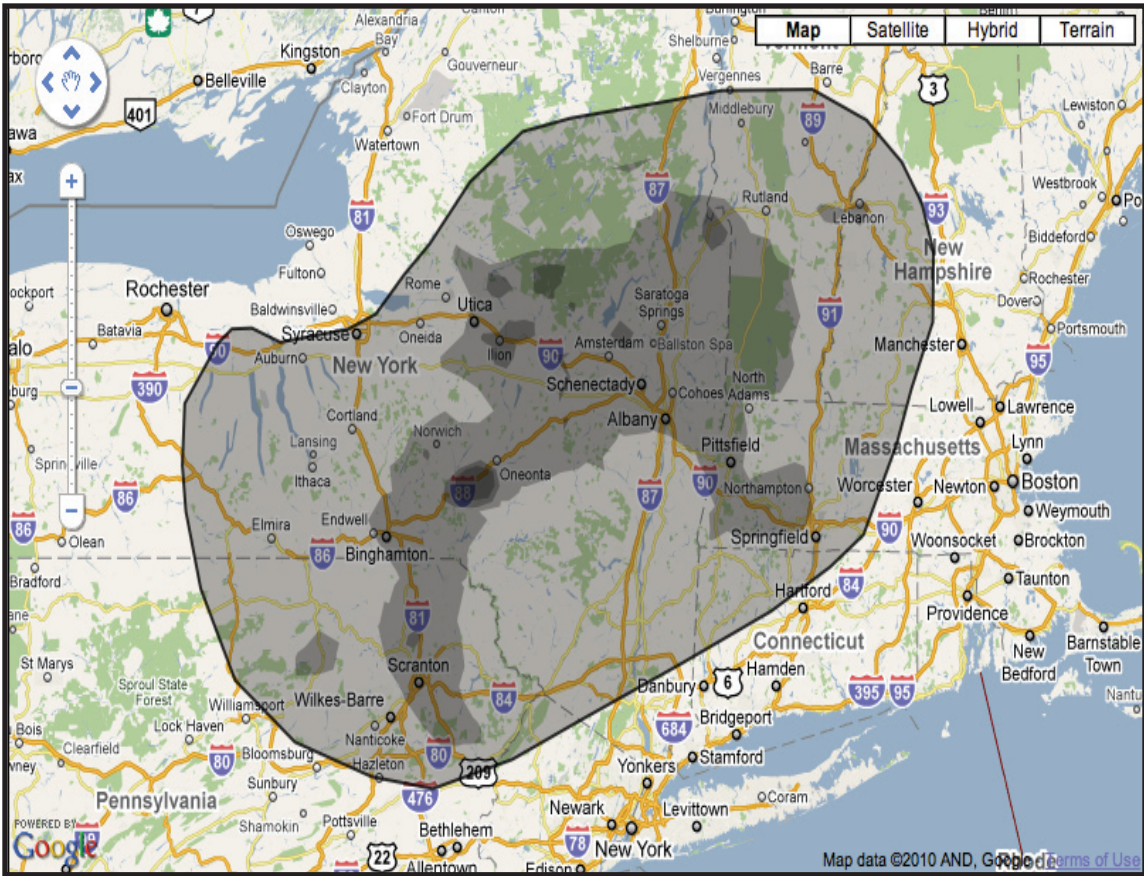
Since I wear with those blue rubberized gloves in the garden, picking and squashing doesn't bother me. Try them. They will keep your hands clean and safe from animal droppings, glass fragments and other schmutz often found in the soil.

Use red pepper on any plant, especially cole crops, as it repels **CABBAGE WORMS**. Mix 2 tablespoons of red pepper powder and 6 drops of liquid soap in a gallon of water. Let it sit overnight and then stir well before putting it into a spray bottle and going after insects on your vegetables.

Knock off **SPIDER MITES, APHIDS AND OTHER SMALL INSECTS** with a good blast of water. If that doesn't work, wrap your hand in tape with the sticky side out, put your hand under a plant or leaf and tap the bad guys onto the tape.

I don't have the patience to do this last one, but perhaps you will.

Happy Gardening!



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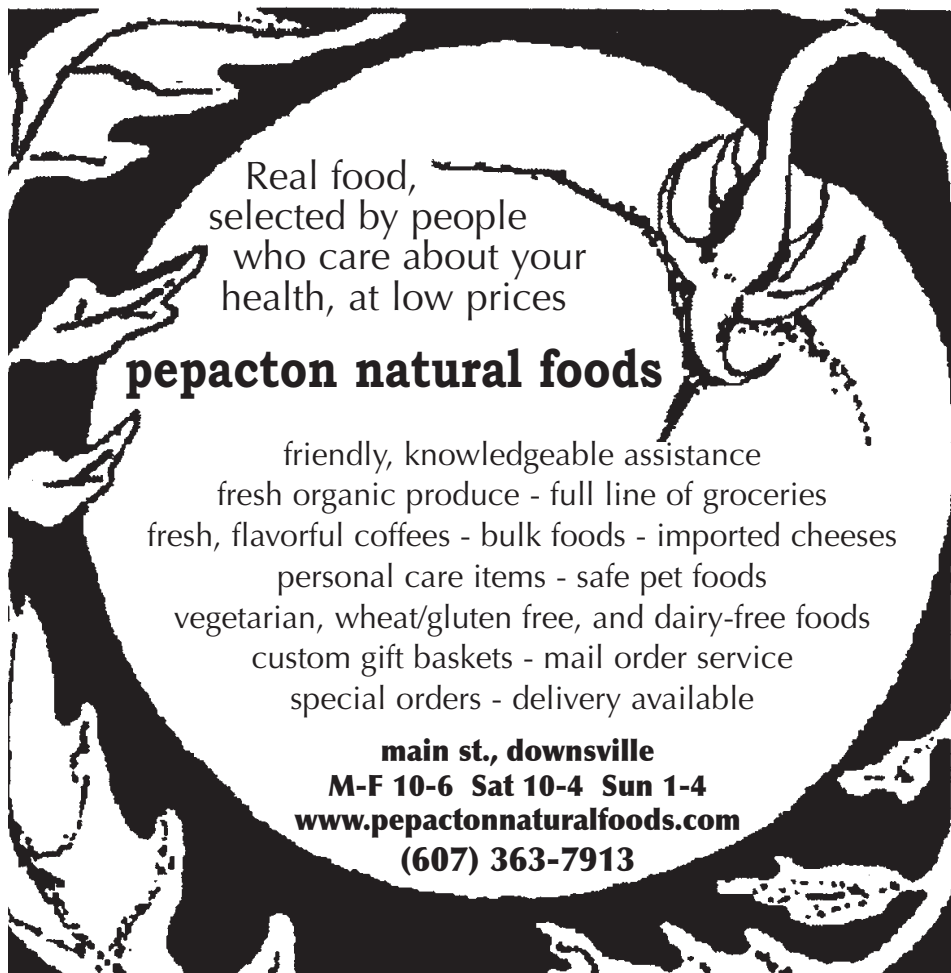
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1 cup flour
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup melted butter
1 egg
1 tsp. almond extract (use the real thing, it's pricey but better)
Slivered almonds
Semi-sweet chocolate morsels
(editor's addition, and optional)

Preheat oven to 375.

Grease and dust (with flour) an 8" baking dish or pie plate

Beat egg with a fork in medium bowl

Mix in sugar thoroughly

Mix in butter thoroughly

Mix in almond extract

Mix in sifted flour

Spread evenly in pie plate

Sprinkle almonds (and chocolate morsels, if using) on top and press in lightly.

Bake for 20 minutes, or until golden brown on top, with edges slightly darker (but watch it, as it tends to burn rather quickly after a certain point). Let cool slightly. Cut in sections and enjoy!

PET TALK with JOAN PURITZ, D.V.M.

Hello. I am Dr. Joan Puritz. As I begin this new column in the New Franklin Register, let me introduce myself a bit.

I have lived going on 16 years on top of a beautiful mountain in Oneonta, with my three dogs, four cats, my horses, chickens, ducks, fish, cockatiels, pigmy goat and a couple of turkey chicks. I also live with four children (three in college, one still at home), a husband, and a small veterinary clinic. No, I do not have a partridge in a pear tree, but one may show up. You never know. I love animals and my job as a veterinarian, and I think a lot of you readers also love animals and want to care for them the best way you can.

So what I'd like to do in this space is give you helpful information that will also be enjoyable to read. I know that reading about fleas, worms, or heatstroke may lose interest after a while, so I'd like you to send me the questions you need answered. My mom, who doesn't have any pets in her Florida condo, reads and sends me all the Vet columns in her local paper. I've tried to explain to her that sending pet advice to a veterinarian is like sending coals to Newcastle -- but she insists on sending them anyway, so maybe I'll include some hot tidbits from the deep South in this column.

I'd also like to let you know about a favorite activ-

ity of mine, something I do in my spare time, when I'm not working in the garden or with my horses. I call it my "hobby" because it takes up time, energy and money like a hobby, but it's unusual and I like it. My hobby is providing spay and neuter services at clinics for cats. Around this area, I work with GO-FAR, the Greater Oneonta Fund for Animal Responsibility. On one Sunday a month, we spay or neuter roughly 25-35 cats. We are all volunteers and we do it because there are so many strays around, sick and sometimes starving, a heartbreaking situation. We all feel something should be done to help the situation and this is our solution. We mostly do these sur-

geries at my clinic in Oneonta, but we also travel to Delhi, Sidney and other places to do clinics.

In the summer, I also travel to the New York's North Country and work for Spay/Neuter Now. We travel all around the northern New York area and native American reservations to spay and neuter cats using our big spay-and-neuter mobile. Several years ago, I worked in a mobile clinic in Arizona. We drove to a remote Navaho reservation and I spayed and neutered to the point of exhaustion. I suppose you can say that ending animal overpopulation is my passion, and that I hope to see in my lifetime the last unwanted animal. I guess I try to be an optimist, in spite of all the very terrible things I see as a vet.

I don't want to get preachy in this column, just be informative and fun. How about the difficult



A Puritz family dog, Basil


questions, like: why dogs roll in bad smelling things? Or, why do they sometimes eat grass? Do you know why most cats like catnip, or what is a feral cat?

If you have a question about dogs or cats, or even other creatures, send them by e-mail -- the questions, not the dogs, cats or other creatures -- to me at thenewfranklinregister@gmail.com. I will try to answer them in future columns. Remember: there is no question too complex or too silly!

Let me leave you all with something to ponder, why do cows have four stomachs and we only have one? Doesn't seem quite fair. Read this column next time for that answer and more.

Some more Egg-citing Facts:

The 2005 study conducted by *Mother Earth News* about four heritage-breed flocks in Kansas found that the eggs of pastured hens had roughly half the cholesterol, 50% more vitamin E and three times more beta carotene than those of caged hens.



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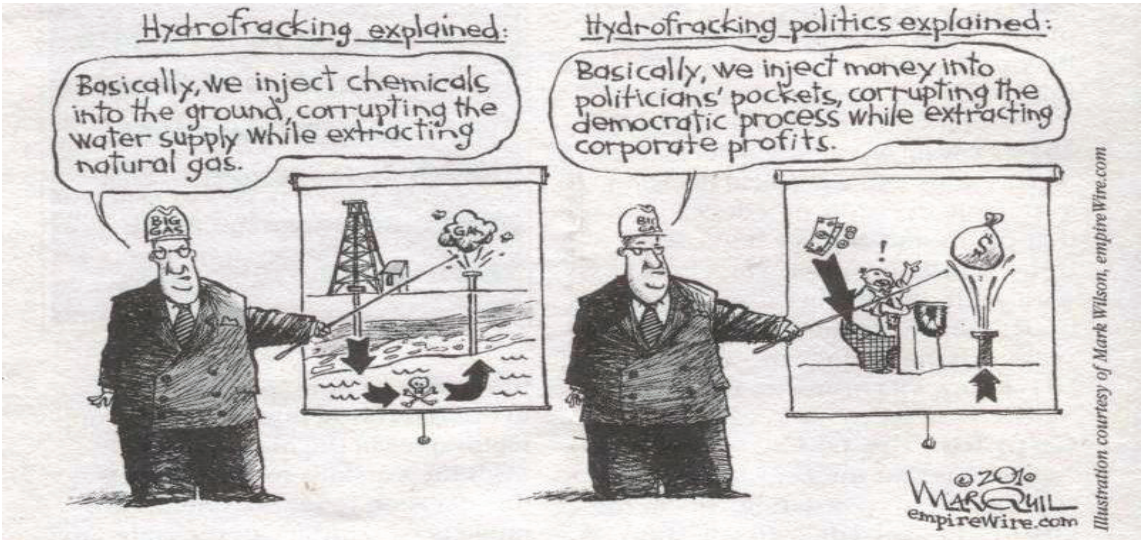
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JULY

1st - Thurs.	5to7	First Thursday Soup Dinner, Donation	St. Paul's	13th - Tues.	10:00	Alice in Wonderland (Merry-Go-Round)	F. F. Library
	7:30	Planning Board	Town Garage		7:00	Treadwell Community Improvement Club	
4th - Sun.		INDEPENDENCE DAY		14th - Wed.	7:30	Washington Reading Circle	
	10-2	Franklin Farmers' Market	Chapel Hall Lawn		12:00	Senior Dinner	Franklin Methodist Church
5th - Mon.	6:30	Franklin Explorers			7:00	Doodlebug Club	Ogden's
	7:00	Franklin Fire Department	Franklin Firehouse		7:00	Franklin Local	Marners'
	8:00	Treadwell Fire Department	Treadwell Firehouse		8:00	Treadwell Emergency Squad	Treadwell Firehouse
6th - Tues.	10:00	Moreland the Magician	Franklin Free Library	15th - Thurs.	6:00	Ouleout Valley Historical Society	Town Garage
	2:20	Cybermobile	Treadwell	17th - Sat.	8:00	Jazz Violin (A.Stein) Donation	Chapel Hall
	7:30	Recreation Committee	Village Hall		8:00	Monkey Dance	Treadwell Museum of Fine Art
	7:30	Town Board	Town Garage	18th - Sun.	10-2	Franklin Farmers' Market	Chapel Hall Lawn
7th - Wed.	7:30	Treadwell Explorers		19th - Mon.	7:00	Franklin Emergency Squad	Franklin Firehouse
8th - Thurs.	1:00	Library Board	Franklin Free Library		7:00	Franklin Improvement Society	Village Hall
	6:00	Town Court	Town Hall	20th - Tues.	10:00	Make a Splash! (Story Laurie McIntosh)	F.F. Library
	7:00	Word Thursday (N.V.Couto, J.Verdon) \$3	Bright Hill	21st - Wed.	7:00	Board of Education	Franklin Central School
9th - Fri.	8:00	Women of Delaware County (J.Mullen)	Chapel Hall	22nd - Thurs.	6:00	Town Court	Town Hall
	8:00	Ouleout Valley Fish & Game Club			7:00	Word Thursday (J.E.Lee) \$3	Bright Hill
10th - Sat	10-5	Stagecoach Run Art Festival	Treadwell	23rd - Fri.	8:00	Woman Who Fell from the Sky	
	3-5	Opening: The WPA Today (L.Ferstadt)	Bright Hill			(Mettawee River Theater Company)	Chapel Hall
11th - Sun.	10-5	Stagecoach Run Art Festival	Treadwell	24th - Sun.	10-2	Franklin Farmers' Market	Chapel Hall Lawn
	10-2	Franklin Farmers' Market	Chapel Hall Lawn	26th - Mon.	6:00	Ouleout Valley American Legion	Post 1689
	12-3	Music Brunch (L.Abdoo, O.Fader)\$ 12.50	Morgan's		7:30	Washington Reading Circle	
	3:30	Women of Delaware County (J.Mullen)	Chapel Hall	27th - Tues.	10:00	Shakespeare for Kids (C.Marner)	F'klin Free Library
12th - Mon.	7:00	Franklin Village Board	Village Hall		7:30	Treadwell Fire Department Auxiliary	Treadwell Firehouse
				29th - Thurs.	11:30-6:30	ARC Blood Drive	United Methodist Church



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