

HOME RULE OVER GAS DRILLING

By Brian Brock

New York is a state with strong home rule. Here local governments (county, town, and city/village) are granted broad powers to govern themselves. Under Article IX of our State Constitution as implemented by Municipal Home Rule Law, they can set up their own system of governing and ordinances. State approval is unnecessary, subject to excluding certain topics



Coat of Arms of the State of New York, adopted 1778, heralding the guarantee of Liberty (figure on left) and Justice (figure on right) for all citizens.

HURRAH FOR KIDS & KRITTERS

By Karleen DuMond

The Kids & Kritters 4-H Club was created in 2007 by club leader Karleen DuMond of Masonville. The club began with five members and has grown to twenty. Laura Gregory, of Oneonta has been added as Project Leader. The Project Leader organizes at least two projects with the members each year. Mrs. Gregory has helped the kids build a park bench dedicated to the Sidney Center United Methodist

Photo by the author

Church, lost due to arson in 2009. She has also helped the children build a picnic table in memory of New York State Trooper Jill E. Mattice. (Trooper Mattice was the former school resource officer at the Franklin Central School.) Part of this project also involved funding a one-time scholarship to benefit a 2011 graduating senior at the Franklin Central School, in memory of Jill.

Other projects have included creating homemade candles, recycling

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Bottom row left to right: Alan DuMond, Nick Hazen, Brandon Gregory, Heidi Decker, Max Meo. Middle row left to right: Nathan DuMond, Camy Hazen, Gretchen Decker, Tyler Gregory, Sky Stankiewicz. Back row left to right: Laura Gregory, Kylee Letosky, Natali Cobb, Colleen Beers, Karleen DuMond

and to meeting certain requirements.

Nevertheless, New York State can pass general laws. In 1971, our State passed the Environmental Conservation Law. Within it, Article 23 defines and empowers the Bureau of Oil and Gas Regulation in the Division of Mineral Resources. As amended in 1981, title 23-0303(2) states "The provisions of this article shall *supersede all local laws or ordinances* relating to the regulation of oil, gas, and solution mining industries; but shall not supersede local government jurisdiction over local roads or rights of local government under real property tax law."

In other words, the State grabbed complete control over drilling except when it concerns local roads or property taxes. As it stands today, with all local zoning control preempted, if a landman could lease an acre or two within the Village of Franklin, they could drill from there, and the Board of Trustees would be

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Deserted Sidney Center school awaits its new tenants

RETURNING HEART TO A COMMUNITY

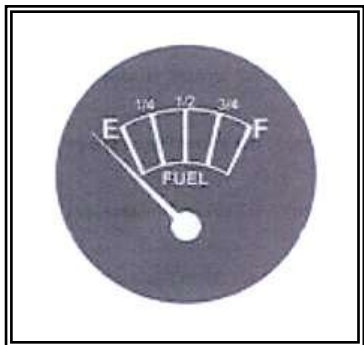
By Marjorie B. Kellogg

There's no limit to the power of Community when neighbors put their hearts and hands together to make a good idea come true.

On May 16th of this year,

Greater Maywood Rural Community Services, Inc., (GMRCS) a local not-for-profit organization based in Sidney Center, signed the papers and took possession of the Sidney Center Elementary School, which has sat unused since 2004.

"A new chapter in the See SCHOOL, con't on Pg. 5



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THE 16th ANNUAL STAGE-COACH RUN ART FESTIVAL

JULY 2 & 3

For full information and listing of participating artists, see page 10

WHY THE CIVIL WAR STILL MATTERS

By Tom Morain

This April was the 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War. While the issue of slavery was ostensibly what divided the nation, the conflict was about more than slavery. Especially for the North, it was a war to prove that the democracy could work, that people could govern themselves without a king, dictator, or aristocracy. President Lincoln and Union soldiers believed that they were fighting not only to preserve the union but to promote the struggle for popular government - by the people and for the people - everywhere and for all time. What motivated Union soldiers resonates today across the Arab world.

Here's a question: Why didn't the North let the South leave the Union to go its own way? Why did it matter so much to keep the United States together and not split into smaller but more compatible nations? In the answer lies

See CIVIL WAR, continued on Page 2



The Newsletter of the Franklin Citizens Commission on Peak Oil

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What are we about?

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

Renamed as Franklin Local, 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 ask questions and help us answer them, to share thoughts and ideas. Please join us!

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

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

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

We hope you will join us!
For meeting times, location and directions, email us at 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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CIVIL WAR, con't from Page 1
a fundamental principle of how we Americans define ourselves and our role in the world.

A British visitor to the United States, Lord Chesterton, observed that America is "a nation with the soul of a church." What unifies us is not a common ethnicity, history, or religion, like most nations. Americans come together, like a religious community, around a common belief articulated by Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence: All "are created equal and endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights." However we may differ as we try to incorporate that creed into public policy, Americans - red state/blue state, conservative/liberal, big government/small government, Fox News/MSNBC - unite behind this lofty "self-evident" statement of faith.

In 1861, no less than in 1776, the United States was a test case. America's commitment to equality and democracy in 1776 set it apart from the monarchies of the time. Could a democratic government survive? Or would its internal tensions eventually give birth to a dictator who could maintain order? Would its failure encourage repressive regimes to justify their authority as the only way to preserve the peace?

Most European rulers believed - and hoped - that American democracy would never survive a civil war, and the sooner it was gone, the better. The American ambassador to Great Britain, Charles Adams, wrote home early in the War that "the great body of the aristocracy and the commercial classes are anxious to see the United States go to pieces." A Spanish newspaper gloried in the Southern rebellion: As a form of government, American democracy "is too horrible to stir any desire for emulation."

Lincoln lived with the awareness that American's example was a test case for democracy. In its success or failure, he believed, was the future of people everywhere. The Civil War involved "more than the fate of these United States. It presented to the whole

family of man the question whether a constitutional republic or a democracy can or cannot maintain its territorial integrity against its own domestic foes." A victorious South would "go far to prove the incapability of the people to govern themselves." In the outcome of the fighting, "we shall nobly save, or meanly lose, the last best hope of earth."

Lincoln refined that sentiment even more eloquently in his Gettysburg Address: "Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure."

That vision was not Lincoln's alone. Historian James McPherson finds strong echoes of that theme in diaries and letters home from hundreds of Union soldiers. A New Jersey soldier wrote: "We will be held responsible before God if we don't do our part in helping to transmit the boon of civil and religious liberty down to succeeding generations." An Ohio private feared that Northern defeat would mean that "the onward march of Liberty in the Old World will be retarded at least a century, and Monarchs, Kings and Aristocrats will be more powerful against their subjects than ever."

The victory of the Northern armies kept the Union intact and preserved the American experiment in popular government. Union soldiers would have understood the call to American doughboys in France during World War I "to make the world safe for democracy."

In his 2009 speech in Cairo, President Obama articulated the commitment once again: "I do have an unyielding belief that all people yearn for certain things - the ability to speak your mind and have a say in how you are governed; confidence in the rule of law and the equal administration of justice; government that is transparent and doesn't steal from the people; the freedom to live as you choose. These are

not just American ideas; they are human rights. And that is why we will support them everywhere."

Cynics claim that U.S. foreign policy, like that of every other country, seeks only to advance its own interests and is unique only in its strength as the world's only remaining superpower. Street protesters struggling to bring down repressive regimes fault us when we support dictators, or fail to come to their aid. It is not in the actions of China or France or Russia that they see hypocrisy. The "burden" that the United States carries, the cause that sent many a Union soldier into Civil War battles, is one of our making: to be the proof that democracy works.

Critics can point to long-standing failures of the United States to realize a society where all enjoy equal access to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Racial injustice, poverty, inadequate health care, failing schools - these are all real. To those critics, Lincoln had a response. In 1857, he declared that the Founding Fathers "did not mean to assert the obvious untruth that all were then actually enjoying that equality...They meant to set up a standard maxim for free society, which should be familiar to all, and revered by all, constantly looked to, constantly labored for, and even though never perfectly attained, constantly approximated, and thereby constantly spreading and deepening its influence and augmenting the happiness and value of life to all people of all colors everywhere."

"All men are created equal." What defines the American experiment is a national consensus on a standard by which we measure our shortcomings.

Soldiers for the North who fought to keep alive the American experiment with democracy were aware that the world was watching. They were right. Today, what they fought for at Gettysburg and Vicksburg and Shiloh is being fought for again, on the streets of Tripoli, Tunis and Cairo.

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Tom Morain is director of government relations at Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa. The former head of the State Historical Society of Iowa, Morain now serves on Iowa's Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission.

He adds that he loves anything rubarb, often overbids his bridge hands, and has raised two wonderful sons.



PEAK OIL FOCUS

REPORT FROM THE BIKE LANE

By John O'Connor

Riffing on the old lawyer joke, what do you call 10,000 new bicycles in a city of 8 million? Answer: a good start.

And considering that 10,000 bikes will be rented to the public for affordable fees, it's really a very good start. If Gene Marner is right when he says, "We shall soon be living in a world very different from the one in which we grew up," the sight of 600 bike stations dispersed around the city of New York will serve as sample of what the world could look like if we're smart.

Paris is currently the most savvy bike share city in the world, with 20,000 bikes available from 1200 stations. Cyclists pay a yearly membership fee which allows them to get on a bike at any station and ride for a half hour for no

extra charge, dropping the bike off at the nearest station to their destination. Europeans who are not members can ride with a Euro credit card. How close to this payment method the Big Apple's system will be is unclear. London, where the London Times reported last Sunday that bikes outnumber cars on some commuter routes during rush hour, has a similar system with some 6000 bikes.

In the good ol' USA, New York City's bike share system will follow the examples of Denver, Washington DC, Minneapolis and Boston. But New York's will be the largest U.S. system by far.

As the price of gas continues to rise, so does the popularity of the bicycle as a mode of transportation. In 1896, Susan B. Anthony said that "the bicycle has done more for the emancipation of women than anything else in the world." It appears that more than a century later, the same can be said in regard to humanity's emancipation from dependence on fossil fuels.

PERFECT STORM: PEAK OIL AND THE FINANCIAL CRISIS

By Eugene Marner

It isn't so much that hard times are coming; the change observed is mostly soft times going.

—Groucho Marx

Most of us go through life naturally assuming that the world we live in is pretty normal—not necessarily fair or just or happy or lucky, but still more or less normal. What else could we possibly think? It is our experience of the world, and most days confirm our expectations. If, however, we take the trouble to compare the way we live with the way that almost all humans on earth have lived (and many still live) during the past 100,000 or so years, we will quickly be forced to the conclusion that what we think of as normal life is actually the tail end of a big party that has been going on for just a couple of centuries. Long-running noisy parties have been known to end with the arrival of the police, everyone being sent home and a few boisterous partygoers, perhaps, to the hoosegow to cool off. Our party is a little different. It will end because the lights are going out.

Now this, in itself, is not necessarily terrible, if admittedly inconvenient. Our kind lived without electric bed lamps and light switches for a very long time. Some of us even had parents who grew up without those amenities not so very long ago. But this time, the predicament that will cause our big party to shut down is, as we have explained in

these pages, the decline in available energy resources, especially Peak Oil.

Last year, a team of analysts at the Bundeswehr Transformation Centre, a top-level German military think-tank, published a 125-page report on Peak Oil. In it, they wrote:

"We are unable to think about the consequences of

"The occurrence of Peak Oil is...unavoidable."

—Bundeswehr report on Peak Oil

Peak Oil via our everyday experiences, and can only draw partial historical parallels. It is accordingly difficult to imagine what kind of impact a gradual withdrawal of one of the most important sources of energy would have on our civilization. Psychological barriers account for the suppression of irrefutable facts and lead to an almost instinctive rejection of in-depth discussion of this difficult issue.

"The occurrence of Peak Oil is, however, unavoidable."

—Bundeswehr report on Peak Oil, p. 103

With these words a team of German military analysts summarized the dilemma which lies before us: the peaking of global oil production is unavoidable, mankind has no prior experience from which to draw, it is difficult for us to even imagine what the impacts could be, and we instinctively avoid dealing with this unprecedented, highly complex dilemma. As if to illustrate precisely their point, the report has received no attention at all

in the main stream media, even in Germany.

Energy is not a resource like any other: it is the key resource. No living thing awakens in the morning and breaks its fast without using energy. Nothing, living or not, moves without energy. The more energy at your disposal, the more work or play you can do. Our politicians like to promise us that they will restore "growth." Alas, they are lying. Until they find a petroleum filling station somewhere off this planet, there will be no more growth. As energy availability declines, contraction must follow.

Visitors from another planet, looking at the present state of human life on Earth, might be tempted to conclude that we are stark raving mad. They might observe that we have built a complex global economy on finite and depleting resources (fossil fuels, metal ores, topsoil, fish in the sea), and that we have made no provision for carrying on after those finite and depleted resources have played out and gone away. Those same alien visitors to our planet might look closer and conclude that the rise, over the past 40 years or so, of casino capitalism, financial hanky-panky, drug dealing, and shameless political corruption has something to do with our inability to make the resources continue to grow. In other words, as the prospects for getting rich through real productive economic activity decline, clever and ambitious men and women turn to the sort of financial manipulation and swindling that

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GAS DRILLING VS. YOUR REAL ESTATE VALUES

Courtesy of the Tompkins County Council of Governments
May 31, 2011

Concerned about effects that are already being felt in the local real estate market, a Tompkins County group is urging State officials to address economic considerations related to natural gas drilling. Representatives of the Tompkins County Workgroup on Assessment and

Land Valuation (a subcommittee of the Tompkins County Council of Governments' Gas Drilling Task Force) met with State officials in Albany, asking that the State implement requirements as part of gas drilling regulations to prevent unintended negative consequences on the real estate market and county assessment rolls. The committee reports that lenders are reluctant to ap-

prove residential mortgages on the increasing number of properties where leases do not conform with regulations of the secondary mortgage market. Minimum setback requirements of 100 feet between drill pads and dwellings are specified in current and proposed regulations before the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), compared with setbacks of 200 feet or more required by secondary lenders such as Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and SONYMA. The group also reported

that title insurance in New York State contains specific exclusions with the potential to void title insurance coverage when any com-

mon activity of commercial drilling, storage, or transmission of gas occurs on a residential property. In ad-

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powerless. However, the meaning of §23-0303(2) is unsettled, with no decision by the Appellate Court to support this interpretation, which hinges on the meaning of "relating to regulation of."

There is court precedent for home rule over mining. Another title of the ECL, §23- 2703(2) (title 27, known as the Mined Land Reclamation Law), performs the same function for the Bureau of Resource Management and Development. It originally defined the control by our State over mining in terms similar to those for drilling. Then, in the 1980s, the town of Carroll in Chautauqua County passed a zoning ordinance that prohibited surface mining in its AR-2 districts. Frew Run Gravel Products, Inc. sued the town to have this ordinance overturned. In 1987, the Appellate Court affirmed the zoning powers of the town (71 N.Y. 2d 126, 131-133). It wrote "A municipality is not obligated to permit the exploitation of any and all natural resources within the town as a permitted use, if limiting that use is a reasonable exercise of its police power to prevent damage to the rights of others and to promote the interests of the community as a whole."

Other towns followed, such as New Scotland, Albany County and Smithtown, Suffolk County. Likewise they were challenged and affirmed. To cut through this confusion, the state legislature in 1991 revised §23-2703(2) to codify the court rulings. It now reads, in part "that nothing in this title shall be construed to prevent any local government from ... enacting or enforcing local zoning ordinances or laws which determine permissible uses of zoning districts."

A similar process has begun for home rule over drilling. A few towns have passed moratoriums while they rewrite their zoning: DeWitt, Marcellus, Skaneateles, and Tully in Onondaga County, Gorham in Ontario County, and Jerusalem in Yates County. The first town to revise their zoning of heavy industry to explicitly cover drilling was Otsego in Otsego County, by a vote of 4 to 1 this May, followed in June by neigh-

boring Middlefield 5 to 0. Also in June, neighboring Springfield, which has no zoning, passed a ban on heavy industry 5 to 0. These are the three towns that surround Otsego Lake.

Eventually one or more of these towns will have their ordinance challenged in court, and defending such challenges would be long and expensive. To avoid this, two local State Senators - Bonacic (R-42nd, including Delaware County) and Seward (R-51st, including Otsego county) - are among several co-sponsors of legislation to amend ECL title 23-0303(2) to affirm the power of local governments to regulate natural gas drill through planning and zoning: S.3472/A.3245, Clarify Applicability of Local Protections Over Natural Gas Development.

What could it mean to Franklin if home rule over

"A municipality is not obligated to permit the exploitation of any and all natural resources within the town as a permitted use, if limiting that use is a reasonable exercise of its police power to prevent damage to the rights of others and to promote the interests of the community as a whole."

drilling is affirmed? Town Law Section 264 requires that zoning regulations be "made in accordance with a comprehensive plan." Town of Franklin Comprehensive Plan (2006), section 11.9 (Mineral Extraction & Natural Gas) reads "... natural gas exploration in the town must be carefully monitored by the Planning Board to ensure they are well-sited." As to what should constitute a "well-sited" well, the first six goals from Chapter 12 of our plan are:

- * Retain rural character
- * Revitalize hamlet business center
- * Enhance economic development, specifically agri-business, eco-tourism, and small business
- * Preserve historic resources
- * Protect natural resources
- * Better design of commercial and industrial developments

Since the amendment of ECL in 1991, courts have continued to affirm home rule over mining. The court affirmed the right of towns to ban mining entirely in Gernatt Asphalt Products,

Inc. v. Town of Sardinia, 87 N.Y. 2d 668, 683 (2d Dept. 1996)). This raises the possibility of similarly banning drilling in a town.

Also since then, the court has affirmed the general applicability of town law to mining. For examples, restricting construction on steep slopes (Patterson Materials Corp. v. Town of Pawling, 264 A.D. 2d 510, (2d Dept., 1999)) and building of associated structures on site (Town of Parishville v. Contore Co., Inc., 667 A.D. 2d 453 (3d Dept. 1998)).

Some land owners have claimed that if their towns did not allow unrestricted drilling, then these towns were robbing them potential signing bonuses and royalties. However restrictions on land use through zoning are not a form of taking, which would be unconstitutional under the Fifth Amendment "... nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." A taking is the loss of all use of property according to the Supreme Court, for example in eminent domain. Zoning merely restricts the legal uses. What is more, under common law, "all property in this country is held under the implied obligation that the owner's use of it shall not be injurious to the community" according to the Supreme Court in *Mugler v. Kansas* 123 U.S. 623, 665 (1887). This is a function of zoning. If the courts or legislature similarly affirm home rule over drilling, then towns will be able to direct drilling so that it benefits our community, not just the energy companies.

Brian Brock is a geologist and Associate Editor of the NFR



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dition, the group has concerns about how properties can be equitably appraised and about incomplete lease information that hinders processing of mortgage requests. The working group, which includes municipal officials, the County's Director of Assessment, realtors, representatives of local financial institutions, real estate attorneys, and interested citizens, was formed to assist Tompkins County and its municipalities to prepare for potential impacts if the State approves high-volume horizontal gas drilling. "We started the work of this committee to look at potential future impacts of hydro-fracking— how might it impact our assessment rolls, the value of property in our community, and ultimately, the tax base," says Tompkins County Legislator Carol Chock, who chairs the working group. Chock explains, "The group has not taken a position on drilling itself and did not presume a negative outcome. Economic development is expected to be the upside of this activity; we've been told if we're willing to take the risk, the reward for the County and our municipalities should be an enhanced tax base overall. Instead, we are finding a current negative impact on land values, real estate transactions, and our ability to perform appraisals. We believe these issues need to be addressed before further permits are issued in New York State." President for Residential Mortgage Lending and one of the lenders working with the TCCOG committee, Chock emphasizes, "These are economic concerns that don't represent issues raised from an environmental perspective. The solutions we propose as minimum standards would not satisfy many of the environmental impacts being examined by others." Among its requests, the committee asks that the State:

- require drilling regulations to meet secondary mortgage market standards and title insurance requirements;
- apply setback requirements to other drilling related activities in addition to wells;
- require timely recording by companies of full lease information (including renewals and memoranda) within 30 days.

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July 5th 7:30 p.m.
 August 2nd 7:30 p.m.
 Sept. 6th 7:30 p.m.
 October 4th 7:30 p.m.
 Nov. 10th 7:30 p.m.
 Dec. 6th 7:30 p.m.
 Dec. 27th 7:30 p.m.

Meetings are at the Town Garage, at the intersection of County Route 21 and NYS Route 357
 Changes in time or place are posted by the Town Clerk or call to inquire: 829-3440

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history of Sidney Center," stated Rev. Dr. Paul E. C. Hamilton, President and CEO of GMRCS. "In less than ten months, we have gone from nothing to this major, exciting moment. Our group of less than twenty individuals has met nearly weekly for all these months, visioning, strategizing, reaching out, raising funds, and look: hope has won the day!"

"The biggest news out of Sidney Center in sixty years," grinned Pete Cordes, Chair of the organization and a member of Sidney's Town Council.

Since the contentious closing of the school by the Sidney Board of Education over six years ago, numerous businesses, groups and individuals have proposed schemes for a reuse of the building, but plans kept coming to naught. Then, in July, 2010, a small group of local residents began to shape a new vision for the school: to transform it into a lively community center serving all people in the area, but with a special focus on seniors, farmers and youth, as well as on rebuilding the sense of connection within the Sidney Center community that was shattered by the closing of the school.

"It's clear that the people here want this new facility because they're the ones who gave all the funds for the purchase," said Amanda Heaney-Smith, treasurer of GMRCS. "Yes, we had several dinners and bake sales at SFCU in Sidney, and appeal letters and Website appeals, but the bulk

chairs, tables and other left-behinds, all of which will be put to good use as the new tenants bring life back to the abandoned building.

When asked about the first improvement she'd make to the facility, GMRCS stalwart Carol Bennett crowed, "A new kitchen! We need that first to be able to host events: community dinners and fund-raisers." The existing kitchen, next door to the gym (which also served at the school cafeteria), was stripped of its equipment, but for sinks and a few warming ovens, when the building was closed. New dishwashers and stoves will be needed, as well as storage cabinetry. Mrs. Bennett, owner of Covered Bridge Gardens, would love to see a general store in the facility, with a café to serve daily visitors and staff.

What other plans and hopes for the new community center?

Delaware Valley Hospital in Walton has expressed interest in opening a satellite educational office. A used clothing store would like to make Sidney Center its home for a year while renovating its store in Sidney. Comfortable spaces could be found for the Sidney Center Food Bank and the Sidney Center Library, for adult education and exercise classes. Local musicians and theatre groups could bring their art to the stage in the gymnasium. The kindergarten classroom has its own bathroom and sinks, plus a door to the back yard, and would make an excellent space for toddler or senior day care. There is lawn for a Farmers Market and acreage for a community garden. There is a playground, a basketball court and a baseball field.

Bennett and Hamilton spoke most eloquently about the possibilities for after-school activities. Sidney Center students are now bussed to Sidney, where after-school events leave them far from home in the early darkness of winter evenings.

"If they could take the bus to the Center at the end of classes," Hamilton pointed out, "then come here for sports or other indoor activities, even tutoring, many of them could walk home to supper."

GMRCS is in the midst of a new membership drive, with the hope of adding a hundred new members by the end of the summer. Memberships are \$1.00 a year.

Plans are being made for a grand opening and dedication of the facility in early September. For further information, see their website (www.greatermayoodservicesny.org), look for them on Facebook or Twitter, or call Dr. Hamilton at 607-369-2745.



Rev. Dr. Paul Hamilton signs the papers while Bob Holt looks on



GMRCS members Carol Bennett and Judy Cordes take stock of the cafeteria's kitchen equipment. Photos by the author

of the money was given or loaned by local citizens who care about one another and their community."

May 16th was gray and rainy in Sidney Center, but delighted smiles were everywhere as the keys were handed over and the members of GMRCS spread out to explore their new facility. Sidney Board of Education maintenance supervisor Bob Holt led a tech-savvy quartet of men through a detailed explanation of the building's equipment and maintenance routines. Walton lawyer Frank Wood, who supplied pro-bono legal services for the transfer of ownership, wandered the corridors looking gratified.

Built in 1954, the school was enlarged and fully renovated in 2002, only to be closed two years later. "It's in excellent shape," reports Hamilton, "and is fully handicap-accessible. Only a few minor leaks over the gym." Indeed, everything looked spic and span as, one by one, classrooms vacant for six years were unlocked to reveal their scatterings of desks and



Locked classroom soon to be in use

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For information, see www.greatermayoodservicesny.org



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CRISIS, continued from Page 3

has been only partially exposed since 2008.

Today, when economic and social collapse begins to seem like a real possibility, the financial and intellectual resources that should go to mitigate the growing crisis are instead being squandered. Corrupt and venal politicians of both parties are throwing taxpayer money at zombie banks that are doomed to fail in the end because of the mountains of worth-

less paper they have been permitted to hide in their vaults. Meanwhile, taxpayers everywhere are being wrung out and squeezed dry to feed the greed of the banksters.

Folks, we're in trouble. No federal or state politicians will look after our interests. The soft times are going away for good. We need local production and local cooperation to see us through.

INDULGENCES

By Bertha Rogers

Carlo died. . . Would you instruct me now?

—Emily Dickinson to Thomas Higginson, on the event of her dog's death.

The murk, again—and black beavies,
like birds, like Ur-serpents—
feathered heads whipping, beaming
above the canopies of moving coaches.

Always, now, the gone companion, eyeing,
through gloom, flourishing filaments—
fixed, praising his immense dark.

And these words, jagged, distancing pinions,
semblance of dog, my burly black brother—
barking, barking from grassy gardens,
sweet archaic smile flickering—
these bannered indulgences,
sweets I cannot resist.

—to the memory of Luke, a dog

First published in Animus Literary Magazine

Beginning with this issue, Bertha Rogers will curate poetry for the New Franklin Register.



FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News
Local Events

Local Issues
Local Concerns



LOCAL HOT-SPOT

Another NFR "Local Hero" interview

By Betsy Babcock

BB: It's Friday at 10am, and as I walk into Dawn's Deli, on Main Street, the first thing I notice is the wonderful smell of fresh baked cookies. Dawn Ritz is standing at her mixer, making up dough for the next batch. I sit at the table next to her baking area to chat with her as she creates her famous chocolate chip cookies.

BB: At the risk of asking an obvious question, who owns Dawn's Deli?

DAWN: I get that all the time. Yes, I'm the owner.

BB: Everyone in town knows you, it seems. Are you a local?

DAWN: Actually, I moved here 13 years ago from Minnesota. But my husband, Mike, has been here his whole life. So we know just about everybody.

BB: How did you end up owning the Deli?

DAWN: I've worked in the food service industry my whole life, since I was 14. My Dad and I always wanted to have a grocery store and a restaurant, so this has really been my dream. This was RK's Groceries before and had been a grocery store for a long time. I worked for Ruth Marshall for a year and a half and then bought the business from her.

BB: What do you sell?

DAWN: Groceries, bait and tackle, deli meats, subs, fresh baked cookies, and greeting cards. About half of our business is grocery, and half is cookies, deli, and subs.

BB: How many employees do you have?

DAWN: We have two employees. Lisa Thies and Ross Todd. I couldn't do this without them!

BB: How has your store managed to thrive in a small village like Franklin?

DAWN: By catering to the local clientele. The guy who comes in for a dollar cup of coffee every day. It's a place people can be comfortable. I don't care if a farmer comes

in with "mud" on his boots. It's like family. And I don't care if they come in and stay all day. It's a nice sound to hear people talking. I love it.

BB: What are the most interesting parts of your business?

DAWN: Visiting with all my friends. Most people come in every day. People can tell me anything, because they know they can trust me.

BB: What are the toughest challenges?

DAWN: The hours and the long days. I take a few days off once a year. I was out for a few weeks with a bad shoulder and really missed it. I came back early because I couldn't stand being away.

BB: What do you think makes your store stand out?

DAWN: I love to bake and I'm known for my cookies. I make ten

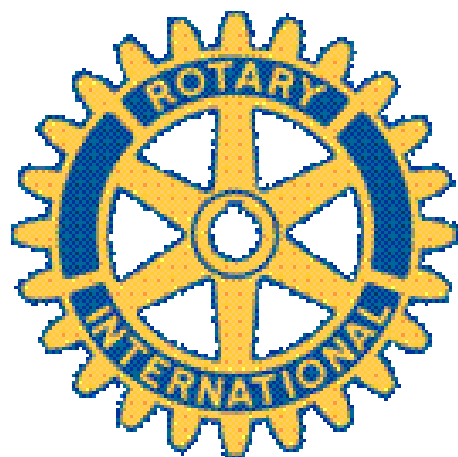
to fifteen dozen a day, all by hand. I have regular customers who buy dozens at a time for their businesses. Also, the high school kids love them.

BB: What are your goals for the future?

DAWN: I would like to do more baking, but we have a lot of space restraints, so there's only so much I can do. My motto is "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Dawn's Deli

458 Main St.
Franklin, NY 13775
Phone 607-829-3311
Hours Mon - Fri:
7:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sat: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm



Rotary Sponsors Youth Leadership Seminar

Rotary District 7170, which encompasses 46 Rotary clubs within seven counties in the Southern Tier of New York State, is sponsoring a leadership program for young people. One hundred twenty-seven students in this area will participate in RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) from June 26th to July 1st at Hartwick College in Oneonta. The week-long conference emphasizes leadership, citizenship and personal growth for the exceptional young men and women who were selected to participate.

RYLA began in the district in the early 1980's. Now in its 29th year, it is directed towards students moving into their senior year who show leadership potential. They are selected by each participating Rotary club with the help of school counselors.

For many of these students, RYLA is their first experience on a college campus. They live in the school's dorms, eat in their cafeteria and use Hartwick College's facilities such as the library, computer and technology rooms, fitness center, and pool and meeting rooms.

Most members of the RYLA staff are area high school teachers. Many of the guest speakers have direct ties with Rotary and are former Rotary exchange students. One of the most popular speakers is Duke Fisher from Bainbridge, who presents a unit on managing conflict. Other topics are Student Violence, Motivation, Decision Making, "Who Am I?," and "Career Exploration: A New Age." In addition, the students produce a newspaper, have a public speaking contest, create band and chorus shows and

take electives such as photography, scrapbook, computers and wall painting.

Included in the activities is a community volunteer component. The students will collect food and supplies for SPCA. The staff will also offer a unit on handling local tragedies.

Rotary is an international service organization of 1,200,000 members. It provides service to others, promotes high ethical standards, and advances world understanding, goodwill and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

For more information on RYLA contact Jack Sullivan, Chair of RYLA at jackinowego@verizon.net.

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Old Franklin Day 2011

By Kim Hyzer

For Franklin, Saturday, August 27, looks to be a day full of activities. Old Franklin Day will start at 9:00 A.M. and run until 4:00 P.M. on the grounds of Franklin Central School. There will be craft and flea market vendors, the Franklin Library book tent, food vendors, the Vintage Fashion Show, jewelry making demonstrations, doodlebugs and entertainment.

For the kids, there will be a rally and a bounce house. The Girl Scouts will have games. Skip West, an interactive entertainer for kids, will be performing twice.

Our entertainment will include the Sidney Community Band from 9:30 - 10:30. Fly By Night will be playing from 1-4 in the afternoon. Also coming is Trooper Kelly Stalter and her K9, Maya.

In the afternoon, the Reminiscers will be driving in with fabulous vintage cars.

If you would like to offer entertainment, call Kim Hyzer at 829-8820. For a booth, call Cindy Pinney at 829-8694.

Your Neighbor's View...

DEMOCRACY'S CRADLE: Your Public Library

By Lynne M. Kemen

The public library was my personal treasure trove when I was growing up. I read my way through endless summers, and spent many happy hours roaming the open shelves from book to book to book, each one related to the others by the thread of my curiosity, accessible because there they all sat—just waiting for me. When I got old enough, qualifying for the adult section of the library was a thrilling rite of passage. It never occurred to me then that the library might not be there someday. Libraries have been a given in my life since I can remember.

A public library is many things. In addition to books, it provides a meeting place, a diversion for children (and their parents), a quiet place to sit and think or read, or a stop on the way home to pick up a book to listen to on CD. A library offers a useful way to spend disposable time. A public library is a social amenity as well as a literary retreat.

But make no mistake, in a democracy, the public library is not superfluous or unnecessary; it is fundamental to the principles of “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” Open access to knowledge and literature is a pillar of a free republic; a library is the town square

where ideas are explored and exchanged.

“Libraries belong to a brief transitional period at the end of the 19th century—after the rise of democracy but before the rise of the welfare state . . . a certain amount of intellectual infrastructure is necessary to the maintenance of a free society. Modern people often make the mistake of assuming that “cultivation” or “polish” is the important thing libraries give their patrons. It is not. What is important is that people build a basic toolkit of literary communication that leaves them uncowed by accounts built out of words, sentences and paragraphs.”

—“It Is the Fate of Libraries to Die,” Christopher Caldwell, FT.com, 4/15/11

In these challenging economic times, municipalities everywhere are tightening their fiscal belts. Joblessness and the increasing cost of living are forcing local governments to reevaluate which programs must be funded and which ones to let slip on their list of priorities. To town leaders with threadbare budgets, a library might feel like a luxury—especially when ranked alongside essential services such as elder care, schools, road maintenance and transportation, or police and fire-fighting.

And others might argue that in our post-mod-

ern democracy, a personal computer and a cell phone—commonly found in a majority of American homes—can serve the same function as a library, as portals to a nearly infinite fount of information, literature, and art.

But even in 2011, and even here in Franklin, not every citizen owns a computer or a cell phone, and even those who have a Kindle or its ilk cannot afford to download every book that's available electronically. The requirement of a financial investment to possess these devices creates, by definition, a barrier between those who can and those who cannot afford access to information.

Franklin Free Library has three computers for use by its members. In fact, it is the only place in town with high-speed Wi-Fi service. But it's more than shelves full of books and free ac-

cess to the Internet. There is also our enthusiastic librarian, Linda Burkhart, who, along with Brian Brock and the other volunteers, greets everyone by name and makes them feel welcome. This friendly team help and serve us, not for the big bucks, but because they have a passion for knowledge, for learning, and for their community. The children's summer programs offer a wide range of lessons in subjects as diverse as natural science and local history. The library is a doorway for the young people of our small town to the wide world beyond. Every time I volunteer at our library, Linda and her team teach me something new, and I leave enriched by my visit there.

Sure, Franklin Free Library is a small library in a small town, but it offers the same big information available in any city library. And

it provides a bonus hard to come by in the big city: personalized help from real people who are there expressly to benefit their fellow citizens and neighbors. At the very heart of our community, Franklin Library is a place to grow, whatever age you are or whether or not you have a dime in your pocket.

The next time we are tempted to regard our free public library as a mere amenity, let's remember this: our local library provides essential services that cannot be measured in dollars and cents, but in the capital of knowledge and ideas, and by the investment we are making in our future adults, the leaders of tomorrow, in whose hands the fate of our democracy will rest.

Lynne M. Kemen, Ph.D., volunteers at the Franklin Free Library.



Photo by Steve Monosson



The Franklin Park Fountain, with Robert Johnson's stone work.

Park News

By Kim Hyzer

A ceremony was held at the Franklin Park on Saturday, May 28, to declare the park officially open and to dedicate two of its features. Mayor John Campbell led the ceremonies and spoke of

given in memory of Officer Jill Mattice, formerly a student resource officer at FCS. The table was made by the Kids and Kritters 4-H club (See article on Page 1). Three club members spoke of Officer Jill and what she meant to the students. The whole club led us in “God Bless America.”

In the weeks previous, the Franklin Art and

Gary Parrow, a teacher, coach and principal at Franklin Central School for several years. John remarked that Gary would have loved to sit on his porch and hear the fountain, which was purchased and installed using funds given in memory of Gary after he lost his battle with cancer.

The second feature is a picnic table

Antiques Gallery hosted a student art contest titled “What Memorial Day Means to Me.” The winners and honorable mentions were awarded. The first prize in each category was a very nice art set and a free lesson from one of the artists featured at the gallery.

Before the ceremony, the Franklin Garden Club purchased and planted a purple fountain weeping beech, a variegated dogwood tree, hydrangeas and other shrubs. Three of these plants were given in memory of Caroline McReynolds Smith, Frances Nesland and Christopher Fischer. In upcoming months, the club will be planting perennials. Later in the summer, work will start on the oval path to be installed in front of the fountain. We will be placing more benches there.

Dillon Costello will be finishing the kiosk this summer, as his Eagle Scout project.

If you are interested in donating a plant, contact Jane Hebbard or Diana Cohen.

If you would like to donate towards the purchase of a bench, call Kim Hyzer at 829-8820.

Come to the park, eat a meal at the picnic table, or sit and reflect.

For further information on Park plantings of trees and shrubs by the Franklin Garden Club, see Page 14

KIDS, con't from Page 1

Halloween pumpkins into bird feeders, making soap with oatmeal and lavender, building picture frames from horse shoes, and creating three dimensional holiday snowflakes.

The club stays very busy with its activities, projects and community service. We have sold BBQ chicken to raise money for the new horse barn at the Delaware County Fairgrounds, also lost due to arson. We have done community service at the Humane Society in Delhi, helping out with the dogs & cats. Before Christmas last year, we acted as Salvation Army bell ringers at the Walton Big M. On May 28th of this year, the club held a bike-a-thon in Franklin for St. Jude's Children's Hospital, raising \$1,296.00.

Each year the Delaware County 4-H holds a duck race in the Village of Walton to raise money for 4-H programs. The Kids & Kritters 4-H Club has won the quack award for the past two years, for selling the most tickets. In 2010, the club sold 493 tickets.

But Kids & Kritters 4-H doesn't stop there. We also plan fun activities for the members to enjoy, such as winter sleep overs and

swimming parties at local hotels, ice fishing, roasting hot dogs and marshmallows over a camp fire, participating in an annual Halloween party, complete with spook house, games and hay-ride, and finally, holding an end of year cookout to celebrate all we have accomplished.

4-H is the largest out-of-school youth education program in the United States. It teaches young people everything from pride and responsibility to respect and discipline.

The members of The Kids & Kritters 4-H carry their pride with them. Stop by the Franklin, Walton or Hancock school any third Thursday of the month and you will see the members in their green 4-H t-shirts. Or stop by the horse barn during the Delaware County Fair this year and see our latest project: making step stools to be placed outside the children's horse stalls, so that small children can step up and see the horses.

Absent from photo on Pg. 1: Nick Lane, Meranda Fairbairn, Ryan Petty, Jennifer Meo, Tinsley Buffington, Natalie Downin, Haley Downin, Haley MacRabie

Karleen DuMond is leader of Kids & Kritters, and owner of Golden Gait Farm



ALL EGGS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

By Betsy Babcock

Many people think, when they buy 'cage free' eggs, that the chickens laying the eggs are humanely raised, with access to the outdoors and fresh air. Sadly, this is not the case. 'Cage free' only means that the chickens are not in cages. But in the vast majority of cases, these chickens never see the light of day. Instead, they live inside crowded barns for their entire lives. If access to an outdoor area is provided, it is often to a cement pad, and the exit itself is so small that the chickens refuse to go through it.

Unfortunately, chickens laying organic eggs often find themselves in the same situation. By regulation, organic hens must have access to the outdoors, but egg producers in the United States do not always grant meaningful outdoor access to their organic laying hens. Most industrial-scale organic egg producers build small wood or concrete porches attached to the hen-houses, which pass as "outdoor access."

A new classification of eggs is emerging, as customers become more aware of this situation: Pastured or Pasture Raised Eggs. These eggs are usually found only in farmers' markets, and the difference in quality and taste is vastly superior. Bright yellow yolks, thick whites, and amazing flavor - if you've ever had eggs from a pastured chicken, you know. But until recently, you could only find these eggs during farmers' market season.

In order to provide customers with convenient, year round availability of pastured eggs, Handsome Brook Farm has developed a network of local small farmers who, along with our Handsome Brook Farm chickens, provide eggs from pastured hens to be sold at local grocery stores. We are doing this because we want everyone to have access to the best quality eggs from chickens that are truly humanely raised. We also want to provide opportunities for small farmers in the area to grow their flocks and earn extra money for their families. Participating farms include Richard and Bobbie Groat of Sidney Center, Marjorie Deloise of Mt. Vision, and Sierra Jones of Franklin.

Pasture-raised eggs are available on Sundays at the Franklin Farmers' Market. Producers include Fokish, the Marsiglios of Stony Creek Farm and Bruce Zimmer of Cordwood Acres. But when you can't make it to the market, we invite you to support our local egg farmers by picking up a dozen Handsome Brook Farm pastured eggs at the Oneonta Hannaford.

Betsy Babcock and her husband Bryan Babcock are owners of Handsome Brook Farm.





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pet talk

with Dr. Joan Puritz



Hello, all,

If you're reading this paper, it means you've successfully made it past winter and into bug season. I'm so happy to have the opportunity to answer a question or three from readers about problems with any animal.

So here we go:

Dear Dr. Puritz,

I am 9 years old, and I have asked a lot of grown ups this question, and no one knows the answer. My teacher said that if I write to you at Pet Talk, you would know for sure.

What is the difference between a pony and a miniature horse? I have seen a lot of really small mini horses, and also very small ponies. I love them both.

Which one would make a better pet? If they're too small to ride, that's O.K. I mostly want him to be a good friend.

Thank you.

Isabella Kubizcek

Dear Isabella,

This is a tough question. In some ways they are alike. Small size and all, but that is not all. The miniature horse is supposed to be a horse that is miniaturized with the same proportions as a horse, as opposed to the pony which has different characteristics. Miniature horses are generally 28-38 inches high. Ponies mostly have short legs and a round belly with elongated torsos. Ponies have been in existence for much longer than the mini horse and are quite the tricksters. Some ponies are large enough to ride, while few miniature horses are large enough.

There are good and bad reasons to own either of these. They both live a long life, from 30 to 50 years. What will happen when you grow up and move - would you take him with you? These questions are good to answer before you get any pet. If I were to want another one, I would go to a rescue organization first, save a life and keep it from slaughter. You could even find mini horses and ponies at auctions and on E-Bay.

I've had my miniature horse Magic for about 5 years now. He is large for a mini and could be ridden by a small child, although he is not ridden by anyone now. It takes daily training to have a rideable horse. He has taught himself to open the barn door to get into the tack room with the feed, which can cause laminitis, a very bad disease of the hooves. Needless to say we have an extra lock on the door that he can't open now. Seriously, having a pet

that needs plenty of fresh air and care is not for everyone, but maybe you are the one who can. Good luck with what ever your decision is.

Dear Dr. Puritz,

I have a little 13 year old chihuahua mix in good physical health who has always received not 100%, but 200% of my attention. We are closely bonded.

Three weeks ago I "inherited" a friendly pet rabbit who takes a lot of my time. Since then, Fritzie seems a bit depressed. I give him a lot of loving and petting, but he knows my attention is being divided.

My question is, do you think Fritzie will get over his funk and get used to the new sharing of my attention, or, after 3 weeks, do you think this is unlikely?

Fritzie is my beloved companion, and I will find a good home for the rabbit if necessary for Fritzie's happiness.

Thank you for your help and your very entertaining and informative column.

Helen Elmer

West Oneonta

Dear Helen,

There are two ways to look at this situation. Fritzie is used to having you to himself and not used to sharing you. He has always relied on you to be there when ever he wanted. Now he has to wait while you care for another. This is not necessarily a bad thing. You are still there for him, just not when he wants you, and he is probably a bit put out. You've also had only Fritzie for a while and he is your good friend, so this is difficult for you as well. I think you have to decide whether having this rabbit guest is worth Fritzie's funk or not. Yes, Fritzie may eventually get over it and accept the new way of life, but it won't be the same as before you had this new friend sharing your love. How does he respond to the rabbit?. Some dogs and rabbits become good friends after a while.

I'd recommend giving it a bit longer. Change is always difficult for older animals. Thanks for sharing this with us.

My last response is to the 25-50 people that call our office each year from May to June with a complaint that their dogs have round, red bull's eye spots on the hairless areas of their bellies. These dogs have been outside for some of the day. These are usually black fly bites (May-fly) and will go away on their own in a day or so. This is a good time of year to apply a canine-appropriate insect repellent before they go outside.

Well, have a great summer and watch out for ticks. Lyme disease is on the rise around here, and you can get it from the bite of a tick that has been attached for more than 24 hours.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joan Puritz

FRANKLIN CHURCHES

Aldrich Baptist Church

Route 28, Franklin
Phone 829-5502
Pastor: Pat Judd
Sunday Service: 9:30 A.M.

Franklin United Methodist Church

Main and Water Streets
Franklin
Phone 829-2956
Pastor: John Hill
Sunday Service: 10:45 A.M.
Coffee hour following
Sunday School for children
following Children's Time
Holy Communion, first
Sunday of each month.

Treadwell United Methodist Church

68 Church Street,
Treadwell
Pastor: John Hill
Sunday Service: 9:15 A.M.

St Paul's Episcopal Church

307 Main Street
Franklin
Phone 829-6404
All faiths welcome
Service every first Sunday
of the month at 1:30 P.M.
followed by fellowship
dish-to-pass dinner.
Service every second thru
fourth Sunday at 9 A.M.
First Thursdays Soup
Dinner every month, by
donation, to benefit roof
replacement fund.
5-7 P.M. Join your
friends for homemade
soups/chili/salad and
conversation!

Community Bible Church

89 Center Street, Franklin
Pastor: Dr. Walt Schlundt
Church Phone: 829-5471
Sunday School (Sept.
Through May): 9:45 AM
Morning Worship: 10:45 AM
We are a church that faithfully teaches the word of God and seeks to glorify Him through worship, service and in all that we do. We seek to fulfill the great commission through evangelization, missions and training. We offer two Ladies' Bible Studies and one Men's Bible Study. Our local outreach is Angel Food, a low cost help with your grocery bill. All can participate, there are no income requirements. Visit www.angelfoodministries.com for more information.

This space sponsored by Handsome Brook Farm.

UpState Arts

with guest columnist
Edmond Rinnooy Kan

GOU-GOU WILL CONQUER THE WORLD

“But, what do you do?”
“What do you mean, do?”
“Well, what do you do for a living? What is your profession?”
“Oh. I am an artist”
I can hear him think, *mmmm, an artist, this conversation is probably not going to go anywhere.*
“And what kind of art do you make?”
“I am a painter”
“Oh really, and what do you paint?”
“Well, I am not really a landscape painter, not really figurative either, but also not totally abstract – abstracted, of course, but mostly stuff I think up by myself, but in simpler forms – expressionistic, you could say, symbolic sort of, with some hard lines and shapes, but not in the classic sense, I mean, not Germany 1900 (ha-ha). My work is really here and now, in the moment, sort of...”

When you explain that you are an artist, most people think you must be drunk and that is true much of the time. It is probably the only thing artists have in common today. They definitely do not share a vision about art. There is no consensus or common ground in art today. There are no schools of art, no movements, no isms. Every artist is on his own, in search of a private-one-person ism, a unique visual language not to be shared with anybody else. It makes art the loneliest profession in the world.

My workday today started with staring out the window. I can see my studio, thirty yards away, a little itzy-bitsy building, my center of excellence, the navel of my universe. I try to motivate myself. The world needs art, yes, the world needs art badly, people are lost, out of touch with themselves, they need art to reconnect to something they believe in, something deeper, something that resonates with their true selves. Art can do that. It is what art is all about. Who else can do that? The church? No way, the churches fill up only when there is a free pancake breakfast. All religions are struggling, they are confused, they do not know what to believe in any more, they loose themselves in doomsday fantasies, scandals and tax evasion. No, really, art is the way to go. Yes, art is the way.

I take a fifth cup of coffee. It has started to rain a little bit. “Yes,” I say out loud, “ART is the way to go. Go-GO-GO baby GO!” After my sixth cup of coffee, I go-go-go to my studio. I am working on a piece

that is going nowhere: I sit in my chair and look at it. It is a small piece, with a cartoony creature on it. The creature has a square head with skinny legs coming out of it. It is sitting on a horse without face. The creature is called Gou-gou. Gou-gou came into being two years ago - it just happened, the name as well. It felt right somehow. Since then, Gou-gou has developed into my artistic alter ego, my stand-in on the canvas. Gou-gou is uncomfortable everywhere, never knows where to go next and always looks surprised. Gou-gou has great potential. How can that not be? Gou-



Gou-gou

gou is me!
It is 11:24 a.m. I've done nothing yet, and worse, nobody has noticed. Maybe the pressure is too much. I know that the world is in desperate need for Gou-gous and I am the only one who can produce them. The responsibility weighs on me. If it had been just a local issue, I could have handled it. But Gou-gous worldwide is serious business. Plus, I am not quite sure how Gou-gou will come across in Mumbai, in comparison to New Delhi and Calcutta. And how to deal with North Korea? Do I have to make some Gou-gou adaptations to respect cultural sensitivities? The good thing is that Gou-gou does not look like Mohammed, but still I am not quite sure how Gou-gou will be received in the Arab world, especially with all the social unrest going on there. Well, I could introduce Gou-gou in Saudi Arabia - things are relatively stable there, but I would run the risk that Gou-gou becomes associated with the Saudi Royal Family. And I do not think that is a good idea, not with gas prices running over \$4 per gallon.

12:10 p.m. I sit in my chair and look at Gou-gou. He has not moved an inch. But he is a good guy. He just does not know where to go. It will come someday. The world needs Gou-gous. Badly. I know it.

Edmond Rinnooy Kan is a painter living in Franklin.

He created the first poster announcing the Franklin Farmers Market. The detail at right has been adopted as the logo for Franklin Local.



ARTISTS OPEN STUDIOS FOR ANNUAL STAGECOACH RUN

By Jane Carr

Mark your calendars for the Sixteenth Annual Stagecoach Run Art Festival on July 2nd and 3rd. This free tour is held each day from 10 am until 5 pm. Each year, artists open their homes, studios and galleries to the public along the route of the Old Stagecoach Road, which ran from Unadilla on the Susquehanna River to Catskill on the Hudson. The beauty of the northwestern foothills of the Catskill Mountains has drawn painters, poets, print-makers, sculptors, photographers, and musicians to the area.

Explore historic Treadwell, once known as East Franklin, “Jug City,” or Croton. At the crossroads is Barlow’s Store, in continuous service since 1841,

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS:

- 1. Treadwell Museum of Fine Art**
Joseph Kurhajec
Outsider Art
Colleen Morris
Native Roots: Photography
Saturday – Portrait Show Opening 5 - 7
- 2. Jane Carr**
Paintings,
Lino & Monoprints
Nathan Banks
Metal Sculpture
Recent Drawings
- 3. Drew Harty - Galene Studios**
Large Format Photography
- 4. Rhonda Harrow**
Ceramics
- 5. Food: Dogs & Burgers by the Church Ladies**
- 6. Gail Bunting**
Paintings & Giclee Prints
Judy Thuss
Paintings
Glen Fellows
Woodworking the Old Way
Shaving Horse
Demo: Making Legs
- 7. Crane Hill Center**
Ellen Sokolow
Dragonfly Creations:
Silver & Turquoise
Jewelry, Faux Fur Fashion
Maryann Stow
Watermedia
- 8. Bright Hill Literary Center**
Word & Image Gallery
WPA Artist Exhibit
Online fund-raising
Auction – Through 7/30/11
- 9. Doug Jamieson**
Oils, Watercolors & Etchings
- 10. Kellogg School**
History Center Café
Parking Restrooms
Terry Fox
Paintings, Works on Paper
Simone Mantellassi
Drawings
Bill Lee
Pastels, Screen Prints
Zena Gurbo
Sculptures
Bill Quinn
Paintings, Drawings
Photographic Manipulation
Pati Airey
Paintings & Photography
Edmond Rinnooy Kan
Neo-Expressionist Paintings
Charlie Bremer
Mixed Media

where one can mingle with friendly folk, purchase a book, a sandwich or a pound of nails.

Most studios are within easy walking distance of the center of Treadwell. Studios outside the village, past lovely rolling hills, are only a short drive away.

Refreshments prepared by the ladies of the Treadwell Methodist Church will be for sale on both days, just behind Barlow’s on Case Hill Road. Maps can be found at all the studios, at Barlow’s Store, and at local businesses in Delhi, Franklin and Oneonta.

All artists are available to discuss their work. Here is an opportunity to see a large variety of professional work, and to come home with a piece of art that you will treasure forever.

- Photographs
with Encaustic Wax
Walter Gurbo
Paintings
- 11. Roaring Brook Inn & Antiques**
Ellie Reynolds
Oils on Canvas,
Landscapes
Florals & Still Lifes,
Hand-quilted items
Demo: Watch me Paint!
- 12. Marie Cummings**
Experimental Watermedia
Demo: Making Paper for Paintings & Collages
Susan Roecker
Small Paintings, Woodcuts
Drawings
- 13. Joan Dworkin**
Recent Oils:
City & Country
Collages, Monotypes
Greeting Cards
- 14. Far Fields**
Tony Martin
Paintings & Drawings
Margot Farrington
Books of Poetry
Collage
- 15. Anne Matthews Barn**
Paintings & Metalwork
- 16. Long Acre Farm**
Harry Barnes
Muffy McDowell
Gourd Art and Garlic
- 17. Susan Rochmis**
Recent Paintings
Bas Relief
- 18. Zarvin Swerbilov**
Abstract Acrylic Paintings
- 19. Franklin Chapel Hall**
15 Years at the Franklin Stage
Group Show - Benefit FSC
Auction on 9/4/11
- 20. Franklin General Store**
Baked Goods & Coffee
Eliza Plance
Watercolors
- 21. Main Street Art Gallery**
Group Show
by Local Artists
- 22. Viviana Hansen Gallery**
Traditional & Contemporary Art
by Local Artists
- 23. Patricia Coyle Barn**
“Lily Pad Forest”
Installation of
Underwater Experience

THE FLATLANDER DIARIES SUMMER 2011

By Sunny Hill

It is said religious converts passionately embrace their new beliefs because they feel deeply drawn to them rather than just inheriting them. The same might be said about Flatlanders. Though we were not born here, we chose to be here because a powerful attraction grabbed us and pulled us in. Instinct told us that this is right, this is good, this is home.

It's mid-summer. There is so much going on. How does one fit everything in? The answer is, one doesn't. There are concerts, art shows, county fairs, Farmers' Markets, car shows, friends to visit. We have the Meridale Dairy Fest, anti-fracking concerts, minor league baseball, Unadilla drive-in-movies, the Honest Brook Music Festival and much more. If you try to fit in all you can in one weekend, you end up needing a vacation from your vacation!

Some of us come up to the mountains to "do nothing." It is a chance to turn off the phones, take off our shoes, relax, and do nothing. Few people have mastered the art of "nothingness." There is a Zen practice of nothingness. Well, nothing is not actually something you can do. Some people use the term "being." As in, "I love *being* in the Catskills." Why? Because we stop and literally "smell the flowers." Smell the apple blossoms, wild roses, and lilacs. Smell the cut grass and the cow manure, the wet hair on our pets, the stew on the stove. This is slowing down.

When you surrender, you experience bird song more fully. You notice the beauty of the sunset and the night sky. In the city, you can hardly see the stars at night. Here, you can lie on your back and watch for shooting stars for hours. No TV, no cable, just a free show infinitely wide, infinitely old and timeless.

Weekend life is simple here. In a power failure in the city, people fall ill from the heat. Last week, I saw people sitting in their cars with the air conditioning on, because it was too hot to be outside. Here, we can just jump in our neighbor's pond. Once, returning downstate, I was in such a good mood, I kept smiling and saying hello to strangers. They ignored me, re-

mind me where I was.

In Franklin, many of us live on roads that see only a hand full of cars all day long. In the stores, the lines are usually short. Often you know the name of your local shop keeper, and they know yours. You are trusted instead of being watched like a hawk while you shop. I went to a local concert recently. When I picked up my tickets, they just asked my name, no ID required. And how great to sit in an intimate theatre to hear a well known band that, in the city, might have to be experienced through binoculars.

Upcountry, you can purchase fresh farm milk, goat cheese, homemade soaps, fresh eggs and vegetables from neighbors. You don't need to note what country the food came from or check the expiration date. You might even have picked it yourself.

It is a challenge to keep things simple. Each time I drive to Franklin, I go through the same routine. Packing for the weekend is hectic. Can't wait to get to the mountains. Gas up, water bottle in front seat and radar detector on - not that any weekender would break the speed limit!

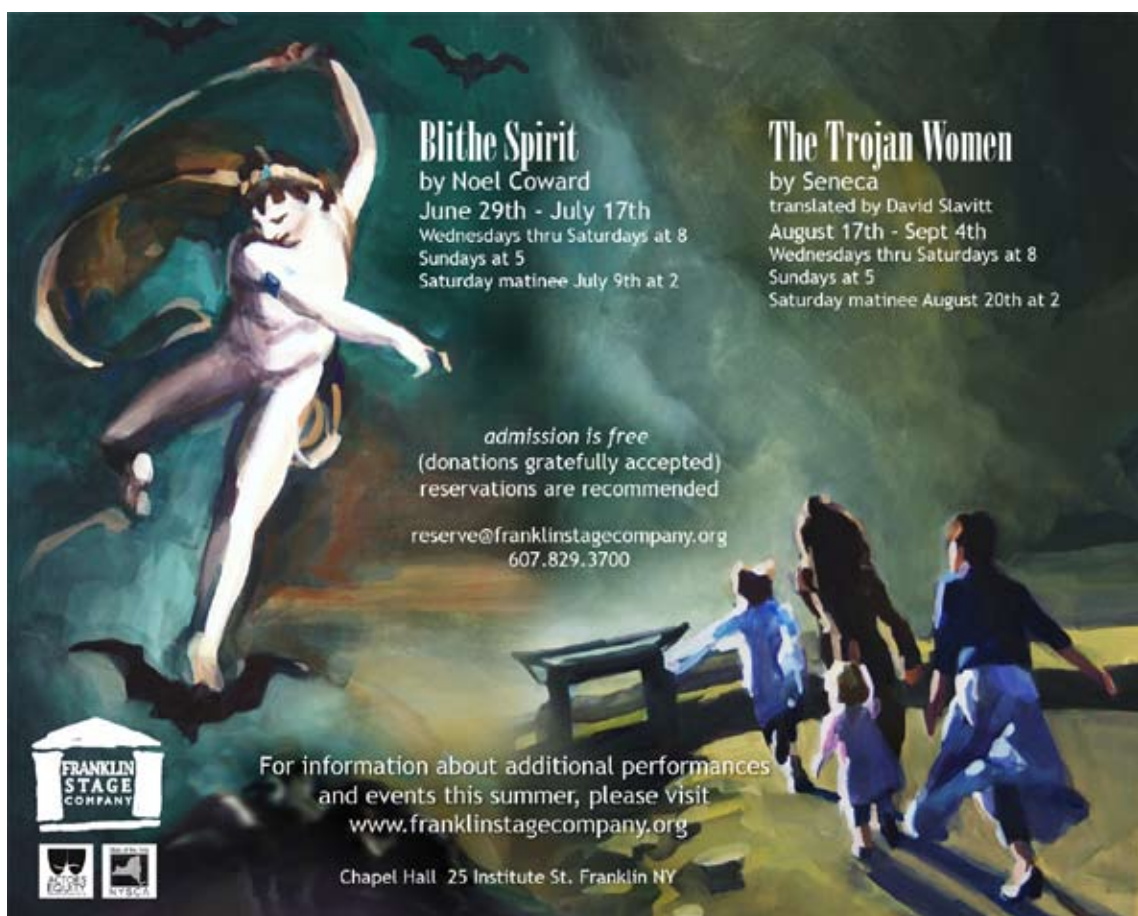
When the food shopping is done and the clean laundry packed, at last I can turn on the answering machine and leave. Driving up Route 17 is a slow release of the worries of the weekday. Ah! Monticello! More than half way there.

Turning off 17 brings the first significant change. Coming down Bear Spring Mountain, I strain to see if I can spot my place from up top. Like being in a plane, we are so high. Between Walton and Franklin, I become a different man. I think about sawing wood, feeding the birds. Can't wait to drink that clear mountain water. I arrive, unpack the car, breath in the air, and let out a big "ahhhhhh..." The transformation is complete. Even my watch is moving slower.

Slowing down is a lost art that many of us are rediscovering for the first time. With patience and a willingness to let our bodies have a well deserved rest, more of us will discover the art of nothingness, and the wonderful benefits of *just being* in the Catskills.

The ride home, well, that's another story, which we can save for another day.

For now, back to doing nothing.



Blithe Spirit
by Noel Coward
June 29th - July 17th
Wednesdays thru Saturdays at 8
Sundays at 5
Saturday matinee July 9th at 2

The Trojan Women
by Seneca
translated by David Slavitt
August 17th - Sept 4th
Wednesdays thru Saturdays at 8
Sundays at 5
Saturday matinee August 20th at 2

admission is free
(donations gratefully accepted)
reservations are recommended

reserve@franklinstagecompany.org
607.829.3700

For information about additional performances
and events this summer, please visit
www.franklinstagecompany.org

Chapel Hall 25 Institute St. Franklin NY

FRANKLIN STAGE CELEBRATES FIFTEEN YEARS IN CHAPEL HALL

By Carmela Marner

Franklin Stage Company's 15th Anniversary season of admission-free theatre is under way.

Franklin Stage always seeks to make an obscure text accessible and compelling and to find something new and astonishing in a text that might be more familiar.

First up, from June 29th through July 17th, is Noel Coward's popular 1940s comedy **BLITHE SPIRIT**. Next, from August 17th through September 4th, is **THE TROJAN WOMEN**, by the great Roman tragedian Seneca, adapted from a translation by poet-novelist David Slavitt. Marner adds, "Both productions will contain a good dose of theatrical magic; and offer an ideal opportunity to pursue the unexpected: to challenge with comedy, to exhilarate with tragedy."

Guest performances this season will include **TALES FROM THE EMPIRE: PART III**, presented on July 30th and 31st, the concluding play in Tom Morgan's trilogy of poignant personal stories from his family's years at Gilbertsville's Empire Hotel.

There will also be a variety of programming suitable for the whole family. Green Theatre Collective is an eco-theatre company seeking to produce sustainable theatre in outdoor environments. On Saturday, July 23rd and Sunday July 24th at 4 P.M., they will perform William Shakespeare's **AS YOU LIKE IT** on the lawn at Chapel Hall.

On August 5th at 8 P.M., FSC welcomes back the extraordinary Mettawee River Theatre Company with its newest creation, **THE OLD BOAT GODDESS: SONGS OF THE AINU**, based on epic tales from the northern islands of Japan. This company enchants with masks, puppets and giant figures, accompanied by live music.

Audiences are invited to come early to both events and bring a picnic: to the lawn at Chapel Hall for the afternoon performances of **AS YOU LIKE IT** and to the Franklin Central School Playing Field for **THE OLD BOAT GODDESS**, which will be performed under lights. The rain location for both shows is Chapel Hall.

New in the 2011 season is **SUNDAYS AT 1 P.M.: FOR ALL THE FAMILY**, two Sundays of rehearsed readings of classic children's tales by actors of all ages, and for audiences of all ages, curated and directed by Karen Butler. **A GRIMM DAY**, on August 7th, will be followed by **A GRIMM DAY TOO!**, on August 21st. On August 28th, Butler will perform her own "one-insect" adaptation of **GRASSHOPPER ON THE ROAD**, by award-winning author Arnold Lobel.

For those wishing to eat in Franklin, there will be two local options. Home Town Pizza is open Wednesdays through Saturdays till 8 P.M. and Sundays till 6 P.M.: 607-829-2911.

For all Wednesday through Saturday 8 P.M. performances of **BLITHE SPIRIT** and **THE TROJAN WOMEN**, Fokish will be

serving a light sit-down supper on the lawn at Chapel Hall starting at 6 P.M., weather permitting. All organic ingredients and fresh local produce go into their delicious soups, salads, and fresh baked breads. The price will be \$10.00 per person and is not a service of FSC. For more information, call Fokish at 607-829-2721 or email to fokish@citlink.net.

FSC is supported in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), a state agency. The 2011 performance season is also made possible by grants from the A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation of Hobart, NY, Nellie & Robert Gipson, Joann & Arthur Rasmussen, the Tom Morgan & Erna J McReynolds Charitable Trust, and by generous audience donations.

FSC was founded on the principle that theatre should be available to all, and remains Admission Free, with donations gratefully accepted at the door.

FSC is located in Chapel Hall at 25 Institute Street in Franklin, opposite Franklin Central School. Reservations are recommended and can be obtained by calling 607-829-3700 or reserve@franklinstagecompany.org.

More details about FSC, Chapel Hall and the season can be found at www.franklinstagecompany.org.

Carmela Marner is Executive/Artistic Director of the Franklin Stage Company.

BOOKS *from the Library Shelves*

Reviews by Jim Mullen

As the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War I gets closer, books about the Great War are coming out by the dozen. More will surely follow, but here are some of the current crop.

Fall Of Giants

by Ken Follett

This is the first of a trilogy that follows the fictional fortunes of a British, a German, and a Russian family through WWI. It follows the historical fiction pattern familiar to the readers of James A. Michener, Herman Wouk, Leon Uris or Lew Wallace.

Part of the fun of these hefty histories (*Fall of Giants* runs 985 pages) is how the author moves the members of five families, each with five or six distinct members, around the chess board. The fictional characters have to describe the real events of the day, so there must be logical reasons for the characters to be in a certain place at a certain time, but in such a minor role that they do not become history themselves. How does a Russian factory worker end up in Welsh coal mine and then run a Buffalo, NY nightclub? It's an entertaining trick and Follett does it here as well as anyone. Considering that his *Pillars of the Earth* series was the reading equivalent of being water-boarded, it's hard to believe they were written by the same person.

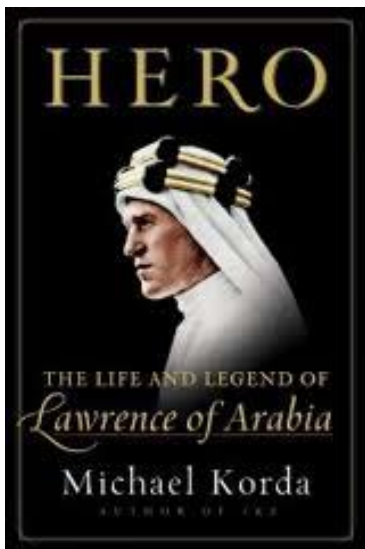
Hero: The Life And Legend Of Lawrence Of Arabia

by Michael Korda

Why were the British fighting in the Middle East in 1914? Oil wasn't discovered on the Arabian Peninsula until 1938. No, the English, who ran Egypt and the vital Suez Canal weren't there for oil; they were fighting Germany's allies, the Turks, who controlled what is today Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Israel. For the first two years of the war, as on the Western Front, neither side was winning much of anything. Enter tiny, intense, blue-eyed, low-level, 26 year-old, uniform-hat-

ing, intelligence officer and amateur archaeologist T.E. "Ned" Lawrence, a real-life Indiana Jones. He spoke French, Greek and idiomatic Arabic, had traveled extensively in the region, was a crack shot with a pistol and was soon to be regarded as the best tactician and strategist of the war. His lack of military training and total disregard for the chain of command were only partially responsible for his success. His stamina, will power, fearlessness and craftiness were responsible for the rest.

Lawrence is often painted as an odd-ball loner, an egoist without people skills, but Korda builds a case, page after page, that a man without people skills wouldn't get squabbling Arab nomads to revolt against the well-armed Turkish army -- much less follow a low-ranking English major into battle, unless he had some kind of charm. If this chatty, conversational book was fiction, people would say, "It's over the top. It's not believable." That it's the truth makes it all the more amazing.

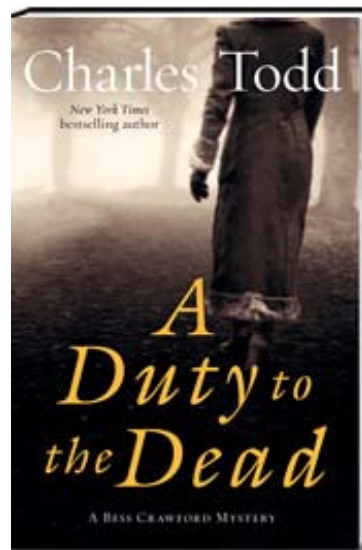


Ned's post war years were just as strange, as he struggled to shed his sudden, Lindbergh-like fame by changing his name and enlisting as a lowly airman in the RAF. He turned down a knighthood and many other honors, not out of modesty, but because he felt every soldier deserved them. He participated in the Paris peace talks as King Feisal's translator and advisor; he wrote a classic history of the Arab Revolt, *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*; published his own translation of *The Iliad* and maintained a friendship with almost everyone he ever met, including George Bernard Shaw and Robert Graves. (Graves wrote the other great WWI memoir, *Goodbye to All That*.) He spent the rest of his short life avoiding the limelight, except when he thought it would come in handy to help his fellow soldiers or Arab independence.

A Duty To The Dead

By Charles Todd

Charles Todd is the name used by a mother and son writing team, Charles and Caroline Todd. Novel-writing teams are rare enough and this is a step beyond that. What's next? Identical twins banging out two novels a year? Despite the creepiness factor of their relationship, they have written a series of detective stories starring Bess Crawford, a British nurse during (what else?) WWI. It starts with our plucky heroine on the sinking hospital ship *Britannic* in 1916 (yes, it was the *Titanic*'s sister ship and yes, it sank, too) and from there it becomes Nancy Drew meets the Stately Homes of England. Still, the Todds do a good job of



painting the period, a time before antibiotics when a scratch could kill you, but the trains were better than they are today.

SUMMER EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY

Tuesdays at 10 A.M.

July 5th

THE WORLD OF MAGIC, with Magician/Illusionist Leon Etienne

July 12th

RUMBAFRICA! Music and dance led by Tshibangu Kadima

July 19th

ALADDIN - with the Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre

July 26th

SOUNDS & STORIES FROM THE NATURAL WORLD, with Dan Hill, Cayuga flute player and maker

August 2nd

PETER & THE WOLF, with Mosaic Winds

August 9th

PANIGMA: Caribbean steel drum band from Trinidad

August 16th

ONE WORLD, MANY SONGS, with singer/songwriter Ruth Pelham

August 23rd

SULPOONG, traditional Korean percussion group performing songs of Korea

August 27th

ANNUAL FRANKLIN DAY BOOK SALE, to benefit the Library. Saturday, 9 -4

August 30th

ONE WORLD, MANY DANCES: Merry-making and dance with Paul Rosenberg, George Wilson and friends

Jim Mullen gets all the books he reviews from the Franklin Free Library on Main Street.

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SAVE THIS DATE!!

The NFR has learned of a new documentary film about the work of local stone-artist Robert Johnson.

The film, called *Robert*, is by Jessica Vecchi-one, and is scheduled to be shown on September 24th at the Skene Library in Fleischmanns, NY.



Stonework by Robert Johnson Photo by Lynne Kemen

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And now, at last, your next installment of...

MURDER AT THE FARMERS' MARKET!

...in which Jack recovers amongst dogs, children, trusts and fireworks, and one body gets buried, while another will never be found.

Lots and lots of naps.

Once I woke up to the TV playing, 'Days Of Our Lives'. Next it was 'General Hospital' reruns.

Then I woke up because the janitor whacked my trash can with his broom.

I was just about to ask him for some water when I noticed his left hand.

Two fingers missing.

Oh, good.

I watched him to see if he was watching me.

Did he know I had some secondhand fingers?

Were they his?

If he knew I had them and they were his, would he ask for them back?

Or should I go for the highest bidder on Ebay?

How about the Farmers 'Market'?

Coffin tried to roll over and groaned.

I had to find out about Ben Zene's body parts.

In a hoarse whisper Coffin said he'd buried them.

Whew.

In the park.

Oh, god.

Wilson's dog will probably dig them up.

A trapper friend was hired by the village to find out why mutilated deer were being found here and there outside of town. Not roadkill. Hunters wouldn't do that.

Rumor was, pet dogs were doing it. 'Course, dog owners indignantly denied that their little Pookies were capable of such things.

After about a month my friend asked me to come along one night as a witness. I brought my camera and binoculars.

We crept through downwind underbrush close as we dared.

Full moon.

Damn! Mutilated deer in the center of a clearing surrounded by a ring of dogs. Pet dogs. Collared. Eleven of them.

Not only were they running deer down and killing them for sport, they were chatting about it afterward.

Just like Monday night football.

Pookie learns.

Spooky.

I only took a couple of pictures with my trapper friend but during download something caught my eye. It took every push Photo-Shop had to offer but there in the background, up in the trees, was what looked like

another S.O.M.E. effigy.

At least I think it was.

Somebody's little girl came up to my stand and started twirling her fingers through the carrot greens.

I smiled at her.

She asked me why Yellow Freight trucks are orange.

I asked her why wakes are held in living rooms.

She caught her breath, stared back, then bolted, yowling for her Momma.

Kids are so smart today, aren't they?

I like kids. I really do.

My brother-in-law came by the hospital.

We talked about my health (bad but getting better).

We talked about my sister (dead and not likely to improve).

He said she'd lost the farm (what?!).

I asked him what he was up to.

He said he'd been working with a gas exploration company (what?!).

Turned out to be one of the fracking fracking firms I'd been getting offers from.

(So that's why he was in town. Not to see me.)

Then he let slip that he knew Donna (what?!).

I could see that he regretted mentioning that.

When he left I was so angry I could spit.

The game was afoot and this guy was the big toe.

Got the casts off and began stretching again. It hurt but also felt good.

Coffin's bandages were shrinking. His hair had grown back.

We got drunk with one of the interns.

Coffin started blabbing about this land he owned but didn't need. How he'd put it in trust for constructive use or users.

It dawned on me that he was talking about the Temple land. The land the farmers' market used.

We all paid a participation fee that went mostly to advertising and miscellaneous expenses. So we thought. Fine. But Coffin was talking about vested interest. Permanent long-term resident vendors were to be shareholders in the incorporated tax-exempt farmers market - meaning everyone owned a share of the market and the land it was held on. Coffin only

retained the rights of board member for life and adjudicator to settle disputes over shareholder eligibility. If anyone wanted to buy the land, they'd have to break the trust.

Quite an incentive for vendors and good protection for the market.

But to my mind it put Coffin in danger.

It put us all in danger.

I poured him another drink and asked him if the fire was an accident.

He said maybe and mentioned the family of the suicide that had put him out of business.

I wondered if it might be someone else.

Jerry, Jerry, Jerry. How could I present an autopsy if the body was still in the freezer?

He was pale, nervous, and confused because the church had ordered burgers and dogs for the following summer's Fourth of July. They needed the freezer.

Coffin said he wasn't doing any more autopsies.

Okay, okay. Where should we put it?

I really wanted to put it in Donna's truck. That'll get her going.

Or maybe we could put it back up on the third floor of the Temple to replace the horse.

A Wal-Mart dumpster? They don't need the publicity.

Replace a S.O.M.E effigy? Nah.

My summer job aged thirteen was at a rendering plant. Protein oil.

We used to get expired meat from the supermarkets, leftovers from the meat-packers, the zoo dead, and an occasional Jimmy Hoffa. No trace. None, nada, nothing.

Some mornings there'd be a special treat in the delivery pit. Like three hundred pigs' heads grinning up at me with their tongues hanging out.

Morning y'all!

That's when I started drinking coffee. Black.

Protein oils used to be a basic component of cosmetics, rust protection for metals, and an essential ingredient of feeds. Not so much anymore. Soy oil replacements are cheaper.

Still a pretty good business in Jimmy Hoffas though.

To be continued...

THE GARDEN GATE

By Penelope R. King

Fungal diseases will be all over this summer since we have been having so many showers and drizzles. A chamomile infusion is both anti-fungal and antibacterial. Make it by putting 16 tea bags or 2 cups of dried chamomile in 2 quarts of water, simmer 20 minutes and then allow the mixture to steep for several hours. Strain and use in early spring to water seedlings so they won't suffer from damping off, or use now as a foliar spray, especially on fungus-prone perennials like summer phlox and bee balm.

Prevent black spot on your roses by spraying the following mixture on the foliage regularly: 2 teaspoons baking soda, 12 teaspoons of liquid soap and 2 quarts of water. This works on powdery mildew, too. Two uncoated aspirin tablets (325 milligrams) melted in a quart of water sometimes works as well.

A nice garlic soup is good for lots of troubles: keeping rabbits away, and treating fungal, bacterial and viral problems. Puree two cloves of garlic in a blender, add a quart of water slowly and blend for another few minutes. Strain

and add 6 tablespoons of liquid soap and store in a tightly covered jar. Use by adding 1 part of your mixture to 10 parts water and spray on foliage. You can use 2 handfuls of garlic leaves as a substitute.

The reason we always use liquid soap is so the sprays will stick to leaves. These home-made products will wash off but can be re-applied, take little time to prepare, cost practically nothing and do not damage your soil, plants or environment with pesticide and herbicide residues which have been proven to enter the body and stay there accumulating over yours of use.

Now, I know we had a lot of rain at the beginning of this season, but by July, soils are pretty dry, so water your plants. They need an inch of rain per week and even more when it is very hot, meaning over 85 degrees. Remember that temperatures are reported from the shade, so an 85 degree day can easily be a 90-95 degree day in the sun. That's why it's good practice to water either early or late, and particularly, early if you are battling fungal disease.



A lovely spot from this year's tour Photo by Karen Kemp

NEW PLANTINGS IN THE PARK

By Jane Hebbard

The Franklin Garden Club planted two trees and eleven shrubs at the Franklin community park this spring.

One of the trees, a 'Wolf Eyes' variegated dogwood, was planted in memory of Caroline McReynolds Smith, and two Viburnum carlesii shrubs were planted in memory of Christopher Fischer and Frances Neslund.

A 'Purple Fountain' weeping beech is in the circular area of the raised bed of stonework created by Robert Johnson in front of the stone foundation he restored in the front west quadrant.

Three Hydrangea 'Quickfire' are planted against the back wall, which are budded for summer bloom and also have fall foliage color. A climbing hydrangea is planted in the corner. Three Microbiota, a deer resistant evergreen, a Doublefile Viburnum 'Summer Snowflake' and a Fothergilla 'Blue Shadow' which has fragrant blooms in the spring, are planted in the west raised bed.

The Viburnum carlesii are each planted in the front corners near the sidewalk in order for those strolling by to enjoy their fragrant pink blossoms in the spring. The 'Wolf Eyes' dogwood tree is in bloom now and will have a purple tint in its variegated leaves this fall. The 4H Club planted tulips and the garden club planted daffodils that bloomed this spring. Two teak planters, donated by Bob Ackerman and Roberta Shiffman, are planted with annuals.



At left, lupine bloom in Son-dra Freckelton & Jack Beal's North Franklin garden along the Ouleout. Photo by Nina Hart

FRANKLIN GARDEN TOUR

By Jane Hebbard

Ten Franklin Gardens are on the Franklin Garden Club's second Garden Tour on Sunday, July 10 from 11 am to 4 pm.

Tickets and directions to the gardens will be available for \$10 at the Franklin Farmers' Market from 10:30 am to 1 pm on the day of the tour. A box lunch, including drink and dessert for \$10, is available by reservation only by calling Monica Wilber at 829-8589 by Tuesday, July 5. A vegetarian selection will be offered. Lunches may be picked up at the farmers' market from 10:30 am to noon.

Gardens on the tour will display a broad variety of styles. One features a hand-carved stone sculpture by a Cambodian artist, as well as work by local artisans, accented by the stonework of local craftsman Robert Johnson, including restored stone walls and a castle over a spring with a secret view into the spring.

Karen and Chris Kemp's garden includes restored beds planted over sixty years ago by her grandmother. Some of the perennials are from the original garden. The vintage farmhouse porch is overflowing with planters and window boxes.

May and Bob Miller have kindly offered their picnic area overlooking a pond for tour goers to enjoy their box lunch. At their home, visitors will see a rock garden with huge fieldstones that Bob placed on a hillside alongside the house, inter-planted with perennials and shrubs. The garden built by their son and daughter in law, Mike and Mary Lou Miller, is also on the tour, which will include new offerings as well as old favorites redesigned to enjoy.

The new Franklin park, will also be on the tour with its latest plantings labeled.

RECENT REAL PROPERTY SALES IN TOWN OF FRANKLIN

DATE	ADDRESS	ACRES	CLASSIFICATION	ASSESS	PRICE	SELLER	BUYER
01/06/11	2013 Palmer Hill Rd	6.78	Mfg. Housing	\$62,000	62,000	Finnegan, Ralph E.	Ito, Terence E.
01/20/11	1540 Leland Hull Rd	10.00	Rural Vacant >10 ac	25,000	22,000	Passafiume, Daniel J.	Wengenroth, Edward
01/24/11	1480 Leland Hull Rd	10.00	Mfg Housing	43,000	71,000	Hudson, Walter	Wengenroth, Edward
02/18/11	E Handsome Brook Rd	35.00	Rural Vacant >10 ac	50,000	65,000	Masaracchia, Paul J.	Casey, Thomas
03/04/11	21 Bennett Hollow Rd	0.42	1 Family Residence	42,000	42,000	Boyles, Leon C.	Zachow, Deborah J.
03/10/11	Freer Hollow Rd		Rural Vacant >10ac		247,765	McCraken, Ann	City of New York #
03/14/11	Pomeroy Rd	33.75	Rural Vacant >10 ac	29,000	75,000	Wallace, Michael S	Stanley, Kirk ^
03/31/11	53 Main St	0.26	1 Family Residence	58,000	61,700	Woodard, Todd	Barnes, Jeremiah
04/11/11	285 Pomeroy Spur	6.90	Seasonal Residence	65,000	65,000	Walrath, Dennis	Richardson, John H.
04/14/11	652 Main St	0.50	1 Family Residence	47,000	110,000	Cassinelli, Gary	Hansen, Viviana ^
04/19/11	Ridge Rd	26.80	Vacant Farmland	22,000	26,000	Blackman, Richard V	Apple Mansion Estate

Includes parcel in neighboring town ^ Substantial change

Have you spotted a Mountain Lion around here?

The official story is that the Eastern Cougar is extinct, but a mountain lion was recently killed by a car in Greenwich, CT.

The New Franklin Register has heard of local Mountain Lion sightings. If you’ve seen one – or any other unusual wild animal - please let us know by completing the following questionnaire and returning it to us. We will prepare a map of sightings in our area.

Description of animal:

Body length _____
Sex _____
Tail length _____
Track length _____
Track width _____
Coloration _____
Other Descriptions:

When sighted:

Date _____
Time _____

Where sighted:

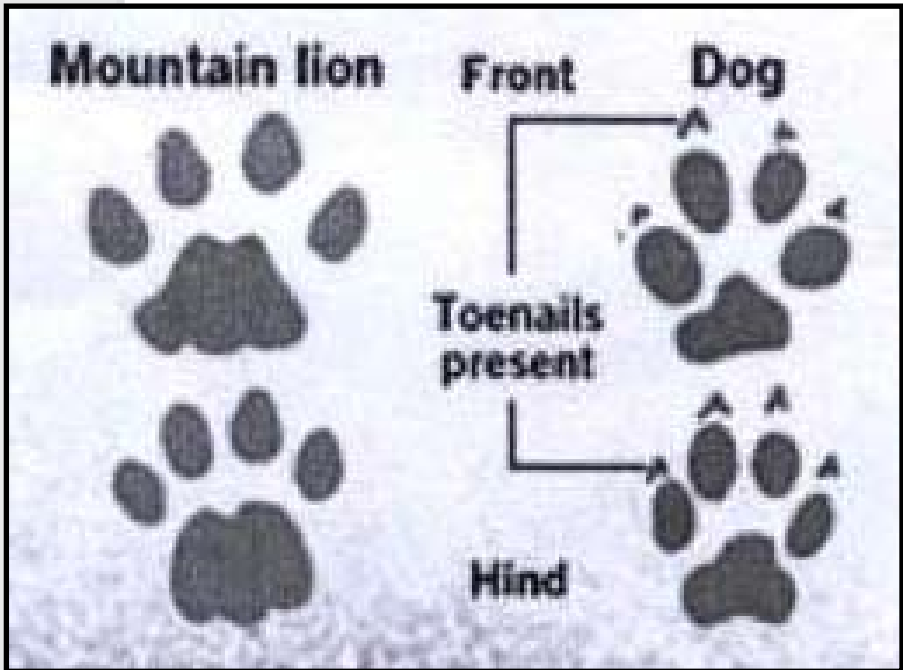
Township _____
Nearest village _____
Nearest intersection _____
Direction & distance from intersection/village _____
Habitat _____
Other comments:

If you are lucky enough to have photos, PLEASE SEND THEM!!!
Please mail completed form to **Editor, The New Franklin Register,**
P.O. Box 258, Franklin, NY 13775, or email us at
thenewfranklinregister@gmail.com.



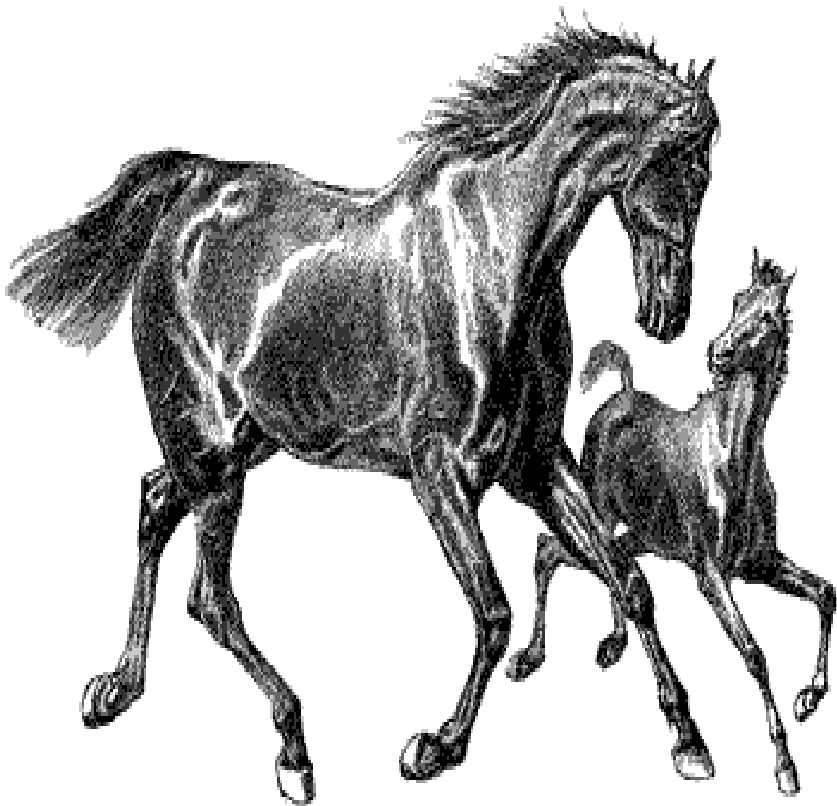
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ANIMAL TRACKS



Mountain Lion tracks are around 4” wide by 3 1/2” long, about equal to the track of a large dog. Coyote tracks are smaller, about 3” long. Red fox tracks are even smaller, at about 2 1/2” long.
Nose to tail tip, a male mountain lion can be 8 feet long. and weigh 150 pounds. Females are smaller.

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IN FRANKLIN:

To have your event listed, contact Brian Brock at thenewfranklinregister@gmail.com

JULY

2nd, Sat.	10-5	Stagecoach Run Art Festival	Treadwell/Franklin/Meredith	14th, Thurs.	8:00	Treadwell Emergency Squad	Treadwell Firehouse
	3-5	Exhibit: WPA II & More, Opening & Auction	Bright Hill C.		6:00	Franklin Town Court	Franklin Town Hall
	5-11	Profiles, Pot Luck & Dancing	Treadwell Museum of Fine Art		7:00	Word Thursday (D. Gonzalez, G. Wallace) \$3	Bright Hill
3rd, Sun.	10-5	Stagecoach Run Art Festival	Treadwell/Franklin/Meredith	17th, Sun.	12:30	Angel Food, Orders	Community Bible Church
4th, Mon.		INDEPENDENCE DAY			5:00	Blithe Spirit, Franklin Stage: final show	Chapel Hall
5th, Tues.	10:00	The World of Magic (Leon Etienne)	Franklin Free Library	18th, Mon.	7:00	Franklin Emergency Squad	Franklin Firehouse
	2:20	Cybermobile	Treadwell		7:00	Franklin Improvement Society	Franklin Village Hall
	7:30	Franklin Town Board	Franklin Town Garage		7:30	Board of Education	Franklin Central School
	7:30	Recreation Committee	Franklin Village Hall	19th, Tues.	10:00	Aladdin (Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre)	Franklin Library
6th, Wed.	8:30	Treadwell Explorers		21st, Thurs.	6:00	Franklin Local	Brock's
7th, Thurs.	7:30	Franklin Planning Board	Franklin Town Garage		6:00	Ouleout Valley Historical Society	Town Garage
	5:00	First Thursday Dinner, Donation	St. Paul's Episcopal Church	23rd, Sat.	12-4	History Day - Treadwell Community Picnic	Bright Hill
8th, Fri.	8:00	Ouleout Valley Fish and Game Association			4:00	As You Like It, Franklin Stage, Donation	Chapel Hall
9th, Sat.	7:00	Julian Fleisher Sings Johnny Burke	Bright Hill Center	24th, Sun.	4:00	As You Like It, Franklin Stage, Donation	Chapel Hall
10th, Sun.	11-4	Garden Tour \$10, Box Lunch \$10	Franklin	25th, Mon.	6:00	Ouleout Valley American Legion	Post 1689
	12:00	Kayo Jazz Brunch, \$20 - Suggested	Morgan's		7:30	Washington Reading Circle	
11th Mon.	6:30	Franklin Explorers		26th, Tues.	10:00	Sounds & Stories from the Natural World	Franklin Library
	7:00	Franklin Village Board	Franklin Town Garage		7:30	Treadwell Fire Department Auxiliary	Treadwell Firehouse
	7:00	Franklin Fire Department	Franklin Firehouse	27th, Wed.	6:00	Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce	Dawn's Deli
	7:30	Washington Reading Circle		28th, Thurs.	1:30	ARC Blood Donation	Franklin United Methodist Church
	8:00	Treadwell Fire Department	Treadwell Firehouse		6:00	Town Court	Town Hall
12th, Tues.	10:00	Rumbafrica! (Tshibangu Kadima)	Franklin Free Library		7:00	Word Thursday (C. Burke, S. Huff) \$3	Bright Hill Center
	7:00	Treadwell Community Improvement Club		30th, Sat.	10:00	Grant Writing Workshop, NYSCA Funds	Franklin Library
13th, Wed.	12:00	Fr'klin/Treadwell Senior Dinner	Fr'klin U Methodist Church		2-4	Children's Circulating Collection, Opening	Bright Hill C.
	7:00	Doodlebug Club			10-11	Angel Food, Distribution	Community Bible Church
					8:00	Tales from the Empire (T. Morgan) Donation	Chapel Hall
				31st, Sun.	2:00	Tales from the Empire (T. Morgan) Donation	Chapel Hall