

## SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL, REDUX: Part One

By Brian Brock

In Treadwell, the opening of the new school building in 1995 was long awaited. It was made possible by millions of dollars from the Kellogg bequest. Judge Abraham Lincoln Kellogg grew wealthy not on his state salary but from early investments in IBM and Eastman Kodak.



The Treadwell school gym

However, after his death in 1946, it would be decades before the Treadwell school district could begin this construction project. A small fraction of this bequest was given after the death of his son in 1969. That \$15,000 was released “which shall be carefully invested, and the income of which shall be used for the upkeep of the athletic field, for income to reduce taxation, and to maintain the Abraham L. Kellogg Central School Prizes.

For the bulk of the estate, his son challenged the will in probate court to ensure that his family could have exclusive use of



the investment income for as long as he and his wife lived. Upon the death of the widow Kellogg in 1986, his alma maters, Treadwell Central School and Hartwick College, should equally divide the bequest. However, in 1967 TCS had merged with what would be later called the Delhi Central School district. DCS had to contend in Sur-

See SCANDAL, con't on Pg16

## THE NEW FACE IN TOWN

By Connie Martin,  
with Rob Hunt

The Franklin community is delighted to welcome Tien-jui (Terry) Huang, our new Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) student from Kinmen County, Taiwan. Terry, 17, is living in the village with his first host family, Wendy and Rob Hunt, and has already settled nicely into Franklin Central School as a senior.

Back home, Terry's parents are both professionals: his father is a land scrivener and his mother is a real estate agent. He has three sisters, two

older and one younger, still living at home. Terry says his family is “very supportive and looks forward to hearing about my adventures!”

In addition to RYE, Terry finds great joy in music, table tennis and board games.

“When we picked Terry up at the Syracuse airport,” says Rob Hunt, “his luggage included his travel-sized Yang Qin, an instrument tuned to Western music scales that closely resembles the hammered

See RYE, con't on Pg. 18



Terry teaches Mahjong to new friends

## WHAT'S NEW IN BAINBRIDGE?

By Frances Ruth Harris

### BAINBRIDGE LIONS PROMOTE LITERACY

After a recent visit from District Governor Paul Forestiere, the Bainbridge Lions formed a committee to discuss options addressing literacy. Forestiere left a literacy binder to inspire the club members. He told them, “24% of the people who live in New York State read at or below the sixth-grade level.

“When parents read to their children during ages 0 to 5,” he added, “their children will begin school with 3,000 more vocabulary words than students who have not been read to.”

Paul Davis chairs the new committee. Members are Lori Taggart, Paul Cliffe, and Fran Harris.

Elementary teachers from Bainbridge-Guilford Central School District's Greenlawn Elementary

School were contacted for their input. Amanda Carlin, a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, has a Little Free Library in her front yard.

The Little Free Library ([littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org)) is a global concept enabling people to take or leave a



Paul Davis with prototype kiosk

book at a public kiosk. The BG teachers decided that this idea would best meet the needs of their students. Their wish list included three mobile kiosks: one

See KIOSK, con't on Pg. 16



## FRANKLIN'S SECOND NEWSPAPER

By Brian Brock

Perhaps you have seen an issue of *County Highway* for sale in a store near you, such as Good Cheap Foods or the Hamden General Store. It began publishing last summer. What you might not know is that, like *The New Franklin Register*, it does business out of a post office box in Franklin.

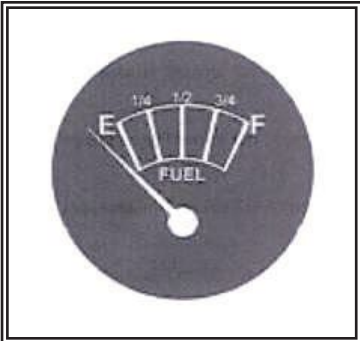
Contrary to what you might think from the name, it is not a trade publication for highway superintendents. The publisher and owner is Donald Rosenfeld of New York NY. He was president of Merchant Ivory Productions for more than a decade and a producer on dozens of films, including associate producer on *Howards End* and *The Remains of the Day*. *County Highway* was conceived by David Samuels and Walter Kern. Editor Samuels lives and works

in Sidney Center NY, and editor-at-large Kirn splits his time between Livingston MO and Las Vegas NV.

Franklin's two newspapers share a few things in common besides their 13775 addresses. Both report on the rural life. Both are 20 pages, printed a few times each year, in mostly black and white. And both have editors who live outside of Sidney Center.

However, in most ways the two papers could not be less alike. CH is a broadsheet with 9-point New Time Roman font, whereas NFR a tabloid with 11-point Rockwell font. CH published six times a year and costs \$8.50 an issue, whereas NFR publishes three times and is free. While CH has fewer ads than NFR, one of their advertisers is Hestia Tobacco. (Hestia is the Greek goddess of health.) Unlike NFR, CH runs more drawings than photos, giving its pages a 19th century retro look. CH is only available in print domestically, whereas NFR is also available online. Oddly, all their

See PAPER, con't on Pg. 18



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# Your Neighbor's View...

To the Editor:

I was in a coffee shop today, and I passed out a few papers. Suddenly, one woman flipped out! She said, "Oh, I love the Franklin paper!" She said she was so happy to get a copy. She said, "It's the best paper!"

I wanted you to know about this happy lady.

Best,  
Frances Ruth Harris

## PRESS RELEASE:

### CATSKILLS AGRARIAN ALLIANCE RECEIVES GRANT FROM LIVESTOCK FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT LOCAL FARMERS AND FOOD PANTRIES

Hamden, NY — Catskills Agrarian Alliance (CAA) has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Livestock Foundation to support their local mutual aid initiatives. This project aims to bolster local and often disadvantaged farmers by subsidizing the purchase of sustainably grown, culturally appropriate foods and organizing their free redistribution to historically underserved communities in Delaware County, NY.

With this grant, CAA will support food pantries in Andes, Delhi, and Walton, ensuring that nutrient-dense, locally-produced food reaches those in need. Specifically, \$2,777.50 of the grant will be allocated to these pantries to be used to purchase food from the 53 farms partnered with Catskills Agrarian Alliance who will provide aggregation and distribution services as an in-kind contribution.

Additionally, \$2,222.50 of the grant will support the 607 CSA's multi-farm community-supported agriculture (CSA) program. This funding will provide solidarity shares to individuals and families in Delaware County, with two shares in Delhi, one in Margaretville, and one in Stamford. These shares will offer fresh, locally grown produce to those who may otherwise lack access to such nutritious food.

"This grant from the Livestock Founda-

tion helps us to achieve our goal of connecting local farms' nutrient-dense, delicious food to the communities in which it's grown, especially underserved communities," said Tianna Kennedy, Co-Executive Director of Catskills Agrarian Alliance. "We are grateful for their support and excited to see the positive impact it will have on our community."

For more information about Catskills Agrarian Alliance and our programs, visit <https://www.catskillsagrarianalliance.org> and follow @catskillsagrarianalliance on social media.

Catskills Agrarian Alliance is a community-led food sovereignty initiative in Delaware and Otsego Counties, New York. CAA focuses on equitable food production and distribution, land stewardship, and farmer incubation, collaborating with more than 50 small-scale, sustainable partner farms.

The Livestock Foundation is dedicated to supporting charitable organizations and initiatives that enhance the quality of life in rural communities through strategic grant-making and community leadership.



At the Franklin Farmers' Market

## 93-YEAR-OLD STILL IN BUSINESS

By Frances Ruth Harris

93-year-old John Benowski said the current Franklin Central School principal "was amazed" when she saw him in his



John Benowski in his 1949 sweater

1949 class sweater during a recent 1949 class reunion. Benowski's grandfather owned a dairy farm in Franklin Depot where he worked while attending school. He joined the Navy after graduation, and then went to pharmacy school, which he said wasn't for him. The Navy had trained him in electronics, and he went on to study electronics at Alfred State in Alfred, NY.

John Sprague hired him when he was looking for a summer job. He ultimately ran Sprague's electric business until Sprague died. Benowski bought Sprague Electric from Sprague's wife after Sprague died. He's run the business for 64 years. He says he no longer climbs ladders, but he handles all phone calls, and all ordering and delivery

for residential, commercial and industrial wiring. His son, John, also has his own electrical business. His retired daughters now help out in his business, as he says he hasn't a clue about computers.

Benowski has been married to his wife, Marge, for 67 years.

His aunt Frances Benowski, who married John's uncle Frank on the family farm in Franklin Depot, wrote a local news column for the Walton Reporter many years ago.



Marge and John Benowski

# CHRISTMAS STROLL 2024

By Connie Martin

Mark your holiday calendars:  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**



## CHRISTMAS STROLL HOUSE TOUR:

Visit Franklin homes beautifully decorated for the holidays, learn about their history, get ideas for renovations and décor!

Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Available at Yokel (458 Main Street, Franklin) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Tickets also available at the Holiday Market from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds benefit the Franklin Improvement Society, a 501(c)(3) organization.

## FIREHOUSE HOLIDAY MARKET:

Ruth Snow, Jeaneane Howard, and Hanna Van Deusen are coordinating this year's Holiday Market, at the Franklin Firehouse (351 Main Street), December 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A host of local vendors will offer holiday wares, home décor, handmade clothing, food and more!

**A Visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus**, at Franklin Firehouse beginning at 5:00 p.m. The jolly old elf and his better half will have a gift for each child. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served. Kids can make a craft to take home. Lots of photo opportunities to make great memories!

## FRANKLIN RAILROAD & COMMUNITY MUSEUM:

The popular annual exhibit, 'Trees and Trains for Christmas', takes you back in time to enjoy the beautifully decorated trees, The Warwick dining car, and several new exhibits at the museum. There is a wealth of history about Franklin and surrounding towns in the area, and much more! Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## HOLIDAY STORIES AND SANTA'S VISIT at the FRANKLIN FREE LIBRARY:

**Holiday Storytime** at 11 a.m., followed by a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus with gifts for the kids. Home-baked cookies and punch will be served.

## NEW – GOURMET CHEESE TASTING at GOOD TASTE EPICUREAN MARKET.

Sample an array of gourmet cheeses, dried sausages, and other delicacies at the Market (438 Main Street) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy a free cup of freshly brewed coffee while you taste and shop. Owner Mark Handelman offers freshly baked baguettes and croissants, and a variety of both imported and farm-to-table eats to grace your holiday table.

And remember, **Franklin Eateries and Businesses** will be open. Enjoy delicious eats at local restaurants Yokel, The Tulip and The Rose Café, and Seminera's Pizzeria, all on Main Street. Shop for designer clothing and antiques at Gary Graham 422 and Kabinett & Kammer. Look for more great finds at LAVA|atelier and Blue Farm Antiques and Letterpress Printing.

## Events Around Town:

Lighted **holiday trees** on Main Street decorated by Franklin Rotary Club.

## Tour and Seasonal Music

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
307 Main Street  
12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

## Christmas Cookie Sale

Open Doors  
Methodist Church  
475 Main Street  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Carols and Hot Chocolate

Community Bible Church  
89 Center Street  
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Have questions?  
Contact:  
Connie Martin at [cand-jmartin@fastmail.com](mailto:cand-jmartin@fastmail.com),  
Ruth Snow or Jeaneane Howard at [franklinholiday-market@gmail.com](mailto:franklinholiday-market@gmail.com).





# FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News  
Local Events

Local Issues  
Local Concerns



## OUR VILLAGE FOUNTAIN

By John Wilson

As I hope village residents have noticed, our beautiful fountain is back in the park where she/he/it belongs, after a long year away being repaired, restored and beautified. It is hard to describe the endless hours of planning, fundraising, and physical labor that have gone into developing a once desolate spot into a beautiful contemplative park by the Franklin Improvement Society (FIS) volunteers over several years. But let's focus on the fountain.

It was donated to the park in 2011 and dedicated to the memory of Gary Parrow, former principal, teacher and coach at Franklin Central School. Many people need to be acknowledged and thanked for their involvement in its restoration, but I must begin with special mention of Shana Ko's input in the project. Shana first sounded the alarm about the deteriorating condition of both the fountain and the water basin and plumbing. Shana did all the legwork finding a firm who could undertake the dismantling of the fountain, transporting it to their facility, and performing the restoration. This involved sand blasting, testing the integrity of the metal, and applying a zinc treatment followed by 2 coats of marine grade epoxy and two coats of acrylic latex.

Shana also managed the writing of a grant application and seeing that process through to fruition. So, kudos to you, Shana! We cannot thank you enough –

you have done a vital project and the village is grateful to you!

As for the funding, we are grateful to the O'Connor Foundation for their financial assistance and to all private donors as well. Very little would be possible in a small village without the community's generosity. Also involved in the difficult task of finding the right restorers was Jack Siman, a member of FIS and constant contributor to all aspects of park design and planting – all essential work and always skillfully executed. And no project is ever successful without the steady hand of its 'financial person', in our case founding member Kim Hyzer, who has so effectively managed the financial needs of FIS for years. Big thanks, Kim!

After sorting out the sand blasting aspect, we were left with the problem of the unstable and leaking water basin. While two FIS members were standing next to the crumbling basin, staring and scratching their heads, along came the cavalry: Jeff McCormack. Without being asked, Jeff said, "I can repair this for you." And he did.

This involved providing a new, poured concrete well and floor, new plumbing, and a pump and timer, then finally the transportation and erection of the once again beautiful fountain. Jeff, you are a wonder – we cannot thank you enough. The finishing touches were provided by Bob Johnson who shared his masonry gifts by replacing the decorative stone base. Thank you, Bob. Evidence of your work is all over the park for posterity!

Many other people have contributed in one way or another and we offer our deep gratitude to all, especially the FIS members, some of whom are from the original group and are still lending their expertise and labor to the park. Current members are, alphabetically: Tom Briggs, Brian Brock (wears many hats), Craig Brock, Kathy Campbell, Amber Gray, Don Hebbard, (also many hats), Kim Hyzer (hats with dollar signs), Karen Kemp  
**See PARK, con't on Page 15**



## VILLAGE BOARD BEAT

By Connie Martin, Village Trustee

On behalf of the Village Board, we hope you have had a great summer and are enjoying the beautiful fall weather!

### 2024: Our Summer and Early Fall Accomplishments:

With funding from two successful grant applications, we completed major repairs to our Community Pool, with new sand filter globes and installation of a hot water system in bathrooms.

We had robust attendance at the Community Pool and Water Aerobics classes at capacity! Thanks to Pool Director Joanna Banks and our efficient team of lifeguards for keeping everyone safe while enjoying the pool.

Kendall Beadle, Field Sports Director, kept kids' summer activities in gear with a variety of activities including T-Ball and an Edible Trail hike with a Scavenger Hunt.

We had another successful Old Franklin Day, with great attendance, two bands, a fashion show and 40 vendors. Thanks to our great community organizations, sponsors and volunteers for making it happen!

Our Street Sweeping program began in August to keep our village beautiful.

The fountain in the Franklin Memorial Park on Main Street has been repaired and is in beautiful working order! See Trustee John Wilson's related article on this page.

Crosswalks have been added to the intersection of Center and Water Streets to accommodate increased pedestrian traffic.

More sidewalks have been repaired and replaced.

Additional security has been added to the water storage tower, including enhanced locks and signage.

We have added security cameras at the village yard waste dump on Otego Street to assist in identifying those who may not know the regulations or are not authorized to use the dump.

As of a hearing at Village Hall on Monday, October 14th, the Village Board has repealed the local law covering mowing and snow removal, and approved two separate new laws. These are available on the village website: [villageoffranklinny.us](http://villageoffranklinny.us).

### New and Ongoing Projects

rent law and review and approve the proposed new laws.

We are working with the NYS Department of Transportation to add a crosswalk to Main Street, which is a state highway. Sidewalk repairs are continuing.

We will be installing a security fence and concrete barriers in appropriate areas to keep our water storage tower safe and secure.

Lower Water Street will be repaired and regraded due to runoff damage. Work is expected to begin in spring 2025.

We are continuing to research funding options to update the water main on Main Street and update water meters to more efficient models.

### Key Dates and Reminders:

Beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> and until March 31<sup>st</sup>, no overnight parking is allowed on village streets.

When there is significant snowfall, please avoid parking on the streets to enable full plowing of all pavement.

**Festive Holiday Trees on Main Street, First Week of December.** The Franklin Rotary Club will again be lining Main Street with festive trees. If you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact [trusteeB@villageoffranklinny.us](mailto:trusteeB@villageoffranklinny.us) and the message will be sent to Rotary.

**Franklin Christmas Stroll House Tour and Holiday Market, Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.** See article on Page Two

### The Recreation Commission:

Now working on Open Gym during winter (pending school approval). The Commission is gauging interest from the Franklin community before partnering with area recreation programs. If you wish to volunteer, please contact Mayor Hanna VanDeusen. (See contact info below.)

Rec Commission meetings are held most months on the second Monday at 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

The next meeting is January 13, 2025.

**Mayor's Office Hours, Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall.**

Alternative times can be arranged if Village residents have a concern.

Online payment of water or tax bills is available on village website: [villageoffranklinny.us](http://villageoffranklinny.us)

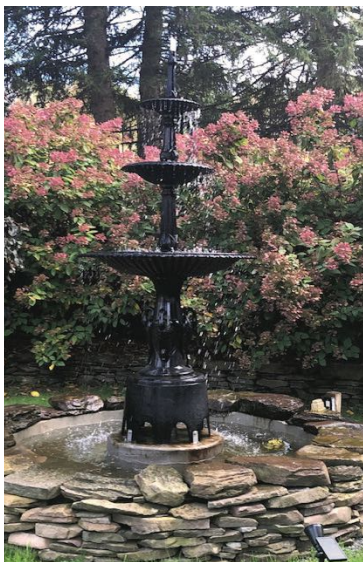
### Contact Us:

**Mayor:** Johanna (Hanna) VanDeusen 607-287-4986 [mayor@villageoffranklinny.us](mailto:mayor@villageoffranklinny.us)

**Clerk:** Paula Niebanck 607-829-6776 [clerk@villageoffranklinny.us](mailto:clerk@villageoffranklinny.us)

**Trustee:** John Wilson [trusteeA@villageoffranklinny.us](mailto:trusteeA@villageoffranklinny.us)

**Trustee:** Constance Martin [trusteeB@villageoffranklinny.us](mailto:trusteeB@villageoffranklinny.us)



The Franklin Rotary Road Clean-up Crew

Can you name all these good citizens?  
See Page 19 Photo by Tony Breuer

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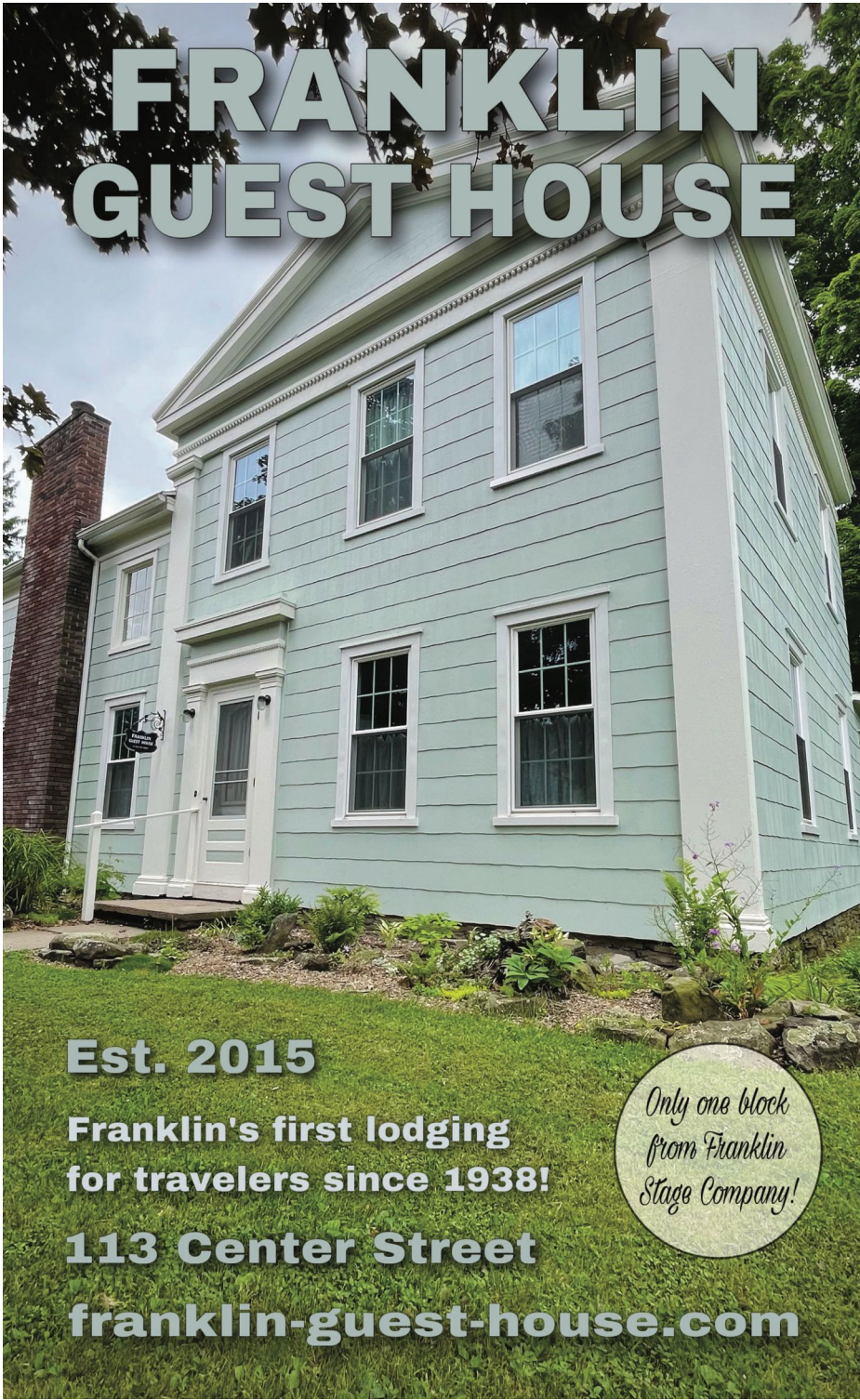
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**Pantry Hours**

Individuals or families residing in the town of Franklin, including Treadwell and the former Treadwell school district, may shop once a month on Fridays 2-4PM or by appointment. First-time customers are required to fill out a brief and confidential questionnaire.



**We welcome donations:**  
• Please mail checks to our Post Office Box  
• Food (non-expired) may be dropped off during pantry hours, or call to arrange another time or pickup.

***Holiday Boxes***

In coordination with Headstart, Franklin Central School and Delaware Opportunities, the Greater Franklin Food Pantry supplies boxes of Thanksgiving and Holiday meals every year for families in need.

**Sponsor a box:** You may sponsor a box for \$50. Please send a check to our PO Box or donate online.

**Receive a box:** Do you want to be on the list to receive a box? Reach out to the pantry with your information.

**Holiday Boxes include** turkey, ham or other meat choices, potatoes and vegetables, dessert **and** basic staples to help you through the week when kids are home from school.



**Sponsorships are welcome any time throughout the fall and winter.**



***Thanksgiving Box***  
Sponsor or Reserve by Nov. 4

***Holiday Box***  
Sponsor or Reserve by Dec. 6



## CUTTING THE GARDEN

Flower arranging is not one of my talents. I occasionally post pictures on Facebook and get a few likes/loves, but really, how hard is it to come up with a nice vase of flowers when the lilacs or hydrangeas are blooming? I am not the woman who deftly employs rose hips, crab apples, and thistle in a joyful paean to autumn's splendor or who whips up an asymmetrical composition of roses and delphiniums with lovely originality. When I attempt an artful bouquet, I get polite comments about how "sweet" my flowers are. Some remedial education might be in order.

So let's talk instead about what your garden can contribute to your flower arrangements. You can grow many plants that will supply you with plenty of options for your floral containers. Cutting gardens are in fashion, the idea being that you can harvest all the blossoms you want without affecting the look of the rest of your garden. You don't have to choose between a gorgeous display of tulips in the main garden

and a pretty bouquet for the house if you have a row of tulips planted out back specifically for picking.

Good books on the subject include Sarah Raven's *The Cutting Garden* and *Floret Farm's Cut Flower Garden*. Cutting gardens tend to focus on annuals, filling the beds with sunflowers, sweet peas, larkspur, zinnias, cosmos, cornflowers, snapdragons, salvia, and nicotiana. They add bulbs, corms and tubers, such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, alliums, lilies, gladioli, and dahlias.

However, you don't have to dedicate a garden area to cut flowers in order to have plenty of material for your creations. There are other ways to fill your garden with so much bounty that taking armloads of flowers will not detract from the display.

First, think shrubs. Once they are established, large flowering shrubs can be "pruned" without any noticeable diminishing of the overall look. Forsythia and *Cornus mas* give us those bright yellow blooms that are so welcome in early spring. I also cut branches of pussy willow to mix with curly willow. *Salix* 'Mt. Aso' is a pussy willow va-

riety worth seeking out for its rose-pink catkins and early blooming. Flowering quince comes later with its bright petals resembling apple blossoms. Magnolia and crab apple branches can be pruned for your larger containers. Cuttings from all these trees and shrubs can be gathered a few days early and forced into bloom in the house.

If you grow two or three different hues of lilacs, you will have enviable vases of flowers. Add a bush of *Syringa* 'Donald Wyman' for the very latest lilac blooms. Peonies will also fill your house with beauty and scent in June. I use a flower frog in the bottom of the container; its stiff wire loops hold the peony stems upright.

Many roses bloom profusely, making them ideal for cut flowers. My favorites include 'Geranium', 'Gertrude Jekyll', and 'Charles de Mills'. Additionally, some varieties have beautiful foliage and rose hips, such as *Rosa glauca* with its blueish leaves and large orange hips.

From mid-summer into fall, hydrangeas excel at flower production. *Hydrangea paniculata* is the dependable species in our area, with its excel-

## GREEN BANKS GARDENING

With  
**Deborah Banks**



lent cold hardiness. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Quick Fire' is an early bloomer and also turns from white to pink and then dark red. 'Lime Light' has panicles that hold onto their greenish tint for weeks before becoming whiter and then blush pink. Other good cultivars include 'Pinky Winky', 'White Diamond', 'Fire and Ice' and 'Big Ben'. Grow two or three distinct varieties for more interesting arrangements.

In addition, many perennials bloom profusely or grow thickly. These can be harvested without greatly impacting the garden. Irises are very productive. Include a mix of bearded, Siberian, and Japanese irises for a long season of flowers. Tall penstemons like 'Mystica' and 'Dark Towers' are pretty in bloom and later have shiny dark red seed heads that are nice. Baptisia and lupine both have tall pea-like spires of blue,

purple, yellow, pink, white or red. *Crocosmia* 'Lucifer' is a tall slash of cardinal red for mid-summer. Also consider sea holly, veronicas, cone flowers (*Echinacea*), and Japanese anemones.

Supporting players are shrubs and perennials with colored foliage or clouds of bloom. The wine-black leaves of ninebark (*Physocarpus* 'Diablo') and the blueish-green leaves of Baptisia add volume to a bouquet. Japanese dappled willow (*Salix* 'Hakuro Nishiki') has leaves of pink, white and green. The spikes of lamb's ear add soft velvety gray. Filmy clouds can be had in chartreuse (lady's mantle), dark red (smokebush) and white (baby's breath or the aster 'Lady in Black').

Add a few annuals and bulbs for variety, and you have a flower arranger's dream garden. The bonus is a beautiful garden in its own right.



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# INSIDE LOCAL REAL ESTATE

with  
**SUSAN BARNETT**

**MARKET UPDATE:**

A slew of new rules for members of the National Association of Realtors (NAR) went into effect this summer, and the impacts are still cascading like dominoes.

If you aren't aware, there was a class action lawsuit that argued it was unfair that sellers of properties usually paid both the listing agent and the agent who brought the buyers. So the NAR and all of its members agreed to change the way it's done.

The whole industry is in flux. New listing agreements spell out clearly what commissions are paid, and who pays whom. In addition, buyer agents are now required to sign buyer agency agreements with their clients. Some brokerages have left the NAR. In New York, there's already an alternative to the local NAR-linked multiple listing services. And a new national trade association for real estate professionals has also been announced. The American Real Estate Association promises to "revolutionize the real estate experience." That remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, Zillow, Trulia, and Realtor.com all use data from any real estate listing service to populate their sites, and charge the listing agents to get access to leads on their own listings. Rocket Mortgage is offering discounts to buyers who use their recommended real estate professional – and then take a cut of that agent's commission.

Does it all sound a bit ... off?

It feels that way, too. In time, I think real estate brokers will be re-branded as real estate consultants. The profession will continue, because there are many essential things they do, and training they have that adds value. But I suspect, eventually, the whole commission-based pay model will collapse.

That hasn't happened yet.

*But...if you want to sell now, what do you do?*

Find a real estate professional who is local, knows your area and has sold properties like yours. Make sure they can show you a track record of satisfied clients, good marketing, years of experience, and excellent communication. Meet with them but also with a few others who have been recommended to you. Pick the one who feels like the best fit.

If, after you've signed a listing agreement, they don't do what they promised, give them one chance to do better. If your expectations are

reasonable, you have every right to expect they'll be met. If they aren't, you have every right to end that relationship, move on, and find an agent who suits you better.

And if you're a buyer? You also have choices. Some agents offer a buyer agency agreements with a deposit up front, and some don't. Some companies ask you to sign with them exclusively for a certain period of time for any property you want to see, while others only require you to work with them on the properties they show you. Ask questions. Pick the agent who can explain what all these changes mean to you, and pick the buyer agreement that fits you best.

And no matter if you're the buyer or the seller, remember that everything is negotiable.

It always was.

*And how about the local real estate market?*

It's feeling a bit more balanced after a couple of years of skewing heavily in favor of sellers.

Prices are still up, but inventory is also up. Sales are down compared to last year. That means the best properties are still getting multiple offers. So are the properties perceived to be great deals.

Properties that are overpriced are staying on the market longer. So are houses that need work, unless they're priced to move quickly. The cost of remodeling has skyrocketed, so buyers are warier of major re-dos than they used to be. Even the old "paint is cheap" adage isn't really true anymore. Have you bought paint lately?

My experience is that there is no such thing as underpricing a home. Time and again I have seen a home listed at under market value draw so many offers that the sale price ended up being market value. An over-priced house eventually drops in price until it sells for market value, too. The difference is how long it takes to sell.

In today's market, buyers who make a strong offer with minimal contingencies get the house they want. And sellers who price their property competitively attract those strong buyers.

*Susan Barnett is owner and principal broker of Upstate Country Realty in Franklin.*

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# kitchen basics

## PIZZA!

I've been making pizza for years and recently upped my game by buying an ooni Karu pellet pizza oven. This pizza has a smokey flavor with a puffy crust and a golden and firm bottom. Baking pizza in a regular oven is also delicious and can be done on a cookie sheet, in a pizza pan, or slid directly onto a pizza stone. I've tried all of these approaches and while the pizza oven stands out, it has to be used outside. So, in the winter, I make my pizza in the oven.

This recipe makes 4 individual pizzas or two larger pizzas.

### Pizza dough:

- 3 cups of bread or all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. dried yeast
- ½ tsp. sugar or honey
- 1 ½ cups warm water
- 2 Tbl. olive oil

Mix the flour and salt in a large mixing bowl. Combine the yeast and sugar in warm water and let it sit until bubbles form on the surface. Add the liquid and olive oil to the flour and mix well. I use a standing mixer with a dough hook but it can also be combined by hand and kneaded to form a soft smooth dough. I usually make the dough earlier in the day and let it sit

## with Carla Nordstrom

on the counter in a covered oiled bowl until I'm ready to use it.

### Tomato sauce:

- 14.5 oz can diced or crushed tomatoes
- 2 Tbl. olive oil
- 2 cloves of minced garlic
- ½ tsp. chili flakes

Combine all of the ingredients in a saucepan and cook over medium heat for approximately 15 minutes until the liquid begins to evaporate. When using diced tomatoes, break them up with an immersion blender.

**Toppings:** Any combination of tomato sauce, pesto, chili flakes, dried oregano, peppers, mushrooms, onions, sausage, pepperoni, black olives, garlic oil, and grated parmesan cheese. If using prosciutto or fresh basil, it works best to put them on the pizza after it has been baked.

Preheat the oven to 450-500 degrees. If using a pizza oven, make sure it is very hot.

Before rolling out the dough, prepare the toppings. For peppers, mushrooms, and onions, I slice them on a box mandoline to get thin slices. I use packaged fresh mozzarella and either slice it thinly or shred it. For sausage, fry it separately and cut it into small pieces.

To make the pizzas, divide the dough into four pieces and form each into a round disk.



Photo by Andy Bobrow

Let them rest, covered with a tea towel, for 10 minutes. Roll them into flatter disks, let them sit for another 10 minutes and then roll them out again. If you are using a pizza peel, cover it liberally with corn meal or oil the pan with olive oil.

Form each pizza directly on the peel or in the pan. Spread a thin layer of tomato sauce and or pesto over the dough leaving a border around the edge. Shake some chili flakes and dried oregano on it and place veggies, sausage, pepperoni and olives on top. Cover with thin slices or shredded mozzarella. Be careful not to put too many ingredients on the pizza if you are forming it on a peel. The filling can slide off into the oven and make a mess. Sprinkle the surface with garlic oil and grated parmesan. Slide the pizza onto the heated stone or put the pan in the oven and bake until it looks done. In a pizza oven it will bake fast so it is wise to slide it around half way through the bake.

Enjoy!



## BE AFRAID, BUT DO IT ANYWAY!

### Changing Countries

By Erna Morgan McReynolds

Changing countries? Are you always afraid to do that? Or do you learn to take big moves in stride? Do you become starry-eyed over the next adventure?

Maybe. Stars sure danced in front of my eyes when a former partner lured me to move from New Zealand to London. One of the most exciting cities in the world and one where English was the

native language. On top of that, all of my on-the-job training in New Zealand was in the British school of journalism. I was armed to take London by storm with tear sheets of my front-page leads at Wellington's morning paper, *The Dominion*, and tapes of my best radio and TV news reports.

My plane ticket included 13,000 miles of getting on and off planes, changing airlines, picking stop-over destinations.

What should be the first stop? The Pacific Islands. When would I ever have another chance to see the Cook Islands, Tahiti, and Hawaii? We got a couple of nights sleep in each port of call to break-up the 14 hour flight to North America.

The Cook Islands. We headed to the "capital" island, Rarotonga. We planned to spend our few nights there in our tent on one of the island's beautiful beaches. That was when kids still hitchhiked and felt safe about it. Sleeping on a beach on a small island in the middle of the vast Pacific Ocean seemed safe — and cheap.

But that was not to be. The tourist authority had us figured out in

advance, with motel owners lined up at the airport when we arrived after 11 p.m. We were assigned to Mrs. Sword, who ran a motel — New Zealand style. A small apartment, complete with a giant bowl of mangoes, pineapples, bananas, oranges and grapefruit as well as orange juice, milk, tea, coffee, eggs, New Zealand cheese, bread, taro and tins of the local mackerel.

Five dollars a night for all of this.

Mrs. Sword also was the local scooter dealer. Since we were her guests, she threw in our scooter. For a couple traveling on virtually no money, this was a dream come true. Beautiful beaches, mountains to climb, a stocked larder, comfortable bed, terrace overlooking stunning beaches.

We had a few adventures there. Our first was on our round-the-island drive searching for the base of the trail to climb the highest of the 23 mountains.

Nearing the base, another motor scooter aimed straight at us. A man about our age named Hans dismounted. Peter and I had hiking boots, day packs filled with water and snacks. Hans had pristine

white sneakers with a white shirt and shorts to match. The muddy track to the top went past terraced taro fields — like rice paddies. A trial for someone who wanted his white sneakers to remain white. Hans had grown up in a city. He wouldn't have understood "countryside" even if it had been part of a manicured stately home.

Beautiful views for us as we climbed. But not Hans. On the way down he was stunned as we passed a local farmer with taro stacked on his donkey. Next Hans decided he had to keep his socks and sneakers white. He took them off and immediately sliced the bottom of his foot as it sank into the mud. I had to rip my scarf off to stop the bleeding. Did he go for stitches as he should have? No. He limped on his red, swollen foot treated with mango skins — the only home remedy I knew.

Papeete, Tahiti was our next stop. We landed expecting the serene beauty we had seen in Gauguin's paintings. Exotic women in colorful sarongs. Stunning beaches. Luscious food. Instead, swarms of Vespa motor scooters

See DO IT, continued on Pg 17

## LET'S EAT OUT

By Craig Brock

Have you ever had the awful realization, after your SO (significant other) has asked, "Can we eat out?", that it was already 7 p.m.? Or worse, it's a restaurant-scarce MONDAY?

With luck, my crystal ball (Google) will tell you

the names of the few and far between restaurants that will allow you to say "Yes" with confidence.

Of course, in the Southern Tier, most people's everyday dinner begins around 5 p.m. Most who earn a living (as opposed to retirees moved up from Long Island) are either farmers or people with at least a half

hour commute.

In Delaware County, restaurants in general are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., with businesses open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. (An eight-hour shift with an hour lunch). But restaurant workers need time off, so many restaurants are open only five days a week.

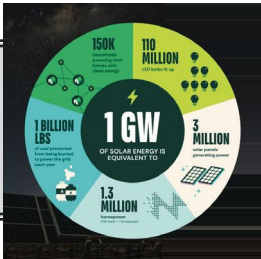
There are five restau-

rants in western Delaware County that stay open after 9 p.m. You may choose between: Packin' Heat Bar & Grill (Walton), the Walton Diner (Walton), Green's Long River Inn (Unadilla), the Hamden Inn (Hamden), and The Old Schoolhouse Inn & Restaurant (Downsville). Not a lot, but still enough of a rotation so it

doesn't become stale. And depending on where you live, it could be a long drive to dinner.

In addition, these restaurants are open on Mondays: the Unadilla Diner (Unadilla), the Walton Diner (Walton), Green's Long River Inn (Unadilla), and the Hamden Inn (Hamden).

Happy eating out!



# FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

## PARTNERSHIPS HELP SAVE LAND

By Cherise Tolbert

Steep forested ridges and broad fertile valleys – that’s the landscape that defines the Upper Susquehanna watershed. Otsego Land Trust’s most recent conservation easement,



A view of the scenic Glass property in East Meredith

filed in March 2024, protects 248 acres of farmland at the confluence of two creeks in a scenic valley just outside the hamlet of East Meredith.

Marvin Glass, an industrial engineer and Long Island native, reached out to Otsego Land Trust with a strong interest in protecting his land forever. May Leinhart, Land Protection Manager, and Justin Wil-

liams, Agricultural Specialist, shared their first impressions. “We met with Mr. Glass at his beautiful farmhouse last September. Over the next six months, we brought in partners, including the DEC Forest Stewardship Program and the Upper Susquehanna

Coalition, to design and implement an easement that not only protected the land and kept it together, but enhanced it as well.”

USC, through the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation Service, is actively reclaiming 33 acres of wetlands and riparian buffers on the Glass property. The easement specifically defines and protects the Upper Susquehanna

Coalition’s investment in restoring the wetlands and will serve as a model for future transactions.

Otsego Land Trust has been protecting forests, fields, and waterways in the Upper Susquehanna region of New York State for over 35 years, enhancing climate resiliency in Otsego and surrounding counties. With more than 12,000 acres (19 square miles) under easement, Otsego Land Trust has become the local leader in land conservation. Our partnerships to conserve land forever with over 100 private landowners are the most essential part of the work we do.

For more information about conservation easements, visit our website: [otsego.landtrust.org](http://otsego.landtrust.org).



Approaching the Glass family's historic farmhouse

## FRANKLIN CHTHONICS

By Gerry Kagan



Land Artwork

Franklin Chthonics is an active inquiry on the question of what it means to “own” land, at this time, in this region. The project involves initiatives based on our understanding of the particular evolution and characteristics of one specific place, the combined properties of two 19<sup>th</sup> century farms in the Town of Franklin in Delaware County, New York. We arrived here in the 80s with no connection to the area and, as city people, no sense of how the land we now owned had arrived at its present state.



It was the size of the tract that raised questions about the appropriate point of view to guide its management. Five acres is real estate. Five hundred and fifty acres is *land*, in this case a complex terrain of hills, woodlands, streams, and all manner of artifacts of human interventions, both intentional and unwitting.

The idea of Franklin Chthonics is to deepen a conscious, informed engagement with this tract of land. Its initiatives fall under several broad, overlapping headings.

The first is the maintenance of a measure of continuity with the specific history of these properties and the region they almost perfectly represent. The structural integrity of the dairy barn was restored and the springhouse retained as the source of water for the farmstead. The use of fields for hay, feed corn and grazing livestock by neighboring farmers was continued. Hemlock and white pine were reintroduced to steep embankments. The practices

See **CHTHONICS**, con’t on Page 14

## CONSTITUTION PIPE

Staff Report

What ever happened to those thousands of 40-foot lengths of 30” OD steel pipe that were stored in the railyard at Guilderland Center NY? The Constitution Pipeline Company tried to speed its project of exporting gas to Canada by stocking tens of miles of pipe outside of Albany before it received all the necessary permits. After the company cancelled this project, all that steel had to be removed to elsewhere. The Constitution pipeline would have run from Williams Central Station, Susquehanna Co. PA to Iroquois Wright Station, Schoharie Co. NY, nearly 125 miles. To lay a mile of pipeline takes 132 lengths of pipe, and each length weighs about three tons.

This pipe sat out in the sun and rain for almost a decade, alternately baking and freezing. Steel rusts, but more concerning is the anticorrosion exterior coating. In 2004, the National Association of Pipe Coating Applicators published a [bulletin](#) that recommends the epoxy fusion-bonded coating should not be exposed to



Constitution pipe moved to Williams supply yard in PA the harmful rays of the sun for more than half a year. Typically, pipeline failures occur shortly after construction because of shoddy work and then after 30 years due to ageing materials. The graph of pipeline failure vs. age is U-shaped.

In August, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled that the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration must revise its testing standards for corrosion and other defects that can lead to failures. These regulations came after the 2010 rupture of a 50-year-old 30” pipeline in San Bruno, CA. Eight people were killed, 51 people

See **PIPE**, continued on Page 19

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REDUCING NYS EMISSIONS:  
*Can it be done?*

By Don Hebbard

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) was enacted by the NYS Legislature in July 2019. CLCPA set aggressive targets for 2030: reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by 40% and achieve 70% renewable energy generation. The underlying concept was to reduce the burning of fossil fuels, replacing them with carbon-free sources. These were desirable goals considering the documented rise in atmospheric GHGs created by ever increased burning of fossil fuels since the beginning of the industrial revolution in the mid-1800's.

CLCPA was to be a model for other states for reducing GHGs. Instead, it is a horrible example.

In the five years since the enactment of CLCPA, the percentage of carbon-free electricity in NYS has fallen from 60% in 2019 to 40% in 2023. Of that carbon-free energy, 30% came from hydro and nuclear, with less than 10% provided by solar and wind. Closing existing nuclear power plants has resulted in increased natural gas-fired generation, primarily by the construction of two huge facilities, Cricket Valley at Dover Plains and CPV Energy at Wawayanda. Both plants are in eastern NYS and primarily supply the NY metropolitan area previously supplied by the Indian Point nuclear plant.

The obvious conclusion is that CLCPA cannot achieve the stated targets by 2030, six short years from now. Some adjustments to the CLCPA must be made.

A starting point is to review the basic facts about how the electrical grid functions to supply electricity everywhere, all the time. The demand for electricity fluctuates widely minute to minute as electrical devices are started or shut down. Seasonal fluctuations occur as well with peak demand required for heating or cooling. To maintain uninterrupted delivery requires a total generation capacity that exceeds the largest annual single use period, with enough additional capacity for unexpected events. A lesser amount results in brown-outs and blackouts.

Total generation capacity has two main

components. The base load energy component must be higher than the minimum annual energy consumption of the grid. This is supplied by large capacity generating facilities that operate at higher efficiency. Traditionally these were coal and nuclear plants.

The second main component is provided by "peaker" plants, often natural gas-fired turbine generators. These plants supply the electricity required for periods of higher demand. They can start and ramp up quickly when demand spikes, but are more fossil fuel intensive with much higher emissions. The need for peaker plant generation capacity is an essential factor in reliability. This capacity must be available to handle spikes, yet usually are run at lower than maximum output. Some peaker plants sit idle for much of the year. The cost per kilowatt hour for peakers is about ten times higher than base load electricity.

A second adjustment to CLCPA concerns intermittency. The fact that the sun does not always shine and the wind does not always blow is a serious problem. In NYS, only 14% of a solar panel's full-rated output is generated annually. On shore wind generation in NYS is marginally better, but still operating at only 30% of the full-rated capacity annually. Thus seven times as many panels and three times as many wind turbines must be constructed to provide the full nameplate generation capacity to the grid annually. To cover periods of low renewable energy generation, peaker plant capacity has to be available, thus these plants must be maintained at approximately equal to the total renewable energy capacity.

Conceived by politicians who were unaware of engineering realities, or just ignored them, the CLCPA did not take into account renewable energy intermittency. Nor did it address the magnitude of the land needed for solar or wind farms to provide the renewable capacity to provide 70% of the energy needed by 2030. It did not address an increasing usage required by growing population numbers, increased household consumption with labor-saving devices, and the transition of autos, housing, transportation, and light manufacturing from fossil fuel sources to electricity.

Coal-fired generating plants were shuttered to reduce emissions. Nuclear plants generating carbon-free electricity were shut down by poli-

ticians out fear of meltdowns or disasters. Solar and wind projects, hybrid and full electric vehicles, electric heating of residential and commercial buildings were promoted and incentivized. NYS is now in a worse position than before CLCPA was enacted.

The logical and economic solution to reducing GHGs and working toward CLCPA targets is to increase base load generation of carbon-free nuclear electricity to meet the required minimum annual usage.

A byproduct of that approach will be saving thousands of acres of agricultural and woodlands; acreage that would be lost to food, fiber, and lumber production under the current CLCPA plan.

Upstate New York will be the location for most, if not all increases to electric generation capacity. The metropolitan area and Long Island politics will prevent construction in those areas except for some off-shore wind generation. It would be the lesser of two evils to host small-scale nuclear plants at selected sites near major transmission lines, rather than give up the open land needed for solar and wind farms build-outs. If we do not embrace some new nuclear technology, NYS will follow California and Germany down the renewable path with large investments in renewable energy, consuming as much fossil fuels, making little progress on reducing GHGs, and experience blackouts with higher electric rates.

*Nichols Pond Insurance Agency*

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NORTH STAR  
FARM

By Justin Kamm  
(Photos from their website)

North Star Farm, located on Franklin Heights Road, offers more than just the typical farm experience. Stewarded by the Kamm family, this 75-acre property has become a destination for those looking to connect with nature and experience sustainable, organic farming. The Kamm family story is one of transformation — from the fast-paced, busy city life to the tranquil and fulfilling work of rural farming.

Despite their lack of prior agricultural experience, the family was drawn to the idea of regenerative farming, and they have nurtured the land to become a thriving blueberry farm.

What sets North Star Farm apart is its commitment to organic farming practices. The farm is certified organic by NOFA-NY and the USDA, and the Kamm family takes great pride in using regenerative methods to cultivate their crops. The farm's rich history has contributed to its success. Before the blueberry bushes were planted, the land was used as organic dairy pasture, leaving behind nutrient-rich clay loam that is ideal for farming. This soil, along with the area's cold winters and temperate summers, creates optimal conditions for growing blueberries. The result is a crop of sweet, flavorful berries that have become highly sought after at

local farmers' markets.

North Star Farm's blueberries are hand-picked to ensure the highest quality, with a focus on producing fruit that is not only deli-



cious but also nurtured in a sustainable and environmentally responsible way. The blueberries are available for purchase at local markets, but the farm also offers a "you-pick" experience during the harvest season. Visitors can stroll through the expansive fields and pick fresh blueberries straight from the bush, allowing them to enjoy the fruit in its freshest form while connecting with the land.

Beyond the farm's ag-

ricultural focus, North Star Farm offers a distinctive hospitality experience with its Geodesic Dome and Farm House accommodations. The dome tents pro-

vide visitors with a comfortable stay, offering a close connection to nature without sacrificing modern amenities. Set against the backdrop of the Catskills, the domes overlook the charming village of Franklin, providing breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape. This "farm stay" experience has become a favorite for visitors looking to escape the stresses of everyday life and immerse themselves in a serene, nat-

ural setting.

The farm's ethos is centered on nurturing not just the body but also the mind and spirit. The Kamm family sees their farm as a place for holistic nourishment, where guests and visitors can reconnect with nature and embrace a healthier, more sustainable way of living. Whether guests are picking fresh blueberries, enjoying the peaceful surroundings, or staying in one of the farm's high-end accommodations, the goal

See NORTH, con't on Pg. 14



Inside a luxurious dome tent

FOR NEWYORK'S 19TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



JOSH RILEY

I'm a fifth-generation Upstate New Yorker, born-and-raised in a working-class neighborhood in Endicott. My family came here over a century ago to work in the local factories – making shoes and boots at the Endicott-Johnson Shoe Corporation and circuit boards at IBM.

Growing up, I saw friends, family, and neighbors lose jobs as the plants closed down. Delivering the paper every morning, I saw headlines about upstate job losses next to those about Wall Street's soaring profits. I saw firsthand how our community was sold out by greed in our economy and corruption in our politics. Now I'm running for Congress to take on the corrupt politicians and special interests who put themselves ahead of us.

I'm fighting to give working families a fair shot to get ahead – taking on corporate price gougers to lower costs and creating opportunity by bringing good paying manufacturing jobs back to our community. I trust women to make their own healthcare decisions, so I'll always protect abortion access and stand up to extremists who would take those personal decisions away. I'm not taking any corporate PAC money because I'm

going to Congress to fight for neighborhoods like the one I grew up in, not the special interests.

As a Democrat from a Republican family, I know it's never been more important to give everyone the benefit of the doubt. So I've never been afraid to call out my own party when I think they're wrong – so I've taken career politicians from both parties to task for failing to secure our Southern border.

Democrat, Republican, Independent or in between, there is a home for you in this campaign. On November 5th, I'd be honored to have your vote.



MARC MOLINARO

Growing up, my family struggled, we worked hard and at times relied on food stamps. In Congress, I promised to solve problems for working class families like the one I grew up in.

Two years later, I've delivered real results. I'm ranked the most bipartisan in New York, second most bipartisan in Congress, and the fourth in Congress for passing bills. And I've focused on our issues to make progress on affordability, protecting Social Security & Medicare, supporting those with disabilities, and delivering relief to

our agricultural community.

On the issues I'm sure you're seeing in lots of TV ads, let me explain where I stand. On border security, I've become a leading advocate for closing the border. In May of 2023, I voted to pass the strictest border security bill in generations to stop big corporations from putting illegal workers over American job-seekers and to stop criminals from terrorizing our community. Like the rapist who crossed the border illegally, was arrested and released downstate, and allowed to come to Delaware County and commit another crime.

On reproductive health, my opponent is flat out lying about my stance. I believe healthcare decisions should be between a woman and her doctor, not Washington. I kept my promise to reject a national abortion ban – keeping New York's laws in place. And I bucked my own party to become the first Republican to sign on to legisla-



2024 LOCAL

WHAT YOU WILL SEE ON THE FLIP-SIDE OF YOUR BALLOT:

PROPOSAL NUMBER ONE, AN AMENDMENT

**Amendment to Protect Against Unequal Treatment:**  
This proposal would protect against unequal treatment based on ethnicity, national origin, age, dis-

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 1:

Across the country, people are being denied access to lifesaving healthcare and the right to decide when to start or grow their families on their own terms. Since *Roe v Wade* was overturned, anti-abortion extremists have passed abortion bans in 22 states.

These draconian bans are felt acutely in rural communities, which often have a shortage of healthcare providers to begin with. We must do everything in our power to prevent this from ever happening in the Empire State, and voters can do so by flipping over their ballots and voting YES on Proposal 1 at the ballot box.

All New Yorkers deserve the freedom to control our own bodies, lives, and futures without government interference, including our right to abortion.

Prop 1 will cement our reproductive rights in the New York State Constitution, ensuring that they cannot be rolled back by out-of-touch politicians in the future. It will protect clinics that provide abortion and other reproductive care in rural areas and prevent the criminalization of New Yorkers who have had a miscarriage.

Prop 1 also closes loopholes in the state constitution to make sure no New Yorker can be discriminated against by the government, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, pregnancy status, disability status, or whether someone is LGBT. Those in power should never be able to take advantage of any New Yorker, especially the most vulnerable among us. Everyone deserves to be treated fairly and not be discriminated against, and that's what this amendment does. It's not about changing existing laws or handing out special rights: it's just about preventing discrimination.

We need to act now.

New Yorkers must vote YES on Prop 1 to protect abortion rights and prevent government discrimination.

To learn more about Prop 1 and get involved in our grassroots campaign, visit [YesOnProp1NY.org](https://YesOnProp1NY.org).

tion protecting IVF, birth control, and mifepristone. dangerous policies that come from one party rule

This November, I'm in Albany, and push asking for your vote. To pragmatic solutions that make keep fighting to secure the our community safe and border, put a check on the affordable.

FOR NEW YORK ASSEMBLY DISTRICT #102:

JANET TWEED

I'm a physical therapist, local elected official, wife, mom, and candidate for NYS Assembly 102. I've achieved difficult goals at the town and village level by finding ways to compromise, without compromising my values. I've been endorsed by Planned Parenthood, the Sierra Club, and Communication Workers of America, and awarded the Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense candidate distinction.

If elected, I'd be one of few legislators in Albany who are frontline healthcare workers.

Healthcare accessibility and affordability are among my top priorities. I support the New York Health Act, which would ensure universal



coverage for all New Yorkers at lower cost than our current system: the United States is the only developed country in the world that does not guarantee its citizens universal healthcare, and we pay twice as much per capita as the second-most

expensive country. On healthcare, the right choice morally is also the right choice economically.

Another top priority is strengthening our economy through maintaining critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges, schools, energy, water, sewer, and communications. Safe, affordable housing is critically important to building our economy. In many towns, businesses cannot hire workers due to insufficient housing. I will work with private and state leaders to

improve our housing stock in ways that are collaborative and respect home rule.

Protecting home rule is also critical in the ongoing buildout of renewable energy infrastructure. I support incentivizing solar construction on buildings, parking lots, and brownfields – not on our prime farmland. Inexplicably, my opponent Chris Tague voted against authorizing an offshore wind project in Long Island, even though it will protect roughly 5,000 upstate acres from solar development. Tague's only legislative contributions over the last five years are several "awareness" proclamations. We deserve better.

I will serve all residents of the 102nd, regardless of political affiliation, and I'll put in the work to find collaborative, affordable solutions.

Learn more at: [janettweed.com](https://janettweed.com)

CHRIS TAGUE

Chris Tague was elected to the New York State Assembly on April 24, 2018. His district consists of all of Greene and Schoharie counties, along with parts of Delaware, Albany, Otsego and Ulster counties. He previously was elected Schoharie Town Supervisor in 2015.

As Assemblyman, Chris has focused on issues that affect his constituents, including expanding access to broadband internet, COVID-19 recovery, reducing taxes, providing support for local farmers, small businesses, and fixing Upstate's failing infrastructure. He is also invested in many social issues like combating the heroin epidemic, and the protection and support of our firefighters, EMS, and first responders.

Chris has lived in Schoharie all his life. He attended Schoharie Central School, graduating in 1987. He was Student Council President,

# ELECTIONS



ability, and sex including sexual orientation, gender identity and pregnancy. It also protects against unequal treatment based on reproductive healthcare and autonomy.

## VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 1:

The Coalition to Protect Kids-NY is a non-partisan ballot issue committee, composed of diverse voices, representing a broad array of people and groups across New York State, including from the Democratic and Republican Parties, LGBTQ+, Chinese American, African American, Disability, Latino and Women's Rights organizations, and Jewish, Catholic, Muslim, Evangelical and Pentecostal communities.

The Coalition opposes Prop One because it constitutionalizes discrimination in the name of equality. Prop One endangers the status of women, jeopardizes the well-being of children and the elderly, and threatens parental rights and religious liberties.

- The so-called ERA empowers courts to:
  - Deprive parents of their authority to make life-altering decisions with their children.
  - Allow minors to engage in transgender medical interventions without parental notice or consent.
  - Permit biological boys and men to compete with biological girls and women in school sports competitions, in addition to sharing locker room and restroom spaces.
  - Provide schools with more authority than parents regarding gender transitioning of minors.
  - Chill free speech and religious freedom.
  - Uphold reverse discrimination policies.
  - Loosen age-based penalties for statutory rape crimes.
  - Threaten senior discounts, including senior housing.
- No matter one's politics, children's health and well-being should always come first. Children need protection. Kids deserve the guidance of their parents. The elderly need the assurance of safety. Our religious institutions deserve to preach and teach without the threat of government censorship. Women and girls do not deserve to have their biology weaponized against them.

The Coalition to Protect Kids-NY urges every voter to flip their ballot over on November 5th and VOTE NO to the so-called "Amendment To Protect Against Unequal Treatment" or Prop One. For more information go to, [PROTECTKIDSNY.COM](http://PROTECTKIDSNY.COM)

*Editor's note: repeated requests for information from Senator Oberacker's campaign were ignored.*

and a member of the Future Farmers of America where he received the star chapter farmer award.

At the age of 16, Chris started his own dairy business, growing from 25 cows to 75 cows, selling the business in 1992. Chris then joined Cobleskill Stone Products He was quickly

promoted to foreman, rising to General Manager, where he was responsible for company-wide health and safety compliance, environmental compliance, government affairs, education, and community outreach.

Chris left Cobleskill Stone Products in 2018 to work as our full-time Assemblyman and fight for common sense & our values in Albany.

In the Assembly, Chris has been a member of leadership in the Republican Assembly conference and serves as Vice Chairman of the Republican Conference Joint Committee. He has served as Ranking member of the Assembly Committee on

## FOR NEWYORK STATE ASSEMBLY, District #121:



### JOE ANGELINO

Born and raised in Chenango County, Joe served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 23 years, including active combat in the Middle East during the 1990s and 2000s. He was twice wounded and retired in 2008 as a Sergeant Major. He was presented with the NYS Conspicuous Service Cross in 1991, was inducted into the NYS Purple Heart Hall of Honor in 2007, and was named 2012 NYS Veteran of the Year.

Aside from his military service, Joe's career has focused on protecting our community. In 1981, he was sworn in as a Norwich Police Officer. He rose to become Chief in 1996 and served until retirement in 2014. From 2006 to 2008, he also served as Norwich Fire Chief.

Joe has made community service a priority, volunteering for local charities and worthy organizations, including the Northeast Classic Car Museum, Norwich Housing Authority, GHS Federal Credit Union, Chenango County Traffic Safety Board, and current role as a volunteer firefighter with the Norwich Fire Department.



Parks, Recreation, Tourism & Sports Development, and is currently the Ranking member on the Committee on Agriculture. Chris also serves on the committees for Real Property Tax, Environmental Conservation, and Election Law. He is also Chairman of the Schoharie County Republican Committee and a member of the New York State Republican Committee. During his time in the Assembly, Chris has received 100% rating twice by the New York State Conservative Party and 100% Rating by the New York State Business council.

This November, Chris is seeking his 5th term in the New York State Assembly.

### VICKI DAVIS

I'm running for Assembly District 121, including towns in Delaware, Otsego, Chenango, Madison, and Broome counties. Over the past months, I've listened to voters across our district express their concerns, hopes, and goals. What I've heard is what I've experienced living in Sidney Center for over forty years: shared priorities, including:

**Quality of Life:** Ensuring reliable broadband, safe drinking water, afford-

Joe is a graduate of Norwich High School and lives in Norwich with his wife of 20+ years, Kendall Saber.

As our Assemblyman since 2021, Joe has fought for our Upstate values against Downstate interests. Joe voted against Bail Reform and continues to push for its repeal. He believes that public safety policy should protect crime victims, not make life easier for criminals. He has also fought to ensure law enforcement and first responders get the resources they need, and voted "No" on the bloated State Budget.

A lifelong Republican, Joe is endorsed by the Republican and Conservative parties.

## FOR NEWYORK STATE SENATE, 51<sup>st</sup> DISTRICT



### MICHELE FRAZIER

I grew up in my family's flower and greenhouse business in Oneonta. A former Oneonta City Council member, I now live in Delhi and am an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at SUNY Delhi. I live with my spouse and three sons, of whom two are neurodivergent. I am also an agent for a locally owned real estate company.

In the family business surrounded by acres of flowers, I learned that everyone deserves to flourish in their own garden. Today, I am ready to fight for rural New Yorkers when it comes to planting their roots, growing their families and tending to their communities.

As your candidate for NYS Senate District 51, I am committed to ensuring that rural New Yorkers have a seat at the table. Here are my top three priorities:



able childcare, education, housing, and healthcare. I'll protect and build upon legislation supporting quality of life in Upstate NY.

**Community Building:** As a union member and volunteer, I see strength in collaboration. I support a fair tax code to sustain community infrastructure, from roads and bridges to libraries and schools. Let's invest in our communities.

**Protecting Personal Choice:** I support human rights and the right to make choices impacting our bodies, partnerships, and liberties. I will support the freedoms of all people.

**Representation:** We need a voice in Upstate New York that represents all of us. I pledge to bring your concerns to Albany and work with all sides.

I've been endorsed by SEIU Local 200, New York State AFL-CIO, USA829 IATSE, Local One IATSE and IATSE District 10, Eleanor's Legacy, Planned Parenthood, Otsego, Delaware, Chenango, Madison, and Broome Democratic Parties. I've been awarded the 2024 Moms Demand Action Candidate Distinction and have pledged to be a Mental Health Now candidate.

Vote Vicki Davis for NYS Assembly District 121: [vickidavisny121.com](http://vickidavisny121.com).

**Housing:** Stable and attainable housing is key to our economic development, community growth and financial security. People with housing invest in their communities.

**Public Safety:** Expansion of 911 to include mental health, substance abuse and domestic violence experts, would free up our law enforcement agents to keep us safe, while also providing more comprehensive services to people in crisis. We can do this with already existing resources, to protect our most vulnerable citizens.

**Family Care:** We must take care of our families from the first breath to their last. We need to invest in education, family supports and childcare. We need to expand transportation, access to in-home health care and excellent nursing care for our aging New Yorkers.

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## NEW BOOK REVIEWS



### NORTH WOODS

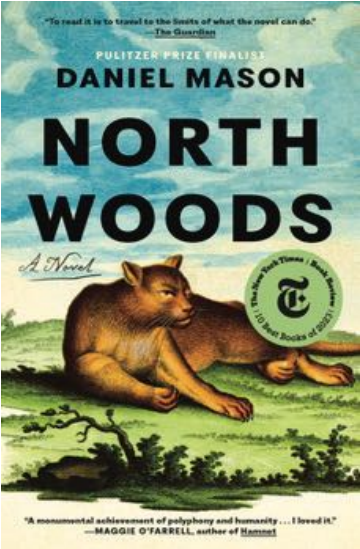
By Daniel Mason  
Random House  
ISBN 978-0-593-59704-0

Reviewed by Alexis Greene

The North Woods in the title of Daniel Mason's enticing novel are located in Massachusetts. But those woods, and the house on their edge, are a metaphor for America and its history. There in New England, beginning in the colonial era and concluding in twenty-first century, men and women live and love, kill and hide, and die. They plant an apple orchard and tend to the land and the wild animals that thrive there. But as the centuries go by, and trains and cars replace carriages and horses, the woods - and the house in their midst - decay and collapse.

Structurally, the novel is divided into the stories of the men and women who occupy the house near the fictional town of Oakfield, Massachusetts. Sometimes Mason has the inhabitants

tell the story of their North Woods life in the first person, and at other times in the third person or through letters and poems. The men and women who live in the house have varying personalities and fates, yet despite how vital and intriguing they may seem



during their time in the North Woods, as centuries go by and new residents inhabit the house, we tend to forget the men and women who came before them.

At times this approach feels distancing, a bit frustrating. Those of us who

relish novels like to feel increasingly involved with the fictional characters whose lives change and evolve over the course of 300 or so pages.

Still, *North Woods* draws us in and stirs our emotions. Readers living in the Southern Tier will recognize the changes that take place in the natural world around us. Sometimes, as in Mason's novel, those changes are rich: trees thrive and blossom and bear fruit, and visitors to our neighborhoods fall in love with the countryside and repair or build permanent homes.

But sometimes, as the novel also alerts us, the natural world is self-destructive, stirring up storms, fires, and droughts. And, of course, there are human beings who neglect or abuse the woods and fields and rivers.

*North Woods* is a captivating exploration of the need to protect and preserve both the natural world and those of us who live in it.

### ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE STORM OF LOVE MAKING?

*Letters of Love and Lust from the White House*

By Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler  
Reviewed by Manette Berlinger

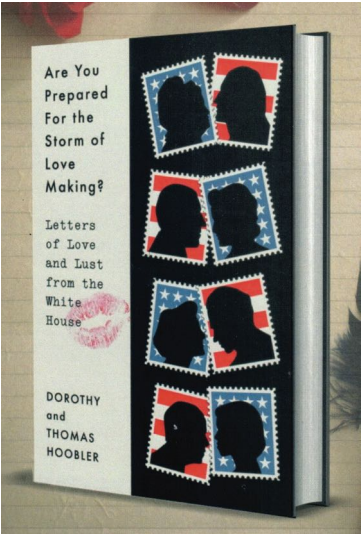
Who would guess Woodrow Wilson wrote this question in a love letter to his first wife after ten years of marriage? Now it is the title of a book about the love lives of our past Presidents.

Published last Valentine's Day in plenty of time for the upcoming presidential

election, this book was written by Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler, married authors who have penned over 100 books together. The New York Times declared it "a charming new collection of presidential love letters . . . A lovely book, stuffed with romantic details."

Washingtonian Magazine agreed: "What is it like to get romantic with the President? Most of us will never have the pleasure, but a new book offers a revealing look at some lusty commanders in chief."

The book contains love letters from almost



all our nation's leaders, from George Washington to Barack Obama. Because their public images loom so large, we sometimes forget they were also private people. The letters, most written before technology made communication immediate and brief, show the passionate, playful, and tender sides of the presidents' personalities. They reveal in detail not only their powerful desires, but their poignant and vulner-

### TO AUTUMN

by John Keats

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,  
Close bosomfriend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatcheves run;  
To bend with apples the moss'd cottagetrees,  
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;  
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,  
And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days will never cease,  
For summer has o'erbrimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?  
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find  
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,  
Thy hair softlifted by the winnowing wind;  
Or on a halfreap'd furrow sound asleep,  
Drows'd with the fume of poppies, while thy hook  
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:  
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep  
Steady thy laden head across a brook;  
Or by a cyderpress, with patient look,  
Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of spring? Ay, Where are they?  
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,  
While barred clouds bloom the softdying day,  
And touch the stubbleplains with rosy hue;  
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn  
Among the river salallows, borne aloft  
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;  
And fullgrown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;  
Hedgecrickets sing; and now with treble soft  
The redbreast whistles from a gardencroft;  
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

About "To Autumn" by John Keats.  
The poem was composed on September 19, 1819, and published in 1820. "To Autumn" is the final work in that group of poems known as Keats's "1819 odes". Keats, one of my favorite poets, died in 1821, at the age of 25, but his words live on. -- Bertha Rogers

able feelings as well. We are given intimate portraits of the men who occupied the White House, not as they are shown in history books, but romancing the women they would marry, and sometimes other women, during times of triumph and tragedy.  
Amid the spicier revelations, there are touching surprises - this, for example, from a self-described "struggling barrister who looks from a window and dreams" about the "Irish gypsy who radiates all that is happy and beautiful." He writes that "though he is a prosaic person, his heart was filled with that grand poetic music, which makes us wish for those we love . . . the fulfillment of all they desire." The author? Richard Nixon!  
And Harry Truman, who won World War II with the atom bomb, wished he was Italian or a poet while

courting Bess whom he'd loved from the age of six. He called himself just "a good-for-nothing American farmer," and thought her immeasurably above him: "You know perfection can only be reached once. You're it." And, "I've always thought that the best man in the world is hardly good enough for any woman. But when it comes to the best girl in all the universe, caring for an ordinary gink like me - well, you'll have to let me get used to it."  
The book is organized into four chapters by theme, so it's not only highly informative but engaging to read in any order. It provides rare insights into the minds and hearts of the men who sought the highest office in the land and rose to the peak of power. In this dramatic and contentious election year, it offers a fascinating look at the presidency.



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# CATSKILL CATS

**MUSIC NOTES**  
**BY JOHN O'CONNOR**



## FIDDLING GALORE!

Having come of age during the folk revival of the sixties, I've often lamented its disappearance over the years. That folk revival was chiefly a song and ballad movement, made famous by its most famous practitioner, Bob Dylan, whose early songs were steeped in traditional melodies and broadside messages.

Taking a back seat to the song movement was the traditional instrumental music of that and previous eras, mostly from poor white Appalachian Mountain people around southern Virginia and North Carolina. The most popular purveyors of it were perhaps the New Lost City Ramblers, who made a number of records on Folkways. They played the music of Tommy Jarrell and Doc Boggs and other Appalachian fiddlers and banjo players.

Though the song movement seems to be long gone (most "folk" singers and songwriters these days don't show a hint of the traditional song styles collected in the first part of the last century), there indeed has been a revival of old-time fiddlers in the last twenty years or so, playing the old tunes with skill and finesse.

In Delaware and Otsego Counties we are fortunate enough to have some fiddlers who you can hear play if you look hard enough for them. I stumbled upon one source of this compelling and addictive music in Andes in July when I saw a poster for the open Old Time Mu-

sic Jam at Wayside Cider on Reddin Street. One lovely Sunday afternoon I drove to the other side of the county and was introduced to the two women who lead the jam, Becca Wintle and Monica-Lisa Mills. Becca is the fiddler and Monica is the rhythm guitarist. An array of guitar players, fiddlers and banjo players were assembling as I arrived. I wasn't sure what

to expect. The jam was advertised for players of all levels and I anticipated a rather rudimentary, pokey kind of experience. But Becca and Monica were skilled at bringing in the beginners at the start of each tune and then ramping up the tempo for the more skilled players, letting the beginners join with them.

Appalachian fiddle tunes ordinarily follow a pattern: two parts to a composition, referred to as the A part and the B part. Each part is played twice through repeatedly, with no predetermined number of times to repeat the pattern. The tunes are uptempo for the most part and as the playing continues, a mesmerizing, fevered energy often emerges, forged between the players, with the fiddlers leading a sort of centrifugal musical experience. The tune repeats over and over, sometimes going on for 15 or 20 minutes. The fiddler who chooses the tune is in control and signals the end by raising a leg, meaning "this is the last time through." The repetitive cycle comes from the fact that the tunes are ordinarily played at dances and need to last as long as the dance does.

Becca, like a lot of fiddlers, has her own catalog of tunes, collected from other jam sessions and other fiddlers. Tunes suggested by the other musicians were often hybrids of other familiar compositions. As in the folk song movement, there are different versions of different tunes, depending on in which "holler" the tune might

have originated.

The jam happens every third Sunday of the month. So, dust off that old banjo or fiddle and head over to Andes. The cider and the beer are also an incentive.

Music on the Delaware at the Walton Theater promises a fair amount of fiddle and banjo music this winter and spring, though not necessarily Appalachian. They're again bringing in Cherish the Ladies for a Christmas concert, offering delights for the whole family.

On December 11, the incomparable Joanie Madden leads her ensemble of Irish musicians in what has become a tradition for the theater. And yes, they are all ladies.

Speaking of women bands, Echo Valley, made up of the Anderson sisters of western Pennsylvania, brings its brand of bluegrass to Walton on February 8. There is one hitch. The dobro player is a guy. The fiddler is Emily Anderson, who has been the grand champion fiddler in both Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Two other traditionally-rooted bands will finish up the main stage concert season at the Walton Theater. The Baltimore based Charm City Junction, a quartet, appears on March 8 and Genitcorum, out of Quebec, follows on April 5. The former plays a mix of American styles; the latter is a trio excelling at Celtic music. Both feature fiddlers and that wonderful love-it-or-hate-it instrument, the accordion.

To hear more old time fiddling of the Irish variety, Music On the Delaware will host Local Seisiun on March 16 in their coffeehouse series, which is free and open to the public. Fiddler Kathy Shimberg joins Jim Haggerty on flute and whistles, and Jean Withrow on concertina. This mainstay local trio uphold the integrity of Irish tradition, a welcome breath of Celtic air.

God bless the Walton Theater.

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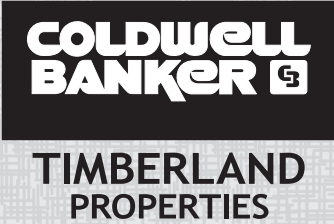


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**CHTHONICS, continued from Page 8**

of cidering, sugaring, and foraging wild leeks were revived and made part of the annual calendar of activities. Smoking meat and fish were restored with the construction of a smokehouse. The old farmstead’s solid waste “dump” was excavated and interesting new scrap metal we find is added to its artifacts. The oldest uses of the land, hunting and harvesting trees for lumber and firewood, continue today.

A second category of projects is to establish places for experiences that tend to be obscured by urban life and media saturation, activities “as old as the hills”: contemplating still and flowing water, seeking and hiding, using fire for spectacle, honoring great trees, making stone cairns to memorialize friends.

Another type of land modification practiced by FC is to amplify the particular character of an existing site for a congruent purpose, often as the field for an invented game. The interior of the barn, with its paired haylofts and central bridge-way, suggested an enormous court for a goal-scoring game, “barnball,” with four balls simultaneously in play. A large field of shoulder-high goldenrod was mowed into the form of a labyrinth with two miles of paths. A steep, concave hillside has become a kind of informal amphitheater. The rubble of a disused bluestone quarry is progressively assembled into sculpture at annual *Are You Goldsworthy?* events.

The project has always coexisted with the land’s parallel function as a conventional second home. Here again, the scope of the land, as well as the range of infrastructure

that has been developed, suggest that it might function as more than a country house for a single family. Franklin Chthonics has evolved into an informal social experiment of sorts, with the idea that it can establish a small community of stakeholders and develop a culture with sustained traditions.

A speculative goal for Franklin Chthonics is to add an educational program using this land to illustrate the turbulence and instability of our region’s “natural” environment. The Ash Extinction Project and the Ash Preserve we established could be one aspect of a tour FC might offer. (The rapid, ongoing, virtually complete destruction of American ash, a foundational tree species of the continental forest, is occurring against a backdrop of widespread public oblivion.) An “Inventory of Species” project now being developed could become a unique resource for learning the makeup of the community of life around us and how it is changing with startling velocity.

Website is [franklinchthonics.com](https://franklinchthonics.com). The organization can be contacted at [franklinchthonics@gmail.com](mailto:franklinchthonics@gmail.com).



The Fire Festival

**NORTH, con’t from Page 9**

is to create an environment that fosters well-being.

In addition to being a destination for visitors, North Star Farm is also a model of sustainable farming practices. The Kamm family is dedicated to organic farming and to



Sky view of North Star Farm

using methods that enhance the health of the soil and the environment. Their commitment to regenerative agriculture means that they prioritize the long-term health of the land, ensuring that the farm will continue to thrive for generations to come.

By combining sustainable farming with a memorable hospitality experience, North Star Farm has created a destination that appeals to a wide variety of visitors. Whether you are a local resident looking to pick fresh blueberries or a traveler seeking a peaceful retreat in the

Catskills, North Star Farm offers something unique. The farm has become a symbol of transformation — both for the land and for the Kamm family — demonstrating how a commitment to sustainability and organic farming can add value to a thriving, vibrant community.

In summary, North Star Farm is not just a farm; it is a place of connection, sustainability, and transformation. From its origins as an organic dairy pasture to its current status as a thriving blueberry farm and glamping destination, the farm embodies the ideals of responsible farming and eco-friendly living. For the Kamm family, farming is not only about producing food but also about creating an experience that nourishes the heart, mind, body, and spirit. Through their dedication to organic farming and regenerative practices, North Star Farm is ensuring that its land remains fertile, its crops remain delicious, and its visitors leave feeling refreshed and connected to nature



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**PARK, con't from Page 3**  
(long term and flowery hats), Connie Martin (all sorts of hats), Jack Siman (multi hatted), Trish Tyrell (many and various and reliable hats), Hanna van Deusen (big hats) and Michael Zurn who spends many hot hours mowing paths over difficult terrain and lending his considerable carpentry skills. Thank you all.

Special mention should be made of Trish Tyrell and her tireless planning and work on the adjacent Edible Trail. Her labors involve landscape design, acquiring and erecting various types of informational signage and ongoing plant selection, planting and maintenance. Trish has also written up and monitored various grants.

You are a Village Treasure Trish, and an irreplaceable park feature. Thank you!

The Franklin Improvement Society has several other smaller projects lined up: the installation of commemorative benches in strategic spots, a small



The Village Park Memorial

tool storage shed, and renovation of the kiosk and the planters at the entrance.

Enjoy our restored fountain and the peace and quiet of our lovely park – it is an oasis in our village.

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## FACES OF FRANKLIN

By Connie Martin

Save the date! **Sunday, November 10, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Good Taste Epicurean Market at 438 Main Street will host an opening reception for an exhibit of work by noted local artist Bruce Goddard, titled “Faces of Franklin.”

Wine and gourmet cheeses will be served, along with live music from local band Those Darn Cats. The event is open to the public.

The exhibit will feature original portraits of Franklin residents and will continue through December 15 at the Market.

Market owner Mark Handelman said,

held a pharmaceutical researcher/regulatory affairs position with a company based in Lyon, France.

Bruce studied photography at the San Francisco Art Institute in Berkeley, CA, and art with Peter Cox at the National Academy School of Fine Arts in New York for two years. Since moving to the Catskills, he has learned welding at BOCES. Bruce began painting after he retired in 2005. He has exhibited at numerous art shows, galleries and fundraising benefits in upstate New York and Minnesota.

In his artist statement, Bruce said, “My first memory was watching my mother sitting at her easel on our front porch when I was two years old. She was a medical illustrator before World War II but her passion was landscapes. I watched her paint over



## FACES OF FRANKLIN

By Bruce Goddard

### Good Taste Market

438 Main Street, Franklin

Nov. 10 – Dec. 15, Wed thru Sun 2-6

Wine & Cheese Reception  
live music from Those Darn Cats  
November 10, 2-6

“Could you or a friend be one of them? Join us to find out while celebrating with your fellow Franklinites!”

**About the Artist**

Bruce Goddard lives with his wife Amy on 33 acres in Franklin, where they keep two Icelandic horses, a cat, and a flock of chickens which all have names. As a military brat, Bruce traveled extensively around the country with his family. After graduating from the University of Georgia with a degree in psychology, Bruce has worked as a food co-op stock manager, second grade teacher, carpenter, film processor, social worker and, for 30 years,

the years and she showed me a few tricks, but mostly I imprinted her techniques by watching her paint.”

Bruce paints in acrylics on gesso board or canvas. About his current work, he said, “I love painting portraits. You can see a lot of where a person has been and where they are going by looking at the face. It’s a roadmap or a topography that has been etched and worn into a face by the journey.”

Bruce Goddard will be at the reception to meet attendees and answer questions about his work. Learn more at [brucegoddard.org](http://brucegoddard.org).

SCANDAL, continued from Page 1

rogate Court to gain control. Only once this occurred, in June of 1989, could the new school be designed and built, at a cost of \$3.65 million. Unfortunately, enrollment had long been dwindling. The hamlet had to abandon the new building after only a dozen years. In 2007, kindergarten through fourth grades transferred from Treadwell to Delaware Academy Central School (DA). Afterward, residents spent years in litigation over the ownership of the remaining millions of dollars in the Kellogg bequest.

As part of the settlement, the Kellogg-Franklin Trust received \$920 thousand. Also, Delaware Academy subdivided the property, donating the 15 acres of park and playground to Town of Franklin, which accepted it reluctantly. The hamlet, being unincorporated, could not take possession.

In 2011, DA solicited offers for the school building and remaining five acres through Catskill Mountain Properties. The property at the time can be viewed through the promotional video at youtube.com/watch?v=83xEwzWA4wc. In December 2012, a trio of local businessmen lead by Scott Clark, OSP Capital LLC, bought it for \$150K. Unfortunately for taxpayers, only

four percent of construction costs were recovered for DA. In 2014, this partnership planned to lease the building to Delaware County government for five years with options. The county was to consolidate the Mental Health Clinic from three separate buildings in Walton. Rumor was that the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Services would also be relocated from Hamden. Their agreement with the Delaware County Community Service Board was controversial when presented to the board of supervisors as a done deal by CSB



The former cafeteria Photo by Eric Lein

chairman Martin Donnelly, Andes supervisor. Under the previous chairman Peter Bracci (Delhi supervisor), Delaware Academy had offered to sell the school building to county for \$1, but CSB rejected it for the Public Health Services as impractical.

"I don't like being told that something that impacts the county this much is none of my business,"

said Dennis Valente, Davenport supervisor at their April 2014 meeting. "This is county money, and county money is absolutely my business." "Moving the mental health clinic to Treadwell would move mental health services away from more than 40 percent of the population," said Social Services Commissioner William Moon. "It would also diminish opportunities for partnerships down the road." On the other hand, James Eisel, Harpersfield supervisor and chairman of the board, supported Donnelly.

The village of Walton objected to the loss. At the May meeting of Franklin town board, supervisor Taggart proposed a motion to oppose this relocation to the hamlet but received no second from councilmembers Grant, Huyck, Sitts, and Smith. Instead, our board voted to request a meeting with the CSB.

The final decision on moving county health services to Treadwell was up to CSB, which voted mostly in favor. However, four of its nine members were found to have voted illegally, having overstayed their two-term limit of service. Those four were forced to tender their resignations, including Donnelly. Recently, a new county Behavioral Health Center was opened in vil-

lage of Walton at 243 Delaware Street, State Highway 10. In 2015, the partnership marketed the building to the Watershed Agricultural Council, which hired LRM Architecture of Delhi to evaluate the condition of the building. This despite the hamlet not being in the watershed of the Delaware River. Reportedly, plans were to move 30 to 60 staff in 2016. WAC explored mortgage options for the purchase. Like the board of supervisors before them, the watershed stakeholders had strong objections to this move. By December, WAC was looking at a site in Walton. Currently, they are planning to build a headquarters on State Highway 10 near the Cornell Cooperative Extension offices.

Finally in November 2016, the trio sold the building and grounds to America Ginseng Pharm Center LLC, founded by Eva Tsai, for the processing of Catskill ginseng in the kitchen and growing cordyceps fungi in the gym. Both plants are thought by the Chinese to have medicinal properties. The price was \$975,000, 6.5 times the price of only four years earlier.

Part Two will be published in the spring issue of 2025, continuing this saga up the present day under the ownership of Jonah Shaw of Delhi who obtained the property, now valued at \$1.26 million, for a bid of \$380 at a sheriff's auction.

KIOSK, continued from Page 1

for the 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade wing, one for the 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade wing, and one for the front lobby. Additional kiosks will be made and placed as needed. The Bainbridge Lions will buy popular, teacher-recommended books to stock the mobile libraries.

Lion Bob Evans took a sketch from the teachers and created a prototype. The Lions held two work sessions in Bob's shop to assemble the kiosks, turning the dream into a reality. The first session included a burgers-and-dogs picnic with salads, popcorn and watermelon. Pam Barton and Kathy Lord carved BAINBRIDGE LIONS 2024 atop each new library.

The plan is to deliver the little libraries at the beginning of the school year. The elementary students will work with the art teacher to paint and decorate each one.

The Bainbridge Lions hope to add a kiosk at the district's primary school.



Payne Park Playground. Picnic tables will be added to provide a comfortable place for parents to watch their children.

Pictured in photo: left to right, Lions Gary Richman, Ethan Mazzarella, Connie and Bob Evans

BAINBRIDGE LIONS PLANT MAPLE AT PAYNE PARK

The Red Sunset Maple is a fast-growing species and will provide shade for years to come at Bainbridge's

HELP BAINBRIDGE LIONS RECYCLE PLASTIC WRAP!

By Frances Ruth Harris

Bainbridge Lion Ethan Mazzarella said he is elated to contribute to community service in Bainbridge, the town he grew up in and calls home. He chairs the Bainbridge Lions' environmental committee, which includes Pam Barton, Paul Cliffe, Cliff Crouch, Bob and Connie Evans, Peter Kemmeren, Nevin Laing, and Gary Richman.

One of their first projects is to partner with the TREX company for their "NexTREX" recycling challenge. Mazzarella said, "We aim to collect 1,000 pounds of plastic wraps within one year." The Lions Club will

then receive a bench from TREX, which they plan to place on the first hole tee box at the disc golf course in General Clinton Park in Bainbridge.

Collection boxes may be found at Pine Ridge, Price Chopper, and McDowell Walker. Participants in the project may earn one bench each year.



Ethan Mazzarella and daughter Maisie pick up recycled plastic wrap.

Delaware Pantry

River Meadow Farm  
21780 NY28, Delhi, NY 13753  
delawarepantry.com  
delawarepantrydelhiny@gmail.com  
@rivermeadowfarm

~ Local Products

~ Art

~ Antiques

~ Books

~ Events

~ home of Riverland Workshop

# TENTATIVE TOWN TAXES ‘25

By Brian Brock

The tentative 2025 budget for town of Franklin would spend \$2.03 million – the first year over two million dollars. To partially finance this, the town board plans to raise \$1.42 million in taxes from landowners, an increase of \$0.033 million (2.40%) over the 2024 budget. This increase is just under the state-imposed soft cap.

Compensation ate up all the increase and then some. The increase in total spending would be \$45.3 thousand (K) or 2.23%. Increases for spending on personnel would be \$49.6K, with \$31.7K for salaries and \$17.9K for benefits. Officials would get \$14.8K (30%) and highway crew \$34.8K (70%).

Three town officials received increases in personal salary, coded PS, or P/S. For highway superintendent, the increase would be \$6,380 from \$56,120 to \$62,500 or 11%. For assistant director of finance, the increase would be \$2,000 from \$14,000 to \$16,000 or 14%. For the assessor, increase would be \$1,000 from \$29,000 to \$30,000 or 3%. There would be increases in benefits totaling \$5,070. Last year, all three received increases. Also, the court clerk received a \$500 increase.

Salaries for most officials remain the same: supervisor at \$17,959; town clerk, tax collector, and registrar of vital statistics at \$17,525; code enforcement officer at \$15,000; justice at \$6,500, dog control officer at \$1,800, and councilmembers at \$1,200 each. The supervisor’s salary is \$3,800 from the town and \$14,159 from the county. The CEO position is the only town official that has not had an increase in salary over the last dozen years.

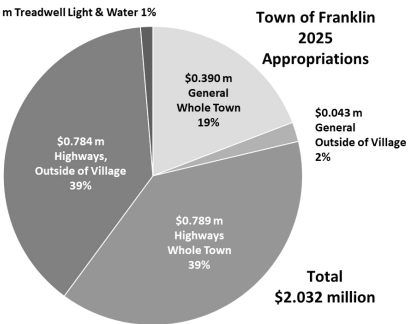
Total salaries for town officials would increase from \$147,870 to \$157,925. Benefits for officials would increase from \$75,610 to \$80,680, including state retirement, social security, and medical insurance. A 2:1 split between salary and benefits is common.

The contract with the highway crew was renegotiated with Teamsters Union 317 this fall. As a result, employees received raises to bring them more in line with other towns

and the going rate for those with a commercial driver’s license. Starting salaries were raised by \$3 to \$20.50 or 17%. Raises were also increased for experienced drivers. In part, the superintendent salary was raised to keep it above his highest-paid employee. The contract runs for three years.

More than three quarters of the budget would be spent by the highway department. This is split between capital expenses - \$0.936 million (59%) - and labor - \$0.635 million (41%). Labor costs are split between salaries - \$0.400 million (63%) - and benefits - \$0.235 million (37%). (Not included are the salary and benefits of the superintendent.) Amazingly, appropriations for the highway department are almost evenly split between the DA account for work throughout the town such as bridges, machinery, mowing and brush removal, and snow removal, and the DB account for work outside the village such as repairs and improvements of roads. In 2025, \$0.789K vs \$0.784K, which is a less than one percent difference.

Budget appropriations and revenues for the hamlet of Treadwell would be mostly unchanged from recent years. Expenditures for the water district of \$23,000 would be paid by user fees of \$11,225

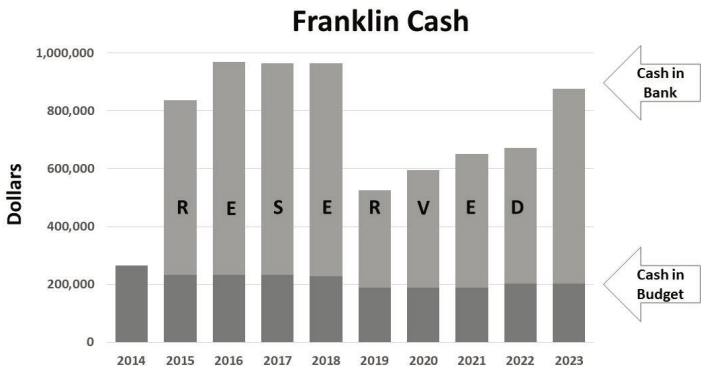


and a property tax levy of \$11,775.

With only these small changes, the division of the 2025 budget would be similar to that of 2024, with the highway department receiving \$1.572 million (78%), all other town accounts \$0.433 million (21%), and Treadwell light and water \$0.026 million (1%). Unlike other towns, Franklin accounts for the light and water districts within the town budget even though funding comes only from residents of the hamlet.

These expenses would be paid for mostly by property taxes, but there

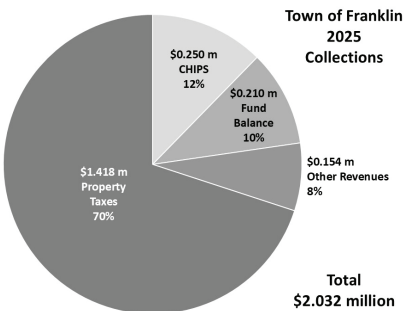
are contributions from revenues and appropriated funds. Revenues would be up slightly from last year from \$0.399 million to \$0.402 million. Most of the revenue would be the \$0.250 million grant from New York state under the Consolidated Local Streets and Highway Improvement Program CHIPS. The next largest revenues would be



\$0.055 million from rent of the land under the cell-phone tower, \$0.025 million from the mortgage tax, and \$0.015 million from New York state per capita aid.

Appropriated funds are monies carried over from previous years. They are allocated to provide operating cash and a buffer for unexpected expenses. The total is \$0.210 million, up 3% from 2024.

The budget does not include spending of funds from the federal American Recovery Plan Act. As of



the October meeting of our board, 99% of \$197K has been appropriated. Board has two more meetings to appropriate the last \$2,100 and make an accounting to the U.S. Treasury. Most the funds appropriated for the Treadwell Water District remain unspent a year and a half later.

A cash reserve is good budgeting, but the right size is important because the larger the reserve, the higher our property taxes. With a budget of almost two million dollars, cash-on-hand in Franklin’s bank accounts was almost a million dollars for a few years but then was cut by half in 2019. Since then, this cash cushion is being rebuilt. The last four years, cash-on-hand has increased by about a \$100K annually. Where did this money come from? Six-figure sums can be found only in the highway accounts. Looking back at the last few years, the town had budgeted for an annual CHIPS

grant of \$250K. However, the amounts received recently were for 2020, \$288K; for 2021, \$455K; for 2022, \$622K; for 2023, \$385K; and for 2024, \$367K. Was all of this money spent?

In the annual budget process, our supervisor shifts a few thousands of dollars among accounts to stay under the state cap. (The 2025 expenses

increased about \$46K of which \$35K goes to highway department.) However, by the end of the budget year, finances are a hundred thousand to the black. Is it the best use to save that in the bank? This is a discussion that the townspeople are shut out of.

At the budget workshop in October, the tentative budget was presented to the council, which passed it without comment, thereby becoming the preliminary budget. A public hearing on the preliminary Town of Franklin Budget 2025 is to be held Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of November at 6 p.m. in the town hall. A copy of the preliminary budget is available from the town clerk.

Immediately after that hearing, the board may approve the preliminary budget either with or without revisions. While a budget does not have to be passed that evening, it should be approved by November 20<sup>th</sup>.

The final budget will be available from the town clerk or the town website: <https://franklindelco-ny.gov/index.asp?SEC=ED608B3F-36DD-4B0B-8610-94E2E8CC0725>

DO IT, con’t from Page 7

screamed past us. Even croissants and coffee broke our budgets. After one long day we got the next plane which took us to Hawaii.

On Oahu, we really did find beaches, places, and food we could afford. The Pearl Harbor Memorials, standing atop the burial group of 1,100 sailors interred in the USS Arizona, moved us to tears.

On to North America, Vancouver first. Just trying to escape the airport made us want to head straight back to New Zealand. Peter — a 20-something New Zealander of the 1970s, complete with the longish hair and blue jeans. Officials took him away to a room for what seemed hours, searching not only his backpack but his entire body for drugs. Eventually they came out for the letter from parents guaranteeing they would support him while he was in the United States. That got him released from the interrogation room. Then we figured out how to get a bus to downtown Vancouver, then found another bus which took us miles away to our hostel.

Our adventures in Vancouver, across the U.S., and on to London?

Well, I’ll tell you about that another time.

*Erna Morgan McReynolds, raised in Gilbertsville, is retired managing director/financial adviser at Morgan Stanley’s Oneonta Office. She lives in Franklin.*

POSTED January 20, 2022 on ALLOTSEGO, the online home of The Freeman’s Journal and Hometown Oneonta. Reprinted courtesy of the author.



RECENT REAL PROPERTY SALES IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

DATE	LOCATION	ACRES	TYPE	ASSESS.	SALE	SELLER	BUYER
5/20/24	Rich Rd	27.80	Rural Vac>10	New	52,000	Hungerford, Frederick J	LeFever, Todd
5/24/24	4379 County Hwy 14	1.28	1 Family Res	125,000	-	Lockup LLC	(RC) Miller Path LLC
5/31/24	13565 State Hwy 357	5.10	1 Family Res	300,000	460,000	Harding Stalter, Janice	Michael, Njemile D
6/03/24	520 Hodge Rd	0.79	1 Family Res	155,000	267,000	McAteer, Tyler J	Barsolati, Irene
6/07/24	1304 Sherman Hill Rd	18.80	Rural Res	200,000	270,000	Persico, Kevin	Guidicipietro, Rocco
7/09/24	Olive Whitbeck Rd	124.68	Vacant Rural	200,000	180,000	Garrecht, William P	Chetnik, Wojciech R
7/11/24	25 Hodge Rd	1.00	1 Family Res	145,000	198,000	Root, Rena M	Cronk, Kristin Anne
7/15/24	9725 State Hwy 357	49.43	Rural Res&Ag	165,000	400,000	Desiderio Family Rev. Trust	Chillo, Elio
7/18/24	3660 Case Hill Rd	15.39	Rural Res	97,000	240,000	Butler, Gregory W	Natilli, Michael J
7/29/24	6193 State Hwy 357	1.95	Vac w/Imprv	22,000	25,000	Cronk, Judith A	(R) Cronk, Michael T
8/08/24	725 Main St	0.80	1 Family Res	185,000	337,225	Stuit, David	Farquharson, Diana
8/09/24	6075 County Hwy 21	11.77	Rural Res	86,500	180,000	Agatha James Partners LLC	Linhard, Joanne A
8/09/24	Rich Rd	111.35	Vac w/Imprv	New	144,749	Hungerford, Frederick J	Lehr, J. Dylan
8/15/24	456 E Handsome Bk Rd	5.47	1 Family Res	250,000	489,000	Sampath, Christopher	Haller, Eric
8/15/24	Sweet Pea Dr	10.83	Rural Vac>10	28,000	75,000	Watson, Gary Matthew	Kulinenka, Veronika
8/21/24	Ed Klug Rd	15.93	Rural Vac>10	40,000	200,000	Smith, Richard M	Baldwin, Damien A
8/30/24	816 Main St (2)	0.50	1 Family Res	102,000	-	Matheson, Ronald	(RC) Matheson Starling House LLC
9/03/24	500 Otego Rd	6.74	1 Family Res	New	463,000	Hebbard, Gerald M	Myers, Frank Daniel
9/10/24	9375 State Hwy 357	4.06	Rural Res	130,000	235,000	Ulmer, Ingrid	Sandifer, Barbara
9/16/24	22 Main St	0.50	1 Family Res	97,000	275,000	Cassinelli, Gary	Viteretti Duran, Santa

(2) Two Parcels

(RC) Related Corporations (R) Relatives

PAPER, continued from Page 1

classified ads are accessible only online.

The motto of CH is “America’s Only Newspaper” (pretentious?), whereas NFR’s is “Independent, Fearless, and Free” (plucky?). Following this mission, CH tries to cover all 3,143 counties in the United States, whereas NFR focuses on Franklin and surrounding towns in Delaware, Otsego, and Chenango counties.

Editor-at-large Kern has presented the paper as covering the overlooked small-town heartland of America. Perhaps, but it reads as if the articles are selected by and written for coastal elites. Editor Samuels received a BA in history from Harvard College, where he was an editor of the Harvard Lampoon, and an MA in history from

Princeton University. For more than 20 years, Samuels was a contributing editor at *Harper’s Magazine*.

By contrast, the editor of the NFR, though a published writer, had no previous training or experience in journalism before volunteering to assemble a four-page newsletter for the Citizens’ Commission on Peak Oil. That was seventeen years and fifty-three issues ago.

*County Highway* publishes its ninth issue in November/December. At this rate, the newcomer will require more than a decade to catch up with *The New Franklin Register*. But given the gulf of difference between them, the NFR welcomes *County Highway* to the fold. CH may be *America’s* only newspaper, but Franklin’s got room for more than one.



Above, Hare and Feather  
Below, Chubby Bunny



FRANKLIN FARMERS MARKET

WINTER DATES:  
Second Sundays, 10 to 1  
November 10<sup>th</sup>  
December 8<sup>th</sup>  
January 12<sup>th</sup>  
February 9<sup>th</sup>  
March 9<sup>th</sup>  
April 13<sup>th</sup>

NEW LOCATION:  
American Legion, corner  
of Institute and Main Sts.



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RYE, continued from Page 1

dulcimer.” Rob, a professional musician, adds, “Terry can easily slide into many musical situations and can be heard singing aloud as he walks through the village.” If walking by the Hunts’ home, there’s a good chance you might hear Rob and Terry performing together, with Rob accompanying Terry on piano. Terry tells us that he will also join the Franklin Central School band in the percussion section.

Also carried from Taiwan are Terry’s table tennis paddles. Terry enjoys a good competitive game with the Hunts and their friends and neighbors, converting the Hunts’ dining room table to a table tennis court.

And Terry’s profile would not be complete without mention of his love of games – all types. Terry’s first foray into village life was being introduced to Dungeons and Dragons at the Franklin Free Library on Wednesday afternoons. In turn, Terry has brought the game of Mah Jongg to Franklin, teaching all interested parties re-

gardless of age. A fourth player needed? No problem, reports Wendy Hunt. “While teaching his host family to play the game, Terry contacted a Rotary Exchange student in Austria to be a fourth player via video, with three people and a phone at the table!”

Host parents Wendy and Rob are greatly enjoying their time with Terry, and say he has a very open, positive attitude toward life and laughs easily. Terry adds, “Everyone I’ve met has been very welcoming, and I look forward to many good times during my year in Franklin.”

After the next few months with the Hunts, Terry will move to a second host family, Sara and David Leddy. The Leddys, who like the Hunts have hosted RYE students in the past, are looking forward to welcoming Terry to their home and continuing to give him a great Franklin experience.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

(in our area)

- Aldrich Baptist Church
- American Legion Post 1689
- Bright Hill Literary Center
- Community Bible Church
- Compressor Free Franklin
- Croton Union Cemetery Association
- Franklin Community Education Foundation
- Franklin Democratic Committee
- Franklin Fire & EMS
- Franklin Food Pantry
- Franklin Free Library
- Franklin Garden Club
- Franklin Improvement Society
- Franklin Local
- Franklin RR & Community Museum
- Franklin Recreation Commission
- Franklin Republican Committee
- Franklin Rotary
- Future Farmers of America
- Kellogg-Franklin Trust
- Maywood Historical Group of Sidney Center
- Open Doors United Methodist Community
- Ouleout Valley Cemetery
- Plymouth Church
- St Paul's Episcopal Church
- Sidney Center Baptist Church
- Sidney Center Cemetery Association Trust
- Sidney Center Family and Friends Church
- Sidney Center Fire Department
- Sidney Center Food Pantry
- Sidney Center Improvement Group
- Stagecoach Run Art Festival
- Tabernacle of the Congregation
- Town-wide Conversation
- Treadwell Methodist Church
- Treadwell Community Improvement Club
- Treadwell Fire Department
- Treadwell Militia
- Treadwell Water Commission

*Editor's Note: In our spring issue, we plan to print a directory of local **volunteer organizations** with a brief descriptive text, contact information, and a logo or photo.*

*If you wish specific information to be included, please send it to [thenewfranklinregister@gmail.com](mailto:thenewfranklinregister@gmail.com) or mail to P.O. Box 258, Franklin NY 13775. his list is only tentative, so if you were overlooked, then please let us know.*

### PIPE, con't from Page 8

were hospitalized, and 38 homes were destroyed.

An aerial photo of the Guilderland Center railyard shows no pipe left except for the dozens of lengths that are covered with concrete to provide ballast. Was all that surplus steel sold for scrap and melted down? No. Recycling would have returned less than a penny on the dollar.

Williams shipped that pipe to construction sites scattered about the eastern United States. At first the company tried to resell the aged pipe through a broker, Tiger Commercial & Industrial Dispositions of California. It would seem there were few if any tak-

ers, because Williams is using most of the steel in its own pipeline projects.

A sixth of the stockpile did not travel far. It went to the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre region of Pennsylvania for the Regional Energy Access Expansion of the Transco pipeline. Williams' REAE began service just this August. About a third was shipped farther south to the Louisiana Energy Gateway 2.0 pipeline which is about to begin construction. Williams' LEG is to supply gas from the Haynesville Basin to Gulf Coast LNG facilities. Several lawsuits delayed the start, but the pipeline is expected to go in service in the second quarter of 2025. Smaller loads went to Indiana, Georgia, and maybe

## EQUALIZATION RATES 2024

100.0%	Roxbury
83.5	Hamden
75.0	Andes
71.5	Franklin
71.0	Walton
66.6	Masonville
62.7	Middletown
60.4	Kortright
60.4	Meredith
54.8	Sidney
51.2	Davenport
33.7	Delhi
16.8	Harpersfield
15.8	Stanford
14.0	Bovina
8.3	Hancock
3.5	Deposit
2.5	Tompkins
2.2	Colchester

The Equalization Rate is an estimate of how closely the town assessment value of all properties matches its market value as calculated by the NYS Department of Finances and Taxation.

Lower rates suggest a longer time since the last town-wide revaluation, which equalizes the tax burden.



**Your Rotary good citizens, from left to right:**

Thomas Collier  
Jack Siman  
Don Hebbard  
Gary Orton  
Kendall Beadle  
Hanna Van Deusen  
John Wilson

Say hello and thank you when you meet them on Main Street!

Florida. Has this pipe with the questionable EFB coating been used for smaller projects in-house because they are less likely to get scrutiny?

Decades from now, will this pipe be back in the news?

Published May 18, 2023: *"Pipeline Companies Use Expired Materials to Cut Costs, Flouting Regulations: Pipeline companies are using materials that have sat in the sun for years and are prone to corrosion."* By Bill Kitchen

<https://truthout.org/articles/pipeline-companies-use-expired-materials-to-cut-costs-flouting-regulations/>



The Newsletter of Franklin Local

Editorial Board

Ellen Curtis      Helen McLean  
Eugene Marner      Manette Berlinger  
Associate Editor: Brian Brock

Editor  
Marjorie Bradley Kellogg

**HAVE AN OPINION? WRITE TO US!**  
At: The New Franklin Register  
P.O. Box 258  
Franklin, NY 13775  
or by email: [nfr@franklinlocal.org](mailto:nfr@franklinlocal.org)

## What are we about?

Franklin Local Ltd, the parent organization for The New Franklin Register and the Franklin Farmers' Market, is a not-for-profit corporation made up of Franklin residents who volunteer their time to serve this community.

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

We generally meet once a month, at 7 P.M. at the Franklin Free Library. The date is posted on our website. All are welcome, to offer questions and help us answer them, to share thoughts and ideas, to make things happen.

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

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

Together, let us imagine a more energy efficient, healthier habit of living, and put it to work here in Franklin, for a brighter, more sustainable future.

**PLEASE JOIN US!**  
at  
**[franklinlocal.org](http://franklinlocal.org)**

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