



CONSTITUTIONAL CONSEQUENCES

By Brian Brock

As of early June, discussions continue about reviving of the Constitution Pipeline. However, the project has yet to be refiled with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. We do not know if this pipeline will receive final approval. If it does, what would constructing a major transmission pipeline for methane mean for the Town of Franklin?

This pipeline would run 10 miles across our town from southwest to northeast along the ridge between the Ouleout Creek and the Susquehanna River. It would cross beneath State Highway 357 below the East Sidney Reservoir and beneath State Highway 28 below Onontio Landscaping on Franklin Mountain.

Few landowners would see a payday. Williams Companies already holds easements on most of the right of way, signed and paid for a decade ago. But the few dozen landowners whose easements were seized by eminent domain have had their rights restored. The company would have to reacquire those easements through con-

See PIPELINE, continued on Page 18

FRANKLIN AMONG TOP LOSERS

By Susan Barnett

A June 6th article in the *Times-Union* of Albany announced research showing that, though New York State is getting back some of the half a million residents who left during the pandemic, the village of Franklin has seen one of the largest population drops in the state.

Long Island, the suburbs of New York City and Buffalo, and Hasidic Jewish communities downstate are seeing big population growth. But many upstate communities, according to the TU, are hemorrhaging,

despite the popularity of remote work during and after the pandemic. Since 2010, the village of Franklin is down 27%. With the figures broken down by villages and towns, Franklin ranks among the top three in the entire state, even though the village's population has increased in the past few years.

The article attributes the upstate losses to the usual suspects: limited jobs and lack of affordable housing, as well as lower birthrates. But college program cuts at SUNY Potsdam and extreme weather in Middleburgh were also responsible for big population drops.

See LOSER, continued on Page 17



LET'S RESTORE MAIN STREET!

By Hanna VanDeusen

As many may have heard, the Village of Franklin was recently awarded one million dollars through the Restore New York Communities Initiative.

Of course, we were thrilled to receive this news!

For a community as small as ours, we are not used to being awarded grants this big. It is encouraging that villages our size received the same attention as much larger municipalities. These funds will help with the restoration of buildings on Main Street, one of which has been in critical need of repair. While the village has been involved in



444 - 434 Main Street, Franklin

the process for quite some time, this grant isn't as well-known as others. I'd like to let you know what the grant is, the process that we have gone through, and what happens next.

The Restore New York Communities Initiative is a grant program that encourages community development and growth through the elimination or redevelopment of blighted struc-

tures. It provides financial assistance for the revitalization of commercial and residential properties. The grant must be initiated by the municipality and the property owners must come up with at least a 10% match to the funds. This information and more can be found at <https://esd.ny.gov/restore-new-york#objective>.

See GRANT, con't on Pg. 6



GOOD LAWS MAKE GOOD NEIGHBORS

By Teddie Storey

The Franklin town board and the planning board are mindful of the balancing act of providing for growth in our town while being protective and respectful of the rights and safety of the community and its residents.

In 2024, four new local laws were enacted, most of which were brought forward by the planning board with the assistance of the code enforcement officer and in compliance with the town's comprehensive plan.

First, in response to an increased interest in large-scale solar projects, a solar moratorium was enacted to give the town the opportunity to become better informed on issues per-

taining to commercial or community-based solar arrays. Language already exists in the town zoning law, permitting private roof-top or on-ground solar panels for personal use.

Second and third, a campground local law and a short-term rental local law were passed. Both provide language for the health and safety of guests while being respectful of the neighbors.

Fourth, an alternative energy local law was created to add solar power to the existing wind turbine language. Best practices by other municipalities were incorporated, both technical and environmental. Franklin's local laws are all filed with the Department of State and can be found at <https://local-laws.dos.ny.gov/>

In 2025, the planning board approached the town board for an escrow account local law. Its goal is

See LAWS, continued on Page 12

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COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



DELCOVERY
FIND · CONNECT · RECOVER

Visit delcovery.org
or scan QR to download app

DELcovery CAN HELP

By Amber Gray

Whether you or a loved one are considering recovery, just starting out, or are well on your way, Delaware County has recovery resources available to help you on your journey. The DELcovery project serves as a comprehensive resource hub, providing vital information on substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health resources for residents of Delaware County. By centralizing county resources, DELcovery facilitates easier access for those in need.

The DELcovery project offers a free mobile app, available on iOS and Android platforms, which provides users with a robust database of local resources

and contact information specifically tailored to individuals affected by SUD.

Leveraging social media and mobile technology, DELcovery aims to address the unique challenges faced by rural communities such as Delaware County. The initiative ensures that those affected by SUD and mental health issues have quick and easy access to relevant information and support through an online platform.

DELcovery can be accessed across various platforms including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and mobile app stores under the username "DELcovery," and at delcovery.org. For further inquiries or more information, please use the contact form on the website.

Download the app today at: <https://qrco.de/bfkVVc>



Time for coffee and snacks at the Franklin Farmers' Market!

FCS ALL-CLASS REUNION

By Connie Martin

The Franklin Central School Alumni Dinner Committee is finalizing plans to celebrate the annual Franklin Central School All-Class Reunion on Saturday, August 23, on Old Franklin Day. Mark your calendars!

FCS alumni will gather from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., beginning with soft drinks, BYOB, and snacks from 4:00 to 5:30. A sit-down barbecue dinner catered by O at Otego will follow at 5:30 p.m. Festivities will take place under a big tent on the lawn of St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 307 Main Street in Franklin.

Interested in a tour of FCS prior to the reunion? Meet at the school front doors at 3:00 p.m. for a walk down memory lane!

The Alumni Dinner Committee members are: Janet Branigan, President; Eileen Donnel, Secretary;

Sonja Johns, Treasurer; and members Jeff McCormack, Katherine Bouton, Bob Wisse, and Connie Martin.

President Janet Branigan said, "The reunion is a terrific way to top off Old Franklin Day. Many FCS alumni will already be on site to enjoy the day!"

Eileen Donnel, Secretary, added that the barbecue offers "a more casual vibe" to enjoy one of the last days of summer. "Everyone who attended last year said they had a wonderful time," she said. "We're looking forward to having even more alumni join us this year!"

Local resident Neil Ridell, a longtime sports referee and friend to many, will be the guest speaker, talking about local history and sports over the years. FCS alumni from any graduating year, along with their guests, are invited to attend, along with FCS faculty. There will be special reunion celebration cakes baked by Laura's Chocolates and Cakes of Franklin. BYOB is approved on the event premises.



This year, FCS commemorative stemless wine glasses and pint glasses will be available for purchase. They make great gifts!

Watch for reunion updates on Facebook and in our community poster. Please contact Sonja Johns, Alumni Dinner Committee Treasurer, by August 10 at kljohns@citlink.net or 607-434-7120 with questions and to make your reservation. Checks should be payable to Franklin Alumni Association and sent to: Franklin Alumni Association, 1403 Otego Road, Franklin, New York 13775.

We look forward to seeing you!

OUR HOMETOWN HEROES

By Connie Martin

Franklin and Treadwell are launching a Hometown Heroes Banner Program, which provides banner sponsors with the opportunity to honor past and present members of the armed forces and their family members. Members of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard and Space Force who have served or are serving during the following eras are eligible to participate:

- Global War on Terror (2001-Present)
- Persian Gulf War (1990-1991)
- Cold War (1945-1991)
- Vietnam War (1962-1975)
- Korean War (1950-1955)
- World War II (1941-1946)
- World War I (1917-1918)
- Spanish-American War (1898)
- Civil War (1861-1865)

A committee will set this program in action. Members are Missy Komenda and Lori Taggart of Franklin and Terry Huyck, Mark Doring, and Judy Doring of Treadwell, along with Steve Banks and Ken Taylor of The American Legion Ouleout Valley Post #1689.

Missy Komenda said,

"We have seen the Hometown Heroes banners prominently displayed in many of our surrounding communities as a moving tribute to our military. My husband, Jamie, and his brother Bill sponsored a banner to honor their father, James Stewart Komenda. His banner is displayed on Main Street in Otego."

Missy noted that the layout and design of this banner will be used for the banners being ordered for Franklin and Treadwell. The banners are 24" x 48" and are double-sided commercial grade vinyl. The cost of each banner is \$190.00, paid for by the sponsor of each banner. The cost includes the banner, banner straps, pole brackets, and banner installation along Main Street in Franklin or Treadwell. A completed order form and a photo of the veteran or active service member to be honored must be submitted and paid in full by September 1, 2025. Checks are payable to The American Legion Ouleout Valley Post #1689. Both digital photos and original printed photos are acceptable. After they are digitized, original printed photos will be returned to sponsors who provided them.

"We are very excited

about getting the program underway and hope that our communities will share our enthusiasm to honor our veterans and active service members," Missy said. "We look forward to hearing from all interested in participating in the program!"

To learn more about the Hometown Heroes Banner Program, contact one of the committee members for details and an order form:

Franklin

Missy Komenda: 607-287-3568 komenadabs@gmail.com
Lori Taggart: 607-829-8590 ltaggartus@yahoo.com

Mailing Address:

11740 County Highway 21,
Franklin, NY 13775

Treadwell

Terry Huyck: 607-829-8361
Mark Doring: 607-434-0365
Judy Doring: 607-434-0497



James Stewart Komenda's banner, Main Street, Otego



The New Franklin Register
NFR page:
<https://franklinlocal.org/nfr-all/>



Franklin Local
Franklin Local homepage:
<https://franklinlocal.org>



FRANKLIN LOCAL

Local News
Local Events

Local Issues
Local Concerns



A VIRTUAL HISTORY OF FRANKLIN

By AI Gemini

The history of the town of Franklin in Delaware County, New York, begins after the American Revolutionary War, when settlers of European descent started arriving, primarily from New England and downstate New York. The area was previously a wilderness visited by various Native American tribes and colonial hunters.

Originally part of Otsego County, Franklin played a role in the formation of Delaware County. The first meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors took place in Franklin in 1797. The town itself was officially formed in 1793 from a tract of land known as the Franklin Patent, named after William Franklin, Benjamin Franklin's son, who owned a significant portion of the land.

Early settlements clustered around Bartlett Hollow and Leonta. In 1800, Franklin established the first post office in Delaware County. The town's early economy was based on agriculture, particularly lumber and grain, later shifting towards dairying. The Catskill and Susquehanna Turnpike, passing through the area, spurred trade and the growth of settlements like Franklin and Treadwell.

The village of Franklin became the central hub of the town, especially after 1827 when John Edgerton laid out streets and lots. The village was incorporated in 1836. Education began early with a schoolhouse in Bartlett Hollow, and later, the Delaware Literary Institute was established in 1835, offering higher education.

Throughout the 19th century, Franklin saw the development of various institutions and businesses, including churches, a newspaper, and the First National Bank of Franklin. Community and fraternal organizations also flourished.

Today, Franklin is recognized for its well-preserved 19th-century architecture. The village of Franklin was designated a historic district and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. The town retains its rural character while also attracting retirees and those seeking second homes.

Editors' note: Artificial intelligence (AI) programs "hallucinate," making up parts of a story. Here, the second paragraph is largely invented, that is, false.

Actually, the first meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors took place at the Delhi home of Gideon Frisbee in 1797. Franklin was formed from parts of the Livingston, Clark, Lake, and White patents. At the time, William Franklin owned lands in Delaware County, but in what is now Town of Davenport on either side of Charlotte Creek.

The moral is: question everything!

KENNETH L.
BENNETT
FUNERAL HOME

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FRANKLIN, NY 13776

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FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH...

A REAL History of Village Improvement

By Tom Briggs

In the United States, as soon as several inhabitants have taken an opinion or an idea they wish to promote in society, they seek each other and unite together once they have made contact. From that moment, they are no longer isolated but have become a power seen from afar whose activities serve as an example and whose words are heeded.

— Alexis de Tocqueville

It has been 14 months since I retired as Village Mayor. I miss it, but at age 78, I'm satisfied that I've been replaced by someone younger, sharper, and much more energetic.

The Village of Franklin is special. It's so much bigger than what a small community of 275 or so normally looks like. It has two good restaurants, three antique and fine arts retail shops, a hometown museum, a quality summer theater, an eclectic coffee and gift shop, an epicurean food and wine store, a wonderful garden accessories shop, plus the other amenities typical to small towns in rural America. All of this makes for an interesting place to visit or to live in. Franklin also has several community volunteer groups that have enhanced the quality of life here over the years.

One such is the Franklin Improvement Society.

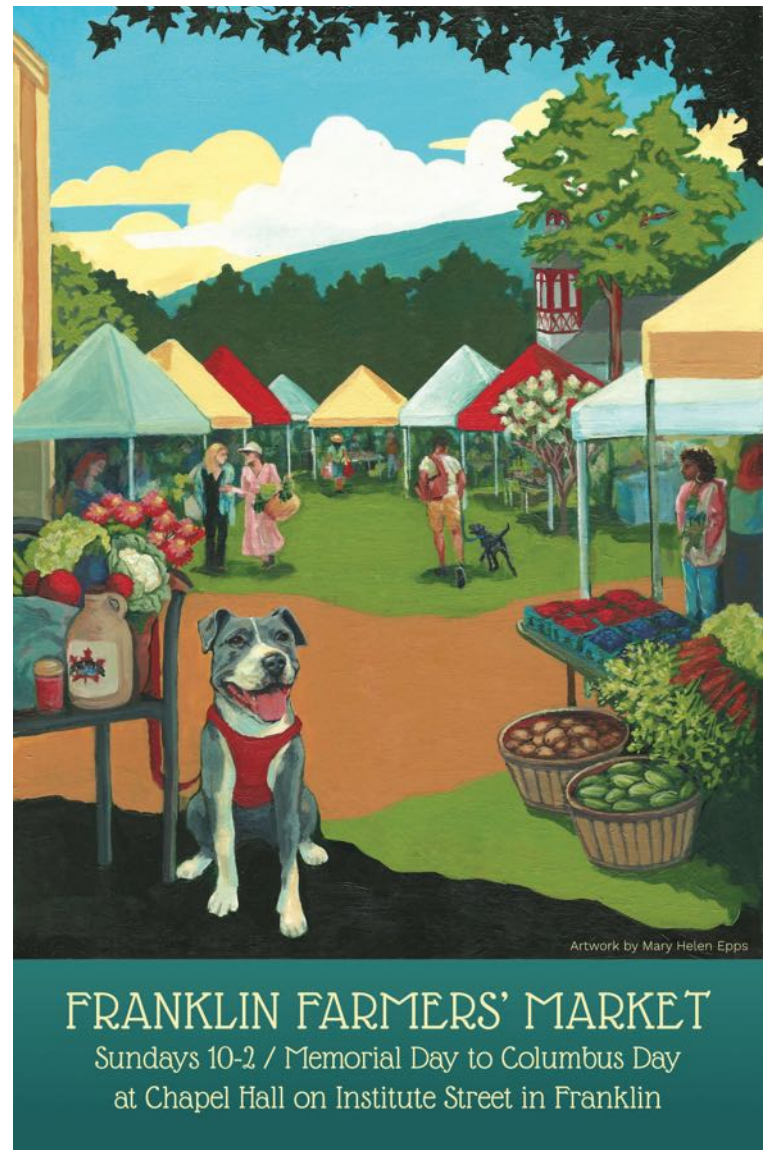
The Franklin Improvement Society (FIS) was formed in 2000 when two residents, Christine Geertgens and Linda Parrow, invited the public to a meeting at the school to explore interest in forming an improvement society. A series of meetings resulted in several initiatives. Jim Hartle, an art teacher at the school, created large welcome signs for the three entrances to the Village. The Advanced Arts class completed and had them installed in 2001 (two are still standing and are awaiting restoration). Around the same time, Joyce Fairchild suggested that the Improvement Society sponsor a Christmas Stroll (where village residents open their

homes for visitors to view) to serve as a fund raiser. The inaugural Stroll took place in 2002 and received widespread acclaim.

Charter members of the FIS included Chris Geertgens, Shirley Ferguson, Donna Archer, John and Nancy Cloonan, Jane Hebbard, Kathy Campbell, Ellen Curtis, Edmond Rinnooy Kan, Kaima Nelson Bowne, and Kim Hyzer. They won not-for-profit sta-

from Otsego and Delaware Counties and beyond.

In 2007, FIS members focused on the abandoned property next to the Parrow house. At the time it consisted of the foundations of two demolished buildings surrounded by a dense thicket of scrub bushes and trees and an accumulation of trash. A community-advised strategy was developed to purchase the property, donate



tus in 2004, which improved their ability to raise funds.

The FIS produced an annual calendar with images created by local artist Lisbeth Firmin. With such high-quality artwork, the calendars were very popular and generated much needed revenue. A FIS tree committee led by Jane and Jerry Hebbard was formed to plant streetside trees in the village, replacing those that were in distress or that threatened power lines. In 2007, FIS sponsored the first Franklin Farmers' Market. The next year, the market was adopted by Franklin Local (a local advocacy organization) and since then has become a popular Sunday attraction for visitors

it to the village, then clean it out, and develop it into a park. A landscape plan was submitted by Brigetta Brophy, Landscape Design instructor at SUNY Delhi. Volunteers cleared the area, installed water lines, electricity, constructed walls from the foundation stones, then planted trees, shrubs, flowers, and ground cover. Chris Pashley and his father Rick built a full-sized wooden tractor for a play area, as part of an Eagle Scout project. Nathan Banks created a metal sculpture. And the park flourished.

In 2010, Linda Parrow donated funds toward the purchase of a beautiful water fountain in memory of

See FIS, continued on Pg 13

SAVE THE DATE: OLD FRANKLIN DAY 2025!

AUGUST 23rd – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

By Connie Martin

Here are 10 good reasons to mark your calendars for Old Franklin Day:

The Free Pancake Breakfast is Back!

The Community Bible Church at 89 Center Street is offering a free pancake breakfast starting at 7 a.m. Later, they'll have free root beer floats in the afternoon.

Shop Local

Finished breakfast at the church? OFD festivities are just a short 2-block walk away! To date, we have close to 40 local artisans, crafters and vendors participating. Shop 'til you drop for vintage and antique items, artwork, artisanal glass, woodcraft, home décor, clothing, jewelry, accessories and more. Delicious locally made maple syrup products, jams, handcrafted chocolates and other treats also for sale.

Party with the Bands

Ready to boogie? Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Tom Morgan and Erna Morgan McReynolds, there will be great live music:

Back by demand, Off the Record Band will perform rock and country classics from 10 a.m. to noon.



The Bounce House

Our second band, to be named shortly, will follow at 1 p.m.

NEW – Kids & Adults Costume Contest and Kids Art Show!

Sign up your kids (and yourselves!) for the OFD costume contest and kids art show by emailing Mayor Hanna VanDeusen at mayor@villageoffranklinny.us. The contest starts at 1 p.m. Franklin Central School will be open for contestants to change into their costumes beforehand. Prizes will be awarded to both adults and kids for the most original, most creative, most authentic, and most magical costumes! Children's Art Show entries will be exhibited at the event.

Special Children's Activities

We will have our popular Bounce House, balloon art, glitter tattoos, games and more.

Delicious Eats at the Food Truck Court

You won't go hungry at the Fire Department food court on Main Street. The Ty's Taco-ria food truck will offer a choice of scrumptious items. Catskill Momos will have an array of delicious Asian dumplings. The American Legion will sell their famous barbecued chicken halves. Seating available in the Fire Department lot, in the Legion Hall, and in front of Franklin Stage Company and Franklin Central School.

St. Paul's Famous Pie Sale

The pie bakers at St. Paul's Episcopal Church will sell homemade apple, cherry, blueberry, peach, and strawberry rhubarb at their traditional pie sale fundraiser, under the big tent on the church lawn starting at 9 a.m. Last year, the St. Paul's bakers sold over 250 pies. Go early -- pies sell out quickly!



Franklin Rotary Club showcases their community and youth exchange programs

Learn About Community Organizations

Visit the Franklin Rotary Club table to learn about Rotary's educational and environmental programs and how you can get involved. Learn about the Franklin Community Education Foundation's programs over homemade lemonade. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the Greater Franklin Food Pantry will have information on community programs and resources. The Ouleout Valley Cemetery will be fundraising with T-shirt sales and other items. Check out the Franklin-Treadwell Community Conversation to learn more about their community activities.

Get Deals at Town-Wide Lawn Sales and Library Book Sale.

Maps will be available on Facebook and at the event.

Walk Around the Village

Stroll along Main Street and visit our local shops. The Tulip and the Rose restaurants will be open. The Franklin Railroad and Community Museum will be open with historical exhibits and activities in their parking lot.

Franklin Central School All-Class Reunion

Franklin Central School alumni from any graduating year, along with guests, are invited to party under the tent on the St. Paul's Church lawn from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. See article on Page 2 for details.

A Big Thank You to Our Old Franklin Day Sponsors*

Platinum:

Tom Morgan and Erna Morgan McReynolds
Tom and Cathy Farinaro
Wayne Bank

Gold:

Chen-Del-O Federal Credit Union
Franklin Rotary Club
Hebbard Fence
Morgan Stanley – The Table Rock Group at Mor-

gan Stanley

Bronze:

Daniel Branigan – Kaatirondack Senior Health Benefits

Upstate Country Realty


Kenneth L. Bennett Funeral Home
Polar Bear Ice Cream and More

Friend:

White's Farm Supply

*Sponsor list as of June 1st

Contact Connie Martin at candjmartin@fastmail.com or 201-414-1684 with any questions. Watch Facebook and franklinny.org/ofd25 for updates.



Weekly community class - Sundays 3:00PM-4:15PM

810 Heathen Hill Road, Franklin NY

SUSAN "LIP" OREM
Franklin 607 829 5328

All levels Welcome!

visit my web site at www.heathenhill yoga.net

VILLAGE BOARD BEAT

By Connie Martin, Village Trustee

Restore New York Grant Approved

The Village of Franklin has been approved for a \$1 million Restore New York Communities grant to assist in the repair and refurbishment of three buildings on Main Street. Kudos to former Mayor Tom Briggs, Mayor Johanna VanDeusen, former trustee John Wilson, property owner Meg Lavalette and the Restore New York grant team for making this grant happen. Please see Mayor VanDeusen's article on Page One for an in-depth review of the grant process and next steps.

Memorial Day Parade

A huge thank you goes out to the Memorial Day Parade Committee and all other Franklin and Treadwell community organizations and residents who participated to honor our veterans. The weather cooperated with blue skies and sunshine, too!

Summer Events

Ready to welcome summer? Our village picnic in Franklin Memorial Park kicked off the season on Sunday, June 22nd. Thank you to the Franklin Fire Department, Franklin Improvement Society, Franklin Rotary, Greater Franklin Food Pantry, Community Bible Church and other participants for making it happen!

We encourage everyone to enjoy our beautiful and bucolic park and the Edible Walking Trail throughout summer and fall.

The Stagecoach Run Art Festival takes place in Franklin and Treadwell on Saturday, July 5th and Sunday, July 6th.

Old Franklin Day is set for Saturday, August 23rd.

Swimming Season Splashes In on July 1st.

The Franklin Community Pool, the only facility of its kind for Franklin residents and surrounding communities, officially opens on July 1st. Thank you to our wonderful returning lifeguards and the new lifeguards who signed up! Later in July, there will be children's swimming and water safety lessons during the day and adult swimming lessons in the early evenings. The schedule will be announced on the Recreation Commission's Facebook page. Water aerobics instructor Linda Worden is back

See BEAT, continued on Page 12



The Pool Photo by John Wilson



Mayor Hanna and B.J. the Clown cavort at a previous OFD



The historic Maywood Railroad Station

MAYWOOD'S 40TH

By Darryl Loker

Happy Anniversary, Maywood!

The Maywood Historical Group of Sidney Center, Inc. was organized in 1985 and incorporated as a New York non-profit corporation in 1990. Its goal is to update and preserve all historical matter relating to Sidney Center.

“Sidney Centre” (in archaic spelling) was the name assigned to the village when the first Post Office was established in the early 1800’s. Earlier, only the Iroquois or Five Nations Indians inhabited the wilderness. The first non-native settlers were Jacob and Martha Bidwell, who came “over the hill” from the Ouleout (Franklin Area) in 1792. The Bidwells and other early settlers are buried in the Pioneer Cemetery in a field directly across from the present Sidney Center Highland Cemetery.

The Historical Group has a collection of nearly four thousand photographs organized in categories such as Schools, Church, People, Railroads, Street Scenes, etc., all scanned and stored digitally. We also have newspapers reporting important events. A newspaper originally published in Sidney Center later became The Tri-Town News. We have Sidney Center news items dating back to the late 1800’s, newspaper clippings about Sidney Center and surrounding areas including Franklin Depot (Smith Settlement), Youngs Station, and Merrickville. There is a large collection of obituaries of people from the Sidney Center area dating back to the 1800’s. We also have a large collection of railroad books, and the group sells books we have published, such as *Through The Years 1792-1992* (a history of Sidney Center) and *Down Memory Lane* (a reprint of the 1892 Centennial Sidney Center program and the 1992 Sidney Center Bicentennial program).

Sidney Center was known throughout the country for its two railroad trestles that formed a giant horseshoe curve around the village. The original wood-and-steel long trestle was 1400 ft. long and 100 ft. high. This was replaced in 1895 with an all-steel trestle 1220 ft. long and 96 ft. high. The shorter trestle was first all-wood, 1200 ft. long and 80 ft. high, then replaced in 1905 with an all-steel trestle 800 ft. long and 80 ft. high. New concrete abutments were poured at each end. The first train crossed the trestle in November 1871. It served the community (with lapses from time to time) until March 29, 1957.

The original builder was the New York Oswego Midland Railroad. When that went bankrupt, a new company, The New York Ontario & Western Railway was formed. The trains transported milk and farm

the Historical Group in July 1990 in memory of her parents Jess F. and Elgia Howes and her brother Jack Howes.

The Maywood Station had been abandoned for many years and was renovated with fund-raising proceeds, memorials, donations of money and materials, and many hours of volunteer labor. The spark that united the Historical Group and the village was the upcoming Bicentennial celebration in June of 1992. The O&W Railway Maywood Depot became the home of the Maywood Historical Group of Sidney Center, Inc. in 1991.

In the fall of 1992, following the very successful Sidney Center Bicentennial Celebration, the Maywood Historical Group started our Sunday night Maywood Depot Ice Cream Socials. This raises funds to support the Depot’s up-keep and cover fuel oil, electrical, and equipment maintenance expenses.

The socials run every Sunday evening, throughout the summer, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Music entertainment has been booked for every Sunday evening throughout this



SIDNEY CENTER O&W HORSESHOE TRETTLES
Photo from Clyde Conrow, Sidney

products, freight, coal, mail, and passengers. The Sidney Center Station was renamed Maywood to help solve freight mix-ups between Sidney (called Sidney Plains at the time) and Sidney Center.

After the closing of the railroad, the tracks were removed and the trestles dismantled. The long trestle was taken down in 1959 and the short trestle in 1961. Jess F. Howes, a local businessman, purchased the local railroad right-of-way, including the Depot, in 1961. After his death, his daughter Betty Jean Hunt and her husband Bill obtained the Depot and property from the estate. They donated it to

season. Come join friends and neighbors for a free fun-filled evening with live music, and enjoy ice cream, pies, soda, coffee, and other desserts for a nominal fee.

Besides the Sunday socials, The Depot is also open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon or by appointment. Call Darryl Loker at 607-865-7521.

* * * * *



Baker Street Park sign

SIDNEY CENTER MAYWOOD DEPOT

SUNDAY NIGHT ICE CREAM SOCIALS

MAY 25TH TO AUGUST 31ST.2025

6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

MAY 25TH	MICHAEL HAWVER
JUNE 1ST	RYLEE LUM
JUNE 8TH	JUDY PITEL
JUNE 15TH	RANDY HULSE
JUNE 22N	BILL SENESCHAL
JUNE 29TH	BILL SENESCHAL
JULY 6TH	RANDY HULSE
JULY 13T	BROOKSIDE TRIO
JULY 20TH	LORI & RICK FRENCH
JULY 27TH	JAKE COTTON & KRYSTAL LEE
AUGUST 3RD.	GARY JENNINGS
AUGUST 10TH	BOB MESMER
AUGUST 17T	ELLEN HARRINGTON
AUGUST 24TH	JIM DORN
AUGUST 31ST	JIM DORN

MOVIES! POPCORN!

Summer Fun in Sidney Center

By Carol Ohmart Behan

Photos by the author

Sidney Center’s *Uplift Collective*—formerly the Sidney Center Improvement Group—is inviting everyone to come and enjoy Movie Nights in Baker Street Park on June 20th and July 18th. Both are Friday nights with rain dates on the next evenings. Movies begin at dusk. Titles are TBA as of this writing and will be publicized closer to the dates on our Facebook page and on WCDO Radio’s Community Events page. The gentle slope next to the pavilion makes a perfect viewing space for blankets and lawn chairs. Popcorn, baked goods, and cold drinks will be available.

Baker Street Park is open from dawn to dusk and is a great place to spend a summer afternoon or evening. There is ample and easy parking. The extensive revitalization of the park which began in 2017 and culminated in its dedication in 2023, created a community gem alongside a pretty stream that flows into Willow Brook. There is a fitness and walking trail around the perimeter, a well-maintained basketball court, a pavilion with picnic tables and benches, the striking 56-foot Community Art Mural, and an inviting playground for young children, equipped with eco-manufactured ride-ons and climbing equipment. Benches placed along the walking trail offer comfortable seats to enjoy the park’s beauty and views of the wooded hills around Sidney Center.

Culminating the season will be the Third Annual Down Home Fall Fest on Sunday, October 5th. Once again it will be a day of celebrating our community with local musicians, food and other vendors, basket raffles, historical exhibits, and a visit from the Four County Library System’s Bookmobile. Join us in seeing out the summer and welcoming in the fall.

Note: Our Facebook page will be updated in June to reflect our new name, but the “old” link should still offer connection: <https://www.facebook.com/SCIGNY>



The community-created mural in Baker Street Park

kitchen basics with Carla Nordstrom

SUMMER SALADS

I love late spring when herbs push up through the ground. Thyme, oregano, tarragon, chives, mint, wisps of dill, and occasional sprigs of cilantro appear throughout my garden. Thyme has taken over parts of my lawn and mint, with a mind of its own, moves around the beds like a conquering aggressor. With these additions of fresh herbs, salads come alive.

To brighten up a green salad, I throw a handful of herbs into a mini food processor with a teaspoon of Dijon mustard, a couple of teaspoons of good quality white wine vinegar and top it off with twice the amount of olive oil. I process until it becomes a flavorful green dressing. If you don't have a mini processor, a simple jar will do, mince the herbs and shake the jar.

Serving salad before, during, or after a meal is a personal preference. An old tale explains why Americans serve salad before the main course. When the pioneers crossed the prairies, mothers insisted on salad first so kids would get their greens. Who knows where they found salad greens while crossing the Great Plains – dandelions, perhaps?

I'm a salad after the meal kind of gal, perhaps because my mother was a little pretentious and insisted on doing it the European way.

One trick my mother taught me is put ½ teaspoon Dijon mustard in the bottom of a salad bowl with 1 tsp. vinegar, 3 tsp. olive oil, and pepper. Stir vigorously to form an emulsion, then layer in raw veggies and top with lettuce. Toss when ready to serve, and the lettuce will remain crisp.

A wonderful salad combination that is easy to assemble is lettuce, slices of red pepper, and a handful of walnuts with a herb or vinaigrette dressing.

Now that fresh mozzarella is available in Franklin at Good Taste Epicurean Food Market on Main Street, the simplicity of a caprese salad will hit the spot when the tomatoes come in.

Arrange slices of tomato, mozzarella with fresh basil leaves on a platter.



Photo by Andy Bobrow

Drizzle with balsamic vinegar and olive oil.

An easy option for asparagus or string beans is nuke or boil until barely cooked. Cool down by covering with cold water. Arrange on a plate, sprinkle with diced red pepper to provide color, sliced scallion, and parsley. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar and olive oil.

Thinly sliced raw zucchini or fennel becomes a salad with the addition of a dressing. In a small jar press a crushed garlic clove and pepper into freshly squeezed lemon juice, and a little more olive oil. Toss with the vegetables and sprinkle fresh mint on top.

If you are fortunate enough to have fresh tuna (canned tuna will do), Salad Nicoise is a terrific summertime treat. Sear the tuna on the grill so that it is still red in the middle and slice it. Boil or nuke sliced potatoes and sprinkle white wine vinegar while still hot. Barely cook string beans and cool in cold water. Shred a carrot or two. Place a layer of lettuce on a large platter, with the tuna piled center stage, and heaps of potatoes, green beans, and carrots on either side. Garnish around the edges of the platter with wedges of tomato, cucumber, peppers, and quartered hard boiled eggs. Sprinkle the top with olives, capers, thinly sliced scallion, and parsley. Bring to the table, pour on herb or vinaigrette dressing and toss.

Put away those bottles of salad dressing in your fridge and invest in good quality white wine and balsamic vinegars, and olive oil. Use the herbs and veggies from your garden to enhance your summer salads.

If you don't have a garden, a local farmers' market will have everything you need. .



Greater Franklin Food Pantry
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info@greaterfranklinfoodpantry.org
GreaterFranklinFoodPantry.org
facebook.com/GreaterFranklinFoodPantry

Food Pantry in Franklin Open Fridays 2-4PM or by appointment

Individuals or families residing in the town of Franklin, including Treadwell, may use the pantry once a month. First-time customers are required to fill out a brief confidential questionnaire.

We welcome donations:

- Please mail checks to our PO Box or use online form
- Food (non-expired) may be dropped off during pantry hours, or call to arrange another time or pickup



greaterfranklinfoodpantry.org

GRANT, continued from Page 1



Photo by Tony Breuer

The Village of Franklin approached applying for this grant a few years ago. Working together with the property owners and Delaware County Economic Development, it was decided that the village would endorse the application. This was our third time application. Each time, the process required a notice in the newspapers of a public hearing, a public hearing to discuss the grant application, and the passing of a resolution to begin the application process. Glenn Nealis and Lindsay Whitbeck at Delaware County Economic Development provided valuable insight and tireless hours in this process.

One detail not advertised very much is that the village acts as manager of the funds. Once the renovations are done, the village acquires the funds to distribute as a reimbursement. Though we have this wonderful news, we await the specifics on when restoration work can begin on 438-444 Main Street.

When these mostly vacant buildings are restored to their prior glory, they will have space for businesses and housing. In addition to inviting new businesses, having more space available increases the options for our existing businesses, and more housing is in need almost everywhere.

I am very excited to see the work begin and even more excited to see how beautiful our Main Street will look once it is complete. If you have questions, please reach out to me at

mayer@villageoffranklinny.us.

And be sure to follow progress reports on the village's social media page.

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A PLACE FOR DIALOGUE

The NFR talks with Mark Handelman

Photos by Tony Breuer

On May 25th, after what felt like weeks of solid rain and gray, the weather finally broke for the 'soft' opening of Good Taste Fine Wine & Spirits, the long-awaited adjunct to Good Taste Epicurean Food Market, just off Main Street in Franklin. A wine tasting was held in the new store, and a cheese tasting in the food market next door. A jazz band generated a cool, up-tempo mood and the crowds streamed in, forming lines at both counters and cheerful conversation groups outside in the parking lot and on the food market's entry terrace.

In preparation for this happy event, the NFR sat down with owner Mark Handelman for a bit of a backstory about the store and his vision for it.



Store owner Mark Handelman weighs gourmet cheese

NFR: What brought you to Franklin?

MH: Originally, I was looking for a store in Gilbertsville, and that didn't work out. I visited several different towns; Morris, Sydney, Oneonta.... Then I came to Franklin.

What impressed me about Franklin... there was a good vibe here. An interesting energy. A lot of street traffic, local people out on the street. Many of the other towns, nobody was around.

In Franklin, I really liked what I saw, what I felt. There was a good feeling! I talked to people. I went into Yokel – they'd just opened there – and I spoke to the people working there. Everybody seemed so happy and so pleasant. I met with Meg [Lavalette] about one of her storefronts on Main Street. She wanted to rent it as a restaurant, but I wasn't interested in opening a restaurant.

Meg had also shown me this grey building behind the main building at 438 Main. At the time, it was a cabinet maker's workshop and it was hard to imagine it could be what I was looking for. I went away and kept looking but still couldn't find anything to match my initial enthusiasm for Franklin. A couple of weeks later, I decided to go back and rent the grey building...this building.

NFR: Did you come with a concept or did you shape the store to the space and the location?

MH: I came with a concept. I wanted to open a store for people who liked to cook but couldn't find the ingredients they wanted in supermarkets, or if they could, it'd be twelve supermarkets, one thing here, one thing there,

but here it would all be in one place. Why a specialized food market? ...because I like to cook. And when I retired from my career as a CEO of non-profit, human service organizations and moved here from Pennsylvania, I could not find the type of ingredients and food products I could find conveniently where I'd lived before. If I wanted to make an Italian meal, I could get high quality Italian ingredients locally. If I wanted to make an Asian meal, I could go to a nearby Asian food market. Of course, my concept has been refined since I opened the market. I mean, customers tell you what they like. It's been a reciprocal process. I've been introducing people to artisan food products they didn't know about, and they've been showing me things they like that I didn't know about, and my inventory has expanded and improved.

Then after a while, it became clear that this could be more than a grocery store, even a specialized grocery store, that it had the potential to be a sort of community center. I learned of the art community here and saw I could offer my walls to local artists to show their work. I saw this could be more than just a business, that I could provide a community service as well, and we started doing things like showing Bruce Goddard's paintings, showing documentary art videos and hosting musical concerts.

And then somebody said, "You really should have coffee here." I had already been selling coffee beans from local roasters, but he meant brewed coffee. He said, we need a place to sit down, to have coffee and talk. I said OK but it will be complementary coffee. It isn't like people come in to have lunch and a cup of coffee... this is a place where you can get a cup of coffee when you're *not* having lunch.

Later, someone said: this place is the new community barbershop, which I thought was



a great line. People were meeting each other here, hanging out and catching up, even though I had no tables because I didn't want it to be a restaurant.

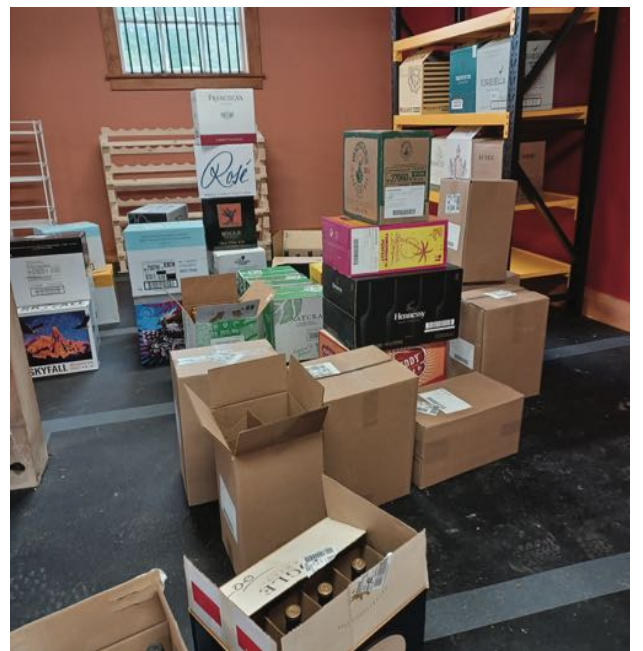
NFR: What about adding the liquor store? Was that always part of your vision?

MH: Always. A wine glass was always part of our logo. Cheese and wine are complementary, people would come into the food market and say, "Oh, you've got cheese, but where's the wine?"

Anyhow, after a few months here, I became a member of the Franklin Rotary Club's mental health committee. There are very few resources in upstate New York for people dealing with the sort of issues I'd been involved with all my professional life, such as services for developmental disabilities, mental health issues, or substance abuse issues. Plus I saw a need for community dialogue about these problems. Initially my thinking was too simplistic: if there are mental health issues, we need a mental health clinic. But the response was, no. People won't come. They don't want to be stigmatized.

NFR: People say that about using the food pantry.

MH: Well, that's right. And I said, okay, then we need a multipurpose



Unboxing the wine as the opening nears - NFR Staff Photo

recreational, educational, cultural community center, and within that, you could offer food assistance and many other services, but they would be disguised. No one would know why somebody was walking into the building. But the response was, no, that would still be a problem because in general, people here have some difficulty with differences, for example, whether you offer help or need help, the attitude is that the people on the other side "are not like me." It's a two-way problem, and there needs to be dialogue about how people can accommodate differences.

NFR: How do we encourage that dialogue?

MH: Well, people have different opinions about how to accomplish that. Some feel that structured get-togethers won't work because people won't come. But if you could approach people individually or in small informal groups, and enough of that goes on, then maybe we can get to the next step, which is a fuller community dialogue.

NFR: Do you feel your store can foster that dialogue?

MH: I think it already does - without any structure or organizational effort. It's like that old barbershop, where people came together informally and engaged with each other. I see it happen throughout the week, with people of all ages. And they obviously feel comfortable. There's no organized effort. It's just organic. It's because of the coffee and...

NFR: Because you give them the time.

MH: And I give them the time, and I engage with them, except about politics (laughs).

This is a great town with great people. Some people are very opinionated, some are more open-minded, some are liberal, some are conservative. But everyone has been helpful and welcoming and supportive, so I was right from the beginning...I knew this was a good place for me to be.



A cool combo plays jazz at the opening NFR staff photo



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INSIDE LOCAL REAL ESTATE with SUSAN BARNETT

FRANKLIN IS “HOT.” Now What?

At the start of June, an unheard-of five village homes came on the market in Franklin. The marketing was all about the “buzz” around this little upstate community, and how “hot” Franklin is. At least, that’s what the marketing says.

As far as I know, four of these five homes were bought as investments, either as short term rentals, or bought to be renovated and flipped. But the race to snap up country properties and rent them out appears to be slowing in our area. There are clear signals that the economy is causing everyone real concern about overextending – whether it’s owning a second home or buying a new one.

Franklin has some unusually sophisticated shops, and they’re still drawing visitors who are spending money, and that’s good for the local economy. Online and in person, locals complain about businesses that aren’t geared toward them. But Amazon, Walmart, and the other big chains now offer everything

small businesses used to stock, and they’ll sell it cheaper. This spelled the end for small businesses all over the country. These days, a small business has to appeal to visitors, or offer online shopping as well, in order to survive.

If part of Franklin’s survival relies on tourism, there are lessons to be learned from places that have been through this before. For what it’s worth, I saw this elsewhere first-hand, and it may predict what we’ll be dealing with.

I grew up just outside of Woodstock in Zena, a community that sent its kids to Kingston public schools. Kingston was a thriving small city back then, thanks to a sprawling IBM plant on its outskirts. Woodstock was a tourist town. There were small businesses that catered to locals, a few shops for tourists and the musical celebrities who lived quietly on the mountain-side. IBM brought in so many new families that Zena opened its own elementary school.

When I came back to New York years later, things were very different. Woodstock was aging. So were its visitors. Businesses were struggling. Kingston was even worse

off. IBM had moved out, jobs were gone. Whole neighborhoods began to look abandoned or uncared for. Kingston was dying. Woodstock had been closing schools one by one, and Zena was the first to go.

But something started happening. Young people from New York City rediscovered the Catskills, as they seem to every generation. It was an easy bus ride from Port Authority, with stops in New Paltz, Kingston, and Woodstock. And before long, they were coming regularly.

Woodstock became an Airbnb hub, and most of the visitors were younger than fifty. That was new. Investors began to build hotels and lodging, which Woodstock had very little of for many years. Now it’s a high-end tourist town. Housing prices are through the roof, many owners don’t live there full time, and no one local can afford to buy a house there.

Kingston, surprisingly, became an even bigger draw with young people. The charm of its uptown Stockade District and the downtown Rondout area, the art, the proximity to the mountains and rivers, the growing number of “hipster” dining and shopping opportunities, and then the pandemic, created a real estate explosion. As always happens when a town becomes a tourist destination, housing prices rocketed up. At one point, I read that prices were rising faster than anywhere else in the country. Real estate sites now say the price of an average (not big,

hardly any yard) house in Kingston is between \$395,000 and \$410,000, and that’s conservative.

Consequently, Woodstock and Kingston are dealing with an issue that always accompanies a big increase in tourism – the lack of affordable housing.

Enter the Rural Ulster Preservation Corporation (RUPCO). RUPCO is a non-profit organization that focuses on creating affordable and senior housing in Ulster County. and they’ve been very, very busy for many years. They’ve repurposed old mills and hotels, renovated multi-family homes, and built new housing. There’s still a lot more needed, but we can find a lesson here.

I cannot predict what the future holds. No one can. If Franklin can attract both visitors and new residents, thereby bringing money into the local economy, that’s a win. A bigger win is if families choose to move here full-time. But if we want to attract and keep local families, affordable housing and senior housing must become a priority.

It’s late, but it’s not too late. The town, the village, and all who live here need to start thinking seriously about how we can create enough affordable housing so families and seniors won’t be priced out of our area. That is, if we don’t want Franklin to become another million-dollar weekend and summer town.

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

RECENT REAL PROPERTY SALES IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

DATE	LOCATION	ACRES	TYPE	ASSESS	SALE	SELLER	BUYER
01/30/25	1955 St Hwy 28 S	62.41	Rural Res	150,000	315,000	Perrella, Frank	Hilton, Mary Catherine
02/25/25	2285 Jackson Hill Rd (2)	105.20	Rural Res	235,000	315,600	Horwitz, Frank	Vogel, David M
03/03/25	351 Round Top Rd	2.60	1 Family Res	136,000	270,000	Fogarty, Robert	Scolnik, Ellen
03/06/25	64 Olin Evans Rd	17.00	Mfg Housing	68,000	28,000	Hazlett, Robert E	Mills, Kelly
03/08/25	State Highway 28 S	2.80	Rural Vac<10	10,000	3,058	Tafoya, Dennis (R)	Alignment Invest. LLC
03/15/25	1059 St Hwy 28 S (2)	4.70	1 Family Res	110,000	199,000	Sage, Roberta	Neary, Gillian Kathleen
03/18/25	Hillside Rd	27.00	Rural Vac>10	100,000	-	Lennon, Yoko (R)	Imagine Peace Trust
03/18/25	Walley Rd	9.14	Rural Vac<10	30,000	-	Lennon, Yoko (R)	Imagine Peace Trust
03/25/25	W Plattner Brook Rd	1.60	1 Family Res	150,000	75,486	Cable, Racquel (R)	Derks, Daniel
04/08/25	61 Water St	0.13	1 Family Res	95,000	175,000	Dawson, Justin	Hafner, Linda
04/25/25	Freer Hollow Rd (2)	10.32	Rural Vac<10	42,000	45,000	Balduini. Douglas	Ramirez, Jorge
05/13/25	450 Main St (2)	0.07	Attached Row	95,000	-	Franklin Main St LLC	Osmanli Prop LLC (Q)
(2) Two parcels					(R) Relative	(Q) Quitclaim	

Quitclaim transfers any interest in a property to another party without guaranteeing validity of that interest or providing warranties.



Franklin Rotary gathered at the Open Doors Church in preparation for picking up roadside trash
Photo by Tony Breuer.

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MODERN DAIRYING

By Frances Ruth Harris

Photos by Matt Hanehan

This March, the Bainbridge Lions visited the Hanehan Family Dairy of Distinction in Mt. Upton.

Two brothers, Kurt and Matt, run the operation together with other family members. The cows are monitored 24/7 by their identity collars. Internet-connected “smart” collars are helping dairy producers track the specific movements and patterns of their cows. There are no bulls on this dairy farm. Each cow is artificially inseminated based on the information on the smart collars and the farmers’ scheduling. The round milking parlor can milk 72 cows at a time.

The dairy also sells sweet corn in season and pumpkins in the fall.



The Hanehan herd at their milking stations



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SUMMER SHADE

In summer, shade is an alluring oasis, filled with ferns and big-leaved charmers, ideally with comfy chairs for resting as you gaze out at the shimmering heat of the vegetable garden. Maybe a small fountain splashes nearby, and a light breeze blows away those pesky mosquitoes. Yes, shade is great.

I prefer the shade, and many beautiful plants do also. You may already grow varieties of hosta, astilbe, foxglove, and columbine. Here are some other plants to consider for your summer shade garden.

Shrubs: *Hydrangea quercifolia* (oak leaf hydrangea) is one of my favorite shade-loving shrubs, with its creamy white panicles in summer and its leaves that turn shades of red and orange in autumn. The species grows eight feet in height and width. The cultivar ‘Ruby Slippers’ is half that size.

To lighten shade, use *Aralia cordata* ‘Sun King’ with its bright yellow leaves or *Cornus alba* ‘Elegantissima’ (variegated red-twig dogwood) with its green and white variegation.

For moist shade, plant *Clethra alnifolia* ‘Ruby Spice’ and *Chelone lyonii* ‘Hot Lips.’ These cultivars both have pink blossoms in summer.

Perennials: There are many *Ligularia* species that love partial to full shade and moist soil. My favorite is *Ligularia japonica*, which has large deeply cut leaves punctuated by stalks of golden daisies in mid-summer. In bloom, it is five feet tall and four feet wide. In my garden, it is not bothered by snails and slugs, maybe because I also have several of its slug-magnet cousins, like *Ligularia* ‘The Rocket,’ *L.* ‘Desdemona,’ and *L.* ‘Osiris Fantaisie.’

Actea simplex (baneberry) is a shade lover that grows four to six feet tall and three feet wide. The cultivars ‘Brunette’ and ‘Hillside Black Beauty’ both sport purple-black foliage and produce highly fragrant wands in late summer. *Astrantia major* ‘Ruby Cloud’ (masterwort) has reddish star-like blossoms on two-foot stems. It will seed around a bit unless you deadhead.

Heuchera (coral bells) is available in many leaf colorations, with marbling, frosting and streaking effects. There are hundreds

GREENBANKS GARDENING



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of cultivars. Some provide prominent, colorful spires while others have appeal due to their beautiful leaves. The Mt. Cuba botanic garden in Delaware did a three-year trial evaluation of 83 *Heuchera* hybrid cultivars. You can review their recommendations by searching online for Mt. Cuba *Heuchera*.

Tradescantia x Andersoniana Group ‘Sweet Kate’ (spiderwort) is a lovely plant with golden leaves and deep blue flowers in early summer. It likes part shade and does not spread by runners like its relatives. *Tricyrtis* (toad lily) has intricate orchid-like blossoms in late summer or early fall, often in shades of purple and white. There are numerous cultivars.

Japanese anemones like part shade and some moisture. They bloom in late summer to early fall and spread slowly by rhizomes. *Anemone tomentosa* ‘Robustissima’ has shell pink flowers on two to three-foot stems. *Anemone x hybrida* ‘Honorine Jobert’ floats its white blossoms above the foliage on four-foot stems.

Ground covers for shade keep weeds to a minimum and maintain soil moisture. The wild gingers have ornamental leaves and slowly spread via rhizomes. *Asarum europaeum* (European wild ginger) has shiny round leaves. *Asarum canadense* (the native wild ginger) has somewhat larger heart-shaped leaves.

Lamium (dead nettle) is a ground cover that is evergreen in mild winters. *Lamium* ‘White Nancy’ is one of the best, with silver leaves and white blooms. ‘Orchid Frost’ and ‘Shell Pink’ also have silver leaves, accompanied by pink flowers.

Hakonechloa (Japanese forest grass) forms grass-like clumps and spreads slowly by rhizomes. ‘All Gold’ has bright yellow foliage and is easy to establish. *H. Aureola* has golden leaf blades with narrow green stripes near the edges. The leaves cascade like a waterfall.

Ferns provide beauty throughout the summer. My favorites are *Adiantum pedatum* (northern maidenhair fern) and *Athyrium niponicum* (Japanese painted fern). The northern maidenhair fern has black stems holding delicate green fronds upright, growing in a circular pattern. Japanese painted ferns exhibit some combination of purple, blue, silver, and green on their fronds.

Another beauty is *Athyrium filix-femina* ‘Victoriae,’ a lady fern that has fronds with criss-crossing and crested tips, giving a complex and twisted appearance. These ferns all have a small stature of one to two feet. There are many other wonderful ferns, such as the autumn fern (*Dryopteris erythrosora*), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), and the royal fern (*Osmunda Regalis var spectabilis*).

Vines: There are even Clematis that will bloom in partial shade. The non-climber ‘Alionushka’ provides three-inch mauve bells. *Clematis viorna* and *Clematis addisonii* also do fine in partial shade.

Other vines to consider include climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea anomala subsp. petiolaris*), coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*), and Dutchman’s pipe (*Aristolochia durior*).

Shade can be beautiful in every season. Now you just need those chairs.

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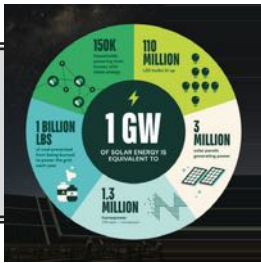
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BULLETS THAT KILL TWICE

Press Release

The Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society (DOAS) has asked the City of Oneonta to require the use of non-toxic ammunition for hunting on city-owned lands, both inside and outside city limits. In a May 13 letter to Mayor Drnek and Common Council members, DOAS states that spent lead ammunition in deer carcasses poses a serious threat to both humans who consume venison and to wildlife that scavenge wounded deer and deer entrails left after field dressing.

According to DOAS co-president Andrew Mason, the letter was prompted by recent action by the Common Council's Legislative Committee to amend the city code to allow use of firearms on city-owned lands within the city as a possible expansion of the city's deer management plan.

"We support the deer management plan," Mason said. "There is no question there is a deer overpopulation problem in the city causing human conflicts, vehicle

collisions, and ecological damage. And we understand that firearms may be necessary if other options fall short. However, lead ammo is an unacceptable risk to hunters, their families, and anyone who eats venison. It is also a well-documented cause of mortality in bald eagles and other scavenging wildlife."

A public hearing on the modifications to the Parks and Recreation Chapter of the city municipal code is scheduled for June 3, 6 p.m. in City Hall.

The Audubon letter states: "Lead is a well-recognized toxin, with no blood level considered safe by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. On-



going efforts to remove lead from paint, gasoline, drinking water and plumbing—including in the City of Oneonta, packaging, and other sources, have had success. However, this substance remains a health threat, particularly to children who can experience nervous system, brain and other organ damage, leading to learning disabilities and behavior problems."

"Lead ammo is a leading remaining risk to humans," Mason said. "Lead bullets spread widely within a targeted animal with lead fragments as far as 14" from an entry wound in white-tailed deer. Even microscopic lead particles are found in venison." According to Mason, a recent study of venison samples from local food banks showed that 19% of packages of ground venison contained lead. "Would we ever allow such an adulterated food to be sold?"

He also noted the significant number of bald eagles found sick or dead from lead poisoning after ingesting lead-shot deer and remains. "A fragment of lead the size of a grain of rice can kill an eagle," he said. "Wildlife rehabilitators regularly attempt to save these birds, with little success. Lead

causes neurological and vision problems that keep eagles from hunting successfully even if released." He pointed out that there is a spike in poisoned eagles following big game hunting season.



Oneonta enjoys a sizeable population of bald eagles along the Susquehanna River and on city-owned lands around Wilber Lake, the city's drinking water supply where hunting with lead ammo is allowed, said Mason. "We can help them survive with a simple change to non-toxic ammo."

There are readily available alternatives to lead bullets, said Mason, at a slightly higher cost. "Hunters who have used this ammunition, primarily copper bullets, have found it ballistically superior to lead. We have no interest in stopping hunting—we just don't want the bullets to kill twice."

GOOD WORKS IN BAINBRIDGE

By Frances Ruth Harris

PICKIN' UP THE MESS:

A dozen Bainbridge Lions attacked the garbage, paper toss outs, and a whole lot more along High-



Above, L to R, Lions Ethan Mazzarella and Danny Gardmer tackle the trash.



Above, Lion Danny Gardner hauls a fully loaded bag and tire up the hill

way 206 on the 27th of April. The Bainbridge Lions Club has two miles of Interstate 88 as their "adopted highway." This portion of the highway includes the exit and entrance ramps and features the eastbound and westbound rock cuts.

Highway cleanup days are coordinated with the New York State Department of Transportation. The DOT provides signage, safety equipment and cleanup tools.

The recovered trash was taken to the Brisben Transfer Station in Chenango County. It was cold and wet, and the Bainbridge Lions were a star crew, completing their two miles.

The garden club and the Boy Scouts joined the effort and cleaned up the parking lot.



GOING BATS:

This March, the Bainbridge Lions constructed two bat boxes to be hung as permanent fixtures in Clinton Park, providing a place that bats can successfully hibernate, each against the other, during the winter months. The body size of a little brown bat is no bigger than an adult human's thumb. Each bat eats 4-8 grams (about the weight of a grape) of insects each night. Bats love to eat mosquitoes. The Bainbridge Lions encourage everyone to install a bat box in their yard.



Among those who helped to construct the bat boxes, left to right, Connie Evans, Bob Evans, Pat McCann, Brendan Evans, and Paul Cliffe, showing the slots the bats cuddle in for their winter hibernation. Not pictured: Pete Taggart and Jeff Anderson.



CLOTHING THE WORLD

By Suzanne Patrick

Have you ever wondered what happens to the clothing you put in the beige shed on Hill Street? Have you ever wondered who benefits from the clothing you donate? Well, I have the answers for you.

The shed was installed by St. Pauly Textile, Inc. in western New York. They are a not-for-profit company which purchases the donated clothing. The shed is currently operated and maintained by a student from Franklin Central School under the auspices of the Community Bible Church. All money generated from the sale of the clothing goes to the Franklin Community Educational Foundation (FCEF). The student operator does not receive compensation for this work, nor does the Community Bible Church, which started this project in the first place.

St. Pauly Textile sells and distributes the clothing all over the US and the world to foreign governments, relief organizations, the United Nations, private companies, and the U.S. government. This is the most cost-effective way for these organizations to get large quantities of clothing to people in the communities they serve. The clothing is sold in bulk for pennies on the pound.

As you clean out your closets this year, please consider putting your unwanted clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, linens, pillowcases, blankets, curtains, and stuffed animals in the Hill Street shed.

You will be supporting the schoolchildren of Franklin, as well as people all over the world.

GOAT WALKABOUTS

HERDING IN THE CATSKILLS



ROAMONTHERANGE.INFO

WHAT ARE THE ODDS?

By Brian Brock

Reviving the Constitution Pipeline has been proposed, but how probable is it? Many stars would have to align for it to go forward. Various governmental agencies would have to approve the project; a drilling company would have to supply the gas; another company would have to build the 125 miles of pipe, compressors, and valves; the hundreds of millions of dollars in costs must be financed; and power generators and utilities would have to sign long-term contracts to use the gas. Maybe even the people will have a say in the matter.

Federal Government

January 20th – only hours after his inauguration – Trump signed an executive order declaring a National Energy Emergency which singled out the Northeast and West Coast where “numerous problems are most pronounced” including “insufficient energy production, transportation, refining, and generation.”

Less than a month later, after signing an executive order establishing the National Energy Dominance Council, Trump gave a press briefing in the Oval Office where he said it was time to resur-

rect Constitution. “We are going to get this done, and once we start construction, we’re looking at anywhere from nine to 12 months, if you can believe it. It will bring down the energy prices in New York and in all of New England by 50, 60, 70 percent.” Trump indicated that he would meet with state governors to discuss the project’s future.

State Governments

In mid-March, President Trump and Governor Hochul met to discuss unspecified “energy policy.” Two months later, the outline of their bargain took shape. In three phone calls over the weekend of May 17 and 18, they reached an agreement.

The following Monday, the Federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management lifted its stop-work order for Phase 1 of Equinor ASA’s Empire Wind project, with dozens of offshore wind turbines between Long Island and the Jersey Shore. Also on Monday, Hochul posted on X: “I’ve been working with President @realDonaldTrump to save this project & today learned we’ve been successful.”

Later that month, Hochul elaborated “I told the President that I will make sure that any applicant for a pipeline or any energy

See ODDS, continued on Page 19

BIRCH WHISTLER WIND FARM

By Brian Brock

Landmen have returned to Franklin, looking to lease land for wind turbines. Their interest is focused on high ground on either side of the Marcy South power lines. It’s likely that the company, NSI Land Services LLC of Michigan, is testing to see if there are enough interested landowners.

This project, Birch Whistler LLC, was organized in July of 2024. Two months later, the wind energy facility was entered into the waiting list of New York Independent System Operators to be connected to the electrical grid, Queue ID C24-294.

Generating up to 100 MW, this power facility would be of industrial scale, and similar in size to the Bluestone Wind Farm (112 MW) by Northland Power of Toronto. This array is spread across more than 6,000 acres (nearly 10 sq.mi.) in the towns of Sanford and Windsor in Broome County. It can be seen from Route 17 and on Bing Maps, satellite view.

Here, maybe 20 turbines standing over 600’ tall would stretch along several miles of the Marcy South lines. Each turbine requires a few acres of cleared land around it. They would be spaced more than 1,000’ apart, dotting the hilltops and ridges. The turbines would be connected above ground by miles of access roads and underground by a network of power lines.

During construction, there would be a lay-down yard for staging materials. Foundations must be set in bedrock, so besides excavating, there would be blasting. The foundations require huge volumes of concrete, hundreds of cubic yards each. (The mixer truck that you pass on a road holds eight to ten cubic yards.) Therefore, the company might build a batch

plant to mix concrete on site. Aggregate and cement would still have to be trucked in, and the plant would need a local source of water.

If the town board needed motivation to get a road-use law in place, this project is it. Town roads would take a beating from the transport of the foundation materials and during construction. The parts of the turbines are huge, and the crane must be big enough to lift the nacelle and blades 350’ high.

The project could take two years to complete and employ more than a hundred workers. However, the permanent staff would be only a few. The proposed completion date is



December 2029, tying into the Edic/Fraser Line (aka Marcy South) of 345 kV. The tie-in would be a new substation.

This is not the first wind farm proposed for Franklin. Horizon Wind Energy of Houston erected two meteorological towers in Merrickville to test the winds. Results were promising enough that the company applied to the NYS Public Service Commission for connecting turbines to the Bainbridge/Fraser power lines. That wind farm was to be less than 50 MW.

In New York, the best wind potential onshore is along the shores of Great Lakes Ontario and Erie, and along the eastern Long Island Sound. One of the few places inland with decent potential is the Niagara Escarpment. In Franklin, not so much. Hilltops in the area are only between 2,000 and 2,100 feet above sea level.

NYSERDA estimates that the maximum power realized from onshore wind is 24 per-

cent of the potential of generators. But it is actually closer to 10 percent, due to the generation supply being out of phase with customer demand. A bank of batteries can increase this a few percent. Such projects depend on government policies such as the selling of Renewable Energy Credits.

Birch Whistler is a project of National Renewable Solutions LLC, which has several wind farms on the Great Plains. Franklin would be its first location east of the Mississippi River. A few years ago, NRS of Minnesota was bought by the global investment company BlackRock Real Assets through its Climate Infrastructure Group. Financing this construction should not be a problem.

Opponents say that a wind farm is bad for the environment, the landscape, and wildlife; that it creates nuisance noise and decreases property values. But New York State has exempted industrial-scale renewable-energy projects from local oversight. Wind-powered generation larger than 25 MW is regulated under the authority of Office of Renewable Energy Siting. Thereby, SEQRA is side-stepped, and local zoning is overridden. Town boards are limited to providing input and testifying at public hearings. However, they can apply for funds to defray expenses of the review. The permitting process is limited to one year.

Once approved, Bluestone Wind Farm initially provided more than a million dollars in PILOT and HCA payments to the local governments each year. Amounts increase slightly each year for a total of \$42 million over the 20-year agreements. In addition, the Decommissioning Agreement requires the company to place funds in escrow before land clearing can begin.

Franklin does not have much commercial development. Last year, we saw a couple of projects for multi-guest recreational rentals and a pet-care facility. But ahead could be projects for a gas pipeline, electrical transmission, and wind-powered generators.

BEAT, continued from Page 4

with classes at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Community Pool, starting the third week of July. The Community Pool is available to rent for parties at a cost of \$150 for up to 3 hours for 20 persons or less, and \$250 for more than 20 persons. Book in advance by contacting the Village of Franklin at 607-829-6776 or clerk@villageoffranklinny.us



Maintenance and Infrastructure

Village Street Sweeping. Sweeping of village streets (except Main Street) is scheduled each April, August, and October. Advance no-parking notices will be posted to accommodate street sweeping.

Sidewalk Repairs. Sections of the sidewalk on Center Street and 3rd Street will be replaced in phases, to keep costs down.

Street Crack Filling will continue this year.

Village Park Scheduled Maintenance. Village personnel will conduct regularly scheduled lawn, shrub and weed maintenance of the lower Village Park.

Reminders

Mowing Your Lawn. Please keep your lawn trimmed and help keep our village beautiful. Residents with overgrown lawns will receive a mowing notice prior to additional action.

Village Yard Waste Dump: The dump accepts only leaves, dead plants, grass clippings, twigs/branches and wood less than 4 inches in diameter.

Tree Removal: If you are planning on having a tree removed from your property, please have the tree company contact the Village Clerk at 607-829-6776 or email Jason Kingsbury at dpw@villageoffranklinny.us. The curb stops for the water system must be marked ahead of time to prevent damage.

ATV Safety and Courtesy. If you enjoy riding all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), please be respectful of your neighbors and their property. Ride where permission has been granted and steer clear where it hasn't. When riding to your destination, please remain off the sidewalks.

Online Payment of Taxes and Water Bills. Visit villageoffranklinny.us to make payments with a click of a button.

If You See Something, Say Something! Please contact us if you see an issue impacting village infrastructure or issues with trees, roadways, etc.

Contact Us

Mayor: Hanna VanDeusen 607-287-4986 mayor@villageoffranklinny.us

Clerk: Paula Niebanck 607-829-6776 clerk@villageoffranklinny.us

Trustees: Constance (Connie) Martin: trusteeB@villageoffranklinny.us

Morgan McLean: trusteeA@villageoffranklinny.us

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at Village Hall, 141 Water Street. A ZOOM link is available. Village Hall is open every Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Mayor VanDeusen holds office hours at Village Hall on Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. or by appointment if you have a concern.



Our village park - 2022

Photo by Tony Breuer

LAWS, continued from Page 1

to move the cost burden of consultant fees (legal, engineering, etc.) for special use permits from the town and its taxpayers to the project's developer. Next might be a road use agreement, directing that any damage caused to town roads due to large commercial or development projects be corrected at cost to the developer. This local law will not affect normal daily use, agriculture, or seasonal activities. There is language in the alternative energy local law for road use agreements and escrow accounts. The new individual local laws will flesh these out with specifics applicable to a variety of larger, commercial projects, including those coming before the planning board.

Recently, the question of a local noise ordinance or law has resurfaced, due to residents' complaints to the town board about continuous loud music from a particular neighboring property. Several years ago, a public hearing for a proposed noise ordinance resulted in the majority of those in attendance voicing opposition, so the subject was dropped.

A noise ordinance or

local law is a touchy subject and only as useful as the ability to enforce it. According to news reports, several municipalities in our area are facing this issue. In Franklin, we have some protection where commercial projects are concerned. The planning board can incorporate quiet times and noise mitigations as conditions for the approval of special use permits, and violations can result in the rescinding of the permit. For residents, the situation is more complicated.

Many of us have been kept awake at night by loud music, fireworks, etc. at events nearby. Many of us have had our quiet afternoons disrupted by chainsaws, log splitters, farm equipment, and construction. But many of us have also been the ones responsible for that type of disruption, often doing things that need to be done, with no ill will intended.

That said, the first step should be (as much as possible) respectful communication between the neighbors involved. This kind of ordinance is very difficult to craft in a way that will be fair to as many people as possible, taking into

account occasional noisy activities such as a party, event, or construction. Should we regulate someone's ability to hold a large family gathering, wedding, or graduation party? To some extent, noise is in the ear of the beholder. Some people have no problem with neighbors' target shooting or barking dogs, while others find it offensive. An ordinance shouldn't become something one neighbor can use against another due to some other disagreement. Hopefully, instead, much can be accomplished by communication and maintaining respect between the people involved.

We need to research penalties and how they can be enforced with the limited resources available. To give readers a better perspective on the complexities of creating such an ordinance, it might be interesting for them to try crafting an ordinance while asking themselves: *how will this affect me if I want to play music or hold an event or build a garage or addition to my house?*

Local laws should be developed based on logic, research, and trying to achieve a goal that will benefit the greatest number of people.



The Mountain Eagle

and the SCHOHARIE NEWS

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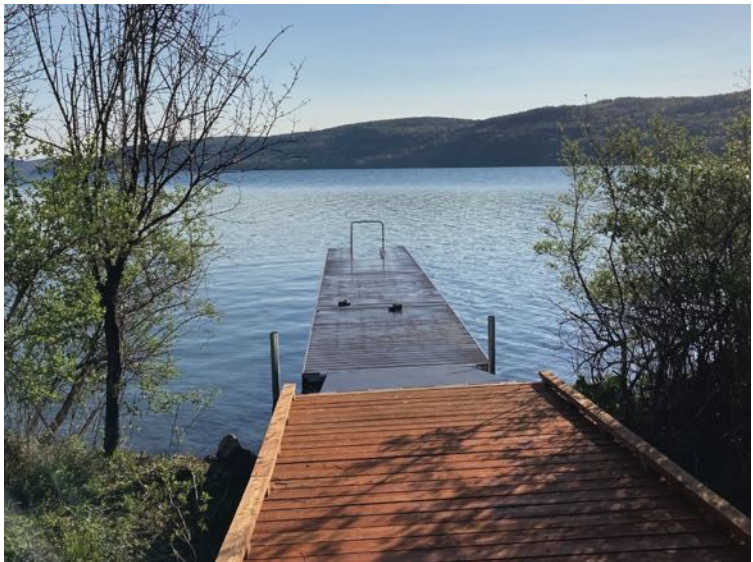
OTSEGO LAND TRUST OPENS NEW LAUNCH

The new paddling dock on the north side of Brookwood Point Conservation Area opened in May, just in time to host the 63rd Annual General Clinton Canoe Regatta. Paddlers and rowers can now enjoy a broad gravel path, a boardwalk over the wetlands, a 40-ft. floating dock, and an accessible kayak launch.

The improvements were supported by private donors, matched by grants from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, the Scriven Foundation and the Robert and Esther Black Family Foundation. Local residents

Faith E. Gay and Francesca Zambello helped make the improvements a reality with a lead gift "in honor of and with gratitude to Jane Forbes Clark, for her steadfast stewardship in protection of the natural beauty

that surrounds us." Otsego Area Rowing, a longtime partner at Brookwood Point, will be using the new dock for practices and training camps throughout the season.



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FIS, continued from Page 3

her husband, Gary Parrow, former principal at Franklin Central School. It is set in the front section of the park, framed artistically with the stone wall as a backdrop. In the rear of the park, a memorial oak tree honors Al Marshall, a beloved village superintendent. On the left side is a kiosk erected by another eagle scout, Dylan Costello. Attached to the kiosk is a "free little library" case, built by the Franklin Rotary Club. Also in 2010, a veterans' memorial area was created, including a flag pole donated by the American Legion, two monuments, and a stone bench. Later, a handsome black metal fence was installed behind the stone wall by Franklin Rotary Club members to separate the upper and lower levels of the park.

The Franklin Railroad & Community Museum under former Mayor John Campbell donated property to the village to expand the park. Trish Knapp and others had the unique idea of developing this



Maintaining the Edible Trail - Photo by Tony Breuer

hillside property into an edible walking trail. Grants were written and a corps of volunteers, led by Trish, Brian Brock, and Don Hebbard, transformed the former cow pasture into a delightful trail complex with a pleasant view of the village, as well as

offering hikers the opportunity to sample the edible plants and berries that grace the edges of the trails.

Next, a Main Street grant was awarded to several business owners to upgrade their buildings. One of the awardees decided not to take advantage of the grant. I was then serving as Franklin Village Mayor and became concerned that money was being "left on the table." I contacted the Delaware County Office of Economic Development and asked that this money be used to improve the park. With it, the FIS board could enhance the memorial area by adding perennials, shrubbery and a blue stone patio (stone donated by Bob Miller). The grant also enabled the Park committee to purchase shrubs and trees to be planted around the park's perimeter. More recently, new grant funding was secured to enhance signage to better map the trail as well as helping hikers to identify trees and plants along the way.

Currently, FIS is raising funds to add a large shed on the edge of the park to store the village benches as well as tools, decorations, and supplies. We are hoping that friends and community members will help by donating to the park shed fund. Donations can be sent to: Kim Hyzer, FIS Treasurer, PO Box 166, Franklin NY, 13775

Compiling this brief history of the Franklin Improvement Society (with the help of FIS treasurer Kim Hyzer) has been an attempt to document how the seed of an idea between two people can grow and become a self-perpetuating, community-wide endeavor. FIS is proud of our past. We look forward to the future, and are always looking for new and enthusiastic members.

FIS UPDATE:

By Tom Briggs

At the April meeting of the Franklin Improvement Society, members discussed the fund-raising campaign to purchase a storage shed at the Village Park.

Because the Improvement Society had directed much of its money toward the restoration of the park's lovely fountain, existing funds were inadequate to match the funding necessary to pay for the storage building. One suggestion was to have a plant and gar-

den-items sale at the Farmers' Market on May 25th. A request went out for donations, volunteers were enlisted, and on market day, the booth was overflowing with plants, garden accessories, and garden themed decorator items. Enthusiastic buyers bought much of what was offered. This was gratifying for FIS members and bodes well for a successful fundraising campaign.

Persons interested in donating to the Franklin Improvement Society may send checks to Kim Hyzer, FIS Treasurer at PO Box 166, Franklin NY 13775.



Franklin Improvement Society members John Wilson, Amber Gray, Karen Kemp, and Barbara Sandifer pack up after a successful plant and garden accessories sale at the Franklin Farmers Market. Photo by Tom Briggs

music
literature
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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

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FRANKLIN STAGE 2025

Press Release

The Franklin Stage Company, Delaware County’s renowned summer theatre, announces its 29th season, running from July 4th through August 24th.

“We have an amazing summer planned,” said Patricia Buckley, FSC Artistic Director. “There will be two powerful plays, an amazing solo show, and a weekend of dance. We’re thrilled to bring all this to our region.”

The season opens with *Kimberly Akimbo* by David Lindsay-Abaire. Written in 2000, the play was later reworked into the 2023 Tony-winning musical of the same name. Lindsay-Abaire’s original play for five actors tells the story of teenager Kimberly Levaco who suffers from a rare condition that causes her to age rapidly, making her appear much older than her actual years; as a result, she must navigate the challenges of adolescence and her dysfunctional family while trapped in the body of an elderly woman, ultimately finding a connection with a fellow outsider at school, all while confronting the reality of her shortened life expectancy. “It’s a zany comedy,” said Buckley, “but also very poignant.”

Kimberly Akimbo runs July 4th to July 20th, with 5 shows per week.

Next, on July 25th through 27th, comes an encore of the award-winning solo show *Magdalene* by Erin Layton, first performed at FSC in 2017. “Erin’s play fictionalizes events that hap-



FRANKLIN STAGE COMPANY

pened to many young women in Ireland during the 20th century,” said Buckley.

The following weekend, August 1st through 3rd, FSC will present the Bridgman|Packer Dance Company whose choreographic vision stretches the boundaries of dance by merging it with video technology. *The New York Times* called their work “ingenious...magical and fascinating.”

The final production of the season is John Logan’s *Red*, dramatizing a period in the life of 20th century abstract expressionist Mark Rothko as he struggles to paint murals on commission from the Four Seasons restaurant. The play explores the ever-changing relationship between the artist and his creations, along with the rewards and temptations of fame and its challenges to an artist’s integrity.

Franklin Stage Company’s 29th season runs from July 4th through August 24th at Chapel Hall, 25 Institute Street in Franklin, NY. Please note all evening shows have a curtain time of 7:30 p.m. Sunday shows are at 5:00 p.m. *Kimberly Akimbo* and *Red* will also have 3:00 p.m. Saturday matinees. General Seating. Admission is free—suggested donation is \$25 per person. For reservations, visit www.franklinstagecompany.org.

Programming at the Franklin Stage Company is made possible by the New York State

Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

Franklin Stage Company’s dual mission is to produce professional, admission-free theatre that brings together audiences and artists to create community and celebrate the enduring power of stories; and to ensure the preservation of Chapel Hall, our historic home, as both an architectural treasure and a center of community activity.

Franklin Stage Company is a professional Actors Equity, not-for-profit theater founded in 1997 in Franklin, NY. FSC is dedicated to producing classic and new plays that stimulate thought and provoke discussion to illuminate as well as entertain. FSC also presents both emerging and established artists working in a variety of performance disciplines.

The company was founded on the principle that great theatre should be accessible to all.



Franklin Stage at Chapel Hall



FRANKLIN STAGE COMPANY

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CATSKILL CATS



MUSIC NOTES
BY JOHN O'CONNOR
SOLIDARITY FOREVER

I will wish you a belated Labor Day or an early Labor Day, depending on which you think is the real Labor Day, which I say is May 1, observed by almost every country in the world, except the U.S. This is one of history's biggest ironies, since in the nineteenth century, Labor Day was first celebrated on May 1st in the good old USA. The most popular Labor Day song is "Solidarity Forever."

Wikipedia will tell you that this famous labor song, perhaps the most famous anywhere in the world (besides the "Internationale"), was written more than a hundred years ago by Ralph Chaplin, a writer, artist, and union activist. Chaplin was a Wobbly, short for a member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), the radical union of the early twentieth century. His song has been sung for a hundred years everywhere that union people gather for the cause of the working class, whether it be a union meeting or a strike (or an anti-war rally) and is often the song that is sung to close a union function or labor rally. It's the "We Shall Overcome" of the labor movement.

At a musicians' union convention not long ago,

shortly after the delegates spent more than an hour showing their support for locked out Minnesota Orchestra members by pledging thousands of dollars to the Minneapolis/St. Paul local union, a handful of delegates went to a mic



Ralph Chaplin and led their sister and brother delegates in singing "Solidarity," many raising their arms and linking hands together. This kind of scene is duplicated at countless conventions, union meetings, picket lines, and wherever union activists show up to resist the greed of the rich. It's an irresistible fall-back song because of its extremely accessible chorus, which simply repeats the words, "Solidarity Forever" to the tune of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Joe Hill may have been the most famous

of the Wobbly songwriters, but Ralph Chaplin's song has had greater endurance. If you ask union activists who Joe Hill is, they will surely recognize the name, but it's Ralph Chaplin's song they know.

Chaplin said he began writing the song in 1913 during a miner's strike and finished it in 1915. According to some historians, the song was first sung broadly during the great lumber workers' strike of 1917. The strike started in the lumber camps of the Pacific Northwest and spread through Idaho, Montana, Washington, and Oregon. It was fitting that the song caught on here, since the IWW provided leadership and finances for the strike. The lumber workers were striking mostly for better working conditions and the eight-hour day. Though the workers were intimidated and their leaders were jailed, they persevered and won most of their demands.

The strike is captured in an anonymous song from the time called "Fifty Thousand Lumberjacks." Its chorus pronounced: "Such a bunch of devils, that's what the papers say/ They've gone on strike for shorter hours and some increase in pay/ They've left the camps, those lazy tramps/ They all marched out as one/ They say they'll win the strike or put the bosses on the bum."

Chaplin's songs were known for their utopian language. "Solidarity Forever" captured this spirit in its lyrics, along with the IWW's no-compromise strategy

to win power for the workers. Consider this verse: "All the world that's owned by idle drones is ours and ours alone/ We have laid the wide foundations; built it skyward stone by stone/ It is ours not to slave in, but to master and to own/ For the union makes us strong." Out of the song's six verses, only four are usually sung, and this verse is not among them. One of the most frequently sung is the last (but not the least radical), which iterates Chaplin's and the Wobblies' revolutionary vision: "In our hands is placed the power greater than their hoarded gold/ greater than the might of armies multiplied a thousand fold/ We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old/ For the union makes us strong."

The song has had an interesting journey, throughout the organizing of the CIO, the movement that brought many blue collar workers into the middle class. The Almanac Singers, which included singers like Bess Lomax Hawes, Pete Seeger, and Woody Guthrie, recorded "Solidarity" on the 1955 re-issue of

their seminal album *Talkin' Union*. Joe Glazer, known as Labor's Troubadour, put the song on as many as half a dozen albums. There have been surprising renditions as well. In 1970 Leonard Cohen sang the song at a rally against the Viet Nam war, giving it the slow rolling amble characteristic of Cohen's music. More recently, Emcee Lynx recorded a hip-hop version, using all six verses.

The universal characteristic of songs like "Solidarity Forever" is the lyrical glimpse into the times of turmoil in which they were written. Most labor songs were written by the participants of the movements, and many lived their entire lives in poverty. These were not professional musicians by any means. Many of the Wobblies were amateur poets and opinion makers, using the labor and left press of the era to proselytize their message about class conflict.

For each song written, one can find the struggle that went with it, side by side. And so it continues.

FRANKLIN LIBRARY HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

By Frances Ruth Harris

Goals met in 2024 were reviewed, goals for 2025 were established.

In 2024, the Franklin Free Library provided a welcoming and accessible environment for all. Its many programs reflected the varied interests of the community, including Dungeons and Dragons game sessions, the monthly Franklin Film Forum, Choo-Choo Time for toy train fun, a biweekly game night, a monthly Tomes & Scones book club, a Poetry Exchange, the Franklin/Treadwell Community Conversation meetings and the Summer Reading Program.



FFL board members, visitors, and staff at the annual meeting:
l. to r.: Carla Nordstrom, visitor; Willem Vanessendelft, trustee; Lynne Kemen, trustee; Wendy Swears, board secretary; Vicki R. Davis, visitor; Crissie Elmendorf, trustee; Xina Sheehan, library director; Elliot Cohen, board vice president; Carol Jensen, board president.

Events were also held, such as a holiday story hour and a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Many goals set to be completed by the end of the year were achieved, including securing grant money to purchase new computers, desk, and chairs. Also, a partnership agreement was signed between Bright Hill Press, 4CLS, and the Franklin Free Library.

In 2025, the FFL aims to increase public awareness and use of the library. Other goals include installing the new desk and computers; providing an exhibit venue for the Stagecoach Run Art Festival; holding a book sale on Old Franklin Day in August; beginning a "Drop-in Story & Craft" program, and revitalizing the Friends Group.

THE LAKE ISLE OF INNISFREE

By William Butler Yeats

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honeybee,
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,
And evening full of the linnet's wings.

I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand by the roadway, or on the pavements gray,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

William Butler Yeats, the great Irish poet, was born in 1865 and died in 1939. "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," an early piece, is one of his most famous, most loved poems, and one of my very favorites. It is among those he recorded for the BBC in 1932 (the recording can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLlcvOg9i6c>).

The poem is in the public domain
-- Bertha Rogers



William Butler Yeats

A DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The NFR spoke with actor/director Chris O'Connor, who will be directing the opening production at Franklin Stage this summer.

NFR: Tell us a bit about your background.

CoC: I went to a high school in Cedar Falls, Iowa, with a great theatre program. I was interested in visual art, in theatre and music, and when it came time for college, I chose theatre at the University of Northern Iowa.

After a year at UNI, I decided to go for it and got into the acting program at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, one of the top college theatre conservatories.

I'd had two children while I was in college, and it was a real challenge to be in school and support a family, but I'd become interested in mime at Iowa and studied physical performance and mime technique. I loved it. I was a huge fan of silent film stars. Charlie Chaplin was my hero. So when I went to Carnegie, I supported my family doing school shows at Pittsburgh area schools,

theatre, really interesting stuff. After they went back to LA, they called me up and asked me to join their company, so I worked with Provisional Theatre until they disbanded.

But it got me to L.A. with my wife and our two little boys. When the theatre closed, I went to an open call for a play by Paul Giovanni called *The Crucifer of Blood*, you know, like, there's hundreds of actors there, and they hired me for a small role.

But they saw I'd been trained in stage combat. So I was hired as the fight director and movement coordinator. It was an amazing experience. Jeremy Brett, later the star of Granada TV's Sherlock Holmes series, played Watson. Charlton Heston was Sherlock Holmes. He was a very sweet and gracious man, but a wooden stage actor and I hated his politics. Jeremy Brett stole the show.

So I was in LA for nine plus years.

NFR: What brought you back to the East Coast?

CoC: Well, first I went to Seattle. A friend from UNI, Jeff Steitzer, was artistic director at ACT in Seattle. He

a lot of downtown theatre. Most of the acting work I did was out of town, and I decided finally that I didn't want to be out of town. Annie and I wanted to have kids. So I thought maybe I shouldn't be a freelance actor anymore.

So I went back to school for a master's in directing at Rutgers University. And that changed everything. It changed my relationship to the art form. I wasn't auditioning anymore. As a director, I had to find ways to create my own work.

Since we moved to New York, we've lived in Hoboken, New Jersey. It struck me that there was so much theatre in New York City, but almost no theatre at all in my town. Everyone crossed the river to go to the theatre. One day, walking up the Hoboken Waterfront, I saw this little amphitheatre in Frank Sinatra Park and I got this idea to start a theatre company in Hoboken. All my experience was in regional theatres, and that was a great model. I liked how they were connected to their community and the good it did for a community to create art but also conversation and education.

NFR: Had you been directing before then?

CoC: I'd directed young people at the Seattle Children's Theatre and in local high schools. That taught me how to articulate conversations with actors, and how to stage, because I had to do plays with lots of bodies on stage.

We started Mile Square Theatre with a fundraiser. I knew a lot of playwrights, so we did *7th Inning Stretch* - seven ten-minute plays about baseball, because the first official game was played in Hoboken in 1846. This became an annual thing that MST is still doing.

We got our own space in 2008, not a permanent space, one we adapted in an industrial building being used as a business incubator. So I was able to do a full season, and we developed an audience. We programmed a young audience play, and this is really connected to my work at Seattle Children's Theatre. They never spoke down to the audience there, to the kids, and they had such great production values. They valued scenic and costume design and lighting. I wanted that on my stage. So when we did a young audience production, we didn't pull back on production value. And we made sure the show was



Chris O'Connor

entertaining for the parents as well, which brought them back to see the shows for adults. And that's when it really started to take off.

Eventually, we raised the money to build our own beautiful 120-seat space, on the North End of Hoboken, doing four and five play seasons with educational programs during the summertime, and classes during the school year. We established a dance academy, which was very successful and helped the bottom line.

Then I took a job at Molloy University, and the time came where I thought, I've done this enough. I was offered the department chair at Molloy, a demanding job. And this seemed a good time to bring someone else in to run MST. So I stepped down in January 2022.

NFR: How does being both an actor and a director inform the work that you do? What is the synergy there?

CoC: Well, I think actors, if they've got a good spatial sense, a visual sense, make good directors, because they're trained in the vocabulary of activating text. A director has to be able to step outside the play and be objective about the storytelling. Actors need to be very subjective about who they're playing. I feel actors are good at jumping back and forth between those two things. And actors who are directors try to create an atmosphere that will free the actor to work and not get in the way of themselves.

NFR: Was transitioning to directing like stepping out of your actor comfort zone?

CoC: Well, yes, because now you're responsible for everything, and that is scary. I get around that by collaborating, not just with the actors, but with the design team. Rutgers taught me to be a good collaborator. We had a course in the director-designer relationship and spent a whole semester doing paper projects together. I go into the process honoring the expertise of the people

I'm working with, trusting them to express their creativity. Like, with actors, they're going to dig deeper into their characters than I will. I always say to them: you are the expert on this character.

NFR: Do you have a favorite sort of material?

CoC: I like working in all genres. I've directed a lot of Shakespeare. I've directed Pinter. I've directed small cast plays. And Rutgers was a Meisner school, so there's a lot of emotion. A lot of kitchen sink drama produced in that program. But I love Commedia, and I love comedy. My longtime friend, Jeff Steitzer, who was artistic director at ACT in Seattle, came to visit a few years back. I was showing him around MST and he saw all the posters of plays we'd produced. And he says, you like hot plays.

NFR: What's a hot play?

CoC: Plays with hot moments, emotionally hot or surprising. I want an emotional moment for the audience. I want them to be taken somewhere. There's contemporary theatre that distances you from the piece. It may be aesthetically beautiful and impeccably designed, but if my heart is not involved, I can appreciate it but I want to be moved in some way.

NFR: You're directing Kimberly Akimbo at Franklin Stage, opening July 4th. Can you offer a few words about the play?

CoC: I was thinking about this this morning because Patty asked me to write my director's notes. To begin with, being in a room with five actors is a lot of fun. And I've got one of this year's graduates of my program at Molloy playing one of the roles.

But I really admire the playwright, David Lindsay-Abaire. He looks at flawed people who are just trying to navigate a difficult world. Plus, he's got a lot of comedy in his plays, bridging the comic with the serious. And he seems to truly love his characters. He doesn't talk down as he reveals their shortcomings. They're trying to be better people, trying to do the right thing. In *Kimberly Akimbo*, that's kind of the core question with this family in a tragic circumstance and some underachieving adults who are parenting this child. But she is showing them how to live their lives more fully because she has a limited amount of time to live her own life. It's so beautiful.

ANNA SEACERAMICS

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Studio visits by appointment

Franklin & Brooklyn, New York

and also street mime.

Plus, I had a great teacher there. The movement and acting teacher, Jewel Walker, was trained by Etienne Decroux, who taught Marcel Marceau. And this was that narrow window of cultural opportunity where one could be successful as a mime in American culture.

I joined a bunch of CMU students who'd started a touring theatre company called Theatre Express. We toured all around the Eastern seaboard, so I got a lot of practical experience. And I worked at Park Players, which turned into the City Theatre, one of Pittsburgh's major regional theatres.

Then a group of Pittsburgh theatre makers invited the Provisional Theatre of Los Angeles, a socio-political theatre collective, to do a residency in Pittsburgh. They did agit-prop

was in LA casting Richard Nelson's *Principia Scriptoriae*. He auditioned me, and I got the part. He also offered me Bob Cratchit in their *Christmas Carol*. So I had two LORT contracts on offer. I was able to live in Seattle as a freelance actor - at ACT, at the Seattle Children's Theatre, on the faculty of the Seattle Children's Theatre. It was a great life. A tight knit theatre community, always working with people you knew, with friends.

Then my marriage broke up and I met Annie, my current wife. She was at the University of Washington's graduate acting program. She had come from New York to get her training but always intended to go back and be a New York actor. Both my kids were in college, so we decided to move to New York. This was scary for me. I was 40, trying to figure out how to kick start a career. We did



STAGECOACH RUN ART FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES ITS 29th YEAR

WHEN: SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JULY 5th and 6th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Various venues throughout Franklin and Treadwell

WHO: More than 50 artists in various disciplines – paint, sculpture, ceramics, mixed media

Art and artists are the focus of one of the most popular summer events in the foothills of the western Catskills.

Established in 1996, the Stagecoach Run Art Festival is a self-guided tour of venues throughout the area surrounding the destination village of Franklin. The strong art community in Franklin and its sister village, Treadwell, led to the establishment of an annual event devoted to promoting the visual arts.

The name “Stagecoach Run” refers to the Catskill Turnpike, which was first chartered in 1800 and eventually extended from the Hudson River all the way to Erie, Pennsylvania. Travelers on Route 357 (which is also Main Street, Franklin) can still spot the stone signposts left from those days. Today, Franklin is known for its creative people. It is the home of a professional summer theatre and has become popular with fans of interior design and antiques.

The countryside around Franklin is some of the loveliest in the Catskills, and the festival allows visitors to tour from venue to venue

at their own speed. Maps of participating sites are available at many locations throughout the area, and at each venue. The artists will be on hand to discuss their work, and many pieces are available for purchase.

Food options include Yokel, the local breakfast and lunch cafe, The Tulip and the Rose, Franklin's international dining spot, and the newly opened King's, all on Franklin's Main Street. For more casual fare, there will be food trucks available and local non-profit organizations will be grilling burgers.

Franklin and Treadwell are located midway between Delhi and Oneonta, about two and a half hours from the George Washington Bridge.

The Stagecoach Run Art Festival is free to the public.

For further information, **CONTACT:** Anna Sea 607-386-1369 info@StagecoachRun.com



LOSER, con't from Page 1

The impact of short term rentals is not discussed in this article.

VILLAGES

- 39.4% Dannemora
- 35.6% Fleischmanns
- 27.0% **Franklin**
- 25.4% Antwerp
- 25.1% DeRuyter
- 25.0% Ellicottville
- 22.6% Middleburgh
- 21.8% Burke
- 21.8% Galway
- 21.1% Morrisville

TOWNS

- 36.4% Dannemora
- 34.4% Collins
- 34.2% Groveland
- 34.2% Georgetown
- 30.1% Romulus
- 23.7% Red House
- 23.4% Fort Ann
- 21.9% Troupsburg
- 20.9% DeRuyter
- 20.5% Otselic

Change in population count by U.S. Census from 2010 to 2020.

BLOOD AND ASHES

What can grow from blood and ashes?
Blood mixed of the human race,
yet somehow not
We add in a cow and a donkey,
perhaps a cat
and a few dogs
Some coffee, tea and sugar,
and tears
Stiffened with shrapnel and smoke
Leavened and risen in the heat
of the sun
Oiled by the grease of heavy axels
and butter
Kneaded under soldiers' feet
and tires of ambulances
And baked in hatred and
ignorance
Who will eat this?
Who will sit at the table
and break bread together?

- RH Ackerman



PIPELINE, continued from Page 1

tract or eminent domain, paying affected landowners either way

The ROW would become a construction zone for a year or so. Afterwards, landowners may not plant trees in the ROW or build structures. Periodically, it would be cleared of brush.

On the ground, initial work would be a survey of the boundaries, which in northern climes takes place in late fall before the ground freezes. Then in winter, while the ground is



Illegally cleared ROW, Masonville 2016

frozen, the ROW is cleared of trees, brush, and the occasional large rock. Construction requires a continuous ROW of 85 to 125 feet wide. Locally, there would be supply yards and staging areas, which Williams would need to lease. Once the ground thaws, surveyors would have to return for more detailed work within the ROW.

Construction should be completed in one work season, spring to fall, but locally assembly of the pipeline would last only six to eight weeks. The length of this ROW would be divided into four or five segments of 25 to 30 miles each. Assigned to each would be a crew (aka spread) of about 260 workers. There would be some jobs for residents, but most of the positions require particular skills. Williams claimed that a quarter of workers could be locally hired, or about 65. Also, some basic materials could be sourced locally.

The local headquarters for the segment including Franklin would likely again be in Oneonta.

Construction equipment, materials, and manpower would have to reach the ROW over local roads. Towns and counties would need road-use agreements to mitigate and repair the damage. In 2016, Franklin town board negotiated one with Constitution Pipeline Company LLC, but that company was dissolved in 2022.

Once completed, a cleared, 50-foot wide ROW

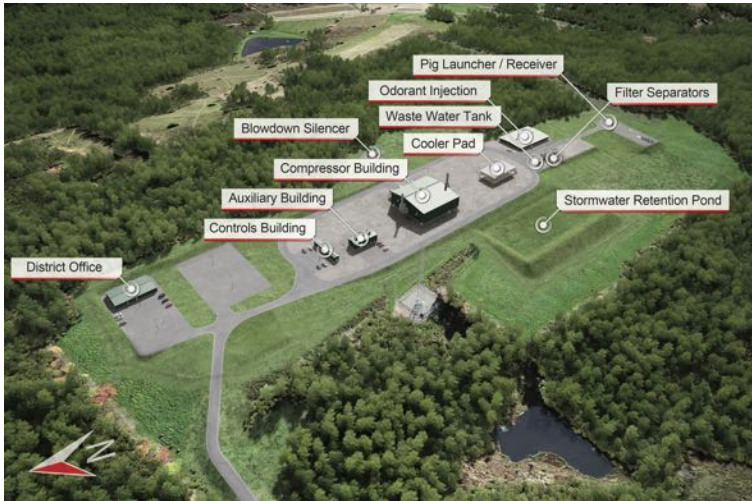
would stretch 124 miles from New Milford, PA to Wright, NY and be accessible from every road it crosses. In addition, there would be dozens of permanent access roads, seven in Franklin alone. Landowners would suffer some loss of privacy due to maintenance and inspections. Also, trespassers have been known to use such a ROW for riding their ATVs and snowmobiles.

Permanent surface facilities within the ROW would include nine shut-off valves, ten communication towers, and two launcher/receivers for the cleaner, one at each end. The original plan would have put a tower and a shutoff valve just west of Otego Road and south of Van Tassel. Towers would be about a hundred feet tall, topped by a blinking light.

Of greater effect would be one or more midstream compressor stations. Franklin, being midway

pipeline would reduce consumer costs, since the project is being driven by presidential demand rather than economic demand. Since Constitution Pipeline Co. lost \$354 million on its failed project, construction companies have been unwilling to assume the risk of financing such projects. Instead, they require that utilities do so and then impose a surcharge on users which increases the cost of the supposedly cheap gas.

For example, Williams Companies' Northeast Supply Enhancement could bring more methane from Pennsylvania to New York City through New Jersey. Its \$2.8 billion cost would burden customers throughout Long Island, paying \$193 million each year for 15 years. An investigation by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis found that projected wintertime shortages could instead be managed by demand reductions and



Compressor/cooling/treatment facility for NED pipeline, Otego Rd, Franklin, since cancelled.

along the route, is a likely site. Because of the fierce opposition to them, typically these plans are revealed only after the pipeline is completed. In an exception to the rule, the very similar NED Pipeline project revealed that it would build a compressor station, gas cooler, and chemical processing plant above the village.

The original Constitution project initially did not offer gas to communities along the pipeline. In response to local opposition, four taps were offered in partnership with Leatherstocking Gas Company. Only one tap was sited, which was for the village of Sidney. At the time, another line to Delhi was being considered, which would have to pass through our town. Franklin officials advocated for the longer route through the village and hamlet.

It is uncertain whether the methane supplied by a revived Constitution

local storage. Pipeline companies pay property taxes to towns, counties, and school districts. However, the estimates for Delaware County that were presented in *The Economic Impact of the*



Laying the pipe

Constitution Pipeline by their contractor Center for Governmental Research lacked any comparables or calculations. Last time, CPC awarded several small grants to community groups to build good will.

Accidents during operations are possible. They are most frequent for new pipelines from the use of substandard materials or poor workmanship, and for decades-old pipelines from wear and ageing. For now, we wait on Williams.

American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

TOWN OF FRANKLIN

Highway Department

Pick-up truck	62,719
Radios	29,480
Backup generator	21,725
Subtotal	113,924

Treadwell Water District

Cedarwood report	
CT, design & permit	
Service Lines, plans and oversight	
Unspent	57,555
Subtotal	80,000

Computer System

Data backup	756
Laptop	669
Flatbed scanner	398
Subtotal	1,823

Furniture

Office chairs, five	765
=====	=====

Total	\$196,512
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VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN

Water Tank

Blauer Associates	34,513
Decker Advertising	154
=====	=====

Total	\$34,667
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Statutory Eligible Categories

1. To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts
2. To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the recipient that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work
3. For the provision of government services, to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such recipient due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the recipient prior to the emergency
4. To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure
5. To provide emergency relief from natural disasters or the negative economic impacts of natural disasters
6. For projects eligible under the 26 surface transportation programs specified in the 2023 CAA (Surface Transportation projects)
7. For projects eligible under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Title I projects)

Compliance and Reporting Guidance, State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Version 10.0
U.S. Department of the Treasury, April 2, 2025
<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>

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CONTACT MANETTE BERLINGER

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Typical road damage from heavy use

ODDS, continued from Page 11

project follows all state, local and federal laws...That being said," she continued, "we can look at this expansively and also consider the benefits at a time when energy prices are through the roof and families in every corner of our state are suffering from high bills for groceries and utilities. I have to look at this in a different lens and will continue being committed to our climate goals. I believe in them, but also the realization that we need to be more open-minded and expansive, but they will have to follow our laws and they know that. I was very clear on this."

Similarly, the governor of Connecticut Ned Lamont has signaled an openness to consideration of a new pipeline after conversation with Secretary of Energy Chris Wright and Interior Secretary Doug Burgum. Not so the governor of Massachusetts, Maura Healey.

Industry

The two companies that would be principals in the project, Coterra Energy and Williams Companies, have expressed interest and are in discussion with governmental agencies. In 2020, the abandonment of the Constitution project cost the four partners a write-down of \$354 million. With a restart, they could recoup some of this.

Coterra sees this pipeline as a way to ship its gas from Susquehanna County, PA eastward to where prices are higher. This company was formed by a merger of Cimarex Energy and Cabot Oil & Gas, one of the original partners.

Williams will try again to build the pipeline and profit from transporting gas to Wright, NY. Currently it is working to revive the project. The company plans to submit applications to FERC, USACE, and states later this year.

The Constitution Pipeline Company LLC was organized in New York in March 2012 and terminated in November 2022. Williams reapplied for this LLC in May 2025.

While Coterra could put gas into the Constitution, it is not clear which companies would receive the gas and what would be required to deliver it to them. Precedent agreements for the shipping of

gas are part of the application. However, Williams writes "the Constitution Pipeline, once in service, will secure comparable long-term commitments.

Connecting pipelines at Wright, NY are mostly full. Eastward, Tennessee Gas Pipeline 200 can run at 98% peak utilization (76% average) at Station 249. Southward, Iroquois pipeline sometimes can run above the rated capacity (91% average) through the Brookfield segment in Connecticut. The Iroquois expansion through compression project, ExC, is already subscribed.

If Williams receives the US Army Corps of Engineers permits and the final Federal Energy Regulatory Commission order to proceed by August 2026, then it plans to begin construction in October 2026 and start shipping gas July 2027 – an ambitious schedule. For example, only once FERC approves the application can Williams begin the process of seizing easements via eminent domain.

Even without Constitution, more gas could be coming. From the northwest, Millennium is considering increasing capacity into the metro region and New England at the Algonquin pipeline interconnect. From the south, Williams' NESE project would bring more gas into Long Island. That is the other pipeline into New York that the company had abandoned but is reviving.

Financing

Finally, there is the question of how a billion-dollar project would be financed. The Northeast Energy Direct project was abandoned by Kinder Morgan after the Massachusetts government was unwilling to allow utilities to finance the pipeline with a surcharge on bills to their customers.

People

An additional hurdle is popular opposition and the resulting judicial delay, which is what sank this pipeline project the first time. Republicans are trying to rewrite regulations for permitting pipelines to limit the opportunities for opposition through the courts. Revisions were included in the budget reconciliation legislation by the House but scrubbed by the Senate.



The Newsletter of Franklin Local

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HAVE AN OPINION? WRITE TO US!

At: The New Franklin Register
P.O. Box 258
Franklin, NY 13775
or by email: nfr@franklinlocal.org

What are we about?

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

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

All are welcome, to offer questions and help us answer them, to share thoughts and ideas, to make things happen.

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

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

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

PLEASE JOIN US!

For meeting times, location and directions, as well as lots of other information about our town, check our website:

franklinlocal.org

MORE FROM BAINBRIDGE

By Frances Ruth Harris

Students in grades 2-6 at Bainbridge-Guilford's Greenlawn Elementary School are playing a role in the decorating of the three mobile Little Free Library carts that were built and donated by the Bainbridge Lions Club.

Under the direction of art teacher Colleen Jenkins, the plan is to have every student contribute by painting a part of one of the carts. A separate cart has arrived at the Guilford Elementary School for students in grades Pre-K - 1, and will be up and running in the fall.



The Bainbridge Lions served delicious food during the General Clinton Canoe Regatta on May 25, 2005. Above, Rhonda Sterns takes orders.
Photo by the author



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OZYMANDIAS

by Percy Bysshe Shelley

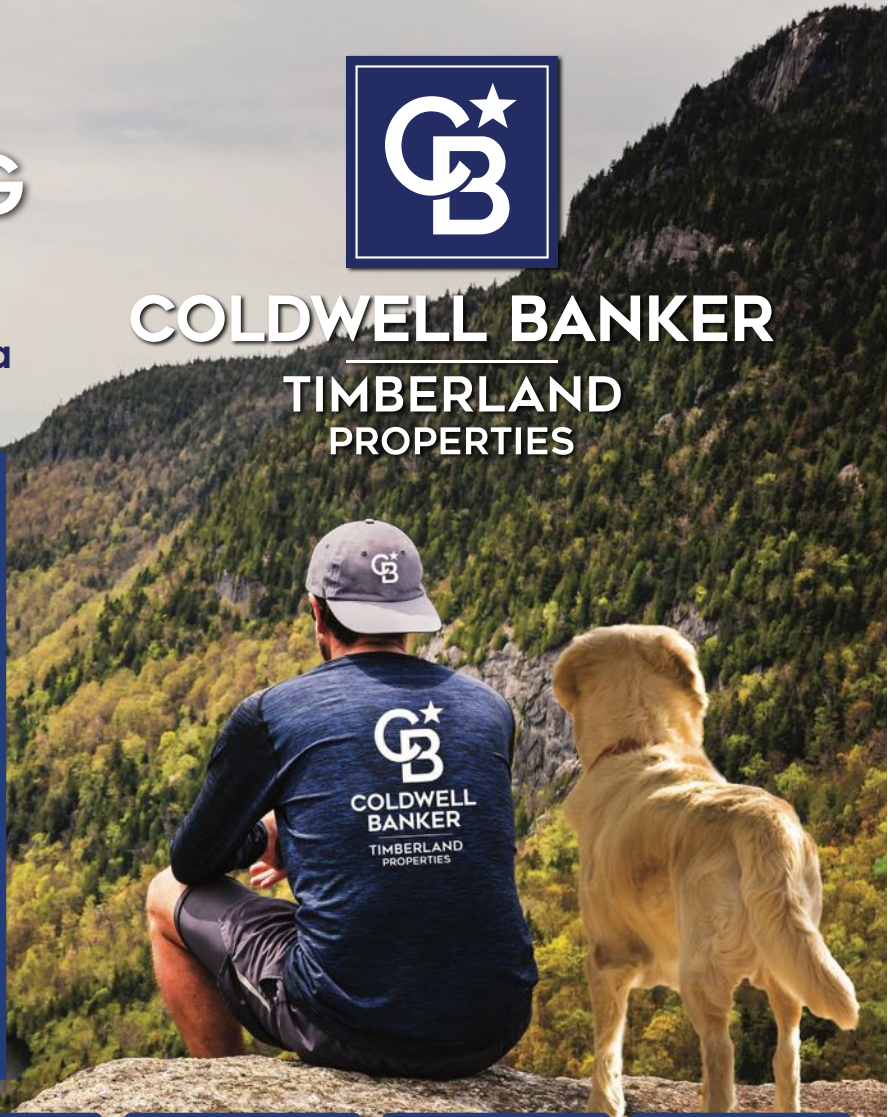
I met a traveler from an antique land
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed:
And on the pedestal these words appear:
"My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings:
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!"
No thing beside remains. round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away.

Thinking of
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and discovering the home of your dreams!



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