

JUNE 2, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rossie to moderate gas drilling forum: Stories from the Front Line

Newspaper columnist Dave Rossie will moderate a free panel presentation, Gas Drilling: Stories from the Front Line, on Monday, June 15, 7 to 9 p.m., in the cafeteria of Broome Community College.

Unlike other natural gas forums to date, this one is not aimed primarily at landowners but is relevant for *all* residents, including city-dwelling renters and suburban homeowners who have no prospects of collecting royalties from gas drilling, said Chris Burger, a former county legislator and president of the Binghamton Regional Sustainability Coalition. BRSC, a non-profit community improvement group, is the forum's prime sponsor.

"Gas drillers are not subject to local zoning laws," Burger said. "They can drill anywhere they buy a lease. In Texas, for example, they are drilling under downtown Fort Worth. All of us in the Southern Tier are going to be affected, so we should all be informed and have a voice in setting the rules."

The panel will provide:

- first-hand reports about living next to natural gas wells...
- the real story on health impacts, from a world-renowned scientist who exposes what the industry covers up...and
- advice on how we can protect our homes and families.

The panelists are:

Candace Mingins

Ms. Mingins lives with her husband and three children on their family farm in Van Etten, where they have built a house, planted an orchard and are cultivating their 34th garden. A Trenton/Black River well was drilled on their property in 2006. In 2008, she helped organize Shaleshock Citizens Action Coalition.

Theo Colborn, PhD (via remote)

A world-renowned environmental health analyst, Dr. Colborn began to research natural gas production after it started near her home in Colorado. She is the founder of The Endocrine Disruption Exchange (TEDX), and has testified before Congress regarding the possible immediate and long-term health affects of natural gas production. The scientist is the co-author of *Our Stolen Future: Are We Threatening Our Fertility, Intelligence, and Survival?*

Ron Gulla

Pennsylvania resident Ron Gulla has farmed since he was ten years old. He worked his way through college to get a degree in business administration. He and his wife Laurel have raised two children on their 118-acre farm. He has first-hand experience with having a well on his property and with the economic and legal aspects of gas production.

Don Barber

Now in his fifth term as Town of Caroline supervisor, Don Barber grew up on a dairy farm in Danby and still lives on a small farm with his family. As supervisor, Barber led several important water quality and conservation projects. He chairs the Tompkins County Council of Governments and also owns a successful residential construction company with 12 employees.

Sponsored by the Binghamton Regional Sustainability Coalition, with co-sponsorship by Citizen Action, the Center for Civic Engagement, Susquehanna Valley Presbyterian (Justice and Mission Committee), Sierra Club, Tioga Peace and Justice, Shaleshock Citizens Action Coalition, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton (Green Sanctuary Committee)