

Historic Keller Opera House saved from wrecking ball

CUBA— After several years of frustration, the historic Keller Opera House has been saved from the wrecking ball. The roof of the structure had collapsed in 2002 and the CFA was determined to prevent more deterioration from another winter. Even before the Cuba Friends of Architecture acquired the building in November 2005, they had begun working with the NY Office of Historic Preservation to provide the proper paper work and to start the bidding process for the restoration of the collapsed roof. One month after the deed was signed, everything was in order for the Kinley Construction Corp to begin work. Scaffolding was raised, loose bricks were removed, cleaned and returned for the wall restoration, two new steel beams were put in place, rafters and plywood put up for the new roof and new foam and rubber roofing materials applied. All of this in two short months.

The Cuba Friends of Architecture was awarded a Legislative Grant from Senator Cathy Young and a State Historic Preservation Grant, both of which are reimbursement grants. The organization still needs contributions to meet the reimbursement requirements and to continue with plans to begin work on the restoration of the store front thresholds. You many send contributions to: Cuba Friends of Architecture, P.O. Box 274, Cuba, NY 14727.

Corporate sponsors who contributed to the CFA in January were Kinley Corp., Cummins Construction, Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star. The CFA is most appreciative for their assistance.

The Friends plan a rummage sale for February 18th at 29 East Main St. and is accepting articles to sell. Plans for a quilt show, set for April 29th and 30th, are still in the making. For more information you may call 585-968-2812.