

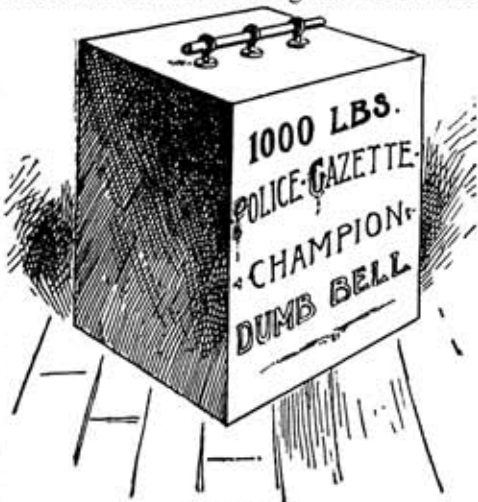
Police Gazette To Star in Feature Film Famed Gazette Owner To Be Portrayed by Shawshank Redemption Alum Gil Bellows

Richard K. Fox, the most famous previous owner of this journal, will be brought to the silver screen next year in a biography of legendary weightlifter Louis Cyr. Fox will be played by veteran actor Gil Bellows who is best known for his role as Tommy Williams in *The Shawshank Redemption*. Tommy had a major part late in the movie when he revealed the true perpetrator of the murder that had put Tim Robbins's character in prison—and then was shot for his trouble.

Louis Cyr is being produced by the French-Canadian movie studio Christal Films, which makes sense since Louis Cyr was from Montreal, Quebec. From the 1880s through the turn of the century, Louis Cyr set unbelievable records and won every lifting competition he entered—many of them sponsored by Fox and the *Police Gazette*. Some of Cyr's feats still have people scratching their heads to this day. He's reported to have lifted 4,337 pounds—in the form of 18 men sitting on a platform—on his back, and he held back four horses, two in each hand, struggling to run free.

Richard K. Fox was the P.T. Barnum of

publishing. For the promotion of sports and entertainment during the 1880s and



THE BIG BELL.

This half-ton dumbbell was produced by the *Police Gazette* in 1890 exclusively for our weightlifting competitions. Louis Cyr won the *Police Gazette* medal and never lost it. See more pictures related to the *Louis Cyr* movie on page 4.

1890s he had no equal and used the *Police Gazette* to develop numerous journalism and pop culture innovations. One was to make the *Gazette* a sort of Guinness World Records of its day, sponsoring and verifying records for a huge variety of human endeavors. As such, Fox brought to the public eye and helped develop the legends of such notables as John L. Sullivan, Annie Oakley, and Louis Cyr. Fox promoted Cyr early and remained a devoted Cyr supporter until the strongman's untimely death from chronic nephritis at the age of 49.

National Police Gazette Enterprises, LLC, has been assisting the filmmakers to get the most authentic *Police Gazette* reproductions possible into the movie and in providing interior and exterior pictures of the famed Police Gazette Building to serve as a guide for the scenes with Fox in his offices. The *Police Gazette* can already be seen in the new *Sherlock Holmes* movies starring Robert Downey, Jr., and other *Gazette* TV and movie projects are in the pipeline. We'll keep you apprised of updates as *Louis Cyr* and other projects move along.

Paul Juser and The City from Another Universe



A Magick Trick

My last grandparent passed away the day before my 35th birthday. Mildred Juser was laid to rest beside my grandfather in a tiny cemetery on the side of a hill in Neath, PA, with bedrock so close to the surface it needed to be smashed with a backhoe and jackhammered to inter them. If you don't already know where Neath is, you wouldn't be able to find it. I've been going there for decades and I don't know if I could find it. As we descended a one-and-a-half lane dirt road into the valley leading to the church yard, we passed a vast muddy scar carved in the tree line. The stack of pipes revealed the pad for its true intention. The funeral procession waited for workmen to clear a path over a bridge that could never hope to withstand the trucks that were already parked on the site.

Driving past that pad brought the entire

plot twist of our last election into sharp focus. Only six months before, the Redcoats would rather back rape-happy maniac Rick Santorum than give Romney a shot. In 2008 they picked an illiterate hillbilly instead of making Romney bottom to McCain. Why now? None of the voters liked him, so it wasn't popularity. With every word he said, Romney dug his hole deeper. Even Newt Gingrich retained some support among those old men that meet at McDonald's at 6am every morning to uncover Obama's secret Kenyan heritage.

Romney was a foil; he was never meant to win. He got us jabbering about rape, and abortion, and the economy, and the glorious war we would win with our vast armada of coal-burning steam ships. Romney was the illusionist's misdirection before the prestige, and a clear indication of where the floundering coal industry put the last of their money. Obama may not want foreign pipelines strung across our landscape like discarded shoelaces, but his answer is still forthcoming on digging up the blinding fortune in natural gas sitting like a trapped fart beneath New York State. Romney may have lost by a hair, but pro-fracking candidates swept into power across rural New York. In electoral maps tiny bastions of blue marked cities among imposing seas of red.

The pro-fracking candidates had lots of money behind them, and unlike Tarik Abdelazim, they didn't forget there was life outside the borders of the Binghamton parties and art galleries. This strategy may have won for Tarik's old boss, but mayor and county executive are not the same position. The newspaper headline should have read "Bearded Wussie Drops the Ball," as Tarik was splashed in full tearful color in the local paper of record. When an opponent challenged the Party Mayor, he would run them down in the street, barking obscenities like a schnocker-pit bull.

While his staff needs to learn to spell-check a little better, Tarik never backed down in a campaign against a candidate almost guaranteed to win. Debbie Preston tried to warn that the people of Broome County don't care about debates, and the inverse ratio of the alleged spanking Tarik delivered in the debate to votes Preston received in the election back this up. Tarik had flyers and (questionably legal) yard signs in every corner of the county. He made sure everyone heard his name; but for many people in Broome County their first thought is "Towelhead." I grew up in rural Broome County. It's not always a pretty place, and more junkyards than you'd expect. Debbie Preston and Bijoy

(continued on page 11)