



The Gardiner Gazette

A call to community



Winter 2016 - Issue #29

Free! Please take one



Gardiner's almost invisible cell tower.
Photo: Kit Defever

Cell Service At Last?

by Laurie Willow

Yes! It looks like we will finally have cell service in early spring from Verizon as well as AT&T.

To recap, the quest for viable cell service in Gardiner began almost 15 years ago, with many attempts and many dead-end roads in between. A town law on cell towers was written (see Municipal Code, section 220-46 on the town website, townofgardiner.org). There was a major effort to find town-owned land that could support a cell tower, and at the same time provide

a lease income for the town.

Unfortunately, after years of meetings and expensive due diligence to research possible sights, as well as a couple of lawsuits, it turned out that the town didn't own land that filled both the criteria of acceptable location and compatibility with the town's cell tower law.

The Town Board revisited a 2001 proposal for a tower on a hill above Route 208 on

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Overwintering Bluebirds

by Anne Allbright Smith



*There'll be bluebirds over
The white cliffs of Dover
Tomorrow just you wait and see
There'll be love and laughter
And peace ever after
Tomorrow when the world is free.*



Some of you will recognize this popular World War II song made famous by Vera Lynn (now 98) in 1942. It was written before America had joined the war, to lift the spirits of the Allies at a time when Nazi Germany had conquered much of Europe and was bombing Britain.

The music was written by Walter Kent with lyrics by Nat Burton, American songwriters, but there's just one problem with it: there never were any bluebirds in Europe. The Eastern Bluebird, as well as the Western and Mountain Bluebird, is indigenous to North America.

Then there's this line from "Winter Wonderland":

"Gone away is the bluebird"



"The Board Meeting," above and, on page 13, Waxwings and bluebirds eating winter-berry. All photos: Anne Allbright Smith. Visit our facebook page for more.

That was written in 1934. Eighty years ago bluebirds pretty much left the northeast in winter. Now, Tom Lake, compiler of the Hudson River Almanac comments, "They light up the winter sky. In my lifetime they

have gone from being a sometimes sighting to a common occurrence in specific habitats." Many

Bluebirds, [continued page 13](#)

Wired Family Medicine

by Ray Smith

In June, 2015, Gardiner resident Frances C. Mayle III M.D. and Dawn Dooley FNP, who had been practicing primary care medicine as Modena Family Practice since 1984, joined Health Quest Medical Practice. Health Quest is the largest family of nonprofit health-care providers in the Hudson Valley, encompassing three hospitals and small practices in over 20 locations. Dr. Mayle and his staff continue to practice at the same location, off Route 32 in Modena.

Dr. Mayle explained why, in this day and age, going from small to big is the right answer, not only for him but for our community as well. "All professions and jobs in our society have changed dramatically," Mayle says. A computer system is necessary to manage patients through hospitals to outpatient facilities to nursing homes and back to the practice, and none work well at this stage. Plus, for a sole practitioner to construct such a system and hire people for case management is too costly. "Being part of a group and pooling and centralizing overhead results in major cost savings."

Dr. Mayle added that an alternative would be to operate a "concierge" type practice, taking only a small number of patients, who would pay to be part of the practice and then pay the doctor when he sees them. "But that would cut out a large portion of patients we've seen for thirty years. We didn't want to do that."

An immediate benefit to patients has been the Patient Portal via the Internet: patients can view the doctor's summary of their visits; lab test results; request an appointment or prescription refill online; share medical information with family members or others; and send an email message to the practice. This last eliminates

voicemails and telephone tag and, more importantly, the message to the practice goes to Terry Wager, Supervisor, Modena Primary Care, and not to some distant back office. You also get a quick response.

HealthQuest has taken over the billing, insurance contracts and other paper work. Admittedly, over the short term, learning and integrating the new systems and using EMR (Electronic Medical Records) have been "arduous tasks to learn." When I asked Dr. Mayle if he was a touch typist, he smiled over his glasses and said, "Yes. One finger at a time." Even so, it's a huge improvement over the usual physician's illegible scrawl. The old paper charts are retained, recent ones in the office but, if a patient has not been seen in three or four years, they're stored elsewhere in a secure location. Eventually, all the paper charts will be taken out and stored in a secure location.

Besides the HealthQuest signs, the first change to strike patients is the new flooring. Carpet replacement and a redo of the outside of the building had already been planned but were put on hold in order to allow HealthQuest to have input.

In the consolidation, HealthQuest was sensitive to patient concerns, especially the ability to reach staff members they had been dealing with for years. For example, the telephone tree (aka pushing buttons) you now get when you call the practice was not put in place until the practice had



Dr. Francis Mayle in his office. Photo: Carol O'Biso

been part of HealthQuest for over four months, and even now, if you push 0 or 6, you will get a familiar, friendly person in the Modena office.

The idea, ultimately, is to have four providers in the office and Dr. Mayle hopes to expand that to other subspecialties as well. Cardiology is already present in the person of Dr. Daniel O'Dea who is at the office Thursday afternoons. Dr. Mayle finds that getting patients used to a different organization—and convincing them that he isn't immediately retiring—has been far harder.

In fact, the HealthQuest connection facilitates the continuation of the practice whenever he does retire. "They're going to keep it running because it's

good for them and good for the community. If I retired before I did this, the office would close and there would be no family practice here anymore. Selling a practice as an ongoing business hasn't happened in a decade or more. The value of the practice ends up being only what you can sell the equipment for. Sale of the patient list doesn't happen anymore; money for good will doesn't happen anymore."

Mayle plans to be there for at least five years and says, "I hope that with this move the physicians practicing here twenty years from now will be taking care of the community as I've done for the last thirty years." He adds that the practice has always grown, without advertising, and HealthQuest has the ability to make sure it continues to grow. □

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Locust Lawn, A Treasure In Our Midst

by Gardiner Town Historian A.J. Schenkman

Gardiner has some real historical gems contained within its borders. One of those is Locust Lawn, which is situated on what is today Route 32 and used to be known as the Newburgh-New Paltz Road. This frequently overlooked Federal style mansion, constructed by Josiah Hasbrouck, is a must see not only because of the magnificent mansion, but also the scenic beauty of the property and the Evert Terwilliger house, perched on the banks of the Plattekill Creek. Built in the 1730s, it is an example of an early stone house, and is also connected to the history of the mansion.



Josiah Hasbrouck was born in New Paltz in 1755, the great-grandson of Jean Hasbrouck who, along with other Huguenot families, founded New Paltz. Josiah spent most of his life living in the Jean Hasbrouck house on Huguenot Street, where he ran a store. Between 1784 and 1805 he served intermittent terms as a Supervisor for New Paltz and, in February 1785, married Sarah Decker. Aspiring to higher office, Josiah relocated to Washington, D.C. when he was elected to the 8th Congress and served from 1803 to 1805.

When his father died in 1806, Josiah inherited the home on Huguenot Street and also purchased the Terwilliger home, farm, and mills on Route 32. This purchase took place in—according to Historic Huguenot Street, 1809 and, according to the National Register of Historic Places, the unlikely date of 1794—a discrepancy that points to

the misinformation that exists in local history.

In any case, when Hasbrouck returned from Washington he moved his family to the Terwilliger house. Already considered a wealthy man, the 1810 Federal Census listed Josiah as owning thirteen slaves and Hasbrouck did not intend on living in the “cramped” Terwilliger house for long.

According to tradition, Congressman Hasbrouck, was awe struck by the mansions near Washington, D.C. and wished his new residence to replicate the style, reflecting his wealth and accomplishments. It is believed that Josiah hired Hendrick Schoonmaker to construct the home, which was built in 1814. Eventually, the farm encompassed over 1,000 acres. Josiah Hasbrouck named his beloved mansion Locust Lawn, for the abundance of Locust Trees on the property. He lived in it until he passed away in 1821, with his son Levi taking over that year.

Locust Lawn remained in the Hasbrouck family for over a century—as a primary residence until the 1880s when Josiah Hasbrouck, Jr. died and then as a rental property—until, in 1958, the mansion, outbuildings, and Terwilliger House were given to the Huguenot Historical Society by Annette I. Young, the great-great-granddaughter of Josiah Hasbrouck. It remained part of the society until 2010 when the home, along with the Terwilliger House, was given to Locust Grove Museum in Poughkeepsie which had been founded by Young.



Left: The picturesque but “cramped” Terwilliger House on the Locust Lawn estate and above, Locust Lawn. Photos courtesy Locust Lawn. Visit our Facebook page for more pictures.

According to their website, “The historic Locust Lawn Farm is a rare treasure filled with the furnishings, clothing and possessions of five generations of the prosperous Hasbrouck family.” It is currently undergoing restoration, but look at their

calendar of events for the next open date (www.lgny.org/locust-lawn-farm). Locust Lawn is at 436 South Route 32 at the intersection of DuBois Road. For information on tours, call 845-454-4500 x 211 or email k.snodgrass@lgny.org. □

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Heart Attack: Helping Our First Responders Help Us

by Barbara Sides

We've all heard the phrase, "speed kills," but in response to a heart attack, the opposite holds true; getting a patient to the ER as quickly as possible and having the ER ready to treat upon arrival is the key to preserving life and avoiding disability.

A heart attack occurs when one or more of the heart's arteries become blocked. Blood supply stops or slows; the heart muscle doesn't get enough oxygen; heart tissue can die. According to the New York Times, the death rate from coronary disease has dropped 38% in a decade. Better blood pressure and cholesterol drugs and reduced smoking have contributed, but also highly significant are streamlined treatment protocols for when a patient arrives at the ER.

Reducing "door to balloon time"—the time it takes from the arrival at the hospital door to the pushing of a balloon into an artery to insert a stent and restore blood flow—is crucial. As a result, hospital cardiac teams, on call and ready to go in response to a single phone call, are becoming the gold standard of care. EKG's (electrocardiograms) transmitted electronically by paramedics from an approaching ambulance, combined with that waiting cardiac team have reduced treatment

time to about an hour or less for at least half of the patients who arrive in cardiac arrest.

The national average "door to balloon time" is 90 minutes. According to Dr. Michael Yen, a cardiologist at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Vassar's average in 2015 was 59 minutes. Since it's going to take this long upon arrival at the hospital, getting there quickly is important.

So what happens when a Gardiner resident who suspects she or a loved one is having a heart attack calls 911? The call goes into the Kingston 911 Call Center. According to Deb Bailin, Captain of the Gardiner Rescue Squad, "What you tell the dispatcher is vitally important. Give as much information as possible."

The dispatcher will decide if only Gardiner Rescue need respond or if Mobile Life (a paid service) should also be dispatched. Calls, however, can evolve. If only Gardiner has been dispatched and, upon arrival, the chief officer or EMT determines that a paramedic is also needed, Gardiner will call for one. Mobile Life will always have



Left to right: Fire Chief Dave Bailin, Gardiner Rescue Squad Captain Deb Bailin, Assistant Fire Chief Brian Stiscia. Photo: David Sides

a paramedic on board but Gardiner does not. "We don't have the licensing or the medications for a paramedic," adds Deb Bailin.

The Gardiner Rescue Truck carries volunteers certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), while the ambulance cannot leave without an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) aboard. In the case of a suspected cardiac arrest, Gardiner EMTs can take an EKG and verbally transmit results to the ER by radio or phone.

The steady decline of landline phones often makes it difficult to pinpoint a caller's location. Landlines automatically provide the location; not so with cell phones. According to Fire Chief Dave Bailin, "A cell phone caller must be able to give the physical address. For those who employ babysitters or other caregivers who may not know the address, it's essential to write it down. If the caller is incapable of providing the information, the 911 Center uses "ping" technology to obtain the GPS coordinates of the cell phone caller." But, the Chief adds, "this wastes precious time."

Houses that lack numbers visible from the road are a particular concern of Assistant Fire Chief Brian Stiscia. Time is wasted trying to find a house in the dark. "You can't imagine how often this happens," laments Brian. (For \$10 the Gardiner Fire Department will make you a reflective house number sign that can be installed on a mailbox or post. The money is well spent and is also a fundraiser for the department.)

Gardiner Rescue Squad members are volunteers and are, for the most part, at their own jobs during the day, so Mobile Life covers Gardiner from 6AM to 6PM daily. Mobile Life's closest location is Highland. In the summer though, when our area is full of visitors, a crew will try to edge closer to Gardiner to accommodate the increased number of calls. They may be seen parked in a parking lot in or close to Modena. Response times determine how quickly a patient arrives at the ER door. "Day, time, weather conditions, where a call is located; these all affect response time," adds Chief Bailin.

AED's or defibrillators (the machine that shocks a heart in cardiac arrest) are carried in Gar-

Heart Attack, [continued page 11](#)



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Lucile Michels-Morris: An Artful Life

by Annie O'Neill



Lucile Michels-Morris, known to all as Lucy Morris, knew what she wanted to be from early childhood. Her trajectory to being an accomplished painter and pastelist has encompassed myriad art lives!

Growing up close to Lake Michigan honed her incipient awareness of light and horizon lines, elements that are now critical to her landscapes and still lifes. Now, it is Gardiner that has benefited from Lucy's expertise; while on the Gardiner Library board for six years she developed an art exhibition program that enriches our lives.

Lucy received her BFA from the

prestigious Moore College of Art in Philadelphia. While there she worked for Prints in Progress, a community-based art workshop. She soon met the founder of The Fabric Workshop and became its first master printer. For seven years she worked on over eighty projects with internationally known artists Roy Lichtenstein, Richard Tuttle, Scott Burton and Robert Morris (whom she would later marry), as they translated their concepts into the innovative world of pattern and print on fabric.

After receiving an art education degree from Columbia's renowned Teacher's College, Lucy taught at many places, including Parsons School of Design, Women's Studio Workshop and Children's Aid Society. Her husband-to-be had owned a house in Gardiner since the early 1970s, and after shuttling between Gardiner and Manhattan, where Lucy had moved to pursue being a teacher, Lucy and Robert have lived art-intense lives in Gardiner. Their daughter Laura, a Wallkill High School graduate, went to Skidmore, to graduate



Left, Sunflowers and, above, Lucy Morris in her studio working on Lily With Limes." Both pastel paintings on paper. Photo: Annie O'Neill

school in London, and now works in media in Paris.

During these years Lucy was immersed in exploring her own interior focus. Her broad scope of interests has included printmaking, silk screen, encaustics, enameling, and silversmithing. But, her abiding interest is pastels and painting translated into landscapes and still life. She is most drawn to realism and classical elements but her work also includes very contemporary elements creating a palpable surface tension. She evokes mood through the subtlety of color creating a visceral response for the viewer.

In her cathedral-like studio

are, of course, surfaces for pastels, as well as an etching press, a professional enameling kiln, a workbench for small metal projects and easels for oils. The breadth of her skills allows her to combine watercolors with pastels, alter and manipulate photographs into stunning painterly and abstracted works, and seriously push the boundaries of her mediums.

In 2016 look for her work at the Gardiner Library, April 1 through May 29. Lucy's show will be an inspiration to artists and gardeners, and to all who are fascinated by seeing through the eyes of an artist. □

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Library Supports Our Migrant Community

by Carol O'Biso

Editor's Note: The Gazette first wrote about the literacy program at the library in the winter of 2009.

There is an invisible population living among us. They work all around us and yet we rarely see or speak with them. Ulster Literacy Association tutors Kathe Nack and Linda Hart have been teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) to the local farm workers, our invisible neighbors, at a weekly class in the Gardiner Library for the past three years.

Every Wednesday evening, rain, shine or wint'ry mix, they come to practice their English, and their dedication and determination is truly inspirational. Some of the workers go back to their home

country for a few months each year while many are here year round, but all benefit from learning English. Whether it is being able to speak to bosses, doctors or their child's teacher, speaking English diminishes the isolation of being a stranger in a strange land.

One of the biggest obstacles to attendance is transportation to the Library so, for the last year, the tutors have been taking ESL classes to the farms. They offer classes during thirty minute lunch hours, or when work is finished for the day and make learning English more attainable.



The 2015 ESL holiday party. Center, Kathe Nack (holding the reindeer) and Linda Hart, with several students. Photo courtesy Kathe Nack.

There are many people waiting for a tutor and Ulster Literacy is ramping up the Farm Worker Program. You can take part; on Saturday, March 5th, the Gardiner Library is beginning a Tutor Training Program. It is not just the

learners who benefit. All the tutors agree that they learn every bit as much as they teach.

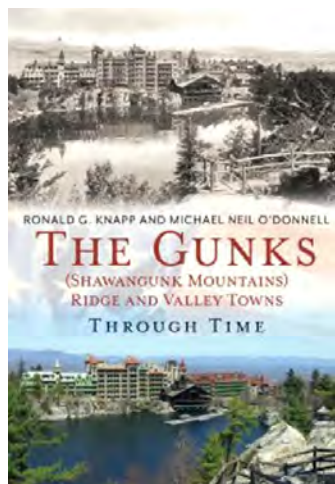
So, want to change a life? It may change your life as well. Contact Casandra Beam (845) 331-6837 or Casandra@UlsterLiteracy.org. □

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Local Book Chronicles The History Of The Ridge

by Fred Mayo

For a wonderful journey through some local history, pick up a copy of *The Gunks: Ridge and Valley Towns Through Time* by Ron Knapp and Michael Neil O'Donnell. The book begins with a brief history of local communities in the area, including the history of Lake Mohonk Mountain House, and Cliff House and Wildmere, both once located at Lake Minnewaska, and contains fascinating images that compare pictures of old buildings and landscapes with their present incarnation.



Who would not want to see how the Elting Memorial Library or P and G's in New Paltz has changed? Or what Majestic's Hardware, the Tuthilltown Mill, the Town Hall, or the Reformed

Church in Gardiner looked like at the beginning of the last century?

The book is very readable and fascinating for anyone in-

terested in the history of the Shawangunk Ridge and the towns that surround it. Although only 96 pages, it is full of fascinating historical information, including how the Smiley brothers altered local communities by bringing tourists to the area who could appreciate the Gunks for hiking, swimming and relaxing. They also contributed to preserving the beauty of the Shawangunk Ridge. As Ron Knapp said, "The Smileys brought a new ethic to manipulate the landscape to nurture mind, body and spirit."

Seven dedicated volunteer photographers worked hard over a two year period to take pictures that matched the season, time of day and perspective in the postcard images from the past. The results are remarkable. For more information visit www.gunksthroughtime.org. The

book is for sale at the Gardiner Library, Mohonk Preserve Visitor's Center and local book stores. All proceeds benefit Mohonk Preserve. □



Gardiner Tree Moves To NYC

by Anne Allbright Smith

"I remember jumping over that tree!" exclaims Al Becker, who built the bungalow next door to the house with the tree in 1952. At that time the now 80 year old Norway Spruce on route 44/55 just west of Lombardi's was the tree in which the neighborhood children played. "It was well taken care of and it just grew and grew."

Al's Asendorf's parents, Gertrude and Albert, moved into the home with the tree in 1957, when the tree was about 10 feet high and Albert was four years old. Al grew up, married Nancy Puchalski, and Al and Nancy's children and grand children grew up with the tree also.

But then the tree became too big—79 feet high, 47 feet in diameter. Al became concerned that in wind the tree might fall on the house or wires, so concluded that it needed to be removed. He accessed the Rockefeller Center website and donated his tree for their annual event. He was surprised when their gardener came out to inspect the tree and, later, when he received word that his

tree had been chosen to be adorned with five miles of lights as the most famous Christmas tree in the world.

Watching the tree come down was an event viewed by several hundred people. The tree had been prepared ahead of time, its limbs bound and lower limbs individually wrapped in burlap. It was wrenching for some of the observers to see this once magnificent tree now trussed and attached to a crane hovering many feet above. It was cut with a chainsaw in minutes, but settling it on the flatbed trailer took about an hour as arborists used wedges and ropes to very carefully prepare their fragile treasure for its trip to Manhattan.

The spectacle in Manhattan today is a far cry from 1931, when Italian construction workers excavating the site for Rockefeller Center mounted the first tree, decorated with cranberry strings and foil wrappers from blasting caps!

How does Al feel? "Happy and honored." Seeing the tree at



The tree in Gardiner in October. Photo: Anne Smith. Bottom: The tree in all its glory at Rockefeller Center, Photo courtesy Rockefeller Center.

Rockefeller Center "was very exciting. The tree looked much bigger than in the front yard!" The wood will eventually be donated to Habitat for

Humanity. What will he do now? "Do the whole thing over again—" plant another tree in its place for future generations of children to enjoy. □

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Meet Our New Town Board

by Laurie Willow

As we all know by now, the November 2015 elections brought some changes to our Town Board and we'd like to take this opportunity to introduce everyone to the team that will guide us until the next election in 2017.

New Supervisor Marybeth Majestic was previously a town employee and a civic volunteer and has been a member of the Gardiner Historical Society since 2001. Majestic was the confidential secretary for three past supervisors: Laura Walls (currently elected to a council seat), Jack Hayes and, briefly, Carl Zatz. During those tenures, Majestic worked on budgets and meeting agendas and has some knowledge of the workings of the office of Supervisor. This was Majestic's first run for public office.

Returning Town Clerk Michelle Mosher has been the town clerk in Gardiner for 20 years, since 1996. She has always run unopposed except for one election, testament to the professional and very capable job that she does. Michelle is the first person who will greet you in the Gardiner Town Hall. She is very knowledgeable in all areas of running the town, and is happy to be helpful.

Returning Councilman Mike Reynolds with four years of experience on the Town Board, was reelected to a second four year term. Mr. Reynolds expresses enthusiasm for monitoring the development of the Gardiner transfer station and researching cost-effective alternatives to enhance recycling. Mr. Reynolds is a big proponent of solar energy, and would like to bring that resource as a business to Gardiner.

New Councilwoman Laura Walls was elected to a 4 year term. This is the first time Ms. Walls has served in this capacity. In 2001 and 2002, she served as Gardiner's Supervisor. Ms. Walls has also served on the New Paltz School Board. Ms. Walls has said that "public service is fundamental to our democracy; it is worthy of the effort it demands both personally and professionally".



Councilman John Hinson (not pictured above), was elected to the town board two years ago, and has two years left of his four year term to serve as a town board



David Dukler, Brian Stiscia, Mike Reynolds, Marybeth Majestic, Laura Walls, Michelle Mosher. Photo: Laurie Willow

member. He will be working on the repairs and maintenance needs of the town hall, utilizing the 18k grant we received for the front entrance. Also he is interested in pursuing grants and support for the rebuilding of the Clove Road bridge.

Councilman David Dukler

was elected to the town board two years ago, and has two years left to serve his 4 year term as a town board member. Mr. Dukler is interested in creating recreational uses for two large town parcels, one adjoining

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Town Board, from page 8

ing Majestic Park and the other at the Transfer Station. He also wants to develop a plan for the pole barn at Majestic Park so we better utilize the building

Returning Highway Superintendent Brian Stiscia was elected two years ago and has been part of the Gardiner Highway Department for over 20. He ran unopposed in the 2015 election. He also serves as the Assistant

Chief of the Gardiner Fire Department.



Returning Town Justice Bruce Blatchly is starting his 21st year, or 6th four-year term as Town Justice. Justice Blatchly is well into the process of implementing procedures to deal with new requirements to provide counsel to all de-

fendants at the initial arraignment. This requires considerable organization, since these arraignments often occur in the middle of the night when lawyers are not available

Returning County Legislator Tracey Bartels was reelected for her 5th term to the County Legislature. First elected in 2003, she served from 2004 through 2007 when she declined to run for re-election. After a two term hiatus, during



which she pursued her career, traveled extensively and started a family, Ms. Bartels came back to the legislature in 2012. Ms.

Bartels has a long record of being an environmental advocate. Most recently, she supported the ban of hydrofracking fluid on county roads. She expects to continue her focus on no tax increases and solar energy. □

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Just A Sip ...

New bar offers wine on tap and a very “grownup” cherry

by Carol O'Biso

Holy Cow! I can now drive only three miles and sit in a blisteringly cool space (sleek and modern; 24-foot ceilings; barnwood trim ...) and order the lovely Awosting Sparkling White on tap. It will be served to me in a nifty little mason jar and, if I want to gild the lily, I can “upgrade to a Kir Royale (the Awosting White with cherry liquor added) or, for no additional charge, I can get it dressed up with a most astonishing Luxardo “Gourmet” maraschino cherry imported from Italy—dark, firm and not too sweet, with the almost-black syrup just tart enough to compliment the sparkling white wine.

All of this is at Gardiner Liquid Mercantile (GLM) in the Hamlet opposite the Village Market. Owner Gable Erenzo has procured a cocktail of licenses that create the first establishment

of its kind in NY State; GLM can serve alcohol for both on premise and off premise consumption—as long as it is produced in NY State.

Bartender and Manager Zoli Rozen originally thought a “New York only” license would be limiting. Instead, they have at their fingertips local wines from Whitecliff, Magnanini, Brotherhood and more (the wine on tap will change from time to time); all the beer they could wish for, from Yard Owl, Bacchus Brewery, Sloop, Millhouse, and Keegan—several on tap at any given time—and distilled spirits from Tuthilltown (where Gabe used to be a part owner), Magnanini, Warwick, and Coppersea. They also have their own spirits, which GLM will be distilling at Dressel Farms. Another unique feature at Liquid Mercantile is that almost anything you can order at the bar you can buy a bottle of in the shop up front.



Awosting Sparkling White with a Luxardo cherry. Photo: Zoli Rozen

There is no beer or wine menu yet, only a “cocktail” (spirits) menu, which makes the place seem expensive, but ask Zoli for a rundown of the beer, wine or mixed drinks and you’ll find quite a range. There’s also a happy hour from 5 to 7 Monday, Thursday and Friday, when tap beers and small plates are \$5, and tall cans of NY beer are \$3. The

unusual menu of “small plate” bar food will help you soak up the alcohol.

Gardiner Liquid Mercantile, 128 Main Street, (845) 633-8764. Mon., Thur., Fri. 4:30-close. Sat & Sun 11:30-close. Close typically means no earlier than 10pm and as late as guests remain at the bar. Gardinerliquidmercantile.com. □

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Unexpected Item In Bagging Area

by Carol O'Biso

Do you know there is evidence of liquid water on Mars? Of course you do. We all know this because some really smart people drinking Caramel Brulée Lattes in a room on earth invented a machine with a big camera on it. That machine flew, all by itself, all the way to Mars. When it got there it took, all by itself, insanely clear pictures of the surface of Mars so the people in the room could say, "Holy cow, it looks as if there is evidence of liquid water up there." By this time the people were on their 347th Caramel Brulée Latte because it took an unimaginable amount of time for this machine to get there, take the pictures and send them back. But it did it. All by itself. You get my point? I knew you would.

So, do we want to be behind those people on the regular checkout lines? All we just bought was a rotisserie chicken to round out tonight's dinner of rotisserie chicken. The people on the regular checkout lines last went shopping during the Pleistocene age and have run out of everything it is possible to run out of, including some things that haven't been invented yet. No, we want to be over *here* on the *self-checkout* line, but there are some tricks to using these self checkout machines. To scan an item you should,



apparently, climb up on top of the scanner, then reach down like an ape and swing the item across the glass plate. Or maybe you should lie on the ground and sneak the item up over the glass, or maybe ... all I know is that if you are silly enough to just stand in front of the scanner and pass items across the glass a saccharine female voice will say "Please rescan your item," enough times that you will begin stabbing yourself in the neck with a ballpoint pen.

Another tip has to do with your bags. Yes, it is environmentally sound to bring your own bags, and the area to the right of the scanner is called "the bagging area," but do not, under any circumstances, place your *bag* in the *bagging* area. If you do, a saccharine female voice will say, "Unexpected item in bag-

ging area" enough times that you will begin stabbing yourself in the neck with a ballpoint pen.

On occasion, you will actually succeed in scanning an item. You must immediately set that item in the bagging area. It doesn't matter if it's the only item you bought or that you can comfortably hold it in your hand. Just set the little sucker in the bagging area. If you do not, a saccharine female voice will say "Place item in bagging area," often enough that ...well, you know.

If it's a light item, like a greeting card, set it down with enough oomph that the bagging area can tell it's there, but not too much oomph. If the weight of the item does

not seem to match the expected weight of the item you just scanned the saccharine female voice will again say, "Unexpected item in bagging area." It will say this often enough that when you are finally done your husband, instead of signing his name on the signature pad, will scrawl "F*** You," on the signature pad. By then he will not care that this missive is going to the credit card company, not the store, and that the credit card company will be saying "What's this guy's problem?"

So, in summary, do we want them to take these self-checkout machines away? Of course not. What we want is for them to work. All by themselves. □

Heart Attack, from page 4

diner's ambulance as well as in the Chiefs' vehicles. Nevertheless, Deb emphasizes the importance of immediate response. "Your best chance of saving someone's life is for a bystander to start CPR immediately. Compressions keep the heart muscle functioning." (The Gardiner Rescue Squad gives courses in CPR to the public on request, and plans to offer a CPR course this spring when new protocols are released.)

To help our first responders help us, be prepared to provide as much detailed information as possible when calling 911; know your location if calling from a cell phone; teach your

children how to use a cell or landline and give accurate information; be sure your house number is visible from the road; and take a CPR course this spring. By so doing we increase the odds of a good outcome in an emergency and empower ourselves to act in our own best interests or those of a loved one when the stakes are exceedingly high.

You can call Rescue Squad Captain Deb Bailin at 845 372-4921 for information about this spring's CPR course or to order a house sign.

Editor's Note: Also see "Medical Emergency" Ray Smith, Gardiner Gazette, summer 2012. □

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Cell Service, from page 1

Wright's Farm. They then proceeded to completion with that plan. The tower and concrete pad were installed almost a year ago by Wireless Edge, the consulting company that builds tower facilities and then markets them to providers. The first step in confirming when it would be in action was contacting John Arthur at Wireless Edge. He referred me to Hank Vance, the town of Gardiner Building Inspector. Hank authorized a building permit on behalf of Verizon, applied for by Rob McCabe. I spoke to Mr. Mc-

Cabe of Pyramid Network Services, who confirmed that Verizon planned to be online in early spring. John Arthur also confirmed that AT&T would be on in the spring as well.

It is wonderfully difficult to see the tower from the road. A representative from Wright's Farm took me on a tour through the orchard to see the tower first hand. We wound past lines of fruit trees and then, all of a sudden there it was, right in front of us, ready for action. □

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Bluebirds, from page 1

migrate, but others stay put.

While many songbirds are endangered because of loss of forest habitat, the bluebird prefers open country, and usually nests in cavities or birdhouses near the edge of fields. Bluebirds increased in number as forests were cut in the early 1900s, but declined sharply in the mid-1900s because of the widespread use of pesticides and competition for nest sites from house sparrows and starlings.

Today, bluebirds have made a significant comeback primarily because of conservation management, including the popular use of bluebird houses. They are often seen in Gardiner through the winter months, frequently coming to bird baths, and to feeders for mealworms.

Heated bird baths are available on line from many sources, and dried mealworms can be bought at Agway.

Their song is distinctive and can be heard by googling "eastern bluebird song youtube." A rather low pitched, warbling song of several phrases, it is fairly easy to remember and you may hear the bird before you see it. Come spring, you may be tempted to build or buy a birdhouse yourself. Wooden ones do not age well; the synthetic Audubon house is a better choice, and be sure to check bluebird specifications; the hole size is especially important to prevent entry from house sparrows and starlings.

In the meantime, look around. That flash of blue could make your winter day! □

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Rosewater Facials, Keeping Us Beautiful

by Fred Mayo

Two and half years ago, Sharon Boduck opened Rose Water in a small private studio located on the second floor at 127 Main Street in Gardiner. She came to the area in 2008 from San Francisco and has enjoyed becoming a local resident who operates her own small business in Gardiner.

As an Esthetician—a licensed professional who has learned skin care, skin waxing, and other related treatments—Sharon offers an array of services from eyebrow and Brazilian waxes to corrective facials customizing each treatment. She specializes in chemical peels and enzyme facials, a transformative experience for skin texture and pigment issues. She also uses facial and neck massage as part

of any treatment, depending on what the person needs or wants, all in a soothing, peaceful environment.

As the owner of her own business she delights in the details; the chance to create an experience for her clients from start to finish. She coordinates her schedule and the clients' to create balance in her personal and work life.

The business has about one hundred regular clients who come for the special, personalized service and her respectful approach to grooming them. As she described her business, "I love making it a special experience for people and making it an affordable luxury."

Sharon had worked for other companies in various locations when she became captivated by the quaintness of Main Street, the street lights, and the charm of a small town. The opportunity to open her own studio in a location where people could walk to the post office and the village market appealed to her. Operating her own business also gives her a chance to limit the number of clients that she sees in a day so that there is always time to do it right.

In her own words, "Being the owner and the esthetician is a wonderful combination; I have a chance to run a small business the way I want to."



Look up as you drive down Main Street in the Hamlet and you'll see the sign ...
Photo: Fred Mayo

Rosewater, [continued page 12](#)



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Rosewater, from page 14

She does not advertize, relying on word of mouth to spread news of her business. For some, that means the treatments are their beauty secret. It also encourages women to bring their sisters, friends, mothers and mothers-in-law (sometimes) to enjoy these services,

For those looking for a special experience, contact Sharon Boduck at Rose Water Facials and Waxing. Her website is www.rosewater.skincaretherapy.net and her phone number is (845) 430-3595. □

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They tried to get me to hold out a tin cup ...

... but I do have *some* standards.

Still, won't you consider making a donation to *The Gazette*? Just place it on my teddy bear. (I'm a very sophisticated girl and I also accept checks, to Box 333 Gardiner, or PayPal, via www.gardinergazette.com.) The winter issue is always a tough one since everyone is out buying gifts for their puppies during the holidays. We could use your support!

Love, Gracie

P.S. I'm only wearing this dopey shirt because I got a hot spot on my shoulder and I won't stop fussing with it...

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