

The Gardiner Gazette



Spring 2016 - Issue #30 Free! Please take one

An Amphitheater for Children and the Community

by Fred Mayo

If you have a dream and share it, it might just happen! Last summer, Liz Burdick, fourth grade teacher at Lenape School, was talking with new Lenape Principal Audrey Wood about the importance of drama and theater in education, and the lack of performance space. The principal replied that Lenape needed an amphitheater. The next day, the Duzine/Lenape PTA President Jenn Voorhis got involved and now, thanks to the excitement and commitment of the parents and teachers at Lenape,

an amphitheater has been designed, approvals are being sought, fund raising is being launched and Liz Burdick says, "I always wanted to see an amphitheater at school—to have an outdoor theatrical space—and now the dream is going to happen."

The proposed amphitheater will have a portable, storable band shell and will offer Lenape students a place to perform theatrical pieces, act out aspects of subjects they are

learning in school, practice and present musical events and dance activities, and engage in outdoor learning activities. The space will also be available for community groups during the summer and at other times when not in use by the school.

Designed by Justin Dates of Maser Consulting P.A. in Newburgh and being built by Mark Masseo of Masseo Landscaping, Inc., the amphitheater will be built into the naturally sloping land right outside the gymnasium and cafeteria at Lenape. It will have five tiers in a circular pattern and seat up to

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The Light Was On ...

Remembering The Last Days Of The Gardiner Hotel

by Angelo Druda



A post card of the Gardiner Hotel in the early 20th Century. Photo from the Betty Moran Collection, Hudson Valley History Project. Visit our facebook page for more.

The tiny hamlet of Gardiner, summer, 1970... once the few shops on Main Street closed and the local baseball game wrapped for the night a country quiet and darkness enveloped the place.

Having grown up in the shadows of New York City, the peaceful town of Gardiner seemed like everything I had missed in a noisy life. A group of us—seven to be exact—freshly graduated from SUNY New Paltz, took up residence there, across the street from the dark and gothic Gardiner Hotel. The old and abandoned building had already seen its day. The walls sagged every which way and the whole place seemed to droop towards the ground. There was only one thing left to happen to the Gardiner Hotel; soon it would be gone.

In the meantime, there it stood, commanding the view from our

Hotel, continued page 13

New Paltz High School Art Show At The Gardiner Library

by Nicole Lane

Getting teens through the doors of the Gardiner Library is challenging; today's teens are busy people. Consequently, our youth programming has focused on younger children, with an occasional attempt at creating a program attractive to teens.

A few years ago, while admiring the work of New Paltz High School Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art students, I realized that the Gardiner Library could be a venue to display their work. I got in touch with an art studio teacher at the high school and a partner-ship was born.



Laurene Pountain, in her 16th year of teaching art at the high school and her fourth year of teaching the AP class, says "the AP class is rigorous." The portfolio the students are required to send to the College Board consists of 24 finished works: twelve demonstrating their understanding of a wide range of



approaches and twelve that are a related body of work demonstrating a thoughtful investigation of a specific visual idea. Students are also required to send five physical pieces representing the best of their work. The 19 other pieces are sent digitally.

Since a public exhibit is a requirement for the final exam, Ms. Pountain suggested a show at the end of the school year. The students are responsible for all organizational aspects of the show and I was thrilled to work with such talented and motivated



Far left: Physiogonomy by Maya del Rosario. Left: Grace, by Jamie Hulsey. Above: Eggs, by Victoria Siple and below: The Other Side Of Me by Thomas O'Connor. Images courtesy NP High School.

young adults. Of the twelve AP Studio Art students it was difficult to single out a few, but this years' students include Maya del Rosario, a drawing and painting student who is exploring color schemes and their inverted counterparts using the "invert colors" option on her cell phone; Thomas O'Connor, a graphic artist who translates digital phenomena, such as computer code and brain scans, into original works of art; Victoria Siple, a photographer who transforms everyday kitchen items into abstract compositions of light and shadow; and Jamie Hulsey, a design student who combines text and the human form in an attempt to unify them into one complete image.

Ms. Pountain is obviously



very proud of her students and what they have accomplished. The AP Studio Art class will be displaying their artwork at the library for the month of June. Once the reception is scheduled, it will be widely advertised. Don't miss this opportunity to see some terrific art. You will not be disappointed.

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Greg Dawes

"Seaweedosaurs" And Seagulls A Michael Gold Exhibit

by Fred Mayo

Several years ago, Linda and Michael Gold were walking along a beach in Prout's Neck, Maine, a favorite spot, when Linda noticed some unusual clumps of seaweed. She called Michael to look; it looked like a heart and the scene warmed them both, especially since it was Linda's birthday. Soon they started looking for other unusual seaweed and found lots of "specimens" of dinosaurs and birds. From that moment, Michael realized he had discovered a whole "new species."



Michael named them Seaweedosaurs. He spent the rest of the day taking photographs all over the beach, building a huge collection of images of the "prehistoric animals" in the sand. It was the discovery of a lifetime, and the result will be a show this summer at the Gardiner Library.

Mounting photography shows has always been a special event for Michael Gold. He is always capturing unique images, and his photographs are unlike anyone else's. Over the past eight years, he has held about a dozen intriguing oneman shows all over the Hudson Valley. They have included "Eccentricities of Tuscany, Provence, and the Cost Brava," "Keepers," and various exhibits of Street Photography.

As a professional photographer, Michael Gold has always put a great deal of thought and preparation into his shows, wanting to provide social commentary, satire, or humor along with first rate photographs. Choosing the pictures, designing the mats, and selecting the framing give him a chance to create wonderful shows and promote the education and enjoyment of photographs by the general public. In this show, he has not made any changes to the "prehistoric animals" he discovered on the beach in Maine; nothing was rearranged to make a special shape or figure.



Left: A Seweedosaur and above, Seagulls. Photos: Michael Gold.
Visit our Facebook page for more pictures.

The reason for mounting this show at the Gardiner Library includes his excitement about these special photographs which, for the first time, illustrate a "new species undiscovered by Charles Darwin," and his admiration for the community room at the library. This is his second exhibition there.

According to Michael, this particular show is totally different than any of his previous ones. When he first discovered the "animals" and "birds," he took over 500 pictures. "No one has ever seen anything like it before; it was one of the most exciting moments of my life!"

Now he is excited to share the images. He is also excited that school children will attend and have the pleasure of seeing Seaweedosaurs and Seagulls. He hopes the show encourages children to notice shapes, shading, and forms while also encouraging them to do some-

thing creative for themselves – in short, he wants to inspire them to see things in ways new to them.



He will even host a contest encouraging children, as one group, and adults, in another group, to name some of the images in the pictures. The best name choice from each group will win an 8 x 10 signed print as a prize from the photographer. Michael Gold's photography show Seaweedosaurs and Seagulls will be on display at the Gardiner Library from July 10 to August 28 with an opening reception, which is open to everyone, on Sunday, July 10 at 2 pm. You can find out more information at www.gardinerlibrary.org.

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Charity: Not Just A Nice Thing To Do

by Barbara Sides

Volunteerism and civic engagement, often passionate, are alive and well in our little corner of the Hudson Valley. Our Gardiner Day and Senior Resource Committees, library, fire department, town boards and political committees attest to a robust civic life. Inarguably, another model of caring and shared commitment to one another is former Gardiner resident and restaurateur Garvan McCloskey.

Garvan, with his wife Leonie, a private duty nurse, is a native of Ireland and has been doing what he does best—enthusiastically engaging with the public and supporting a host of charities—his whole life. He's a physically fit person (he's run the NYC Marathon in 3 hours and 16 minutes) and used that skill to raise

\$500,000 for charity in a relay event in Donegal, Ireland. At his recently opened new restaurant (Garvan's on Huguenot Street in New Palz) 10% of food receipts on Tuesday and Wednesday are divided equally among Family of New Paltz, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Washbourne House, a domestic violence shelter for women and their children, and Sparrow's Nest, an organization that provides meals to the families of caregivers diagnosed with cancer. Garvan, himself, is a cancer survivor. And, he says, "I treat my staff like my family and look after them. I take that responsibility very seriously."

Garvan's parents, both in their

80's, are his role model and inspiration. Former schoolteachers in Ireland as well as the parents of eight children, they worked tirelessly with the poor and sick throughout their lives and continue to do so. In Garvan's words, "They are people of faith. No work of charity for them is too big. Charity isn't a nice thing to do. If we want to be part of a community, it's the wages of belonging. My parents love the underdog, and I do too." People who are drawn to community and giving back find the messenger, as well as the message, irresistible.

Feeling grateful for the outpouring of support for his new restaurant venture, Garvan feels "truly blessed and excited to be here." His intention, "in the fullness of time," is to invest more in the community, not less. "The least I can do is give back to the less fortunate



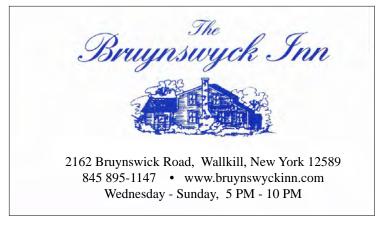
Garvan McCloskey. Photo: David Sides

in our community. I get far more out of it than I put into it and I'm humbled by the things that I see."

When visiting Garvan's, you won't find shamrocks or leprechauns. What you will find is a generous, thoughtful man who, in addition to offering people excellent food and drink, provides many of us an outlet for our better instincts.

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Hibernation In Mild Winters

by Carol O'Biso

After our bear arrticle in the fall issue, we wondered about the impact of a mild winter. According to the DEC, warmer winter weather can affect bear hibernation periods to some extent. The timing of den entrance is primarily tied to the amount of daylight and natural food availability, and varies by the sex, age and physical condition of the bear. Warm weather and the lack of snow will cause more bears to be active further into the winter, and it will cause more of them to get up and move about throughout the winter.



Pregnant females and females with cubs will be less affected by the mild weather, being tied more to the amount of daylight. Young males and very large males are most likely to be active later in the season and, occasionally, throughout the winter. Young, single bears have been known to leave their dens even during normal winter conditions to go after bird feeders and garbage if these attractants are in the vicinity of the bear den.

JBJ Pet Care: Taking The Worry Out Of Going Away

by Anne Allbright Smith

When Jon Benner was a kid he had a black and white domesticated "fancy" rat named Spiffy, whom he used to carry in his shirt pocket. Rats are prone to tumors, and Spiffy, at age four, developed one. Jon recounts how his father, a general and vascular surgeon, did surgery that prolonged Spiffy's life by two years. Six is old for a rat!

Jon and his family moved to Gardiner a little over a year ago, where he founded JBJ Pet Care, a dog walking and pet sitting service. He grew up in Carmel Valley, California, hiking the coast, studying ecology in college. He went on to climb trees in the montane forests of Hawaii for his doctorate in ecology, which focused on the nutrient cycling of lichens living in the tree canopies. Switching gears, Jon then spent two and a half years in southern England at a Theravada Buddhist monastery, first as a lay person and then as a novice monk. Returning to the States, he reconnected with his graduate school girlfriend, Becca, and they got married. Jon did odd jobs until her career took them briefly to Kingston, Jamaica, where he taught middle and high school science. Becca then took a job working for The Nature Conservancy in Durham, NC, where Jon taught high school biology. He also found his calling—pet sitting!—and took a job with Walk and Wag in Chapel Hill. Small wonder that when Becca became the science director for The New York chapter of The Nature Conservancy and they moved to Gardiner, Jon opened JBJ Pet Care.

Does your dog need fresh air, a walk and bathroom break while you're at work? Are you going away and need someone to make sure your kitty has fresh water, litter, and food, and someone to play with? Jon finds his work "more relaxing than full-time teaching, I get to be outside, and in a job where it's easier to be 'mindful' (a Buddhist term). He finds the "simplicity of working with animals and the company of animals soothing," and far more peaceful than sitting in front of a computer. And then there's the added benefit of a flexible schedule in a beautiful area.

Jon and Becca have an orange tabby named Fig, a grey tabby named Pickle and a two year-old daughter named Cassandra. Recently Jon returned from California and asked Cassandra what Pickle had been doing while he





Jon Benner with Pickel. Photo: Rebecca Benner

was gone. Without hesitation she replied, "Vomiting."

Apparently, Jon is quite good at what he does; when he first came to our house a year ago to meet our dogs, there was the usual response to strangers—loud, incessant barking and pacing. When Jon came this time for his interview, both dogs ran up to him eagerly, did not bark at all, and then lay down and went to sleep. Obviously an old friend had come to visit. Jon's web site is www.jbjpetcare.wix.com.



Yard Owl Brewery, Now Serving Outdoors

by Ray Smith

Yard Owl Craft Brewery opened its enlarged brewery and tasting room last December at 19 Osprey Lane, off Steve's Lane in Gardiner. Spring makes this spot an even more attractive stop off; to make the most of good weather, tables are set out back where customers can relax, enjoy a brew and something to eat. Since it's just a short distance from the Rail Trail, runners and walkers can easily stop by for a quick pickme-up, or just to catch their breath.

Inside is a large, spacious open room with high ceilings, a long tasting bar on the right and the brewery to the left. This has allowed the brewers to increase production from one 31 gallon barrel to two barrels at a time, with room for further increases. The tasting bar has four taps,

serving a rotating variety of Yard Owl's beers, plus Kettleborough Cider. Growlers and 22 ounce bottles of Yard Owl beers are also available for sale.

Michelle Walsh, President, and one of the three founders and owners, along with Brewmasters James Walsh and Kristop Brown, explained, "We have no plans for bottling in 12 ounce bottles. Natural CO2 is formed as our beers are conditioned in the bottles. And that needs space you don't have in 12 ounce bottles, where the CO2 is added mechanically."

As a brewery with a tasting room, Yard Owl serves finger foods like cheese, seasonal fruit, crackers and charcuterie. Also available



Brewmasters, James Walsh and Kristop Brown, "behind the taps" in the Osprey Lane tasting room. Photo courtesy Yard Owl

are sausages, hot dogs and hamburgers, sourced from the neighboring Full Moon Farm.

The same coffees and other beverages served at the Mudd Puddle in New Paltz will also be available at Yard Owl's facility on Osprey Lane.

For information about tasting room hours, call 845 255-3436 or check out Yard Owl's website, yardowlcraftbrewery.com which is the same on Facebook. □



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Correction

(Will the real Terwilliger House please stand up ...)

by The Gazette Editorial Committee



It was brought fairly quickly to our attention that, in the winter issue of *The Gazette*, we placed the wrong picture in the article *Locust Lawn, A Treasure In Our Midst* by A.J. Shenkman.



The actual Terwilliger House is seen at left, above, and we know that for a fact because there is a sign out front that says "Terwilliger House." The house we pictured (above) is ...well, we have no idea.

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How To Make A Law In Gardiner

by Laurie Willow

Did you ever wonder how a law is created in Gardiner? First of all, there is a difference between a law and a resolution. A law sets policy. There are consequences for not obeying a law.

A resolution, on the other hand, is the town board's official recognition of an action or event without actually making law. For example, a resolution was passed changing the fee schedule and hours of operation of the Gardiner Recycling Center. Another example of a resolution declares the month of May to be Gardiner's Building Safety Month, sponsored by Hank Vance, Building Inspector.

Resolutions don't have the force of law, though if passed, they certainly tell the public which way the wind is blowing. Some resolutions simply mark a fiscal event or recognize a contribution, to name just a few uses of resolutions. An example of a law, on the other hand, is our law that mandates Planning Board members must have certain hours of education on town law.

By the time a law "goes on the books" and actually changes the way we live, it has traveled a long road. This road begins with someone's (or a committee's) idea about how to fix a problem, streamline a disorganized procedure, or create something new. That individual or committee must then bring the idea to the supervisor or to a Town Board member who can introduce the concept to the board. In addition, the Association of Towns, a local organization of which Gardiner is a member, researches a proposed law to check on its constitutionality and, in cases where the proposed law will impose fees on the public, check on its legal ability to do that.

There is an established procedure for making a new law and there are guidelines to follow from New York State. If there is a general consensus on the Town Board after the concept is introduced, the draft law usually goes to an attorney hired by the Town for correct wording. Once the draft of the law is written and reviewed by the Supervisor and the Town Board, it goes to public hearing at a Town Board meeting, focusing on input from citizens of Gardiner. Using this feedback, and further discussion, the proposed law may be amend-



Town Clerk Michelle Mosher with a hefty volume of the laws of the Town of Gardiner. Photo: Laurie Willow

ed, scrapped or continue in its original form. Finally, the Town Board votes on whether or not to create the law.

If you want to see the law of the Town of Gardiner, you can go to the town website at http://townofgardiner.org. Do you think you have a good idea for a new law in the Town of Gardiner? Let's say you want a law with penalties for keeping a building on Main Street vacant or with the grass wild. You would contact a Town Board member and discuss it with him or her. Become part of the process!

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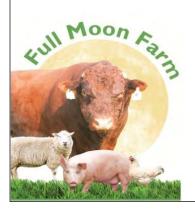
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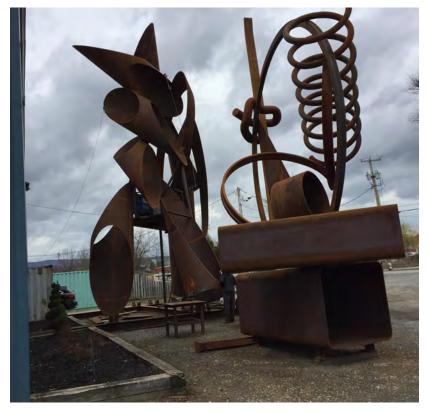
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What is it?



For the answer, see page 15, and more photos on our Facebook page! Photo: Anne Allbright Smith







Just A Bite ...

Appetizer Heaven At Nu-Cavu

by Carol O'Biso



A few Fridays ago, three of us went to Nu-Cavu intending to have dinner and got waylaid by the appetizers. They all sounded so good we couldn't make a decision, so we decided not to make a decision and ordered everything (OK, not quite everything, but five things, which was enough to make main courses both unnecessary and unwise).

The range of dishes we had that night was exceptional. The Fried Calamari, with marinara and Fra

Diavlo sauce (\$14), was very crisp, but still very tender. Sausage and Broccoli Rabe with garlic and olive oil with Garlic Bruschetta (\$10) was great, with the bruschetta almost upstaging the rest of the dish; the bread had been brushed with olive oil and fried until crisp around the edges and chewy in the center. When drenched in the surrounding juices, it was wonderful. Sautéed Prince Edward Island Mussels with Marinara sauce were big and meaty, with great "scoopable" sauce, and the mussels also come with Fra Diavlo or white wine garlic sauce (All \$14).

From the specials that night, we selected Crabby Balls, panko encrusted Crab Rangoon balls (\$12) and the intriguing "Bacon Steak," pan seared



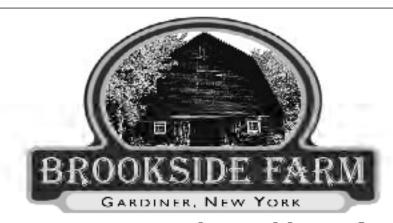
At left Bacon Steak. Above (clockwise from top left:) PEI Mussels, Sausage and Broccoli Rabe, Crabby Balls, Fried Calamari. Photo: Carol O'Biso

pork belly served over fresh spinach with grilled mush-rooms (\$11). It was the star of the show. The pork belly had been braised until incredibly tender and seared until it was crisp and the flavors were perfect. The Crabby Balls were a close second—like mini crab cakes with a crunchy crust.

Owner and Chef Mike Gelsomine says specials stay on the menu from Thursday through Sunday, and, if they're popular, reappear from time to

time. (Let's start a write-in vote for that Bacon Steak ...)

Nu-Cavu has been located at the Kobelt Airport at 857 Plains Road in Wallkill since 2009. The inside space is wonderful and it also has an expansive outdoor patio for alfresco dinning in the summer. They open at 11:30 am Wednesday through Sunday for lunch and dinner. Head on over. It was fun, lively and delicious. 845-895-9000. Closed Mon. & Tues. □



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Good For Me, Bad For Me: A Mild Winter Delivers Both

by Carl Zatz

Good news for the Ford Motor Company: due to a moderate winter and low fuel prices, Ford's sales grew 11 percent—the company's best February since 2005. Bad news for the Iditarod Race Committee; organizers of the 1000-mile dog sled race in Alaska announced that 300 cubic yards of snow had to be hauled from Fairbanks to Anchorage for the opening ceremony.

Gardiner's reaction to the warm temperatures of this past winter was also mixed. "There's been less plowing, less salt on the roads, fewer emergency repairs," said Brian Stiscia, Superintendent of Highways, "economically great for the town." Jimmy Wild, second generation well driller and owner of Jim Wild Well Drilling, agrees. "I'm happy with the high temperatures. It's been a decent winter for me," said Wild. "I finished jobs that I could never have started any other winter."

But landscapers, suppliers and builders who depend on extra material, plowing and sanding-and made investments in new equipment-are experiencing double digit losses with little or no revenue to show for their efforts. Majestic's Hardware on Dusinberre Road felt the pinch too. "Business was definitely off," says owner Rick Majestic. "We packed away loads of salt; normally a pallet of salt won't last a day, and snow blowers and shovels stayed unsold. That'll mean unplanned interest on goods in inventory."

Other anomalies of the unusual season include the Gardiner Day Committee hosting its annual Christmas Caroling in 60-degree weather, and Matt Goodnow of Goodnow Family Farms on

Route 44/55, launching the family's Christmas Tree business in a season that saw a record-breaking 67 degrees on Christmas Eve. "But I am happy," he said. The winter made caring for my cattle a lot easier, so winter was good and bad."

The Ranch Skydiving Center at Gardiner Airport did well; hibernating skydivers emerged to dot the skies. Aerial Photographer Laszlo Andacs lives in Gardiner and travels the world filming gravity defying events. "Usually it's a lot below zero at altitude, but some weekends last winter were great for jumping," says Andacs. Jumpers who go to Florida stayed back." Good for them, but many of Gardiner's recreation dollars landed elsewhere; local ski areas watched their customers head for Colorado and Utah.

Cross-country skiers used to first-rate skiing on Mohonk Preserve's excellent trails were left wanting, but Preserve Director of Marketing & Communications Gretchen Reed says the mild weather actually resulted in more visitors at the Preserve.

Among those who were economically immune, reaction was good. Adriana Baez, who works at the Village Market, says, "I was disappointed about the warm Christmas, but this year I got to work faster. There were no delays anywhere," and Gardiner resident Michele Tomasicchio, owner of Made With Love Skin Care Prod-



Photo courtesy: the internet

ucts, said "I love winter, but honestly there was a lot less shivering this year, and a lot more time outside."

What is bringing Americans such freakish conditions? National Geographic is putting its money on global warming, El Niño, and the jet stream. El Niño is the occasional warming of the Pacific that brings with it warmer temperatures, increased moisture and a significant northward push

to the jet stream. Add a little global warming, and we are experiencing what appears to be a trend for years to come.

"It's been early spring all winter," said trucker and hauler Scott Barclay, buying a coffee at Ireland Corners Deli in March. "I'm not sure yet whether it's been good for me or bad for me." By now, he's probably figured it out, and we hope the news was good.

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Amphitheater, from page 1

500, though it is also designed to be suitable for smaller groups sitting in just the first few rows. Plans call for surrounding the amphitheater with low maintenance porous stone and natural greenery.

It is truly a community project since both Justin Dates and Mark Masseo are local residents who graduated from the New Paltz schools, and the stone for the seats will be created by David Kucera, Inc., located on Steve's Lane in Gardiner.

In less than one year, this project has produced a great deal of excitement among teachers and administrators at Lenape and throughout the school district. Last December, the Board of Education gave it conceptual approval, and a group of nine dedicated individuals—Liz Burdick,

Jennifer Castle, Patricia Culp, Kim Helmstter, Mark Masseo, Kendra Soule, Rich Souto, Jennifer Voorhis, and Audrey Wood—have been working on the project since then.

And the excitement is growing; as Jennifer Voorhis, President of the Duzine-Lenape PTA said, "This amphitheater is an opportunity for the community at large—both New Paltz and Gardiner residents and people connected with all four schools—to support something wonderful to enrich the lives of children and everyone in the community who uses the amphitheater."

The committee must now raise the \$ 150,000 needed. There is already a GOFUND-ME page started, and in April, the New Paltz United Teachers and the Parent Teachers



A conceptual sketch of the new amphitheater. Image courtesy: Lenape School

Association organized a fundraising Sing Along, held in the High School Auditorium, at which children from Lenape and adults in the community performed songs from "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown." Grants are being explored and, in September, the group will launch an online silent auction. They

have also ordered 4,000 engravable bricks which are being sold for \$200 to be placed between rows of seats. You can help by sending your check made out to the Duzine-Lenape PTA (with "amphitheater" on the memo line) to Lenape School PTA, 196 Main Street, New Paltz, NY 12561 or donate through the website www. newpaltzamp.org.



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Hotel, from page 1

house, a dilapidated reminder of days gone by.

In 1869, the railroad came to Gardiner and the hotel was built alongside the station. Tom Callahan ran the place for years, and to many, it was Callahan's Hotel. Local Republicans held their conventions there. School Supervisor Conventions were held at Callahan's, too, and in 1910 there was a coroner's inquest there, after Gilbert Sanborn died at the hands of fellow construction workers. By 1970, though, there was no real need for a hotel in Gardiner and the place had gone dark waiting for the end.

Then, one evening, I stood on the porch looking across the street and noticed that a light was on inside the empty hotel. Drawn by the glow, I crossed. It was near the entrance that I first saw him—a smiling man with long hair, about 30 years old—standing outside smoking a cigarette. He waved me towards the door and introduced himself as David, the new caretaker of the Gardiner Hotel.

I was initially overwhelmed by the sheer size of the room we entered; it must have been the convention hall. David and his wife, Jan, had moved several couches and a large dining table with chairs together on one side of the huge great room, carving out a congenial gathering area in the midst of the moldy odors and the ghosts of another era. There, they had set up housekeeping with their infant son. Over the following nights and days, guests began to arrive once again at The Gardiner Hotel. Artists, writers, college students, street people. was a decidedly bohemian scene that coalesced around David and Jan, and the music was always on-Tristan and Isolde, Tannhauser, Ride of the Valkyre-booming from the largest stereo sound system I had ever seen. David was a scholar of Wagner and the music was punctuated by his homilies on the composer's life and work. He had been misunderstood, Herr Wagner, we were told, his reputation a casualty of German history. Love and transfiguration was his true legacy, not hate and war. Sometimes we would listen to Pink Floyd and The Grateful Dead, and David was lucid in describing the virtues of these musicians as well.

Well after midnight, James Joyce would appear; the books would be distributed and the readings would begin. David was a scholar of Joyce as well—Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Ulysses, Finnegan's Wake; who knew what great treasures James Joyce had embedded in those books? David did.

It had become evident during our college years that the world in which we lived was not Disneyland. There was trouble everywhere. The Vietnam War was raging, thousands killed every week. The President of the

United States was inviting young men to join in the slaughter. University campuses were erupting. Students had been killed. A Civil Rights movement was confronting the evils of apartheid in the streets of America, and people had been killed there too. Those hours in the great room with David and Jan were an oasis, and a profound, transforming shamanic journey in many ways. Night after night in that summer of 1970, I headed over to the Hotel. It was as if Greenwich Village had come to downtown Gardiner.

Then, the moment was gone. David and Jan packed up their car and left without really saying a word. Our little group began to break up as our destinies called. Any lingering consolations of adolescence came to an end for

me when I received my letter from the President of the United States: I was being sent to war. I returned to Long Island to pack up my life. Months later, on a visit to say goodbye to my remaining housemates, I drove down Main Street and it was gone. The entire Gardiner Hotel had been carried away by demolition crews; not a stick remained. I stood in the spot where the great room had been. And I said goodbye.

Editor's Note: There is some indication that David and Jan (not their real names) might have been squatters and not official caretakers. They most recently lived in California, not far from the author, where David passed away recently and prompted this flood of memories. Historical notes in the article were taken from the Hudson Valley Historical Society website and various articles by AJ Schenkman.

Back Comment

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Daffodils In Gardiner

by Fred Gerty

The New York Botanical Garden planted 150,000 daffodils last fall, a start in their plans to celebrate their 125th anniversary. Ultimately, the garden intends to plant one million daffodils. An announcement stated, "Nothing guite captures the feeling of the coming of spring like a hillside blanketed with yellow and white blooms, each flower signaling a return to longer days and warm nights." William Wordsworth Longfellow knew this, too, and his poem reflects his delight:

"...my heart with pleasure fills, And dances with the daffodils."

How about you? Planted any daffodils lately? If not, why not? They do very well in Gardiner, and are a sure sign that warmer days are on the way. Daffodils may be planted "Brown or Green." Brown is

the usual condition of bulbs widely available and put in the ground in October or November. But daffodils retain their foliage until well into June, or even July, and could be lifted, divided, and planted then, too, when they are "Green." In fact, if adding additional daffodils to a location, planting green is probably the way to go.



If you have daffodils in your yard this spring, take a look at them. Are there clumps



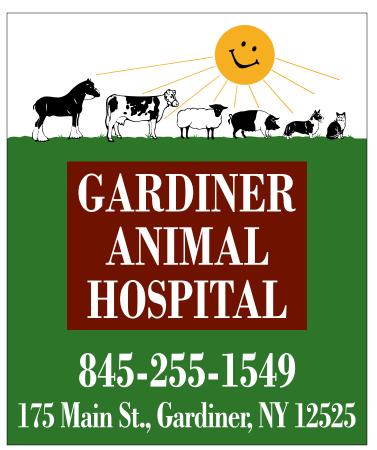
Daffodils along Albany Post Road. Photos: Fred Gerty

of long, skinny leaves, and no or few flowers? Daffodils bloom prolifically for years, but eventually, through below ground subdivision, become so crowded that no flowers appear. Time to dig them up, and re-plant them "Green."

Years ago my gardens started out with a few dozen bulbs, both yellow and white. Eventually, their blooms were disappointing, so I began the process of digging and dividing them. It's hard work.

First, fill a bucket half way with water, gather your gloves and a stout spade or shovel. Sink the shovel into the ground about an inch away from the green leaves of the clump and work around it. Tilt the shovel back, and a huge bunch of bulbs will appear, all stuck

Daffodils, continued page 15





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Daffodils, from page 14



together. Separate them into individual bulbs, and plop them into the pail with the water. Don't

be surprised when all the leaf stalks wilt and flop over; that's normal.

Then go to wherever you want to establish some more daffodils. With the spade or shovel, dig a slit in the soil and drop in one bulb with the leaves attached. You'll probably find a variety of bulb sizes, small to large. Doesn't matter, plant them all. The larger bulbs may bloom the next spring, the smaller ones in a year or two. Spacing can be as you wish, but at least a foot apart is normal.

The advantage of planting daffodils green in the spring is that you can see exactly where they went. While planting in the fall, I've more than once sliced a buried bulb in two, not knowing it was there. Spring planting avoids this dilemma, and lets you see how the planting bed will look in future years, be it long, winding, circular, or curving.

So, lots of holes to dig, lots of bending and stomping the soil back. Nice if you have a friend, child, or spouse to help. You dig; they drop the bulb in the hole. You can spread out the work over days, or even weeks. As long as the leaves are green, you can lift them and move them. The reward will be many more daffodils in full flower for many springs to come.

You can see the result of my efforts along the west side of Albany Post Road, just south of Cooks Lane. The hundreds in bloom there came from just a few dozen, divided and replanted over the years. \square



What Is It? It's the sculpture, "Archway II," by Ukrainian artist Alexander Lieberman (1912-1999). Due to its size, it's being constructed outdoors by KC Fabrications on Steve's Lane. There are three large scale sculptures by Lieberman at Storm King Art Center. One, a model of the finished product in bright red, will be shipped out west later this year. You can see it on our Facebook page, pretty dif-

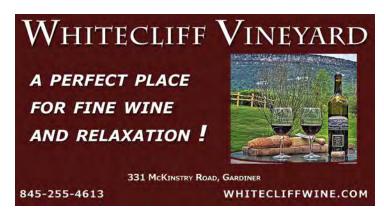
ferent from the rusty version seen outdoors now.

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Gardiner Day Is Not So Far Away

by Cindy Dates



Mark your calendars! Members of the Gardiner Day Committee have been busy little bees planning events and fundraisers for the rest of 2016. Here's a look at what is to come:

August 6th:

An old fashioned Hoedown and BBQ fundraiser

September 10th:

27th Annual Gardiner Day, 11am-4:30pm

October 27th:

Annual Pumpkin Walk

December 2nd:

Christmas Tree Lighting & Caroling

Watch the local papers for further details on these events. As always, we welcome new members and volunteers. Contact Jewell Turner at 845-255-9675.

<u>Back Comment</u>

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P.S. My dad did this to my hair. Unkind, to say the least, wouldn't you agree? Love, Gracie

About This Publication

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