

The Gardiner Gazette www.gardinergazette.com

A call to community ...

Free! Please take one









Main Street Gardiner 2012. From top: Majestic's Hardware; Enthusiastic Spirits & Wine; The Village Market; HiHo Home Market & Antiques. All photos: Kit DeFever

Not Just A Pretty Face:

The Case For A Revitalized Main Street

by Laurie Willow

The visual trip down Main Street in Gardiner has definitely improved in the last five years. There have been several major renovations to existing buildings and three years of the Cupcake Festival on Main Street. These revitalization efforts showed some promise and direction for our "downtown." In the past couple of years, however, the process of beautifying and developing Main Street has pretty much ground to a halt. Why this standstill? What can we do to get it going again? Why even bother?

This pause can be attributed to a number of factors. The recession is one. It's been felt by the

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Fire District Secretary Joyce Alexander Retires

by Ray Smith

"I have traveled to some of the tallest mountains in the world but always love coming home to my little mountain in the backyard." And so she has. Joyce Alexander still lives on a piece of the 120-plus acre Albany Post Farm where she grew up and where her family operated a dairy farm.

On June 30, Joyce ended her longest service to our community, retiring after thirty-two years as Secretary of the Gardiner Fire District. She is still serving Gardiner as one of five elected Fire Commissioners—another responsibility she has held for eighteen years.

Joyce explained her travels, "I have traveled to many parts of the world and attended many Elderhostel programs and intergenerational programs with my three older grandkids, who are



Joyce Alexander Photo: Anne Allbright Smith

now college graduates. I plan to travel with my five younger grandkids and show them this beautiful world. I'll continue with my hobbies such as Road Scholar traveling and visiting historical sites throughout the US, together with my conservation efforts."

Joyce did not officially meet Walter Alexander until they were

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Can You Read This?

by Anne Allbright Smith

Imagine you can't. Imagine that you can't read road signs, a menu, a book or newspaper, a shopping list, an email or this *Gazette*. Imagine you can't write appointments on a calendar, read a medicine label, balance a checkbook, write down directions, fill out a job application ...the list is endless. Then imagine that those hieroglyphics suddenly begin to make sense!

Literacy is something everyone reading this article takes for granted, yet many in our community struggle with it. The reasons are complex and the outcome can be devastating. Ulster Literacy Association, a non-profit organization established in Kingston in 1981, seeks to address this need by training volunteer tutors and bringing them together with adult students who have the courage to seek help. Ulster Literacy offers free tutoring in small groups or one-to-one settings, in public places such as libraries. The students may be studying English as a second language, or speak English but for one reason or another have missed the opportunity to learn to read and write.

The Gardiner Library hosted *Ulster County Literacy* last August; nine volunteers completed the 18-hour certification course before being paired with students. The workshops included methods and materials, cultural considerations, and discussions concerning typical needs of those requesting assistance.

Two of our Gardiner volunteers are Laura Rose and Ginny Gravatt. They both work with their students for an hour each week. Laura feels she has "lucked out" with her student, who is fluent in English but needs help in reading and writing. "He came to me with many of the basics in place; he's already been in the program for two or three years and his verbal skills are excellent." In October he was reading short sentences and paragraphs. Now he's reading simple stories. "English is a confusing language. For example, how do you pronounce GH? You can't sound it out except in "ghost". It sounds like F in "enough", and is silent in "night". My student asks why it doesn't make more sense and isn't easier. I tell him it was done on purpose to plague him...and then we laugh and keep reading." Laura is very proud of him as he is making excellent progress. She moved back to this area in 1999 after retiring from teaching social studies in Brooklyn, taught history part time at Marist and

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then began selling real estate. When the market got busy she gave up Marist, but missed teaching. "When the Library asked for volunteers, I knew it would be something I'd be happy doing."

Ginny Gravatt, a retired travel agent, is glad to have the free time "to give back to society by helping somebody who needed it." She also looked forward to meeting other people in the community with the same interests. Her student, from St. Lucia, is now a nanny for a family in Highland. Francilia had some schooling in St. Lucia. The students were taught in English, but the skills of reading and writing were not encouraged and they did not become proficient. By the time she was 14 she no longer attended classes. Francilia made sure her children were taught to read and write, hiring tutors for them so they would learn properly.



Ginny Gravatt and student Francilla. Photo courtesy Ginny Gravatt

"We have been together once a week since January," Ginny says. "Her reading has improved. It is exciting to hear her say words we have worked on and know the meaning. She told me that she wants to be able to sit down in a restaurant and read the menu, a new challenge that will be met! Francilla is a willing student, tries her best during our sessions and practices the lessons at home when her busy job allows her the time.

I look forward to our meetings and hope that my efforts can make a difference for her. It is gratifying to be part of this large program bringing new-found freedom with each new skill that is learned."

The Friends of the Library have made a generous donation to the library to purchase educational materials for the program. Next spring the library will host another literacy volunteer training program. Also, our librarian, Nicole Lane, and literacy volunteer Nancy Egan plan to visit the local farms to see if there would be interest in setting up a program in which tutors would go to the farms and work with a migrant population as well as year round farmer workers. It says much for all involved that out of a training class of nine volunteers at our library, eight completed the program and are currently tutoring students!



Photo: Anne A. Smith

The View From The Supervisor's Desk

by Laurie Willow

From the desk of Supervisor Carl Zatz, here are the issues at Gardiner Town Hall these days ...

Sidewalks (Project 80.38 & 80.2): There are two phases of sidewalks. Phase One goes from the Library

to the Reformed Church and was scheduled to begin this July. Unfortunately, the Town recently received word that the anticipated building of this first section of sidewalks has been once again delayed. The Federal Highway Administration is demanding that the job be re-bid. Phase Two, going from the Town Hall to the Rail Trail, is still undergoing the same very high level of scrutiny that NYS uses to examine the Tappan Zee Bridge project. Supervisor Zatz is hoping that because of the delay on Phase One, the two sections will be scheduled at the same time. When is this? We don't know.

Cell Tower: The Planning Board met on June 19th to discuss a site plan for the 120-foot tall steel tower proposed for a 100-foot by 60-foot fenced complex next to the Town Hall. It became clear to the Planning Board that the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) determination did not include the information that the cell tower site infringes on DEC wetlands. Since the Town Board is the Lead Agency, the proposal was sent back to the Town Board to possibly rewrite the SEQR.

Campground on 44/55: The Town of Gardiner has been acting as the mediator between the developers, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, and the neighbors who live around the 46-acre parcel. The issues focus mostly around noise, light pollution and enforcement of campground rules. The question of whether alcohol should be allowed is also one of the issues.

Town-held Property: After a great deal of discussion and debate, the Town Board voted to sell the old library/firehouse building to a private buyer. Deed restrictions that will support its landmark status will be placed on the building before the sale. The building will be placed on the open market in the next few months. □

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Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack Urges You to Keep Your Tax Dollars in Ulster County



Nina Postupack. *Photo: courtesy UC Clerk's Office*

Ulster County loses tens of thousands of dollars in revenue each year when Driver's License and Registration Renewals are mailed to the state or processed online. Help keep 12.5% of each renewal in Ulster County by mailing them directly to the local DMV office at P.O. Box 1800, Kingston, NY 12402.

County Clerk Postupack strives diligently to provide excellent customer service to the public. In 2007, she obtained a grant which allowed the local Motor Vehicle Bureau to

install a computerized queuing system which allows the office to handle transactions more efficiently. This system cuts down on wait times while also allowing the customers to sit comfortably on benches rather than having to stand in line. Renewals can also be processed by stopping in to the main office located at 244 Fair Street in Kingston, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

For your convenience you may also wish to visit one of our many DMV mobile unit locations. The mobile unit travels to the New Paltz Town Hall every week on Thursdays and, in order to better serve the southern portion of the County, in October 2010 it expanded its locations to include the Shawangunk Town Hall every second and fourth Friday of the month. Hours for the mobile unit are 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Help us keep your hard earned tax dollars right here in Ulster County where you live and work. For more information or to obtain a complete listing of all mobile unit locations, please contact Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack at (845) 340-3040 or visit us on the web at www.co.ulster.ny.us/countyclerk. \square Back ...



Three Generations Of Hardware In The Hamlet

by Laura Rose

George and Irene Majestic opened Majestic's Hardware in 1947. The business is still a fixture of the hamlet, offering quality tools, hardware, building, painting and gardening supplies, the odd item you can't find anywhere else and, most importantly, ser-

vice. They fix lawnmowers, chainsaws, and other small engines. They sharpen chainsaw blades.

It's a small town store that contributes to the sense of community here. It's a place you go where someone will learn your name and say hello when you come in.

George and Irene's granddaughter, Kat Majestic, is the most recent addition to the staff. She joined her family at the store in October. It wasn't a given that she'd join the family business, even though she had fond memories of the place: "My sister Sandra and I ran around the store once or twice a week,

dusting and keeping the stock neat. It was fun." She thought she might like a different kind of career, and to travel.

Her mom encouraged her to go away for school; she started her college studies in Equine Management (her first love is horses). However she found herself homesick and also unsure that this was the right career path for her. "It's hard to get a good paying job in that field, and I didn't want to muck out stalls for a living."

She decided instead to pursue her second love—art—at SUNY New Paltz. This brought her home to her horses, Porthos and Benny. They are her favorite art models. This summer, their portraits will be on display at Horses In The Sun, a company in Saugerties focused on producing hunter/jumper horse shows. She also shows them there, and participates in competitions.

Two years ago, Kat and Porthos had an accident. "It was a windy day, we were cantering, a potted tree fell over and he started bucking." She says he tripped over her trying to get out of the way when she fell. Even though she broke her neck, she isn't afraid of him as what happened was an accident, and he is good-natured. She was in the hospital for five days and in a brace for three months, but this didn't stop her from running with

In Good Taste

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45 Main Street, New Paltz, NY 12561 845 255-0110 and training the horses. She was riding again a few days after her brace came off.

Kat has worked at Advanced Auto, and on her 92 Camero. She says that between the two she realized she liked working with her hands, hardware, tools and parts. She also knew her family would need her help to keep the store running into the next generation. She decided, after graduating a year ago, to make a commitment to her family, this community and the store.



Rick and Kat Majestic outside the store. Photo: Laura Rose

She brings, along with her commitment, computer skills. There's now a website, majesticshardware.com, which includes a nifty link to a Do It Yourself site which can walk you through many home repairs. "I'm very happy with my decision. I'm with my family and my friends, and I feel like I'm part of a living history. I really enjoy the customers too; I like being a part of Gardiner."

She's been surprised that her art training comes in handy in many ways at the store. "For example, having made frames for canvases is useful when someone wants ad-

vice about how to fix an antique screen door. I know which nails they should use so they won't split the soft wood."

Majestic's Hardware is open 6 days per week, from 8-5:30, and on Sundays from 10 - 2. \square Back ...

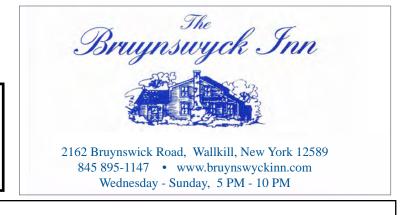


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Main Street, from page 1









From top: Willow Realty; Private Home; Multi-Business building; Fire Station.

entire country and, unfortunately, there is not much we can do about it on a local level except vote for those we think have good ideas about fixing it.

Another much more home-based factor is community and town government focus on creating and maintaining a beautiful, active face to represent the town: we need more of it. In order for an "off the beaten track" town like Gardiner to become a vital business center it must be a place with enough to offer that people make a point of going there. Critical mass is important too; one new business every other year won't be transformative, whereas a rapid influx of new businesses has a greater chance of success.

Why spend money and time to revitalize Main Street? A quick internet search on "Beautify Main Street NY" turns up a lot of names. There are reasons all those towns have active Main Street Revitalization programs. Statistics show that a thriving and attractive Main Street adds to home values, helps attract business investment and improves the town reputation. Research places beauty as one of the top three factors in creating community pride in a town. Pride in your town brings people

together, and Main Street is the most visible face of a town. Generally, the benefits associated with visual and economic development are the creation or preservation of jobs and small businesses, lead-

ing to new economic vitality and added revenues for existing businesses. An increase in the collection of commercial taxes from thriving businesses lowers residential taxes.

Ulster County feels strongly enough about the correlation between economically viable towns and beautiful Main Streets that it has put together a Main Street Strategic Toolbox. A look at the details of the "Land Use and Design" section shows that Gardiner is on the right track in some areas-sidewalk construction begins this summer, addressing UC's call for "Street Design and Pedestrian orientation"—but it could stand to take a hard look at a couple of others. Ulster County suggests using incentives and streamlining approvals to encourage creative and small businesses. Gardiner's approval process remains long and arduous. A more defined and less expensive Planning Board process for people who are willing to invest in a business on Main Street would go a long way towards revitalizing Main Street, as might laws limiting the amount of time a building can be abandoned. Gardiner can also research and apply for "Beautify Main Street" grants.

Support from the community is, of course, important too. Remember to buy from stores on Main Street whenever possible. We have a hardware store, a clothing store and an antiques/home decorating store. We have three caterer/restaurants. We have a bike shop and a great little wine shop. We have a florist/gift shop, and now we have massage by the minute. We have two real estate brokers, an architect and a haircutter. We have Pilates and chiropractic. These businesses only exist because of community support. They create jobs, tax revenue, and pride in our sweet little downtown Gardiner.

Back ...

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You Choose ... Milk Or Jails

by State & County Correspondent Nadine Lemmon



This year, Governor Cuomo made a radical choice—he reached for the milk.

After decades of politicians, judges, communities and forprofit companies upholding state policies that correlated prisons with jobs, Cuomo had the temerity to say: "prisons are not an employment program."

In this year's budget, he shut seven of the states' 67 prisons, eliminating 3,800 beds, and put his (our) money on...yogurt.

A little background: the crime wave of the 70s brought a boom in prison construction upstate in the 80s and 90s, feeding the private companies that run those prisons a steady stream of customers. (The US leads the world in incarceration rates, in part due to post-Rockefeller drug laws, mandatory sentencing and "zero tolerance" policies.) But over the last decade, for reasons not entirely understood, crime rates have plummeted, over 40% across the country, and a whopping 80% in New York City.

As prison beds emptied, policymakers became nervous about closing the prisons—you see, prisons are an important source of jobs in rural New York. But now, with Cuomo's lead, \$100 million

has been set aside to help rural communities transition from prison-dependency. A good chunk of that change will help to encourage a budding industry: Greek-style yogurt.

The stuff has taken off, and it's dreamy stuff—from all perspectives. It has the texture of a fabulous dessert but is a guilt-free, high protein, healthy treat that some supermarkets stock in the health food section instead of with the rest of the yogurts. (If you haven't tried it yet, you're missing out!) New York has a corner on the market. Chobani (in the lead, with 57% US market share) and Fage both have their main manufacturing plants here. Alpina is building a new \$20m plant in Batavia, NY. It's good for farmers. High demand for local milk means a steady customer and the ability to expand herds at a time that per capita milk consumption is declining. The product has good margins. Because it takes three pounds of milk to make one pound of Greek yogurt, it's twice as expensive as regular yogurt. Local manufacturing facilities mean farmers have reduced transportation costs and green house gas emissions. The market is expanding. Sales have skyrocketed 2,500% since 2006, and the current \$1.5 billion in sales is almost double from last year. In order to keep up with demand, it is estimated that farmers will need to expand milk production by 15% in the next two years.

This is a value-added, pro-farm, good for the world and your tummy product...that creates lots of jobs. Now, onto the next problem—who's gonna buy all those nearly-new prisons? If you're interested, Mid-Orange Correctional Facility, just around the corner in Warwick, is up for grabs. \square Back ...



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Medical Emergency:

What Happens When You Call 911

By Ray Smith

"Nobody calls 911 when it's a good day," according to Art Snyder, Director of Ulster County Emergency Services. "They're in shock; they're hysterical; they're angry; or just plain scared."

If you call 911 from Gardiner, your call is received by an **Emergency Services Dispatch**er in a small brick building atop Golden Hill Lane in Kingston. He or she has undergone four months of training to operate a Dispatch Center console with five screens, a keyboard, multiple phone lines and a two-way radio. The screens show: a map of the emergency service units covering the location of the emergency; phone lines; an automatic vehicle locator; a computer aided dispatch (CAD) on which information is typed; and radio frequencies. Before the Dispatcher even answers the call, some information be-

DINF 65

Left to right: Karen Baxter, EMT, Deb Bailin, 1st Lt, Jordan Bailin, Donna Lyons, EMT, Helen Zimmermann, Capt, Photo Ray Smith

gins to appear on the screens automatically.

The Dispatcher asks a series of scripted questions to determine location (in case the connection is broken), precise nature of the problem, name of the caller, phone number, etc. When typed,

the information appears next to a time stamp on the CAD screens of the team.

Callers want instant action and may feel frustrated by the

questions. What they don't know is that another Dispatcher is using the information posted to determine the proper level of response (police, fire or emergency medical service), and while the first Dispatcher is still talking to the caller a response unit may already be enroute to the scene.

The first responders for medical emergencies are the 14 active members and officers of the Gardiner Rescue Squad. All

are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), with 160 hours of course and practical training in basic life support (BLS), including defibrillation and limited medication administration. EMTs then follow written New York State BLS Protocols. They are on call essentially from 6 PM to 6 AM daily and usually during weekend days. When they are not available the gap is filled by Paramedics from Mobile Life Support Services, Inc.

The highest level of emergency medical provider is the Paramedic, with 1,600 hours of classroom and practical training at a community col-

lege. Paramedics follow the Advanced Life Support (ALS) Protocols of the Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Council. If they are also responding, Gardiner's Rescue Squad always reaches the scene before Mobile Life. Our Rescue Squad initiates care and stabilizes the injured immediately, regardless of severity. On arrival minutes later, Mobile Life's Paramedic would take over advanced life support, if such care were required. During 2011 in Gardiner, Mobile Life's support was requested 305 times and they transported patients 176 times.

911 ... continued page 15







Location: Gardiner

by Betty Marton

At first, all they wanted was a house. But when producer Ryan Biazon and director Rick Cordero realized that their real estate agent, long time resident Laurie Willow, had a wealth of knowledge about the local community, they asked her to find locations for the country western music video they were making for musician Dylan Reynolds. Cordero, who was nominated for Video Director Of The Year at the 2009 BET Awards and received the Best Film Award for his feature film, "Inside A Change," is known for applying unusual shooting methods in his work, and knew exactly what he wanted.



Preparing for the shoot-out on Main Street Gardiner, and starlet Ruby. Photos Laurie Willow

The storyline has bad guys and good guys, a scene in a bar, a chase through a field and a culvert, and a shootout in a crumbling old house. It even has a horse. Willow knew where to find everything. She called Theodore Vlamis who agreed to let them film in the Gold Fox; Highway Superintendent Charlie Haynes led them to a six-foot culvert abutting David and Katherine Mechner's property on Sparkling Ridge; Neil Rindlaub and Kathy Adorney had just the right hill; and Willow's own horse, Ruby, became the hero's trusty steed. Although this was Ruby's biggest role to date, Willow acknowledged that she was a "good sport" about the ordeal, which required that she stand there and look like her movie star self. Willow says, "Scouting for locations let me experience Gardiner from a whole new perspective, as a series of stills, a backdrop for a movie," she said. "This area has enormous potential for attracting the movie industry."

The video's denouement took place in Susan Eckhardt's Main Street property, next to the Post Office. After arranging that, Willow

had just enough time to pick up her two grandsons from school and make it back for the shootout—complete with a fog machine, sun shining through the wooden window laths, and guns blazing. "They loved it, of course," she said.

Back ...**

Have You Made Plans For This Summer?

by Catherine Canzian, Director, RSVP Volunteer Program of Ulster County

I have! First, spring puts me into action. I start dreaming about how the garden will look, where I will go to relax, who I will visit and, of course, what I will improve about myself. When summer comes I know I will have more time on my hands. So, how does this happen? Volunteering is all about time, our most precious commodity. I have discovered that the more I think about the time I don't have, the less I get done. Yet, the more I fill my time with things I enjoy doing, the more time I seem to find.

This summer, why not spend some of your extra time sharing yourself? You often hear, "make a difference, volunteer!" yet taking that first step may be the most difficult part. Perhaps you've not shared your talents for free before, have become comfortable with your routine or just feel, "been there, done that." That's where the RSVP Volunteer Program can fit into your life. We're here to match your experience, commitment level, availability and talents with requests from over 50 not-for-profit agencies right here in Ulster County.

We have something for everyone! We have placed volunteers helping older adults remain independent by driving them to doctor appointments and by grocery shopping for them; helping fight hunger by serving at food pantries and soup kitchens; offering free tax preparation for seniors and low income families; mentoring and tutoring children and supporting military members serving our country by preparing and sending morale packages and communications to them. Whether you want to help others, meet people, learn something new, give back or start a new career, volunteering may be the answer. Why not take a moment—right now—to call and schedule an appointment for your volunteer placement interview? We look forward to meeting you. Call us at (845) 339-2181 to find out whether we have the right "fit" for your time. You'll be glad you did.

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Issue #15, page 8

Volcano Garden Farmer

by Anne Allbright Smith

You haven't heard of a volcano garden? Then you haven't met Insook Cheon. On the slopes of her "crater" are a mixture of Asian mustard and tatsoi plants (mixed by accident!), with butternut squash planted almost at harvest time on the "caldera." In order to avoid many potato bugs she will wait until June to plant potatoes all around the base. (The potato bugs that sneak in are fed to the chickens.) Manure is placed in the middle of the cone for fertilizer and, to prevent weeds, cardboard from feed store pallets will also surround the plants. Among the advantages of a volcano garden

are easy access from all sides and roots established in deep soil. The chickens love to scratch in the garden after the fall harvest.

The volcano garden is one of half a dozen or so vegetable gardens that Insook has established over the last twelve years, occupying 3,000 square feet of space. The gardens are spaced for animal control (most animals do not come close to the house) and for cross pollination, with duplicate crops in case one fails for some reason, such as inclement weather. Ingenuity is shown in each case. Next to the asparagus/sesame leaf bed, sweet potatoes and cucumbers are carefully organized on a trellis that

shelters mid-summer lettuce below while a slippery plastic covered slope discourages rabbits. Mint has a small circle of its own in the middle of the lawn where, since it spreads readily, it is frequently mowed to keep it fresh and disperse its lovely scent. Chamomile shares a plot with buttercup squash. Rabbits collect the straw mulch in the leek/garlic garden for nesting material, but Insook's llama fertilizer helps keep them at bay. Insook acquires the straw in winter and lets it germinate in order to prevent weeds, and then mulches with goat manure.



Insook Cheon tending her volcano. Photo: Warren Wilson

What to do with old leaves? Insook collects them, soaks them to drown unwanted creatures and applies about three inches of them on top of water soaked newspaper around her tomato plants. They disintegrate and make very good soil for the next season. The plants don't need to be watered! She does have slugs, which she drowns in a salt water jar and will be experimenting this year with copper sheets to deter them. Cherry tomatoes are planted nearby for the wild animals to enjoy. It is interesting that none of these gardens are fenced (except for one rabbit fence) and that Insook has no problem with deer. Maybe they are put off by the goat, llama and chicken manure? No pesticides are applied.

eight to ten hours a day, through fall harvest until late winter seedling cultivation. Her only true time off is three months in winter, but even then she is busy crumbling lettuce and other seed pods to collect hundreds of tiny seeds -a tedious, time consuming process. Her interest in gardening began when she and her husband lived in Queens, where a downed tree in their yard provided good soil for a small box she built for six tomato plants. Upon moving to Gardiner and discovering our lack of Asian markets, she soon realized that she would have to

grow Asian vegetables herself. Then, with the help of books, the Cornell Extension and former Gardiner Librarian Peg Lotvin ("my answering box") she began growing everything. Gardening is meditation for Insook.

This year she experimented with grafting a Japanese momotaro tomato and an heirloom brandywine tomato because they are healthier and have a high yield. Now she is out at the crack of dawn, walking around, picking and eating breakfast. Her future plans? Insook smiles in reply, "Every year I get greedier and greedier!"





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Charming and Satisfying

The Repair Shop: Massage By The Minute

by Laurie Willow

The grand opening of The Repair Shop, on Main Street in the Hamlet of Gardiner, was on April 23rd. The Repair Shop is the brain child of a collaborative effort between Robin Hayes, entrepreneur, and Aleese Cody, massage therapist.

Last winter, Robin worked in Thailand for three weeks where one of the activities that was included in her agenda was a daily massage. It made such a difference in how she was feeling both physically and emotionally that she became totally inspired to bring this wonderful experience home to Gardiner.

Aleese Cody started climbing here in 1995, and moved here soon afterward. She has been a New York State and nationally licensed massage therapist since 2004. She has also studied formal herbalism and is a certified herbalist. Aleese practiced in a massage studio connected to Jai Ma Yoga for six years before setting off with this

special concept that she and Robin developed.



Robin Hayes and Massage Therapist Aleese Cody.
Photo: Laurie Willow

This concept assumes that we all need a little repair from time to time; that massage is beneficial for both mind and body. Massage increases circulation and gives your mind a chance to quiet down and just be for a few minutes. The beautifully decorated and very comfortable environment is just the place to withdraw from the world and give yourself the gift of relaxation that is at once healthy, good for you and enjoyable. That is a hard combination to find.

The concept is starting to catch on. As folks drop in more regularly, they find little extras like hot towels for your hands and feet. You can have quiet, or music. I especially liked the price, \$1 a minute! I walked in feeling tired and achy and \$15 later walked out feeling relaxed and refreshed. Not a bad deal.

Give it a try and support an infant business on Gardiner's Main Street! For more information, call (845) 255-9090 or go to their website at www.repairshopmassage. com. There's a \$10 minimum for \$1 a minute massages and a 60 Minute table massage (by appointment only) is \$70.

The Repair Shop is open Monday from 12:30-6:30; Wednesday 12:30-6:30; Thurs-

day 9:00-6:30; Friday 12:30-8:30; Saturday 10:00-4:00 and Sunday 11:00-3:00. They are closed Tuesdays. \square Back ...



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Splendid Roast Duck At The Bruynswyck Inn

This column reports on exemplary offerings from area restaurants.

by Carol O'Biso

I knew right from the start that it was going to be a terrible decision to make. Would it be the mussels in saffron cream sauce from the specials menu? The taragon mussels, or mussels Brittany, with cream and mixed herbs? (All are specials, and all are so extraordinary it's impossible to take a bite without saying, "Oh. My. God.") ... No! The prime rib (Friday, Saturday and Sunday only). That's it. So huge, (unless you order the more dainty English cut); so delicious; so perfectly cooked ... But wait! What about the roast duck? Ahh, the roast duck ...



I adore duck, particularly a half a duck that allows me to enjoy both dark and light meat. There aren't many places to order it in the Gardiner area, so the duck won in the end. Chef Jean Boulidor, from Brittany, France, has owned and run the Bruynswyck Inn for 14 years, and in that time he has made more than a few roast ducks. His primary treatment of it is with an unlikely and delicious cognac strawberry sauce and



it is served on a bed of fruit. The breast meat is juicy, the skin is crisp, the sauce is wonderful. (I keep telling myself that I will be taking half of my half a duck home for the next day, but this has yet to happen.) It comes with a starch, a salad and a cooked vegetable and while you are waiting, you are served crudités (raw vegetables and dip) and a basket of excellent bread and butter. At \$21 it's a deal.

For a lighter, less expensive but equally wonderful meal, the Bruynswyck Inn has a Bistro Menu available in their bar. It features things like sliced sirloin served on french bread with garlic butter melting on top (\$15) which also comes with a starch, crudités and a basket of bread and butter.

The Bruynswyck Inn is a small, homey, charming place where you're likely to see the same faces every time you go. You'll find it at 2162 Bruynswick Rd., Wallkill (Bruynswick Road at the intersection of Hoagerburg Road, a stone's throw from the Shawangunk Fire Station). I try not to let it annoy me that the restaurant is spelled Bruynswyck and the road is spelled Bruynswick, and that both are way too hard to spell anyway. The food is so good it's easy to let such petty (annoying!) things go.

They're open Wednesday through Sunday 5:00pm to 10:00pm. Manager and Bookkeeper Lee Ann Muller has been with the Inn for all 14 years and recommends reservations. Give them a call at (845) 895-1147, and don't take my seat at the bar! \square Back ...



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Some Doings Around Town

by Laurie Willow

Remember the Mark Fried article on Asa Barton's old house in issue #9 of *The Gardiner Gazette*? It's the abandoned house on the corner of Steve's Lane (pictured on the left, below). The Town of Gardiner bought the property at a tax sale with the idea

to use the land to create a parking lot next to the Rail Trail and widen the access to Steve's Lane. Both of these objectives were met under the direction of Charlie Haynes, the town's Highway Superintendent. Then the town put the property out



to an open bid. Paul Colucci bought it. Paul is as yet undecided about the fate of the house. There is a good chance, he says, of renovating it and turning it into a rental house. The jury is still out on that one.

Then there is the house that Susan Eckhardt and Johannes Knoops bought. The project was to turn this sweet little historic house into an elegant down home restaurant, complete with dining on a front porch overlooking Main Street. In the words

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331 McKinstry Road, Gardiner, NY www.whitecliffwine.com ~ (845) 255-4613 of Susan Eckhardt: "Ah yes, 128 Main Street ... we were so so grateful to the community for coming out and supporting the project when the chips were down. We couldn't have done it without the friends, neighbors and fellow business owners who voiced their opinions and spoke out in favor of the restaurant. We are still fully committed to contributing to making Gardiner an even more fantastic place to live, work and play.



"Unfortunately, even with that support, we were forced to start working on another project (the restoration of a 1930's bungalow on the New Jersey sea shore) since at the time we weren't sure when, if ever, approvals would come [from the Gardiner Planning Board]. Johannes has an active architecture practice and is a full-time tenured profes-

sor at the Fashion Institute of Technology in Manhattan. Time and scheduling are truly a challenge for us to navigate.

"Not that work on the restaurant has stopped! We continue to speak to chefs who are interested in the space and our "farm to table" concept. I may just open it myself if I can't find someone willing to promise that Francoise Hardy will be playing softly in the dining room! Images of the entire concept are still available for viewing on Urban-fabric.com and we are always interested in speaking with chefs looking to lease the restaurant."



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Alexander, from page 1

both adults although they had both ridden the same school bus, They married and raised four children. Since Walter had been a volunteer Gardiner firefighter for many years, Joyce was already indirectly involved.

In 1977, the existing Gardiner Rescue Squad became part of the Gardiner Fire Department as did its members. This opened the door to many first aid volunteers, and brought women into the Department for the first time. At that time, both Walter and Joyce became EMTs and joined the Squad. Since all members of the Fire Department are considered firefighters, Joyce also completed a number of firefighting courses. She recalled that, "In 1980, Carl Dommreis, longtime Secretary-Treasurer of the Gardiner Fire District, wanted to retire. Fire Commissioner Bill Stamatedes approached me to fill the job and here I am, thirty-two years later. I also held the elected Treasurer's position for ten years.

"When I began in the Secretary-Treasurer position all minutes and records were hand written in journals. I purchased a notebook with numbered pages as a permanent book of record and began typing the minutes. After a draft copy was approved by the Commissioners I retyped the minutes in the permanent book of record. After sixteen years, I graduated to a word processor and ultimately to a computer."

Fire Districts are political subdivisions governed by the State Comptroller. As Secretary, Joyce's tasks have included dealing with vendors, meeting Comptroller and other deadlines for reports and other data and organizing and supervising the Fire District's elections. "Over the years," she says, "I've served with thirteen Fire Commissioners and sixteen Fire Chiefs. "Of all the changes that have occurred, I feel the Emergency Response System Enhanced 911 was a great advance in having emergency departments respond quicker. It has saved countless lives and has greatly increased the protection of lives and property. The Gardiner Fire District serves not only the residents of the District but also the public recreational areas that often require emergency assistance.

"My biggest regret is that the old firehouse used by the District and deeded to the Town of Gardiner years ago [the former Gardiner Library building] will not be returned to the Fire District and remain a public property. There are many public uses for it."



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When asked why she retired from the Secretary's job now, Joyce smiled and said, "You know when the time is right and I still have Back ... so much to do and see." \square

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Gardiner Library Fundraiser:

Showcasing the Hudson Valley's Best Kept Secret

by Leitha M. Ortiz-Lesh

Psssst, Can you keep a secret? We can't! For decades the word about our wonderful hamlet has spread. Nestled at the foot of the Shawangunk Mountains, Gardiner has become well known for its breathtaking scenery, assortment of thrill-providing activities and seemingly endless selection of agricultural offerings. So what's the big secret? You are!

You've heard the saying that behind every great man there is a great woman; well, in this case behind our great library there are Gardiner's remarkable residents. As a center for the com-

munity, we have come to know vou all. You were the links in our book chain when we made the move to the new building. Your passion for all things literary has allowed us to expand our services to offer ebooks, audio books, LARGE PRINT BOOKS, and increase the number of our subscriptions. Your interests and active participation have helped us develop an abundance of programs covering a range of topics, none of which could exist without the continued support of Gardiner residents.



The Maplestone Inn and barn. Photos courtesy Sean and Patty Roche

On Saturday, August 18, 2012, the Gardiner Library, its board, staff and volunteers will host a celebration of the Hudson Valley's best kept secret with a cocktail party and auction at the enchanting Maplestone Inn, located on Route 32 in Gardiner. The event will feature delectable fare created by some of Gardiner's own top chefs, using ingredients grown and raised by Gardiner's numerous working farmers, and an array of wines and liquor provided by Gardiner's vineyard and distillery. Live musicians

will be on hand to accent the evening and captivate the guests. Coupled with the amazing eats and marvelous entertainment will be a silent auction showcasing items of a variety that truly represents the diversity of our residents. It's not what you know it's who you know, and what they can bring to the table—in this case literally. From original works by local artists, to gift certificates to your favorite places, to tickets to sporting events, to a weekend stay in a New York City Apartment, Gardiner residents can hook you up! The grand finale of the evening will be the live auction of "The Library Cake" crafted especially for this occasion by ac-

claimed Pastry Chef, Maya Eyler. We are so honored to showcase our neighbors and friends, all combining their efforts to demonstrate Gardiner's Bounty.

Please invite your family and friends

to join us for this fabulous affair. Reservations are \$50 per person and tickets are limited. All guests purchasing their tickets before July 31st will be entered into a drawing for one of two available overnight accommodations graciously donated by Sean and Patty Roche of the Maplestone Inn for the evening of the event. Winners will be notified by August 4th so they may make the necessary arrangements. These rooms are available

for guests of the event only.

For more information, or to make your reservations, please contact us at (845) 255-1255, visit us at the Gardiner Library in person, 133 Farmer's Turnpike, Gardiner, NY, or visit our website to see the flier at www.gardinerlibrary.org/GardinerBounty.pdf. Do you have a unique item for our silent auction? Please let us know. Spread the word, and don't worry; this is one time you won't hear a "Shhhhhhhh" from us! \square Back ...





911, from page 7

Scott Woebse, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Mobile Life, showed how a 911 call from Gardiner requiring ALS/Paramedic attention appears immediately on the screens in Mobile Life's own command center in New Windsor, NY. The screens on their dispatchers' consoles show the location of each on-duty vehicle, enabling them to route the nearest available ambulance to the scene of the emergency.

Since they cover Orange, Ulster and Dutchess Counties, Mobile Life maintains nineteen posting stations in its area. These stations normally include an office, extra supplies, charging devices, a bathroom and occasionally garaging space. The three stations closest to Gardiner are located at 2044 Route 32, Modena just south of Routes 44/55; next to the State Police building on Route 299 in Highland; and at the Highland Fire Department. Each Mobile Life ambulance is staffed by one Paramedic and one EMT.

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Mobile Life has 50 vehicles and a staff of 400 to provide effective ALS coverage around the clock 365 days of the year including a medevac unit for the New York State Police helicopter at Stewart International Airport. Mobile Life bills for its services but in most cases, a patient's insurer pays all or most of their charges.

Both Gardiner Fire and Rescue and Mobile Life work to reduce their response times. With a much broader coverage area, Mobile Life uses their own System Status Management Data Analysis to insure both staff and vehicles are in optimal locations to minimize response time. As calls come in, this requires a continuous reconfiguration of ambulance locations. In urban areas, the gold standard for response time is nine minutes. In rural areas such as Gardiner it's 12 to 15 minutes. During 2011, Mobile Life's response time in Gardiner averaged 14 minutes.

Scott Woebse summed up: "Having local volunteers especially in rural areas is essential. They're going to get there faster; they're trained; they know what they're doing; they're equipped; and they're going to initiate lifesaving care."

To maintain and continue this vital service, Gardiner Fire and Rescue is always looking for new EMTs. The Department offers free training to anyone who becomes a member of the department, lives in the district and is 18 or older. To volunteer or to obtain more information, contact Helen Zimmermann at (914) 439-3389.

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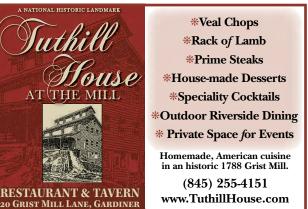
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The Gardiner Gazette

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Articles (usually between 350 and 450 words) are written by community members, not reporters. If you would like to submit an article for consideration, please contact us. Articles do not promote any particular person or point of view. Articles promoting businesses appear only in the Business as Usual column and are written by our editorial committee. To suggest a business to feature, please contact us.

Calling All Gardiner Seniors!

by Jane Barile, GLCC member

The GLCC (Gardiner Living Community Committee) needs your help. As many of you know, finding trustworthy and compe-

tent service providers is one of the most pressing problems facing seniors today. Due to liability constraints, the GLCC is unable to recommend plumbers, electricians, carpenters, etc.... but YOU can! Provide names and numbers for those service providers with whom you've had success and we will publish them on a virtual bulletin board in our next GLCC senior handbook so they can be available for all our seniors to share. Email suggestions to Leitha Ortiz-Lesh at leitha@ Imollaw.com, or call the Town Hall at 255-9675, Ext. 113, and leave a message. We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank You Contributing Writers

The Editorial Committee would like to take a moment to thank those who have devoted time and effort to writing articles for *The Gardiner Gazette*. Your fresh voices and points of view make it a much more enjoyable and informative publication. We value your efforts; from now on "Contributing Writers" will be listed in the masthead. So, thank you:

Alexandra Ciobanu • Angela Sisson • Ann Guenther • Anne Dale Rogers • Annie O'Neill • Ben Hayes • Bernetta Calderone • Betty Marton • C. Leonard Rinaldo • Carl Zatz • Carleton Mabee • Christie Ferguson • Christopher Duncan • Dan Guenther • David Sides • David Sterman • David Straus • Gioia Shebar • Greg Finger • Hank Vance • Hatti Langsford • Heidi Haddard • Irwin Cantor • Jane Barile • Janet Kern • Jennifer Schwartz • Jewell Turner • Joe Hayes • Joe Katz • Jonathan Newkirk • Joy Mazzetti • Joyce Alexander • Judy DePuy • Julia Hill • Kathy Hudson • Keri L. Burke • Lance Matteson • Laura T. Heady • Lewis Eisenberg • Linda Kastan • Linda Majetic-Hansen • Louise Trancynger • Marc B. Fried • Melissa Fairweather • Michelle Mosher • Michelle Terwilliger-Hathaway • Nadia Steinzor • Nancy Cass • Nell Boucher • Nicole Lane • Paul Huth • Paul Rakov • Peg Lotvin • Phil Ehrensaft • Rich Koenig • Sharon Richards • Susan Hill • Tanya Marguette • Tenney Gravatt • Tim Hunter • Veronica O'Keefe • Vincent Martello • Warren Wiegand • Yvonne Allenson.

Looking forward to many more from those who have already contributed, and from those as yet unheard from!

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sits on 1.5 manicured acres on country road. Rich cherry floors accent the open floorplan. Two large baths and three bedrooms are currently used as four. Heated 16x36 inground pool. Relax by the warmth of the crackling fireplace! Pond serves as a tranquil gathering place for campfires or local wildlife! Oversized 2 car garage, dry basement can be finished for additional recreation space! Conveniently located between Gardiner and New Paltz. Rail Trail, possible private access, 90 minutes to the GWB. \$350,000



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with exceptional location on the Rail Trail and just off Huguenot Street. The owner opened up the floor plan to enjoy the easy flow, but you could easily put the wall back up to make it 2 bedrooms again. Come see what "move right in" means. Lower level has brick fireplace and walks out to rear yard.



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SIX MONTH RESIDENTIAL SALES COMPARISON FOR GARDINER

	Sold	% Chg	Volume Sold	% Chg	Average Sale	% Chg	Median Sale	% Chg	Active	% Chg
Jan 2012- June 2012	23		\$7,309,555		317,806		\$260,000		119	
Jan 2011- June 2011	14		\$5,417,250		386,946		\$330,750		121	
Increase/ (Decrease)	9	64 %	\$1,892,305	35 %	(69,140)	-18 %	(70,750)	-21 %	(2)	-2 %

SIX MONTH RESIDENTIAL SALES COMPARISON FOR NEW PALTZ

	Sold	% Chg	Volume Sold	% Chg	Average Sale	% Chg	Median Sale	% Chg	Active	% Chg
Jan 2012- June 2012	41		\$11,346,675		\$276,748		245,000		202	
Jan 2011- June 2011	28		\$8,183,100		\$292,253		260,500		181	
Increase / (Decrease)	13	46 %	\$3,163,575	39 %	(15,505)	-5 %	(15,500)	-6 %	21	12 %



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Ultimate Homes, Inc.

845-255-9378; Construction Facebook

Uptown Attic Inc.

845-255-0093; Consignment Clothing & Accessories www.UptownAttic.net

Vaz Co Reclaiming Service

845-691-6246; Environmental Services www.vaz-co.com

Vivid Business Communications

845-256-0000; Bus. Services, Consultants www.VividBusiness.net

Gardiner Association of Businesses The Voice of Gardiner Area Business

Mountain Brauhaus Restaurant

845-255-9766; Restaurant & Cafes www.mountainbrauhaus.com

New Paltz Karate Academy, Inc.

845-255-4523; Karate & Martial Arts www.NewPaltzKarate.com

New Paltz Travel Center, Inc.

845-255-7706; Travel www.NewPaltzTravel.com

P.E. Colucci Excavating, Inc.

845-255-5602; Excavating & Landscaping

Phillies Bridge Farm

845-256-9108; Farm Markets, Orchards & CSAs www.PhilliesBridge.org

Pitch Pine Properties, L.L.C

845-255-1578

Ridgeline Realty

845-255-8359; Real Estate Agents www.RidgelineRealty.net

Tantillo Landscape Supplies & Excavation

845-255-6680; Excavating & Landscaping www.TantilloSupplies.com

The Natural Pet Center at Ireland Corners

845-255-7387; Pet Supplies www.TheNaturalPetCenter.com

The Repair Shop

845-255-9090; Massage by the Minute www.repairshopmassage.com

Trendz Family Hair Salon

845-895-5437; Full Service Hair Salon www.trendzfamilyhairsalon.com

Tuthillhouse at the Mill

845-255-4151; Restaurants & Cafes www.tuthillhouse.com

Tuthilltown Spirits Distillery

845-633-8734; Farm Distillery www.tuthilltown.com

Ulster Properties

845-256-0075; Management & Hospitality www.UlsterProperties.com

Walden Savings Bank

845-256-9667; Financial Institution www.WaldenSavingsBank.com

Whitecliff Vineyard

845-255-4613; Wineries/Wine & Spirits www.WhitecliffWine.com

Wildlife Busters, LLC

845-256-1212; Pest Control www.WildlifeBusters.com

Willow Realty

845-255-7666; Real Estate Agents www.WillowRealEstate.com

Wright's Farm

845-255-5300; Farm Markets, Orchards & CSAs www.eatapples.com

X-Treme Rides

845-270-2504; 24 Hr. Towing & Collision Restoration www.x-tremerides.com