



# The Gardiner Gazette

A call to community



Summer 2015 - Issue #27

Free! Please take one

## Broken? Bring It. We'll Fix It ...For Free

by Anne Allbright Smith

Have a telescope that you don't know how to operate? A necklace chain that's broken? A lamp with a secret (to you) bulb compartment? A vacuum cleaner, toaster or telephone that doesn't work? Visit the volunteer "repair coaches"—electricians, seamstresses, mechanics and all-purpose fix-it pros—at Repair Café at the library the fourth Sunday of every other month from noon to four pm. (The next one will be Sunday, August 23rd.)

The Repair Café Foundation celebrates its fifth anniversary this year. You can bring broken items to more than 700 Repair Cafés all over the world. Begun in 2009 in The Netherlands, the Cafés have now spread to 17 countries. Foundation Director Martine Postma has written a book, *Weggoeien? Mooi niet!*, (*Toss it? No way!*), so far available only in The Netherlands and



Repair Cafe coach Patrick Murphy showing Gardiner resident Dina White how to use her telescope. Photo: Anne Allbright Smith. Visit our [Facebook](#) page for more.

Belgium. The Gardiner Repair Café began this year, sponsored by the library and co-

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On Sand Hill Road, trees crushed a family's house and car. Photo: Jaynie Marie Aristeo, with permission of the owner. Visit our [Facebook](#) page to see more and post your own storm pictures.

## A Shocking Storm, An Exemplary Response

by Carol O'Biso

It wasn't really a tornado the way Sandy wasn't really a hurricane, but for those who experienced the weather event that hit Gardiner around 5:00 pm, Friday, June 12th, this would seem like splitting hairs. By the time the sun reappeared 15 to 20 minutes after the first rumbles of thunder, a swath of Gardiner was a tangled heap of downed power lines, mangled trees and property destruction of all kinds.

Known as a downburst, the storm descended on a section of Gardiner roughly bounded by Sand Hill Road on the east and Burnt Meadow Road on the west, encompassing Albany Post in between. A downburst, a column of exceptionally intense sinking air encapsulated in a thunderstorm, results in a violent outrush of air at the ground and is capable of producing straight-line winds of more than 100 mph. According to Steve DiRienzo, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service (NOAA), microbursts are up to 2 1/4 miles in width, and macrobursts are more than that. Gardiner's downburst had a footprint of 2 1/4 by 2 1/4 miles, so "it was right on the fence between a micro and a macro," he said.

Our forecast area (19 counties in eastern New York and western Connecticut) gets hundreds of downbursts each summer, most of which "fall in unpopulated areas and go largely unnoticed," DiRienzo added. The

Downburst, continued [page 12](#)

## Taking Care Of Breakfast

by Ray Smith

"Sausage, egg and cheese," "Two light, no sugar," "Double egg, bacon and cheese." Ireland Corners General Store opens at six AM and most customers at that hour are regulars, so manager Brijesh "Bridge" Patel and long-time employee Lee Ackhart, a compact bundle of energy with short, dark hair and smiling eyes behind wire rimmed glasses, know what each will order and have it in process as soon as they see them.

When asked how she and Bridge know what nearly everyone wants, Lee's response was, "Repetition, repetition. We make the same things for the same people every day. Ninety percent of the time in the morning, I know who's coming in by their car, and we have their coffee on the counter when they come in. I have my nice picture window behind the grill so I can see everyone coming and going."

Born in Staten Island, Lee's family moved to New Paltz when

she was five. She's been here ever since. Lee said, "I've been at Ireland Corners nine years. I like the people and I like what I do." She took classes at the Culinary Institute and is in charge of cooking.

Lee described the early morning routine: "I'm supposed to be here at 5am, but it's often 5:15. First thing, I turn the lights and the coffee on, then turn on the grill, put the muffins, turnovers and pockets in the oven. After me, Bridge shows up, usually about 6am. He lives upstairs." (Despite the last name, Bridge and Ireland Corners General Store owner Pete Patel are not related.)

"Usually the first customer is Charlie Eidel, for his coffee and paper. Then Jamie Depuy, then Rod Gulbrandson and Coach Bill Freer. The door doesn't open technically

until six AM but for the COs [Corrections Officers] we're here 365 days a year; they can call at twenty of six and order sandwiches. It's just a courtesy," Lee said.

Lee added that if there's a big fire at night, they'll call Pete at home. "He'll send Bridge down to put the coffee on for the Fire Department. It could be four o'clock in the morning . . . he's here. During the microburst in mid June, with so many trees and wires down, we made sandwiches at night for those involved, and last winter, when we had those bad snowstorms, people were worried about the highway crews having coffee. So we left the coffee on all night, and Bridge was here if they needed anything else."

Brian Stiscia, Gardiner Superintendent of Highways and First Assistant Chief of the Fire Department, confirmed, "Ireland Corners has always taken care of us. At all hours of the day or night they'll come in and make sandwiches and coffee. Pete Patel has always been gracious about donating food and supporting the Fire Department in so many ways."



Lee Ackhart in an uncharacteristic moment of repose. Photo: Ray Smith

Lee has also worked in all the New Paltz schools as a floater for the kitchens. "I never actually left Ireland Corners when I was there—I did weekends and holidays—I'm a glutton for punishment. Pete tells me it's my social life."


Even so, Lee found time to raise a family. Her oldest daughter, Jordan, graduated last June from New Paltz High School and BOCES Vo Tech. In the fall, she will go on to SUNY Ulster. Since she was five she's known she wanted to be an elementary school teacher, with a focus on special ed."

Lee's second daughter, Cody, will be in eighth grade this fall. Cody has aspirations to become a graphics designer, but in the meantime is heavily involved with Girl Scouts. She also plays clarinet in the school band and is learning guitar. She also enjoys gardening, and was asked to continue helping with the middle school garden over the summer.

Lee Ackhart, who's been at Ireland Corners for nine years, is one reason customers keep coming back and things work so well when busiest in the early morning. No matter how early and what the circumstances, she's invariably cheerful. It's a rarity these days, and a very welcome one. □

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## A Legacy of Service Spawned By WWII

by Barbara Sides

The Serviceman's Readjustment Act, better known as the GI Bill of Rights, was signed into law by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944. The bill provided benefits to GI's after active duty during WWII. Among the benefits were tuition and living expenses to attend college, vocational or high school education, low cost mortgages, and business loans for budding entrepreneurs.

But the GI Bill was not the only investment in human capital coming out of WWII; during the war, military commanders quickly realized the need to train servicemen to maintain and repair increasingly complex equipment and weapons used in the execution of the war. Modules that could be swapped out were not yet in use and knowledge of complex circuitry was essential to keep the machinery of war running.

When the Japanese struck Pearl Harbor, a young man named Matthew Fairweather was working at Western Electric assembling telephones. He immediately enlisted in the Navy. Recognizing his work experience, the Navy trained him to be an electrician. He was assigned to work on and repair the gyrocompass (a navigational device that enabled a ship to stay on course) of the famous USS Iowa (BB-61) and saw combat in both the Pacific and Atlantic Theaters. The ship, now a museum in Los Angeles, hosted President Franklin D. Roosevelt when he sailed to the Tehran Conference for a secret meeting with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin.

After serving for ten years, Matthew moved to New Paltz, raised a family and worked as an electrician, eventually starting his own business, Fairweather Electric, in New Paltz in 1956. He operated

the business for forty years, with one of his sons following him into the field.

Upon Matthew's death in 2009, his grandson, Gardiner resident Gavin Craddock, grew curious about his grandfather's life and career. (Gavin is the son of Melissa Fairweather, well known to many of us in Gardiner for her work at the library.) "My grandfather passed away and I didn't know what he had done for a living, so I thought I'd check it out," Gavin explained. The older man's work so intrigued Gavin that he decided to learn the business. He worked with his uncle for five years before striking out on his own, founding New Paltz Electric in 2013.

Though he is only in his mid-20s, Gavin's business is already flourishing. He provides a wide range of electrical services for commercial jobs, residential new construction and renovations, installations of standby and portable generators as well as air conditioning and refrigeration services. "I get to choose my own schedule, provide a service people need, I'm never bored and I work with and for a broad range of people," Gavin offered.

And, as the newly elected President of the New Paltz Rotary, Gavin enthusiastically participates in service to his community. He describes a number of Rotary initiatives that excite him, including a program that provides food-filled backpacks filled for needy children discreetly identified by their school's social workers; a Fishing Derby



Gavin Craddock of New Paltz Electric. Photo: Barbara Sides

at the college pond the Saturday before Father's Day; high school scholarships and, more broadly, a worldwide relief program known as Shelter Box, which recently provided relief supplies to victims of the Nepal earthquake.

The benefits of the training received during WWII have

reached far beyond the lives of the servicemen who fought in the 1940's. Gavin Craddock and New Paltz Electric continue the legacy of service started by his grandfather.

You can reach Gavin at New Paltz Electric by calling 845-332-0088 or email him at [gdfcraddock@gmail.com](mailto:gdfcraddock@gmail.com). ☐ [Back Comment](#) ⇌

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## Beautiful Portraits, Stunning Landscapes

by Annie O'Neill



she, a still life artist and landscapist. Some artists talk the talk, but these two live to paint and, happily, now paint to live!

They met at the age of 29, at New York City's famed Art Students League, after pursuing very different career paths. Marsha, raised in Iowa, came to Manhattan for Columbia's graduate School of International Affairs, but soon felt lost on this path, finding her real solace in art classes. After completing her masters, she realized that art had hovered over her life since her junior year in Paris, when the Louvre helped change her perception of the world. At the Art Students League, she studied with very traditional instructors in an environment where fascinating artists were treated as equal explorers.

John is a first-generation American who was president of the Art Students League for two years and is a regular workshop instructor there. He was exposed

early in life to the craftsmanship of masonry, bricklaying, stone and marble work by his Italian grandfather and father who came to Queens, NY, in 1955. Even though at age seven he was more interested in reading about Michelangelo and Leonardo than comic books, and was copying his grandfather's ornamental renderings, he became an electrical engineer. Although a trip to Italy before college was a water-



Above: A landscape by Marsha. Above right: a portrait by John. Above left & at right: John & Marsha. Images courtesy John Varriano and Marsha Massih. Visit our [Facebook](#) page for more pictures.

shed moment, art was not a career choice. For many years he worked for the NY Parks Department on capital

projects and park restoration. This job afforded him time to finally study painting. After five years at Parks, the pull of painting was so great, he left his job to pursue art fulltime.

Fast forward to the Art Students League and two twenty-nine year olds; they knew they had to live artist's lives, and they knew that they had to do this together. Their solid traditional training gave them the skills to grind pigments into paint and to prepare panels in the Renaissance style, but added to that was their ability to also



landscape and be as resourceful as possible to support the lives of artists while bringing up their two daughters. They came to Gardiner for the landscape, but stayed for the people!

On the grounds of their impeccably restored, art-filled stone house they hold workshops for painters and novices alike in



a large studio with all the aromatics of an imagined Renaissance world. Marsha also teaches children in New Paltz and Gardiner. They are both GOST artists (Gardiner Open Studio Tour) and their work can next be seen during the October GOST tour.

teach art. They eventually moved to a place where they could simplify their lives, be surrounded by a stunning

If you can't wait to get acquainted with these consummate artists, or you have always wanted to work in oils, contact them at (845) 255-1228. □ [↔ Back Comment ↔](#)

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## A Herding Tradition Lives On In Gardiner

by Carol O'Biso

Having lived for 11 years in New Zealand, it was thrilling to see Full Moon Farm's truck rumble past one day with four avid sheep dogs in the back. It was like being transported back to that British-occupied, sheep farming Mecca of the known galaxy a few (thousand) miles south of here.

Humans have been using dogs for various tasks for a very long time, and Britain perfected that. In the South of England, a perfectly preserved dog skeleton over 4,000 years old was found among archaeological evidence suggesting that it had been domesticated and used to assist with the droving of livestock. Today, the American Kennel Club recognizes 18 herding breeds.

Where Full Moon departs from the British tradition is that they're *nice* to their dogs. Many New Zealand farmers subscribe to the notion that dogs work better when they're a little hungry and a lot scared of you. "Our dogs can't be allowed to get overweight," Laura said, "But they're also house pets." Bud and Noreen add that the dogs don't like a lot of cuddling though. Bud's dog, Ann, would not stay in the house at all if he didn't insist. "She'd rather sleep in the field with the animals all night," he said.

Full Moon has not always used herding dogs. In the first few years "the humans did a lot of running," Bud said. "Now the dogs are indispensable." Bailey and Ann in particular are from a working blood line and, "they've got it," Laura said, meaning the herding instinct.

"It takes about three years to fully train a herding dog, but we're never really done," Bud said. "Every day we're perfecting something." The dogs respond to herding commands like "come by," "away" and "walk up," which have specific meanings related to direction and trajectory, but Laura observed that

commands are only one element. "It's a coordinated effort. You've got the natural instincts of the dogs, the natural instincts of the animals they're herding, and the human factor," she said.

Laura, Noreen and Bud all agreed that the sheep dog trials that are so popular in Britain and New Zealand, and can be seen here at venues like the Rhinebeck Sheep and Wool Show, are very impressive. The difference on the farm though, Bud said, is that the dogs are not working within a controlled set of parameters. They have to think on their feet. He related an incident in which "30 head of Angus tore across the field." Bailey, the smallest and youngest of the collies and their best "heading dog," was dispatched. The herd had disappeared from sight, so there was no one to guide her, but Bailey turned the cows, ran them across 40 acres and put them in the barn. This took two and a half minutes.

Asked what their options might have been pre-dog, Bud shrugged. "Wait for the cattle to stop so you could go out on foot," he said. The livestock also respect the dogs in a way they don't respect humans. "If a dog approaches a cow, that cow is going to respond," Noreen said. If a human walks up,



it's like, "Yeah, maybe later."

Most of us lead busy lives. As a result, we have couch-potato dogs that have to be exercised in some scheduled way, so it was a thrill to see Samantha, Bailey, Maggie and Ann head off "to work," giddy with excitement. It was also a pleasure to observe the palpable affection between dogs and humans. The old British herding tradition has not only been replicated at Full Moon Farm, but improved upon. A more perfect collaboration could not be imagined. □

↔ [Back Comment](#) ↔



Above: Laura Watson and Noreen Girao with Samantha and Maggie. Above right, Bud Christiana with Ann. Photos: Carol O'Biso. Visit our [Facebook](#) page for more.

Laura Watson and Paul Colucci, the husband and wife owners of Full Moon Farm, own Samantha and Bailey, Border Collies, and one of the most well-known of those 18 breeds. Full Moon's farm hands, Bud Christiana and Noreen Girao—the primary work force at Full Moon—bring Ann (Bailey's sister) and Maggie to the team.

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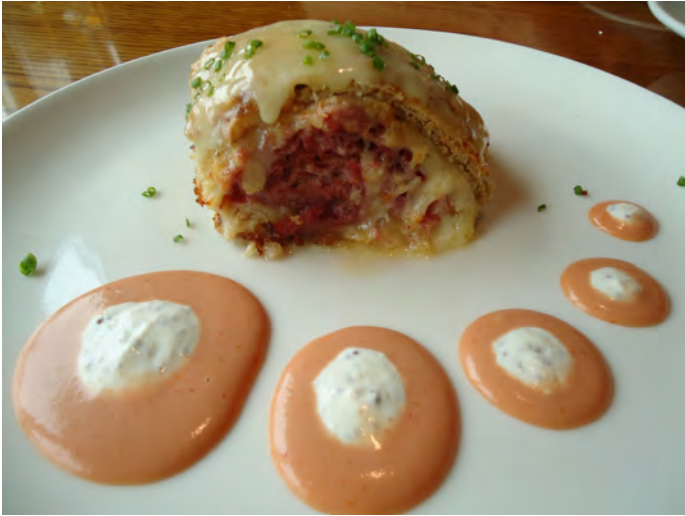
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## Just A Bite ...

### Incredible Reuben Strudel at The Mountain Brauhaus

by Carol O'Biso



The Reuben Strudel, with dollops of Russian dressing. Photo: Carol O'Biso

What there is to say about the Reuben strudel appetizer at the Brauhaus is that it could not be improved upon in any way. I've had it a number of times, I know how good it is and in spite of that, "Oh my god," flies out of my mouth each time I put the first bite in. (I swallow first—I was brought up right—but my eyes roll back in my head a little while I await the ability to speak).

Concocted by the Brauhaus

some seven or so years ago, the strudel takes the classic, hulking deli sandwich and refines it into what Julia Child might have produced if asked to turn the Reuben into an appetizer for heads of state at a White House dinner. It's still corned beef (but shaved so thin it cuts like butter); it's still melty, oozing swiss cheese (but there's also gruyere); it's still sauerkraut (but not too tart); and it's still Russian

dressing (but with dollops of horseradish cream for a little flavor bite.) Most notably, the traditional rye bread has been replaced by layers of buttery, crunchy filo dough. (Rye crumbs are, however, layered in with the filling for texture and flavor, and to make sure the little upstart doesn't forget who its Mama was.)

The first time I tried it, my husband and I decided to have just a series of appetizers. We started with the Reuben, then called the waiter over to discuss our options. "That was incredible," we

said. What other appetizer do you recommend?" He said (passionately), "Well, *nothing's* as good as the Reuben," but suggested the Königsberger Klops (German Meatballs simmered in Spaten Beer, served with Spaetzle). We liked those very much, too, but, in the end, had to agree with our waiter. Now, I have since been told by a friend that she finds the Klops to be *superior* to the Reuben, so for those who have tried neither, just think what delicious frontiers await you. Wed-Sat: 11:30am-9pm; Sun: 11:30am-8:30pm; Closed Mon and Tues. 845 255-9766. □

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## Correction

The article about equine vet Katie Gould in the Spring issue of *The Gazette* contained a number of errors. Dr. Gould is, of course, a DVM, not a DMV. Her mentor was Dr. John Jager, not Jaeger. Pine Bush Equine is not in Montgomery, and Dr. Gould's practice is called Mid Hudson Equine of Gardiner, not Mid Hudson Equine, which was the practice she previously shared with another vet. We did manage to get her phone



number right, and she can still be reached at it: (845) 800-8427.

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## A Redwood In The Living Room

by Frederick Gerty

Americans are all tree-huggers at heart, and no one loves trees more than a forester, of which I am a retired one. Among my most favorite trees is the Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*), a deciduous conifer not to be confused with the Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), found along the western slopes of the Sierras on the Pacific coast. The Dawn Redwood was presumed extinct for many years, until it was discovered, alive and well, in China in 1944. The species has remained essentially the same for 65 million years, and is sometimes called a "living fossil." Brought to the United States, it likes the climate, grows well here, and makes a fine ornamental.

Imagine my delight when I spotted one in the back of the wonderful display in Adam's Fairacre Farms' Spring Flower Show this year. Standing nine feet tall, it provided a dominant backdrop for the many other plants in full bloom in the exhibit. After the show, I promptly purchased it.

Now, this was the end of February, and the tree was in full leaf. It could hardly be moved outdoors, with eight or more weeks of cold weather ahead, so I had no choice but to keep it in the living room of my log home which, fortunately, soars about 20 feet to the peak. It fit quite well, but

the southern facing picture window allowed light only on the lower five feet or so, leaving the top in only pale light. Back to Adam's for a Sun Blaster horticulture light, which I hung on one of the beam supports and turned on each morning, leaving it on until late evening. Frequent watering of the redwood was also necessary; it needs a lot of moisture. Having a tall tree in the living room proved quite the conversation piece.

The weeks passed with much freezing weather outside, but warm and cozy in the house. The tree seemed fine, did not shed any leaves, and even added a few here and there. In mid-May, I moved the redwood outside to a sheltered corner for some acclimation. Soon thereafter, unseasonably hot weather arrived, and the tree experienced some heat stress on the leaves. Daily watering, and wetting down, seemed to help, but I worried about it a bit. I intended to delay planting until all danger of frost was past.

Finally, in late May, the planting process began. It's a tree that likes good soil so I knew some modification of the typical "Shawangunk clay" was



Fred Gerty planting the Dawn Redwood after keeping it in his living room for over two months. Photo courtesy Fred Gerty

in order. With the posthole digger on the Kubota, I dug a series of holes two and a half feet deep, dropped some rocks and other rubble on the bottom, and filled the rest with our abundant, well processed barn mulch. Around those, I dug more holes, and filled them with more mulch. Finally, I added a six inch layer of mulch on top, to be held in place with rocks that would serve as a raised bed, providing better soil, and better drainage for the redwood.

Next, I hand-dug a planting hole and sliced the thick roots wrapping around in a circle on the root ball; if not done, they might eventually expand so much they would result in a sort of suicide by root girdling. The planting hole was

well watered, the tree placed inside, and yet more mulch added to backfill the hole. Tamping and watering more completed the job—but I was not done yet—the planting location, in full sun, was also in the middle of the horse pasture where, I had no doubt, the horses would reduce it to splinters in a matter of hours. More post holes to dig, only four this time, and boards and metal fencing finally provided protection.

I have high hopes the Dawn Redwood will enjoy its new location, and grow vigorously in the years to come. It's tall enough already to serve as a host for holiday lights this December—another joy trees provide to us who love them. ☐ [Back Comment](#)

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## Marvelous Art in Our Hamlet

by Laurie Willow



What a wonderful display of art and whimsy graces the view on Arch Street in the Hamlet. Robin Hayes, the owner of 129 Main Street, commissioned two local artists to paint murals on her buildings. Both artists are members of GOST, the Gardiner Open Studio Tour, a group of artists from our town.

The first mural, which appeared on the yellow house, was painted by Lady Pink. It is "The Lady of the Leaf." Robin Hayes met Lady Pink last October when she went on the GOST Tour. She was intrigued by Lady Pink's work, and Lady Pink mentioned that she would love to do some work in Gardiner. Robin was enthusiastic about using her building to provide the space.

Lady Pink, originally Sandra

Fabara, is from Queens, New York. While a student at the High School of Art & Design in Manhattan, she began her street art and writing careers. Lady Pink painted New York subway trains and worked as a street artist until 1985. In 1980, she was included in a show in the New Museum of Contemporary Art. She currently resides in Gardiner and is married to another street artist, Roger Smith, with whom she often collaborates. Her work can be found in the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Brooklyn Museum. Lady Pink and Roger Smith own a mural company called PinkSmith Designs with over 20 years of experience doing high-end commissions.

Annie O'Neill's mural, "Wide-Eyed by the Wallkill," graces the garage building next to 129 Main. Annie O'Neill has been an artist her whole life, attending the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan and then progressing from crafts, to photography, to steel sculpture, to functional clay pieces and, now, mural painting. After Annie and Robin had known each other for a few



Left: The Lady of the Leaf by Lady Pink. Above: Wide-Eyed by the Wallkill by Annie O'Neill. Photos: Kit Defever

years, they discovered that they are connected in another way; as a child, Robin spent a lot of time with her Aunt Lottie in the same NYC building in which Annie's family lived. They were amazed that they were close to the same people as children.

Annie O'Neill and Lady Pink have both been moving forc-

es and participants in GOST, the Gardiner Open Studio Tour, which happens in spring and fall. GOST is the public's opportunity to visit Gardiner artists in their studios. For more information about GOST, visit their website at [www.gostartists.org](http://www.gostartists.org). □

*Editor's Note: Annie O'Neill recently joined the Gazette Editorial Committee.*

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## Gardiner Library Helps Increase Technological Literacy

by Fred Mayo

"Can you help me with my email? A friend helped me set it up, but I forget how to use it." "What do I do with this attachment I received? How can I download it; can I save it and read it?" "How do I send a picture to my grandchildren?" "Is there any way I can save this document so I can work on it at home?" These, and other similar questions frequently asked of the staff at the Gardiner Library, show how crucial technological literacy has become.

Technological literacy, the ability to communicate efficiently and effectively using the internet and other technology, has become critical to participating in American cultural life. Just listen to your friends talk about the newest smart phone, show you their new notebook com-

puter, or compare notes on what they discovered online to realize how prevalent electronic communication and use of the internet has become in people's lives.

In 2008, the Pew Internet and American Life Project found that 96% of working Americans use new communications technologies as part of their daily life, while 62% of working Americans use the Internet as an integral part of their jobs. However, approximately one-third of Americans do not have access to broadband services, nor do they know how to use the internet. Some cannot afford it; others do not want it. Some reject the very notion of computers.



The facebook sign outside Town Hall. Photo: Fred Mayo

Gardiner Library staff member Amy Coté describes the challenge as, "people of varying ages having one foot in and one foot out of technology," and says it is a very interesting challenge for libraries. Six years ago, the Gardiner Library initiated a program to help residents improve their technological literacy. High school students came to the library to answer questions, help patrons with computer issues and teach software programs. The program was very successful for five years, but a shift in what patrons needed saw a drop in participation and the program was dropped. Now, library staff answer simple questions about using computers or software as part of their regular duties.

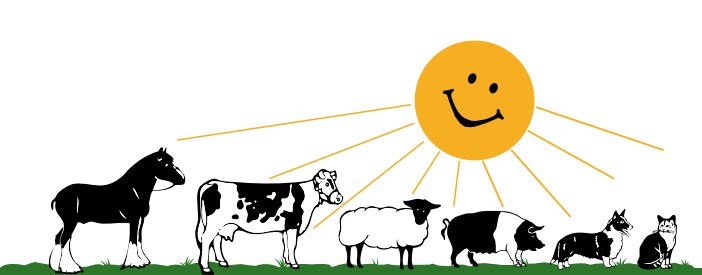
And, as evidenced by the questions being asked, the scope of technological literacy is constantly expanding. It was once enough to know how to use a word process-

ing program or send an email. Today, library staff members regularly face new questions like, "Can you help me find the tax forms I need and show me how to print them?" "I am applying for this job. How do I make my resume look good and then put it into this company's application?" "Can you help me learn how to pay these bills online and set up accounts so I can do them myself?" "How do I use Facebook and Twitter to communicate with some family members?"

As Library Manager Nicole Lane said, "Technology has changed how we access, use and discover information. It is important for people to become information literate so they can utilize the tools and resources to the best of their ability."

Cars were once overwhelming to those who grew up with horses. Now, as then, the change is coming. It's time for us all to embrace it and the Gardiner Library is a gentle way to start. □

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## Gardiner Day Cometh!

by Cindy Dates



gia Dates having hers done last year) pony rides, Gardiner Fire & Rescue, NYS Police, K9 Demo, UC Sherriff's Department and so much more.

This year, there will also be lots of new vendors, entertainment and games. We'll have a Human Foosball Game of sponsored teams and a Farmers Market, and we are working on bringing back the dunking booth! It is sure to be a fun day so mark your calendar!

The 26th Annual Gardiner Day, Family, Fun & Friends, will be held on Saturday, September 12th from 11 am to 4:30 pm.

We'll have many of the great things you've enjoyed in the past: great food vendors, music & entertainment, child photo ID's, business and craft vendors, Got Rythm Dance Demos, artisan demos, face painting (above, young Geor-

If you wish to be a vendor or a volunteer on Gardiner Day, please contact Jewell Turner at 845-255-9675. The Gardiner Day Committee also welcomes new members who wish to help with fundraising and planning Gardiner Day. □

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A photograph showing the interior of a modern home with a high, vaulted wooden ceiling and large floor-to-ceiling windows. The space is open and bright, with contemporary furniture and decor. The text "BIALECKI ARCHITECTS" is overlaid in white, with "architecture • historic restoration • interiors" below it. At the bottom, contact information is provided: "845 255-6131 • mb@bialeckiarchitects.com • bialeckiarchitects.com".

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A full-length photograph of a woman with long, straight red hair, wearing a black dress and black heels. She is standing with her arms crossed against a black background.

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A circular logo with a black background. It features a stylized yellow tree in the center. The words "FOUR SEASONS" are written in a yellow arc above the tree, and "REALTY GROUP" is written in a yellow arc below the tree.

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A logo for "LUCKY C STABLES" featuring the text in a stylized, arched font above a silhouette of a galloping horse. Below the horse, the text "One of the finest Equestrian Centers in the Hudson Valley" is written in quotes, followed by "BOARDING-LESSONS-TRAINING" and "SHOWING-SUMMER CAMPS-HAULING". At the bottom, the names "Gary & Susan Clark" and the phone number "845 255-3220" are on the left, and the address "31 Yankee Folly Rd. New Paltz, NY 12561" is on the right.

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## Downburst, from page 1

winds in the Gardiner downburst were recorded at 90 to 100 mph, making it the equivalent of an EF1 tornado (86–110 mph). “We had trees into houses and trees on top of houses,” said Highway Superintendent and Assistant Fire Chief Brian Stiscia. Power poles dropped across Burnt Meadow Road like pick-up-sticks. In the Hamlet, the tents from the Farmers’ Market shredded. There was a trampoline in a tree; a man told of his car being lifted with him in it; parts of McKinstry Road and Albany Post were cut off, with all access roads blocked by storm debris. The strongest downbursts are the equivalent of EF2 tornadoes (111–135 mph).

As for why the destruction was so localized, the thunderstorm that day was moving from west to east, so the downburst picked up some momentum, but in the absence of movement from the overriding storm a downburst literally “sits down” on an area. As a result, most of Gardiner was untouched, unaware that chaos reigned nearby.

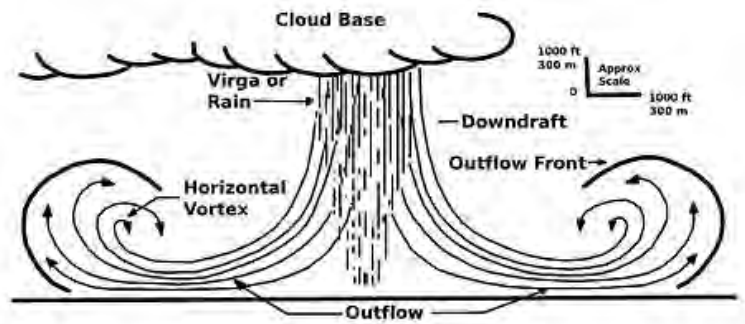
By 6pm, Brian Stiscia had conferred with Town Supervisor Carl Zatz and Zatz declared a state of emergency. In this instance, it resulted in the closing of unsafe roads and the redirection of traffic; in other types of emergencies (such as flooding) forced evacuations and, in extreme circumstances, the implementation of a curfew are possible. (Declaring a state of emergency may also make the town eligible for certain state funds when damage is eventually assessed.)

A command center was set up in the Fire Station. By midnight, Central Hudson had twelve crews here. Because of a mutual aid arrangement already in place, the Gardiner Highway

Department and Gardiner Fire and Rescue were joined by the Fire Departments of Wallkill, Modena and Shawangunk Valley, all coordinated by Stiscia in consultation with Zatz. NOAA sent a representative. Zatz stayed in touch with the Director of Ulster County Emergency Services throughout. The ladies Auxiliary stepped in and took care of feeding the emergency responders. The private sector also leapt into action; the family on Sand Hill Road with the crushed car and house said they don’t know how word got around, but “a large group of skydivers showed up wearing gloves.” They worked for a day and a half.

It was like a siege, and those of us affected were hunkering down for a very long one. Unbelievably, roads were cleared and power restored within 26 hours and, by 9:00 Sunday morning the state of emergency was lifted.

We were also very fortunate in other ways. In a list of “notable microbursts” on Wikipedia, three were in the Northeast: on July 15, 1995, a series of microbursts hit eastern New York State, killing 5 people, injuring 11, and causing nearly a half billion dollars in damage; on September 7, 1998, a microburst hit the city of Syracuse. Three people were killed and the area suffered \$130 million in damage; and on September 16, 2010, a macroburst in Queens, NY, killed a woman when a tree fell on her car. In Gardiner, Brian Stiscia said, “An outrigger from a truck came down and crushed the foot of a Central Hudson worker.” It was the only injury he knew of.



A cross section of a downburst. Photo courtesy the internet.

Gardiner’s response after the event was an extraordinarily successful test of our planning practices. “Among other things, we assess likelihood and severity,” Carl Zatz said. “For example a propane facility blowing up is a much more severe situation, but the likelihood is very low. A storm of this kind is less severe, but much more likely. It helps us make decisions about whether we’re going to spend money on equipment to fight propane fires, or on chain saws to

clear downed trees.”

As for what to do when it’s happening, Steve DiRienzo at NOAA said, “if there is a thunder storm you should be indoors anyway so, for a downburst, absolutely, be indoors. Stay away from large picture windows. Don’t be upstairs where a tree can more easily fall on you.” For those unlucky enough to be outdoors on foot or on a bicycle, etc., he said “Get inside. Knock on someone’s door if you have to.” □

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## David Straus: A Quarter Century of Board Meetings

by Kaaren Vassell

*Editor's Note: The Gardiner Gazette is not in a position to include regular obituaries, but we are sometimes moved to comment on the passing of residents who have touched more lives than most.*



David Straus. Photo Democratic Committee Facebook page.

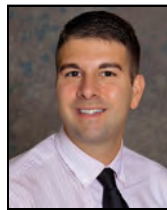
David Straus, a quarter-century fixture at Gardiner Town Board and Planning Board meetings, died on June 11 at the age of 84. The Chicago-born son of two physicians, David became responsible for measuring his blood sugar several times daily and injecting himself for insulin-dependent diabetes at age seven. His early interests in science included frequent visits to the city's Museum of Science and Industry. With his parents and four siblings, he spent summers at a family-owned farm near

Lake Michigan and became interested in gardening.

It was also his privilege to attend performances of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, which led to a life-long interest in classical music.

Straus, continued [page 15](#)

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## Repair, from page 1

ordinated by Gardiner's recycling coordinator, Wendy Toman.

My first stop at the June Repair Café was the telescope, a most impressive Astro model that was a present to Gardiner resident Dina White from her brother. Dina has a young son and figured she'd better learn how to use it. Repair coach Patrick Murphy was demonstrating how. When asked how he knew about such things he replied that he was the son of a handyman farmer in the Midwest. In his family things were always fixed; nothing was thrown away. I returned two months later to have Patrick sharpen a knife for me.

Next was a lamp, which repair coach Armand Rusillon had operating in short order. Armand's 12-year-old daughter, Azalea, was at another table making and repairing jewelry, and also passing out cookies. She intends to add felting to her jewelry line,

and held up an example of her work. This very poised young lady is also an actor (her preferred term) with Rondout Repertory Theatre and has been in four Shakespeare productions.

Kids are as involved in learning about repair as their parents are. Wendy Toman explained that all those parts of a vacuum cleaner, toaster and telephone spread out on the floor were parts the kids had assembled and disassembled earlier. At this point a man came in complaining that his vacuum cleaner wouldn't work. I left as mounds of what looked like cat hair were being dumped on the floor.

This enterprise is not only very useful, but also highly entertaining! What a great way to, as Patrick explained, "get things out of the waste stream." □

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**Straus,** from page 13

David earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry at the University of Chicago in 1960 and a post-doctoral fellowship at Princeton. He was a chemistry professor at SUNY (Buffalo 1965-72 and New Paltz 1972-99) and, as a counselor for the American Chemical Society for many years, stayed up-to-date on a broad spectrum of biochemical research.

With his wife, Harriet McWethy Straus, now a retired law librarian, he raised three children and was the delighted grandfa-

ther of eight grandchildren.

An energetic Gardiner Democrat, David served as chair of the Gardiner Zoning Board of Appeals and the Gardiner Democratic Committee. He also served as president of the Gardiner Homeowners Association and was a long-time member of the Gardiner Environmental Conservation Committee and the Gardiner Open Space Commission. In addition to his heartfelt contributions to the causes of social justice, David was

a tireless defender of the environment, equipped with the fundamental knowledge and analytical tools needed to penetrate the murkier aspects of Gardiner's, and Ulster County's, land-use issues.

A garden aficionado, David grew everything from raspberries to lima beans. Much of the Straus home's lawn is a native wildflower meadow accented with carefully chosen, unusual accent plants. David had fun with new varieties, but also persisted in growing

milkweed and other native species, frequently from seed.

Though professorial and exhaustive, David had a dry but mischievous sense of humor. He was, nevertheless, plain-spoken about his concerns regarding water quality, soil contamination, planning governance and enforcement and conflicts of interest.

Town improvements and growth pleased him too; he thought that Gardiner deserved a real grocery store. □ [← Back Comment →](#)



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## **What's Behind The Doors ...**

by Annie O'Neill



You might have seen them in April ... doors, leading to nowhere. Internationally known graffiti writer and muralist Lady Pink, with her husband, Roger Smith, conceived of the town-wide art installation of painted doors in random landscapes around Gardiner. The idea was to get people talking about art, and interested in the spring Gardiner Open Studio Tour (GOST). If you missed them, keep an eye out; on September

19th doors will again be out and about for one week—this time with the assistance of select students from Wallkill High School.

On September 26th there will be a celebratory block party on Arch Street in Gardiner. Organized by Gardiner business woman Robin Hayes, it will help inspire people to take the Columbus Day Weekend GOST tour. There will be music, food and art, at this Great Gardiner Gathering, and it's possible that the doors will be auctioned off to support the Library. ☐



Left: doors by Andrea McFarland and Lady Pink. Above: door by Jerry Teters at the corner of Albany Post & 44/55.

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### **About This Publication**

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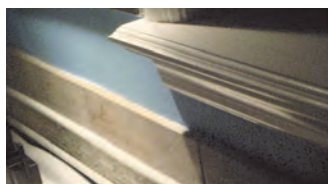
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**Situated in Gardiner**, but with New Paltz mailing address, this classic Saltbox home snuggles high on a hill overlooking the Wallkill River. Privacy is ensured by the mostly wooded 2.6 acres, yet with easy access to town pool and ball fields. An open floor plan with high long roof line in the living room, dining room area that is open above where there are 2 more bedrooms and full bath off master bedroom. The main floor invites you to a 2015 kitchen with new stove, DW & refrigerator. The beauty of a screen and glass porch is enhanced by side entrance to small yard and woods. First floor bedroom and full bath round out the living space. The lower level is partially finished with a family room. Separate 2-car garage blends with the peaceful, natural beauty of the surroundings. \$348,000



**NEW PALTZ - FOOTHILLS OF MOHONK AND MINNEWASKA** Stunning Unique Contemporary is magically set on one of the loveliest roads in the area. Located at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. This lovingly maintained custom home offers a spacious open floor plan and great room with soaring ceiling and fireplace. Expansive cook's kitchen with restaurant quality stove breakfast bar, indoor grill, prep sink and loads of counters. A great space to entertain family and friends or just relax by the fireplace gazing at your own private world through a wall of glass doors. For quiet moments retreat to your first floor master bedroom suite with expansive walk-in closets and luxurious master bath with claw foot tub. The Study/den with French Doors on the first floor offers possibilities for office/library or additional sleeping space. On the second floor are two additional generous sized bedrooms plus bonus loft area. Full-carpeted basement is currently used as a hobby area and is perfect for a home gym and media space. What an amazing location: just a short stroll to 7000 acres of preserve property just a mile from town. \$525,000

Prime **NEW PALTZ** location. Enjoy all the conveniences of village living just a stroll away from this lovingly maintained, immaculate and spacious brick country home. Life is easy while relaxing on the sunny porch overlooking gardens and pristine yard. This charmer is light and bright with 3 bedrooms on the upper level, wood floors under carpeting on first level and a finished lower level offering elegant study/den with fireplace, family room, full bath and two additional den/study/sleeping spaces and a special bonus second kitchen! Here you have it all; possibilities are endless. Home has many updates: electric dog fence, new roof 2009, whole house generator. What a location! Just a stroll to the markets, shops, movie theatre, college and NYC bus and restaurants. \$350,000



### **THE COLUCCI SHAND TEAM**

Teresa C. Shand, CRS, ASP, ABR, SRES, SFR-NYS Real Estate Broker/Owner  
Linda Majetich Hansen, CRS, ASP, ABR, SFR-NYS Real Estate Broker Associate  
Terry Jacobus, Robert M Dorris, Victoria (Vikki) Beach, Monique McCutcheon  
NYS Real Estate Salespersons

*Let us help make your Real Estate dreams come true!*





# Gardiner Association of Businesses

## The Voice of Gardiner Area Business

### DINING/CATERING

#### Bridge Creek Catering, LLC

845-255-9234; Catering  
[www.BridgeCreekCatering.com](http://www.BridgeCreekCatering.com)

#### Lombardi's Restaurant

845-255-9779; Restaurants & Cafés

#### Mountain Brauhaus Restaurant

845-255-9766; Restaurants & Cafés  
[www.MountainBrauhaus.com](http://www.MountainBrauhaus.com)

#### Tuthillhouse at the Mill

845-255-4151; Restaurants & Cafés  
[www.Tuthillhouse.com](http://www.Tuthillhouse.com)

### CONTRACTORS/TRADES/SUPPLIES

#### Amthor Welding Service

845-778-5576; Tank Truck Welding  
[www.AmthorInternational.com](http://www.AmthorInternational.com)

#### D&A Concrete Contractor, Inc.

845-857-4372; Concrete Contractor  
Facebook

#### David Kucera, Inc.

845-255-1044; Pre-Cast Concrete, GFRC  
[www.DavidKuceraInc.com](http://www.DavidKuceraInc.com)

#### Fischer Electric

845-256-0365; Electricians

#### Friedle Construction, Inc.

845-256-9338; Construction  
[www.FriedleConstruction.com](http://www.FriedleConstruction.com)

#### Gordon Fire Equipment, LLC

845-691-5700; Fire Suppression Systems  
[www.GordonFire.com](http://www.GordonFire.com)

#### GCD Property Services, LLC

845-568-7885; Locksmith Services  
Facebook

#### Hudson Builders Group

845-245-7773; Comm. & Res. Contracting  
[www.HudsonBuilders.com](http://www.HudsonBuilders.com)

#### Mitchell Electric, LLC

845-255-5216; Electricians  
[www.MitchellElectricLLC.com](http://www.MitchellElectricLLC.com)

#### New York Solar Farm, Inc.

845-597-6631; Comm. & Res. Solar PV Installer  
[www.nyssf.com](http://www.nyssf.com)

#### P.E. Colucci Excavating, Inc.

845-255-5602; Excavating & Landscaping

#### Ron DeGroodt Paving, Inc.

845-895-3171; Paving

#### Ultimate Homes, Inc.

845-255-9378; Construction  
Facebook

#### Vaz-Co Reclaiming Service

845-691-6246; Environmental Services  
[www.Vaz-Co.com](http://www.Vaz-Co.com)

### OUTDOOR/ADVENTURE/TRAVEL

#### Mohonk Preserve

845-255-0919; Hiking Nature Preserve  
[www.MohonkPreserve.org](http://www.MohonkPreserve.org)

#### Skydive The Ranch, Inc.

845-255-4033; Airport, Skydiving  
[www.SkydiveTheRanch.com](http://www.SkydiveTheRanch.com)

### FARMS/ORCHARDS

#### Blue Crest Farm

845-895-3754; Farm

#### Full Moon Farm

845-255-5602; Farm: Beef, etc.  
[www.FullMoonFarmNY.com](http://www.FullMoonFarmNY.com)

#### Jenkins & Lueken Orchards

845-255-6787; Farm, Farm Markets  
[www.JLOrchards.com](http://www.JLOrchards.com)

#### Meadow View Farm

845-255-6093; Farm, Farm Market  
[www.MeadowViewFarmStand.com](http://www.MeadowViewFarmStand.com)

#### Phillies Bridge Farm

845-256-9108; Farm Markets, Orchards & CSAs  
[www.PhilliesBridge.org](http://www.PhilliesBridge.org)

#### Wright's Farm

845-255-5300; Farm Markets, Orchards & CSAs  
[www.EatApples.com](http://www.EatApples.com)



### LODGING

#### The Inn at Kettleboro

914-213-2487; Bed & Breakfast  
[www.Kettleboro.com](http://www.Kettleboro.com)

### REAL ESTATE/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

#### Connor Properties

845-255-5420

#### Laura Rose Real Estate

845-255-9009; Real Estate Brokerage  
[www.LauraRoseRealEstate.info](http://www.LauraRoseRealEstate.info)

#### Willow Realty

845-255-7666; Real Estate Agents  
[www.WillowRealEstate.com](http://www.WillowRealEstate.com)

### GALLERIES

#### Tuthilltown Art Gallery

845-943-0798; Art Gallery  
[www.RonSchaefer.com](http://www.RonSchaefer.com)

### FLORISTS

#### Floral Affairs by Sarah

845-275-4516; Floral Designs  
[www.FloralAffairsBySarah.com](http://www.FloralAffairsBySarah.com)

#### Meadowscent

845-255-3866; Flowers & Florists  
[www.Meadowscent.com](http://www.Meadowscent.com)

# Gardiner Association of Businesses

## The Voice of Gardiner Area Business

### WINERIES/WINE & LIQUOR/DISTILLERY

**Robibero Family Vineyard**  
845-255-9463; Wineries/Wine & Spirits  
[www.RobiberoFamilyVineyards.com](http://www.RobiberoFamilyVineyards.com)

**Tuthilltown Spirits Distillery**  
845-633-8734; Farm Distillery  
[www.Tuthilltown.com](http://www.Tuthilltown.com)

**Whitecliff Vineyard**  
845-255-4613; Wineries/Wine & Spirits  
[www.WhitecliffWine.com](http://www.WhitecliffWine.com)

### PETS/VETS

**Gardiner Animal Hospital**  
845-255-1549; Veterinarian  
Facebook

**The Natural Pet Center at Ireland Corners**  
845-255-7387; Pet Supplies  
[www.TheNaturalPetCenter.com](http://www.TheNaturalPetCenter.com)

### AUTO & RV/SERVICE/SALES

**Beek's Auto**  
845-255-7376; Auto Repair & Services  
Facebook

**STS Tire & Auto Center**  
845-255-7600; Auto Sales & Repair  
[www.STSTire.com](http://www.STSTire.com)

### LAW FIRMS/ATTORNEYS

**Glenn & Breheney, PLLC**  
845-561-1951; Attorney  
[www.GlennBreheneyLaw.com](http://www.GlennBreheneyLaw.com)

**Peter Cordovano, P.C.**  
845-691-4200; Law Office  
[www.CordovanoLaw.com](http://www.CordovanoLaw.com)

### FITNESS/SPORTS/DANCE

**Got Rhythm? Dance Studio**  
845-255-6434; Dance Studio  
[www.GotRhythmGardiner.com](http://www.GotRhythmGardiner.com)

**New Paltz Karate Academy, Inc.**  
845-255-4523; Karate & Martial Arts  
[www.NewPaltzKarate.com](http://www.NewPaltzKarate.com)

### HORSE STABLE/TRAINING/BOARDING

**Journey's End Farm**  
845-255-7163; Horses, Sales  
[www.ACPS.org/JourneysEnd](http://www.ACPS.org/JourneysEnd)

**La Luna Farm**  
845-332-4519; Horse Boarding/Lessons  
[www.LaLunaFarm.com](http://www.LaLunaFarm.com)

**Lucky C Stables, Inc.**  
845-255-3220; Horse Boarding/Lessons  
[www.LuckyCStables.com](http://www.LuckyCStables.com)

### RETAIL

**Kiss My Face**  
845-255-0884; Body & Skincare Products  
[www.KissMyFace.com](http://www.KissMyFace.com)

**Majestic's Hardware, Inc.**  
845-255-5494; Hardware Stores  
[www.MajesticsHardware.com](http://www.MajesticsHardware.com)

**Oh Crow**  
845-255-0250; Rain Gauges  
[www.WorldsCoolestRainGauge.com](http://www.WorldsCoolestRainGauge.com)

### BANKS/FINANCIAL/INSURANCE

**Fraleigh & Rakow, Inc.**  
845-876-7035; Insurance  
[www.FraleighandRakow.com](http://www.FraleighandRakow.com)

### PERSONAL CARE/HEALTH

**Goldman Family Medicine**  
845-255-5450; Medical Family Practice  
Facebook

**Kellie James Salon**  
516-967-8022; Full Service Hair Salon  
[www.KellieJamesSalon.com](http://www.KellieJamesSalon.com)

### MARKETING/PRINTING/MAILING

**Cornerstone Services**  
845-255-5722; Graphic Design & Fulfillment  
[www.CRST.net](http://www.CRST.net)

**Elizabeth Rose Consulting, LLC**  
845-419-5219; Non-Profit & Consulting,  
Event Planning  
[www.ElizabethRoseConsulting.com](http://www.ElizabethRoseConsulting.com)

### ARCHITECTURE

**Hoover Architecture, PLLC**  
845-598-4762; Architects  
[www.HooverArchitecture.com](http://www.HooverArchitecture.com)

