



The Gardiner Gazette

A call to community



Winter 2020 - Issue #45

Free! Please take one

Addison Gardiner's Time has Come A Namesake Gets His Day

by Alan Rothman



Oil painting of Addison Gardiner.
Photo: the internet

You are cordially invited to celebrate Addison Gardiner's Birthday, Thursday, March 19, from 6:30 on at Liquid Mercantile on Main Street in the Hamlet.

So, how did this happen? No matter how many times I speak the name Gardiner into my iPhone, Siri spells it Gardner, Gardener, Gartner and, a recent favorite, Guard Dinner. Maybe Siri is purposely avoiding the topic, because the question that remains about Addison Gardiner is whether he ever visited the town that was named after him." (*The Church Corners Gazette. Gardiner's Little Known Past*, by Town Historian, A.J. Schenkman, *Gardiner Gazette*, Fall 2016).

In another small, but somewhat well-known town—Wall, South Dakota—one finds Wall Drug, a drug store that has managed to turn itself into a famous tourist stop, similar to South Carolina's South of the Border, known to those who travel along Interstate 95. I visited Wall on a cross country camping trip many years

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Saving Gardiner's Historic Barns Episode Three

by L.A. McMahon

Last year, we featured barn rehabilitations in Gardiner that provided insight into how and why these Gardiner residents took on the enormous job of restoration. For some, there is something inherently romantic about a barn, especially one that has weathered the storms of life and still stands strong to tell of it. In this issue, we feature two final renovations that are worthy of note.

Seven Meadows Farm Barn:

Greg and Janet Abels, the owners of Seven Meadows Farm, recounted how, over

the years, they had "shored up" their circa 1850s barn, parts of which may be as old as the 1700s. The Abels said they came into ownership of the barn, located on Route 44/55, when they moved to the farm in 1983. The farm is now the home of Willow Pond Sheep Farm (*Dairy Sheep Farming in Gardiner, Gardiner Gazette*, Summer 2019).

It wasn't until 2018 that they embarked on the major renovation that included re-siding, stone foundation work, and re-flooring of the barn. Their



The Seven Meadows/Willow Pond Barn. Photo: Carrie Wasser

biggest challenge, they said, was finding qualified help at a reasonable cost, but fortunately they found Martin Tomaczewski, a local builder and master craftsman, whom they hired to work on the framing, flooring, and

structural elements. They also found a stone mason, Bill Davis of Earth & Stone Masonry, to carry out the foundation renovation.

Barns, [continued page 14](#)

School Taxes High? STAR Provides Some Relief

by Carol O'Biso

Most of us are aware of the School Tax Relief (STAR) program, which provides homeowners in New York State with relief on their school taxes. It's necessary to register on or before March 1, 2020, and it's only necessary to register for Basic STAR once, so if you've already filed, you don't have to do it again. Keep reading though; there are some recent changes that might be of interest, and you might qualify for some exemptions *other* than Basic STAR that *will* require an application.

Now fasten your seat belts; the state likes to make things as complicated as possible, so it could be a bumpy ride ...

While our Tax Assessor, Maureen Gallagher, will always have to confirm your eligibility, the STAR program's premise is very simple: if you own your home, it's your primary residence, and your income is \$500,000 or less, you qualify for the STAR *credit* program.

Up until March of 2015, if your income was \$250,000 or less you qualified for the STAR *exemption* program. The difference is that the *exemption*—which is now closed to new applicants—reduces your school tax by the

amount of relief you're entitled to. With the STAR *credit*, you pay the full amount of your school taxes and later receive a rebate check for the amount from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

Those of us who have the exemption—about 80% of Gardiner residents—might want to consider switching to the credit and receive a check instead. Yes, it means you first have to pay the full tax up front, but beginning in 2019 the value of the STAR credit savings may increase by up to 2% a year, while the value of the STAR exemption savings cannot increase.

A catch is that the increase is 2% of the amount of the credit, not 2% of your entire school tax bill. The STAR exemption is often around \$600 a year, so that's an extra \$12 a year to be gained by switching to the credit. To get that extra dollar a month, you have to notify Maureen Gallagher in writing that you want to cancel or remove your Basic STAR exemption, then contact the Department of Tax and Finance to apply for the Basic STAR credit. If

you pay your property taxes monthly through an escrow account, you'd also have to notify the bank that holds your mortgage so that adjustments can be made to your payments.

Now, you probably have no idea if you have the credit or the exemption. And you probably can't remember if you applied before March of 2015, which would confirm that you have the exemption. You might even conclude that you must have the credit, because you do receive a property tax rebate check from the state once a year. Well, there's *another* property tax rebate check that comes in the mail from the state. It is separate from the STAR rebate and for a much lesser amount than the typical \$600-ish that the STAR check would be.

To tell if you have the credit or the exemption, look at your school tax bill instead. Those with the STAR exemption will see an amount deducted, with a note that it is "your tax savings resulting from the STAR program."

So, if you're not numb yet, let's sum all that up as succinctly as possible:

- For all categories of STAR you have to own your home, it has to be your primary residence, and Maureen Gallagher has to verify that everything complies.

- You qualify for the **Basic STAR credit** if your 2018 income was \$500,000 or less. Remember that you only have to apply for this once. An additional application is necessary only if you eventually qualify for any of the other exemptions below, or

if you have the pre-2015 exemption and want to switch to the credit.

Here are other STAR categories you may qualify for now, or come to qualify for in the future

- If your 65th birthday is anytime in 2020, your 2018 household income was \$88,050 or less, and you have the pre-2015 Basic STAR exemption, you qualify for **Enhanced STAR** but will have to visit the assessor's office to apply. If you already have the Basic STAR credit, the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance will be aware of both your age and your income, and will automatically apply the Enhanced STAR amounts if your income is below the maximum amount.

- If you are 65+ and your household income for 2018, including Social Security, was \$37,399 or less, or if you have already been receiving Enhanced STAR and your income has been reduced to this level, you also qualify for the **Senior Exemption**. You'll have to renew this one annually, by speaking to the assessor.

- The **Veterans' Exemption** is available if you or your spouse served during wartime. You must visit the assessor's office to apply, and must bring your discharge papers (DD214).

- The **Cold War Veterans Credit** is available if you served during the period 1945 to 1991 and you receive no other veteran's exemption.

Maureen Gallagher is there to assist us! She welcomes our calls at 845 255-9675, extension 104 or 105. And remember, if you're filing for Basic Star for the first time, applying for Enhanced STAR, switching from the exemption program to the credit program, or applying for the Senior Exemption, forms must be filed on or before March 1, 2020. □

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Some Environmental Updates

by Roberta Clements

Wetlands: Environmentalists were excited with the introduction, yet again, of a law to protect wetlands and streams in NY State. Wetlands are more than just swampy, buggy areas. They filter surface water, recharge underground aquifers from which we all get our drinking water, and house a huge variety of plant and animal species (including those pesky mosquitoes) that are part of the fragile interconnectedness of all things.

Once again, however this law was not passed. Without explanation, funding for the wetlands initiative was omitted from the state's 2019 budget. (Gardiner's Wetlands and Watercourse Law has stalled as well, in part due to the expectation that New York State was going to take care of wetlands with its state-wide law.)

State personnel report about 11,000 requests per year to perform activities in NY State wetlands, and a new law would assist both applicants and municipalities. For example, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) does maintain maps of all the wetlands in the state, but many are at least 50 years old, predate the internet and were drawn without the benefit of Geographic Information Services (GIS) images. A property boundary can be erroneous by 50 feet or more on a hand drawn map, whereas GIS images show significantly more detail, with significantly more accuracy.

A new law would result in updated data and maps, and would also address the

changing face of wetlands; between times of drought and flood, a full picture of a wetland can only occur over time. Current technology allows for such an assessment, but the state, instead, relies on a single aerial photograph.

While the wetlands law did not pass this year, there will be another opportunity in the future.

New York's Green New Deal: There are two ways to deal with climate change. Mitigation is the act of trying to stop or slow climate change by changing what we are doing. Many believe that mitigation is no longer an option, and at this point in time we see no countries, corporations, or other giant entities making the leap to effective mitigation protocols (for more information google COP 25.) The other

response to climate change—which many feel is now our only choice—is adaptation. Adaptation is the process of adjusting to the inevitable changes climate change will bring.

New York State, however, has set some lofty mitigation goals by passing the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) in July 2019. New York will suffer some of the most extensive economic damage in the United States due to climate change, having emitted 206 million metric tons of CO2 in 2016. That was 5% of annual global emissions, up from 46 million metric tons in 1990.

With the new act, the state plans to save 185 trillion BTU's of energy by 2025. Rules for the process are required to be established by 2021, and the plan will be updated every five years. A nine-person Climate Action

Environment, [continued page 11](#)

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A Book About (More Than) Wine

by Carol O'Biso

One mark of good writing, I believe, is writing that makes us interested in something we're not interested in.

I opened Gardiner resident José Moreno-Lacalle's book, *The Wines of Long Island* (3rd Edition, based on the 2nd edition by Edward Beltrami and Philip Palmedo), expecting to skim a few pages and write something brief. It looks much like a coffee table book—for looking, not reading—and the cover says, "A must-read for anyone visiting the wineries of Long Island," which I have no intention of doing. Also, I'm interested in wine only to the extent necessary to get a glass into my hand on a Friday night.

By page five, I realized that I was actually reading (including all of the foreword, the preface and the introduction). By page 19, I was getting impatient to start skimming. By page 30 I surrendered, and settled in for a long read.

Ostensibly, *The Wines of Long Island* is about wine. What made it hold my attention, was its many small epiphanies on a much broader plane. In the chapter on the recent push for sustainable, "natural" wine growing, a vintner notes that "farming itself is not natural." What was I thinking?

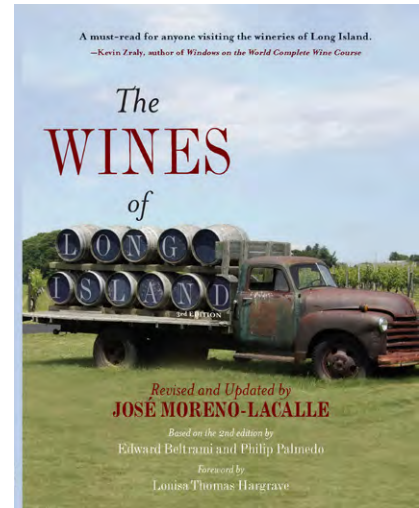
Of course it's not. In nature, seeds blow where they will; grow if they can; die if they can't. Farming, the vintner goes on, "represents a massive intervention in nature." In viticulture this extends even to the space between the vines and rows; the leaf canopy of one vine must not cast too much shade on the other.

When the book tells us of the many awards—in blind taste tests and international competitions Long Island wines frequently beat "super-premium" California and French wines—it's easy to raise an eyebrow. Surely someone is spinning this a bit; if something is so good, why isn't it in every shop and on every restaurant menu with those French and California wines it's supposedly better than? Well, Long Island is tiny, with a wine growing region that can produce 400,000 cases of wine a year. One producer alone in Burgundy, France, produces the same. California's Napa Valley produces 9.2 million cases. So while the quality is there, Long Island wines simply can't be ubiquitous.

The Wines of Long Island also has its share of charm; 20th Century British writer Alec Waugh is quoted as saying, "At the age of 20 I believed that the first duty of a wine was to be red, the second that it should be Burgundy. In 40 years I have lost faith in much, but not in that."

While I was deep into reading the book, my husband and I went to Gardiner Liquid Mercantile, where I asked for any full-bodied red. Coincidentally, Wolfer Estates 2017 Table Red is what I was poured. That red, possibly my first Long Island wine, was very fine indeed, and Wolfer Estates, in Sagaponack, Long Island, figures heavily in *The Wines of Long Island*, so it felt like a surprise visit from an old friend.

My plan is to head over to The Hudson Valley Wine Market in Gardiner and see what Long Island wines Len has. I



The cover of José Moreno-Lacalle's new book. Photo from his website.

have a lot of catching up to do.

The book is available from Banner Bookstore in New Paltz, the Gardiner Library, the Elting Memorial Library in New Paltz, and online at Wine, Seriously (<https://blogwine.riversrunby.net>).

Editor's Note: José Moreno-Lacalle is a member of the Gazette Editorial Committee □

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The Same Bright and Early Haircuts, in a New Location

by Carrie Wasser

At Cuts By Dawn, “everybody’s family” says owner Dawn Foti-Correa.

If you need proof, note that regulars are allowed to come in and schedule their next barber shop cut by picking up Dawn’s appointment book and entering their own name. Customers bring coffee, food, Red Bulls, and other sustenance to Dawn because “they know I never leave here.” She works 12-hour days, six-days a week. Some give Dawn business advice. Others help with handyman work around the shop. Recently, a group of them signed \$1 bills and tacked them up on Dawn’s mirror to wish her luck in her new space.

Dawn has been cutting hair in various locations in Gardiner since 1989, and probably knows most of the men in town who need a haircut. She is a barber; though trained and licensed as a cosmetologist, she has chosen not to offer the typical salon services sought by women. “I just love clipper work,” she says. As a result, about 80% of her clients are men. A cut is \$12.

For the past eight years, Cuts by Dawn was located at 127 Main Street in the heart of downtown. Because she is usually at work by five am (her shop could be called “Cuts At Dawn”), regulars would drive by, see her through the large window facing the street, and beep a hello on their way to work. “Then they’d come back from work,” she says, “and it’d be dark and they’d wave and beep at me again and make a sign with their hands like, “You’re still there?!”

Wanting to offer her customers

a more comfortable setting, easier parking, and handicapped accessibility, Dawn moved a few blocks west this past October, to her house at 172 Main St (Route 44-55).

She never accepts walk-ins because she has many regular customers and is always booked in advance. She returns the numerous calls and texts seeking appointments at the end of the day so she isn’t distracted while cutting. “I love that I’m so busy,” she says. “It’s a little stressful, but I love my people. I have the best customers in the world. I enjoy their company and whenever I’m stressed, they help me relax.”

Now 54, Dawn was born in Rockland County and came to Gardiner in 1989 to join her then-husband, who lived here. She initially cut hair at Ricci’s Barber Shop in New Paltz, then took a leap of faith and launched her own barber shop out of a home she was renting at Tantillo’s Farm on Route 208. There, she began building up a regular customer base, and those customers followed her to the 127 Main location.

Now most of her customers have followed her to her new location at 172 Main St. It is safe to say that Dawn is a fixture in Gardiner, and she loves Gardiner back. “Gardiner has been so amazing to me,” she says. “My customers and the town – I feel so blessed to be here.”

When she moved, good friends of hers (“My Three



Dawn Foti-Correa at her new location at 172 Main St. Photo Carrie Wasser

Guys,” she said) helped set up everything in her new shop. “They’re my heroes, I’m telling you. They moved me here. I went to the store one day to get beer and I came back and everything was up on the walls. They made my shop what it is. And now every time they come in for a cut, they bring their

tools, just in case.” With friends such as these and customers who return again and again, Dawn sees herself cutting hair in Gardiner for quite some time. “I’ll be doing this for as long as I can,” she says. “As long as I can.”

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Gardiner Illustrator Publishes Second Children's Book

by Jennifer Brunttil

A couple of years ago, I interviewed Gardiner illustrator Whitney Burns about her first children's book, *The Bear and the Hare* (Gardiner's Got Talent: Writers And Illustrators Abound, Gardiner Gazette, Summer 2017). Since then, she has collaborated again with friend Sean McKenna, who authored the books, to create the next book in the series called, *The Moose and the Goose*.

Whitney says, "This is our second book in a series of three. The focus of all our children's books is building strong relationships and core values such as sharing and friendship. *The Bear and the Hare* focused on not judging others too quickly, and instead looking deeper to find out who they really are and how to build a friendship with them. Our second book, which we're so excited about, is *The Moose and the Goose*! This book explores how sharing is important and how there is always enough to share, even if at first you don't realize it."

I had a chance to read through the book and take in the vibrant pictures which Whitney originally painted with acrylics. The illustrations have transferred nicely to the written page: the colors

pop, the words rhyme, and everything is arranged in original ways so as to better engage a young reader.

The story is simple yet inspiring, and especially suited for young children. The main plot is not overly complicated and it's a story we can all relate to. It's not always easy to share a thing, person, or a place you like. In this book the author focused on a favorite spot coveted by both of the main



characters, and the story lies in the compromise.

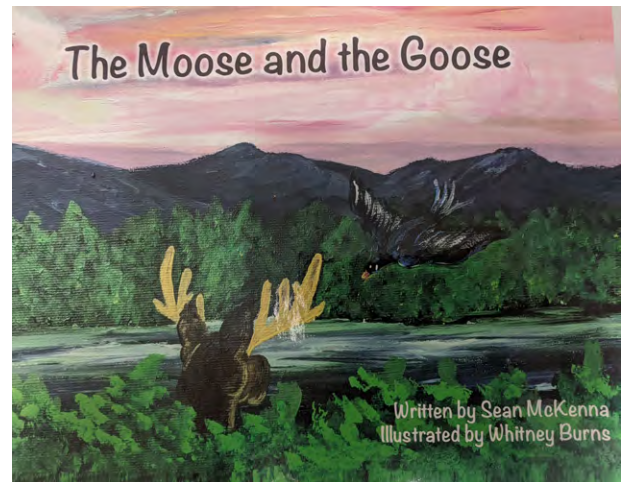
It's a good message for children and adults alike. In a

time where even as an adult I find the world a little more divided every day, I found the story gave comfort and brought up ideas of likeness

and kindness towards others. My favorite illustration comes at the end of the book and is of the moose

and the goose staring out at a lake while the moose wraps his arm (leg?) around the shoulder of the goose. It made me smile. I'm not sure about the logistics of that position in real life, but that doesn't matter because in a story anything can happen.

My own daughter read it with me and immediately followed by telling me that "it teaches that sharing is good." She also noted another way to share in her own life, telling me that "at lunch if someone forgot to pack a lunch you could share what you have with that person." Let's just say, the message was received. In a world where it seems like we could use a few more good stories, you can be sure this is one of them. You can pick up *The Moose and the Goose* at local bookstores and at <http://sil-verfoxchildrensbooks.com>. □



Illustrations from *The Moose and the Goose*. Images courtesy the author.



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Kaleidoscope Arts Center Opens for Business

by Jennifer Bruntl



Dance classes are up and running at Gardiner's new bellydance, photography and recording studio. (*Coming this Fall! Kaleidoscope Arts Center, Gardiner Gazette, Summer 2019.*)

Owner Angelique Hainsworth has beginners bellydance classes on Sundays from 10:00 to 11:30 AM, and Mondays from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. No experience necessary!

Eye Spy Photography, in the same building, is also open

for photo shoots. Angelique will soon be offering Mothers Day packages, as well as some monthly promotions.

Sign up for her newsletter at www.EyeSpyPhotography.com.

Black Sheep Recording Studios, offering professional recording and mixing, is operated by Angelique's husband, Jeff Frey, and is also now open. Visit blacksheeprecordingstudios.com to find out more. □

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2019 Gardiner Election: Is This Where We're Heading?

by Carol O'Biso

Gardiner's 2019 local election was unusual in that, at town level, all candidates ran unopposed. The Gardiner Republican Party chose not to nominate any candidates, assuring a win for the Democrats.

At least *somebody* ran. But was 2019 a sign of things to come? In some small towns, no one at all runs.

"Want to be mayor? Move to one of these places. Dozens of Minnesota city council, town board and mayoral elections are missing something this year—candidates." *Wilmont, Minnesota, 2016*

"Nobody runs for office in small N.C. town. In the North Carolina town of Tar Heel, residents won't have to worry about

Big Government. It's looking like No Government. The positions will all be write-ins come November." *CNN, 2011*

"What Happens When You Hold an Election and Nobody Runs? Confusion Wins. Montana town reelects city councilman who wasn't on the ballot; 'I had hoped that somebody would come forward.' *The Wall Street Journal, 2019*

The causes are many. Registered Democrats in Gardiner now outweigh Republicans by a wide margin, perhaps making it harder and harder for Republican candidates to reconcile the

time and effort of running against the chance of winning. That doesn't fully explain it though; in 2019, the Democratic Committee tried for months to recruit other candidates, and finally endorsed a candidate who had previously identified as Republican.

There are other obstacles: it's a lot of work and there isn't a lot of benefit to it unless you have a strong motivation to serve your town; the election process itself can be grueling in terms of time and stress; and being a public figure is not to everyone's liking. Still, it was always thus, wasn't it?

What is new is the graying of city halls. It's the baby boomer syndrome cropping up in new form. Baby boomers have carried the ball for several decades and are now

stepping down. Some areas are having difficulty attracting younger blood for boards, advisory panels and committees that serve as training grounds for future leaders. Also true is that politics has become uglier, and fewer people have the stomach for it.

We hope it will never get that bad in Gardiner, but some towns say that if no one is on the ballot, the current council fills vacancies with appointments—often with those whose terms expired. And some towns use only write-in ballots, so anyone can find out they've been elected. Whether they are willing to serve is another matter.

There are no clear answers, but the 2019 Gardiner election was a possible wake up call. We can all wait to see what 2021 brings, or take 2019 to heart and get involved now. □

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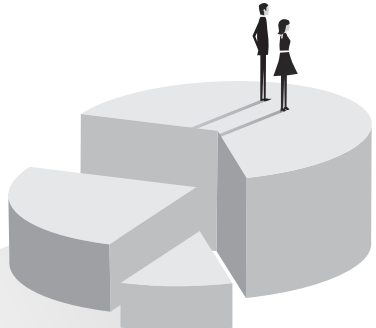


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The Next Chapter for The Village Market

by José Moreno-Lacalle

On October 19 of last year, the following message appeared on the Facebook page of the Village Market and Eatery on Main Street:

To Our Most Excellent Customers: Five years in business, the end of the 20teens, a looming milestone birthday, and a glorious retirement – it's time to announce that the Village Market and Eatery will fly its 'open' flag for the last time on November 3. Visions and values have taken a hit since we opened our doors in 2014. The world has changed completely: global events are pondered from our small perch in Gardiner. At the same time, our staff has been fortunate to have met and served our wonderful regulars, . . . [including] four graduating classes of the West Point Black Knights X-Country team that packed our tables every Sunday. Go Army.

Carl Zatz, the market's owner, who posted the message, added, "Counting the days down ... transition is already beginning ... New folks with lots of restaurant experience on their way. Stay tuned."

As it turned out, the "new folks" weren't yet a commitment, and as of January 2020 negotiations are ongoing with several interested parties.

The owners of the building, Ralph and Gable Erenzo (father and son, respectively), are working closely with Zatz, a longtime friend, to help sell the business. An on-line advertisement by TBC Business Brokers reaches out to those "Looking for a more relaxed life style," and offers "a 3,100 Square Foot, turnkey business with fully equipped kitchen and

deli counter." It goes on to say that "This town is like a small Woodstock. Good traffic on Main Street with ample parking."

Meantime, Zatz is continuing to pay the rent on his three-year lease. It is entirely conceivable that the next occupant will not be a restaurateur at all. Nevertheless, given its physical prominence



The Village Market before restoration, and above right, today. Photo s courtesy the owner.

and prime location, the building and its occupant, whoever that may be, are at the core of Main Street business and it will benefit the town to have an anchoring business will move in.

The Village Market was originally a turn-of-the-century coach house for visitors who came and went from the Wallkill Valley Railroad station nearby. The building has also served as a deli or grocery store since at least

1944, when in the hands of the Schiro family, and later the Ogno, Solcberg, and Coddington families.

In 2006, after owning and running the grocery for only about a year, Robert Lutz sold the business and building to business partners Laurie Willow, Robin Hayes, and Susan Eckhardt, who then made a major effort to repair, refurbish, and renovate the structure. They hired local architect Matthew Bialecki, AIA, to return the façade to an authentic 19th-Century mercantile store-



it was in its glory days."

It took a few years to get it done, with obstacles to overcome, but the end result was a very attractive, renovated structure with a brand-new, colorful façade. The upstairs veranda was removed, the side building was better-integrated, a street-facing clock was installed at the attic level, and a handsome sign was put up.

While the upstairs has long been home to residential apartments, the downstairs commercial space was rented to the Gagnes, owners of the former Red Rooster (where Café Mio is located now), and Dietrichs, who owned the Catskill Bake Company. These two couples ran it as the Village Market & Bakery until 2010, when the business was sold to John Reilly, a professional chef, and Karen Schneck, a CIA-trained baker, who, between them, had

Market, [continued page 13](#)

Pete Patel

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Addison, from page 1

ago and saw the even more famous bumper stickers, "Where the Heck is Wall Drug?"

So here lies the overriding question: "Who the heck was Addison Gardiner?" In a random sampling of 10 residents in and around the hamlet of Gardiner recently, one person said he had heard of him, another knew that he was a New York State elected official and lawyer, and the other eight people had no idea.

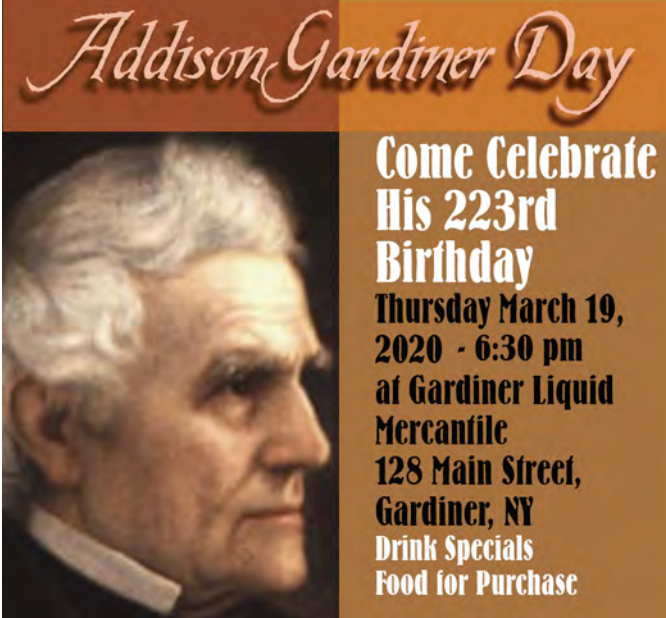
In brief, Addison Gardiner was born in New Hampshire, moved to the city of Rochester, N.Y., where he began a law practice, and went on to become a district attorney, a prominent judge, and the lieutenant governor of New York State.

Can we live and work in such a beautiful town without honoring its namesake? In response to this question, an ad-hoc Addison Gardiner Day Subcommittee of the Gardiner Gazette Committee is taking shape. Wouldn't it be wonderful to celebrate Addison's 223rd birthday in the spring of this year and every year thereafter? Town Supervisor Marybeth Majestic said in an email, "I

am jazzed about the event." Town Historian A.J. Schenkman is excited, too and says, "I would be honored to help in any way I can."

We propose that every March 19, Addison's birthday, no matter what the day of the week (this year, a Thursday), the good citizens and friends of Gardiner mark the day with a celebratory event. Early ideas are that it include Addison himself dressed in 19th century period costume, a birthday cake and candles, maybe a teach-in about his life and accomplishments, and of course, fun, and local food and drink.

A bit of fun on March 19th will help us shake off the winter doldrums and get us through to Gardiner Day, (this year on September 12—see page 16). That lovely community event allows us to meet neighbors and merchants, sample the many talents and products of our residents and friends, and express our thanks to the many people who help to make Gardiner the special place that it is. Addison Gardiner Day can be a small taste of the same.



Addison Gardiner Day

Come Celebrate His 223rd Birthday
Thursday March 19, 2020 - 6:30 pm
at Gardiner Liquid Mercantile
128 Main Street, Gardiner, NY
Drink Specials
Food for Purchase

Design above by Joe Tantillo.

For more information, or to help us plan the "Addison Gardiner Day" celebratory events, contact me, Alan Rothman, at addygard319@gmail.com. Happy 223rd birth-

day Addison!

Incidentally, Siri, who can't spell Gardiner, also has difficulty spelling the word "Paltz" correctly, but we're going to leave that to our northern neighbors. □

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Environment, from page 3

Council will be established. Member agencies will form six advisory panels to address some broad issues.

Those affected will include the transportation, building, industrial, commercial, and agricultural sectors. The first plan will take effect in 2022. 70% of electricity will be from renewable sources by 2030 and New York should have 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040. The CLCPA also requires that New York, by 2050, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent from 1990 levels and offset the remaining 15% by reforestation, carbon sequestration in soils, and other actions.

New York State Plastic Bag Ban: While we in Ulster County already passed the plastic

bag ban, a statewide law will take effect and plastic "carryout" bags will no longer be used by retailers statewide. There are multiple exemptions to this law so note that the banned bags are primarily those grocery store type plastic bags given out by stores. Still allowable are bulk trash bags, produce bags, meat, fish, and deli wraps, and restaurant take out bags among others. The state ban takes effect March 1, 2020.

Natural Resource Inventory (NRI): In January, the Gardiner Town Board passed a resolution in favor of creating a Natural Resource Inventory (NRI), which compiles information on important, naturally occurring resources such as forests, streams, wetlands, and critical habitats, as well

as scenic and recreational assets. A working group has been established by the Gardiner Environmental Conservation Commission (ECC) and Open Space Commission, in conjunction with the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), to describe the fresh water, parks, natural habitats and scenic spaces that are essential to ensuring Gardiner's continued prosperity, quality of life and responsible growth.

When the NRI is completed, it will be comprised of a report and a series of maps, narratives, supporting data tables, and recommendations and will serve as an essential tool for the town by officially identifying sensitive land, water and habitat resources.

The NRI working group will be providing updates and asking for input and assistance via posts on the town's website and Facebook page. The initial query will be related to the readability and accuracy of a baseline map that will be used to overlay various other data such as soils, slopes, habitats, wetlands, etc. Our first quest is to gather information about currently unnamed streams on the baseline map.

Please submit comments to robertaaclements@gmail.com by February 16, 2020. 845-532-6400. If you are interested in volunteering on the ECC and/or specifically the NRI working group please contact supervisor.tog@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: Roberta Clements is the Chair of the Gardiner Environmental Conservation Commission (ECC). □



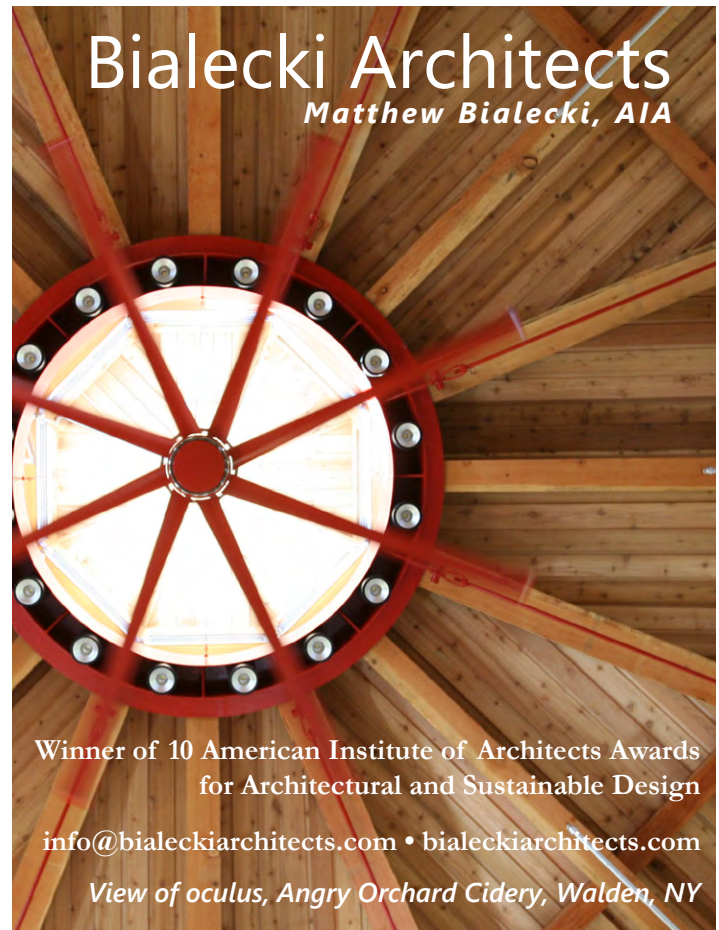
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View of oculus, Angry Orchard Cidery, Walden, NY

An Alternate Approach to Tillson Lake

by The Gazette Editorial Committee

It was brought to our attention that the article *Progress on Tillson Lake* in the Summer issue of 2019 may have presented only one facet of a multi-faceted issue.

As background, Tillson Lake was created when a private landowner dammed the Palmaghatt Stream in 1930. That dam is currently in need of repair, and initial assessments by the Palisades Interstate Parks Commission (PIPC), which administers the lake, placed the cost of repair at a number that the commission deemed unsupportable. The alternative PIPC proposed, in a letter to landowners in the area of the lake in March of 2018, was "removal of the dam and restoration of the lake back to a natural stream corridor."

PIPC's plan was to revise the

Minnewaska State Park Master Plan to "provide for re-establishment of a natural stream corridor that is environmentally sound."

This option may originally have been driven by the high cost of restoring the dam, yet a number of Gardiner residents feel that restoration of the Palmaghatt Stream corridor deserves objective, scientific evaluation as to its benefits when assessing what is best for the long-term environmental health of the Shawangunk Ridge. For more information about either approach, contact the Palisades Interstate Parks Commission or the Department of Environmental Conservation. □

The Bruynswyck Inn Closes

by Carol O'Biso



The Bruynswyck Inn, in a photo from their Facebook page.

For 21 years the Bruynswyck Inn, on Bruynswyck Road, has been an oasis for those living in the southwest corner of Gardiner. And, yes, the Inn and the road are spelled differently, just in case each isn't hard enough to spell already.

Now we'll have only the road to worry about. Just before Thanksgiving last year, Chef Jean Boulidor and Manager and Bookkeeper Lee Ann Muller found a buyer and headed off into a much earned retirement.

The Gazette wrote about their luscious escargot in the Fall 2015, and their splendid duck in the summer of 2012, and though actually in Sha-

wangunk, the restaurant and bar were frequently crowded with Gardiner residents, who had their same spot at the bar, or a favorite table in the dining room.

The Gazette has not yet succeeded in making contact with the new owner, but according to Lee Ann, the building will be closed for a while for renovations and will reopen as a restaurant, in the spring if all goes according to plan.

We'll stay on top of developments there, and report back. We're all going to miss Jean and Lee Ann and the great food and home-like atmosphere. They gave us their very best for a long time, and for that we thank them. □

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Market, from page 9

forty years of experience in restaurants and catering.

In an interview for the Hudson Valley magazine, Schneck explained that “we catered to everyone, from kids to sophisticated palates. We started every dish with very high-quality products, but we cooked what we like to eat.” The café attracted hungry locals, weekenders, and climbers of the Gunks, among others.

One popular item of theirs was the “Yes, Dear” panini, based on their Waldorf chicken salad. They came up with the name because, as Schneck explained, “that’s how you stay in business together when you’re married—it’s a lot of ‘Yes, dear! Yes, dear.’” They also ran a catering service from the Market that served weddings and events in the region, including

the Mohonk Preserve annual fundraiser.

In 2014 other possibilities beckoned the couple, and they wanted more time to spend with their son, Jordan. They sold the business to Carl Zatz, formerly a Gardiner Town Supervisor and owner, for a few years, of Enthusiastic Wines, on a nearby corner (now the Hudson Valley Wine Market).

Zatz changed the name of the shop to Village Market and Eatery; the bakery in the back was closed; and new products were introduced, including fair-trade coffee and lobster on the menu on a daily basis. The “Yes, Dear” panini went the way of the bakery.

However, new crowds came, the atmosphere remained much the same,

and the fare offered was good enough to please its clientele.

Finally, it came time for Zatz to move on as well. Or perhaps not. It is possible that he will continue to be involved in whatever business exists there.

The question remains, who will buy the business? The word is out that members of the Millennial generation are transforming and revitalizing small towns around the country. It may well be time for this generation to bring Gardiner to life by taking over the Village Market, and attracting other young visitors to come, perhaps to stay, and participate in the community. After all, just now Gardiner is a “small Woodstock.”

If you are interested in the

business, or know someone who is, please contact TBC Business Brokers at tbcpearl@aol.com, or talk to Gable Erenzo, who also owns Liquid Mercantile across the street. □



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Barns, from page 1

It was important to them that the footprint and profile of the barn be maintained while retaining as many of the original chestnut and hickory beams as possible. Their advice for those considering such a project? "Be prepared to adapt and adjust as the renovation goes along. Assume there will be surprises!"

The Abels barn is among the few restored barns in Gardiner that are once again being actively used for animal husbandry; Greg and Janet recently leased their land to their daughter and son-in-law, who run Willow Pond Sheep Farm. If you'd like to see the barn, you can contact the sheep farm at (845) 332-5583 or www.willowpondsheep.com.

Inn at the Ridge Barn

For Salvatore (Sal) Riccobono, co-owner of Inn at the Ridge Bed & Breakfast, the motivation to restore the barn located on the property wasn't the romance, it was the challenge. Sal said, "Tackling such a big project was a challenge that I wanted to see if my son and I could pull off."

The ancient barn has been in the Riccobono family since 2006, when they bought 2098 Bruynswick Road. The barn was used for hundreds of years to house dairy cows, and

it has stood in its place since 1796, when it was built by the Decker family.

The farm and barn have a long-standing history in the area, pre-dating the 1853 founding of the Town of Gardiner. To give some historical perspective, the Declaration of Independence was signed a mere 20 years before this barn was built.

For a year or so, the Riccobono family did a costly and time-consuming renovation of the old farmhouse, which became the Inn at the Ridge. After that, they turned their attention to the barn, which was in really rough shape. It was "swiss cheese" Sal said, due to an infestation of powder post beetles and the beating of the northeast winds year after year.

This barn restoration is fascinating and impressive because most of the work was done by two people: Sal and his son, Justin Riccobono, working weekends and some nights. They scoured the area for antique barn wood and beams to replace what they could not salvage.

The barn was originally timber frame construction, a typical method of that era, using mortise and tenon joinery, secured with wooden pegs instead of nails.



The Inn at the Ridge barn before restoration. Photos courtesy the owners.

Asked about the biggest challenge of the project, Sal recounted amazing stories of perseverance and ingenuity. For example, a 12" x 12" barn beam 30 feet long and over 800 pounds was installed by just Sal and Justin, with the help of a fork lift that could only lift the beam 12 to 13 feet. The rest of the way up, they used levers (pry bars and picks) so they could get it in place and sledge hammer it "square." Phew! I'm tired just writing about it!

To finish the exterior, Sal found some 1800s ship-lap siding from an old barn that was being dismantled, and which had a similar patina to his barn's wood.

Once in place and stained, you'd never know it was repaired. I personally love the Bruynswick Road-facing side of the barn (next page) with the antique sign lettering across the top wall, which says "THE PATCHWORK QUILT." I com-



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Barns, from page 14



The Inn at the Ridge barn today. Photo: L.A. McMahon.

mented on its lovely rusticity, and Sal said it will be left rustic until the right restoration craftsman can be identified to restore it without harming its authenticity and antique appearance.

Finally, I asked Sal what the biggest benefit of the project was, and he said, "Working with my son was such a pleasure because we worked without the conflict our Italian temperaments usually require." I could

almost imagine a wink at the end of that sentence. The farm at the Inn at the Ridge sells produce at the barn and offers a sliding scale to those in need. For more information: Inn at the Ridge, (845) 895-9251 or info@innattheridge.com.

Editor's Note: Carrie Wasser of Willow Pond Sheep Farm is a member of the Gazette Editorial Committee. □



Mark your calendars! Climate Smart Gardiner's 2020 Go Green Expo will be held from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Saturday, March 21 at the Gardiner Firehouse (2349 Route 44/55). Learn more about solar, electric vehicles, heat pumps and composting. There will be green vendors and educators, kid's activities, a raffle and more.

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The Gardiner Gazette

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Printing & mailing by Cornerstone Services, Inc.
Proofreading and copy editing by Barbara A. Edelman
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Save These Dates: Gardiner Day Events 2020...



Greetings from the Gardiner Day Committee! We hope you'll mark your calendars for these 2020 Gardiner Day events:

- Sat., Apr. 11 - Plant Sale
- Fri., Apr. 24, Women's Dance

- Sat., Sept. 12, GARDINER DAY
- Wed., Oct. 28 , Pumpkin Walk
- Fri., Dec. 4, Tree Lighting Parade

More events may be added, and we are always looking for Volunteers, Members or Businesses to help make them hap-

pen. Message us (Facebook/Gardiner Day New York), if you are interested in being part of any or all of the festivities!.

Submitted by The Gardiner Day Committee, some of whom are pictured above at a Saint Patrick's Day dinner at the Gardiner Firehouse. □

About This Publication

The Gardiner Gazette is a quarterly publication funded entirely by advertising and contributions. Dates are as follows:

Winter, Feb. 18 release (Submission deadline January 8)
Spring, May 6 release (Submission deadline March 30)
Summer, Aug. 7 release (Submission deadline June 30)

Fall, Oct. 25 release (Submission deadline September 16)

Articles are written by community members, not reporters. If you would like to submit an article for consideration, please contact us to discuss it before you write your article. To suggest a business to feature, please contact us. To advertise in *The Gazette*, contact Jason Stern (845) 527-6205 or gardinergazetteads@gmail.com.



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- ◆ Town of New Paltz



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Real Estate is more than a job for me, it is a passion that I enjoy focusing on and thinking about. However, when not researching the most fabulous property for a client or working out a new way to market a home, most of my time relaxing is spent with my teenage daughter Lily and our 2 horses Traveller and Piper. My husband, Alex is an excellent Horse Dad/Husband. When not playing gigs with his band, drives us to horse shows all over the tri-state area. On those days when I have a bit of time to myself, you'll find me at home in our log house, curled up with my dog and 2 cats, a large pot of tea and a good book.

Originally from the U.K., I have now been living in the beautiful Hudson Valley for almost 30 years. For 26 of those years I enjoyed the challenges and rewards of running my own business. I am now bringing my extensive customer service expertise to helping you with your real estate needs. I believe that integrity, trust and knowledge are 3 of the most important characteristics that I can bring to my interactions with clients.

I have already earned my certification as a Seniors Real Estate Specialist and look forward to gaining more expertise this year. I love learning new ways of doing business and strive to stay informed of the latest trends and technologies related to the real estate market and to share with my clients.

I would love to speak with you regarding your real estate needs and your vision. I am happy to take a preliminary call to get to know each other better and see if I am the right person to fulfill your real estate dreams. 845-853-3708



Elizabeth "Beth" Whiston—NYS Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

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Beth, a former elementary education teacher in Rockland and Westchester Counties, moved to Gardiner with her husband, Pete, two years ago to be near her daughters and grandchildren. Beth fell in love with the Hudson Valley for all its natural beauty. A place where she wakes up every morning to inhale the fresh air and breathtaking view of the Shawangunk Mountains, a place to hike, visit museums, partake in winery/brewery festivities and a favorite....Gardiner Library where she can bring her grandchildren to story hour.

As a Realtor, Beth's priority is to make her clients happy. Beth is a great listener, creative and a trouble shooter which helps her to be able to qualify her clients needs, wants and dreams. Beth states "I want to make your dream come true whether it's marketing your property or helping you purchase. Instead of educating and molding students I now service my community through real estate." Beth does this with pride, knowledge, tenacity and a great sense of humor.

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