



# The Gardiner Gazette

A call to community



Summer 2017 - Issue #35

Free! Please take one

## The Gardiner Fire Department Demystified

by Patty Gardin

In 2016, the volunteer Gardiner Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) combined went out on 465 calls. Gardiner Fire Commissioner Luke Lyons says, "Spring and fall we have a lot of chimney fires, summer-time motorcycle, sky diving and climbing accidents. In between, you have the automatic alarms."

Currently, there are 50 volunteer firefighters and EMS technicians in Gardiner, but not all of them can answer a particular call; each firefight-

er must pass a New York State mandated test in order to receive different certifications. For example, there's a certificate authorizing entry to a house fire; one permitting a jump out a second story window of a house on fire, etc.

According to a March 2017 report published by the New York State Comptroller's Office, there are 886 independent fire districts in New York State, two of which operate in the Town of Gardiner: the Shawangunk Fire District and the Gardiner Fire District. Most of Gardiner lies within the Gardiner Fire District's jurisdiction.



The Gardiner Fire District is responsible for the organization and appointment of members to the Fire Department. For clarity, a Fire District and a Fire Department are not the same thing. Fire districts are autonomous public corporations, independent from the towns in which they are located, established to provide fire protection and respond to other types of

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Lyla Casamento, now an Orange Belt (6th Kyu, official rank) has been training for about five years. Photo: Jessica Casamento Photography.

## 15+ Things To Do With Kids in Gardiner

by Liz Glover Wilson

There are lots of things to do with kids in Gardiner. Some are spontaneous, summer fun. Some are exhilarating and lead to long-term skills and new friends. Here are over 15 great options. Google the ones you're interested in and try them out!

Sign your kids up for karate classes at Fighting Spirit Karate School, which has a new location, on Osprey Lane in Gardiner.

Try the Take The Leap Dance Studio (formerly Got Rhythm), also on Osprey Lane; it's under new ownership.

Stone Wave Yoga (Route 44/55, in the former Utility Canvas building) is new to the area and

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## The Shawangunk Wine Trail: A Local Asset Worth Visiting

by Jose Moreno-Lacalle



Imagine visiting the oldest continuously-operating winery in the United States. Not far from there is a winery with the oldest vineyard in the country still growing wine grapes. The oldest residential street in America is nearby, too. One of the oldest and most famous resort hotels is in this corner of the world, and the territory is all bounded by the fabulous climbing cliffs of the Shawangunk Mountain Range on the west and the great Hudson River on the east. It extends from New Paltz in the north to Warwick in the south.

This is the home of the Shawangunk Wine Trail, which links 15 farm wineries, all family-owned. We are fortunate to have two of the 15 (Whitecliff and Robibero) in Gardiner. The Trail is member-driven, created to make it both easy and fun to visit the wineries, taste their wines, and enjoy events held at them.

The Shawangunk Wine trail was started by four of the wineries nearly 25 years ago and has been growing over the years. There are some eligibility requirements, such as that all their wines be produced locally from Hudson Valley or New York State fruit.

Members also pay a hefty membership fee which, among other things, defrays the cost of printing 120,000 brochures annually, which are distributed to the wineries, trail partners (restaurants, hotels, inns, etc.), and even nationwide. All the wineries have cop-

ies on hand, free for the taking, that serve as a Trail guide with a map and a list of restaurants, hotels, and attractions in the region.

Trail events are held in the spring, summer, and fall. For the last few years *Pasta Primo Vino*, a wine tasting paired with a different pasta dish at each winery, has been held in April. *The Bounty of the Hudson*, a 2-day wine and food event, is now being held in June at the New Paltz Fair Grounds, attracting over 1,000 visitors at a time.

*Wreath Fineries at the Wineries*, is on three weekends in November and December. You collect a grapevine wreath at the first winery that you visit and get a decoration for the wreath and a wine tasting at each subsequent winery.

The wineries involved are a diverse and truly interesting lot. There are very old, as well as very new and modern, facilities. Some are devoted to producing wines from native and hybrid varieties, such as Niagara or Traminette. Others devote their entire production to only Vinifera varieties that had been imported from Europe a century or so ago. Indeed, the signature red-wine grape for this region is probably the Cabernet Franc, originally of Bordeaux.

Red, white, rosé, and sparkling wines are all made,

along with sweet dessert wines, fruit wines, and, in fact, a wine for every taste, including for visitors who “think” that they don’t like wine.

Many of these properties enjoy spectacular views of the Hudson River or the Shawangunk Cliffs. On weekends, many offer musical entertainment or the facilities can be rented for bridal showers or weddings. The idea is to have a good time and learn about the rich and fascinating range of delicious local wines, many of them prize-winners. There are even limousine services that cater to the wine tourist.

A special program is the Hudson Valley Wine Tasting Passport, valid from January 1 to August 31 of each year. The 2018 Passport will be available online by October. With the Passport, you may visit each of the 15 wineries of the Shawangunk Wine Trail at your own pace. It allows you to visit and taste at each winery once. The Passports can also be purchased at the participating wineries. Those who visit all 15 wineries can return their Passport for a free one for the following season.

Explore the web site ([shawangunkwinetrail.com](http://shawangunkwinetrail.com)) to plan your visit and absorb all that remarkable American wine and history. It lists the 15 winery members, provides links to their own Web sites and gives their hours of operation.

Jude DeFalco is the Operations Manager; [jude@gunkswine.com](mailto:jude@gunkswine.com). □

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## Maurice Hinchey: An Estimable Man

by Janet Kern



Maurice Hinchey was elected to represent what used to be New York's 22nd Congressional District for the first time in 1992. (Gerrymandering shifted Gardiner to the new 19th Congressional District in 2012.)

With his funny name, distinctive pompadour, natural elegance and a resume that included NY State Thruway toll collector and boxer, "Big Mo" pretty much had us at "hello." He easily won every subsequent election, for nine more terms in office.

Articulate, impassioned and worthy of voters' trust, Maurice became a hero of the Hudson Valley; our happy warrior on behalf of the environment, justice, the local economy and universal health care.

One of the most vivid civic moments in Gardiner's history is the now-legendary

speech he made at Wallkill High School when the anticipated crowd of 500 people was too large for our Town Hall to accommodate.

Maurice brought a roaring crowd to its feet with his full-throated support for Saving the Ridge from a controversial 2500 acre mega-development. That land was ultimately transferred to New York State and is now part of Minnewaska State Park.

Maurice helped the Ridge retain its designation by the Nature Conservancy as one of earth's Last Great Places. This June, the Hinchey family went public with the sad news that Maurice had been diagnosed with Frontotemporal Degeneration, a terminal brain disease with no known cure.

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I last saw him at one of the many tributes arranged after his retirement - a choice dictated by failing health but resisted nonetheless by his devoted constituents, including me. The early signs of his now-known medical diagnosis were achingly apparent, his fluency and benevolent force field diminished. But still he remained every inch the consummate politician, beaming and grasping each proffered hand in both of his own.

We've all heard disgruntled neighbors speak derisively of someone as "just a damn politician." Sometimes I try to engage that scornful citizen, and mention Maurice, and the noble intent and capacious heart that just might be behind the handshake.

Maurice Hinchey made politics an honorable calling. □

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## Refugees And Immigrants In The Hudson Valley

by Jacqueline Reed

On May 19th, about 50 people gathered in the Gardiner Town Hall to hear presentations and talk about refugees and immigrants in the Hudson Valley and Gardiner.

The event, organized by Rev. Cari Keith, a Gardiner resident, arose due to the change in our National Administration and the new policies and Executive Orders related to immigration. In April, the Gardiner Town Board was asked to support a resolution in the support of refugee resettlement. They declined to move forward with this and suggested instead a community forum to provide an opportunity for residents to learn about and discuss these issues.

The Presidential Executive order, initially issued in Janu-

ary, and then re-issued in March, bans the admission of people from six primarily Muslim countries and put a moratorium on all refugee resettlement, from any country, for four months (through mid-July, 2017).

At the time of these policy changes in January, the Hudson Valley was preparing to begin resettling 100 refugees from the Congo and Syria, and many other people were preparing to come to the Hudson Valley as migrant farm workers.

To clarify some of the facts and terminology, a person who does not have the necessary documents to work in the U.S. can still legally

obtain a tax I.D. number and pay taxes, and many do. Since 1986, employers can face civil and legal actions for hiring individuals without correct documentation for work in the U.S. While undocumented persons are often referred to as "illegal" immigrants, in the majority of cases, it is a civil offense, not criminal, to enter the U.S. without being "inspected" at the border. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is a civil enforcement agency, not criminal, and it is more correct to refer to such a person as an "authorized" or "unauthorized" immigrant, refugee or migrant. (Many people come with authorization and stay after the authorization time period expires.)

It's also important to note that there is a difference between migrants and immigrants. Migrants are those



Photo: the internet

who migrate, such as a person who moves regularly in order to find work, especially in harvesting crops. Approximately half of the farm workers in the Hudson Valley are migrants.

Immigrants, on the other hand, are those who have resettled in a new location. Approximately 18% of the Hudson Valley's population are immigrants, and 70% of those (both authorized and unauthorized) are em-

immigrants, continued [page 11](#)

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## What's Going On In There? Fall Fittings: Roots 70 Years Deep

by Sanda Cranswick

Midway between New Paltz and Gardiner, on Route 208, motorists may be charmed by an orange-painted metal stick-man cavorting roadside. Next to him a modest sign announces "Fall Fittings: STEEL, Welding, Fabrication, Erection." In a sprawling lot, loom industrial warehouses and heavy equipment—an anomalous sight in this bucolic landscape. What exactly IS going on in there? I met with Robbie Zaccheo to find out. Robbie, intensely knowledgeable and engaging, loves what he is doing and is most eager to share his enthusiasm about his family business, with roots 70 years deep in our community.

Robbie, who co-owns the business with his cousin, Chris Zaccheo, uncle, Jim Fall, and mother, Ann Zaccheo Phillips, has 20 employees—sturdy souls, enduring summer's heat and winter's cold in the huge unheatable, un-air-conditioned spaces. Robbie laughed when I asked about their business name. "We get a lot of calls, like, 'Hey what do you guys do?' They think we're a dress shop!" As older residents know, Fall Fittings is a welding and metal fabrication business begun in 1949 by Robbie's grandfather, Dick Fall, with the original goal of manufacturing pipe fittings; hence the name Fall Fittings.

Pipe fittings were eventually dropped, but the name stuck as the business became a neighborhood welding and metalworking shop fixing farm equipment, bro-

ken pipes, boilers, etc.

Early on, the shop began taking on a few more challenging jobs. In the fifties and sixties, Mohonk Mountain House commissioned Fall Fittings to produce the distinctive green railings for their balconies. Rocking Horse Ranch also provided a good deal of work, particularly on their show-horse trailers. In the 1970s, the shop began to do more structural steelwork, providing the steel framing for local strip malls in NJ and NY, and for local businesses such as Chez Joey and later, the Gilded Otter in New Paltz.



Dick Fall retired in the 1980s and Robbie's dad, Robert Zaccheo Sr., took over, expanding the business with a number of ambitious jobs, including manufacturing toll booths for the NJ Turnpike and NY Thruway. When the economy tanked at the end of the nineties, the business turned back to more local work—Mohonk again;



Robbie Zaccheo, below left and, above, Robbie and Chris Zaccheo with some of the structural steel produced at the shop ..... Photo: LACE Photo Media

structural elements for the "lace factory"/artist's studios renovation in Kingston—and others. Fall Fittings also became a source for metal for other contractors, and even for local artists and students of the metalworking courses at SUNY New Paltz.

Robbie arrived at Fall Fittings in a circuitous way. He earned a B.S. in civil engineering in 1996, later earned a law degree, worked locally as an attorney for a number of years, and eventually began to reassess his career choice. He continued to work part time as an attorney but returned to Fall Fittings just as his father was retiring from the business; a third-generation incarnation of Fall Fittings got underway.

Robbie commented that, "Around that time we made the jump to a computerized system. For 50 years before, it was all manual torching, welding, drilling and punching. You really saw the computing power increase in the 2000s. Engineering got more elaborate; without the computing power, very complicated structures weren't designed, because you have to do so many complicated

calculations to figure out a custom beam or situation."

An investment in two massive and expensive new pieces of computerized equipment—a high-definition plasma plate cutter that can cut, drill, mill, tap and countersink steel plate up to two inches thick and up to eight feet wide and 20 feet long, and an angle-cutter—allowed the business to take on a number of exacting jobs. The plasma cutter recently produced base plates to be used in the construction of the fantastic new tower going up over the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City.

Fall Fittings is currently constructing new headquarters for the Peekskill Fire Department, among other projects, but is always available to local businesses. Robbie recently produced a beautiful sculptural sign for a new business in New Paltz. "I probably put more time and effort into that thing than I ever made any money on, but [they] were so thrilled". Robbie gets the most satisfaction from getting involved with his clients, big or small, and seeing them happy in the end.

Like his grandfather before him, Robbie Zaccheo is here to serve his community with his time and multiple talents, and Fall Fittings seems to be here to stay. □

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## Gardiner Restaurants "Go Green"

by Lucia Civile

In today's world, there is an ever-growing demand to increase awareness about our carbon footprint on the planet. Going "green" has affected almost every industry: architecture, transportation, retail, and beyond. In most recent years, the restaurant industry has taken big strides, and I was able to take a closer look at what restaurants are doing, right here in Gardiner to keep the environment clean and safe for generations to come.

Carl Zatz, owner of the 'Village Market and Eatery,' began implementing green practices when the eatery opened nearly six years ago. Carl explains that, "We were one of the first in Gardiner to eliminate plastic bags, and on the heels of doing that, we eliminated styrofoam and styrofoam containers. The county shortly followed suit."

They've also proudly implemented Community Composting, much like other restaurants in Gardiner, and have composted over 10,000 pounds of waste since they opened. Carl further explained that the staff sorts through the recycling and com-

post by hand to be sure that no unusable items make it into the pot. In addition to having a single-stream recycling system, the restaurant also recycles their frying oil every month with a local, New York company. As an involved member in the community, Carl confirms that he is passionate about doing his part to better the environment and is looking to further the restaurant's green practices in the future.

Another new and eco-friendly trend is choosing organic and local. All of Gardiner's restaurants feature locally sourced farm products and some even grow their own, as does Gardiner Liquid Mercantile, in a backyard garden maintained by executive chef, Patricia Lowden. Featuring crisp herbs, lettuce, tomatoes and more, the garden fuels inventive and fresh homemade drinks and nosh. The plot is even protected from grazing animals by a handmade, recycled wood fence created by owner, Gable Erenzo. Gable has also made the restaurant a part of Taliaferro Farm's CSA, which provides



The Village Market's composting list. Photo: LACE Photo Media

the restaurant with organic produce throughout the year. Gable explains, "It's a matter of supporting our local business partners and being sustainable for the environment. The quality is worth the price." Additionally, the restaurant gives new life to spirit and wine bottles, repurposing them for the bar's syrups and shrubs, and using them

as vases and water bottles; a trend that can also be seen at Tuthill House at the Mill.

"Going green" is more than simply a trend; it's become a way of life, a daily practice, for both people and businesses. It's these seemingly small shifts that add up and lead to big change. □

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## Gardiner's Got Talent: Writers And Illustrators Abound

by Jen Bruntl

I didn't have to look too hard to find literary and artistic talent in Gardiner. Two Gardiner residents have just come out with children's books. Victoria St. George (above, right) is the author and illustrator of *The Rainbow Book* and *Barnyard Bandits*, while Whitney Burns (below, right) has illustrated *The Bear and the Hare* by local author Sean McKenna.

A lifelong artist, Victoria St. George graduated from SUNY New Paltz with an art degree, planning to be an art therapist. But illustrating her own children's book had always been "on her bucket list." A mother of two, she often told stories to keep her sons busy on car rides, and started recording the stories in notebooks when one of her sons told her that they were funny and that she should write them down. Now she has lots of stories waiting to "jump out of her journals."

Two of these stories, *The Rainbow Book* and *Barnyard Bandits* have been published. *Barnyard Bandits* is one of those funny stories about life on a farm, while *The Rainbow Book* discusses the wonder of

rainbows and the science behind them.

St. George's *The Rainbow Book* encourages children to "look at the beautiful world around you and appreciate it." Both stories are accompanied by lovely illustrations, with teaching activities at the end of the book. After years as an educator, artist, and mother, St. George says, "Reading to the kids and seeing their excitement and reaction is the best part."


Also a graduate of SUNY New Paltz, Whitney Burns has worked as a high-school art teacher for the past 14 years and is always looking for ways to incorporate her passion for art into her everyday life. She leads "paint and sip" classes locally, and works on her own art at home. *The Bear and the Hare* is her first published book. Burns said that she wrote and illustrated a book in college, but was too nervous to show it to publishers. So, when she had an opportunity to illustrate again, she jumped on it.

The meeting between Burns and author Sean McKenna happened quite randomly. She explained, "He was a friend of my sister's, and mentioned that he was looking for an illustrator without having any idea that that's what I do. It was a perfect coincidence!" McKenna gave Burns a few suggestions but ultimately left the illustrations up to her. The book is a story about friendship, showing that no matter who you are or where you come from, we all need friends to help and support us. When asked about her biggest take-away from the experience, Burns reports, "The most exciting part of the whole process is seeing my work come to life and getting to share it with all my friends and my family." Look for Burns and McKenna's next book, *The Moose and the Goose*, coming soon! You can pick up a copy



of the books mentioned above at Inquiring Minds, Montgomery Book Exchange, eBay or on Amazon.com. □

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## A Yogic Cure For Anxiety and Unhappiness

by Ray Greenberg

Did you know that the goal of yoga is not to get into lots of interesting physical positions? Rather the goal of most yoga is "self-realization." It is the merging of one's little mind with universal consciousness. When this occurs, a person is at peace because they realize that they are part of everything and everything is part of them. There are many, many practices that help us to transcend our physical bodies, but the type of yoga I practice and teach is very practical. We do what works.

According to famed yogi Swami Sivananda, whose Sivananda Yoga Ranch in nearby Woodbourne, NY, is an outpost of serenity, "Ways are many, but God is One." I take this to mean that there are lots of paths to the peace and equanimity many of us want.

One of my favorite methods did not reach me in a yogic setting, but has been a great boon to my personal quest for evenness of mind and optimal emotional health. I am embarrassed to admit that from a young age I have had an insatiable urge to achieve, to obtain and to garner praise. Sadly, no matter what I got or accomplished, I

could not take it in and enjoy it. As soon as one thing was done, I was onto the next thing—rarely savoring the good things that were all around me—and unable to give myself or others credit for what was lovely and fine. Habitually, I identified what was wrong and needed further attention until, one day, I found a way out.

I set aside between five and 15 minutes. I prefer the longer time but in the beginning it might be hard to give yourself that. Do what makes you comfortable. Now, identify three things that made you happy in the last 24 hours. It could be something you said or did or experienced, a connection you made with someone, or a way you stood up for yourself or held your tongue. It might be a new recipe you tried, a story you heard, or a change in the weather.

Make a mental note of it, and when you have identified three things, think about each one individually, examining what lead to each thing and giving thanks to all the players, human or otherwise, that may have had a hand in

creating your joy. If you run out of time or have trouble coming up with three, don't sweat it. You can continue tomorrow. Do this every day for a week. If you like it, do it every day for a month or a year.

I did it for two or three years until looking for the positive in things had become habitual. Recognizing the contributions others were making to my well being became second nature. My constant yearning was greatly diminished and my ability to take stock and appreciate what was going well, hugely enhanced.

Before adopting this practice, I had carried a lot of low-grade sadness and anxiousness, though it didn't tip over into a clinical depression until my marriage fell

apart when I was in my mid-thirties. It was in an effort to help myself out of my funk that I read some books by Martin EP Selligman, first *Learned Optimism*, and later *Authentic Happiness*, which helped me create spaciousness and joy that I doubt I ever would have experienced otherwise. There was much of interest in these books, but the simple practice I have described is what really stood out for me. It changed the way I look at things. If you find you are constantly aware of what is wrong and have trouble feeling supported by the universe, I suggest you try it and see if it is as powerful for you as it was for me.

I smile much more now, since I am in touch with what I enjoy in life and like to recognize it. I am much more accessible and less lonely. I hope that knowing this worked for me will encourage you to find a path that helps you to improve your own life. □



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## Gardiner's Environmental Conservation Commission

by Roberta Clements

The Environmental Conservation Commission (ECC) is a seven-member volunteer body functioning under the auspices of the Gardiner Planning Board and Town Board.

Typically, when an application for a large scale development requires review of its impact on the ecology, the Planning Board refers the application to the ECC. Smaller subdivisions also require review when they are in a critical environmental area.

Most recently there have been three major projects of concern to the Planning Board and the ECC. On Shaft Road is a proposed 10 house subdivision of slightly less than 90 acres with part of the lot line on South Mountain Road. There is a large wetland at the center of the property that is the focus of concern. Of course, its proximity to the Shawangunk Ridge is also a concern to the ECC.

The second project is the proposed "glamping" (glamour camping) project referred to as Heartwood. This 141-acre project is being considered a lodging facility and is based on the banks of the Shawangunk Kill which is a designated protected

water body under Gardiner's Comprehensive Master Plan.

The third project under review by the ECC is the proposed 53+ unit apartment or condominium development on 113 acres on Route 208. Called "Green 208," this property also contains designated wetlands and borders the Plattekill. The developer has presented his application as an open space development and has suggested using permeable surfaces for roads, and a somewhat new construction material called cross laminated timber.

All three projects are being presented as supportive of land and environmental conservation efforts, but the burden remains on the community and the town to ensure that the spirit of the law as well as the letter of the law are followed. In addition to town code, there are multiple stakeholders that engage in the permitting process. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) may review wetlands designation and stream protections as well as other environ-

mental concerns. The Army Core of Engineers (ACOE) provides the protection of a federal designation for some wetland areas as well. The New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) requires differing levels of investigation based on the level of potential environmental impacts, and the Ulster County Board of Health (BOH) has a required permitting process.

With these layers of protection, it may seem very difficult for anyone to disrupt the ecological balance, but

in practice there is an ongoing process that must occur to ensure that both the short-term and long-term effects of development are thoughtfully considered.

The phrase "It takes a village" refers to caring for our children. Caring for our mother earth also takes a village, or town, to ensure that we all take care of the thing that sustains our existence; water, air, earth—the environment. You can reach the ECC at the town hall, through [townofgardiner.org](http://townofgardiner.org), or myself, the Chairperson ([robertaaclements@gmail.com](mailto:robertaaclements@gmail.com)). □

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## Revitalizing The Open Space Commission

by Barbara Sides

"Imagine a 74-acre Civil War Era farm across from the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, with scenic views, situated a mere mile from a vibrant small town hamlet. Any such farm would be a developer's dream, but this particular Gardiner farm ... in the Albert Hess' family since 1928, is slated for preservation through the purchase of development rights, with one crucial caveat: Gardiner's Open Space Commission must raise over \$40,000 by March 31st, when a federal grant of \$225,000 expires."

These words appeared in *The Gazette's* Winter 2013 issue. The Gardiner Open Space Commission raised the \$40,000 and the Hess Farm development rights were purchased. A few

years before, Marty and Thelma Kiernan's grass-fed beef farm, with its iconic views of the Shawangunk Ridge, was also preserved—a total of more 300 acres in all.

These protected properties remain on the tax rolls, but require fewer municipal services than residential developments, so the town saves on tax expenditures. Additionally, purchasing development rights preserves view sheds and is consistent with Gardiner's Master Plan.

Before the Open Space Commission disbanded two years ago, it worked with the state, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Open Space Institute as well as local residents,



Kiernan Farms

foundations and community organizations to raise the funds to do its work of preservation. All of these sources of funding are still available for this important work.


Warren Wiegand, who helped the town write the Open Space Law and was the first Chair, feels that this is a perfect time to revive the Open Space Commission. "As the economy gets stronger, the pressure for development increases," Warren notes. Right now there are three developments in the pipeline, one of them comprising 141 acres on the Shawangunk Kill (Heartwood) another on Shaft Road and a third on the former DePiero farm on Route 208. "We want to guar-


antee that what we want to happen with regard to development and the preservation of open space happens. This requires getting involved; the Open Space Commission is a perfect vehicle for those interested in protecting our environment."

In protecting farmland and open space, we protect the culture of our region and its historical roots, its wildlife, the food our farmers grow here, beautiful vistas and, at the same time, save on tax expenditures. If you're interested in reviving the Open Space Commission and looking to help preserve Gardiner's culture and beauty, contact Warren Wiegand who is working with the Town Board on this issue. Warren can be reached at [wiegandwarren@gmail.com](mailto:wiegandwarren@gmail.com). □

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## Immigrants, from page 3

ployed, giving the Hudson Valley the highest immigrant participation in the labor market in New York State.

As the Presidential Executive order went into effect, many people across the Hudson Valley tried to figure out what these changes mean for their lives and the lives of their families. They consulted lawyers and sought out information from human service, civil and human rights organizations.

As of this writing, only one Congolese family has been resettled in Poughkeepsie. Authorized refugees like this family, who are resettled through Federal processes, go through an in depth and intensive vetting process by eight separate federal agencies, six federal security data base checks, five different background checks, four biometric security checks, three in person interviews, and two interagency security checks, a process that takes years.

The Supreme Court recently ruled, in partial support of the Executive Order, for a ban on

those without a "credible claim of a bona fide relationship with a person or entity in the United State," making it unlikely that more will be settled soon.

Hudson Valley farmers are struggling to meet their labor needs and some have reduced the amount of crops planted due to concerns about having sufficient labor to plant, care for and harvest. Immigrants, authorized or not, have encountered more difficulties in living, working, and traveling in the Hudson Valley.

Many local governments have passed resolutions in support of refugee resettlement, and some have passed laws establishing themselves as sanctuary cities. Gardiner does not have a police force, so a sanctuary city law would have no meaningful impact. In light of this, the Gardiner Town Board declined to consider a resolution in support of refugee resettlement.

For immigrants, migrants, farmers and those concerned with refugee resettlement in Gardiner, this issue is far from over. The Town Board considers the May

19th event at Town Hall to be the extent of what Gardiner can offer until the next time it's citizens push the issue forward. □



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## Gardiner Day Cometh ...

by Cindy Dates

The 28th Annual Gardiner Day will be on Saturday, Sept. 9th from 11am to 4:30pm. The committee has planned a fun-filled day with many of the vendors, events & entertainment that you have come to love, along with many new and exciting additions this year. As always, we would love to have additional volunteers to help with set-up, clean-up and/or help throughout the day. Check out our FB page "Gardiner Day New York" for information, to contact the committee, or if you would like to volunteer.

Free events scheduled for later this year:

The Annual Pumpkin Walk, October 26th, 6pm (rain date 10/27). Bring your little ones in costume for a safe trick-or-treat event starting at the Gardiner Library parking lot, then down the rail trail for a short walk around the hamlet, ending with homemade refreshments. Candy and trinkets will be handed out along the walk.

The Town of Gardiner Annual Christmas Caroling and Tree Lighting on December 1st, 7pm sharp. Santa will be joining us for caroling through town beginning at Gardiner Gables and ending at the Town Hall for the tree lighting and homemade refreshments. There will also be a Toys for Tots collection box. ☐



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## Fire, from page1

emergencies. They are usually governed by an elected board of fire commissioners and have the authority to levy taxes and incur debt generally without approval from any other governmental entity.

In addition, a fire *district* owns just about everything in the fire house: trucks, EMS vehicles, gear and equipment.

The Gardiner Fire Department is a not-for-profit volunteer fire company incorporated in 1952 with firehouses located at 100 Main Street and Route 44-55 (Minnewaska Trail). It owns the firehouses and maintains these properties with funds raised through various fundraising activities and by contributions from town residents and the Fire District. In addition, the Fire District pays rent to the Fire Department for the firehouses.

Department Chief Dave Bailin meets monthly with the Fire District's board of commissioners, reporting on gear and other supplies. Fire Commissioner Luke Lyons explains, "We have a priority list. It's a constant interaction between the Chief and the Commissioners. [Bailin] presents us with his wish list and we see where we can accommodate his needs. And it's prioritized. We don't compromise safety because of

money. Haven't had too."

The Fire District uses this information to help formulate its annual budget, which is presented to the Town Board, resulting in a line on our annual tax bills. Chief Bailin says the wish list is based on hard facts and formulas. "All the gear here only has a ten year life from the date of manufacture.... That's NFPA (National Fire Protection Association)," he explains, "which means we buy a certain number a year to replace old ones. If this gear is 11 years old and a guy gets hurt in it, we can get in a lot of trouble. It's the same with the fire trucks, we're required to do a certain amount of testing with our ladders and hose...."

In 2012, there was controversy surrounding the Gardiner Fire District's purchase of a new pumper truck at a cost of \$500,000. It was the Department's position that they needed a truck with a larger holding capacity; there are no fire hydrants in the Gardiner, so firefighters 'dip' into one of eight naturally occurring water supplies (there are 12 additional seasonal sources) to fill the truck's tanks. The Department now has a total of seven trucks: two engines, two tankers, one rescue, one ambulance



A helmet at the Gardiner Fire Department. Photos: LACE Photo Media

and one brush truck.

There is a decline in the number of volunteer firefighters statewide. A June 2015 paper prepared by the NY State Professional Firefighters Association states that the two main reasons are time demands and socio-economic trends, including the need to commute to work. Bailin offered another perspective: "The problem is a lot of people join based on what they want it to be. It says volunteer, but this is a tough job. It's a special kind of person who does really well in this atmosphere," says Lyons. (To fill out an application to become a volunteer firefighter in Gardiner go to [www.gardinerfireandrescue.org](http://www.gardinerfireandrescue.org).)

There are tangible benefits to becoming a volunteer firefight-

er. LOSAP (Length of Service Award Program) is a pension-like program designed to help recruit and retain volunteer firefighters. It offers financial rewards based upon the number of years of service.

After interviewing members of the department, I was struck by their level of commitment and seriousness of purpose. Lyons said, "When you get done with all the nuts and bolts and dollars and cents, there's a person inside that...[suit]. And there's a lot of tradition attached to that person." Bailin added, "if you call 911 you are getting a volunteer service but it is as professional as they come. We have a very well-trained fire department."

I showed up to the interview simply curious. I walked away with a profound sense of respect and appreciation. □

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## Distinctly Gardiner: Adventure, Inspiration, Spirit, And A 501c3

by Liz Glover Wilson

Founded by a group of passionate local residents, The Gardiner Gazette has kept us connected; providing our community with updates on the wild, the scenic, the arts, the culture, the history, the people and the places that make us distinctly Gardiner. Penned by volunteer writers who are local residents, the Gardiner Gazette gives voice to the many layers of our beautiful town, allowing us to highlight, explore and celebrate the things that matter.

As we move into a new phase of our existence, two founding members and a host of regular contributors remain, and

are joined by an enthusiastic new group of talented people. We are forever grateful to one founding member and former resident, Nadine Lemmon, who supported this vision and helped to create the Gardiner Gazette as a non-profit through her operating foundation—the Gunk Foundation—a 501c3. It seems that few readers were aware of the Gazette's non-profit status, and we feel it is important to make that known now.

The Gardiner Gazette's mission, back in Issue #1, in the winter of 2009, was to "come

together as a community in those tough times, to sustain a dialogue about strengthening our community, developing community programs, and caring for and helping those who live around us." Times are better now! We add to that mission a desire to deliver a publication that celebrates the adventure, inspiration and spirit of our town.

You can help. Consider mak-

ing a one-time tax-deductible gift. Pledge Annual tax-deductible support. Advertise with us (GardinerGazetteAds@gmail.com). Checks can be made payable to The Gardiner Gazette and mailed to PO Box 333, Gardiner, NY 12525, or you can visit [gardinergazette.com](http://gardinergazette.com) and click "Donate Now."

Thank you all for nine years of support. We're looking forward to this next chapter. □

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## Kids from page 1

offers Grow Yoga classes for K-8, yoga classes with child-care (five days a week) and prenatal yoga every Thursday.

Don't miss ice cream at Tantillo's on Route 208! There's a great play area for kids (picture, right, LACE Photo Media).

Or head for the new Stone House Creamery, at Benton Corners opposite Lombardi's Restaurant, for ice cream in a spacious, covered, outdoor seating area.

The Gardiner Library, of course, offers various themed kids adventures all year.

If you and your kids like cute animals (who doesn't?), the Goodnow Family Farm on Route 44/55 opposite Pure Honey Lane has a petting zoo, and can be booked for private parties.

Budding young rock climbers can join parents in a family package with rock climbing specialists HighXposure Adventures on Route 44/55.

Try horseback riding at Lucky C Stables, North Wind Farm, La Luna Farm or Free Spirit Ranch, all in Gardiner.

Pick fresh fruit at Jenkins-Lueken Orchards, Dressel Farms, Apple Hill Farm and Wallkill View Farm Market.

Sign up for the fall after school art program at Sunflower Art Studios, which also offers private art parties and special art events.

Mohonk Preserve's summer camps, focused on environmental education and adventures, are a winner.

You can knit local with your kids at White Barn Farm's Knit Local Cafe.

And, of course, Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park has various themed kids adventures.

Don't forget to put on your calendar for Summer 2018 Phillies Bridge Farm's Fresh Cooking Camp and Forest and Fields Nature Camp, which start in July each Summer, and the Town of Gardiner Summer Recreation program, also starting in July.

May your children be happy, healthy and well-entertained for the rest of this summer



and into the fall!

*Editor's Note: The Author is an owner of Stone Wave Yoga and Sunflower Art Studios. □*

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## **Gazette Home Delivery: Gardiner Only Starting in 2018**

Starting in 2018, the Gazette will be mailed only to Gardiner addresses including those New Paltz or Wallkill zip codes!). If you are receiving the Gazette out of town or out of state, please send your email address to [gardinergazette@earthlink.net](mailto:gardinergazette@earthlink.net), and we'll switch you to a digital subscription in full color.

Also note that every household in Gardiner, including those with New Paltz or Wallkill zip codes, should be receiving a copy of *The Gardiner Gazette* at home.

If you are not receiving a copy of the Gazette at home, please send your mailing address to [gardinergazette@earthlink.net](mailto:gardinergazette@earthlink.net), or PO Box 133, Gardiner, NY 12525. ☐

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## **Second Street Retail Development Underway**



The site of the new mall. Photo: LACE Photo Media

According to developer Sal Acompora, the new retail shops on Second Street should be ready for occupancy by the end of 2017. The two-story building is scheduled to begin construction this summer. It will have a maximum of four retail spaces, but could have fewer if tenants want larger spaces. Stay tuned ... ☐

## **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](mailto:gardinergazetteads@gmail.com).



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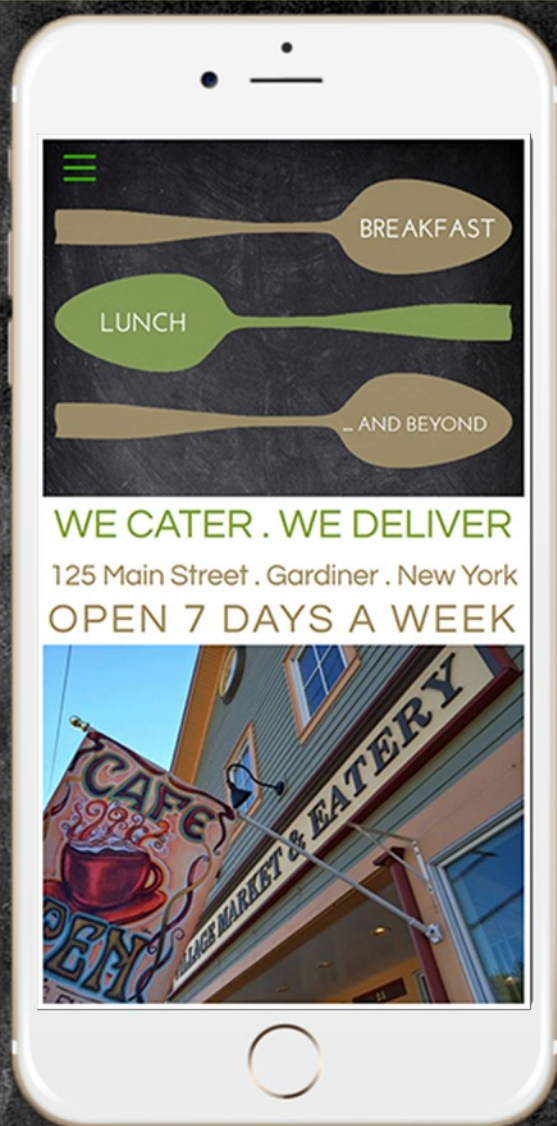
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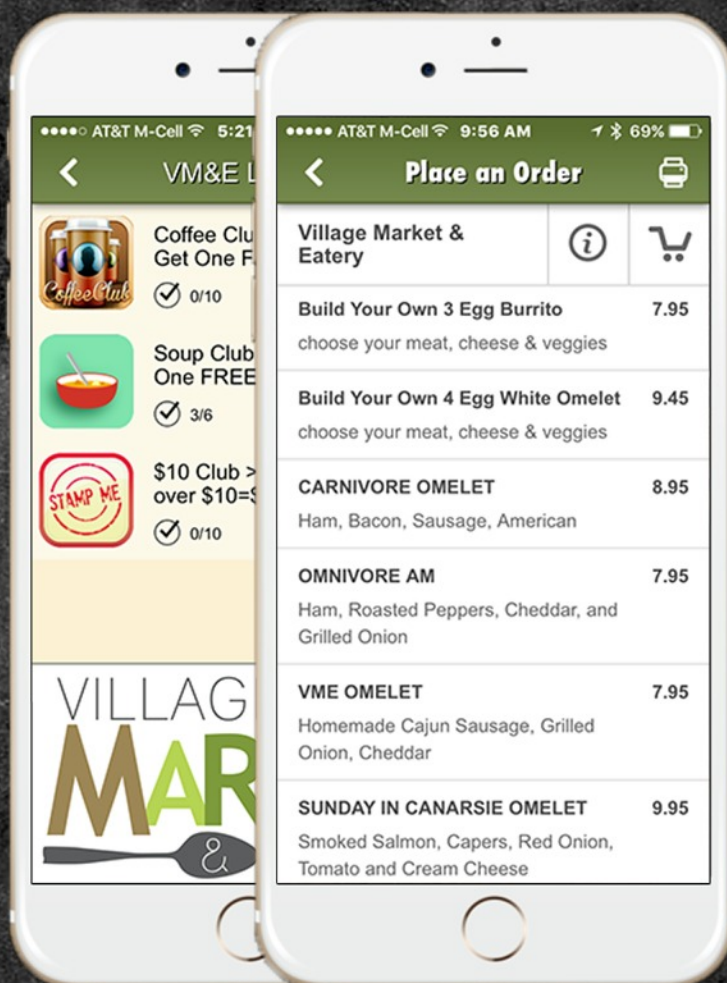


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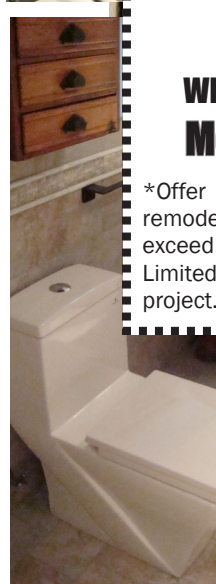
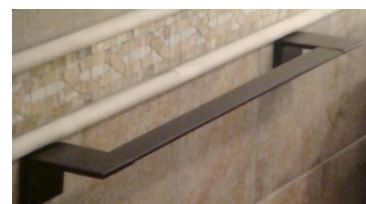
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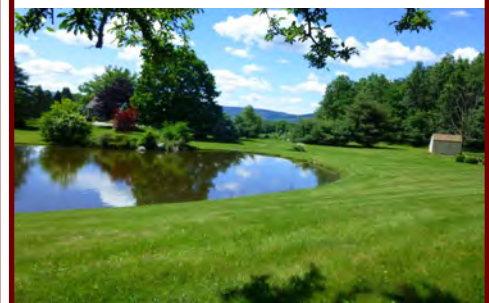
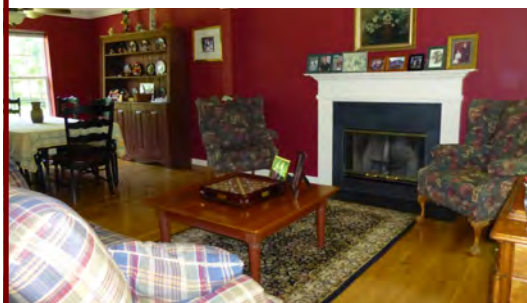
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At the end of a busy day it's great to get back to nature and enjoy this tranquil setting on 5 private acres. Relax with a "cuppa" on the expansive deck where you will marvel at the antics of the many different wildlife species as they frolic in the treetops and wilderness while also keeping an eye on the kiddies playing in the heated, 2 year old 16 x 40 in ground, solar covered, salt system pool that allows you to swim as early or late in the seasons as you wish. There is plenty of room in this sun filled 3000 sq. ft. home that is married perfectly with it's property to bring the extended family and friends to enjoy. Many recent improvements made that make this home ready today for you to start enjoying nature at its best! So, if you want to be in the swim in the winter, phone me today, I would love to show you around..... \$649,000

Fresh air in Gardiner in a community where you can take the family for a walk, run, bike ride to the end of the cul de sac. Home is sited nicely off the "no thru traffic" country road with mature shade trees on 1.8 acres. Come take a look inside and see the new granite counter tops & appliances, hardwood floors, crown molding, expansive rear deck opening off the family room that allows you to enjoy conversation to the open kitchen area & breakfast nook. Bonus room above the garage is finished as a studio or if one wanted an additional guest sleeping area this would be the place. Expansive 2 car attached garage has high ceilings and is outfitted with work bench. Take a look and see why this home is desirable and beckons you to live here. \$379,000

Traditional New England Saltbox Design opens into a Contemporary home with abundant natural light and an open floor plan. The spectacular setting offers peace & serenity w/mountain views and reflecting pond, where you will enjoy watching the seasons change. Open and airy great room, cool central AC and a wood-burning stove to keep you warm on those cool evenings. Kitchen recently enlarged to allow you to be creative while others can sit and talk with you from the private patio just outside the sliders. Easy access to New Paltz. Situated on a quiet no thru road where walking or biking is relaxing.. \$415,000



POSTLETS





**Colucci Shand Realty, Inc.**

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**2356 Route 44/55, Gardiner, NY 12525**

**www.ColucciShandRealty.com**

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*Simply Charming Country Homes*



**\$289,999**



**\$269,999**



**\$329,000**

- ◆ Lovingly Maintained Ranch Home
- ◆ 3 BR, 2 Bath, 1568 sq. ft.
- ◆ Open floor plan w/high ceilings
- ◆ Original Hardwood Floors
- ◆ 14.70 Acres
- ◆ Master BR w/en-suite bath & Walk-in closet
- ◆ Rocking Chair Front Porch

- ◆ 4 BR, 2 Bath Raised Ranch
- ◆ Mother/Daughter or In Law Suite w/ separate entrance
- ◆ Quiet neighborhood near Village of Wallkill
- ◆ Large sunny eat-in kitchen that opens to an oversized deck
- ◆ 2 car detached garage
- ◆ Hardwood floors

- ◆ Legal 2 Family Home
- ◆ 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath - Main Level
- ◆ Quiet no-thru-traffic road
- ◆ 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath - Lower Level
- ◆ 2.5 Level acres
- ◆ Large family home or investment
- ◆ Town of Newburgh

***SOLD - Experience, Knowledge, Reputation***



***Sold in New Paltz \$275,000***



***Sold in Highland \$458,750***



***Sold in Gardiner \$237,000***



***Sold in Gardiner \$156,200***



***Sold in New Paltz \$275,000***



***Sold in Gardiner \$175,000***

**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**

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