**FORT SALEM AND GARDENWORKS**

**CELEBRATE LOCAL DESSERTS**

SALEM, NEW YORK -- Fort Salem Theater will be joining Gardenworks Farm on Saturday, September 22, at 7 PM, to produce their final collaborative event of the season: "Cheese, Chocolate, Wine, Woman and Song," a multimedia dessert event presented in the upstairs gallery at Gardenworks.

In the tradition of their event last year that celebrated Washington County Route 30, this year's offering will feature films about three local businesses as they go about their tasks of creating consummable product. After each film, Meg and Rob Southerland (owners of Gardenworks) will serve consummable and ample samplings of the products profiled in the films. Integrated among the activities are the tasty cabaret song stylings of Fort Salem's Lynne Kerr, who will sing tunes exclusively about cheese or chocolate or wine.

One film will show the cheesemakers of Consider Bardwell Farm (Pawlet, Vermont) making two cheeses, Danby and Pawlet, from milk to aged wheel. Since its founding in 2004 by spouses Angela Miller and Russell Glover in the barn that housed Vermont's first cheese co-op opened in 1864, Consider Bardwell has been making award-winning cheeses since 2004, and this year enjoyed receipts topping $1.7 million.

Steininger's Cafe has operated in Salem since 1989, founded as an homage to Frieda Steininger, by her daughter, Constance Carrol, and Carrol's son, Xavier. In addition to providing the anchor that makes Salem a destination, Xavier, who since his mother's death last year is the sole proprietor of the business, has crafted artisan chocolates that he has sold internationally. Xavier describes usurping his grandmother's surname as his own as a way to carry on the Steininger lineage as he shows us how to make one of her favorite confections, chocolate truffles.

With the development in the late nineties of grape vines that can withstand temperatures as low as forty degrees below zero, the northernmost regions of New York State have become home to some of the nation's finest wines. Gerry and Mary Barnhart starting dabbling in winemaking in 2008 at Victory View Vineyard, bottling their first wine in 2013. They have taken gold, silver, and bronze medals in regional competitions ever since. One film about Victory View will feature a tour of the grounds and show some winemaking; another will describe the wines currently available for consumption.

Anticipating response akin to that of their Route 30 presentation, which was so popular that two additional performances were added in the space that has limited seating, the producers are requesting advance reservations. Single tickets are priced at $40; couples are $75. Reservations may be made by calling Fort Salem Theater at (518) 854-9200. Gardenworks Farm is located at 1055 County Route 30, Salem, New York 12865.