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Local News

December 28, 2005

Local bed and breakfast comes under new ownership

SAMANTHA SLATER Email the Author

AMERICUS - The beautiful and historic Americus Garden Inn, located at 504 Rees Park, is under new ownership. Kim and Susan Egelseer of Tampa, Fla., purchased the bed and breakfast in December.

"When people come to a bed and breakfast, it's like they're coming to someone's home," said Susan. "Many times, they want the interaction that goes with it."

Both Egelseers are more than happy to give their guests that interaction. Whether guests prefer a host who spends time in the inn's living room with them or would rather be left to their own devices, the Egelseers aim to make everyone's stay as enjoyable as possible.

The atmosphere of the inn is one of comfortable elegance. "Where history meets romance ..." is the phrase that greets visitors to the inn's website. Each room of the house has its own distinct personality that has been crafted to illustrate that phrase. Upon entering the 155-year-old, two-story home, visitors are greeted with the smell of freshly baked bread. All of the cooking is done in a spacious kitchen on the ground floor, just off the breakfast room. Guests who eat at the inn are treated to a cosy room with a large bay window overlooking the side garden. A sitting room is also available, complete with a baby grand piano that can be played, or can play by itself.

In addition to the general areas, two of the eight rooms available at the inn, six of which have king size beds, are found on the ground floor. The Library Suite is at the front of the house. When the house was a private residence, that room was the family library. The Veranda Room is to the back and has its own entrance from the front porch, as well as a handicap-accessible bathroom.

The second story of the home is devoted entirely to guest rooms. There are five rooms upstairs, including the two most requested rooms, Scarlett's Room, a large room with a garden tub and separate shower, and the Jacuzzi Room, which features a large jacuzzi in front of the fireplace mantel. The Balcony Room, located to the rear of the house, boasts its own private balcony. The other two rooms, the Magnolia Room and the Burgandy Suite, have two beds each, a queen and a full.

The eighth room, the Executive Suite, is located in the old schoolhouse behind the main inn. Not only does it have its own bathroom, it also has a kitchenette.

The Egelseers happened upon the Americus Garden Inn by chance in October 2002. The couple had been researching the operation of a bed and breakfast inn for several years. They came up with four criteria for any potential purchase. First, there had to be adequate owners' quarters. Second, the inn had to have at least eight rooms or it wouldn't generate enough income. Third, it had to be a place with charm and character, particularly historic value. And lastly, it could be no more than a three-hour drive from a major airport.

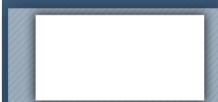
Originally, they began looking for a place to buy in the western half of the United States, then shifted their focus to the Northeast. After viewing several places in New York, they found an inn in Vermont that fit their needs. The deal was to close in November, but in late October, several permit problems arose and the deal fell through. In an attempt to find another place as quickly as possible, Susan began looking on the Internet and found an old picture of the Americus Garden Inn with an outdated realtor's number. After much more searching, she called the owners, Don and Jodi Miles, and asked them about the current status of the inn. The Mileses had decided earlier that day to put the house back on the market and by Dec. 9, the Egelseers had closed the deal.

Running the inn is a continuous job, but neither of them are daunted by the lack of set vacation times.

"In Vermont, there is a definite break between the ski season and the beginning of summer traffic," said Kim. "There is no defined season in Americus, but there are slow periods that allow us to take breaks."

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everal years, the Egelseers plan on making more improvements to the inn. They plan to put electric fires into all the available fireplaces and restore the two china cabinets in the breakfast room that are built into the wall.

For more information about the Americus Garden Inn's history and booking rooms, visit the website at <http://www.americusgardeninn.com>.

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Local News

House Ads

Special BOE election set for March 18

January 28, 2014

Winter weather

Preparations were being made Monday and Tuesday as this area of the state, along with others, were under a winter weather warning. The National Weather Service (NWS) at Peachtree City was predicting freezing rain and sleet beginning in this area Tuesday afternoon with a strong possibility of snow after midnight.

January 28, 2014 1 Photo

Triwood Inc. to add 15 new jobs

The Americus-Sumter County Payroll Development Authority (PDA) joined with Triwood Inc. on Monday to announce the creation of new jobs for Americus and Sumter County.

January 28, 2014 3 Photos

Public invited to celebrate Presidents' Day with Carters

What better way to celebrate Presidents' Day than a visit from a former President and First Lady of the United States?

January 28, 2014 1 Photo

Transportation

January 29, 2014 1 Photo

Staley Middle School holds Fifth-Grade Career Day

Fifth graders at Staley Middle School were privileged to learn about a variety of careers during Career Day held recently.

January 29, 2014 2 Photos

Roller coasters

January 29, 2014 1 Photo

Sumter sheriff gives update

January 29, 2014

Winter weather warning still in effect until 1 p.m. Wednesday

January 29, 2014

Get geared up for Great Backyard Bird Count!

From Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, bird watchers from more than 100 countries are expected to participate in the 17th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), Feb. 14-17. Anyone anywhere in the world can count birds for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count and enter their sightings at www.BirdCount.org.

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January 28, 2014

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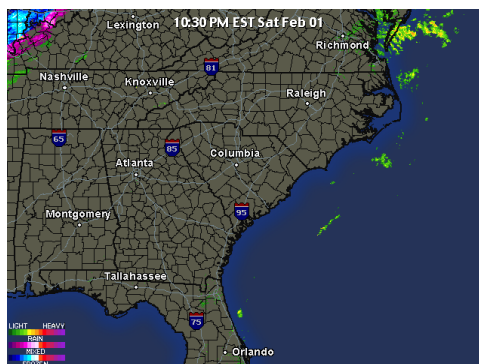
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ARE WE READY?

Preparing for, responding to natural disasters



Audio: How can we better prepare for tornadoes?

An NPR broadcast examines the question of how communities can better prepare for tornadoes like the one that struck Moore, Okla. on Monday. The broadcast features commentary from Michael Fitzgerald, who reported a five-part disaster series for the CNHI News Service.

May 22, 2013 1 Photo

Photos: Aftermath of massive tornado in Moore

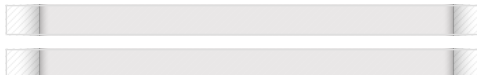
The Big One: Preparing for mid-America earthquake

Complete Report:

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Part V: The Big One



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