



Many village properties got major face lifts this summer - as well as nips, tucks and cosmetic overhauls. Most notable among these was *The Major's Inn* which during our dry moments swarmed with workers who scraped, caulked, glazed and painted. (See article on *Major's Inn*.)

Throughout most of the summer, Ken Nolan and Billy Salvador worked on rebuilding The Inn's stone balconies providing entertainment for passersby and the boys on the bench.. (Editor's note: If you'd like to make a contribution, the Major's Inn Foundation's address is PO Box 242.)

Chris Sadlocha did a fine job on spiffing up the facade of *The American Legion*, repairing architectural details and giving the trim a fresh coat of bright white paint. (Editor's note: The Legion has a nice large upstairs artists' space for rent.)

Several private buildings in the village also got renovations both major and minor. Mary and Jonathon Crim's *Academy* got a new roof and paint job. The *Empire Hotel* struck again - this time going from depressing to delightful with just a season's of grueling work by Jane Morgan & Gary Loitsch.

Sarah Sands and Andrew Anderson built a new artist's studio behind their house on Spring Street and Larry Smith's Maple Street guest house is under construction even as we type. (Editor's note: If I missed anyone, let me know and I'll catch up in the next newsletter.)

### *Other bits & pieces...*

- On a sunny Monday in September, Town and Village trucks were working on Commercial Street to finish paving in front of the Gilbert Block. The smell of tar and steam, the fragrance of wood smoke, bright gold turning leaves, hot sun, workers in orange t-shirts... shouts, raking & shoveling the rich, black shining tar. Such energy and action - all geared to improving the village ... inspiring.
- The VIS donated funds to help *Gilbertsville Artists Gilbertsville Arts* (GAGA) purchase canvas which was used to paint the banners that hung from the light poles in the village through midsummer and autumn.
- On Halloween, small armies of children (where *do* they all come from?) descended upon village doorsteps and cleaned out candy bowls all around. Our Civil War soldier received a crown of pumpkin and a set of horns; a modest improvement over the inventions of previous years.
- A Demographic Snapshot of Gilbertsville from the 2000 Census:
 

Total population	375
Male	165
Female	210
Median age	42.9