

Big Fish, Small Pond

In every small town across America, there's at least one salon that raises the bar for everyone else. **Stockbridge, MA**, (population 2,500) has Seven Salon.Spa.



First settled by missionary John Sergeant in 1734, Stockbridge, MA, was once the territory of the Mahican/Stockbridge Indians, who later relocated to Wisconsin. It was also home to painter Norman Rockwell and singer Arlo Guthrie and, more recently, to Seven Salon.Spa.

New York City transplants Maurice Peterson and Mark Johnson opened Seven in June 2006 after buying a house in a nearby town and realizing that there was a need there for upscale hair and spa services for locals. "We got tired of Manhattan and decided that we wanted a change in life, so we bought a building two years ago and converted it into a salon," Peterson says.

Peterson handles the general managing of the salon, while Johnson is creative director, as well as a hairstylist with more than 20 years of experience in the salon industry. Johnson sees clients at Seven and also two days a week at Space Salon in New York City.

The 3,000-square-foot salon, which got its name because it's located on 7 South Street (Route 7), features a modern, loftlike decor with natural materials and stone elements. Each year, the salon features artwork from a different local artist. This year, eight paintings from renowned artist Matuschka Maxi can be seen throughout the salon. Haircuts, color and Japanese straightening are offered on the bottom level of the two-floor salon, while the top level is for nail services, facials, massages and waxing.

According to Peterson, the clientele at the salon and spa ranges from locals to tourists. Intuitive Consulting/Tarot days are held at the salon every few weeks, when clients can get a tarot card reading by psychic healer Sheila Hite. "We are very welcoming here, which is what attracts a lot of clients," Peterson says. "Even in the winter when many of the tourist-oriented businesses are slow, we stay busy." ><

—NICOLE PALMIERI

In stock: Davines, Schwarzkopf, Jane Iredale



FROM TOP: The exterior of the salon and spa; the decor is modern, featuring natural materials throughout; the waiting area is warm and inviting so clients are able to relax before their appointments; the manicure and pedicure stations.

SEVEN SALON.SPA

7 South Street, Stockbridge, MA 01262
413/298-0117 • sevensalonspa.com