



# The Gardiner Gazette

Fall 2009 - Issue #4

A call to community ...

EDITOR'S NOTE: *In an effort to help more Gardiner residents get acquainted with town government, this column will feature comments from different town officials in each issue.*

## An Electric Car in Gardiner!

by Judy DePuy, Secretary, SUNY New Paltz  
Electrical & Computer Engineering Department



### Many Hats, Many Services

by Michelle Mosher, Gardiner Town Clerk

The Office of the Town Clerk is historic in its traditions. This office has served as a direct link between the residents of a town and the local government for so long that chapter 19, verse 35 of the bible reads, in part, "...and when the Town Clerk has appeased the people..." I have been working on this since being elected to the position in

1995. When most people think of a Town Clerk they think of various types of licenses, but after 14 years of service it is clear to me that a Town Clerk is also a public relations officer. As such, it is important to me to convey a friendly and open impression of our community to residents and non-residents alike.

My specific duties can be quickly summed up by saying that I am the "keeper of information and the finder of facts." What that means to you is that if there is anything you want or need to know about the Town of Gardiner you would probably start by asking me. I am the recording secretary to the Town Board and take great pride in creating a legal and historic accounting of decisions made by the town. Someday, in a "100 Years Ago" article, residents will get a feel for what our town was like from these records. In the shorter term, I can provide you with the minutes of any and all Town Board meetings. I am responsible for the careful maintenance of town records such as adopted local laws, oaths of office, resignations, petitions, proof of publications, annual budgets, zoning laws and so on, and am also the overseer of the Freedom of Information Law, guaranteeing your right to know. Then, of course, there are those licenses—including marriage, dog, hunting & fishing, games of chance, bingo and handicapped permits.

*continued page 3*

Instructor Michael Otis of Gardiner and instructional support assistant Thomas LaBarr of Beacon, both staff at SUNY New Paltz's Electrical & Computer Engineering Department, are driving two Mini-E Cooper all-electric cars for a year. They are among 450 people in the U.S. to participate in this test program.



Over the next two semesters they will drive the lithium-ion (35 KW) battery-powered cars to raise public awareness. The electronic technology behind the vehicle will also be included in the 'Renewable Energy' course Otis teaches at SUNY. The college is planning to set up solar-powered battery stations.

Testing includes recording battery charge and discharge rates, which can be significantly affected by conditions such as temperature, humidity, and driving habits. One of the major differences between a gas-powered car and an electric-powered vehicle is regenerative braking: any time the accelerator is not being depressed by the driver, the electric motor runs in reverse mode and behaves as a generator, recharging the batteries.

The "Mini E" gets 105 'real' miles per charge (mpc) and has all the amenities of a standard Mini Cooper, although the mpc are significantly reduced if you run all the accessories. It has a (150 KW) AC induction motor that provides over 200 horsepower and a top speed of 95 mph (governed). Calculations show that it gets the equivalent of 95 – 105 mpg.

This is advantageous to the college as it is going 'green'. Otis is deeply involved in the building and implementation of a solar car with the students. In June the Solar Car Team competed in the Formula Sun Grand Prix Solar Car Race in Texas—the first time SUNY was ever involved. SUNY finished 6<sup>th</sup>. Otis also worked with two students, Arthur Cecchini and John Werner, in building an electric car for their Senior Design Project. Congressman Maurice Hinchey was at this presentation, drove the car, and was extremely impressed with the students' efforts.

If you are curious – email Mike at [otism@newpaltz.edu](mailto:otism@newpaltz.edu) and come see the car!

**Election coverage in this  
issue. See page four!**

## Happenings Around Town

**Children's Librarian and programmer Nicole Lane tells us about a wonderful, active summer at the Gardiner Library:**

The Summer Reading Program was a huge success. Over 200 children participated in picture book illustration workshops, drumming classes, nature crafts programs, origami and storytelling classes and family music programs. In addition, over 180 children from the Recreation Program participated in programming at the library once a week, culminating in a fantastic art show at Majestic Park. Be on the lookout for next year's summer programs. I'm already bubbling with new ideas.



On a Saturday morning local art teachers Heidi Meier DiPonio and Cythia O'Herron taught enthusiastic kindergartners through second graders about "plein air" painting (painting outdoors, weather permitting!). After a discussion about how to mix primary colors to get new colors, the children made personal color wheels to take home. They then decided what they wanted to paint using pictures of the local landscape which Cynthia had brought as inspiration. Other grade groups are meeting at the Gardiner Library to take part in "plein air" painting classes as well.

**Robin Hayes shares the sweet success wafting from the library's 3rd annual BBQ and Cake Auction Fundraiser on August 29<sup>th</sup>:**

You could smell the barbeque from the parking lot so we followed our noses to where, once again, the Sycoff Family and other volunteers had produced a delicious southern barbeque: pulled pork, BBQ chicken, baked beans and cole slaw. We indulged heavily while listening to live folk music by the Shoe String Band. This feast was followed by a lively cake and pie

auction with fabulous auctioneer Fred Mayo—and when I say lively, I do mean lively! The cakes and pies, all generously baked and donated by locals, inspired bidding wars, including one bidding battle between a five year-old boy and his mom. Who could blame them? There was a chocolate rum cake, a peach pie, a beautiful box of cupcakes decorated to look like sunflowers and so much more. The highest bid was for an incredible looking coconut layer cake that went for \$456! A dozen cupcakes decorated to look like panda bears fetched \$375 and, by the end, the library had raised over \$6,000.



**Linda Majetic-Hansen fills us in on Gardiner Day:**

In the great tradition of Gardiner Day the day began gray and drizzling as vendors, businesses and crafters alike braved the chilly morning to set up for the day's events. As always though, the sun began to peek through the grayness, and sunshine and blue skies graced the 20<sup>th</sup> Celebration of "Family, Fun and Friends" at Gardiner Day.

The aroma of sausage and peppers quickly moved through Majestic Park. Committee members and volunteers scurried around preparing for the day's beginning with the singing of The National Anthem. Something was happening in every corner of the park throughout the day. Pie-eating contest winners Madeline, Josh, Kayla, Jamie and Ashley continue the old fashioned tradition. Bands, magicians and amazing wildlife were found in the Entertainment tent. Demonstrations by local karate, gymnastic and dance studios were also a favorite as we watched the youth of our community shine. It is always so gratifying to watch the generations interact and enjoy being part of our community, the inspiration and spirit of Gardiner Day!

*continued page 9*



3124 Rt 44.55  
Gardiner, NY 12525  
Joanie Fall, Proprietor

"HOME OF THE  
CRANKIN' SANDWICHES"

(845) 255-2999  
Fax (845) 255-2146  
bistromountainstore@yahoo

### NEW PALTZ TRAVEL CENTER

Colleen Gillette, President  
246 Main Street, New Paltz, NY 12561  
(845) 255-7706 info@newpaltztravel.com



## Town Clerk, from page 1

My many roles include being held accountable for all incoming cash and it's disbursement to state, county and local agencies. I assist in preparation of the annual budget and ensure that it is filed with the county and state in a timely manner and, as is the case in most towns, am also the Registrar of Vital Statistics. I keep birth and death records, issue birth and death certificates and burial permits, and can assist you by doing genealogy searches. Last but not least, I am the Tax Collector—a story for another time.

I'm not sure, in the nearly 15 years that I have worked for the Town of Gardiner, that I have always been successful in "appeasing the people," but I've enjoyed trying. I look forward to many more years of making friends and helping those who need assistance.

## Best of the Best!

*by: Robin Hayes*

Big news for our small town: Gardiner has more than its share of mentions in Hudson Valley Magazine's "Best of the Hudson Valley 2009." Here are the wonderful local businesses that were included on the "Best of" list:

**HiHo Home Market & Antiques Center**—Gift Shop

**Pattie Eakin**—Artist

**Mountain Brauhaus**—German Restaurant

**Skydive the Ranch**—High Flying Adventure

**Tuthilltown Spirits**—Bourbon

**Kim may save you \$500  
or more on home and  
auto insurance.**



Kim Gabriello is one of our many insurance experts. She'll make sure you get the right price—and the right coverage.

For a free rate quote, call  
**255-5470** or **255-4262** or visit  
**US** at **www.ulstersavings.com**.

**Ulster Savings**  
You've got US!

226 Main Street, New Paltz  
2201 Rt. 44/55, Gardiner

Member FDIC  
Banking • Loans • Investments • Tax & Payroll • Insurance

Investment, Tax, Payroll and Insurance products and services offered through Ulster Insurance Services, Inc. and Ulster Financial Group, Inc., subsidiaries of Ulster Savings Bank, are NOT FDIC INSURED.

### Uptown Attic

Quality and Fashion on  
CONSIGNMENT

133 Main Street, Gardiner  
845-255-0093  
uptownattic.net

Mon 11-5; Tues Closed; Wed 11-5;  
Thurs - Sat 11-6; Sun 11-5

### GARDINER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AUXILIARY

**We Need Volunteers!**

Contact Debbie Bailin  
(845) 255-1698  
[www.gardinerfireandrescue.org](http://www.gardinerfireandrescue.org)

## New Group Targets Stronger Businesses, More Jobs, Lower Taxes

*by Warren Wiegand, Gardiner Town Councilmember*

For the past five months a group of Gardiner residents has been meeting to help build Gardiner's businesses. Beyond the obvious goal of helping our neighbors strengthen their companies during the recession, our group's target is to increase local jobs and to lower Gardiner homeowners' taxes.

The kick-off meeting last April attracted more than 50 business owners, including three generations of Dressel's—Rod Sr., Rod Jr., and Tim. Given the economic climate the group decided to focus first on the town's current businesses, and to temporarily delay attempts to attract new companies to Gardiner. Fellow Town Board member Greg Finger and I have been leading the effort. We are actively supporting ALL of Gardiner's businesses—Main Street retailers, Rt. 208 farms, Steve's Lane companies, and others throughout the town.

So far we have concentrated on tactics that will increase business right now, such as more parking, better signage, and upgrading the Town's website. Also, we are working on longer-term projects which we believe will have a significant impact, including "Gardiner" on more state and county road signs, installing signs to direct more people to our business district, and making the intersection of the Rail Trail and Main St. the focal point for tourism. (We think of this as "Gardiner Junction", in tribute to our railroad heritage.) Finally, we plan to add a Tourism section to Gardiner's website, with links to other sites, including the Gardiner Association of Business, the Library, and other tourist-related sites.

We're off to a good start but there's a lot more to do. We have a dedicated group of volunteers but we could use more help, ideas and sweat. We meet on the second Monday of every month at 7:00 at Town Hall. Will you help make Gardiner's businesses stronger so we can increase jobs and lower taxes? Please call if you'd like more information—Warren Wiegand 255-7915.

[www.EnthusiasticSpirits.com](http://www.EnthusiasticSpirits.com)

*Enthusiastic*  
SPIRITS & WINE SHOP

On Main St. in Gardiner, NY • 845.255.0600

**Turn on Rt. 44/55 toward Gardiner**

## American Tradition of Volunteering is Alive at the Gardiner Library

by Melissa Fairweather, Coordinator of Volunteers

The Federal report, *Volunteering in America 2009*, states that in 2008 America's volunteers dedicated more than 8 billion hours of service, worth an estimated \$162 billion, and the benefits are not just monetary. Volunteers help make a difference, learn new skills and make new friends. Another government study found a significant connection between volunteering and good health.

The Gardiner Library offers a variety of volunteer opportunities allowing you to affect the entire community, from babies to senior citizens. There are jobs that only require a one-day

commitment, or ongoing jobs to be done daily, weekly, or monthly. An hour or two is all you need. The Library could not provide the level of service it does without its current wonderful volunteers. They help with more than just checking books in and out. Today's Gardiner Library has videos, DVDs, music and audio CDs, magazines, newspapers, and computers, as well as inter-library loan service through the Ramapo Catskill Library System.

Most of the work of volunteers goes on behind the scenes in sorting donations, book repair, covering books, labeling and adding items, maintaining videos and DVDs, organizing, speaking to groups, running classes, making publicity posters, and more.

Join your fellow Americans and make a difference! Email [volunteers@gardinerlibrary.org](mailto:volunteers@gardinerlibrary.org) or call the library at 255-1255.

## Election Coverage

### A Recent Historical Perspective

On Tuesday, November 3rd, Gardiner goes to the polls to decide what path our town will take next. Gardiner's recent political history can be traced back about ten years, to when a regional chain attempted to build a 24-hour-a-day convenience store and gas station in the heart of the Hamlet, with in-ground gas tanks less than 100 feet from residential wells. The proposal led to an outpouring of concern from citizens. Town meetings were suddenly packed with people who didn't usually go to town meetings. Discussion focused on the idea that zoning laws did not adequately protect the environment, or the character of the community. When town officials voted in favor of the gas station, citizens revolted. Scraps of paper were quickly passed, addresses were collected and advocacy groups spontaneously formed. The town was sued, the proposed gas station was never built, and a "new age" of activism was born.

***On November 3rd, you'll have the opportunity to say whether you think the last six years have been overkill (vote for the republicans) or progress (vote for the democrats).***

Many people began paying closer attention to what was happening at town hall and speaking out about a government that many felt repeatedly failed to meet the community's needs. In 2002, when a developer set out to build some 350 luxury homes on 2,600 acres of the Shawangunk Ridge, groups again organized against the proposal. "Save The Ridge" signs

sprouted up overnight. Zoning Law at the time left much room for interpretation, and while town officials maintained that they could only "follow the process," public opinion held that their "interpretation" leaned in the direction of the developers. In the fall of 2003, in an election that broke state records for voter turn-out, new leadership was elected.

Since the democrats took office a number of changes have occurred and, as with all political change, some citizens are in support while others are not. The master plan was revised and new smart growth zoning laws imposed some restrictions on landowners, such as limiting their ability to build at higher elevations, but also resulted in the threatened 2,600 acres of the Ridge becoming public parkland. A comprehensive plan to protect farms and open space has been developed although some residents think open space should be preserved (or not) by market forces, not government. Grant money allowed Gardiner, the last town to do so, to purchase its section of the rail trail, but some raised concerns about long-term maintenance costs and potential liability issues. We have a new library and a renovated town hall though some residents objected to the use of long-term debt to partially fund these improvements. Finally, over \$1.5 million in grants have been secured for sidewalks and other initiatives. Some feel that the building of sidewalks should be the responsibility of adjacent business owners, not the town, while others question whether the town should seek grants at all; grants often require that a town "match" the amount granted.

On November 3rd you'll have the opportunity to say whether you think the last six years have been overkill (vote for the republicans), or progress (vote for the democrats).

The Republican and Democratic parties were each asked to submit their election platform for inclusion. Neither platform has been edited.

## 2009 REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM

The Republican platform has always been that local government should focus on the priorities of the whole town, and manage the town within it means. We will continue in this direction in 2009. We plan to work with the townspeople to develop a list of priorities that best benefit the town and then responsibly manage the activities and funds available to accomplish these goals.

We plan to fairly represent the Master Plan in drafting zoning laws that are consistent with it. At the same time we will be mindful of the fact that most permit applications are from small property owners and that their rights have to be protected. In addition, we need to protect the rural character of the town from large corporate developers who are motivated solely by profit and not developing the town consistent with the measured and controlled development accomplished for years in Gardiner.

We are interested in developing all types of businesses within the town to generate revenues and relieve the tax burden on residential taxpayers. This will require efforts to develop not only the hamlet commercial zone, but also reducing restrictions on home occupations, as long as the residential nature of the community can be preserved. We will work with commercial and light industrial businesses to make our CLI districts business-friendly. We also want to make the best possible use of the recreational areas we already have. This will draw people to Gardiner, help our businesses and spread the word that this is a nice community to live in, to work in, or just to visit.

### **GOT RHYTHM? DANCE STUDIO & DANCEWEAR STORE**

Tot Classes-Tap-Ballet-Pointe-Jazz-Hip Hop- Lyrical  
Children's Birthday Parties! All Ages, All Levels  
(845)255-6434 [www.GotRhythmGardiner.com](http://www.GotRhythmGardiner.com)

### **ULTIMATE GYMNASTICS CENTER**

28 Osprey Lane, Gardiner

non-competitive fun for all ages  
free trial classes ~ fabulous parties

[www.ultimategymnasticscenter.com](http://www.ultimategymnasticscenter.com)  
255-5600

## 2009 DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

### **"Working Together for a Better Gardiner!"**

#### **MAINTAINING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH SMART PLANNING**

- Limit town tax burden on Gardiner property owners.
- Encourage business development to increase revenue base.
- Maintain balance between town initiatives and budgetary constraints.
- Actively seek public and private grants to lower the cost of town programs.

#### **PRESERVING OPEN SPACE**

- Preserve the rural nature of Gardiner and support the goals set forth in the 2004 Comprehensive Plan.
- Enforce policies that protect the Shawangunk Ridge as a critical natural and community resource.
- Continue to implement Gardiner's Open Space Plan.

#### **IMPROVING THE TOWN**

- Develop the infrastructure of the Hamlet.
- Continue to develop pedestrian linkages from the hamlet center to residential areas and to Majestic Park.
- Seek recreational access to the Wallkill River.
- Continue to support the Library.
- Develop a balance between supporting businesses in industrial zones and controlling negative impact on adjacent residential neighborhoods, especially as regards Steves Lane.
- Support local farming and agricultural use of open land in Gardiner.
- Support creation of affordable housing which maintains a diverse community.
- Review and update emergency management plan.
- Preserve and protect the town's water resources.

#### **CONTINUING EFFICIENT GOOD GOVERNMENT**

- Strengthen the laws, guidelines and processes of the Gardiner Board of Ethics.
- Continue open/inclusive government by encouraging participation from all members of the Gardiner Community through use of the website, attendance at town meetings, and forums on issues of citizen concern.

### **RICHARD J. SMITH LCSW-R, CASAC**

A Transformative Approach to  
Psychotherapy and Addiction Counseling

Gardiner office: 845 417-5060



Two Republicans and two Democrats are contesting two seats on the Gardiner Town Board. Candidates were each asked to respond to the following two questions in a maximum of 150 words for each question:

- 1) If elected, will you support the current zoning law? If yes, why? If no, how would you seek to amend it?**
- 2) If elected, how would you support existing businesses and encourage new business development in Gardiner?**

Their responses have not been edited.

## The Democratic Candidates for Town Board



**Greg Finger**

1) I voted for the zoning law, shortly after being appointed to the Town Board, and I continue to support it. Gardiner's rural character is best protected by zoning which: 1) encourages residential and business development in our hamlets, 2) preserves open space, 3) protects the unique ecosystem of the ridge, and 4) creates incentives for developers to build houses we can afford. The law streamlines the permit process, and makes it more efficient and cost effective for both the applicants and the Town. Despite the economy, Gardiner has recently experienced an increase in permit applications for new homes and we've had several great new businesses move into Town. I would amend the law in one area. I am working to redraft the driveway section to comply with state guidelines, provide protection for residents and their neighbors, and to ensure the safety of our firefighters and EMS providers.

2) As co-founder/chair of the Gardiner Business Development Committee I will work to achieve our goals of increased local jobs and lower taxes for Gardiner homeowners. We will increase the flow of patrons to all of Gardiner's existing businesses through: improved directional signage; improvement of the Town's website including links to a Gardiner Tourism page and links from the UC Tourism website; and the creation of a "Gardiner Junction" tourism focal point at the intersection of the rail trail and Main Street, and "satellite" points, to support all businesses – Main St. retailers, Rt. 208 farms, Steve's Lane companies and others located throughout the town. I will explore the development of the additional commercial/industrial zone with direct access to Route 208, and the improvement of the Steve's Lane industrial park to attract new businesses there.



**Joe Katz**

Incumbent Joe Katz is running uncontested for Town Supervisor. He was not asked to respond to the questions but says, "It has been an honor to serve on the Town Board. I believe that I have the background, experience and knowledge to continue serving the people of Gardiner with a fair and open mind."



**Janet Kern**

1) I helped write, voted for, and continue to support our Zoning Law. It was drafted with great care to reflect the goals of Gardiner's citizens embodied in the 2004 Master Plan including: open space preservation, housing diversity, water resource protection, revitalized hamlets, and streamlined permitting processes including expanded as-of-right uses in the hamlet. Zoning law transforms the poetry of Master Plan vision into the prose of land use regulation. Gardiner's zoning law aims to balance long term community interests with the needs and plans of individual property owners, through standards and procedures responsive to both. As the national/regional economy returns to normal, we'll have a clearer sense of how effectively our new law is working, and what components might be re-considered. (Minor revisions suggested by the Planning Board and a driveway section change for compliance with State code are currently under review.)

2) My focus is on creating synergy with existing businesses through initiatives developing Gardiner as a culinary and cultural destination:

Marketing Gardiner's edible bounty: Over half a million tourists flock to the Ridge annually. Gardiner is uniquely positioned to "capture" dining dollars: with award-winning wineries, the best apples, corn and tomatoes on the planet, locally-produced bourbon and vodka, and grass-fed beef of incomparable quality – all can be publicized for a gourmet dining experience in Gardiner

Developing a Majestic Park Amphitheater: Concerts/events/theatrical productions would provide significant ticket sale revenue, create local jobs and attract customers for local businesses

Attracting film production: significant revenue is generated by location fees, and by a film crew living, eating and shopping "on location," along with potential for the cinematic establishment of an iconic view or structure with ongoing "draw"

Creating a Sculpture Park at the proposed Transfer Station Town Park.

## The Republican Candidates for Town Board



**Rich Koenig**

1) Yes, I will support the current zoning law. Gardiner began its zoning in the 1970s, was updated in the 1980s, the 1990s, 2006, and again in 2008. It's a process, along with the Master Plan, that is reviewed on a regular basis. While I have voiced my disagreement with some aspects of the law, I recognize that it has to be evaluated over time, to

see how it advances the vision set forth in the Master Plan. The latest revision of the law has been on the books for about a year & a half, and with the current state of the economy, new development will most likely proceed slowly. This will present us with an excellent opportunity to see how developers & the planning board interpret, and put into action, the new code.

2) Personally I support our existing business by shopping locally, and we need to encourage all residents to do likewise. Whether it be retail, wholesale, agricultural, farm markets, cultural, medical/alternative medicine, industry (in our CLI zones), services, supplies, groceries, recreational (I'll pass on the skydiving), hospitality, education, the arts, or our many excellent restaurants, our town's businesses offer us many choices. And then there are the manufacturers too, that supply local jobs and ship their products around the globe. The town board currently has a business outreach committee that I will join. I will also solicit input from the Gardiner Area Business association about their concerns & listen to their suggestions. Lastly, we need to make sure our laws concerning business are equitably enforced, so all business enjoy opportunity and a level playing field.



**Carmine Mele**

1) I will support all the current laws. Since the current zoning law is so new and untested, it is really unclear if anything needs to be changed. Any concerns that I, or the public, have should follow the proper process of zoning review which starts with a review of the master plan. As

the sentiments of the town change, the Master Plan should change with them, and zoning laws should be enacted to support it. While on the Planning Board, I learned the value of a thoughtful and deliberate process when addressing zoning issues. We should use that process to assure a reasoned and effective code.

2) I would reach out to the Ulster County and New York Economic Development Associations to ask them to help get the word out about Gardiner to help attract new business and work with them and applicants for development funds for both new and existing businesses. I would meet regularly with local business owners to get their feedback on how the town could help them and collect best practices from other similar towns and work with the town board and business owners to implement them here in Gardiner. I would work with the town and recreation committee or attract or develop more events to be held at Majestic Park. In addition to better utilizing a great town asset, the resulting traffic could benefit businesses both in the hamlet and around Ireland Corners and introduce more folks to the business side of Gardiner.

## The Ulster County Legislature

Five candidates (3 Republicans and 2 Democrats) are contesting three seats on the Ulster County Legislature, District 8. Candidates were asked to submit a party response to the following question in a maximum of 200 words:

### **What are the most pressing issues currently facing Ulster County?**

Their responses can be found on the next page and have not been edited.



Katherine Terizzi, Rep.



Ken Ronk, Rep.



Jack Hayes, Rep.



Carl Zatz, Dem.



Tracey Bartels, Dem.

**Republicans Ken Ronk, Cathy Terrizzi and Jack Hayes respond:** "Ulster County is in the midst of an economic emergency. The County Executive is projecting a four million dollar deficit for the 2009 budget. The current path we are on is unsustainable. As Ulster County Legislators we must recognize the need for cost cutting measures and becoming proactive in trying to accomplish the goal of smaller more efficient government. That is why we must be vigilant in controlling and reducing the property tax burden shouldered by Ulster County residents. Along with feeling financially secure, we must make sure that residents feel physically safe as well. Previously, there have been discussions on the county level about closing the Sheriff's substation in Walkkill. The single greatest way to protect the residents of District 8 is to keep that substation up and running. The full cooperation of the Executive and the Legislature is essential for the economic health of the county and this is at best a strained relationship. The Executive and Legislature have to redefine each other's role for the good of the people."

**Democrats Tracey Bartels and Carl Zatz respond:** "**Taxes, taxes, taxes.** The devastating economic recession is felt in every home in Ulster County. The county budget office is projecting an \$8 million decline in sales tax revenue. NY State faces an unprecedented budget deficit, raising concern that costs may be shifted to local governments. But who among us can afford higher property taxes? Countywide, we must look to cut expenses. Every program must be evaluated in terms of efficiency and measured results. Currently, the County is considering several large Capital building projects. Meanwhile, we are still paying \$6 million annually for bad decisions and poor oversight on the County Jail project - a "Jail Tax" you'll be saddled with for years to come. Taxpayers deserve better. We see this financial crisis as an opportunity to affect real change by implementing cost-saving measures while cutting waste and duplication. For example, clean energy engineering: manufacturing and installation are a promising new industry. We should leverage its financial and environmental benefits. Like a household managing its budget, Ulster County faces difficult decisions. We need leaders with strong resolve who are unafraid to challenge the status quo. Demand accountability and proven leadership and you'll find it in Tracey Bartels and Carl Zatz."

## Please vote on November 3rd!

### Business As Usual

This column features two Gardiner businesses per issue.

#### A Half-Century and Counting

by David Sterman



Beverly and Leonard Tantillo need not worry about the grandkids staying in touch. All nine of them live just a few minutes away on Marabac Road. The proprietors of a venerable farm stand on Route 208 keep the whole family busy. Their three children lend a hand (Raffaella's baking was cited by Hudson Valley magazine as "best of homemade pies"

in 2006, Jeannine is the bookkeeper, and Frank helps on the farm and runs his own landscape supply business), and all the grandchildren can be seen pitching in when school is not in session.

Len's dad Frank Tantillo shifted the farm's focus from dairy to fruits and vegetables in 1932, and he and his brother, Peter, later split the farm deed in half. Len was born in 1941 in the house on the farm that he and Beverly occupy.

*continued page 9*

### Gardiner of Eden

On July 12 2009 new Gardiner resident Eden Selah Hansen-Hall arrived. She was this year's first baby born in town with the River & Mountain Midwives.

Melissa, a nurse manager, and Seth, an emergency department technician, had two previous hospital births with their daughters Cori and Daijah, but say they chose homebirth this time because they felt it was safer. "I really liked knowing the midwives were in the house during labor and yet I was free to go outside and move around; I was 100% comfortable doing whatever I needed to. It was great. My oldest daughter baked a birthday cake during labor and was able to see the baby immediately when she was born."



*continued page 9*



## **Tantillos, from page 4**

Beverly had no idea what she'd be in for when her family moved from a dairy farm in Vermont to Gardiner in 1961. But she's certainly not overwhelmed by the constant commotion—she was the seventh of nine children herself. One night, while dining at the Crossroads restaurant (now Lombardi's), Beverly LaTulippe met Len Tantillo. They were married two years later. Beverly had been working at the Huguenot Bank in New Paltz at the time. After a stint working at the college, she settled back into farm life. There weren't a lot of other job opportunities in Gardiner. "We had Majestic's Hardware, the Post Office, and the McKinstry General Store (now HiHo Home Market), but not much else," she recalls.

These days, the area swells with "weekenders," a bit of a mixed blessing for the Tantillos. The farm stand can get quite busy, but Beverly diplomatically says, "it's different than it used to be—busier, with more traffic." She notes what we have all come to see: "More people have found out that Gardiner is a beautiful place to live." That's not to say that the Tantillos are losing touch with the regular customers they've been serving for decades. Everywhere they go they spot a familiar face. That's one of the advantages of living in one place for 48 years, and despite the entreaties of relocated family and friends, the Tantillos have no intention of becoming snowbirds. "The farm stand is such an important part of my life, and I just couldn't imagine a life without it," says Beverly.

In another 23 years Beverly and Len will hopefully preside over festivities for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Farm Market. Their grandchildren may well play a more active role in the farm by then. Of course, Beverly has no intention of suggesting where they should start their households, but with a twinkle in her eye, notes that if they stick around "I believe they're going to still choose to live in Gardiner." It's a great time to stop by Tantillo's. The pumpkins are in bloom and it's just in time for the annual pumpkin-carving rituals. The farm stand, in addition to its usual assortment of pies, vegetables, and snacks, also has a greater variety of apples, as the late blooming breeds have now ripened.

## **Midwives, from page 4**

Susanrachel Condon and Susan Rannestad are nationally certified and New York State licensed midwives who practice full scope midwifery at 120 Main Street and in private residences of surrounding counties. They have been practicing midwifery for a combined 30 years and offer primary women's healthcare, prenatal care, homebirth and postpartum care to women and families.

Many people are not aware that licensed midwives in NY provide primary care from adolescence through the postmenopausal years. They order laboratory tests and write prescriptions, so they have clinical autonomy. For health concerns that fall outside the midwife's scope of practice, consultation with a physician is initiated. Sometimes the physician and midwife will provide collaborative care and sometimes care will be transferred to the physician, but the midwife will continue to provide support to the client and her family. Best of all, midwifery care includes wellness education, family planning and disease prevention.

The safety of planned homebirth with qualified midwives has been demonstrated in numerous studies and families are choosing it more and more. Women enjoy making real choices about their health and mothers and babies are never separated at the time of homebirth. Condon and Rannestad attend most births together and provide extensive postnatal home visits. Since complications rarely occur and most can be resolved at home, the River & Mountain hospital transfer rate is approximately 10% and the cesarean rate is currently 6-8%. The national cesarean rate is now more than 31%. Homebirth is covered to some extent by most insurance plans.

## **Gardiner Day, from page 3**

As always the Gardiner Day Committee would like to thank everyone—participants, volunteers and vendors—your efforts made Gardiner Day 2009 another huge success! Your continued support throughout the year are vital to the events we sponsor: Holiday Tree Lighting December 4<sup>th</sup>, the American Red Cross Blood Drive in January 2010 and the Spaghetti Dinner February 2010. See you there!



**Laurie Willow**  
Principal Broker  
Buyer's Broker



**Willow Realty**

**Office (845) 255-7666**

Res (845) 255-7827

Cell (845) 235-7511

Fax (845) 255-7815

Laurie@WillowRealEstate.com

120 Main Street  
Gardiner, NY 12525  
[www.WillowRealEstate.com](http://www.WillowRealEstate.com)

**Dr. Nichole A. Smith**  
Chiropractor  
127 Main St., Gardiner NY  
845-255-6080  
Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
[www.gardinerwellness.com](http://www.gardinerwellness.com)  
schedule appt. online, accepting insurances

## A Recollection

*by C. Leonard Rinaldo*

She would be standing on the shoulder of the road, across from the small shed that was once a gas station. My dog Cody and I would stroll by on the lane that leads from the highway and through the woods to the open fields. With her chin up and her back straight, she would be looking out over the cornfield. She was about eighty and rather small, her gray hair styled in a short youthful cut, her body trim.

"Hello!" I would say genially, and she would greet me over her shoulder. On I would walk, to the beginning of what was once a macadam road and now leads to a breezy knoll where a wooden bridge once crossed the river. That was my daily destination: the knoll. There I would sit Cody down and feast my eyes. Refreshed, I would head back home. By then my friend would be gone.

One day she was standing behind the house, her hands folded on her breast, her head erect. She seemed to be peering not only across the field but beyond, to the line of trees where Cody and I were headed. Out of impulse I stopped as I said hello. She smiled and waved like a toy soldier. Making sure that the dog was close at my side, I introduced myself.

Her name was Vivian, she said, while her eyes gazed back and forth from me to the field. She was self-conscious, I decided, but somehow I liked that. "Gone With the Wind!" I said. 'Vivien Leigh!' That's how I'll remember your name. My home is across the highway."

"I see. I live over there." She shook her head. "Eight rooms."

"Nice."

"My daughter and her husband live on the other side. When Judy was a child and we lived across the river, she said, 'Mom, some day I want to live over there on that hill.' She meant right here."

Cody was sniffing her. "He likes you. That's unusual."

"I've always loved dogs but I've had problems with them. One time, this dog bit me. Another time our dog killed one of our brood of rabbits. It was awful."

I made Cody lie down. He's a hyper soul but just then he seemed relaxed. Both Vivian and I chose that moment to look up at the sky, a canopy of softest blue, almost white. We listened to the sounds around us: a robin here, a dove there, all resonating from within that dome.

"Space," I said smiling to myself.

She nodded as if she understood.

"I have another daughter; in New York. I'm glad she has a summer home on the ocean. People around here smile and say hello even if they don't know you. New Yorkers are not like that. I think it has to do with space."

Vivian looked up at the sky again. "That's what you have here, isn't it? No, I wouldn't want to be without it."

"Tell me. Do you remember this road when it was being

used?"

"I certainly do. That shack was a gas station. Things have changed."

"But it's still beautiful, wouldn't you say?"

She nodded but only a bit. "Across the river where the camp grounds are we had a farm."

I smiled in admiration. "What keeps you going now? I mean without the farm."

"Oh, the church mostly. I went on a missionary trip to Ghana. We had sent them shoes, you know. In the Honduras we helped to build a hospital. It wasn't easy. But things usually turned out alright. Then there's the community work."

We looked up at the sky again; we looked at the dog. "Isn't it funny about canines?" I said. "They need to be so close. It's because we've taken them from the pack but that doesn't explain why they had to be connected in the first place, does it? Anyway, connected to what?"

Her eyes rolled upward.

I was the one who nodded this time.

"You'll have to come over and meet my wife."

She agreed, but I wasn't convinced. I pulled on Cody's leash. He stood up.

"Gone With the Wind!" I said smirking and jabbing a finger her way. "Vivian."

She grinned.

I was hoping that she would be there when we came back but she was gone. My heart sank but I knew that I would not be talking to her again. With our ages—I mean, I wasn't that far behind her—and yes, with that faraway look of hers...

I saw her occasionally after that and waved to her but I kept a distance. One autumn day I was driving home when I found my path blocked by patrol cars with flashing lights. A young State Police woman asked me if I lived nearby. I pointed out my house and she let me pass. That evening I learned that the elderly woman who lived across the highway and down the lane had lost her life in an auto accident. The person driving behind her had reported that the woman had simply veered off the road. I knew at once who it was: "Gone With the Wind." Vivian.

I tried to keep on hiking to the knoll, but each time I took that road Cody would try to pull me toward the spot where the conversation took place. Was he reacting to a tug within me? I'm not sure. I do know that I couldn't bring myself to look in that direction. Finally I just stopped walking that way.

*Editor's note: Vivian V. Beatty was born Vivian Van Duzer on August 4, 1924. Her husband Joseph G. Beatty passed away on March 30, 1995. Vivian died on November 5, 2007. Having adopted several foster children, she left behind six daughters, three sons, thirteen grandchildren, and nineteen great-grandchildren.*

### WALDEN SAVINGS BANK

Greg Winchell, Branch Manager

2356 Route 44/55, Gardiner, NY 12525

845 256-9667 [greg.winchell@waldensavingsbank.com](mailto:greg.winchell@waldensavingsbank.com)



## Push Pin: A Community Calendar

To have your event listed email [mihathaway@hvc.rr.com](mailto:mihathaway@hvc.rr.com) or call 256-0018. Preference to Gardiner events. Others as space allows.

Every Tuesday all year	Gardiner Library Story Times, 10:00 - 10:30 am Bouncing Babies: 11:00 - 11:45 am Terrific Twos & Threes: 1:30 - 2:30 pm Great Fours to Eights: Play games, participate in action rhymes, explore books, create related crafts. Free. Info Nicole Lane: (845) 255-1255.
1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month 7:00 pm	Gardiner Historical Society meeting, Town Hall. New members welcome. Info Marybeth Majestic (845) 255-0091.
2nd & 4th Saturday of each month 12:30 pm	Story Hour for Children Five Years & Older, Gardiner Library. Read books, make related crafts. Free. Info Nicole Lane: (845) 255-1255.
Through October 28	Haunted House at the Gardiner Library: Bring a shoe or similar box decorated as a haunted house to be displayed in the library. Prizes. Info Nicole Lane: (845) 255-1255.
Sunday October 18 8 - 11:30 am	Pancake Breakfast, Gardiner Fire House; Adults \$6; children \$4; under 5 years old free. Gardiner Fire Dept. Auxiliary.
Wednesday October 21 6:30 - 9:00 pm	Gardiner Association of Businesses Dinner Meeting, Lombardi's Restaurant, 2808 Rte. 44-55. Election of Officers. Open to members & guests. Fee: \$20 includes dinner. Info Leitha (845) 633-8761 or <a href="mailto:GAB@gardinernybusiness.com">GAB@gardinernybusiness.com</a> .
Wednesday October 28	Last day to submit your haunted house shoebox diorama to the Gardiner Library. Free. Info Nicole Lane: 255-1255.
Friday October 30 7:00 pm	Halloween party, Gardiner Library. Spooky (but not too ...) stories, family-friendly Halloween movie, yummy snacks. Haunted house diorama contest winner announced & prize awarded. Free. Info Nicole Lane, (845) 255-1255.
Saturday October 31 9:00 am	First Annual Auction to Support Boy Scouting, UC Fairgrounds. China, silver, collectibles, small furniture, services, vacation getaways, flight vouchers, etc. Info (845) 339-0846.
Saturday October 31 3 - 8:00 pm	Trick or Treat, Gardiner Fire House. Free.
Tuesday November 3	Election Day. PLEASE VOTE! See Election Coverage this issue, pages 4 through 8
Saturday November 14 or 21	Newly formed Women Entrepreneurs and Professionals Network (WEAPN) monthly meeting. Fee: \$15 includes buffet dinner. Info Leitha M. Ortiz-Lesh, (845) 633-8761.
Sunday November 15 8 - 11:30 am	Pancake Breakfast, Gardiner Fire House. Sponsored by the Gardiner Fire Dept. Auxiliary. Adults \$6; children \$4; under 5 years old free. Info (845) 255-1689.
Thursday November 19 7 - 9:00 pm	Gardiner Association of Businesses mixer. \$10 per person includes finger foods - byob. Location TBD. Info Leitha M. Ortiz-Lesh, (845) 633-8761, <a href="mailto:GAB@gardinernybusiness.com">GAB@gardinernybusiness.com</a> .
Friday December 4 through Christmas	Gardiner Association of Businesses 2nd annual <i>Trees of Giving</i> charitable event. Trees on display at Gardiner Library. Cast your vote by placing a new children's book in the box beneath your favorite tree. Info Lauren Rooney, (845) 255-3160.
Friday December 4 7:00 pm	Christmas Tree Lighting & Caroling, Town Hall.
Sunday December 20 7:00 - 11:30 am	Pancake Breakfast, Gardiner Fire House. Adults \$6; children \$4; under 5 years old free. Sponsored by Gardiner Fire Dept. Auxiliary.
Thursday January 21 6:30 pm - 9:00	Gardiner Association of Business dinner meeting, Theme: meet the new members. Open to members and guests. \$20 includes dinner. Location TBD. Info Leitha M. Ortiz-Lesh, (845) 633-8761, or <a href="mailto:GAB@gardinernybusiness.com">GAB@gardinernybusiness.com</a> .



## Gardiner Gazette

PO Box 333  
Gardiner, NY 12525  
gardinergazette@earthlink.net

### Editorial Committee:

Robin Hayes  
Nadine Lemmon  
Carol O'Biso  
Barbara Sides  
Anne Smith  
Ray Smith  
Laurie Willow

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
CRST.NET  
12550

## About This Newsletter

The Gardiner Gazette is a quarterly. Release dates as follows:

Jan. 15 (Submission deadline Dec. 15)  
Apr. 15 (Submission deadline Mar. 20)  
Jul. 15 (Submission deadline Jun. 20)  
Oct. 15 (Submission deadline Sep. 20)

If you have a question or would like to submit a community calendar listing, an item for The Not Too Personals, or an article for consideration, contact us at [gardinergazette@earthlink.net](mailto:gardinergazette@earthlink.net). Further issues of the Gardiner Gazette will only be possible with support from the community. Each issue costs about \$3,000 (postage, printing, layout and editing). Contact [llwillow@aol.com](mailto:llwillow@aol.com) for advertising rates.

IF EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN GARDINER SENT A CHECK FOR JUST \$10 PER YEAR THE GARDINER GAZETTE WOULD BE SELF-SUSPPORTING.

Checks should be made payable to The Gardiner Gazette and mailed to PO Box 333, Gardiner, NY 12525.

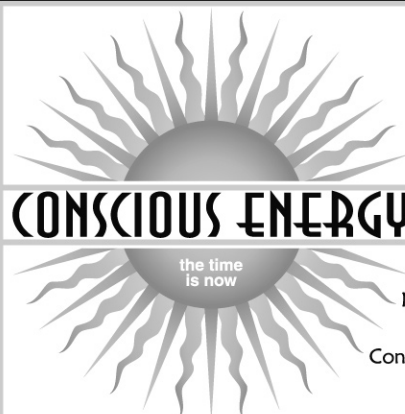
**We can't continue without your help.**

CUSTOM ORDERS  
JEWELRY REPAIRS  
APPRAISALS

*Tiger Lily Jewelers*

COLLEEN RIFKIND  
OWNER  
845.255.9300

127 MAIN STREET  
GARDINER, NY 12525



Solar Energy Solutions  
for a Greener Tomorrow

Photovoltaic Grid-Tied  
and Off-Grid Systems

Thermal Generation  
for Heat and Hot Water

**CONSCIOUS ENERGY**

**Eric J. Kwak**

NYSERDA Certified Solar Installer

**845.750.9441**

[ConsciousEnergySolutions@gmail.com](mailto:ConsciousEnergySolutions@gmail.com)

Fully Insured

Gardiner, New York