

New winery opens in Gardiner, with first vintage due in the fall

Sarah Bradshaw • Poughkeepsie Journal •
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GARDINER — A new winery has opened recently in the town.

When Rivendell Winery's lease expired at the end of 2008, at 714 Albany Post Road, the property's owner saw it as an opportunity.

In February, the Robiberos celebrated the soft opening of the Robibero Family Vineyards.

For now, the winery's tasting room offers samples of New York state products while its vineyards mature.

"The vineyard is young, so we aren't using our grapes at the moment," owner Harry Robibero of Westchester County said. The property, purchased in 2003, includes 42 acres.

The winery is managed by his daughter, Tiffany Robibero, and her fiancé, Ryan Selby.

They expect to do their first bottling in the fall.

February hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. In March, the winery will add Thursday and Friday hours.

"It's a friendly atmosphere. It will be nice to come relax and enjoy the setting," Robibero said.

The owners of Rivendell Winery, Susan Wine and Robert Ransom, filed a voluntary petition for Chapter 7 bankruptcy in 2009. Ransom's family has owned Rivendell since 1987.

They are involved in a legal battle with the Town of New Paltz regarding property Wine purchased in 2007. Her original goal was to move Rivendell into the location at 507 Albany Post Road.

For information on the Robibero Family Vineyards, visit www.robiberofamilyvineyards.com.