

Grand opening: G-Town Philly Steaks

New owners, same menu for business formerly known as Mac's Philly Steaks

By **JIM MILLER**
jmiller@fttimes.com

GENEVA — At 10 Castle St., everything is the same except the owners and the name.

The former Mac's Philly Steaks is now open as G-Town Philly Steaks. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for 4 p.m. Friday, highlighted by a drawing for a \$240 gift certificate.

Donna and Bob Stivers are running the business.

"Basically, Mac's decided to pull out and we decided to take

over just as they left off," Bob Stivers said. "We kept the same menus, the same recipes, their same staff. [Manager] Mike Cecere agreed to stay on for us. ... We'll make subtle changes as we go along, but for now we're just getting started."

G-Town will offer authentic Philadelphia cheesesteak sandwiches on fresh Amoroso rolls, hamburgers made with 100 percent ground beef and Hoffman hot dogs. In addition, it serves chicken sandwiches, pulled pork

sandwiches, hoagies, wraps, salads, soups, chili and Friday fish fries.

Although the owner of Mac's decided to pull out of Geneva, the Stivers saw a viable business.

"I've always thought that the food has been very good," Bob Stivers said. "I believed that we could make some money here — I'm a believer in Geneva, and I hate to see any business leave. I'll do whatever it takes to stay here."

Stivers, who is Geneva

Business Improvement District's board president, owns Stivers Seneca Marine in Waterloo. He and his wife opened a tiki bar there in 2011, and are developing the old Texaco station on Lake Street.

G-Town employs six people. It's open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Delivery, takeout and a children's menu are available.

For more information, call 789-1101 or visit www.gtown-

phillysteaks.com. BID will officiate at Friday's ribbon cutting. Whoever wins the drawing, which runs all week, will receive \$20 a month to spend at G-Town over the next year.

G-Town also plans to run Super Bowl specials Sunday.

"We're just looking for support from the local community, and come on down and have a sandwich," Stivers said.

The Mac's Philly Steaks on South Main Street in Canandaigua remains open and under the same ownership.

'Skating Under the Lights'



Spencer Tulis / Finger Lakes Times

A temporary open-air ice skating rink on Hobart and William Smith Colleges' Bristol Lawn for "Skating Under the Lights" was set up for operation Friday. The late-night event invited students to lace up their skates, take a spin on the new ice, and enjoy music, hot chocolate and good company.

Penn Yan-based Finger Lakes Community Health gets \$200K grant

By **MIKE HIBBARD**
mhubbard@fttimes.com

PENN YAN — Community health centers across the country welcomed 2 million more patients last year than in 2011.

That trend is expected to continue as federal healthcare legislation takes hold.

With that in mind, a nonprofit foundation has awarded \$1 million in grants so those health centers can hire more workers. Among the recipients is Penn Yan-based Finger Lakes Community Health, which is getting \$200,000.

"We are thrilled to receive this award that will help us to expand and improve the quality of the care we provide," FLCH Executive Director Mary Zelazny said. "All of us who work in community health are grappling with how to meet the expected increased demand for care. Our ability to recruit and train the skilled workers necessary to keep our health centers running smoothly is vital to the well-being of our patients."

The money comes from the RCHN Community Health Foundation, a New York City-based organization that helps the nation's 1,200 federally qualified health centers develop programs to recruit, train and retain frontline workers. It is the only foundation in the country dedicated solely to community health centers.

"Our ability to meet a greater demand for health-care falls squarely on our system's ability to increase capacity," said Julio Bellber, the foundation's president and CEO. "That means we must prepare our nation's 1,200 community health centers to recruit, train and retain workers who can meet increased patient-care needs."

About 22 million people use community health centers each year, a number expected to increase dramatically when the Affordable Care Act takes full effect next year.

Centers in South Carolina, Arizona, Nebraska and Colorado joined FLCH in receiving similar awards. Last year, the RCHN foundation also awarded \$1 million in grants to five other community health centers nationwide.

Health centers use the funds to hire and retain receptionists, medical assistants, care managers and community outreach workers.

"I would say even before healthcare reform, we were seeing more people using community health centers," said Feygele Jacobs, the foundation's executive

MORE ONLINE

www.fichealth.org



Zelazny

vice president. "I think it's important to note that not only are these health centers available to an underserved segment of the population, including low-income residents, they are an essential source of employment in their communities."

FLCH, which was founded in 1989 as a healthcare provider for agricultural and migrant workers, now provides comprehensive care for everyone. It has centers in Penn Yan, Geneva, Dundee, Sodus, Port Byron, King Ferry and Bath.

Zelazny said the organization, which serves about 17,000 patients each year, is establishing new centers in Newark and Ovid and moving to new locations in Penn Yan and Dundee.

The grant also will allow FLCH to partner with the National Center for Farmworker Health and regional organizations to address the gaps in training for frontline workers, also known as "point-of-entry" workers, who engage vulnerable patients. These workers are typically a patient's first and primary connection to their healthcare provider and essential to a health center's operations.

"What we really try to do at our centers is have a professional staff that is compassionate and listens to the patients," Zelazny said.

Zelazny said the grant will allow FLCH to improve the cultural competency of healthcare center staffers who work with migrant and seasonal farmworkers, the homeless and other vulnerable patients, including those who are uninsured. Zelazny said language and cultural barriers are encountered at community health centers, even though the staff generally represents a wide segment of the population.

"We have staff that represents 16 different countries ... from Brazil, Spain, Panama," she said. "Some of our patients know English, but when you receive healthcare you want to be able to speak in the language you are most comfortable with."

FLCH will develop a training model for employees, one that eventually will be used across the United States.

"Our workers have to develop skills in a very complicated setting, as well as know and be acquainted with the myriad of health insurance plans out there today," Zelazny said. "We are going to write curriculum that will be developed and piloted in health centers in New York, and then go national with it."

Village elections set in Ovid, Lodi and Interlaken

By **DAVID L. SHAW**
dshaw@fttimes.com

Village elections are set for March 19 in the southern Seneca County villages of Ovid, Interlaken and Lodi.

Petitions for candidates must have the required number of signatures and be submitted to respective village clerks between Feb. 5 and 12.

Unregistered voters must fill out the proper paperwork at the county Board of Elections in Waterloo by March 8 in order to vote.

Here's a look at the three elections:

• **Ovid:** The four-year terms of Mayor David Terry and Trustees Paul McPherson and Robert Stapelton expire March 31.

Terry has been mayor since October 2008. The position pays an annual salary of \$3,600.60.

McPherson has served as a trustee since April 2003, while Stapelton has been on the board since April 2005. Trustees are paid \$1,462.68 per year.

Voting is noon to 9 p.m. in the Fire Department building at 2136 Brown St.

• **Interlaken:** Mayor William Larsen's four-year term expires March 31.

Larsen has been mayor since 1984. The mayor's annual salary is \$3,400.

Also up for election are the seats held by Trustees Christopher Kempf, a board member since 2010, and Keith Jay, a board member since 1998. Both are four-year terms paying \$2,000 annually.

Voting is noon to 9 p.m. in Village Hall at 8369 Main St.

• **Lodi:** The trustee seats held by Martin David and Michael Huff on the three-member board expire March 31. Huff was appointed after Daniele Pellegata resigned.

The highest vote-getter will win a four-year term. The second highest vote-getter will win the remaining two years of Pellegata's term.

Trustees are paid \$1,250 annually.

Voting is noon to 8 p.m. in the village offices at 8455 N. Main St.

SC Literacy Volunteers spelling bee set

Finger Lakes Times

WATERLOO — There are more than 5,000 adults in Seneca County who cannot read or write well enough to function in a job.

Literacy Volunteers of Seneca County Inc. is trying to address that problem, setting up trained tutors to teach adults basic reading and writing skills.

To help pay for that effort, Literacy Volunteers has scheduled the first Seneca

County Spelling Bee for 9:30 a.m. March 23 at Mynderse Academy on Troy Street in Seneca Falls.

"We live in an area where many residents are unable to read," said Richard Langley of Literacy Volunteers. "To call attention to the problem and raise funds for adult education services in our community, we are sponsoring this spelling bee."

He said illiteracy costs the nation's businesses and tax-

payers an estimated \$20 billion per year.

To sign up as a sponsor of a team, contact Bill Judd at 539-9757.

Businesses are invited to become a corporate sponsor by donating \$250, donate a prize for the silent auction, place an ad in the program booklet or sponsor a team of three spellers and an alternate for \$50.

Prizes will be awarded to members of the top three teams.

Fierce winds leave 4,403 Seneca County residents without power

Finger Lakes Times

GENEVA — High winds left thousands of local residents without power this morning.

The outages centered in the former village of Seneca Falls.

NYSEG reported 4,403 Seneca County customers without power as of 7:45 a.m., 3,150 of them in the former village and the rest in the towns of Fayette and Seneca Falls. NYSEG expected to have the power restored by 10:30 a.m.

Elsewhere, 24 NYSEG customers in Ontario County were without power, as were four in Wayne County and three in Yates County.

RG&E reported 29 of its Wayne County customers without power.

POLICE BEAT

Presumed innocent until proven guilty

ONTARIO COUNTY MANCHESTER

County deputies said a diabetic condition caused a Newark man to drive off Short Road Wednesday night and hit some mailboxes.

Deputies said they found David C. Mersinger, 58, of 567 Grace Ave., lethargic and not responding to verbal commands when they arrived at the scene. Mersinger was taken by ambulance to Newark-Wayne Community Hospital.

CANANDAIGUA — Julie A. Fessner, 47, of 6354 Routes 5&20, was charged Tuesday by county deputies

with 16 counts of first-degree offering a false instrument for filing and fifth-degree welfare fraud.

Deputies said between November 2011 and July 2012 Fessner presented 16 fraudulent documents to the county Department of Social Services related to her services as a childcare provider. Deputies allege a child Fessner said she was caring for was receiving care elsewhere. As a result, deputies said Fessner got about \$300 in illegitimate benefits.

Fessner was given an appearance ticket to Geneva City Court.

GENEVA — Keisha R. Rowland, 32, of 52 N. Exchange St., was charged Sunday by city police with second-degree menacing, resisting arrest, fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon and second-degree harassment.

Bomb threat scare at Days Inn motel

Finger Lakes Times

GENEVA — Police from several agencies, along with K-9 units, searched a town motel for about 90 minutes Wednesday afternoon. They were responding to a bomb threat.

Ontario County Sheriff's Office deputies and investigators arrived at the 485 Hamilton St. Days Inn at 4 p.m. A male had called the motel and told the desk clerk there was an explosive device hooked up to the building.

Days Inn occupants were evacuated by motel staff. Bomb detection K-9 units from the Ontario County Sheriff's Department, Wayne County Sheriff's Department and state police then searched the interior and exterior of the building. No evidence of an explosive device or weapons was found.

The White Springs Fire Department provided stand-by coverage during the search.

The Ontario County Sheriff's Office criminal investigation division continued looking into the incident today. Lt. Brad Falkey, an investigator with the division, could not be reached for comment this morning.

"LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/FingerLakesTimes