



Serving the Saratoga Springs, N.Y. region

In the Biz: Butcher shop franchise comes to Wilton

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A new source of all natural and dry-aged meat is expected to open this week on Route 50 in Wilton.

Called The Meat House, the butcher shop is one of 14 franchises on the East Coast, with a headquarters in New Hampshire. Co-founders Justin Rosberg and Jason Parent opened the first store in 2003 and are in the midst of expanding the line, saying they are committed to supporting each community in which they open a shop.

“We are your neighborhood butcher,” Rosberg said. “We’re very excited to get open and become part of your community.”

New locations are planned to open in Costa Mesa, Calif., Charlotte, N.C., and Cary, N.C., in addition to Saratoga Springs.

The store will carry a variety of meats, including Boar’s Head Deli products and dry-aged steaks and roasts, plus fresh produce, cheeses, breads, pastries and prepared foods. Some stores in other states sell wine. The meat is sourced from both local providers and farms in the Midwest, Rosberg said.

Saratoga’s shop sits at 3057 Route 50, in the plaza near Chipotle and Metro Mattress. It’s primarily a retail location with no customer seating or wholesale business. Franchisees are Kevin Wickert and Eric Jackson.

The store will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Online shopping is available at www.themeathouse.com.

Check back at <http://inthebizsaratoga.blogspot.com> for full contact information when it becomes available.

Legends Café starts up online ordering

Legends Café is working to bolster its successful delivery business with a new online ordering option through the Web site Mealeo.com.

Customers can search by zip code at the site for participating delis, restaurants and caterers throughout the area. Then they're taken to a sleek ordering page where they can browse the menu and click quickly through the options before paying online.

Legends co-owner Christine Lloyd said the sandwich shop is one of several businesses in the Capital Region jumping on the trend.

"It's really big down in Albany; it just started coming up here," she said. "It's been up and running a couple of weeks — so far so good."

The Mealeo site allows the café's menu to be viewed by people who might not know about its 102 Congress St. location, Lloyd said.

It also streamlines in-store interactions.

"We spend a lot of time on the phone (taking orders) when we could be doing other things, like conversing with customers who are in the store," Lloyd said.

Businesses do not need their own Web site to use Mealeo. It is marketed as a free service to customers, while participating businesses pay a percentage of each sale to Mealeo plus a start-up fee.

Go to <http://legendscafesaratoga.com> and www.mealeo.com to learn more.

Eugenio's Café Gelato moving

Eugenio's Italian gelato and coffee shop will reopen in a new location a few doors down and across the street on Broadway when spring arrives.

The café's move from 419 to 458 Broadway — the former site of a Subway shop and, most recently, the short-lived Boca Viva café — is an effort to downsize the business and adapt to the current economy, owner Eugene Bizzarro said Sunday.

He blamed rising rents on Broadway as the reason many business owners have packed up and moved off the main drag — or gone under altogether — in recent months. His original monthly rent, \$2,500, has nearly doubled since he opened the café in 2003, Bizzarro added.

"It kind of makes sense to downsize a little bit. You see a lot of businesses going

out on Broadway because the rents have gone sky high,” he said.

The new space is about 700 square feet smaller, although cosmetic renovations are planned to make it look like the same old Eugenio’s, Bizzarro said. An accessible bathroom for customers and the possibility of building an outdoor patio are favorable changes over the current location.

A reopening is planned for April or May.

Call 691-6000 or go to www.eugenioscafelato.com for more information.