# Customers say wait for renovation was worth it

The renovation of Luigi's Trattoria took a little-longer than Dominic and Vivian Beleastro organially planned for.

But the wait apparently was worth it. Since Luigi's re-opened for business more than two weeks ago, complete with renovation to accommodate a new beer-wine service bar, response from customers has been vergood, Dominic Beleastro said.

"So far, so good," Beleastro

Farminaton Observer

ently is a restaurant that gives customers a rich experience without being too pricey.

The new look certainly hit the spot as far as Tiffany Anderson was concerned.

"The changes are great, and the food is excellent," Anderson, who works at D&G Leasing in Farmington, said after lunching at Luigi's on Monday. "It's comfortable, everything's brand new and 1 love the warm atmosphere."

A mural painted by Vince Inconcilli and Nick Kastrianass of Farmington Hills-based Custom Creations Studio has a lot to do with that. Their colorful, rich painting, complete with images of Italy, completely transformed the waiting area near the back entrance.

"That's what I wanted," Bel-

the waiting area near the back catrance. "That's what I wanted," Bel-castre explained. "Something to look at while you're waiting. Now they can look at that, instead of the bathroom doors." Paintings of Italian images also adorn he inner walls. Even the table coverings add to the ambience.

The renovation was spurred by the state Liquor Control Commission's awarding of a special Class C liquor license to Luigi's, as part of a one-time program designed to help businesses in downtown districts.

According to Beleastro, the re-opening was delayed a few weeks because "As you're building, things change, You get new ideas. We did a few things we didn't think about at first." "It's more open," said Beleastro, describing the changes. Of course, the beer-wine service bar also in new and there are booths where tables used to be. He emphasized that the menu and prices haven't changed. The project was originally estimated to last about two to three weeks. The fact it took longer cost Luigi's some business during the annual Farmington Founder's Festival.

"I could have opened for the

Job done: Dominic Belcastro says he has received a good response from customers after closing for five weeks to renovate Luigi's Trattoria.

festival, but it wasn't 100 per-cent done," he explained. 'I folt bad that it wasn't open." some kinks beleastro noted that while the Beleastro noted that while the

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# Cyberian from page A1

work of a lot of people. I came up with some ideas, and we all worked them out. It's an interesting new world. It hasn't replaced what we do. It adds to it. It's more and better, because we haven't cut back on anything. It comploments our reference desk staff."

Furi notes that in the midst of the computer information explosion, the library's book circulation is higher than it's over been, indicating that Internot access inn't pulling people away from books.

"Electronic resources will play a pivotal role in the future of celucation, because they enable universal access transcending limitations of individual collections, buildings and budgets, Furi wrote in his nomination form.

His words and revolutionary work captured the judgo's attention placing him among librarians chosen from each of the 50 states. Each winner will receive a \$1,000 denation toward library educational materials and one



Awarded: Gerald Furi, assistant library director, was honored for his work in cyberspace.

year dial-up access to the Inter-net. Applications were submit-ted online, with the nomine-required to submit a short essay on the future of the library. The library went live on the Internet in January 1994 with a

in cluding libraries in Farmington, Farmington Hills, Canton, Boldwin, Bloomfield Township, Independence Township, Rochester Hills, Southfield and West Bloomfield Township.

"There was no stoff and no building - wo just shared resources," Furing and to the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing and the shared resources, "Furing and the shared resources," Furing a shared resources, "Furing a s

Today, this connection provides free access to 400,000 peo-ple. The service is offered to any-

one who works, lives or goes to school in each of the eight com-munities.

nunities. Furi also coordinated and nanaged a Kids and Teens Web page that allows local teachers to contact the library regarding

#### ■ 'It doesn't replace what we do. It adds to It.'

Gerald Furi

subjects students are studying. The library searches the Internet for sources and provides it to students who ask. Winning acclaim and recognition, this Web page has been written up in library trade journals. Internet access to boundless material is endless, but it decent threaten the printed word, Furi said.

"It doesn't replace what we do," Furi said. "It adds to it. Owning a computer today, Furi said, is like owning a vehicle almost a century age. "Vehicle almost a century age." An average of 40 people take

have to have a lot of tools," he added.

An average of 40 people take free lessors at the library to learn how to use the Internet during the week.

When Furi joined the Farmington Hills Library staff in 1980, he was the key staff member responsible for training staff to respond to requests for database searches. He developed the process for which Metro Net would run and became "the webmaster for the Metro Net, as well as his own library," according to Beverly D. People, Farming to Goverly D. People, Farming to Govern D. People S. People D. People People D. People S. People D. People People

director.
Returning to his alma mater, Furi has also taught "Information Processing and Programming," a graduate core curriculum class at Wayno State University School of Libraries and Information Science.

"Basically what I'm teaching is what I wish I had learned in library school, but they hadd developed it at that time," said Furi, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident.

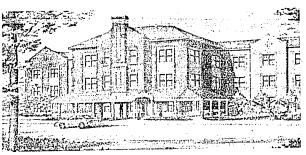
lent. In his spare time, you might ---- guassed Fury enjoys read-In his spare time, you might have guessed, Fury enjoys reading. He also places a promium on spending time with his family, wife Mary, son David, 24, and a black labrador retriever, Boau. Music is another creative outlet. Furi, who earned his undergraduate degree in performance, plays organ and harpsichord.



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