

A welcome transformation

Glass Onion to be Ram's Horn

By Craig Piechura
staff writer

The boarded-up Glass Onion restaurant will reopen as the Ram's Horn restaurant Sept. 15 if all goes according to plan.

That's the word from Gus Kasapis, owner of the Livonia-based Ram's Horn restaurant chain.

Kasapis, however, is asking Farmington City Council to amend a 1981 city ordinance which restricts any restaurant located within 150 feet of residential property from operating be-

tween 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. All 18 existing Ram's Horn restaurants are open 24 hours daily, said Kasapis, of Livonia.

The council tabled the request at Monday night's council meeting.

The ordinance was enacted based on neighbors' repeated complaints about the restaurant in its previous incarnations, first the Landmark restaurant and later the Green Onion. The neighbors said customers arriving after the bars closed were keeping them awake by being loud and rowdy.

Council members present at Monday's meeting reportedly were receptive to changing the ordinance but wanted to defer voting on the matter until councilmen Ralph Yoder and William Mitchell returned from vacation.

The Glass Onion restaurant was burned by an arsonist June 15, 1981 — a crime that remains unsolved.

Kasapis has leased the restaurant for up to 20 years under a rent-with-option-to-buy arrangement with the building's landlord, the H.B.C. Investment Co., run by Harry and Charles Grenadier and Harry Liberson, all of Southfield.

Kasapis said it'll be a refreshing change to do business at a site that used to be in competition with his flagship store at Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile.

He said he's aware of all the past problems at the Glass Onion restaurant run by David Sinacola but is convinced "this is a viable location, and Farmington is a great community."

Although he listed competitors on Grand River such as Bonanza, Big Boy, Denny's, the Flame and Bill Knapp's, Kasapis said Ram's Horn has a "place in the marketplace" with selections for weight watchers and senior citizens. A variety of foods spanning niches and

Greek food to the bacon-and-egg fare the restaurant is known for should make the restaurant a success, he said.

Even if the city rejects the request to allow him to stay open all night, Kasapis said he'll open. But he added that expected profits are projected on the basis of a 24-hour operation.

Yvette Inch attends ballet conference

Yvette Inch of Farmington Hills was among 175 teen-agers from across the country who gathered at Michigan State University July 6-18 to improve their dancing skills at the 31st annual Cecchetti Ballet Conference and Seminar. She is the daughter of Helen and Dennis Inch.

The Cecchetti method of dance instruction breaks ballet into four student and four professional grades and provides examinations to test proficiency in those grades.

Students received instruction from a staff of well-known professionals. Among them were Margaret Marsh from London, England (who has studied under the method's originator, Maestro Cecchetti, and who is a major examiner with the Cecchetti Society); Francois Martinet, former leading ballerina for the Robert Joffrey Company; and Irina

Kladivova-Pal, nationally known teacher and choreographer. Culmination of the event, which was sponsored by MSU's Lifelong Education Program, was a public recital July 18 in the University Auditorium.

New staff member Desmond Kelly, ballet master of Sadlers Wells Royal Ballet, chose the performing students and choreographed the recital. Students who moved to a higher grade were awarded with certificates.

Hooper honored

David U. Hooper, son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Hooper, 28976 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, has been named a college scholar, the highest recognition for academic achievement, for the spring term at Middlebury College.

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