

JARC receives grant funding, dedicates Schreier group home

Congressman Joseph Knollenberg has announced the first federal grant funding for JARC, a nonprofit organization that serves people with disabilities and their families. Knollenberg, who represents the 9th Congressional District, made the announcement on May 18 at the dedication ceremony of JARC's newest group home, the Jack and Evelyn Schreier Home in Farmington Hills, one of 20 homes owned and operated by JARC in Oakland County.

JARC board member Rob Nusbaum was instrumental in alerting Knollenberg to the issues, saying, "Joe took the time to learn about JARC, to visit JARC homes, and to really study the situation. Once he understood the problem, Joe really went the extra mile to help JARC. His advocacy on behalf of JARC is based on a true belief in the organization." After being introduced by

Nusbaum several years ago, Congressman Knollenberg and JARC Executive Director Joyce Keller had many discussions about the needs of people with disabilities. Knollenberg says, "Joyce is known throughout the country for her leadership and for the high quality of service at JARC. She helped me learn about people at risk because they have little or no public funding for what they need. When our government helps an organization like JARC, they're in reality helping the entire community."

The \$500,000 grant will be used to provide mental health support services and long-term case management for unserved and underserved adults with developmental disabilities who, without support, are at high risk of exploitation, homelessness, hospitalization, encounters with law enforcement, and even jail. Recently, as Michigan's

economy has flourished, funding for many individuals with developmental disabilities has been reduced or eliminated. In the quest to reduce the state's spending deficit, a widespread redetermination process is causing a decrease in support, even to individuals with a long history of funding by the public mental health system. Without this critical federal funding, secured by Congressman Knollenberg, continued services to those served by JARC in this population would be in serious jeopardy, representatives say.

Mayor Nancy Bates brought greetings from the city of Farmington Hills to the dedication ceremony and welcomed the new JARC home to the neighborhood.

For more information, visit www.jarc.org or contact Anne Fleming at (248) 538-6610 ext. 339 or annefleming@jarc.org.



Pallas Wang shows off an example of the fine cuisine available at her new restaurant in Farmington Hills.

Pallas combines fine dining, Szechuan cuisine in the Hills

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

Pallas Wang always dreamed of opening an upscale Chinese restaurant where the food, decor and service exceeded the norm. She chose Farmington Hills to pursue that dream last January, with the debut of Pallas Restaurant and Lounge in the 12 Mile/Orchard Lake shopping plaza.

And judging by the smile on her face, her dream is no longer just wishful thinking. Folks from the Canton Township area know Pallas and her husband Sonny, who for 23 years have run the successful Szechuan Restaurant there.

Despite that business always doing well and growing, Pallas said she felt the time was right to branch out and try her dream of offering an upscale dining experience

with Szechuan cuisine as the main focus.

The Hills Pallas was remodeled from the floor up, complete with a marble water fall that greets guests in the main entrance.

Sonny makes the sauces for more than 60 entrees. Joslyn Lin is the general manager and Pallas' sister. "She always wanted to establish something more upscale and dining ambience with Szechuan cuisine," Lin said of her sister.

Beside the attention to modern decor, linen cloths on the tables, bone china and silverware enhance the dining experience, along with a knowledgeable wait staff to explain the appetizing dishes.

"We're trying to change people's views of what dining in a Chinese restaurant is like," Lin said. "We're not your typical Chinese restaurant."

That is evident in the mix of cuisine, from Thai and Indian to Parisian, she said. Dinner entrees run from \$8 to \$19. To complement the more than 60 entrees available, there is a wine selection of more than 100 varieties.

Pallas said she and her husband enjoy visiting Asia, Europe and other parts of the U.S. and keep an eye out for interesting trends in foods and try to incorporate the new tastes at Pallas.

"We have monthly specials," Pallas said.

"Since March, we've had a very strong turnout," she said. "Business has been good." Pallas is open 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday; noon-11 p.m. Saturday; noon-10 p.m. Sunday.

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