

# Downtown serving up new eateries, stores

By Pamela Lannom

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Activity is picking up in the central business district. Two new restaurants have opened in the past few months and another is in the works.

Two new retailers also are preparing to open their doors, one as early as next week.

Interest in the town remains strong, said Tim Scott, the village's community development strategist.

"The demographics remain so attractive and the community such a handsome environment and historic place," he said. "The interest remains high."

John Bell, owner of Waypoint Properties in Hinsdale, agreed. He found the new tenant for the old Embrace space.

"There has been, I would say, considerable interest in terms of calls that we've gotten, people who've looked at it," he said.

## New restaurants

Hinsdaleans who are enjoying some new lunch and dinner options in town can look forward to a new breakfast restaurant opening in the old Embrace space off First Street.

Peter Verros, owner of Dali

Cafe in Downers Grove and Eggstasy in Oak Brook, plans to open his newest restaurant there by Thanksgiving.

"It's just going to be a fun breakfast restaurant," he said. "The name of it is New York, New York."

The walkway to the restaurant reminded Verros of New York, and the space also contains vestiges of the former Hinsdale Theater building.

"It's going to be very creative, very unique," Verros said.

He expects the restaurant to be open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. seven days a week, and the menu will include everyday items and gourmet selections.

Chocolate velvet cake French toast and pumpkin cheesecake pancakes are the kind of specialty dishes Verros offers at his other restaurants.

"I don't eat it, but it's my favorite meal to be creative with," he said of breakfast.

If residents support New York, New York the way they're supporting Il Poggiolo, Verros should be pleased.

Co-owner Peter Burdi said his Italian restaurant, which he and Jerry Kleiner opened June 29 on First Street, has gotten a very warm reception.

"It's been better than expected," he said. "It's been very, very good. A lot of

Hinsdaleans have been coming out and really supporting us for the last three months."

Pastas have been a real favorite of diners, Burdi said.

"I would say the chitarra, it's homemade pasta with a bolognese sauce, that does really well," he said.

As the season changes, some new items will appear on the menu, including a cappellacci stuffed with butternut squash.

The restaurant will offer its first tasting menu, A Taste of Tuscany, Oct. 19 to 24 and will conclude the week with a Saturday cooking school.

A much more casual dining option also is popular among locals. Lines stretched out the door for the \$1 grand opening specials last week at Dips and Dogs at First Street and Garfield Avenue.

"The town has been overwhelmingly supporting us," Doug Fuller Jr. said. "We hope they continue to support us and we'll strive to meet the needs of everybody."

The menu features hot dogs, hamburgers, sandwiches, sides and a host of ice cream treats.

## New retailers

Two new retail stores also are expected to open soon in



Peter Verros owns two restaurants and is planning to open two more, including one in Hinsdale. (Jim Slonoff photo)

Hinsdale.

Interior designer Martha Daley hopes to open M. Designing Interiors in the southern half of the old Schoen's space on Washington Street by Oct. 24.

"I've been in design for probably 20 years now, but this is my first venture having a retail storefront," she said.

She has worked with clients — many of whom live in Hinsdale — "from the foundation up," and she decided she should sell furnishings as well.

"I always felt like this is what I needed to do," she said. "I needed to be that full-service design center."

The store will be arranged by room, with the kitchen up front, followed by a family room and bedroom.

"How I set my store up is like a home," she said.

She is working with a woman who makes custom draperies and also will have someone who does custom floral arrangements on site. A design center and office will be located in the back of store.

Daley is excited to be part of the Hinsdale community.

"I grew up on the East Coast and this looks like where I grew up," she said.

The old Stogies space at Lincoln Street and Chicago Avenue will be home to Arteologie, which sells unique jewelry, gifts and art and also specializes in home design, according to its Web site.

No one from the company could be reached before press time Wednesday.

# One Central athlete has swine flu, coach said

By Christine Cuthbert

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At least one member of the Hinsdale Central girls volleyball team has tested positive for the H1N1 virus, and other members of the team are experiencing flu-like symptoms.

Volleyball coach Sheralynn Kellough said the student was diagnosed Saturday, and she immediately informed athletic director Paul

Moretta.

"Everyone is being advised to stay home if they have (flu) symptoms," Moretta said.

Interim Principal Frank Kesman had no knowledge of a confirmed case of H1N1 at Central as of Tuesday afternoon.

"I have not received any confirmation from the county health department or our school nurse," Kesman said.

Once the school receives confirmation, Kesman said the DuPage County Health Department will direct administrators on how to proceed with informing students, staff and the community.

"What we do would depend on that phone call," Kesman said.

Kellough said the team is taking things one day at a time right now and adjusting as best they can.

Rita DuChateau, director of com-

munications for Community Consolidated Elementary District 181 said there have been no confirmed cases of the flu in the elementary schools. The district forwarded its most recent letter from the health department regarding swine flu via e-mail to all parents and staff Saturday morning.

For more information on H1N1, log onto [www.protectdupage.org](http://www.protectdupage.org).



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