

# Rosati's comes to Newville

by Michael Riley  
Special to The Reporter

A Chicago tradition will start to forge its own history on the shores of the Rock River, as the doors are now open at Rosati's Pizza Sports Pub.

As televisions, memorabilia and savory smells compete for a customer's attention at the newest local restaurant, one might overlook a set of framed family portraits, but for owners and operators David Naskrent and John Horner the photographs represent the long lineage of success.

"If you look on that wall you see all of the families," Horner said. "They have all made pizzas, just like us. They have all owned Rosati's, just like us. Since 1964, it has been a good name with better food."

Along with owners Andrew and David Rosati, the pair hopes to make the family-owned company a local favorite with the grand opening set for April 2.

"We have been coming to the Newville, Edgerton and Milton area for about 10 years," Naskrent said. "People ask us why here, and honestly we never saw something decent come out of this facility in terms of service or the quality food. We want to bring Chicago food to the area."

Naskrent said his family will drive from Elgin, Illinois to the Wisconsin Dells and just like other families, they always try to find a place to stop that isn't Janesville.

"We believe that travelers will know the product and we hope that the surrounding community will enjoy our location not just for pizza, but for pasta, sandwiches and a nice drink in the ambiance," Naskrent said.

Both bring to Newville almost 25

years experience in the industry and 15 years experience in owning and operating. They own another Rosati's in Madison.

Horner said at the end of the day it is the quality of the Chicago Italian food that has made the company and the brand strong.

The signature blend of sauces has remained the same since 1964 and according to Andrew Rosati the cheese still comes from Reedsberg, Wisconsin.

The menu boasts a variety of Italian dishes from the favorite chief sandwich, meatball parmesan, a Chicago style hotdog and a variety of pasta dishes.

To help with the established quality, a new rotating oven has been installed that had handle 25 pizzas at any given time. The previous restaurant had a brick-oven, but it was only 18 inches wide which can only handle two pizzas at once, according to Naskrent.

They also have done a complete bar and floor renovation with new paint inside and out. Heating and cooling units have also been replaced along with an electrical renovation.

"We want customers to come for an experience," Naskrent said. "You're socializing, but not in a sports bar. It is a more of a restaurant with a bar, not a bar with a restaurant. Our goal in terms of atmosphere is you are going to see families enjoying dinner, but later we want people to still have a good time."

The location will support 40-50 employees split between part time and full time and for the last two weeks have been training with real customers. Delivery, catering and carry out are all options provided to customers.



Above: Rosati's Pizza and Sports Pub celebrated its launch in Newville with a boisterous ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, April 1. The restaurant serves up authentic Chicago-style pizza and other Italian dishes.

Right: Co-owner John Horner (Edgerton Reporter photo /Michael Riley)

