



THINK 'LUXURY' — New owner Steve Kniaz and designers Maryterese Russo, Diana Yeames, Karen Sewall, Heather Lynn, Kathlyn Box and Beusha Pelkey are pictured here in a luxurious kitchen in the showroom of Adaptations Unlimited. Adaptions is located at 400 Dover Point Road in Dover, NH. You can call them at (603) 742-9600.

— Atlantic News Photo by John Deming

Adaptations: Service and style by design

BY JOHN DEMING
ATLANTIC NEWS STAFF WRITER

DOVER | After 25 years, Kathlyn Box decided to sell Adaptations Unlimited, the Dover-based design business she built from the ground up — but she's not going anywhere.

"It took us 25 years to build a sandbox, and now I get to play in it," she said.

Box, a Certified Master Kitchen and Bath Designer, decided to focus on design — her favorite part of the job.

Enter Steve Kniaz, who bought the business from Box in December, and aims to give it his all.

Adaptations Unlimited — located on Dover Point Road, and visible from the Spaulding Turnpike — specializes in the creation of "welcoming and sophisticated" designs for "kitchen, bath and beyond," is looking to thrive into the new year with a new owner and the same personal service.

According to Kniaz, it's the distinctive, distinguished kind of place that people will drive 100 miles

to get to. And as the new owner, he's implementing one subtle change — instead of focusing solely on high end design, they compete at all price ranges.

At some home centers, people sacrifice service because they have a lower price range, said Kniaz.

"Adaptations has always been a very high-end-only design and remodel company, and we still do all that," he said. "But we want to give people who have a lower price range the same outstanding service."

According to Kniaz, without offering something to those with a lower price range, they'd be abandoning 80 percent of the market.

"We felt that that kind of customer deserved our service," he said. "When you come in here, it's a private session with a designer. And we've got the best designers around."

When Kniaz first looked into buying Adaptations, he thought it held more of a focus on kitchen design.

"But when I came in here, I found the most amazing

showroom for baths and sinks I'd ever seen," he said.

The store offers any number of custom designs — there are seashell or squirrel bath knobs, there are radiators that double as towel heaters, providing someone with a 100 degree towel with which to dry off — but what's in the store is only the beginning, Kniaz said.

"Anything that you can imagine," he said, noting that it doesn't stop with bathrooms and kitchens. "Anything that you can draw, we can wake. Libraries, everything. We do everything."

One thing they do is give the customer a lot of personal attention. The designers visit each individual home.

"We measure every nook and cranny," said award-winning designer Maryterese Russo.

They also have homeowners fill out surveys base on their lifestyle, Russo said. If a person tall, if both husband and wife are cooks, if someone is left-handed — it is all taken into account in the design.

Kniaz has also put his money where his mouth is. He is currently in the process of constructing a brand new home for his family in Lee. The interior will be designed by his designers, and the house will serve as a show house, should a customer want to see some ideas put into action.

Kniaz has attached specialty names to his bathroom section (Baths Unlimited) and to his kitchen section (Kitchens Unlimited). Each will function as a unique entity under the whole of Adaptations Unlimited.

One of the most distinctive elements is the impressive showroom itself, which includes many skillful and custom designs for customers to browse. There's even a row of faucets with water that tumbles over a row of stones.

"Where else can you go and say 'I'd really like to see what the water looks like coming out of the faucet,'" Kniaz asks. "We do these things, and we believe that most others don't."

Just Gen's is 'just right'

BY JESSICA JENKINS
SPECIAL TO THE ATLANTIC NEWS

HAMPTON | On Monday, January 3, Hampton welcomed "Just Gen's" to the center of downtown.

To kick off the New Year, this "Sandwich Shop and More" will be offering delicious, unique soups, salads, sandwiches and other specialties at the old location of Tommy Gone Loco's. Some of Tommy's best sandwiches will still remain on the menu along with a fresh new flair given to it by new owner Kathy Delpero and her family.

Located at 471 Lafayette Road on Route 1, Just Gen's comes to town with a special story behind it: the origin of the restaurant's name is as interesting as the recipes.

Kathy, the youngest of six entrepreneurs and originally from the Napa Valley, recently lost her mother Genevieve, who sounds like she was quite a lady. Ornerly and headstrong, yet intelligent with so much to offer, she always encouraged her children to live their dreams and pursue whatever made them happy.

A restaurant entrepreneur

neur herself, Genevieve grew tired of always telling people how to spell her name. Finally, she started to simply say "Just Gen." This became her trademark and eventually was her staple signature on cards to her loved ones, graced her vanity license plates and even her e-mail address.

So, when Kathy came upon this business opportunity, her daughter insightfully suggested the name that is now written above their shop. Cyclically, it really seems to fit.

Kathy has changed the décor of the shop to what she describes as "welcoming and open," with light colors and brown, rustic red and plaid for the tables. This gives the atmosphere a hint of Italian country, although their menu is very diverse.

There are 18 seats inside and four at the counter, so it is very comfortable to eat-in or take-out. With sandwiches from funky to traditional, they have something to tempt all taste buds. Along with a 10" sub, Kathy will be offering Paninis, which are grilled pressed-bread sand-

Just Gen's Continued on 38-



WELCOME TO HAMPTON — Pat Morgenstern (left) of the Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce is pictured here with Kathy Delpero (right) at a recent ribbon cutting held in front of Kathy's new downtown Hampton restaurant, "Just Gen's." A veteran restaurant owner, Delpero plans to be an active member of the community while getting to know her customers in order to respond to their needs. This includes providing a comfortable dining atmosphere where customers can sit and relax if they so choose, as they enjoy subs, specialty sandwiches, soups, hot panini sandwiches, some Mexican-style selections, and an assortment of beverages, all offered at reasonable prices.

— Atlantic News Courtesy Photo



ENTERTAINMENT



DOLLY & FRIENDS — The Valley Players at the Amesbury Playhouse Dinner Theatre present the award-winning musical "Hello, Dolly!" featuring (from left) Rick Andrade as Barnaby Tucker, Jamie Bradley as Cornelius Hackl, Michael Barczak as Horace Vandergelder, Donna Story as Dolly Levi, Christine Manclark as Irene Molloy, and Jenna-Lee Cusack as Minnie Fay. "Hello, Dolly!" plays Thursdays through Sundays until January 23.

— Atlantic News Courtesy Photo

Amesbury Playhouse says 'Hello, Dolly!'

SPECIAL TO THE ATLANTIC NEWS

AMESBURY | The Valley Players at the Amesbury Playhouse Dinner Theatre in Amesbury, Massachusetts proudly present the award-winning musical "Hello, Dolly!" playing now through January 23.

"And what do you do for a living, Mrs. Levi?" asks Ambrose Kemper in the first scene of this most delightful of musical comedies. "Some people paint, some sew ... I meddle," replies Dolly.

"Hello, Dolly!" Is full of memorable songs including "Put on your Sunday Clothes," "Ribbons Down My Back," "Before the Parade Passes By," and the title song "Hello, Dolly!"

Starring as America's most beloved matchmaker Dolly Levi is Donna Story who is supported by a cast of 20 from all over Massa-

chusetts and New Hampshire. The show is directed and choreographed by Derek Dow, with musical direction by Val Waldron Barczak.

Performances of "Hello, Dolly!" are Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings (7 p.m. dinner, 8:30 p.m. show); Sunday afternoons (12 p.m. dinner, 1 p.m. show); and Sunday evenings (5 p.m. dinner, 6:30 p.m. show. Doors open 30 minutes before dinner. Show-only tickets are \$17; dinner/show combo prices are \$28 and up. Student/ Senior discounts are available Sundays through Thursdays. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (978) 388-9444.

For more information, call (978) 388-9444 or visit www.amesburyplayhouse.com.

HELLO, DOLLY

The Valley Players

What
'Hello, Dolly!'

Where
Amesbury Playhouse
Dinner Theatre
194 Main Street
Amesbury, MA

When
Now through Jan 23
Thu-Sat evenings
7 p.m. dinner, 8:30 p.m. show
Sun afternoons
12 p.m. dinner, 1 p.m. show
Sunday evenings
5 p.m. dinner, 6:30 p.m. show
Doors open 30 minutes
before dinner

Admission
Show-only tickets \$17
Dinner/show combos
\$28 and up
Reservations necessary

Phone
(978) 388-9444

Web
amesburyplayhouse.com

Beatle Juice to play Music Hall for SASS benefit

SPECIAL TO THE ATLANTIC NEWS

PORTSMOUTH | When Beatle Juice takes the stage for the fourth annual "Night to Benefit the Children" event, there will be some special guests in the audience, according to Bill Faulkner, promoter of the event.

Members of Dover Youth to Youth will be attending this year's event, thanks to sponsorships by Waste Management and Fisher Scientific.

"Dana Mitchell of the Dover police department called to discuss the possibility of bringing some of their program participants to the show" said Faulkner. "I happened to be talking to contacts at Waste Management and Fisher Scientific later that day and they didn't hesitate to step up and sponsor the group's attendance."

Beatle Juice, the Boston area's premiere Beatles tribute band will perform this very special benefit concert for Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS) on Saturday, January 22 at the Music Hall, located at 24 Chestnut Street in Portsmouth. Proceeds raised at the concert will benefit the Children's Education and Prevention Program at SASS.

"SASS and Dover Youth to Youth have a tremendous synergy and have done cooperative presentations," says Faulkner.

"I think this is a real bonus to the celebratory feel of this event."

Speaking of celebrities: They don't look like the Beatles, but if you close your eyes you'll swear that it's the real thing. Led by multi-platinum award winning Brad Delp of the band Boston, Beatle Juice will get your toes tapping and heads bobbing with their amazing recreation of your favorite songs from the Fab Four's vast catalog.

The band consists of an all-star line-up of area music veterans. Joining Delp are drummer Muzz of Farrenheit and the Fools, bassist Joe Holaday of the Fools; guitarist Dave Martin, and keyboard wizard Steve Baker, who recently played

with Beatles' producer George Martin in a tribute to the Beatles at the Hollywood Bowl.

This year's concert is being sponsored by ERA The Masiello Group, KRaN LLC, Greg and the Morning Buzz, Waste Management, Fisher Scientific, Tom Scholz and Boston, and Jasper.

Tickets are \$25 each and are on sale now at the Music Hall box office by calling (603) 436-2400, or by going online at www.themusic-hall.org.

Sexual Assault Support Services serves Rockingham, Strafford and southern York counties, provides direct support services to persons affected by sexual abuse and violence, operates a 24 hour hotline, and presents education and prevention programs to schools and the community.

SASS can be reached at (603) 436-4107.



Beatle Juice

The staff
of the new and improved

ATLANTIC NEWS

welcomes you aboard
as we chart a course
to cover...

