

Press Release

For Immediate Release

December 9, 2010

Downtown Waterville celebrates the holidays with 3 new businesses!

The corner of Main and Temple Streets is the site of Downtown Waterville's three newest businesses and a showcase of entrepreneurial spirit and local investment.

Jin Yuan Chinese Restaurant opened in November at 41 Temple Street in the existing restaurant space that formerly housed Asian Dragon. A Chinese restaurant offering Szechuan, Cantonese and Mandarin specialties, Jin Yuan also boasts a full bar and cocktail lounge. Nikki Chen and her husband, Mr. Zeng, who own both the business and the property, have invested in major improvements that include a new entrance, a new HVAC system, and a complete interior renovation with new carpet and new seating. Jin Yuan is open seven days a week, Sunday 12-9:30pm, Monday through Thursday, 11am-9:30pm, and Friday & Saturday, 11am-Midnight, and offers eat in, take-out and delivery.

Right next door at 129 Main Street, Tasha Stone York is opening Dress Me Bridal, a boutique shop featuring not only wedding gowns and tux rentals but also a selection of prom and other formal wear. Dress Me Bridal will also serve as a one-stop shop for wedding planning needs, including invitations, catering, bridal accessories, favors and more. York, too, has already made significant improvements to the first floor space she is leasing. Working with her friends, family and local contractor, J.C. Renovations, York is transforming the former Subway sandwich shop into a retail storefront with new walls and flooring and countless other cosmetic improvements on the inside and the removal of the vinyl siding on the front of the building. Dress Me Bridal will be opening the week before Christmas.

And next door to that? Mary and Angelo Carpinito plan to open the much anticipated Amici's Cucina at 137 Main Street in the space that most recently housed the Bread Box Café. Amici's Cucina will serve Italian cuisine featuring entrees like Veal or Chicken Piccata, Marsala and Limon, designer pasta specials, as well as a wide array of appetizers, soups and salads. Mary's daughter Shannon will manage the bar, which she sees as more than just a place for people to wait for a table but as a relaxed lounge area where patrons can enjoy appetizers and beverages. The interior of the restaurant has been completely remodeled by local contractors and boasts shiny, newly refinished wood floors, warm colors and striking Italian-style canvases mounted on the wall.

Waterville Main Street is working with the three neighboring businesses to coordinate a triple ribbon cutting block party on Saturday, December 18 from 1-3pm. Each of the businesses will open their doors to the public for a two hour meet and greet-style open house, complete with refreshments, to introduce themselves to the community. "We thought it would be fun and exciting to host a mini-block party to celebrate this cluster of new businesses," said Shannon Haines, Executive Director of Waterville Main Street, adding "It's really encouraging, especially during these times, to see these entrepreneurs making significant investments in Downtown Waterville."

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce President and CEO, Kim Lindlof, agrees. "Maine is a small business state and it is encouraging to see this corner of Main Street return to life thanks to the can-do attitude of these small business owners. We wish them much success."

Waterville was designated as a Main Street Maine community in 2001 by the Maine Downtown Center and is accredited annually by the National Main Street Center, which is a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The Main Street Four Point Approach is a comprehensive and incremental approach to downtown revitalization and is being implemented in over 2,000 towns and cities throughout the country. Visit www.mdf.org/downtown for more information on the Main Street Maine program.