

her passion.



» Kathy Barstow shows flowers transplanted from Wendy Faulkner's (left) garden to the Barstows' yard in Marcellus.

'Finally' finding closure

BY DAN BERNARDI

Kathy Barstow's relationship with Wendy Faulkner dates back to 1970. The two met through a bond formed between their husbands, Tim Barstow and Lynn Faulkner, when they worked at Camillus Hills Pet Lodge. "We hung out and did things, went on vacations and went out to eat," Kathy said. "All of the friend kind of things."

The four shared a close friendship for the next 31 years, but that all changed on Sept. 11, 2001, when Kathy and Tim received the devastating news from Wendy's husband Lynn, that she died in the collapse of the World Trade Centers.

About three years prior to 9/11, the Faulkners left Camillus and moved to Ohio, but the two families remained in close correspondence.

The weekend before 9/11, Lynn had visited the Barstows while attending an antique car race at Watkins Glen International Speedway. Lynn left Central New York on Sunday to head back home, just as Wendy was leaving for New York City for a business meeting.



» Left to right: Tim and Kathy Barstow and Wendy and Lynn Faulkner

On the morning of 9/11, Kathy Barstow watched the devastation while working for the Solvay School District, but had no idea that her good friend Wendy was in the World Trade Centers.

The call came that night from Wendy's husband Lynn, explaining to the Barstows that Wendy was in a meeting at Aon's office in the World Trade Center, the company where she served as Vice President.

Wendy was "not the kind of person we need to lose," said Kathy. "She was very caring and very loving and concerned about people."

As Kathy watched President Barack Obama address the nation with the news that Osama Bin Laden had been killed, she ran upstairs to her husband, almost in disbelief that it could be true.

"Is this real?" Kathy remembered saying. When asked about the first thing that went through her mind after hearing about the death of Osama Bin Laden, Kathy responded with a single word.

"Finally." ■

“We're part of the neighborhood, so we want to contribute to the neighborhood...”

—Cindy Seymour

BY AMANDA WALTZ

Laci's: More Than Tapas

Those wanting to learn how to make it in the restaurant business might want to take a page from Laura Serway and Cindy Seymour's book.

With help from an active Facebook page and local radio stations like WAER 88.3 FM, their restaurant Laci's Tapas Bar in Syracuse has had a very successful first year, according to the owners.

This June, Laci's celebrates its one-year anniversary, and what better way to do so than to give back to the Hawley-Green District, the northside neighborhood where the restaurant is located. Though plans are still tentative, owners and staff hope to throw an anniversary party that would also serve as a fundraiser for the Northeast Hawley Development Association (NEHDA), a non-profit agency that assists first-time homebuyers in the area. Co-owner and head chef, Cindy Seymour, feels like it's the least they can do.

"We're part of the neighborhood, so we want to contribute to the neighborhood as well," said Seymour.

Seymour opened Laci's with her partner, Laura Serway, as a way to invest their money into something tangible. They attract customers with a rotating menu of fun fusion tapas plates, like gourmet mac 'n' cheese eggrolls and bacon wrapped dates, and a calendar of events that includes flamenco dance, a live jazz trio and tarot card readings. They also host special monthly wine dinners that offer patrons the chance to try new dishes paired with complementing vintners. The dinner for last May further demonstrated Laci's commitment to the community, as it featured all-natural, locally grown food.

Not only does Laci's strive to support the community, but it also gives op-



LACI'S TAPAS BAR
304 HAWLEY AVE.
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LACISTAPASBAR.COM

» Laura Serway, left, and her partner, Cindy Seymour.

portunities to young talent like manager, Christa Maier. With a business degree from Florida Southern College and some professional experience under her belt, the 25-year-old became involved in the project at the very beginning. After getting hired, she

immersed herself in cleaning and organizing the restaurant a month before opening. Though she is an experienced business manager, Laci's proved a new and rewarding venture for her.

"It's been a fun journey to learn and grow with the business," said Maier. ■

MONTHLY EVENTS:

First Fridays

6:30 to 9 p.m. Live Flamenco Dance Shows with troupe dance, Puente Flamenco.

Second Fridays

8 to 11 p.m. Live Jazz with the SGHO Jazz Trio.

Second Saturdays

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tarot card readings with the Tarot Trio.