



Chowders 'N Moor owners Tom and Tina Kuron enjoy their restaurant's new space. The restaurant moved two blocks from its old location to a larger site at 312 South St. in Waterville.

MIRROR PHOTOS BY NANCY GAGNET



The Chowders 'N Moor crew includes (from left) Melanie Nisely, Ryan Burdo, Jessica Rainey, Ashley Tonjes, Steve Hahn and Shirley Schaller.

Popular Waterville Restaurant Moves To Larger Location

BY NANCY GAGNET
MIRROR REPORTER

Serving up bowls of famous white chicken chili or clam chowder at Chowders 'N Moor just got bigger with the grand opening of its new location at 312 South St. in downtown Waterville.

Located just two blocks from the restaurant's previous site, the new location offers the same great service and food, but on a larger scale.

Stocked with a full wait staff and a full bar, the restaurant now has the ability to serve over 100 patrons, which is triple the size of its former seating capacity.

On a recent busy Tuesday afternoon, the lunch crowd shuffled throughout and



Chowders 'N Moor tripled its seating capacity in its new location at 312 South. in Waterville. The restaurant opened in downtown Waterville five years ago and has become popular for its selection of sandwiches, soups and salads.

filled the tall round tables and booths with patrons both young and old.

"My husband always asks, 'How many times have you been to Chowders this week?'"

laughed regular customer and stay-at-home mom Anne Bishop, who joined her friend Julie Morgan for lunch. "I love their coffee mocha; it's better than Starbucks."

"Really?" asked her friend, who said she loves the fact that it's a fun place to eat with great homemade soups.

Many regular customers are pleased with the larger

space. "The move was long overdue," remarked patron Norm Grey.

Since opening its doors in early January after receiving a total facelift both inside and out, the restaurant has been filled.

Owners Tom and Tina Kuron said they were overwhelmed by the public's response.

"It took off more than we expected. It was non-stop and crazy," Tom said.

"A good crazy," added Tina, who began serving customers five years ago when she first opened the restaurant.

"About 10 years ago I always said that all I wanted was a little coffee shop," she said with a laugh, as she looked around the large new space.

According to Tom, the restaurant serves 60 quarts of chicken chili on busy days, and people come from all over to have a taste of the famous recipe that Tina created in her kitchen.

She keeps the recipe a secret, while describing its special taste as "addictive."

One day the Kurons hope to package and sell the product in stores.

Tom attributes the restaurant's success to Tina and her cooking.

"The small restaurant that Tina created became so popular we were forced to find a larger location to offer more," he said.

Renovation at the new location began two months

ago in the building that once housed The General's Chop House.

It maintains the light and fun-filled nautical theme found in its old location, with brightly painted teal walls filled with maritime souvenirs, many of which were donated by devoted Chowders 'N Moor customers.

"It makes them a part of it," Tina said, adding that she is grateful to the customers. "I want to thank all of our customers for their support. I want to thank them for keeping us alive."

Many agree that the food keeps them coming back.

"The fact that I come here so often, and I've never eaten something that I haven't liked says something," Shawn Semer said.

Waterville Mayor Charles Peyton was enjoying lunch with the fire chief.

"I think they've done a magnificent job putting this together," Peyton said. "It's very nice and we're so happy for them that it's going good."

As Jimmy Buffet and other summer music resonates through the sound speakers, it's obvious that Chowders 'N Moor is a friendly neighborhood restaurant filled with life.

"When people come in here, everybody talks to everybody. They all know each other," Tom said.

The restaurant serves breakfast until 2:00 p.m. It offers homemade soups, sandwiches, salads, burgers and daily combo specials.

A children's menu and bar drinks are also available.

Private parties may reserve a special room at no additional charge.

Operating hours are Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

New menu items are coming soon, and carryout orders are available.

For additional information contact the restaurant at (419) 878-9105.

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