

# Old local Irish pub gets a new owner

*Timothy Baumer is selling his Timothy Patrick's Restaurant to his nephew, Phil Fiorella.*

By **AMY CAVALIER**

Messenger Post Staff

Seated next to one another, arms crossed across their broad chests, it's clear the two stocky Irishmen were cut from the same mold. Timothy Baumer and his nephew, Phil Fiorella, who's half-Italian, speak in a matter-of-fact fashion, without beating around the bush. With their dry humor, the two are a perfect match.

"There might have been some cookie cutter involved," Timothy Baumer says with a hearty laugh.

Baumer, 64, has run Timothy Patrick's Restaurant at 916 Panorama Trail since 1985. Fiorella, 34, graduated from St. John Fisher with a degree in business management, accounting and finance about 10 years ago. The Greece native has worked for his uncle's restaurant since he was in high school.

Fiorella says he's still waiting to graduate from the "TP Baumer school of management."

Soon, he will get his diploma. Timothy Patrick's closed its doors for about a week starting July 1. When it reopens on Monday, July 9, Fiorella will be the owner and the restaurant will be known as TP's Irish Restaurant and Sports Pub.

"Tim is one of those very rare people that when he tells you something and gives you his word, he actually follows through on it," says Fiorella. "I knew if I continued to grow and learn, that opportunity would someday show its face. And it has."

Baumer is handing over the reigns to his sister Maryann's son. Fiorella has worked for his uncle full-time for the past 10 years.

"He's getting the opportunity to take this over because he got it the old fashioned way," said Baumer. "He worked for it. There's no gift involved here whatsoever. He got it because



STAFF PHOTO/ CARRIE ANN GRIPPO

**Tim Baumer, right, of Webster, has sold his restaurant, Timothy Patrick's, to his nephew and general manager for the past 10 years, Phil Fiorella. The restaurant is closed until July 8, when it will reopen under a new name: TP's Irish Restaurant and Sports Pub.**

he worked his rear end off. Whatever it takes to get the job done, he does it."

Both men live in Webster. Fiorella has essentially been running the place, particularly when Baumer heads to Florida in the winter. There will be some changes with the new ownership, the two men say, but the jovial spirit and Irish feel of the pub will remain constant.

Raised in the "old Irish section of Rochester," the 19th Ward, Baumer designed the restaurant in 1984. At age 39, working as vice president of human resources at Bausch and Lomb, Baumer was looking for a "career switch." He decided to go into business for himself and spent a year and a half looking for the right location.

"I had three kids," he says. "It was a real gamble."

A Penfield resident at the time, he settled on the property on Panorama Trail. He said it was a good location because of it was easily accessible from the expressway and Paychex was building its headquarters right across the street. He spent three days in the Rundell Library looking for design inspiration.

"I pulled every book in the library off the shelf on Ireland

and leafed through them to find out what was the predominant look of the buildings there," he says.

Baumer settled on an "Irish cottage-look." The restaurant's stone walls are 24-inches thick, the gutters are copper, the doors, booths and tables are all hand-made, the roof is made of hand-split cedar and the floor is specially milled yellow pine.

A year after opening, to resolve an acoustic problem, he had 32 County Code of Arms banners hand-stitched in Dublin and mounted on the ceiling.

The restaurant will be getting some updates during the one-week hiatus. Five new flat-screen televisions and a dart board are being added.

Going along with the sports bar theme, Fiorella says, he plans to sponsor a number of adult sports teams and offer happy hour from 3 to 7 p.m. during the week.

Baumer says the place will still be upscale and classy with top-quality food, but Fiorella won't require the bartenders to wear vests and ties anymore.

"Everybody can't wait for me to walk out that door to rip off those ties," says Baumer, who can't wait to have a drink at the bar. He has upheld a personal

## The hours:

TP's Irish Restaurant and Sports Pub at 916 Panorama Trail will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Friday and from noon to 2 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

rule to not drink at Timothy Patrick's. He says he plans to be a customer and an "advisor" of TP's Irish Restaurant and Sports Pub. Fiorella jokes that he might let his uncle be the "parking lot attendant."

"That's what makes working together fun," Baumer said. "You never get too serious with yourself. We work our rear ends off."

Baumer was the best man in Fiorella's parents' wedding. He was also best man for his nephew's wedding.

"He's my uncle, he's my mentor and my best friend," said Fiorella. "Even if I didn't work for him, I'd be hanging out with him at a bar or doing something with him anyway."

*Amy Cavalier can be reached at (585) 394-0770, ext. 243, or at [acavalier@mpnewsletters.com](mailto:acavalier@mpnewsletters.com).*