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Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno Reopens Popular Moonachie Restaurant Closed Since Hurricane Sandy

Monday, January 07, 2013 Tags

Tags: Jobs and the Economy

Bazzarelli's Restaurant and Pizzeria Overcomes Flood Damage Thanks to Determination and Help from Local Businesses and Employees

Trenton, NJ – Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno today participated in the grand reopening of Moonachie's Bazzarelli's Restaurant and Pizzeria, which had been closed since October 29, after suffering extensive flood damage as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

Owned by Aldo Bazzarelli, the 42-year-old restaurant was able to open ahead of schedule thanks to support from local businesses and Bazzarelli's own employees, who responded quickly to help the restaurant recover.

"Bazzarelli's was determined to reopen its doors despite the devastating damage the restaurant suffered during the worst storm in New Jersey's history," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "For Moonachie, Little Ferry and other area towns, losing Bazzarelli's, which has been an active part of the community since opening in 1971, would have been a real blow. Today's reopening is a testament to the resiliency and strength of Bazzarelli's as well as how New Jerseyans came together to help a respected and cherished local business in its time of need."

Bazarelli's didn't think it would be able to reopen so soon, but the restaurant was able to get back on its feet thanks to the help and generosity of other local businesses and Bazzarelli's own employees.

"We worked about every day and received from some wonderful donations," said Denise Bazzarelli, Aldo's daughter. "M. Teixeira Soapstone of Hackensack donated new countertops, our bar, baseboard, shelves, and bathroom and installed everything before their paying customers. Our paint was donated by Palmar ACE Hardware in River Edge. They also arranged to have a designer come in to help us make the best color selections. Our staff called in soon after the storm and came down to help clean up. This is when cell phones weren't working and gas was in short supply. It was so amazing how many people come out to help you and how many people are there for you in times like this."

"Throughout the state, we've seen countless examples of neighbors, friends and strangers helping each other," continued the Lt. Governor. "Hurricane Sandy caused great destruction and pain for thousands of New Jerseyans, but it has also brought out wonderful examples of caring and compassion. Long after the damage from Hurricane Sandy has been repaired, what people will remember is how New Jerseyans came to the aid of their neighbors in a time of great need."

Businesses are encouraged to call the state's Business Action Center at 1-866-534-7789 for assistance and information on the many business advocacy services available through the state. Information is also available by visiting the state's business portal at www.newjerseybusiness.gov.

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