



## Owner of new restaurant excited about reception it's getting

### Newburyport City Notebook

Katie Farrell Lovett

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Loretta has arrived in Newburyport.

The new eatery on State Street, owned by Ted Epstein, the former owner of Sit 'n Bull Pub in Maynard, opened last Monday where Aquatini used to be.

Epstein said the reception by the city so far has been fantastic.

"We are really happy to be here," Epstein said. "The reception has been great. It's such a positive place to have a business."

He's also impressed with his staff, which includes local Newburyporters.

"The food coming out has exceeded my expectations," he said.

The menu is small, but ranges in variety with new specials each day. A sampling of the menu last week showed dishes like pulled pork sandwiches, filet mignon, scallops, ribs, burgers, eggplant casserole, mussels, roast turkey, trout and enchiladas.

With Epstein's best friend being a sports and movies memorabilia collector in New York City, Loretta sports some cool decor as well. Autographed photographs, posters and caricatures hang on the walls and will be rotated on a regular basis.

The images include Ted Williams, Humphrey Bogart, Cy Young, Michael Jordan, Peter Fonda and the 2007 Boston Red Sox World Series champions. The 2004 World Series champions signed a baseball jersey that is also hanging up.

Loretta serves lunch and dinner and is open from 11 a.m. to midnight, but the kitchen will close at 9 p.m. on weekdays and 10 p.m. on weekends. They also do catering and recently served the reception following Mayor Donna Holaday's inauguration.

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