

SUNLIFE

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THEY KNOW HOW TO WING IT

At Flyers Bar & Grille, wings are king, and you are sure to have a ball — literally.
Scoop du Jour, B2



Julia Stefanec, co-owner of Stefanec's Barber Shop, performs a hair cut on a young customer. The full-service barber shop recently opened in a renovated, larger location.

Customers wowed by look of barber shop

Business overlooks the Cleveland Metroparks at site of former service garage

By Kate Gluck
Correspondent

When people walk through the doors of the new Stefanec's Barber Shop, which opened roughly two weeks ago at 19227 Lorain Road, the reaction is "wow!"

"We get a lot of wows," said sibling co-owners Julia and David Stefanec.

"Wow" is a pretty accurate way to describe the shop, which in a year's time underwent a stunning transformation from a dilapidated former service garage turned builder's office to a gleaming, full-service barber shop with a wall of windows overlooking the Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Reservation.

The transformation is all that more remarkable in that the work was done almost entirely by the Stefanec family.

"My dad (Frank) and my brother did everything," said Julia, referring to the building, framing, roofing and finishing work. She said that they hired specialty contractors to handle the plumbing, heating, cooling and electrical work.

When the siblings purchased the old Bain Builders property a year ago, the structure was in such poor condition that it should probably have been condemned. It had a flat roof that she said was "threatening to cave in at any moment," Julia said.

This did not deter the Stefanec siblings, who said that they grew up in a family where everything was under construction all the time.

"My brother knew how to drive a bulldozer before he could drive a car," said Julia.

David laughed and said that not to be left out, while his father Frank was busy working on the house, he was out back building tree forts.



A formerly dilapidated building at 19227 Lorain Road in Fairview Park now houses Stefanec's Barber Shop.

"We have vision in our family," they said. "I think it is a sickness almost," said David of the need to constantly be building something.

Sickness or not, the ability to do the work themselves was what made the dramatic transformation possible.

"There is no way it would have been feasible financially to have contractors do all the work," said David.

"We saved thousands and thousands of dollars by doing it ourselves," said Julia.

The renovations went well beyond their initial expectations, Julia said.

After they got into the demolition portion of the project, one thing led to another until all that they had left, said Julia, was, "basically three and a half walls."

"Piece by piece, David Stefanec and his father Frank put the building back together. The elder Stefanec, who re-



Before Stefanec's Barber Shop opened its place, the Bain Builders structure was a former service garage.

tired from the barber business several years ago, had all day to work on the renovations. David worked on nights and weekends after putting in long hours at the existing barber shop that they were leasing a couple of doors down.

They started in from the ground up, replacing the concrete floor, tuck pointing the

See BARBER, B4

GO SEEK



This scene is somewhere in the Sun Herald area. If you know it, send your answer to editor Carol Kovach at ckovach@sunnews.com or Go Seek, c/o Sun Herald, 5510 Cloverleaf Parkway, Cleveland 44125. Entries must be received by noon Monday. Be sure to include your name and phone number with the entry. If sending by e-mail, mark Go Seek on the subject line. All correct entries will be listed in the following week's edition and entered in a monthly prize drawing.

The location of Go Seek last week was stone memorial at Bain Park in Fairview Park. Apparently this was one of the more challenging ones so far. Several entrants mistook the location for a cemetery in either North Olmsted or Fairview Park. Only a handful of readers correctly identified the location: Louise Sullivan, Michelle Kozminski, Shirley Marquard, Michelle Marquard, Kerry Sullivan and Ann DeCrane.

The winner of the June contest is Phyllis Rodwan. She will receive a gift certificate. The winner of the July contest will be announced on Aug. 6.

A PLACE IN THE SUN

Puppet show and programs explore world of pollination

Investigate the special world of pollination and pollinators at the programs offered the weekend of July 11-12 at the Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Reservation, 24000 Valley Parkway in North Olmsted.

The Trailside Puppeteers will give a pollinator power puppet show from 10:30-11 a.m. and 12:30-1 p.m. July 11 and 12.

The Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association will give participants of a view of live bees in a glass hive from 11 a.m. to noon and 3-4 p.m. July 11 and July 12.

Pollinators are disappearing from the landscape. Come and learn how to save them by planting a flower garden to attract winged wonders from 1-2 p.m. July 12.

Join naturalist Bethany Majeski for a half-mile pollinators walk and talk from 2-3 p.m. July 12.

Majeski will also conduct the P.M. Pollinators program



Carolyn Steigman

that will include a 1½-mile hike to look for moths and other nighttime insects. Bring a flashlight. The program will be from 8-9:30 p.m. July 11.

The weekend programs will conclude with a one mile Pollinators Power Hike to seek out the hardest workers in nature from 9-10:30 a.m. July 12.

For information, call (440) 734-6660 or visit the Web site at clevelandmetroparks.com.

HOME AND GARDEN — Enjoy an intimate tour of three beautiful homes and nine of the finest private gardens in Fairview Park on the Beyond the Garden Gate home and garden tour, sponsored by the Fairview Park Garden Club.

The tours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 11. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 day of the tour.

Also featured on the tour will be the Emerald Necklace Inn and the historic Bain

See PUPPET, B3



The Stefanec family, including Frank, pictured, father of co-owners Julia and David Stefanec, performed most of the renovations for the opening of Stefanec's Barber Shop.

BARBER

From B1

brick, adding a wall of windows to the southern wall of the building overlooking the park, replacing the flat roof with a gabled one, adding columns to the front, tiling, painting and doing the finishing work indoors.

A great deal of thought went into everything they did.

"Every little thing that you take for granted was seriously thought of and put through the wringer," said Julia.

Their family background helped — for if building is the family hobby, the barber shop

business is the family profession.

"Since we have five shops in the family, we took what we liked out of every shop and what we didn't like out of every shop. We had the benefit of picking and choosing what works and what doesn't work and putting it together," Julia said.

The extended Stefanec family owns four additional shops in Greater Cleveland — two downtown, one in North Ridgeville and one in North Royalton. According to Julia, there are 21 barbers in the family. It is a second generation business, but, she said, some of her cousin's children are talking about

going to barber college, so in the next couple of years things could very well extend to the third generation.

"I expect to retire out of here," said David. "That is why we put the effort into this building to make it as comfortable as we can. This is our second home. It is a joy to come to work now."

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