

Photo **continued from B1**

A total of 20 awards, adding up to about \$1,000, will be presented in each division and category, including best of show.

An opening reception and winner's awards reception will be held 6-8 p.m. April 17 at the Solon Community Center and is free and open to the public.

The best of show and category winners will move on to the host galleries and will be displayed in Solon or the Beck Center.

Community Choice photo winners will be displayed at local libraries of each partnering community.

In addition to the category winners, the judges will also select photos to be exhibited at the host galleries from April 20 through the closing receptions, which are held in late May.

The majority of the photos are for sale to the public, Ms. Klein noted, and many people come to the show to find something to put in their homes or offices.

Pancake breakfasts

Burton-Middlefield Rotary Club, Berkshire High School, 14510 N. Cheshire St., Burton: Sundays, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. March 2-29. Includes Geauga County maple syrup. Cost: \$8 adults, \$5 ages 4-10; omelet extra \$3.

VFW Chardon Post 6519, 752 Water St. (Route 6), Chardon: Sundays, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., through March 29. All-you-can-eat pancakes in plain, blueberry and apple. Also home fries, French toast, eggs, bacon, ham, sausage and real maple syrup.

Auburn Volunteer Fire Department, 10950 E. Washington St., Auburn: Sundays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. March 1. All-you-can-eat pancakes in buttermilk, blueberry and buckwheat, sausage and beverages include firehouse coffee, tea and orange juice. Cost: \$7 adults, \$6 seniors, \$5 children. Call: 440-343-0064.

Paris **continued from B1**

brick walls. Colorful fabrics cover the antique church pew banquettes.

There are family heirlooms, art and memorabilia. A large vintage dresser snagged from the inventory of the Re-Store shop in Newbury is prominently displayed behind the bar and used for storage.

It is the end result of what Ms. McSherry said she saw in her head the first time she laid eyes on the space.

That came about through her hair stylist Bob Maenza, who after listening to stories of her search for the right spot, advised her to check in with Larry Shibley who owns real estate in the area and recently renovated the Davidian building.

She did just that. One of the first things she did was to have the outside of the building painted yellow. While it was not exactly the shade of yellow she envisioned, it was bright and caused a bit of lively conversation in town.

It was a blessing in disguise, Ms. McSherry said. Those not familiar with the village would have had a problem finding the new restaurant based on its official address at 7 N. Franklin St.

The Paris Room seats 34 in the dining room and 10 in the bar and is open 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. Harry Bacharach plays piano 6-9 p.m. Thursdays. On weekends, the plan is to turn the dining room into a "music joint" after dinner service, and offer a late-night menu. "Private Club Mondays" will be available for business or private parties with customized food and wine menus.

For more information, call 440-247-0444.

The space that the restaurant now occupies recently served as a storeroom for the Davidian Oriental rug business and, ironically enough, was home to Paris Tailoring before that.

Paris Room backstory

Ms. McSherry, who was raised in Chagrin Falls, chose a French theme of her restaurants for sentimental reasons and happy childhood memories.

When she was around age 8 or 9, her parents – Virginia and Bill McSherry – would treat her

to dinner at some of Cleveland's best restaurants, while her high school- and college-aged siblings had other things to do. One of her favorite spots was Jack Schindler's Au Pere Jacques in Moreland Hills where Julia Child visited when she was in Cleveland.

Ms. McSherry recalled that Mr. Schindler would put patrons at ease by telling them "don't worry ... we don't speak French and we don't understand French."

Later, she would earn her restaurant chops working at the former Au Provence in Cleveland and two French restaurants in Lexington, Ky. She would go on to own and operate her first eatery, Café Madame Springs, in the heart of downtown Cincinnati.

Even before that, while in college, she and her friend Kathleen Vild Rogers started Sandwich Best Sellers during summer breaks, a lunchtime sandwich service which delivered to businesses in downtown Chagrin Falls and nearby areas. The summer business sold 150 to 200 sandwiches a day.

It takes a village

About 20 years ago, Ms. McSherry took a break from the restaurant business and returned home to Chagrin Falls to follow her other career goal of becoming a writer taking a job as a reporter for the Chagrin Valley Times.

Along the way, a dear friend became seriously ill and the fragility of life served as her wake up call. Owning a restaurant has been an ongoing dream for years, she said. She remembers lying in bed at night dreaming up menus for the mythical place that existed only in her head.

Ms. McSherry continued to work at the newspaper until August when she left to begin work on the Paris Room with the help of friends and family members who "just started coming out of the woodwork to help."

That included her husband Anthony McLorg and their 18-year-old son Skylar

who is now helping out at the Paris Room.

He has programmed the restaurant's point of sale computer system. Last summer during restoration, he helped lay a limestone threshold and continues to pitch in where needed on an almost daily basis, his parents noted.

Mr. McLorg, a registered architect, designer on the project and problem solver of the family, did most of the carpentry work which meant re-configuring the antique church pews turned banquettes and building the bar from scratch.

"He is not just an investor, but did so much of the hard labor," Ms. McSherry said of her husband. "He is my dream maker and believed in this from the very start."

There have been so many friends and family members who have helped along the way, she added, beginning with retired Pepper Pike Mayor Bruce Akers, who offered his business experience to the project and continued to serve as Ms. McSherry's mentor and advocate.

Her brother James McSherry, who owns a Chagrin Falls law practice, stepped up with legal services. He has also promised to volunteer as bartender when needed.

Brother Billy McSherry, also of Chagrin Falls and at one time manager of the Nighttown restaurant in Cleveland Heights, and his wife Kathy have given both business guidance and moral support while Ms. McSherry's sister Betsy serves as official Paris Room Facebook page cheerleader from her home in Wisconsin.

Friends Deborah Nicholl, owner of a Chagrin Falls interior design business, chose the perfect fabric for the restaurant's chairs and banquettes and Jessica Schickel Vild and Carie Tirabasso of the Upholstery Shop, put it all together for comfy seating. Handywoman and one-time theatrical set designer April Mapes orchestrated the limestone installation, painted, varnished and took on dozens of odd jobs inside and out.



Chagrin Valley RESTAURANT WEEK

February 23 - March 1, 2015

Two Grand Prizes:
Eat out 1 day a month for a year!
 (\$600.00 Value)
Win 12 - \$50 gift certificates

Don't forget to save your receipt!

How to enter: Visit a participating restaurant during restaurant week, go to cvcc.org to take the survey and you're entered.


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 Woodmere • Grove Hill • ML Tavern •
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Monday <i>One buttermilk pancake</i>\$1.55	<i>Grilled cheese & cup of tomato soup</i>\$5.00
Tuesday <i>*One egg with toast</i>\$2.19	<i>Hand sliced lean brisket of beef sandwich</i>\$5.00
Wednesday <i>Mini cheese omelet with toast</i>\$2.59	<i>*½ lb. K.O. burger</i>\$5.00
Thursday <i>Toast, bagel, or English muffin</i>\$1.00	<i>Hot Vienna lean corned beef sandwich</i>\$5.00
Friday <i>Cup of oatmeal</i>\$1.79	<i>Grilled beef bologna slab sandwich</i>\$5.00

16 NO MAIN ST. CHAGRIN FALLS • MONDAY—SATURDAY 7:00 TO 2:00 SUNDAY—7:30 TO 2:00

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