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A New Era in a Neptune City Family Restaurant Legacy

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Patrick's Bar and Grille in Neptune City has a new look.

If you've been in Patrick's Bar and Grille in Neptune City this summer, or even just driven by on Route 35 and S. Wall Street, you may have noticed some changes – new signs with a new logo outside and new specials inside on the menu.

The restaurant is now featuring Lobster Night on Tuesdays (in addition to the longstanding Prime Rib Night on Wednesdays) and some new menu items to go along with favorites that have brought customers back in the door time and again.

These initiatives are the work of Patrick Fitzsimmons and Kevin Sheehan, who stepped into ownership of Patrick's Grille in the spring.

But to answer any questions: Patrick's Bar and Grille is still a family affair. Patrick has been in the business since childhood, working with his parents from La Cantina to Patrick's Pub to Brennen's Steakhouse before he was with the Grille. And Kevin Sheehan is no stranger to the building: he was the opening manager for Brennen's Steakhouse (the current location of Patrick's Grille) and served in that capacity for five years.

Now Patrick's parents, Maura and Kevin Fitzsimmons, are enjoying a well-earned retirement, Patrick and Kevin Sheehan have formed an intergenerational partnership to keep the venture going, marking a new era in this storied family restaurant legacy.

The bar's roots go back nearly 30 years. Patrick learned the restaurant trade first-hand from family and co-workers, several of whom have been with the Fitzsimmons family from the start and are still behind the bar or on the floor.

Patrick's Bar and Grille is the kind of place where generations mix easily, where workers come in for a quick lunch and where a person coming in alone can feel immediately at ease.

As an Ocean Grove resident in her 70s recently said, "Patrick's (and Brennen's before that) is the place I feel comfortable going to on my own for a nice dinner and drink at the bar.

"Whether you are a familiar face at the bar or a newcomer," Fitzsimmons said, "you will be greeted with the warm welcome that Kevin Sheehan, myself, and our staff extend to our customers."

"We've always believed in delivering a sense of value and belonging to every guest who walks through our doors, and we thank our customers for being part of the Patrick's family," Sheehan said. "We're excited about this new partnership and we look forward to serving the Jersey shore for many years to come."