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Newfane's Four Columns Inn reopens

Special to the Reformer

POSTED: 08/26/2015 09:14:33 AM EDT
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NEWFANE >> Since 1965 The Four Columns Inn has been the touch point of southern Vermont's cultural, artistic and culinary scene.

The Inn and its restaurant have welcomed local and international luminaries such as Mick Jagger, Michael Douglas and Sting, who chose Four Columns to celebrate milestone events with friends and family. Economist and Newfane weekend resident John Kenneth Galbraith frequently shared the dining room with Henry Kissinger and other Statesmen throughout the years.

Sustainability and luxurious healthy living has always been at the core of the Four Columns. In 1965, when the Inn was first opened as a guesthouse, it was imagined as a top level lodging and dining destination. Operated by Rene and Pierrette Chardain, the Four Columns was the first Farm-to-Table restaurant in the United States, preceding the legendary Alice Waters by four years. The pond was stocked with trout, the garden with vegetables and herbs, chickens and pigs were raised onsite and game birds were sourced from local hunters. The Inn became a top-notch national destination.

The Chardains sold the Inn in 1981, and loyal patrons were heartbroken when after changing owners several times, the Four Columns Inn closed its doors nearly two years ago.



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Charles Mallory, Founder and CEO of the Delamar Hotels in Connecticut, saw an opportunity to restore what he refers to as "a treasure we couldn't lose." Consulting with Chef Frederic Kieffer he decided to reopen Four Columns by pairing it with Artisan Restaurant, Tavern and Garden, with a continued commitment to support sustainable practices. The new restaurant is the second of an Artisan trilogy. The flagship is located at Delamar Southport and the third will anchor the Delamar West Harford (opening in late 2016).

For the past year, renovations have been underway giving it a contemporary new look while preserving its peaceful Vermont roots.

"We wanted to maintain all that people loved about Four Columns and have taken great care to further enhance their experience," said Mallory.

To complete the renovation, a wellness center and spa was added with a European style steam room and a fully stocked gym that complimented the outdoor pool. Hiking and snow shoe trails traverse the 138 acres.

The Inn's extensive art collection was curated by Diane Birdsall of Old Lyme, Conn., and is comprised primarily of works from local New England artists. All guestrooms feature unique and original works from regional artists.

In addition, Mallory purchased a corporate membership to the private Hermitage Resort affording guests of Four Columns access when available.

Details on rates, activities, menus, the historic buildings of Four Columns and more can be found at www.FourColumnsVT.com (<http://www.FourColumnsVT.com>).

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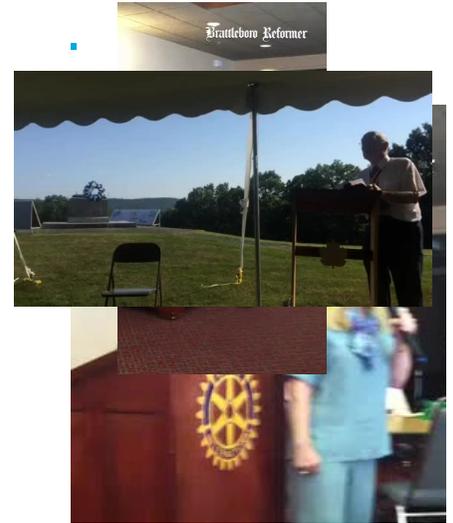
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