

Lulu's Pub opens at Downtown Bazaar



Joseph Joy, owner of Lulu's Pub.

Joshua Bessex/Buffalo News

The Downtown Bazaar has food from around the world, and now it also has international beer, wine and cider to go with it.

Lulu's Pub has opened at the Downtown Bazaar in the former Expo Market food hall at 617 Main St. It is still determining its official grand opening date, but will hold a friends and family event as a "stress test" at the end of the month, according to owner Joseph Joy.

It has 24 beer taps featuring local craft brews, a wine list that highlights organic and biodynamic wine and a hand-selected menu of hard ciders.

Lulu's is named for Joy's daughter, Lucia.

The 51-foot bar is surrounded by five restaurants: **Abyssinia Ethiopian Cuisine**, South Sudanese **Nile River Restaurant**, traditional Mexican restaurant **Oralia**, Filipino restaurant **Pinoy Boi** and **Pattaya Street Food**, which serves Burmese and Thai street food. Joy plans to offer drink pairings that complement the diverse cuisine at the Bazaar.

The bar itself seats 20, with seating for 60 more in the shared dining area, as well as in an outdoor seating area.

The pub will hold special appreciation days with food and drink specials to benefit honored groups such as teachers, first responders, nonprofits and nurses.

Lulu's Pub donates 5% of its sales to WEDI.

The Downtown Bazaar is a business incubator for food startups from the **Westminster Economic Development Initiative**.

The Westside Bazaar on Grant Street closed in September after a **devastating fire** tore through the building. It is in the process of rebuilding at 1432 Niagara St., and expects to reopen in the fall.

At the Bazaars, entrepreneurs receive one-on-one coaching and business plan development, access to capital and markets, workshops, training and educational resources, a shared commercial kitchen, subsidized rent, marketing and sales support, professional business mentorship and business services.