DETOUR AHEAD I-395 TO SHUT DOWN FOR CONSTRUCTION **PAGE 4**

Greater Bangor's Weekly Community News Source

The Weekly

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Reported by Emily Burnham

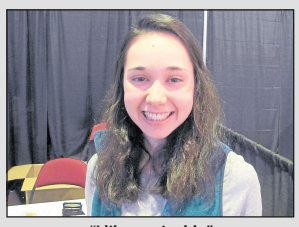
THE WEEKLY QUESTION

Reported at BDN Garden Show at Cross Insurance Center

"What is your favorite flower?"

"Forget-me-nots."
ROSE CHELLIS, HAMPDEN

"Lilies."
LILY CHELLIS, HAMPDEN



"I like marigolds."
ANNALYSE NICHOLS, BANGOR

"I like daisies."
PAGE CADORETTE, BANGOR

"Sunflowers."
ABBY CADORETTE, BANGOR

"Lupine."
BEN SIMS, APPLETON

Bacon Tree restaurant opening at new Winterport location, Pairings to close

BY EMILY BURNHAM
THE WEEKLY STAFF

PHOTO COURTESY THE BACON TREE

Leslie Wilson hangs a sign in front of the new location of her restaurant, The Bacon Tree, which is reopening in the same building as Penobscot Bay Brewery and Winterport Winery.

It was a true stroke of luck that both Leslie and David Wilson, owners of The Bacon Tree restaurant in Winterport, and Mike and Joan Anderson, owners of Winterport Winery and Penobscot Bay Brewery, also in Winterport, had very similar thoughts at almost exactly the same time.

That's the very short story of why The Bacon Tree will move from its old Main Street location into the same building as the Anderson's businesses, and why Pairings, the restaurant and cooking school formerly located in that building, will close.

The Wilsons, who have been cooking up gourmet comfort food and wildly popular breakfast and brunches at their Main Street eatery since 2011, knew they were outgrowing their tiny space at 111 Main St., which could seat less than 40 people. They had to turn people away every weekend.

"We were seeing a decline in people wanting to wait 45 minutes to be seated," said Leslie Wilson. "Also, the demand for the Friday night dinner had us thinking of opening at least one more night in our current location. Our lunch menu was great and we did have a following, but with our limited kitchen space it was very difficult to do both."

The very same week that Leslie and David had that conversation, the Andersons approached them with their idea. The Andersons had already been mulling over the future of the spacious kitchen and dining room that takes up a large percentage of their prominent downtown Winterport building — Pairings, which offers classes and special culinary events regularly, was just utilizing the space to the extent the couple believed it could be.

"We went back and forth for a long time about what could go in there — something complimentary to our winery and brewery, which is already established and successful," said Joan Anderson. "Finally, someone suggested The Bacon Tree, who were already bursting at the seams in their little place. It wasn't until mid-March that Mike approached them. Leslie said they didn't sleep for a week after we asked them, they were so excited."

"It was divine intervention," said David Wilson. "We'll get to

See BACON, Page 2

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