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that have been with us since day one," Boylan said. "A year later, they are still showing up on a regular basis. They've kind of taken us in and made us feel like part of the community. I can't say how much that means to not only the restaurant, but to my family and me. We've made some really great new friends."

"The plans are to keep attempting to move forward, changing and doing whatever we have to do without sacrificing quality to make the dining experience fun and affordable," Boylan said.

Bill Kammerer, who opened the former CuVenee in the Dallas Shopping Center along with his wife, Christine Mazza-Kammerer, on December 1, 2007, says he also dealt with rumors of closing long before the couple shut down their business on October 4.

CuVenee experienced much success during the first few There was even a date. We didn't

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JONATHAN J. JUKA/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

The CuVenee Restaurant & Bar

several months before it closed

by rumors that the restaurant

months it was open. Kammerer

says he and his staff frequently

turned people away in the winter

season because every table and

every seat at the bar were full. The business held christenings,

showers and even wine dinners.

tually fantastic," Kammerer said. "Business was great. Come

around June and the summer

months, it slowed down as expected. That's when the rumors

started that we were closing.

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"Our first few months were ac-

in the Dallas Shopping Center

recently closed its doors. Its

owners had been dogged for

was going out of business.

until two weeks before we did. It's something I didn't foresee."

THE DALLAS POST

rumors to a local restaurant owner who said there was a misunderstanding because of a "For Lease" sign in a neighboring window to CuVenee. But the rumors didn't cease.

and a poor economy forced the in December. Kammerers to close CuVenee.

to maintain a small local restau- after owner Dominic Castrigna- they would refinance us in the never do it again."

Kammerer now works at Ruth's Chris Steak House at Mo- \$1,000,000 in renovations," Cas-

think about going out of business "One of our biggest challenges has been for the past several months, we've been fighting this ter-Kammerer says he tracked the rible rumor that we're going to close. I've never experienced anything like this."

> Kevin Boylan Thirty-One Lake Street

A combination of the rumors expecting their first child, a girl, business was very good. The ren-

"It's really become impossible veys Lake closed on September 5 tol. The banks at the time told us rant," Kammerer said. "I would not could not get a bank to refi- spring of '08 once we had the new nance his loan.

"We had done close to would refinance it."

ovations were done by private in-Dominic's On The Lake at Har- vestors along with my own capiappraisals done. But no bank

hegan Sun. He and his wife are trignano said. "Our first year in On The Lake, the former Da-loan.

mien's, in March 2007. He feels the sluggish economy contributed to the downfall of his restaurant because banks aren't lending money as easily. Also, many of his former customers have been hit hard not only by the economy, but by Luzerne County's property tax reassessment.

'The hardest hit area was th Harveys Lake area which put a huge burden on the restaurant, not only because people didn't want to drive to Harveys Lake, but because even people in Harveys Lake didn't go out to din-

Castrignano hopes to re-open



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ner," Castrignano said. Castrignano opened Dominic's his restaurant if he can obtain a

Sunday, December 14, 2008

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