

NORTHERN LIBERTIES

Business Improvement District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAMED DMITRI'S RESTAURANT TO REOPEN IN NORTHERN LIBERTIES **Property owner refurbished location with support of** **Business Improvement District**

Philadelphia, PA – January 3, 2020 – The Northern Liberties Business Improvement District congratulates the Daskal family and Dmitri Chimes on their collaboration to revitalize the property at the corner of North Second Street and West Laurel Street and to reopen the perennially popular Dmitri's restaurant.

When Mr. Chimes closed his Greek restaurant in Northern Liberties in October 2019, he wasn't sure if it would re-open. The building on North Second Street was in need of refurbishment, and the interior was dated. He subsequently shut his outpost in South Philly due to personnel changes, and, after 30 year in the business, had no operating restaurants.

The presence of the Northern Liberties Business Improvement District, founded in 2018, made a difference in what happened next. One of the most important ways BIDs and Community Development Corporations lift up their neighborhoods is by making neighborhood business owners aware of available programs and helping them through the application process. Not wanting to lose good tenants, the Daskals applied for and received a Storefront Improvement Grant from the City of Philadelphia Commerce Department. The grant, of up to \$15,000, was distributed through the BID to renovate the façade of the building and install lighting that brightens up the corner.

"I saw that the property owner was serious about keeping the restaurant going, and I decided to redesign the dining room and keep serving my customers in Northern Liberties," **said Mr. Chimes**. "I'm excited about offering customers the dishes they love in a fresh environment."

“Dmitri’s is a beloved Philadelphia institution,” said **Kristine Kennedy, Executive Director of the Northern Liberties BID**. “The Commerce Department grant gave us the opportunity to respond to the concerns of our members about the building’s façade, to add amenities like lighting, and to keep Northern Liberties as a destination for great Greek food.”

Dmitri’s, located at 944 Second Street (corner of near West Laurel St.), is scheduled to re-open on Friday, January 10. Updated hours of operation and menu will be posted online, see <http://www.dmitrisrestaurant.com/2nd.html>

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The Northern Liberties Business Improvement District was formed in 2018 to provide supplements to the municipal services of the City of Philadelphia; maintain a safe, clean and vibrant commercial district for the benefit of the residents, users, and owners within the district, and to citizens of Philadelphia and the region; to create opportunities for the business and residential communities to come together to make improvements to the district; and develop and implement programs and services that ensure that Northern Liberties continues to be a desirable place to live, work, shop, invest and visit. For more information, see explorenorthernliberties.org.