

CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA  
*Office of Economic Development*

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For Immediate Release

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~ Jake's On Main To Open Downtown~

DANVILLE – Jake and Connie Eckman announced plans today to open Jake's on Main, an upscale bar and restaurant, in the former Purple Onion space located at 215 Main Street in the heart of the Downtown Historic District. The new restaurant plans to open mid-March and will offer a trendy, fun place to have great food in a social environment.

The couple, originally from Mt. Laurel, NJ, moved to Danville four years ago because the architecture of the City and of the houses provided them with a great opportunity to realize a life-long dream of opening a bed and breakfast. In 2007, Jake and Connie opened The II Georges Inn on Broad Street in the Holbrook-Ross Historic District. The Inn's operations will not be affected by the opening of Jake's on Main.

Jake's on Main, the couple's second venture, will serve upscale American food along with a large assortment of high end microbrews, wines and spirits. An emphasis on fresh and healthy ingredients is based on Jake's on Main's dedication to serve fare that is not associated with any "chain restaurant" menus. Additionally, the restaurant will procure local foods when possible, assuring the freshest ingredients and helping to sustain the farmers located in the Dan River region. "As Downtown Danville is redeveloping, we can see that a unique dining establishment like Jake's is needed," commented the Eckmans. "We have realized through the dinners we have served at the Inn that people in town and visitors alike are very interested in something that is different and new. Fresh ingredients, a unique menu and atmosphere and great service all combine to give guests an experience they will always remember."

Working with the City of Danville Office of Economic Development, the Eckmans qualified for a Downtown Danville Enhancement Grant (DDEG). The DDEG is a new program designed to assist new businesses in targeted sectors with upfront costs when locating within the Downtown and Tobacco Warehouse Historic Districts. Project Manager Anne Moore-Sparks added, “I am extremely excited that Jake and Connie have chosen downtown as the home for their second location. The Eckmans are a great team in that they combine experience, creativity and the skill sets necessary to operate a successful restaurant.”

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Jake’s on Main will be open Wednesday through Friday from 4:00pm until 10:00pm and Saturday and Sunday from 2:00pm until 10:00pm. The menu will feature appetizers (\$6 - \$10), entrees/sandwiches (\$8-\$22) and desserts (\$5-\$7). Outdoor seating will be offered during the spring, summer and fall. The public is encouraged to follow the restaurant’s progress on Facebook.