



## Chamber welcomes new restaurant owners to Elkader

The Elkader Area Chamber of Commerce this past week welcomed Frederique Boudouani (right) and Brian Bruening, new owners of the former Keystone Eatery and Spirits bar and restaurant in downtown Elkader. The new name of the eating establishment is "Schera's." Representing the chamber at the welcoming ceremony was Claire Wright (center) a member of the chamber's board of directors. The new owners were presented with gifts as they were welcomed to the Elkader business community. Here, the three sit in the bar area of Schera's.

## New owners take possession of the Keystone restaurant in Elkader; New name is Schera's

**By Joleen Jansen  
Register Writer**

Frederique Boudouani and Brian Bruening recently acquired the landmark eatery located in downtown Elkader, at the corner of Bridge and Main St. formerly known as the Keystone Restaurant. In doing so, the men and the restaurant are about to embark on a new journey and their new business will have a new name. It is "Schera's".

Frederique Boudouani is of French and Algerian heritage. His father was a diplomat with the United Nations, and so he has lived around the world.

He earned a PhD in Computer Engineering from M.I.T. Until recently, Frederique has worked in freelance web design and as a computer services consultant.

Brian Bruening was born and raised in New Hampton, IA. After obtaining a Master

in Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from Emerson College in Boston, he has worked for the past seven years in college admissions.

Because of Frederique's Algerian roots and Elkader's connection to Algeria through its namesake, Abelkader, the duo had a natural affinity to the area.

"We were originally interested in Elkader because of the town's name," explains Bruening, noting that Abdelkader is the "George Washington" of Algeria.

"But we ultimately decided to settle here because of the people and their involvement in the success of their community."

Operating a restaurant was such a stretch for the two men because they have always loved to cook and even did some catering work in the Boston area.

In mid January the new owners of Schera's will unveil their new combined menu, featuring local favorites and North

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# New name of Elkader's former Keystone restaurant is "Schera's"

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African dishes. They also will offer a special lunch menu for working people so that they can get their food faster.

The grand re-opening is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 20th. The new owners will close the restaurant from December 24th to December 30th for renovations and will reopen on December 31st for a gala New Year's Eve party.

The new Schera's and the Elkader Cinema have teamed up for a unique "Shaken Not

Stirred," New Year's Eve Celebration. The two businesses are extending an invitation to view one of the three December 31st showings at 3 p.m., 6 p.m and 9 p.m. of Casino Royale at the Elkader Cinema.

At the movie, party attendees will pick up a playing card to be used to form a poker hand at Schera's at midnight. The group with the best poker hand will be awarded a host of prizes from both businesses. Partygoers are invited to dine at Schera's and sample the Al-

gerian dishes before the showings of Casino Royale and then to return to the bar for the New Year's Eve party. Customers can expect a unique menu and a great "Absolute Martini" deal.

Brian and Frederique have also established winter hours for their new venture. Beginning January 2nd Schera's will be open for lunch Monday through Friday from 11 a.m to 2:30 p.m. Dinner hours will be 5:30 to 8 pm, Wednesday and Thursday and 5:30 p.m. to

9:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

The eatery will be closed on Sundays though the new owners plan to offer a Sunday Brunch beginning in the spring. The bar will be open 4 to 9p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays and 4 to 11 p.m. or later on Friday and Saturday nights.

