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Poppy's Café Celebrates 20th Anniversary

Recipe for Success—Home Style Cooking, Friendly Faces and Attitude

RYE, NY -- On August 23, 2005 — Poppy's Café will open its doors to the public as usual, but this particular day happens to be an extraordinarily special one to the owner and staff of the popular local café. This day marks the 20th anniversary of Poppy's Café's induction in the town of Rye.

In a community where local businesses are struggling for survival, Poppy's steady stream of "regulars" has catapulted the eatery into its 20th year of business. Poppy's remains one of a handful of successful Mom and Pop businesses to endure lackluster economies and sharp rent increases.

Formerly Gallery Café, located at 27 Purchase Street in Rye, Poppy's was established in 1985 by father and daughter team Robert "Poppy" Chapterlane and Geraldine "Gerri" Piovesan. Piovesan began working in Rye at the Baskin & Robbins owned by her mother, Hilda Chapterlane, along with her aunt, Irmi Buxeder on Purchase Street and quickly learned how to run a first-rate business in a small community. Established in 1964 by hardworking sisters Hilda and Irmi, Baskin & Robbins had a successful 20 year run, as well.

Years before the Gap and Sam Goody opened and years after many other small businesses went out, its bright red canopy and New York Yankees flag still stand in Rye to meet and greet local patrons which include the local cast of characters, firemen, police officers, business men and women, and even celebrities. In addition, members of the New York Yankees and New York Rangers have made more than one appearance at the Café.

"It seems as if our family has been always been a part of Rye and the local community. Our customers are our friends and our friends are our customers," says Gerri Piovesan.

Poppy's will pay homage to its loyal customers and community by rolling back the price of its famous breakfast special from \$7.50 to \$3.95, the same price it started at in 1985, for this special anniversary week.

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About Poppy's Café

Poppy's Café located at 27 Purchase Street in Rye first opened its doors in 1985. Its owners, Gerri Piovesan and Robert Chapterlane, were a father-daughter combination which quickly drew in customers with their charming demeanor and "get it yourself" attitude. Gerri, the sole owner since 1991, has lived and/or worked in Rye her entire life. Robert "Poppy" Chapterlane, the restaurant's namesake, grew up in Rye, went to Rye City Schools and was a Rye Police officer. Poppy passed away in 1996.

Poppy's Café has been in business for more than 28 years. Prior to owning Poppy's. Gerri Piovesan worked in Rye at Baskin & Robbins (now Subway), which was owned by her mother, Hilda Chapterlane and her aunt, Irmi Buxeder, just a few doors down from the café on Purchase Street and quickly learned how to run a first-rate business in a small community. Established in 1964 by hardworking sisters Hilda and Irmi, Baskin & Robbins had a successful 20 year run in Rye. Poppy's Café has continued that tradition to this day.

For more information about Poppy's Café – call 914-967-1544 or visit www.poppyscafe.com

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