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SLOWLY IT TURNED

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TINTON FALLS: The historic restaurant and bar located on the banks of Tinton Falls known for the past two decades as “The Grist Mill,” has been sold according to ***Richard R. Santore of, Bielat Santore & Company, Allenhurst, New Jersey***, the broker for the sale. The Grist Mill has been a landmark restaurant perched at the intersection of Route 537 and Shrewsbury Avenue in Tinton Falls, New Jersey for many years. It was a part of the “Eastern Innkeepers” original group of restaurants which at one time included “The Grist Mill” in Tinton Falls, “The Pour House” in Shrewsbury, “The Sitting Duck” in Long Branch, and “Main Street USA” in Ocean Township.

After many years of success, only “The Pour House” and “Sitting Duck” remain under earlier management. “Main Street USA” was sold to an independent operator two years ago and “The Grist Mill” has been sold to a local developer. The restaurant will undergo extensive renovations and will reopen in early December with a new look, a new concept and menu and a new name, “The Falls,” according to ***Santore***.

However, the new owner has far bigger plans for the two and one-half acre property located on the banks of the Tinton Falls. “Besides providing an exceptional restaurant experience, I am looking forward to building a unique shopping village along the lines of those you might find in Cape May or Smithville, New Jersey. Several small distinctive shops all connected by a cobblestone walkway, providing goods and services one may not find in the larger retail stores and malls,” states the new owner.

The objective is to create a destination for people to shop, eat and drink and spend the day overlooking the beautiful scenery at the falls. Just the sound of the water continuously rushing over the huge rocks and boulders behind the restaurant and to-be-constructed shopping village, provides a mesmerizing atmosphere that will hopefully attract those who choose not to struggle with the crowds, parking and highways of shopping elsewhere.

“The Falls” restaurant will open soon for both lunch and dinner, but the “Village” is a project that will require township approval and is projected to become a reality in 2010 at best. Until then you can still gaze out upon the falls from any seat in the restaurant through the large glass panel windows that encase the entire rear of the building.