



Muddy Waters Oyster Bar to open in East Liberty late fall

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By Melissa McCart / Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Greensburg chef Adam Kucenic will open Muddy Waters Oyster Bar at 130 South Highland Avenue by the fall, in the space that had been occupied by Casa Rasta, which closed last month.

Las Palmas, which had a taco stand outside of the former IGA supermarket in Beechview, took over the original Casa Rasta location about a month ago.

Mr. Kucenic, a Greensburg native, will offer farm-raised oysters at a raw bar as well as a Cajun-inspired menu, with craft cocktails, bourbon, beer and wine. This summer, he will be renovating the space that will seat around 80 people.

"I've always wanted to have an oyster bar and it's clear they're making a comeback," he said. "With Pittsburgh's up-and-coming culinary scene, I think an oyster bar would do well here."

Next week, Mr. Kucenic is wrapping up as head chef at Pepperwood Grille in Greensburg, where he has worked for six years. He also cites his inspiration in working with celebrity chef Roy Yamaguchi, at Roy's in Tampa, Fla., where he worked for four years. Mr. Kucenic has staged at Michelin-starred restaurants in Paris and at restaurants in Moscow.

Ned Sokoloff of Specialty Group handled the liquor license acquisition and transfer.

"Chef Adam is bringing a modern take on the oyster bar and will complement East Liberty bars and restaurants with something unique," he said.