



## Isabela on Grandview to close at month's end

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By Melissa McCart / Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Isabela on Grandview will be closing at the end of the month. The owner of the building, George Merrick, 81, is ready to retire and to dedicate time to his wife, who has been ill.

"What other 80-year-old do you know who's running a restaurant?" Mr. Merrick told the Post-Gazette when the building went up for sale last May. The restaurant was under contract in October and the buyer failed to close this week.

Terri Sokoloff, president of Specialty Bar & Restaurant Brokers, will continue to handle the sale of the building, which is available with or without the business assets. It includes an adjacent parcel to the building that opens the potential for expansion or redevelopment, she said.

Isabela on Grandview opened in 2000. The initial review announced a "New Lady on the Mount," with chef Chris Frangiadis as executive chef. It took a year and a half to transform what formerly had been a bachelor pad into a fine-dining destination.

"I'm so grateful to my wonderful employees, family, friends and loyal patrons who have made the experience of running Isabela unforgettable," Mr. Merrick said in the press release.

He hopes to see as many customers as he can in the next two weeks, "so I can thank them for their patronage personally."

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