



## Bloomfield barbecue spot in the former Del's location has closed



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Jabo's Smoque House and Saloon in Bloomfield has closed at 4428 Liberty Ave. It's a barbecue spot that's been open for just over a year in what had been a former neighborhood landmark, Del's Bar and Ristorante DelPizzo.

Jerry "Jabo" Fedell partnered with the owner behind Pittsburgh icon Sammy's Famous Corned Beef, Downtown, to purchase the business.

Before opening, the team apparently "traveled the country in search of the best meats, rubs, sauces and techniques. We have met a lot of amazing friends along the way that have shared their secrets, and a few beers, with us," reads the website. "Jabo's is the result of those travels."

The 6,000-square-foot space includes a parking lot, patio and banquet room. The latter has its own dedicated kitchen and bar.

"The current owner has invested several hundred thousand dollars, including the addition of a custom bar," Terri Sokoloff, president and



broker for [Specialty Group](#), writes in the press release. “It’s a turnkey business,” she says, “for a brewery, themed restaurant, caterer, sports bar or entertainment venue.” Specialty Group is spearheading the sale.

“The renovation at Jabo’s is impressive, to say the least, having erased nearly any trace of Del’s. ... The area that was once the bar was gutted and is now the dining room, and the area that was the dining room is now the bar — and it’s a beautiful one at that,” wrote Dan Gigler in the Post-Gazette in February. “Full of handsome woodwork, it’s a comfortable place to watch a game and have a beverage, with a beer and booze list that’s more than serviceable.”

[Del’s closed in May 2015](#), with the owners, Marianne DelPizzo, her brother John and mother, Josephine, selling the building to Herky Pollock, the executive vice president and Northeast director of CBRE.

Mr. Pollock had marketed the building for two years with an asking price of \$1.2 million. He ended up buying it himself for an amount he would not disclose; it’s listed in the Allegheny County real estate portal as having sold in January 2016 for \$450,000 to East End Liberty LLC.

The closing of Jabo’s marks a corner — even a neighborhood — in transition, with the [Bloomfield Bridge Tavern](#) at 4412 Liberty Ave. closing in October after a 32-year run.

And in the face of the ShurSave IGA grocery store closure across the way at 4401 Liberty Ave. — to make way for the Indianapolis-based Milhaus development of a 200+ unit apartment complex — community groups turned out to express concern at a neighborhood meeting in January.

After the meeting, Bruce Chan, chair of Bloomfield Livable Streets, in March [posted a letter](#) to Milhaus vice president Thomas Bost, expressing a “serious safety concern” for pedestrians and bicyclists as a result of the construction and increased traffic near the Bloomfield Bridge, the importance of affordability in housing and beyond for residents, and for a continued presence of a grocery store in the neighborhood.

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