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Newcomer Venus II wins Marshfield Chamber's Chowdah Bowl

DATELINE: MARSHFIELD, MA... Venus II, the newly expanded and renovated upscale dining establishment across from the ocean in Brant Rock, Marshfield is this year's winner of the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce's "Chowdah Bowl" held during the recent ChowdahFest at the Daniel Webster Estate.

The win came as a surprise to some, including Venus II Chef Paul Vecchione, because the restaurant has only been serving up their new recipe since late July.

"I have to admit that I was somewhat surprised that we won the best Clam Chowder award because we've only been offering the new chowder at Venus II for a couple of months. We were competing against restaurants that have had clam chowder on their menu for a really long time," explained Vecchione. "I guess I'd have to say the recipe speaks for itself."

As the former chef for Venus II in the restaurant's early days (about 10 years ago), Vecchione has returned to the Venus kitchen to dish up some of his best "down home" meals. He knows what people like to eat and he gives it to them - in large portions too

Although the special clam chowder recipe cannot be revealed, Vecchione has a way of combining onion, butter, cream, spices, potatoes and of course plenty of clams (in a three to one ratio to the potatoes), that results in a chowder that's "heaven on a spoon". It takes 45 minutes to make a batch of Venus II's clam chowder.

Competitors at the Chowdah Bowl included 5 Seasons Café, Lobster Tale, The Fairview, Pacini's, The Boat House Pub, The Hideout Grill, Courtney's, Roche Bros. and Star Market.

According to David Drosopoulos, manager of the family-owned Venus II, "Our chowder sales have tripled since we won the Best Clam Chowder award. We are seeing quite a few who are dining in and taking out the award-winning chowder."

The Venus II offers fresh seafood including fried clams and scallops, succulent shrimp and lobster as well as a line-up of delicious beef entrees, pizza and of course, award winning clam chowder.

Venus II is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner.

Venus II

Founded in 1976, Venus II restaurant is in its second generation of operation by the Drosopoulos family. With a multi-level deck facing the ocean and an expansive dining room, Venus II offers an extensive menu of fresh seafood, award winning clam chowder and other entrees in an upscale, yet family-friendly environment. The full bar seats 40 and boasts of 10 flat screen televisions and entertainment (ranging from live bands and comedians to DJs and Karaoke) is offered six days a week. A plush function room with a full bar can accommodate up to 200 people and is available for weddings, parties and other special occasions. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted. Venus II is located at 277 Ocean Street in Marshfield and accepts all major credit cards. For more information visit www.Venus2.com or call (781) 837-6369.