



Dean Supply Pittsburgh

A New Store Perpetuates an Old Strip District Tradition

By Christopher Cussat

As is well known, many Strip District businesses have been around for years and sometimes even a generation or two. But even though it has been open for less than a year, Dean Supply Pittsburgh (Dean Supply) has proven that you needn't be around for a long time to fit naturally into the Strip community, establish a niche, and quickly become a part of, and carry on, the Strip's wonderful tradition and culture.

Last year, real estate developer, Craig Cozza, purchased the former site of Lewis Brothers & Sons, Inc., a 15,000-square-foot building at 3300 Penn Avenue. After buying out the company's remaining liquidation of restaurant supplies, Craig launched Dean Supply in June 2009. His brother, Matt Cozza, currently the general manager, helps manage the business.

"Craig and our sales manager, Dennis Savinda, saw an opportunity to rehabilitate and revamp the old Lewis Brothers' building and restaurant supply business. So we took what they had and made it more retail in nature to give a better shopping experience to our customers," said Matt Cozza.

The new, locally owned store in Pittsburgh is technically the second location for Dean Supply Company, which operates a long-standing business in Cleveland, Ohio. Although the two businesses are separate and independently operated, Craig Cozza has established a licensing agreement with Dean Supply Company, which also provides his business with inventory. "This agreement gives us tremendous buying power," he adds.

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33,000 items, all on display.

Today, Dean Supply is a wholesale company with more than 33,000 products. The company is the only dealer in the Pittsburgh area that carries such a large number and variety of closeouts.

“We carry so many fantastic discounted items because we continuously buy truckloads and pallets of products and then pass those savings onto our customers,” says Matt Cozza.

The diverse selection of products available at the store includes items ranging from large kitchen equipment and appliances and table-top food stuff to dining room, kitchen, take-out, bathroom, cleaning, table-top, and party supplies. “We carry just about everything — from paper supplies and cutlery, to glassware and flatware. Having such a large inventory allows us to satisfy all of our customers’ needs and our

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Cork Factory Leasing	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Cork Factory Garage	27/7 \$2/2 hours
	\$4/4 hours - \$6 all day
DeLuca's	7:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Eleven	5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Enrico Biscotti	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Fortunes Coffee Roastery	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Hot, Haute, Hot	11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
History Center	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
IL Mercato	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
In the Kitchen	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Kaya	12:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Klavons Ice Cream	12:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Lidia's	11:00 AM - 2:30 PM lunch
	5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dinner
Mancini's Bread Company	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Mon Aimee Chocolat	10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Outlaw Studio	by appointment
Pamela's P&G Diner	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Penn Avenue Pottery	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Pennsylvania Macaroni	9 am - 2:30 pm
Penzeys Spices	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Pittsburgh Popcorn	11:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Pittsburgh Water Limo	24/7 weather permitting
Primanti Brothers	24/7
Reymer's Cafe	11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Right By Nature	8:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Roland's Seafood Grill	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Roxanne's	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Salem's	CALL
Schoolhouse Yoga	9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Spaghetti Warehouse	11:00 AM - 10:00 PM
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great pricing helps our customers save a lot of money," Dennis Savinda says.

One truly differentiating factor about Dean Supply is that it caters to the commercial restaurant kitchen and your busy kitchen at home. "Our company is not only geared towards restaurants. We opened the building to specifically sell retail products to the general public as well," says Matt Cozza.

He adds that encouraging people to come into the store off the street and buy directly was Dennis's brainchild. "We give our customers the best prices in the field and our typical clients are business owners and people who simply like to buy great kitchen supplies for their homes."

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of Dean



The large inventory includes juices, condiments and other food items.

Supply is its 10,000-square-foot showroom, open to the public. When you enter the store and look around, you can't help feeling that you can find everything you need there for your home or commercial kitchen.

"We believe that all customers will greatly benefit when they come down and see Dean Supply's showroom," says Matt Cozza. "People can buy anything they ever wanted for their kitchen here in our store, including restaurant-quality items for the



Appliances, for home and restaurant.

home."

In fact, you'll often hear local chefs saying that Dean Supply carries everything they need for their busy kitchens at home and

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Bracelet by Francesca Vitali

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the busy kitchens in their restaurants.

You'll also immediately notice the welcoming faces always ready to help you find exactly what you're looking for. "Our customer service is unrivaled and the best in this industry—and our employees work very hard everyday to continue building our sales," says Mike Savinda. When you walk into Dean Supply you will see smiling faces and friendly service that keeps customers coming back." With a knowledgeable and dedicated staff of 13 store employees, as well as 4 salesmen on the road, Dean Supply continues to acquire new customers each week. "We continue to increase every month and we hopefully expect this to

continue into the future," he adds.

Matt Cozza loves being a part of the Strip District because he believes it's such an interesting place to have a business. "It's where everybody comes to shop — which is really neat. There are so many residents I meet and people whom I know who come to shop in the Strip for quality products," he says. Neil Lewis, customer service manager of Dean Supply, agrees.

"It's where people come to shop for great products, like those we carry at Dean Supply, at wholesale prices," says Mike Savinda. "Because we get a lot of foot traffic, it is very convenient to be located in the Strip. In addition, we have such a diverse clientele due to our location."

Dean Supply is definitely worth the trip when you're at the Strip. So start cooking! Visit the showroom at 3300 Penn Avenue to find everything you ever dreamed of for your kitchen. Memberships are not required, and there's free on-site parking. Store hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, please call 412-683-8500 and ask to speak with Neil Lewis or Mike Savinda. !



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