



Vanessa and Tony Daou, far right, wait on customers at their Black Cat Café, Main Street, Sharon Springs. The Black Cat, which opened in July, serves breakfast

and lunch as well as a variety of desserts. The Daous will also be offering classes on cooking and entertaining this fall and expanding their mail order, party, and catering services.

Black Cat has the real thing

Sharon Springs cafe, bakery finds just the right mix

By Patsy Nicosia

Before you go to Vanessa and Tony Daou's Black Cat Café in Sharon Springs, you need to know there really is a black cat and it's all her fault.

Originally from Fairfield, Connecticut, the Daous had no plans to open a Main Street bakery and café when they bought a summer home in Sharon a year ago.

But after a stray black cat followed Mr. Daou home from the American Hotel and convinced the couple's youngest daughter

that she was their long-lost Pinky back from...wherever, they decided to make Sharon Springs their fulltime home.

"It really started to feel like home," Mr. Daou said. "It got so we didn't want to leave."

"Pinky" is now a fixture at the Black Cat, where the Daous serve breakfast, lunch, and desserts every day but Wednesday; fall hours are 8-4.

"The response has blown us away," Mr. Daou said. "We opened July 4th and had 353 people. Doug [Plummer] and Garth [Roberts] from The American