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La Grange warehouse is remade for events

By Andrea Uhde
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When I stepped onto the 3,000-square-foot dance floor at Soiree in La Grange, I immediately wanted to dance.

But that could have been odd, considering I was alone except for two guys working on the sound system.

The new business officially opens Saturday, and owners Mark and Jan Viehmann are hoping it's not just a hot spot for dancing, but for weddings, Super Bowl parties, business meetings and whatever else Oldham people need space for.

The Viehmanns decided this year to lease the empty warehouse space in a shopping center near Kroger off Ky. 53 and turn it into a rental space complete with a bar, catering quarters and dressing rooms (in case people want to get hitched there, too).

Already, a ballroom and Latin dance studio called All That Dance has moved in, using the large wooden floor and walls lined with mirrors for its lessons.

"We had this opportunity, and it was too good to pass on it," said All That Dance co-owner Viktoria Szukk.

She said the owners had been hoping to move their studio from Louisville to Oldham, but it was difficult to find a space.

"There was nothing in La Grange — not just La Grange, but there was really nothing in Oldham County," Szukk said.

Jan Viehmann, of La Grange, said she also realized there was a need for an affordable but nice rental space in Oldham County.

"If you go to weddings in Oldham County, a lot of times you end up caravanning to another county," she said.

Despite the economy, she said she's not nervous about the business. They're already booked for New Year's Eve, and several other people have called to ask for tours once the facility is ready.

Also, she said she was able to get affordable work from contractors who were low on jobs.

"You have to help others when they're down," she said.

The facility has a bar, bathrooms, catering quarters, dressing rooms and storage space. It also has

projectors where people can watch television, movies and photos, among other things. A small stage in the corner has karaoke equipment.

In my time covering Oldham, I've learned there are a number of spaces available for meetings, receptions and the like. But I have heard over and over again that people would like to see more choices.

For Viehmann, the future may be one big party.

Reporter Andrea Uhde can be reached at (502) 582-4663.

A first-person column about things to do and see in Oldham County

Additional Facts

Soiree

Where: 1228 Market St.,
La Grange

Contact: 777-9856

Special event: The grand opening Saturday is from 7 to 11 p.m. and includes catered food, a dance show from All That Dance and dancing. Call for reservations.
