

Food fest has a woman's touch

As the largest dining event in New Jersey, Hudson Restaurant Week is no simple project. No one knows this better than Tamara Remedios of Get Out Hudson magazine, the young entrepreneur who created and runs the bi-annual food fest.

The event grew out of Remedios's conversations with owners of local restaurants, who expressed interest in promoting the dining scene on this side of the Hudson after seeing the success of New York Restaurant Week. With a background in marketing and advertising, Remedios had a number of local restaurant clients that she was able to recruit for the first event in 2005.

"We were so lucky to get 25 restaurants to participate the first time around, it was more than I expected," she said.

The first event got a further



REENA ROSE SIBAYAN JOURNAL PHOTO

TAMARA REMEDIOS is the inspiration behind Hudson Restaurant Week.

boost from the State of New Jersey, who awarded Remedios a grant to help with advertising costs.

Before launching Hudson Restaurant Week, Remedios founded Get Out Hudson in 2003 as an entertainment and resource guide for the Hoboken

and Jersey City area. The magazine was based on Get Out Today, which Remedios created in 1999 for college students in the New Brunswick, Princeton and Newark areas.

"I was an R.A. (Resident Assistant) at Rutgers, just out of college, and realized that students didn't have a good resource for local information," she said. "Then I had a lot of friends who had moved to Hudson County, and I realized that a similar publication for this area would be useful to them as well."

In addition to creating Hudson Restaurant Week, Remedios has grown the network to include www.HudsonMenus.com, a site with downloadable menus from area restaurants, and www.HudsonHotSpot.com, a guide to local happy hours.

— EVIE NAGY