

Remax opens Thames St. office

After many months with their sign in the window, Remax Realty has finally set up shop in Ingersoll.

Canada's top revenue-producing real estate brokerage officially opened their doors at the grand opening ceremony April 5. The opening followed extensive renovations to their 80 Thames St. S. building. Owner-broker Donna Begert said the Ingersoll office will

work in conjunction with its Woodstock counterpart. She believes this partnership is particularly important for the neighboring towns which in many ways have "not yet amalgamated."

Begert, who also owns the Woodstock office, said five agents will be working in Ingersoll. There are 14 in Woodstock. She said as the business expands Remax may consider constructing an office halfway between the present locations.

Remax's regional companies sell franchises to local brokers, which in turn hire sales agents. The Remax style is to let the agents function as independently as possible. The franchises hire only experienced sales agents - by design leaving the training of new agents to other companies.

Begert, who was part owner of a Remax franchise in Cambridge before coming to Ingersoll last May, formerly worked for competitor, Canada Trust. She said she was drawn to Remax because of its lucrative commission formula and attractive working conditions.

"Agents don't work on a split," Begert said. They get a 95 per cent commission. You can make more money as an agent and grow from there."

The Remax philosophy offers agents more time for you as a person, according to Begert. She sits on real estate's board of directors which is currently pushing for discontinuing open houses on Sunday. This concept will go through a six-month trial period.

"We need a day off too," Begert reasoned.

Agent Barbara Pitts said the Ingersoll office has been busy with people inquiring about properties or just stopping to say hello. The office already has a "fair amount" of Ingersoll listings.

Begert is confident in Remax's success locally.

"We believe there is a lot of future growth in Ingersoll."



Donna and Udo Begert, Barbara Pitts and Rita Lawrence are all working to make Ingersoll's new Remax Real Estate office a success.

INGERSOLL TIMES
April 13, 1988

REMAX REALTY

Town business improvements

There has been a lot of movement in Ingersoll's business sector in the last few months.

Three new businesses opened their doors, including Special Creations, Ingersoll Furniture in February, Ingersoll Appliance Repair in March and Remax Realty in April.

Special Creations, which has moved into a Thames Street South location beside the Beckers store, is a woodworking business specializing in wall units and kitchen cabinets.

Ingersoll Appliance and Repair found a home at 42 King Street East where they repair and sell used appliances. They specialize in major

appliances including refrigerators, stoves and washing machines.

Ingersoll's newest furniture store is located at 15 Thames Street South and sell many types of furniture and a complete line of major appliances. Ingersoll Furniture took over the building which housed the now-defunct Community Cleaners.

*Remax Realty has been helping locals find homes for almost two months. Their Thames Street South office works in conjunction with its Woodstock counterpart.

Several other businesses left Ingersoll during the early part of the year including Clair Bray Real Estate, based here for many years.

Thames Street South's Ingersoll Billiards also closed its doors along with the Ingersoll Feed and Farm Supply on Victoria Street.

Still in town but at a new location are Academy Music which relocated from Thames Street to King Street and the Salvation Army Thrift Store which moved from Thames South to King Street East.

Still in business but under new ownership are the Super X Drugs on Charles Street which is now a Shoppers Drug Mart and family business Fleischer and Jewett Ltd. now Paul Burroughs Oldsmobile. The ownership of ABC Radiator also changed hands.

INGERSOLL TIMES
June 1, 1988

REMAX REALTY

Information on town jeweler is wanted by Dorset couple

While passing through Ingersoll one day last week, a Dorset couple tried to find information about a relative who had once been an Ingersoll jeweler.

Lenly and Eileen Barry came to the Ingersoll Times office last Thursday with a picture of Mr. Lenly's grandfather Edway Remy, standing outside his jewelry store.

The problem was, they didn't know where the store had been located in Ingersoll.

"My grandfather moved to Dorset in 1880," Mr. Barry said. "The picture was taken before 1880."

Remy had a jewelry and tobacco store and was "the first Elgin watch jeweler in Canada," according to Mr. Barry.

Remy crafted jewelry from gold and silver nuggets brought from a gold mine in Alaska by his brother Garner Remy. The Barrys had some of the jewelry, which included a brooch made from an 1895 dime.

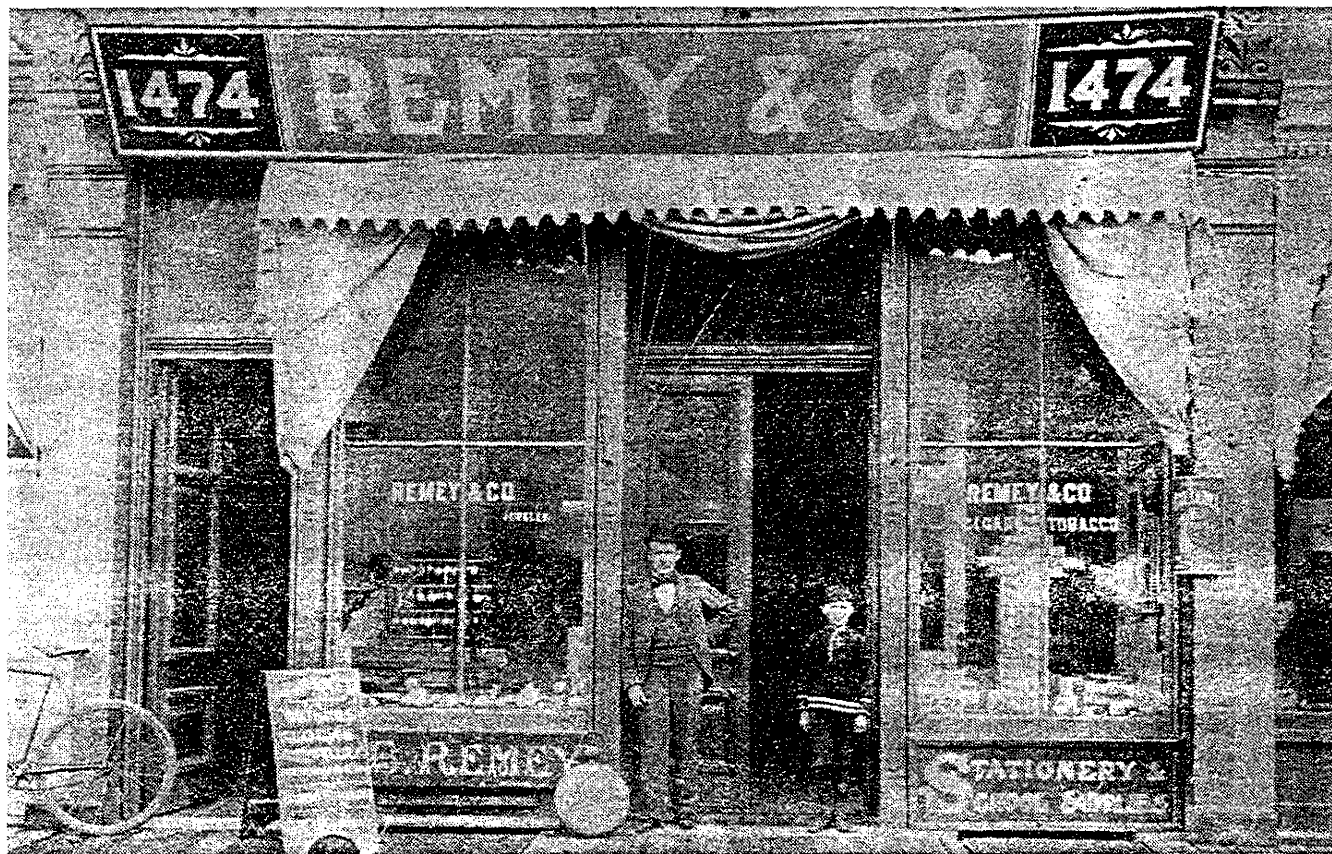
If anyone knows something about the Remy store in Ingersoll they are asked to contact the

Ingersoll Times. The Barrys are anxiously awaiting an answer to their quest for their family

history.

A search through the public library's files of The Ingersoll Chronicle, dating

back to 1875, failed to turn up information or advertisements for Remy and Co. jewelers.



If anyone has information about this store, which existed in Ingersoll prior to 1880, they are asked to contact the

Times office. The original owner, Edway Remy, moved to Dorset in 1880. The store was a jewelry and tobacco store.

Remy & Co.

INGERSOLL TIMES
April 9, 1980

Store closing

INGERSOLL — Ingersoll's main street is losing another store. Closing out sale signs went up on the windows of Reward Shoes this week.

Robert Holding, district manager for Reward which was bought out by Agnew-Surpass on Aug. 1 this year, said the local store will be closed before the end of the year.

He said his company decided to close the store after its

building was sold. The lease was set to expire at the end of the year.

Only two jobs would be affected, he said, and there is a good chance the store manager would be transferred to Tillsonburg.

Holdin said he was unfamiliar with the store's history because he has only been district manager since Reward was bought out by Agnew-Surpass on Aug. 1 of this year.

Robert Holding
Agnew-Surpass

Ingersoll business scene hopping with activity

By PAULINE KERR
of Ingersoll This Week

There's plenty happening on the Ingersoll business scene right now.

The long-awaited opening of Level II has taken place, and all reports give the town's newest night spot top marks.

Toronto Submarine has reopened under its original owner.

*Other new downtown businesses include Rick's Carpet and Trillium Realty Ltd., both on Thames Street South.

Doug Collins has opened a new business in a trailer located across the road from the Arena on Mutual Street.

DC Skate Sharpening came about when the young entrepreneur was looking for a winter job which would complement his highly successful but seasonal business, Concrete Impressions, involving the new and popular technique of installing colored, textured concrete as an alternative to patio stones, brick and slate.

DC Skate Sharpening is open for business evenings from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturdays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. although the high demand may cause these hours to be extended.

Collins sharpens skates for recreational figure skating (he's learning how to do skates for competition work) but most of his clients are hockey players. For

their convenience, he also stocks a selection of top-of-the-line hockey sticks, tape and laces, and is experimenting with a few other products.

He's now selling season's passes for skate sharpening - buy 10 and get two free sharpenings, saving \$5, or 20 with five free, saving \$15.

One of the most dramatic changes downtown really isn't a change but an updating and reorganizing.

Keith Black, owner and manager of Ingersoll Department Store, has decided to change his store's image and product lines to make it more competitive in a 1990's market.

Specialization is the way to go now, he said, and after considerable research and thought on what the town needed, the decision was made to go with two stores, each with its own entrance and lines of goods.

"Ingersoll Yarns and Fabrics" will include fabrics, yarns and notions, plus bedding, crafts supplies and picture frames.

The other store, as yet unnamed, will sell sportswear, with brand name lines including Adida, Rebok, Nike, Ocean Pacific and more. But it won't be strictly track suits, Black said. "We'll also have casual wear for men, women and children." Among the additional items stocked will be shoes and some equipment. He's prepared to



KEITH BLACK and **Beth Black** are gearing up for a major reorganization of Ingersoll Department Store. There will be no change in staff or ownership, but switching to two separate stores, one for sportswear, the other for yarns, fabrics and notions will allow for the type of specialization which spells success on today's market, says Black.

(Staff photo)

make special team orders on request.

The reorganization will provide room for expansion within the specialized areas but some departments will be eliminated, including toys and seasonal items.

This could benefit the canny Christmas shopper in search of bargains in decorations, cards and gifts — most items are 20 per cent off, some as much as 50 per cent off.

Black anticipates the sale will run well into the new year.

The new concept will be in place mid April, with no closing of the fabrics and notions side and only a possible two-week closing of the sportswear side.

Some things will remain unchanged. "It will be the same people, the same good, friendly service and the same quality merchandise," said Black, who is very excited about this new step.

SENTINEL REVIEW - INGERSOLL
THIS WEEK
November 21 1989

RICK'S CARPET

New french fryer

INGERSOLL — P.B.'s french fry truck is not the only portable fryer in town any more.

A Riddell's Fast Foods truck has set up shop in the Zehr's plaza selling hamburgers, french fries and soft drinks. The truck will be in the plaza parking lot 11-6 p.m. Mondays to Wednesdays and 11-9 p.m. Thursdays to Saturdays.

Daily Sentinel Review
April 5, 1991

Can't complain about real estate market

One man agency is successful

By JOE KONECNY
Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — Robert Ketchabaw would be the last person in town to complain about the local real estate market.

The owner of Robert Ketchabaw Real Estate Company said sporadic changes in bank lending rates have caused buyers to be more cautious.

But he has sensed no drastic drop in sales.

In fact, he's quite proud with the results he has seen since opening the one-man operation six months ago.

"Higher interest rate didn't help, but they didn't shut the market down either," he said recently.

"It just makes the qualification process with buyers a little more important."

Ketchabaw modestly admitted he has sold one piece of property per week — business related or otherwise — since the realtor set up his company on Whiting Street.

"People aren't selling out of desperation, but there is a broad selection of homes on the market now."

"The (floundering) economy has effected me in so far as customers are more aware of what they're looking for and I must have the expertise to answer their pertinent questions," Ketchabaw said, noting buyers' increased interest in energy costs and home insulation.

SUCCESS

Experience in the field is the main reason for the realtors' huge success, he said.

After three years at Waterloo Lutheran University — where he majored in economics and psychology — Ketchabaw worked his way through the ranks of the profession and eventually bought a home building business in 1973.

Each of his early employers was a building block and Ketchabaw soon became known for his handling of mortgages and his keen eye for appraising property cost.

But, realizing his abilities as a salesman, Ketchabaw became an agent for Clair Bray Real Estate and worked there for 2½ years.

While employed by the local realtor, Ketchabaw broadened his scope through five real estate broker courses and later applied to the Ontario Real Estate Association for his brokers' license.

After acquiring his permit, the next step was to decide whether he wanted to become an associate broker with Clair Bray or set up his own business.

GO IT ALONE

"The learning experience was good and I decided to go out on my own because I was quite happy with this town.

"I felt there was an opportunity and a need here and another real estate company's closure created a void," he added.

Ketchabaw said he chose to work with Clair Bray because their philosophies are similar.

They both prefer operating in a small town where a personalized approach is required, he added.

Although he hinted at future expansion, Ketchabaw said the small marketing area in Ingersoll permits him to specialize and it also allows him to know his product better.

"It is a competitive market (with four other companies in town) and it's one that's based on personalized service."

Ketchabaw said he established himself with Clair Bray, but the reason for his instant success was twofold.

Much of his business came from referrals, but "a realistic attitude towards marketing real estate" also boosted his clientele, he said.

CONFIDENCE HELPS

"To sell real estate you've got to be virtually sold on the property yourself and you must be confident."

But the most important aspect of his trade is knowing the price of property and what sellers can expect to receive on the market, he said.

"That's where the experience comes in."

Ketchabaw has polished his cost estimating skills through the years and currently is an appraiser for two local financial institutions.

"Basically, when someone comes to me to sell their home, they're looking for sound advice.

"The real estate business requires a lot of imagination and I have to be able to think ahead...look at prospective buyers, realize their needs and match them to the market."

In the near future, Ketchabaw plans to expand his business with the hiring of "a maximum of three hand-picked" salesmen.

"I want to keep it small enough so I can keep in touch with my staff and instill my philosophies."

"I can't be expected to know and meet everyone in town and with the expansion I'll be able to increase the services offered by my business.

"Basically, we'll be able to handle more territory."

Also on his agenda for the future is a thank you party for the town. Ketchabaw will stage an open house in his office to show his respect for the people who've supported him.

"I think it's important to say thank you."

New travel agency believes in Ingersoll and its future

Wayne Boddy has faith in Ingersoll and its growth. It's for this reason that Boddy has opened Robert Q's Travel Mart at 110 Thames St. S.

"It's a good opportunity. This town has a lot of potential," says Boddy, who owns, with his wife, Wayne Boddy Travel Ltd. in Woodstock.

Boddy says it was natural for him to expand his business by opening a travel agency here in Ingersoll, with Woodstock being just eight miles away. It allows him to capture a good share of the local market. It is also natural for him from an advertising point of view.

Right now, Boddy says, Woodstock is booming. "I have the same feeling that it's going to happen here."

Boddy had so much faith in a similar boom taking place here, that he bought the building at 110 Thames St. instead of renting.

When asked if he thinks there's room for a third travel agency in Ingersoll, Boddy replies "we certainly hope so," before adding once again that he has a lot of confidence in Ingersoll.

Boddy opened his travel agency in Woodstock in 1979, after working for Canadian Tire. In 1982, it became the first travel agency to join the Robert Q organization, a travel agency at York and Richmond Streets in London.

Being part of the Robert Q organization - which now has 13 franchises - has a number of advantages, according to Boddy. For one thing, the organization collectively has more clout than a single-office travel agency. The organization also



Wayne Boddy is flanked by two of his staff at the newly opened Robert Q's Travel Mart at 110 Thames St. S.

offers an airbus that travels to the Toronto airport from London and Woodstock. Right now, it stops around 13 times a day in Woodstock. People using the airbus get a preferred rate if they book their holiday through Robert Q. The organization also offers a parcel express service.

Although the Ingersoll Robert Q's Travel Mart will be a full-service travel agency, Boddy says he handles a lot of package and leisure tours, as well as business travel.

Boddy notes that people in general have more time for leisure travel than ever before, whether they're

seniors, couples, or retirees.

He thinks that getaway weekends will become increasingly popular, especially for big or small business people who often can't afford to leave their businesses for one or two weeks.

Favorite vacation spots for people from this area are Florida and the Caribbean in the winter and the United Kingdom and Europe in the summer, says Boddy.

He thinks that cruises, which Robert Q does a lot of business in, will become increasingly popular since everything is included in the one price. The South Pacific, meanwhile, will become a major tourist destination.

As to the travel agency business itself, Boddy sees the future in computerization and other technologies. He says that one day a vacationer will be able to visit a travel agency and see their destination on video tape. The days of having to flip through travel brochures will disappear. Broddy says this has already begun to happen.

As to computers, the Ingersoll Robert Q's Travel Mart will have their's installed in several weeks. The computers will link in with those of Canadian Airlines and Air Canada, Canada's two major airlines, and other networks.

As to his own travelling, Boddy admits he doesn't have much time for it anymore. When he does travel, he usually combines it with business, which involves scouting out a location.

He says his travel staff - four in the Ingersoll office - get their enjoyment from knowing their clients have enjoyed their vacation. And the staff usually know whether they have been satisfied or not because they do follow ups.

"You can learn a lot from your clients," Boddy says. "Prepare yourself better for the next day."

In the two weeks Robert Q's Travel Mart has been opened here, Boddy says the agency has been warmly welcomed by the town and

INGERSOLL TIMES

November 9, 1988

Meet The Ladies Of *Roberts & Co.*

Roberts & Co. has been in business in Ingersoll for 37 years. Margaret MacDonald (top) has worked for Roberts for 27 years. Mary Hayes (middle) has been with the store for 12 years. Vicki Brownscombe (bottom) purchased the business in 1980 and has been managing the store from that time. Since purchasing the business Vicki has tried to maintain the same atmosphere and merchandise as the previous owners. Roberts carry manufacturer name brands like Tan Jay,

London Fog, Windsor and Gaytown. Choose from a large selection of lingerie, day and night wear, winter coats and jackets and all weather coats. If the fit isn't right, there is no charge for alterations. Come in to Roberts at **122 Thames St., Ingersoll** today for friendly service. At Roberts we try to help you, the customer, in every way. You'll get the individual attention you deserve. No need to hurry, there are no pressure sales here.



SENTINEL REVIEW
May 28, 1986

Roberts & Co.

Robin's Donuts

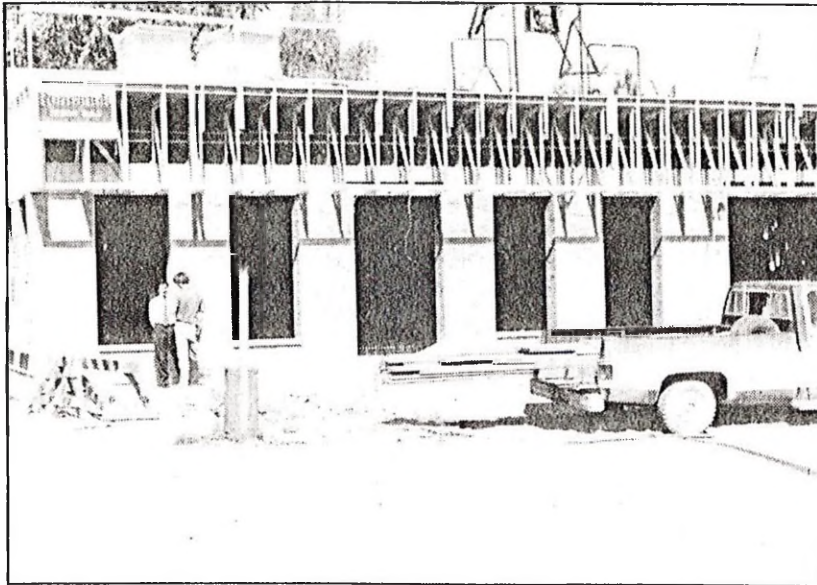
Robin's Donuts, a company with major holdings in Western Canada, is setting up a franchise beside the Becker's store on Thames Street north.

Developed by Downsworth Investments of London, the 2,600 square foot shop is expected to be completed by early October, a spokesman said. Robin's Donuts is also looking at opening in Tillsonburg, Aylmer and Strathroy, having opened a donut shop in St. Thomas already. The company's head office, is in Thunder Bay.

Downsworth Investments also recently developed the Green Gables and Petro Canada gas bar in Ingersoll and is currently in negotiations with a possible tenant for behind the donut shop.

what stores were planning to locate in the mall nor could he give an expected completion date.

The mall has been reduced to 30,000 square feet in size from the previous 45,000.



WHAT IT IS: Robin's Donuts
LOCATION: Thames Street North
COMPLETION DATE: early October
SIZE: 2,600 square feet
DEVELOPER: Downsworth Investments of London

INGERSOLL TIMES

September 27, 1989

Details on incoming businesses

The Robin's Donuts shop on Thames Street North, beside Becker's, is not slated to open until March.

The building was completed by Downsworth Investments Inc. of London at the end of November.

However, a construction crew from Northco Foods, the parent company for Robin's Donuts, is not scheduled to begin work on the inside of the building until the latter part of February, said Sue Prodaniuk, advertising and public relations manager.

A number of Robin's Donuts shops are opening over the next two months, she said. And Ingersoll's is further down on the list.

Next week, the company is opening franchises in St. Thomas and Winnipeg, Manitoba. Over the next two to three weeks, four stores will

be opened in Calgary, Alberta.

One is scheduled for Kapuskasing at the end of January and, along with the one in Ingersoll, Robin's Donuts is going up in Belleville and Milton, Prodaniuk said.

The company chose Ingersoll because it already has a Robin's Donuts in Woodstock, she said. "We find they do well in the vicinity of other stores."

Northco Foods currently has a strong market in Manitoba, with 31 stores in the City of Winnipeg.

"When there is a better concentration of stores, we find they do better," Prodaniuk said.

Promotion of the new donut shop will begin in Ingersoll in two to three weeks, she said.

Nutri Systems

A weight-loss clinic is joining the pizza place and donut shop slated to open in mid-January on Thames Street North in Ingersoll.

Bob Pike of INGROX Limited, developer of the project, said Nutri System Weight Loss Centre will occupy 1,600 square feet of the building which will also house a Mister C's Donuts (2,000 square feet) and New Orlean's Pizza (1,600 square feet).

This fills the Thames Street phase of the two-part project, Pike said.

A total of 4,000 square feet, west of the new building along Victoria Street, is available in phase two of the development, he said. INGROX is currently negotiating with about three tenants interested in locating there.

INGERSOLL TIMES

January 10, 1990

After 22 years, the curtain has closed on Ingersoll Community Credit Union. Members met last week to approve formal application to the ministry of consumer and commercial relations for a take-over of their 300-member group by Rochdale Credit Union, Woodstock.

Business is still being carried on at the Ingersoll location in the Bray Building, Thames and Charles Streets. However, officials of both groups indicate that there will be a move to another location soon.

"At the meeting, they (Rochdale Credit Union officials) said they would keep this office open; but they did not say for how long," said Harold Hoare, who has been president of Ingersoll Community Credit Union for the past eight years. He added that the lease on the Ingersoll office expires June 1, and he understands that the new owners are looking for office space in town. Mr. Hoare, who is retired, said he will not be connected with Rochdale Union. "But if they don't keep this office open, and keep that girl (Treas. man, Joey Ulrich) they are awfully foolish."

Earle Reed, general manager of Rochdale Credit Union, in an interview Monday, said that once government approval is received "Credit Union service will continue to be available to people in Ingersoll, through an office in Ingersoll."

EXPANDED SERVICE

"We will be going into larger quarters so that we will be able to give a much more expanded service to customers," he added.

He said that all the services now available at the Woodstock office of Rochdale Credit Union will be offered in Ingersoll. These include home mortgages, business loans, automobile loans, business, personal and checking accounts, term deposits, savings certificates, money orders, travellers' checks and foreign exchange.

Although Mr. Hoare expressed some misgivings about Rochdale "being able to make a go of it in Ingersoll" when the local union had not, Mr. Reed did not share them.

"Basically they were not able to carry mortgage loans," he said adding that his firm was "able to go, with \$16 million in assets." He said it had access to a lot bigger market and was therefore, able to carry loans on homes.

Previously Mr. Hoare said that sky-rocketing interest rates last year had caused the demise of the Ingersoll Community Credit Union. He explained at that time that whereas the union formerly had been able to get money at eight per cent and lend it to members at 12 per cent last year it had had to pay 12 per cent for the money it was lending out at 12 per cent.

Mr. Reed said Rochdale Credit Union is "Very big in business checking accounts, and business loans." He said that while interest in registered retirement savings and registered home ownership plans had waned because the



Harold Hoare discusses a customer's financial statement with Joey Ulrich (Staff photo)

deadline date was past his firm had thousands of dollars in them.

He said that a larger staff would be employed to take care of expanded services in Ingersoll including counsellors qualified to give advice to customers.

Any proposed changes will not necessarily take place when government approval is received though, Mr. Reed explained.

"While the final day may be sometime in April, it doesn't necessarily have to take place on that date, unless we say so. We may postpone it for a little while, because of the necessities at that time."

FIRST BRANCH

Rochdale Credit Union was established in Woodstock 33

years ago. When it officially opens in Ingersoll, the local office will be its first branch.

Mr. Reed said Rochdale would continue to work closely with existing employee credit unions in Ingersoll. He said the main advantage of a credit union is that it is locally owned.

"Each member of the credit union is a shareholder, entitled to some say in its policies and its operation."

He pointed out that the take-over of Ingersoll Community Credit Union by Rochdale Credit Union had to be approved by members of each body.

Although he could not say when the official opening of the Ingersoll branch will take place, he said he expects it will probably be either later this month, or the early part of May.

ROCHDALE
CREDIT
UNION

Final curtain closing on town's credit union

Sentinel Review - April 1, '75

Times April 9 1975

Credit Union closes after 22 years

Rochdale Credit Union

Rising interest rates and the growing demand for increasingly larger sums of money have been cited as the major reason for the closing of the Ingersoll Community Credit Union.

Credit union president Harold Hoare said in an interview this week that the 350-member union just couldn't compete with the larger operations, and was forced to merge with the Rochdale Credit Union in Woodstock.

Members met last month to approve formal application for the take-over, which according to Mr. Hoare should take place by the first of June. Government approval from the ministry of consumer and commercial relations is required before the final merger will occur.

"I'm really sorry to see the charter leaving Ingersoll", said Mr. Hoare. "I don't think there will ever be another community credit union in town ... Like so many small family businesses, it just hasn't been able to survive."

The decline in the local operation occurred as a result of the rapid rise in interest rates last summer, according to Mr.

Hoare, who has been president for the past eight years.

"We were having to pay the same rate of interest on the money we got as we were charging our members," he said, noting that it took up to three months to have an increase in interest rates approved, causing further losses.

Services will continue to be offered to local members during the change-over period, which will involve a change in location from the present office at 99 Thames St. S. to new quarters at 101 Thames St., presently occupied by Ingersoll Appliances.

According to Mr. Hoare, who noted that a number of Ingersoll residents are already members of the Rochdale Credit Union, the transfer will involve provision of additional services including chequing and mortgage loans, services which the smaller operation was not able to supply.

The Ingersoll credit union was established in 1953, when 25 members signed the founding charter. Since that time it has grown to about 350 members, Mr. Hoare said.

Rochdale credit union opens officially

Ingersoll residents were welcomed last Tuesday evening to the first branch of the Rochdale Credit Union at an official opening ceremony held at the branch office on the corner of

Thames and Charles St.

Presiding at the ribbon cutting were Ingersoll Mayor Gordon Henry, Rochdale president J.A. Beatty and Vicki Bowman, granddaughter of Ray Bowman.

a long time credit union member in Ingersoll.

Dedication of the new facilities was led by Rev. Robert Williams of Trinity United Church. Guests and members were introduced to

Ingersoll's branch supervisor William Geris, along with Rochdale directors and management staff.

Addressing the opening gathering, which numbered about 80 people, were Mayor Henry, Chamber of Commerce president William Bell, Rochdale manager Earle Reed, Ontario Credit Union League district representative Fred Downing, and Harold Hoare, who was president of the Ingersoll Community Credit Union at the time of the merger with Rochdale.

In a brief address, Mr. Hoare said that he welcomed Rochdale to Ingersoll, adding that although he "wasn't too pleased at the start," he had since changed his mind.

Mr. Reed, who has managed Rochdale in Woodstock since its formation over 30 years ago, noted that the move to Ingersoll marked the formation of the company's first branch office. "It is one of the new ventures that we face with interest and enthusiasm," he told the gathering, which included representatives from the Tri-County Credit union in Tillsonburg, the Beachville Credit Union, and the Ingersoll Machine Steel Workers Credit Union.

"There is a tremendous spirit of co-operation between our credit union and the others in the district," he said as he welcomed the visiting representatives.

Rochdale president J.A. Beatty who chaired the opening, asked Mike Dewan of Ingersoll, who was minister of agriculture in the

1940's when the credit union act was passed through the legislature, to speak briefly.

Rochdale, he said, was one of the first credit unions to form a charter after the legislation was passed.

Following the official ceremony, guests were invited to stay for sandwiches and coffee and meet with directors and staff during an informal period. Four \$10 savings certificates and two clock radios were won in a series of draws which followed the opening.

Branch Supervisor William Geris said that the office has been opened for business for several weeks, with a staff of three assisting him. He advised that new members are being welcomed at the branch.



The Ingersoll branch of the Rochdale Credit Union was opened in an official ceremony held last Tuesday evening at the branch office on the corner of Thames and Charles Sts. Above, branch supervisor William Geris receives a plaque from Ontario Credit Union League district representative Fred Downing. At the right is Rochdale president J.A. Beatty who chaired the ceremony.

ROCHDALE CREDIT UNION

INGERSOLL NEWS June 18, '75

INGERSOLL TIMES June 18, 1975

What's new in business



ROCHDALE GOES COMPUTER

— Staff photo

Rochdale Credit Union in Ingersoll unveiled a new customer service Monday. The service is 24-hour banking through a computer. The new system will allow Rochdale customers to with-

draw at night up to \$300 in three days, or a minimum of \$5. Pictured here with the computer is Marie White, assistant manager of the Ingersoll branch of Rochdale.



MPP Charlie Tatham prepares to cut the ribbon at the Rochdale Credit Union's open house in honor of their recently-completed renovations last Thursday. Ingersoll Mayor Doug Harris, President of Rochdale, David Tait and General Manager of Rochdale, Milt Bruch look on.

INGERSOLL TIMES

October 21, 1987

Robins Donuts opening delayed

The opening of a Robins Donuts on Thames Street North, beside the Becker's store, has been delayed while the company, Northco Foods of Thunder Bay, finds someone to lease the franchise.

"We're working on it," said Karen Peck, administrative assistant to advertising and public relations manager Sue Prodaniuk.

"As soon as we get someone (franchisee), we'll begin training the staff and open the donut shop," she said.

INGERSOLL TIMES

July 18, 1990



MORE DOUGHNUT DAYS

Ingersoll, residents now have a new place to satisfy their doughnut cravings. Husband and wife team Owen and Barbara Stewardson opened a Robin's Donuts outlet on Thames Street Wednesday morning. "I feel that it's going to be a great location," Mrs. Stewardson said.

Daily Sentinel Review
Feb. 15, 1991

Mediator drafts strike proposal

INGERSOLL (Bureau) -- A provincial mediator is preparing a proposal to settle the 11-day strike at the Roper Moto-Mower Co. after meeting with both sides Tuesday, according to company general manager Bob Woodhouse.

About 140 members of Local 3313, United Steel Workers of America, have been on strike against the lawn mower and snow blower manufacturing firm since Sept. 11.

Plant shutdown to cost over 200 jobs

BY MARGARET BOYD

Roper Canada Moto Mower will be phasing out most of its 220 employees over the next six months, according to a plant spokesman who refused to be identified.

"We're making a significance reduction in our manufacturing development," the spokesman said. "The rate of the dry up of staff depends on our customers."

Union president Nancy Kolodij, said that the announcement last week was "a shock".

"I don't know what's going on and won't know exactly for a couple of weeks," Ms. Kolodij said.

The plant spokesman said that the staff is in the process of scheduling orders with customers, before the phase-out occurs.

The plant, located on Ingersoll Road in the town's industrial area, will be used as a warehouse after staff layoffs are complete. Plant personnel and service parts personnel will retain their jobs, he added.

There are no other immediate plans for

the building, he said and added that they are in the process of "consolidating finished goods" into the building.

Future manufacturing will depend on customer demand, he said. The plant makes snow throwers and lawn mowers. The plant's largest market is the United States, there is a smaller market in Canada and a small percentage of the goods are exported.

It is being speculated by laid off employees that the company has sold its manufacturing business to U.S., where there is greater demand.

Ms. Kolodij said that the company is going to try to arrange transfers for employees but not say whether they could be arranged.

"Most of the employees will be out of a job," she said.

Ted Hunt, Industrial Commissioner, said that Roper is "still thinking through the whole exercise." He cited economic conditions as the major reason for the shutdown of the manufacturing section of the plant.

"I've advised Fruehauf of the situation and they indicated that they probably

would be in touch with the personnel of Roper," he said.

He guessed that hiring at Fruehauf (a new car parts plant which will employ 200 people when completed) might start in April.

He was aware that many people will be out of jobs and said, "you gain one and you lose one."

Doug Harris, mayor of Ingersoll, called the news of the shutdown, "a loss that's going to affect the community."

"The economy is not overly strong so I can realize their problems, but it is a

disappointment," he added.

On the bright side, the mayor said that the building is basically new and could be used by another industry.

"Hopefully it will be utilized," he said. "A plant down the road might buy it."

Roper is an American corporation with its headquarters situated in Illinois. There are plants in the U.S. and several branches across Canada.

The company existed under the name of Moto-Mower in Ingersoll from 1958 to 1971 and has retained the name of Roper from 1971 until present.

Roper closing shocks workers, managers at Ingersoll plant

By GLENN OGILVIE

Sentinel-Review staff writer
INGERSOLL — An announcement by Roper Moto Mower to end assembly line production at its Ingersoll plant has shocked its 200 employees and management.

"It's a pretty tense situation here. We haven't had any difficulties, but it's a pretty emotional situation for the employees and myself and management included," said Bob Woodhouse, general manager of Roper.

"I'm a Canadian general manager for Roper, and like the workers, I would have liked to have seen the operation kept going," he said.

Roper, a subsidiary of an American-based corporation, has announced it will discontinue production line assembly work which would leave a majority of 200 workers unemployed by the end of the year.

Woodhouse said the layoffs would be phased over the year and "exact numbers of people laid off and when they would be laid off have not been established yet." Roper plans to maintain the Ingersoll Avenue plant as a parts depot and service parts centre which will be operated by a skeleton staff.

"Not all 200 employees will be affected because there will have to be some left to run the warehouse and service end of it, but certainly a good majority will be laid off."

Both federal and provincial government representatives met with Roper Wednesday to try iron out some of the problems and examine potential sources of help for laid off workers.

Roper said the decision to shut down assembly line production was based on economics and financial cost factors and a slumping Canadian market for snowthrowers, lawnmowers and

other landscape machinery manufactured at the plant.

"Our products are sold in the United States and Canada, but there hasn't been the growth in the Canadian market to warrant continued production here," he said. "The company has found it's not economically feasible to continue manufacturing in Canada to supply to the United States market," he said. "All cost factors were evaluated and carefully considered before the

decision was made."

"The company found that it would be more financially feasible to supply out of United States plants rather than the Canadian plant," he said.

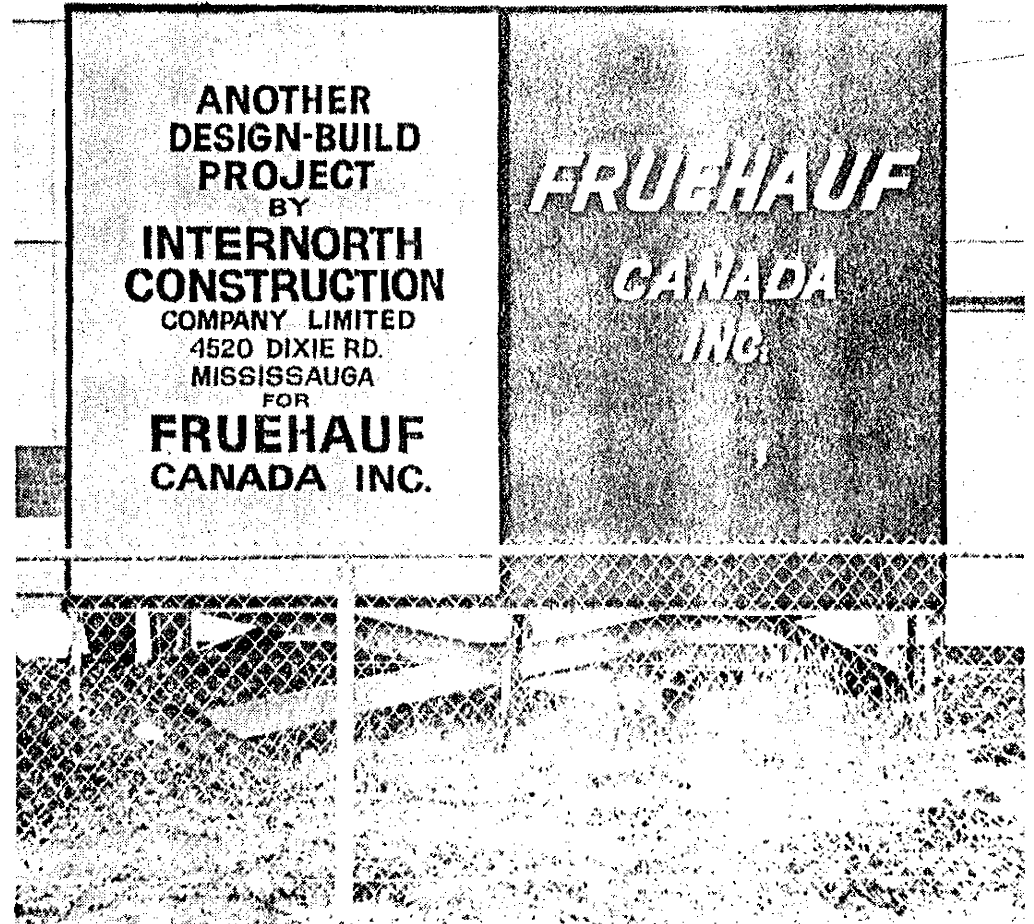
Woodhouse said the decision to wind down production was based on long term-economics and financial effects of the business, not poor winter weather.

"The poor winter weather has certainly had its effects on this

year's Canadian sales, but the decision was based on long-term economics and cost factors affecting the industry," he said.

He said company officials and their customers will continue meetings to establish closing dates and to find out what kind of schedule can be worked out with them.

The plant was opened in 1958 by Moto-Mower and was purchased by in 1971 by Roper with headquarters in Illinois.



— Staff photo

LOCAL OFFICIALS are hoping this new plant, Fruehauf, will compensate for the massive layoffs at Roper.

Impact of Ingersoll plant closing may be felt immediately

By GLENN OGILVIE
Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — Ingersoll will probably immediately feel the impact of Roper Moto-Mower's announcement to curtail production line work at its Ingersoll Avenue plant, town industrial development officer Ted Hunt said Wednesday.

Roper, a subsidiary of an Illinois-based parent corporation and a major employer in the town, made the decision, based on financial and economical reasons, to phase out production within the year.

That will leave nearly 200 employees looking for work.

"Although the layoffs will be phased and spread out over the remainder of the year, which will mean it will keep the employees working a bit longer, the impact of it will probably hit

Ingersoll immediately," Hunt said in an interview.

"When a town is faced with a layoff situation like this, people will not make the expenditures they were planning to make, but just get by instead," he said.

Roper is planning to maintain a skeleton staff to run a parts and service supply depot and supply its customers — mainly American — from United States manufacturing plants.

"There's no doubt in my mind the economic impact of this will be felt by the retail merchants," Hunt said. "Any small town the size of Ingersoll would be affected by a layoff this size and would definitely suffer economic repercussions."

Bob Woodhouse, Roper's general manager, said the decision to wind down production was based on Canada's sagging economy and declining Canadian sales of snowthrowers and lawnmower

products manufactured at the Ingersoll plant.

"Our products are sold in the United States and Canada, but there hasn't been the growth in the Canadian market to warrant production here," Woodhouse said. "The company says it will be more economical and financially feasible to supply customers from United States plants."

Both Woodhouse and Hunt are looking toward Fruehauf Trailers, building a new plant in the town's industrial park, to solve some of the employment problems left by Roper, although there is little they can do to secure work for the laid off employees.

"But we'll do everything to provide maximum security for our people as possible," Woodhouse said.

Fruehauf is expected to begin hiring about 200 needed workers

within the next few months in preparation of a June start-up date.

"You lose a plant, but on the other hand we're gaining a plant, which puts us back to square one again in one sense of the word," he said.

Woodhouse said his employees will be advised to submit applications to Fruehauf as soon as the company begins hiring.

"I'm not saying Fruehauf is going to hire all Roper workers, but jobs are on the horizon and Roper employees should make their application out," Hunt said. "All we know is that Fruehauf is going to need 200 workers in the near future."

"I think they (Fruehauf) will certainly look in the immediate area to hire first, and if they can't find the labor they're looking for would then have to look somewhere else."

Plant to halt production, 200 jobs lost

INGERSOLL (Bureau) — Roper of Canada Ltd. will phase out its manufacturing operations by the end of the year, putting about 200 employees out of work, general manager Bob Woodhouse said Wednesday.

The company manufactures lawnmowers and snowthrowers.

Woodhouse said the decision to close is based on economic and financial reasons. Sales of the company's snowthrowers are continuing to rise in the U.S. but not in Canada, he said.

"There has not been significant growth in the Canadian market. Things are not booming as they have been in the past."

The company, which located here in the early '60s, will work with provincial and federal officials to help laid off male and female employees find other jobs, he said.

Woodhouse said a two-week strike at the plant last fall had no affect on the company's decision to shut down its assembly-line production.

Roper of Canada Ltd. is a subsidiary of the U.S.-based Roper Corporation, which has headquarters in Illinois.

The Ingersoll building, the company's only Canadian location, will be maintained as a warehouse and service-parts outlet.

LONDON FREE PRESS
January 17, 1980

LONDON FREE PRESS
January 17, 1980

Employees have mixed views on shutdown of Roper plant

BY MARGARET BOYD

Employees at Roper Canada Limited have had time to adjust to the news of the plant shut down but most still find it to be "a shock."

"I never expected it to close," said Marg Gee, an assembly lead hand, who had been at Roper for four years. "As for future plans, I don't know. I'll try to get another job."

She said that she worked one day last week with four days off. She has put her name in at other places.

"They (Roper) keep you informed but I don't know exactly what's going on," she said. Mrs. Gee lives in Ingersoll.

John Kolodij, R.R.4, Ingersoll, works as a lift truck operator and has some seniority in the plant.

"The plant still has about 40,000 lawn mowers to manufacture," he said. "After that, I don't know. It's based on rumor but maybe they'll have 25 people working in the service department after manufacturing ceases."

Mr. Kolodij said that he had not started looking for another job.

"I don't know how they'll do the layoffs, whether by seniority or what," he said. "I'll start looking for another job next

month. It's too soon now, nobody is hiring anywhere."

He is optimistic about finding another job and said, "If you're willing to work, you can find a job some place."

Kim Witty, who has worked for Roper a year and a half, said that it was a surprise when they announced the shutdown.

"No one ever expected it," she said.

She hasn't worked since last Monday and was told not to come in until she is called in.

"I'm looking for another job, I'll take one if I get one," she said. In the meantime she is waiting to be called in so that she can work. She added that a final notice of work ending will have to be by mail.

Chris Reeves, who works in the Roper warehouse, said that the announced shut down didn't come as a surprise to him.

Mr. Reeves is still working and said that

he will be for a while longer.

"On Monday the lines ran for two hours and that was it," he said. "People stand around playing floor hockey although some want to work."

He blamed the shutdown (which will take place after the manufacturing section is phased out over six months) on the employees.

"A lot of it is the people, they don't care and they tried to get out of work," he said.

Roper, a Canadian branch of the Illinois-based corporation, announced the decision to phase out production within the next six months, last Monday. Bob Woodhouse, plant manager, cited economic and financial reasons for the shutdown. The plant will be used as a warehouse and will retain service parts and plant personnel on staff.

Roper Mower Co.

INGERSOLL TIMES
JANUARY 23 1980

Ex-Roper workers said in for tough time finding jobs

By GLENN OGILVIE

Sentinel-Review staff writer
INGERSOLL — Employees left jobless over the closing of Roper Moto-Mower may be finding it tough to find another job, says Nancy Kolodij, president of Local 3313 of the United Steel Workers of America.

Roper recently announced it was closing down production at the Ingersoll plant because of economical factors and declining Canadian sales and will leave about 170 Ingersoll and area employees looking for work.

"Some people are very upset. We have at least five husband and wife couples who work there and they're being asked to leave, but what can you do about something like this," she said in an interview.

Mrs. Kolodij recently attended an area labor council meeting and got the impression other area plants are laying off employees, which will not help the plight of the 170 Roper workers.

"There are a lot of workers being laid off all over the area during this time of the year," she said. "It sounds like there's not that many jobs around right now."

She said representatives from Unemployment Insurance Commission were at the meeting to explain proper procedure to fill out claims forms.

Roper will maintain a skeleton staff to handle a parts warehouse and supply depot and

will leave manufacturing to United States plants. About 70 workers have already been laid off and the rest will be laid off during the remaining year.

She said the company hasn't helped employees find alternative work yet, although company officials have told the union job references will be supplied. Former employees have not been offered inconvenience settlements to relocate and Mrs. Kolodij says she doesn't think an offer will be made.

"I don't think the company here knows that much about what's going on. It will probably be a couple more weeks before anything is finalized," she said.

The Ingersoll plant manufactured snow throwers, lawn mowers and other small outdoor maintenance machinery and is a subsidiary of a United States-based corporation.

"I don't know when the States knew they would be closing down the plant, but I don't think the company here has held anything back from us," she said. "Everytime they find out something here they let us know about it...it's been good that way."

Mrs. Kolodij said the company and union have always had a good relationship and the union doesn't feel the closure had anything to do with the union.

"We don't feel it was any fault of ours that the plant is closing down, we've always had a good relationship with the company

and the strike last fall didn't have anything to do with it," she said.

She said there were a few short-term emergency lay-offs in January and production was "a day here and a day there, but it's pretty well steady now."

The company is waiting for directives from its parent corporation to find out how many more lawn mowers have to be produced before final production ceases, she said.

"There's no hope the company will restart again," she said.

Mrs. Kolodij said the union was in the process of receiving a charter, but was cancelled because of the announcement to close down the plant.

"The company has been treating us fairly well, considering what's been happening," she said.



Oxford MPP Kimble Sutherland cuts the ribbon, officially opening the new offices of Ross Dixon Financial Services in Ingersoll. Attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from left) franchise owner Hugh Ponting, Heritage Queen Paula Whittaker, Ian Moyer, Sutherland, and Mayor Doug Harris. (Mike Switzer photo)

Ingersoll Times
Oct 3, 1990

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA



BANK SOON TO BE DEMOLISHED

The familiar building that houses the Royal Bank of Canada at the corner of Thames and King Street will be demolished within the next two months. Tenders have been

called for the demolition of the structure where the bank established in 1912. The bank will move to temporary quarters at 25 King St. W. during construction. The Royal Bank

building was erected in 1907 at a cost of \$27,000. No estimate was available on cost of proposed new bank building which will be erected on original site. (Staff Photo)

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA



NEW BANK BUILDING FOR TOWN

This is an artist's conception of the new Royal Bank building to be constructed at the corner of Thames and Oxford Streets. Demolition is

already under way on the old bank building constructed during the mid-80s. The \$250,000 project is expected to be ready within six months.

Meanwhile, the bank is operating out of temporary quarters at 25 King St. (Staff Photo)

Staff Photo
May 18, 1971

SENTINEL REVIEW
May 18, 1971

Bank centennial

INGERSOLL — The Royal Bank is celebrating its centennial in Ingersoll on Wednesday, Sept. 23.

The original Traders' Bank of Canada opened at the corner of Thames Street South and King Street on Sept. 26, 1887, one of four branches in the area.

In 1912, the Traders' Bank was purchased by the Royal Bank of Canada. Construction on the new building began in 1969 with the official opening on Valentine's Day, 1970.

Bank manager Bev Cofell was surprised to learn he was one of only 11 managers in the history of the Ingersoll bank.

During the week of Sept. 21, staff will dress in costumes reminiscent of days gone by. Cofell pointed out historical accuracy wasn't the aim. "For one thing, women didn't work in banks 100 years ago." There will be historical displays including photographs and old money.

On Wednesday, the doors will open a little early for the cake cutting at 9:30 a.m. Cofell is inviting the public join in the celebration.

SENTINEL REVIEW

September 19, 1987

Centennial

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in costumes reminiscent of days gone by. Cofell pointed out historical accuracy wasn't the aim. "For one thing, women didn't work in banks 100 years ago." There will be historical displays including photographs and old money.

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SENTINEL REVIEW

September 21, 1987

Serving customers with a smile



The Royal Bank in Ingersoll is a busy place. A barrage of people come in and out all day long and according to personal banking representative Betty Jean-Louis, it is just as busy behind the scenes.

"Behind the scenes there is a lot of paper work to do," she said.

Jean-Louis has worked at the bank for 20 years. She began working as a teller before being promoted to head teller, the manager's secretary, and finally to the position she now enjoys.

"I like my job very much," she said, especially meeting people.

"It's a friendly town," she said. "You get to meet a lot of people. It's not the hustle and bustle like in the big cities."

Jean-Louis has lived in Ingersoll all of her life and said she has always enjoyed working with the public.

"I think we have a very friendly bank and an approachable staff. We have a lot of regular customers."

Although her job can be pretty hectic at times, Jean-Louis feels there are no drawbacks to working at the bank, even on the busiest of days.

"I always try and do a good job," she said with a smile.

INGERSOLL TIMES

September 28 1988

People profile

NAME: John Shepley

POSITION: Manager of personal banking, Royal Bank Ingersoll branch

BORN: Sept. 24, 1946

WHAT YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR JOB: Dealing with the public and the variety of work in the bank. I enjoy probing to find out what a customer needs and finding a product to meet that need.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS YOU ARE PROUDEST OF: Winning the General Manager's High Achievement award for the Royal Bank for exceptional service in 1989.

FIRST JOB: Was a manager trainee in Stoney Creek. Shepley was always interested in banking. He developed a keen interest in the stock market in high school.

SECRET VICE: Like to have fun.

PET PEEVEE: People who abuse government programs.

WHAT THREE WORDS DESCRIBE YOU BEST: Hardworking, aggressive, fun-loving.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET AROUND TO DOING ONE OF THESE DAYS: I would like to

take a trip back to Switzerland with my family.

WHOM IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE DINNER WITH: My wife Michelle.

YOUR DREAM VACATION: A cruise with my wife Michelle.

YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE OR SHOW: I like the news and watching baseball.

THREE THINGS THAT CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR: Purified water, fresh vegetables, beer or wine.

INGERSOLL'S BEST ASSETS: A fantastic golf course, and friendly people.

WHAT IS YOUR PET PEEVE ABOUT OXFORD COUNTY?: The political process. He was most disappointed in seeing a mall that was to be developed on along Highway 401 be turned down.

PEOPLE MAY BE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT: People see me as a serious banker, but I enjoy socializing. When I was in Windsor, the members of the Italian community there taught me how to make homemade wine, and I've been doing it for eight years.

WHEN DO YOU THINK THE RECESSION WILL END? I believe it will be over in 15 months.



John Shepley

Daily Sentinel Review
Feb. 23, 1991

FEATURES

Local hairdresser runs own shop for 25 years

BY LIZ DADSON

Ruth Elaine Keeley has seen hairstyles change, from page boys and pixie cuts to hair colored green or purple and initials trimmed into the back of youngsters' hair.

It's all part of the job for the hairdresser who has operated her own shop in Ingersoll for the past 25 years.

She has been styling hair for more than 30 years but her first shop was on Thames Street in the back of the building which now houses Jingles Hair Design. Her shop was moved to where the condominiums now sit beside Samuel's Restaurant.

She then opened the shop at 65 King St. E. where she has been for almost six years.

The native of Merlin has been a resident of Ingersoll for 29 years. She and her husband, Art, have two children.

Keeley said she decided to be a hairdresser after meeting her friend's sister who was a hairdresser. "I thought I'd be like her."

She learned the art at Beauty



Hairdresser Ruth Elaine Keeley brushes the hair of her receptionist for 17 years, Bev Phillips. Keeley has operated her own shop for 25 years. (Liz Dadson photo)

Culture, a hairdressing school in Windsor. Shortly after opening her first shop, she taught hairdressing at Paul Pague's Hairdressing School in London for a

while.

Keeley noted that hairstyles change, the former ones return then disappear, only to return again later on.

The trend of women getting blonde streaks in their hair came in a long time ago, she said, while highlighting a woman's hair with the woman's own color became a fad about 10 years ago.

In an average day, Keeley will have about 13 to 14 clients.

"A lot of people come back," she said. "Over half of my clientele have been coming here for 20 to 25 years. They move away and they keep coming back."

The shop is closed Mondays, with hours set at 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday. A hair cut costs \$7.50 plus tax for men or women.

Keeley said she feels good about being in business with her own shop for 25 years. "I was asked if I would like another 25 years and I said, 'Yes.'"

While most hairdressing shops are reputed for being places for gossip, Ruth Elaine's shop doesn't dwell it.

"There's a difference between being a gossip and being interested in people," she said. "I hope there's no gossip in my shop. I don't like gossip."

RUTH ELAINE



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Mrs. M. M. Garvey, of Detroit, writer of the following, will be remembered as the only child of the late Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Sage, of Ingersoll.

A few folks will remember the sign A. F. Sage, Liquor Merchant, Wholesale and Retail, and in the window standing on a platform was an oversized bottle of G. H. Mums Champagne, Mitchell Scotch and Irish Whiskey, John Dekiper and Holland Gins, White Horse, Ushers, Hennessy Three Star Brandy, Wines Imported and Native, Labatts, Carlings, many other brands that would tempt the connoisseur.

The younger generation will say "Where was this place?" Today J. Morello has his grocery and fruit store in this famous old landmark.

Anthony Francis Sage was born in North Norwich on the fifth Concession, on April 5, in the year of Our Lord 1870, the son of the late John Redmond and Ellen Oscallaghan Sage. When he was eight days old he was hustled off to the little old Catholic Church to be cleansed of Original Sin and made a member of God's Kingdom by the Rev. Joseph Bayard. As a boy he attended the old Miller school, in Norwich, the teacher being Mr. Wm. Sterton. In 1887 his father died and left his widow with ten children, and from that time they were on their own.

Mr. Frank Brady was the owner of a liquor store and Anthony worked for him. Many people will recall the late James Brady, who later became sheriff, his lovely wife and fine family. Their former home was the residence of the R. B. Hutt's on Oxford St., known in those days as Quality Hill. During Anthony's clerkship with Mr. Brady he learned a great deal about life in general and the people who make it up.

These people of old possessed a very fine sense of humor and many funny stories were told, about the following. When Mr. Brady was an apprentice in a Drug Store his employer had a nice little racket all his own. In the cellar he had one barrel of castor oil and from this one barrel he had three brands, the following, high potency, medium and the low grade. On Sundays he always carried a very large Bible, it being rather awkward he had straps on it, who his name was I am not able to furnish it.

Daniel O'Neil bought the store from Bradys but poor Dan preferred his card games to business and in 1902 Anthony bought the old store from the O'Neils. This store became the forum of the town, many topics were discussed there. There

were people of all nationalities, the Chinaman from two doors away, coming in to make a long distance call to Paris or Brantford and sobbing over a Fan-Tan game and the only English that could be understood was "Oh Mun Mun Mun."

The late Mr. George Walker coming to discuss the day's topics, and meeting the brethren from the Masonic Lodge. Mr. Walker forgetting he was in the company of a Roman Catholic and letting the cat out of the bag to divulge the name of some unfortunate who needed assistance and how a collection was taken up to tide them over until their bad luck changed. Then Mr. Walker would remember where he was and would swear Anthony to secrecy. Good days, Good Old Friends.

Looking out the store door one could see Ma Ferguson, whose daughter was to become the famous "Sister Aimee" and was to take the people of California by storm. Ma tying her mare up to the hitching post in front of Lorne Healy's father's store, going about her shopping and the impatient mare untying herself, Mr. Healy coming out and tying it up, kindness everywhere.

In the afternoon the tall proud figure of the late Joseph Kirwin coming in to see his foster-sons, Anthony and George, this being the occasion of much laughing and story telling. Mr. Kirwin was their father's closest friend, and had a warm spot in his heart for the Sages. Looking today at Mr. Kirwin one would think they were looking at an ancient prophet, the snow-white hair, the long beard, straight shoulders, blue eyes as clear as the Lakes of Kilarney, or one might say he reminded them of the old Celtic Chieftain who drove Caesar's Legions off the Irish coast. "Come right into the back, and I'll give you a horn (the horn being a drink), and sit down make yourself at home." My father was a very cautious man, about dispensing his wares as he was always on thin ice never knowing when the Liquor Inspector would sweep down on him and accuse him of selling Liquor by the glass. Mr. Kirwin was on the war-path. It seemed the late John Boles, the owner of the gents' furnishing and tailoring shop a few doors down had invited him to go for a ride. Not knowing the scheme Mr. Boles had in mind Mr. Kirwin accepted. They drove up to this farm house, Mr. Boles telling Mr. Kirwin to wait in the buggy he would be but a short while. Mr. Kirwin waited and finally out comes Mr. Boles all smiles. When they were driving along Mr. Boles informs Mr. Kirwin that he had a

purpose for taking him out to the country. The farmer whose home he was at owed him some money and he told the man he had the sheriff sitting out in his buggy and if he didn't come across with the money the sheriff would seize his property, the man believed him and paid his bill. One can imagine a proud man like Joseph Kirwin to be made a fool out of . . . and as only to imagine the tongue-lashing Mr. Boles received by the indignant Mr. Kirwin. Never was he so insulted offering him a ride in good faith, and then the climax.

The early fall was a very busy time for Jerry Kurrie. He did all the hauling from the GTR and the CPR whiskies, brandies, champagne and wines from all over Europe were shipped into Ingersoll and delivered to the store. The storage room looked more like the Black Hole of Calcutta than a store room. Hydro was in its infancy and the dark room was lighted by a kerosene lamp and candles. When all the stock was placed in order the room was locked like the cell block in Kingston Prison, and everything was in order for the Christmas season.

Christmas was a lovely season, fowl strung up in front of Healy's store, holly wreaths, sleigh bells, men hauling ice from Smith's Pond over to the I.P.C. for storage, children riding on the empty sleighs coming back for more ice, all over the town children on their sleighs, skating or playing in the pure white snow. Josh Henderson coming in to buy his gin and being greeted by a big smile, Josh good old Josh, God rest his soul, and the kind heart that beat underneath his black skin, a nobler man never lived. My father had the greatest respect for this freed slave. Driving up the alley and coming in the back door Tommy Kitchen who drove a dray, and being a member of the Salvation Army wouldn't dare come in the front door to purchase his (case or keg of all) ale to you moderns. I was playing in the back of the store and I could see Tommy wrapping his keg with a burlap bag not to arouse people's suspicions, sneaking out the back door and driving away like mad.

Many a tale of sorrow, joy, tragedy and humor was told. My father always told about Tom Tims, a native from Ulster coming in with his banishec voice whining "Poor Jimmy's gone, Poor Jimmy being Mr. James Boles.

Sons from the British Isles, France, Spain, Portugal and Holland not to mention other foreign countries representing the world's finest distilleries and winerys, being escorted by the salesmen from Montreal and Toronto to meet their customers, and relating many interesting tales of their homeland and its peoples.

Yes times have changed, 37 years have gone by very quickly. Local option coming in May 1, 1913, and the dismantling of the store and moving down on King St. West, the war clouds gathering over Europe, Belgium being invaded, England declaring war on Germany, and the marching of young feet to the tune of the piper in the person of the Johnson family, stout young hearts who never knew they would never march down Thames Street again. When this store went out of existence many things disappeared and went with it. My father's heart as he was never the same person, the blow fell hard on an innocent person who had kept the letter of the law but had to suffer with the guilty.

To you, Anthony Sage, as a loyal son of Canada, and a son of a pioneer family I pay this tribute. Your store was a credit to you and the principles you believed in. The following scene: The Misses Simpsons coming in to make their purchases and meeting the Rev. R. J. M. Perkins, who was purchasing his communion wine, and having a friendly chat about health, things in general and St. James' Anglican church.

In my ten short years I lived up over the store and amidst the surroundings I learned a great lesson of tolerance, both religious and racial. I am proud of my heritage, I have tried to put into practice the acts of kindness I saw and learned in your store. Memories that are never forgotten only by the Grim Reaper when he calls me home.

TRIBUNE

March 9, 1950

ONCE WAS SWINGIN'

James Henderson Recalls St Charles Hotel In Its Heyday

Jim Henderson, 90, viewed the backhoe crashing into the walls of the St. Charles Hotel building ... and remembered:

"It used to be quite a place in it's day," he recalled nostalgically.

"There were a lot of hotels in Ingersoll in the old days. There was the Red Onion down near where the Presbyterian Church stands -- across from it was the Atlantic House. The Carrall Hotel did a big business up on the corner of King and Hall Streets and the Dereham House was on the corner of Oxford and King West, diagonally across from the old Daly House.

"Across the tracks stood the McCarty Hotel. Did you know the Morrow plant at the corner of Victoria used to be the horse barn for the McCarty?"

But the swingiest time of all seemed to be had at the Kirwin House, torn down a few years ago on Oxford Street.

Mr. Henderson recalls with a chuckle how the inhabitants of "Tipperary" -- the Catholic settlement south of Ingersoll and the Scottish settlers from the Embro area used to meet there to drink and fight.

"March 17th and July 12th used to be red letter days for the orange and the green.

"Funny thing though," Mr. Henderson mused, "when the Irish took over the Kirwin House on March 17, the Embro chaps would come in and drink with them until the arguments got hot enough -- then the fight would start. On July 12 it was the same story except that the Irish came to bait the Orangemen.

"Ah! Those were great days" he mused with a sigh.

BEER FOR 15 CENTS
A quart of beer sold for 15 cents in those days around the turn of the century. "You went with your pail, the bartender pulled the tap and away you went with your full bucket to drink it with your dinner".

When the then-young Jim was apprenticing in his trade as a tinsmith and plumber at the firm of Steve King located where Roberts' dress shop now stands, he often was sent to the McMurray House, later to become the St. Charles Hotel for the workers' noonday beer.

The McMurray House had wood stoves in winter and a gang of fellows would meet to "chew the fat" and dream up pranks to play on one another.

Mr. Henderson recalls one of the typical pranks of "the gang": one of the members of the fear-

less yet fearful lot invited the others to an oyster supper on the river flats, promising to bring the oysters.

When they held out their plates he piled them high, but staring at each would-be feaster was a pile of pigs' eyes. Their questionably generous host of the evening worked in the local pork factory and had saved up pigs' eyes for days in order to pull this stunt on his friends.

STUCK IN THE MUD

This same gang got in an argument in the McMurray House one evening with the debate growing hot on the topic of whether or not a Negro's skull was so strong that a blow on the head would not kill him. They decided to put it to the test.

A hapless Negro, possibly a stableboy at one of the local establishments, was "taken for a walk" by the men trying this "scientific experiment".

Reaching their favorite haunt on the river flats, one of the members dealt the Negro a blow on the head with a thick piece of plank. The Negro dropped like a felled ox.

CORNER

The gang now had a real problem. They had a body on their hands. How to dispose of it? One of the stalwarts had a brilliant idea -- toss the body in the river.

Two shouldered the body as the group moved toward the river and Wonham Street where the predecessor to the swinging bridge spanned the water.

Grumbling that their experiment had been a failure, they dropped the Negro into the water.

However, they had not reckoned with the muddy bottom. The dead man had developed a distinct case of rigor mortis while the gang meditated his method of disposal so when plopped overboard he stood upright in the mud. There the authorities found him in the morning.

Mr. Henderson recalls that the subsequent court case could not prove who had done the deed so the case was dismissed.

Mr. Henderson hastens to note that while he was a listener to the notorious tales of "the gang" he never was a member of this wild group.

LIQUID ANTI-FREEZE

The bedrooms of the hotel had no heat so the guests were prone to taking on liquid anti-freeze in the warm bar before venturing to their chambers upstairs in winter. The hotel, then flat-roofed, did not boast central heating until years later and then the heat went into the halls only.

The hotel stable was located across the street where Ashton's now have a service station.

Winter would see the district swains parking their cutters and sleighs around the building while a stableboy saw to their horses.

Mr. Henderson recalls one particular group of gentlemen who stayed too long at the bar and ended up offering all comers a ride home in their cutter.

When they found the cutter had more passengers than its capacity, they put one chap on the back of the horse and drew away

while the hapless youth desperately struggled to hold his seat among the harness as the frisky animal pointed its nose toward home.

The McMurray House was owned by the O'Callahans and was known as O'Callahan's Hotel according to Mr. Henderson's mother who used to tell him of early Ingersoll.

It was around the turn of the century it became known as the St. Charles.

FATHER GREW HOPS

Young Jim was born in North Oxford where his father and grandfather grew hops. Needless to say the elder Mr. Henderson was known locally as "Hop Henderson" from his occupation. He sold his produce to the local brewery which was located on

Avonlea Street.

On his father's farm also were the barracks where farmer soldiers trained to do battle during the Fenian raids. His father was captain of the local platoon and regaled young Jim with many stories of the soldiers going to Windsor to fight the enemy.

Upon their arrival they were greeted with laughter at the station and called "farmers" whereupon the elder Henderson jabbed one heckler with his sword. The warning sufficed and the levity subsided.

Not all the local young men were enamoured of hunting down Fenians and one chap, so Mr. Henderson Sr. related, ate soap to feign illness.

The reluctant soldier had not counted on the strength of home-made lye soap concocted from the juice of wood ashes and pig fat and he nearly died from the effects.

Cock fighting used to be a favorite pastime and before the worthies moved from the McMurray house to the quarters above a barber shop across the street for the current match, they sent out a decoy to mislead the police.

This decoy would carry a suspicious-looking sack under his arm and would make a big thing of "sneaking" away -- making sure the police were in hot pursuit.

When the constabulary caught up with the decoy they would find his sack stuffed with newspapers rather than the spurred cockerel they anticipated.

Meantime "the boys" enjoyed a lively cockfight and won or lost on their favorite.

NEIGHBOR FOR YEARS

Mr. Henderson moved to his location on Charles Street around 1920 and was neighbor to the St. Charles Hotel for all the years since that time.

He recalls that the portion of the St. Charles recently torn down used to be the kitchen and many interesting scents used to waft across the high board fence which divided the lane between his and the hotel property.

"They were good old days," concluded Mr. Henderson.

"You had to be made of good stuff to survive and no one thought a thing of walking many miles back then.

"It was nothing for folk to walk into town from Embro.

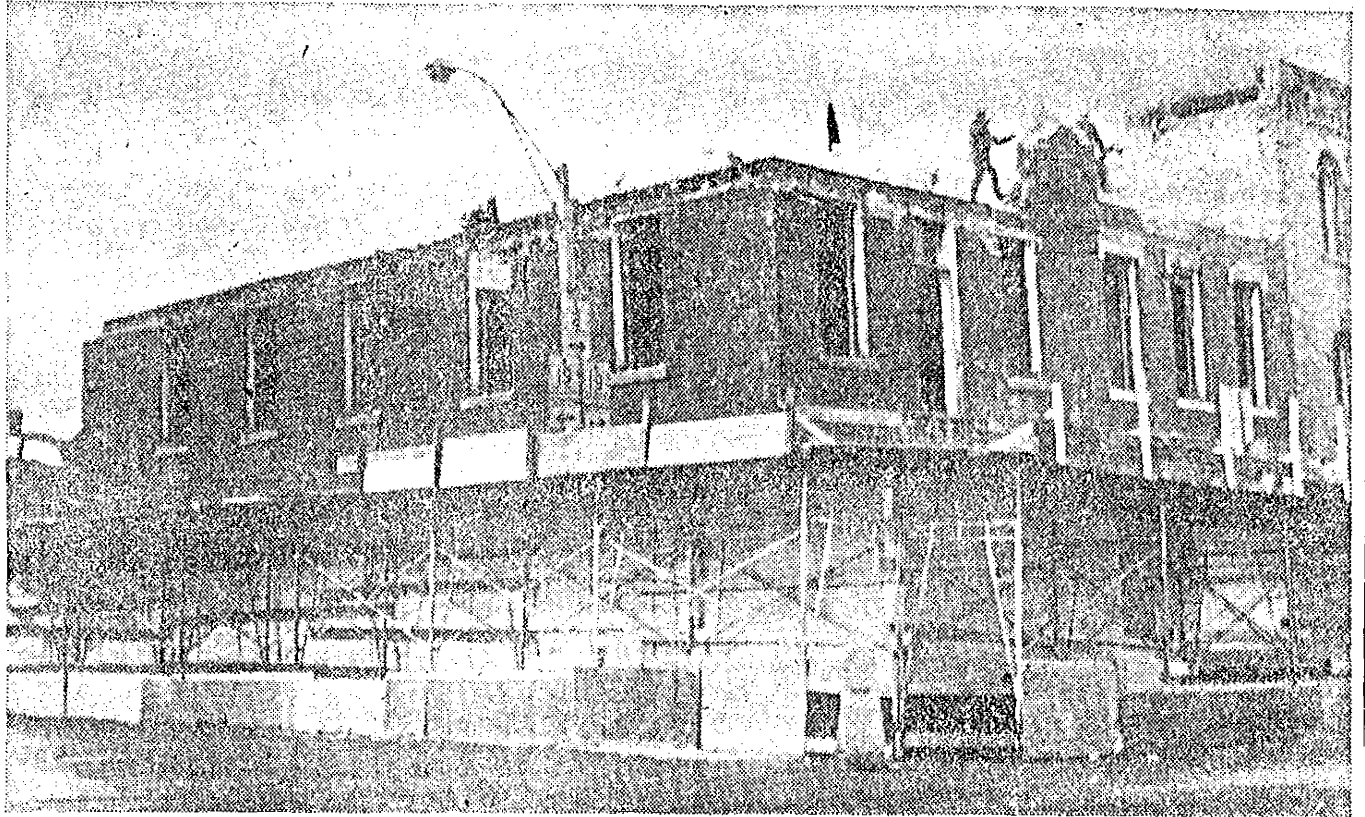
"In fact, my mother used to tell me how they used to walk to Beachville to service at the first mission in an old blacksmith's shop which still is standing. The forest was so thick then that they followed a trail blazed on the trees.

"Yes, indeed. This old hotel has seen a lot of Ingersoll's history and I'm glad to know it is going to be given a new lease on life by the present owners".

September 9, 1969

(Page 2 of 2)

ST. CHARLES HOTEL

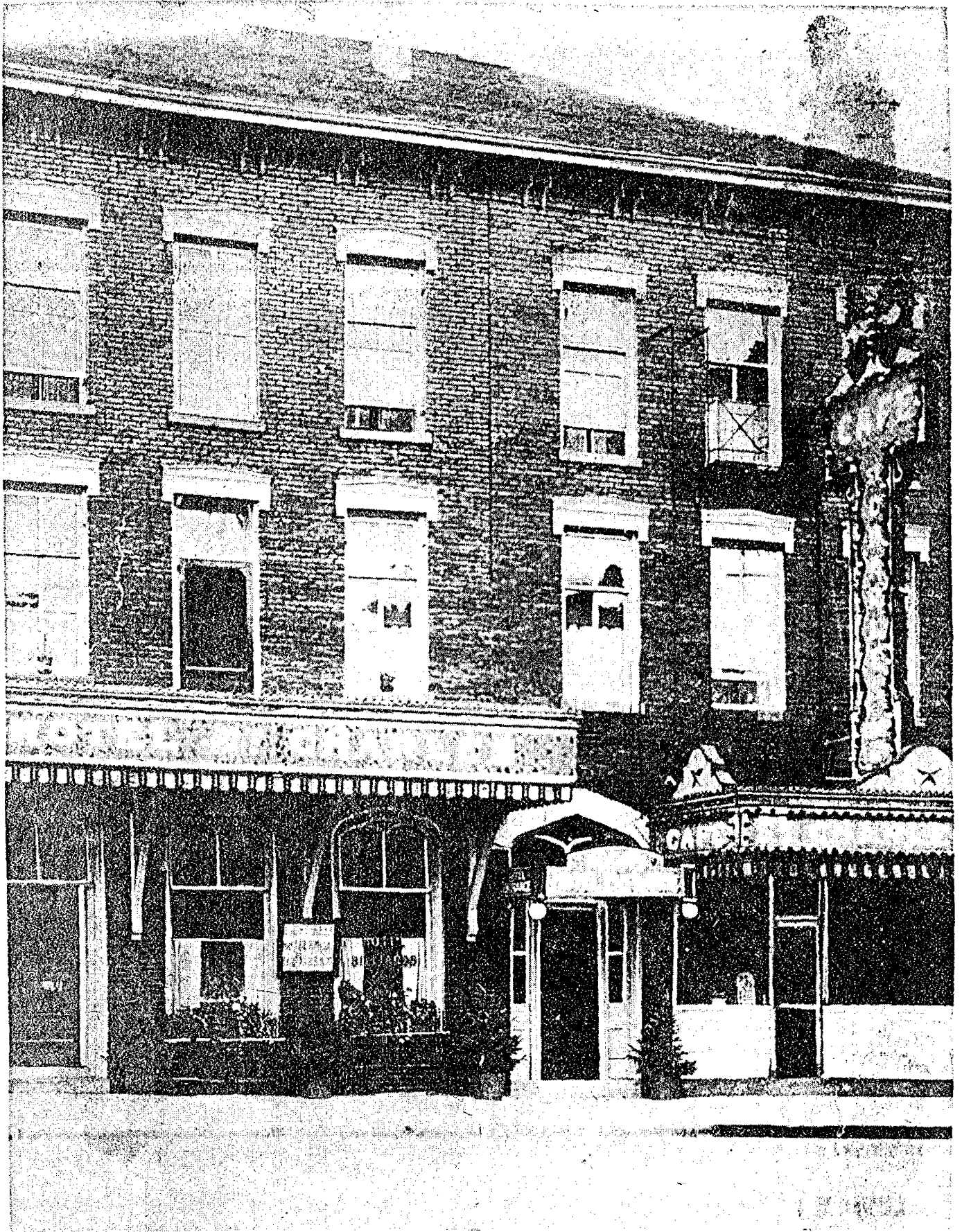


OLD HOTEL ON THE WAY DOWN

It's one storey down and two more to go. Construction workers have torn apart the upper storey of St. Charles Hotel at the corner of Charles and Thames Streets. The de-

molution of the building will make way for a third lane on Charles Street. Next job for the demolition group will be to tear down the buildings be-

tween the hotel and cinema as part of the same road widening job. The picture was taken before yesterday's snow storm hit the town.

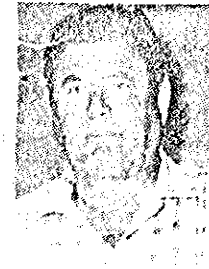


THE ST CHARLES HOTEL IN THE LONG AGO

SENTINEL REVIEW
February 24, 1971

GEORGE HAYES

St. Charles Hotel
was gathering spot



Dewan Festival Garden is situated at the main intersection of Ingersoll and a number of fellows sit on the benches and sometimes rehash sports.

But not like it used to be when the St. Charles Hotel stood on the same spot and was the gathering place for all the sports enthusiasts in the town.

The proprietor was Gus Morello, an avid sportsman who for years never missed a World Series and, if there was a big hockey game in Toronto or somewhere in the district, Gus and a carload of his customers were there.

There used to be four tables in his pool room and they were usually busy. Ingersoll had some real good men with a cue such as Spike Barrow, Fred Storey, Bert Bagnall, Tom Morrison and others.

Morello was generally conceded the best but he seldom got in the pea pool games which were popular at the time. I know a couple of fellows who scratched out a pretty good living playing pool during the Great Depression.

HOT SHOTS

If a hot shot hit town, Morello would usually take him on. George Chenier, who later became one of the best billiard and snooker players in the world, used to come to Ingersoll in those days but he never came to Morello's because the St. Charles had only pool tables. Instead he went to Peter Stankako's place.

Chenier was just starting out then but he was a good one.

The fellows who hung around the St. Charles were a great bunch. Everybody had their favorite teams and that would start some pretty good arguments. There would be days when fifty or sixty would gather there. In the winter it would be the Toronto Maple Leaf fans against the Montreal Canadiens

Tom Morrison, who became mayor of Ingersoll and was one of the best, was a great sport. He used to go to the World Series with Morello and he'd talk baseball by the hour.

We used to call him "Connie Mack" because he was tall like the manager of the Philadelphia Athletics and he talked quietly like Mack. I don't think I ever heard Tom raise his voice. He settled a lot of arguments.

CLOSE AT HAND

Now, if any of the fellows wanted a drink they didn't have far to go. In those days Ingersoll had some 70 bootleggers. If you had a good throwing arm you would stand at the corner of Thames and Charles and hit 20 of them.

Besides operating the St. Charles Hotel, Morello also ran the Stratford Casino and the Woodstock Little Casino Dance Hall.

However, the Little Casino's days were numbered. One night it went up in smoke.

For a couple of years Morello had Jack Evan's band play on a regular basis and they boarded at the hotel. When they returned in the early hours of the morning the hotel livened up as Morello always stayed open 24 hours a day.

A lot of travellers stayed at the hotel and one of the most

popular with the fellows was a big fellow named Mitchell who travelled for Neilsons and was from Toronto.

We all called him "Mitch" and Morello would play pool with him and dunk the odd game to keep him happy.

One time a little French-Canadian blew into town named "Frenchy" DeGeorge, who not only said he was the best third baseman in Montreal, but also the best pool shooter. Frenchy got a job at Morrows and his fellow workers got tired of his bragging.

They went to Morello and asked him to play Frenchy a series of straight pool. Then they egged Frenchy into betting on himself. The big night was set and the pool room was packed.

Morello gave him such a beating he hung up his cue and never played in Ingersoll again.

Charlie Pierce, the self-styled "King of the Hobos", used to be a regular visitor. Charlie was an old man who walked from Brantford to Goderich and back. He wore about 25 lbs. of medals on his coat and said he wore out 30 pairs of shoes a year. The fellows got quite a kick out of listening to him. One day Stan Lampkin got him mad when he said, "Charlie, those 30 pairs of shoes were worn out before you got them".

Thrift shop moves

The Salvation Army offers many services to the needy and it recently made a move in order to offer better service to the public, according to Lieutenant Ernie Reid, Core Officer in charge of the Salvation Army in Ingersoll.

The Salvation Army Thrift Store opened its new location on 164 Oxford St. October 2. They now have 1500 square feet of floor space and this is eight to 10 times more than their old location at Thames St. S., says Lieutenant Reid.

New hours for the store are five days a week 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m. and Friday till 9 p.m. being closed Wednesdays and Sundays. The old store was only open three days a week.

The Thrift Store takes donations of anything from clothes to toys, books and furniture and appliances. Lieutenant Reid says they have a demand for children's clothing, furniture and appliances right now and would appreciate any donations of this kind.

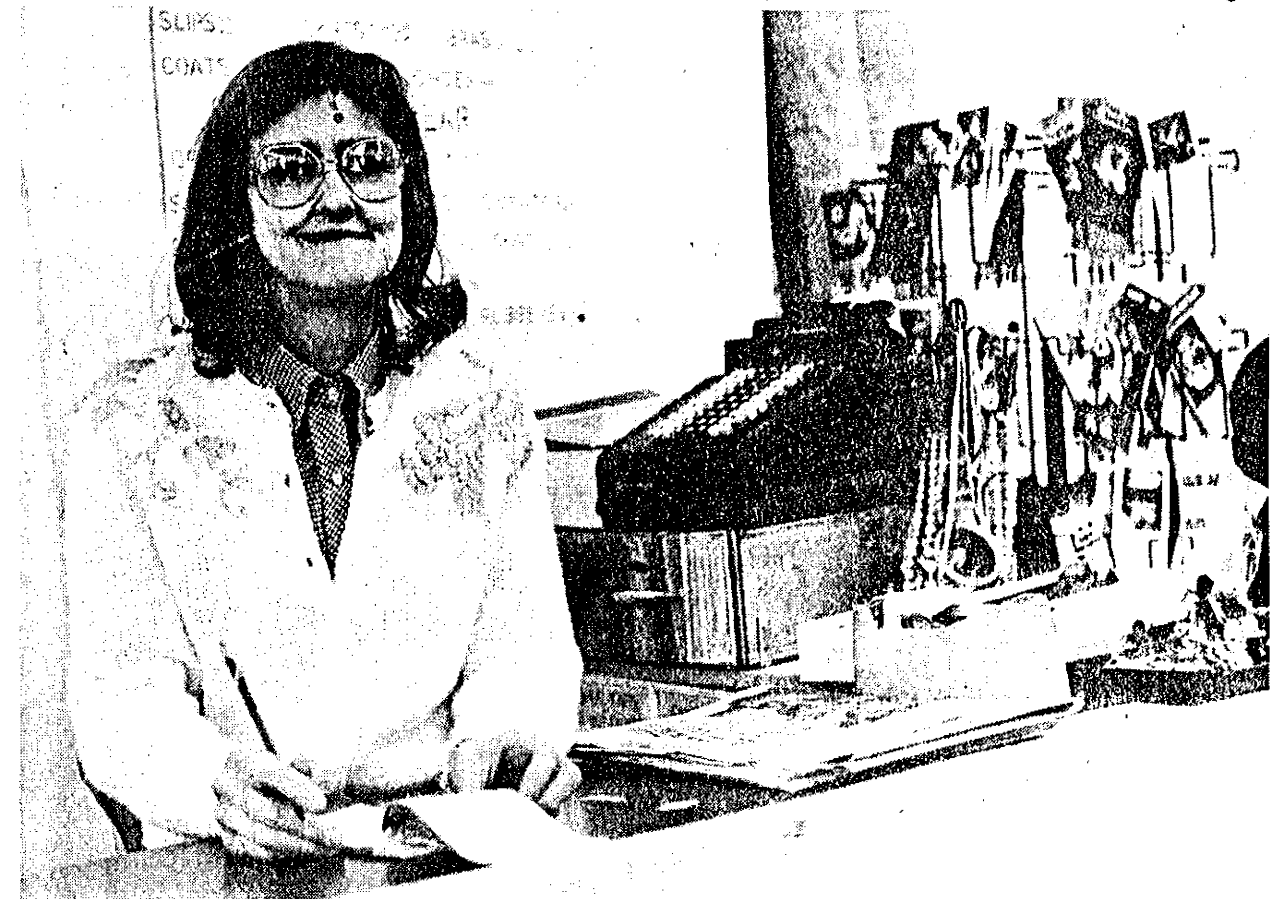
All of the profits from the Thrift Store go towards the welfare assistance program the Salvation Army runs, and the general mainten-

ance of the Salvation Army. Since January, the Salvation Army has given out approximately \$2,000 worth of services, says Lieutenant Reid.

"So far, everything is looking positive. It has really been picking up in the last few days," says the Lieutenant.

INGERSOLL TIMES

October 22, 1980



EVELYN AUSTIN, manager of the Salvation Army Thrift Store in Ingersoll, says sales have been slumping because of a difficulty in

getting appliances and furniture. (Staff photo by Barry Ward)

Fewer appliances donated

Slump's not helping the helpers

By BARRY WARD
Sentinel-Review staff writer
INGERSOLL — The economic slump has hit a local business aimed at helping those in need. Evelyn Austin, manager of the Salvation Army Thrift Store, said there has been a sharp decline in donations of ap-

pliances and furniture on which the shop relies to pay its bills. "It's been really down in the last month," she said. Although the store is run on a non-profit basis, she said the \$1,000 or so in revenue each month is needed to pay rent,

heating and hydro bills. Any money left over is put into the Salvation Army's welfare account for social service work in the community. Mrs. Austin blamed the decline in donations on the economy, saying people were getting more life out of their old appliances like stoves and old furniture like chairs.

"The economy the way it is, people haven't been handing in as many appliances," she said. "People are more or less hanging onto their things." But she also pointed out the store had been without a pickup service since November so some people may have been unable to get their things to the Oxford Street shop.

Another volunteer driver with a truck has been found and will start pickups this Thursday. Anyone having appliances or furniture to give away is asked to call the store at 485-2549.

Mrs. Austin said the store does not have a shortage of clothes, partly because of declining sales which she suggested may have

TROOPS, PICKETS CLASH
DAVAO CITY (AP) — Troops with truncheons broke up a picket line of more than 100 striking cement workers in this southern Philippine city Sunday and arrested a union leader and seven followers on charges of sedition. Military lawyers said Proculo Fuentes, head of the Southern Philippine Labor Federation, and seven followers had instigated the other workers to "form a human barricade" at the gates of the strike-bound Bacnotan Cement Corp., preventing two company trucks from entering. The workers went on strike last week after negotiations for higher wages collapsed.

Plant talk

INGERSOLL — The Ingersoll and District Horticultural Society will be holding a meeting Tuesday night at the Lions Senior Citizens Centre on Thames Street South. Mary Yeoman and Harvey Strickler will give an illustrated talk on The Growing and Care of House Plants. Admission is free and there will be door prizes.

HELICOPTER CRASHES
AOSTA, Italy (Reuter) — A helicopter taking an injured skier to a hospital became entangled in a high-tension wire while taking off Sunday and exploded, killing all four people aboard, police said.

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FOR ACTION WANT ADS RESULTS CALL 539-1266

The Daily Sentinel-Review, Fri., April 22, 1983 Page 5

Salvation Army to close down thrift store

INGERSOLL — The Salvation Army Thrift Store will close permanently at the end of May, but goods will still be available for needy persons.

Because the shop's expenses have outweighed its income in recent months, it will close when the store lease expires at the end of May, Lieutenant Mark Cummings said.

The store, which employs one

person, was opened two years ago to provide inexpensive clothing. The proceeds were used to fund the Salvation Army's welfare efforts.

Any goods not sold by the closing date will be taken to the Salvation Army store in Woodstock. An agreement with the Woodstock store has been made, that enables the Ingersoll Salvation Army to retrieve any items needed for local persons.

SENTINEL REVIEW
April 22, 1983

Thrift store being opened

A new thrift store is being opened in Ingersoll. May 3 will mark the first day of operation for the business which will be located at 110 Thames Street South.

Evelyn Austin is opening the store to meet the continuing needs of the community. With the Salvation Army thrift store closing at the end of May, she feels there will be a void in services provided for people with low incomes.

"I am opening it in order to help people and it will run on the same basis as the Salvation Army store," said the full-time employee of the Salvation Army store.

"I feel there is a need for one here. People on welfare can't afford to make it to Woodstock, or they can't afford to go there to pick things up," she said. Mrs. Austin said she will not be making a profit but will cover expenses and have a small salary for herself. Her main aim is to help the needy in Ingersoll.

The store will have everything from clothes to appliances, all at reason-

able prices, said Mrs. Austin, who will be working on a donation basis for her stock.

She hopes to work in co-operation with the churches and welfare agencies in Ingersoll, by providing merchandise for families in distress or in an emergency situation.

"A lot of customers have been phoning me at home and asking if I would like to pick up things for my store. They would like to keep it in the community rather than take it out," she said.

Mrs. Austin will have her husband and son working in the store until she is finished at the Salvation Army store, which closes at the end of May.

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INGERSOLL TIMES
April 27, 1983

Salvation Army Thrift store re-opens

BY CHERYL STEWART

The Salvation Army has re-opened its Thrift Store. It was closed in the spring due to financial problems and has been opened again at 110 Thames Street South.

"We were paying a salary for a worker, the rent and utilities, and we weren't making enough money to keep it going," said Lieutenant Mark Cummings of the old store.

However, there certainly was an obvious need in the community. So, when we found out the other thrift store (the one located there during the summer months) was going out of business, we thought we would re-open the Salvation Army one again," he said.

Response from the public has been overwhelming. "As soon as the people started to discover we were opening again, almost immediately the stuff began to pour in. As well, the thrift store in Woodstock sent a truckload of things over," he said.

Present stock ranges from knick-knacks, pots and pans, baby's, childrens and adult clothing, to shoes, books, beds, and furniture, all at low prices.

"It is an excellent location. We couldn't ask for anything better. People finally know where the store is and they are coming in. The layout of the shop is certainly much better. I have had people come in and they are surprised and pleased it is a second hand store. We have had a lot of good comments on the looks of the store," he said.

There are four volunteers manning the store now. Hours are Monday to Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday nights until 9 p.m. Working at the store are Ross and Joyce Townson, Edna Phillips and Sylvia Medhurst.

"My goal is to have everyone being paid who is working there," said Lieutenant Cummings. "Not only does the store become a viable source of income, but it is a lot to ask someone to put in eight hours a

day and not get paid. They are volunteers now to see if the Salvation Army thrift store can make money."

All profits from the store are put back directly into Salvation Army work, he stressed. "It helps keep us operating here in Ingersoll. The thrift store becomes a great aid in keeping us running. It goes towards welfare work and our operation."

All donations will be picked up by the Salvation Army by calling 485-4961.

Canine costs

The town of Ingersoll paid \$674 last month for canine control to the Canine Control Shelter in Simcoe.

In its monthly report, the company said it had picked up 12 dogs and puppies as well as six cats and kittens during 30-and-a-half hours of patrolling in September.

Salvation Army moves thrift store

The Salvation Army expect to open the doors of their new thrift shop on King Street February 1.

The thrift store, which has been operating from its Thames St. E. location for four years, will be able to stock more items, including furniture, in the larger King Street facility. The Thames Street store sold mostly clothing and a limited

amount of furniture.

"We felt it was a good time for a move," Salvation Army Captain Melinda McNutt said.

The front of the King Street building, which has been vacant for some time, is currently being renovated. Captain McNutt invited everyone to come and see the new facilities in February.

INGERSOLL TIMES

January 27, 1988

Store moves

INGERSOLL — The Salvation Army Thrift Store is moving from Thames Street South.

Starting Feb. 1, the store will operate from larger premises at 51 King St. E.

SENTINEL REVIEW

January 27, 1988

Town business improvements

There has been a lot of movement in Ingersoll's business sector in the last few months.

Three new businesses opened their doors, including Special Creations, Ingersoll Furniture in February, Ingersoll Appliance Repair in March and Remax Realty in April.

Special Creations, which has moved into a Thames Street South location beside the Beckers store, is a woodworking business specializing in wall units and kitchen cabinets.

Ingersoll Appliance and Repair found a home at 42 King Street East where they repair and sell used appliances. They specialize in major

appliances including refrigerators, stoves and washing machines.

Ingersoll's newest furniture store is located at 15 Thames Street South and sell many types of furniture and a complete line of major appliances. Ingersoll Furniture took over the building which housed the now-defunct Community Cleaners.

Remax Realty has been helping locals find homes for almost two months. Their Thames Street South office works in conjunction with its Woodstock counterpart.

Several other businesses left Ingersoll during the early part of the year including Clair Bray Real Estate, based here for many years.

Thames Street South's Ingersoll Billiards also closed its doors along with the Ingersoll Feed and Farm Supply on Victoria Street.

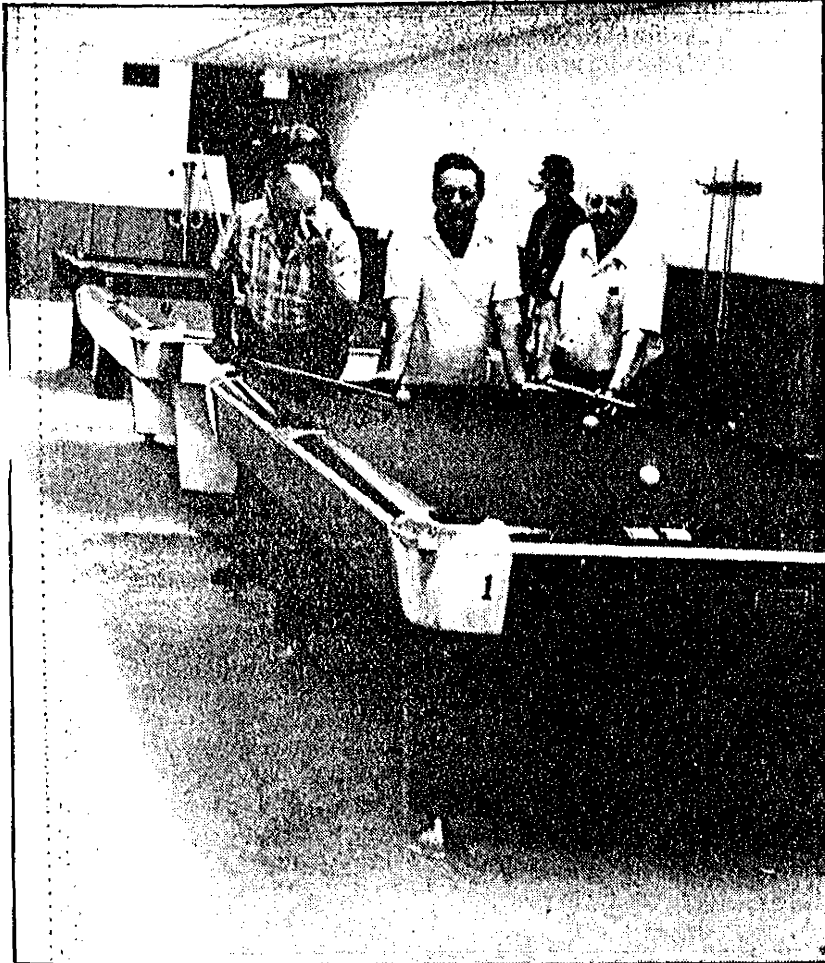
Still in town but at a new location are Academy Music which relocated from Thames Street to King Street and the Salvation Army Thrift Store which moved from Thames South to King Street East.

Still in business but under new ownership are the Super X Drugs on Charles Street which is now a Shoppers Drug Mart and family business Fleischer and Jewett Ltd. now Paul Burroughs Oldsmobile. The ownership of ABC Radiator also changed hands.

INGERSOLL TIMES

June 1, 1988

what's new in business



EVERYBODY INTO THE POOL

→ Sam's Family Billiards, with 10 new pool tables, two video games and a snack bar, is a cool alternative to a dip into the pool this summer, the watered-down variety that is. Pool, billiards, is the rule here. The new business has opened in the Oasis Flea Market building in Ingersoll on Thames Street South near the tracks. Owner Sam Louttet says billiards is the up-and-coming family past-time these days.

DAILY SENTINEL-REVIEW
July 12, 1990

Local pool hall could face fine up to \$2,000 for breaking law

BY MIKE SWITZER

A local pool hall could face a fine of up to \$2,000 for breaking a town bylaw regulating the number of coin-operated amusement devices allowed in one establishment.

Sam and Bonnie Louttet, owners of Sam's Family Billiards, were given a summons to appear in court by an Ingersoll bylaw officer earlier this month. The couple was informed that they could face a fine for having more than two video games in an area where it is disallowed.

A request has been submitted to Ingersoll's town council, along with a petition, to have the bylaw amended.

At the present time it is illegal to operate an amusement arcade (defined in the bylaw as "any establishment, room or place where more than two coin-operated amusement devices are available to the public") anywhere on Thames Street between Canterbury Street and Bell Street. The bylaw also pertains to sections along King, Charles, Oxford and Bell Streets.

An amendment to the bylaw was passed in April, 1984, exempting premises which hold a valid liquor license from the regulation.

The Louttets said they regard the bylaw as unfair.

"In my mind," the petition reads, "I feel discriminated against because I do not wish to have alcohol on or in my premises. Not ever. We opened our doors to the youths of Ingersoll as an alternative to 'hanging out on the streets.'

"I will not put liquor in my establishment," Sam said. "I don't permit swearing or drugs and I won't bring in liquor just to keep the machines. I think the kids need a place that's free of those things. They need a clean environment. Where do you think these kids would be if they weren't here?"

When a group of teenagers was asked what they would be doing if they were not at Sam's Family Billiards, replies varied from "loitering somewhere" to "sitting in front of the high school" to "going

out and getting drunk."

One 13-year-old boy replied, "I'd likely be getting into trouble. There's nothing else to do."

Former town clerk Gerry Staples said the distinction between arcades and drinking establishments was made because of the difference in age between clientele.

"I think they felt at the time that any place with a liquor licence had an older clientele that would not be congregating on the main street as has happened in the past with ar-

Continued on Page 2



Sam and Bonnie Louttet will appear in a Woodstock court on Jan. 4 after receiving a summons from an Ingersoll bylaw officer for an infraction against the town's arcade bylaw. There are currently 15 coin-operated amusement devices such as the one pictured above at Sam's Family Billiards. The maximum allowed in a single premises under the current bylaw is two, unless the establishment possesses a valid liquor license. (Mike Switzer photo)

Pool Hall

Continued from Page 1
cades in town."

The Louttets business, located beside the Ingersoll Flea Market, does not face Thames Street directly. Bonnie said she hoped this factor would increase their chances of having an amendment passed.

"I understand the problems they've had in the past, but we're off the main street and the children aren't bothering anyone.

"What Ingersoll has a lot of is kids. We provide a service to meet their need. They're younger human beings and they want something to do. Where else are they supposed to go? There aren't any theatres or malls in town.

The petition and amendment request will be brought before council on Jan. 9, four days after the Louttet's court date.

Coalition

Continued from Page 1

Blenheim, one of the originators of the Kent tax revolt: "A lot of people out there were sitting, waiting and wondering what would come of our efforts. We know now there's a lot of gratification from the silent majority, those rational people who don't know how or don't like fighting council. I know we have won a lot of points because we have not been afraid to stick our necks out.

"The groundwork is now laid. We are part of what will be a provincial force to be reckoned with. We expect to see the memberships pour in, now that people see we are no longer an 'orphan' group and we now have the clout to make changes."

Ingersoll Times
Jan 2, 1991

SAM'S FAMILY BILLIARDS

Arcade man takes court to heart

The Daily Sentinel-Review, Ingersoll This Week, Tues., January 8, 1991 Page 3

By PETER KENOE
for Ingersoll This Week

A trial date for Sam Louttet, of Sam's Family Billiard's Ltd. was set last week for March 9.

Louttet suffered chest pains and was admitted to hospital following his appearance.

"He has been upset for the last couple of weeks," said John Dale,

a friend, who had gone to the Oxford County Court House to show support.

Dale and Louttet were in a local restaurant after his court appearance when chest pains began. Louttet was taken to Woodstock General Hospital by ambulance.

Friends and family agree Louttet's health has deteriorated since

he was first charged Dec. 20. He was charged again early in the new year.

"It has really taken it's toll," says Louttet's wife, Bonnie.

The town's bylaw prohibits any business without a liquor licence from having more than two video machines. There are 15 machines

in the Louttet establishment, making it an arcade.

The bylaw forbids amusement arcades on Thames Street from Canterbury street to Bell street.

The maximum fine is \$2,000 plus \$2,000 for each day the violation is not corrected.

Continued on page 2

Pool hall

Continued from page 3

Various patrons at the billiard hall told *The Sentinel-Review* other locations in the town had not prosecuted despite breaking the 1986 bylaw which is being enforced.

The former D's Videos on Thames Street North operated for more than two years with video games in the back.

The Louttets do not want to licence their establishment but

would like the bylaw amended to accommodate them.

"We want this to be a place for the kids. We have such big plans. We wanted to do things like hang their art work on the walls," Bonnie said. "Kids are good. What ever you do for them all comes back to you."

"We are hoping they can make the amendment retroactive," Bonnie said.

Arcade bylaw is out of date, says loyal Sam's customer

By MARK REID
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — The town's police committee may consider changes to the town's bylaw governing arcades at its Jan. 28 meeting.

And an "occasional" pool player and self-described "rebel" says he has information which may prove the present bylaw discriminatory and allow Sam's Family Billiards to stay as it is, where it is.

Angus MacDonald, in defending Sam Louttet, owner of the pool hall/arcade on Thames Street who has been charged at least twice for breaking the bylaw, says a section in the law of municipal corporations and a court case in Winnipeg will see the bylaw quashed.

The town's bylaw regulating the number of arcade games in new businesses in a certain area of town was passed in early 1984 and amended a month later to exclude liquor licensed establishments.

Louttet, 48, is currently in hospital after suffering a heart attack following his first appearance in court on the bylaw charge, has said he does not want alcohol in his establishment.

MacDonald, who does not like referring to the bylaw as discriminatory but as arbitrary use of council's powers to curb a problem, will focus on three areas when he appears before the police committee Jan. 28. They are:

- the clause giving the town the authority to regulate and licence all places of amusement as provided in a section of the 1980 Municipal Act and the subsequent amendment which creates differences in regulations governing arcade games in licenced and non-licenced premises;

- a subsection saying arcade operators must have an adult present at all times while machines are in use;

- not allowing the operation of video games on Sundays.

His arguments will be based on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the ongoing debate over Sunday shopping at Queen's Park and a 1986 legal decision, Francen versus the city of Winnipeg, which was a similar dispute.

"Who decides who is competent to run a business?" asked MacDonald.

In Winnipeg the bylaw said applications by non-licenced businesses to operate up to four amusement devices must be submitted to a community committee in the area of the business.

However, that section of the bylaw was quashed because of "the distinction in the bylaw between operators of beer parlors, beverage rooms or cocktail rooms on one hand, and operators of other business on the other was arbitrary and discriminatory," under the 1990 Municipal Act.

Questioning how often municipal bylaws should be updated, MacDonald says people under the age of majority are not allowed to go into licenced premises and says the bylaw allows people to drink and play while sober kids cannot.

Not a lawyer or paralegal, MacDonald said he would not press the Sunday opening issue, relying on the other issues.

Louttet is scheduled to appear in court again on the first bylaw charge March 8. His 14-year-old son, Ken, has also been charged.

Bonnie Louttet did not appear at Wednesday's town council meeting and her letter was to be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the police committee.

Under the current bylaw those in violation are subject to a fine of not more than \$2,000 for each charge.

Daily Sentinel Review
Jan. 11, 1991

Billiard hall owner won't be in court because of ill health

By **PETER KEHOE**
of The Sentinel-Review

A doctor's certificate will keep an Ingersoll businessman, charged five times for the same bylaw violation, from appearing in Provincial Offences Court in Woodstock.

Sam Louttet, 48, of Sam's Billiards in Ingersoll was scheduled to appear in court for the second and third of five charges for violating a bylaw which says he can't have any more than two video games in his billiard hall (an unlicensed establishment). Louttet will be going for a stress test the same day.

"He is not in good shape," said wife Bonnie. "He is taking a lot of medication and he is supposed to avoid all stress."

His wife said that includes going to the billiard hall.

Louttet returned home Jan. 14, after suffering a heart attack in a Woodstock restaurant following his first appearance in court on Jan. 4. He was later transferred to Victoria Hospital in London Jan. 6.

Two days after Louttet arrived home, Ingersoll Town Police came to his house to give him a summons to appear in court.

"The officer was grinning from ear to ear," said Bonnie, "I do not know why they don't just pull a gun and shoot him, it would be faster."

Louttet was charged a fifth time with the same infraction on Jan. 18.

On Jan. 9, Ingersoll Town Council did not make a ruling on a proposed amendment to change the bylaw and referred the issue to the town's police committee which meets Monday at 5:15 p.m.

The committee is comprised of Ingersoll Town Council, the Ingersoll Police Chief and the clerk-administrator.

If the Louttets are unable to attend Angus MacDonald, a friend of the family, will represent them.

Daily Sentinel Review
Jan. 26, 1991

Police committee proposal to aid billiard hall owner

INGERSOLL — Sam Louttet is behind the eight ball when it comes to Ingersoll's arcade bylaw.

The owner of Sam's Family Billiards has been charged eight times for violating the bylaw and is to have his day in Woodstock provincial court March 8. The bylaw, which is still being reviewed by town councillors, remained intact through the meeting of council's police committee Monday.

Under the bylaw, no establishment in the core area, excluding those licensed by the Liquor License Board of Ontario, can operate more than two coin-operated amusements. Louttet has about 20 video games and pool tables which fall in that category.

A bylaw change which would prevent Louttet from being charged again was suggested by Coun. Brian Rodenhurst. His idea was to exempt the area of Thames Street between the Canadian Pacific Railway line and Carnegie Street from the bylaw. The area includes Louttet's business.

"It's not right to exempt one building. You have to expand it a bit to be fair."

The proposal was not exactly smooth, said Mayor Doug Harris.

"I think you have to be very careful how you word it." Harris suggested Rodenhurst should bring a revamped proposal to council's administration and finance committee next week or to council itself the following week.

The reactions of other businesses to such a change was the concern of Coun. Gerald Binga.

The proposal did not put a cap on the number of amusements an establishment could have, irking Coun.-at-large Jack Warden.

"Where are we going, with no limit? I can see a lot of problems there."

Louttet, who was present at the committee meeting, said he wants to see a bylaw allowing establishments to have one video game for

each pool table. He stressed his establishment is an amusement room, not an arcade. He said his business is helping to keep crime under control by keeping children off the streets.

*Daily Sentinel Review
Feb. 26, 1991*

Town appealing court decision on arcade bylaw

Police chief questions authority of justice of the peace

BY MIKE SWITZER

The fate of a local pool hall has been placed in limbo while Ingersoll Town Council debates its powers with the courts.

The town is appealing a recent court decision which would allow Sam Louttet of Sam's Family Billiards to ignore the town's arcade bylaw. The decision would have placed the bylaw on hold until council decides whether to amend it.

(The bylaw prohibits the number of coin-operated amusement devices allowed in businesses in various parts of town. Licensed establishments are exempted.)

Nine charges of breaking the bylaw have been laid against Louttet in the past three months. The case appeared in Woodstock provincial offences court Friday morning.

Louttet, 48, was unable to attend the proceedings, after suffering from a mild heart attack earlier this year. His wife, Bonnie, presented the judge with a note from Louttet's doctor, stating that he should not be exposed to "any stresses or strains" at the present time.

When asked by Justice of the Peace Jake Bruinwood whether Louttet's heart attack had been aggravated by the charges against him, Bonnie replied that it had.

Ingersoll resident Angus MacDonald spoke on the Louttets' behalf, referring to a "precedent-setting" case of a similar nature from Winnipeg (Francis versus Winnipeg City, 1986). The judge in this case ruled that allowing video games in premises that serve alcohol while banning them from unlicensed premises was "arbitrary and discriminatory."

The decision is cited in the Ontario Municipal Act, which directly affects the powers of municipal governments.

"Ingersoll's bylaw is clearly discriminatory," MacDonald said. "If you allow these machines in one with alcohol then you should allow them in a business which chooses not to serve alcohol. If you're going to allow a bowling alley to operate in an area of the town then you should allow an amusement arcade."

MacDonald added that town council should not be rewarding businesses for the sale of alcohol, while society is attempting to deal with alcohol-related tragedies.

Inspector Lionel Ulrich acted as prosecutor on the town's behalf. He asked whether Louttet had been aware of the bylaw when he had the 15 machines placed in his business. Bonnie replied that he had been aware, but that a request to have the bylaw amended had been sent to town council.

Bruinwood asked if the 15 machines were necessary for the Louttets to make a living and pay their taxes on the business. She replied that the machines were a vital part of their livelihood.

Council's position on the issue was discussed, with Ulrich asking if anyone other than councillor Brian Rodenhurst was attempting to amend the bylaw. Bonnie responded by saying she "sensed" a change in council's attitude, and that there is a possibility of their business being exempted.

Ulrich said he would like more time to study MacDonald's comments. Bruinwood replied that such action would be a step "in the right direction."

The Louttets were found guilty on one charge with a sentence of one year's probation.

"During that time no orders will be given until I know what the Town of Ingersoll is going to do," Bruinwood said, adding that the remaining charges would be dealt with once a decision has been reached by council.

When Ulrich informed Bruinwood that council will meet March 13, the case was scheduled for April 5.

MacDonald asked Bruinwood if his decision allows the Louttets to continue operation of the 15 machines. He replied that it does.

"You will operate the business as you are," he said, "until I say otherwise. Right now you're home free until the fifth of April. Just keep doing what you're doing."

Upon leaving the courtroom, Bonnie described the justice of the peace's decision as "compassionate and understanding." Ulrich said Friday that enforcement of the bylaw would likely be suppressed until a decision is reached.

Police chief Bruce Richards contradicted this statement Monday.

"That judgement is being appealed by the town," Richards said. "Where does a justice of the peace have the authority to put anybody on probation for a bylaw offence? I don't think he has the authority."

"He can't suspend the enforcing of the Town of Ingersoll's bylaws."

When asked whether police would continue to charge the Louttets for breaking the arcade bylaw, Richards said such action is possible.

"We're going to enforce the bylaw that the town has passed. If there's a breach of the bylaw, then the next time he is checked he'll be charged."

"The bottom line here is that the law is the law," said mayor Doug Harris. "Councils have the right to

Continued on Page 2

Arcade by-law

Continued from Page 1

discriminate with zoning and those kind of things. People make requests for amendments to bylaws all the time, but they do it before breaking the law. . . . The police are doing their job."

Town clerk Ted Hunt questioned whether the bylaw should be amended. "Personally, I don't think it should be," he said "but that's just my opinion."

Bonnie said she is no longer surprised by any decision of council.

"I don't believe these gentlemen,"

she said. "I really don't. Why can't they just let us make an honest living? All we're trying to do is keep the kids off the streets."

The Louttets will appear as a delegation at tonight's council meeting.

Ingersoll Times
Mar. 13, 1991

Trial date set for Ingersoll's Louttet

A May 17 trial date has been set to decide if an Ingersoll bylaw discriminates against a local merchant.

Sam and Bonnie Louttet, who own Sam's Family Billiards, are facing nine charges of violating a bylaw that limits the number of video games allowed in an unlicensed establishment to two.

Lawyer John Park said the defence will revolve around a decision from a Manitoba court which said such a bylaw is discriminatory.

Daily Sentinel Review
April 9, 1991

Eight charges dropped against local pool hall

Owners have sold business

BY MIKE SWITZER

Eight charges against Sam's Family Billiards for violating Ingersoll's arcade bylaw were dropped by the town Friday in Woodstock provincial offences court.

Bonnie Louttet was present in the courthouse with lawyer John Park to tell her side of the story. Louttet and her husband, Sam, have been charged nine times since last December with violating the bylaw, which restricts to two the number of "coin-operated amusement devices" in businesses in certain sections of Ingersoll.

Justice of the Peace Jake Bruinwood placed Sam Louttet on one year's probation for the first charge before calling Park and the town's lawyer, Murray Coulter, to his chambers. When the two sides returned, the remaining eight charges were dropped by the town.

With regard to the first charge, Bruinwood warned Louttet not to be found in violation of the bylaw again.

"If an officer shows up again and you're still in contravention, you're in big trouble."

Bonnie explained the chances of this happening were slim, since her husband sold the business earlier this year.

Ingersoll Inspector Lionel Ulrich said the charges were dropped because the Louttets are out of business.

"He's no longer in the business," Ulrich said. "There's not much point

in prosecuting him any further."

Ulrich would not say if the town was concerned about the Louttet's defence, which claimed the bylaw was "arbitrary and discriminatory." A similar case in Winnipeg, since cited in the Ontario Municipal Act, quashed a similar bylaw for this reason.

"There was a conviction which proves from the town's point of view that the bylaw was valid," Ulrich said. "We did not do it because we thought we might lose. The hall has a new owner now and he is cooperating with us."

Park said he regarded the withdrawal of the eight charges as a "good outcome."

"I think it resolved things in the best way possible. The Louttets might have won, but it's not their problem anymore."

Park added that a suspended sentence in provincial offences court, such as Louttet received for the first charge, is extremely rare.

"General division court could have quashed the bylaw outright, but it would then have gone to the court of appeal and the Supreme Court. Mr. Louttet is not up to full health yet and such a situation could have been expensive."

Bonnie said she is pleased with the results, but regrets not having the opportunity to challenge the validity of the bylaw.

"I would have liked to be able to tell my side of the story. As it stands now the bylaw is still in the books and I think that is very wrong."

Ingersoll Times

May 22 1991

Samnah Business Park

Sopey's food store, a large chain in Eastern Canada, may be locating in the Orange Tree Development's Samnah Business Park, at Culloden Road and Highway 401, across from the Relax Inn.

Developer Khamis Samnah of Toronto said Sopey's would take up 35,000 square feet with smaller stores occupying the other 25,000 square feet of space.

He said it is up to the food store to begin the project so the completion date is uncertain at this time.

Ingersoll Development Officer Ted Hunt said the property is currently in the preliminary stages of being rezoned. Six acres of land are being rezoned to a different commercial use.



WHAT IT IS: Samnah Business Park, possibly Sopey's food store
LOCATION: Culloden Road and Highway 401
COMPLETION DATE: uncertain
SIZE: 60,000 square feet
DEVELOPER: Khamis Samnah of Toronto

INGERSOLL TIMES

September 27, 1989

Mark Reid
Ingersoll bureau editor
485-3040

Sobey's mall proposal not yet reviewed because county's received no application

By MARK REID
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — The County of Oxford planning department cannot review the market study for a proposed grocery store/mall development in the town's south end because the \$5,000 application fee has not been received.

In addition, a study commissioned on behalf of Toronto based Orange Tree Development Corp. to determine the economic viability of the proposal focused on only the grocery store, not the companion stores.

Jim Hill, senior planner with the county, said Tuesday the \$5,000 fee had not been received. Currently the application for an amendment to the County of Oxford Official Plan is being circulated to several agencies.

The plan calls for the construction of a 35,000-square foot Sobey's Food Village, in addition to 27,000 square feet of companion stores.

Currently the land is earmarked

for highway commercial development, but an amendment to the official plan is needed to allow for a variety of other uses including a bake shop, drug store, dry cleaners, laundry, retail food store and cinema.

A zone change from restricted industrial to secondary commercial is required from Ingersoll council. Clerk Gerry Staples said the planning and public works committee will look at the plan at its next meeting.

Hill said the planning department is receiving some response from agencies contacted in regards to the development. But until the \$5,000 fee for the amendment is received and the economic assessment of the grocery store's impact is reviewed, the county cannot put together its final report.

Hill was not sure who would assess the impact of operations in the companion stores.

"We may, we don't know at this stage," he said, adding the department is not sure what type of operations will be included in the development.

SENTINEL REVIEW

February 28 1990

ingersoll

Chamber backs strip mall plan

By MARK REID
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — About a dozen members of the Ingersoll District Chamber of Commerce have thrown their support behind the Cul-loden Road strip mall proposal.

An hour-long information meeting Wednesday night allowed those in attendance to express their feelings of the proposal, which is to include a Sobey's grocery store, along with companion businesses.

Currently, the county's planning department is in the process of gathering information from several agencies to gauge reaction to the proposal.

An amendment to the County of Oxford Official Plan at the county level is needed while changes in municipal zoning are also required if the strip mall is to proceed.

Changes to the zoning bylaw would accommodate a cinema, bakery and dry cleaning operation among other uses.

Much of the discussion focused on keeping money in Ingersoll by offering shoppers more. The creation of 70 jobs, an increased tax base and ramifications on the core area were also touched on.

John Shepley, manager of the Royal Bank noted somewhere between \$7-8 million from the community is spent annually in other municipalities.

Shepley added that with a mall coming to Woodstock, it is quite possible more shopping dollars would leave town.

In addition, Shepley said both the developer, Toronto-based Orange-tree, and Sobey's have conducted surveys showing the need for another supermarket in town.

While some core merchants are expressing concerns about the growing number of vacant store fronts on Thames Street, Dick Bowman of Stelco said they should also be concerned that business is being drawn out of town and they should

to keep some of that \$7-8 million here.

Bill Juniper, owner of Harvest Trends, said he would rather have the competition in town, not in London or Woodstock.

Nancy Carr-Hynes, chair of the Business Improvement Area, agreed, saying she would like to see more services offered in town in a bid to keep the money here.

Bruce Fee, manager of Suzuki Ingersoll, indicated the proposal would offer those people who commute to Ingersoll an convenient place to shop before leaving Ingersoll.

Letters from two parties unable to attend the meeting were read. Thelma Riley said she opposed the development because of the number of vacant stores in town. In addition, she suggested the chamber and BIA hire someone in a bid to draw new merchants to the core. She noted leasing representatives of

the new Thames Street plaza have been going door-to-door downtown searching for tenants.

A letter from County Contracting of Wheatley Inc., developers of new housing in Ingersoll, said people who have purchased homes from the company have mentioned lack of shopping and poor parking in town. As for the vacant stores in the core area, that could be contributed to the lack of parking and traffic problems.

The proposal calls for the construction of a 35,000-square-foot Sobey's Food Village and 27,000-square-feet of companion store space.

Sobey's recently purchased the Callbeck's chain with stores in Brantford, Paris, Waterford, Simcoe and Port Dover.

The meeting was called to supply information to the chamber before it sends its comments to the planning department.

SENTINEL REVIEW

March 22, 1990

The Daily Sentinel-Review. Tues., July 17, 1990—3

Saturday market is cancelled

INGERSOLL — There will not be a Saturday morning market here this year.

John (Jack) Savage, who looks after the market for the Ingersoll Chamber of Commerce, said this is the first year in about a decade it won't be running.

“(There is) no satisfactory place to hold it.”

The market had been held in the now-demolished town hall previously.

The C of C had been looking at using the area along the north wall

of the Ingersoll District Memorial Centre this year but permission for that location was denied by town council.

Council decided in May to allow the C of C to use the north-east side of the parking lot on St. Andrew Street, which is beside the centre, for the market. The arena floor of the centre could also be used, but for a rental rate.

Savage said the north-east side of the parking lot would offer no outdoor protection to vendors, un-

like the position against the arena wall.

Ray Boogaards, town parks and recreation director, said he had advised council against allowing the market to set up shop against the centre's wall.

The narrow area between the wall and the street looked like a “safety problem” to Boogaards.

New grass had also been placed on the area beside the centre and he didn't want to see it damaged.

The C of C will be looking into a 1991 market early next year.

what's new in business



TASTY TREATS are handled by Claudette St. Pierre during the opening day of The Sandwich Tree — Coffee n' Tea, the newest establishment in Ingersoll's Heritage Manor. St. Pierre is the hostess/manager of the restaurant, which opened for business Thursday.

(Staff photo by Eric Schmiedl)

SENTINEL REVIEW

March 27, 1990

Jeweler carries on family tradition of fixing clocks

(This is the second in a series of stories designed to salute the merchants of Ingersoll. The businesses are selected at random and the Times hopes to include all stores, restaurants and places of business in this series.)

BY BRIAN J. SMITH

Although Frank A. Schmid has only been operating a jewelery store in Ingersoll for the past 18 years, his roots in this business go back a long, long, time.

"My great-grandfather was a clockmaker, all his sons were watchmakers, all his sons were watchmakers, and my father and six uncles were also in the same business back in Germany," he said.

Since opening his shop in Ingersoll's core area in 1961, Mr. Schmid has noticed quite a few changes regarding the jewelery business.

"In wrist watches, we've gone from the ordinary winding types to the new electronic watches. However, there is a good demand for the older antique-style clocks," he added.

Another trend that Mr. Schmid has observed is the tendency for most customers to wear better jewelery.

"Ten years ago, it was stylish for young girls to wear inexpensive costume jewelery. Now, they are more likely to purchase more precious jewels," he said.

One of the negative trends that have affected

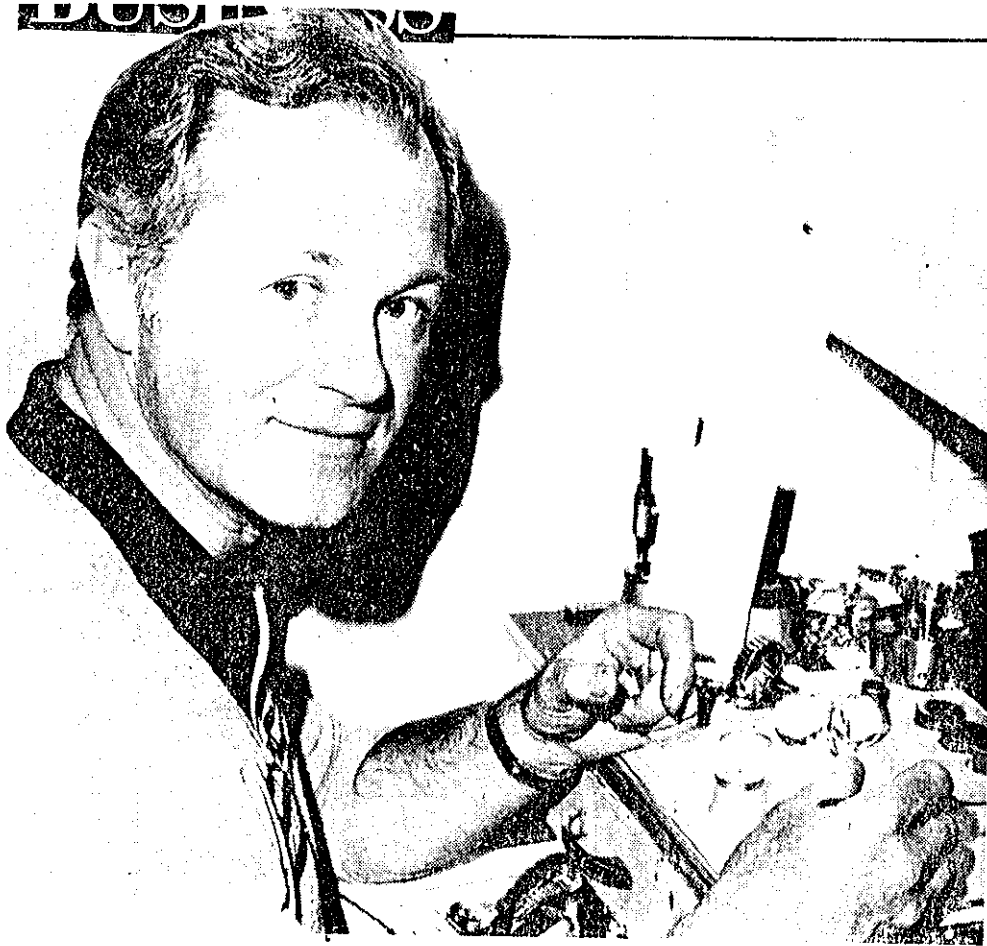
his business is the tenfold increase in the price of gold and diamonds in the past few years. Another hindrance has been the inefficient availability and delivery of English china: "Since Britain joined the European Common Market, many of their products are going to the continent, leaving a severe shortage here in Canada," he noted.

When asked whether he felt that the craftsmanship of precious articles had declined in recent years, he replied, "Not really, it all depends on what you're willing to pay for something. For instance, if you spend \$300 on a watch, you can't expect the same quality from a \$25 watch."

On the subject of old, antique clocks, Mr. Schmid has noticed a revival of interests in antiques.

"Ever since 1967, there has been an increase in the number of people collecting and repairing old-fashioned clocks, and this might be a result of a greater awareness of their heritage," he suggested.

Asked why he chose to set up a jewelery store in Ingersoll, he replied, "I just found an advertisement in a jeweler's magazine, then set up immediately. I didn't even know where Ingersoll was, but the citizens here have been very good and I really enjoy working here."



Jeweller Frank A. Schmid pauses before beginning repairs on a watch in his Thames Street store. His roots in the business go back four generations to his great-grandfather, who was a clockmaker in Germany.

Handwritten notes:
Schmid, Frank A.
Jeweller
6

Flying discs begin their

BY C. J. CLARK

They are flown as far away as the United Kingdom' and California but their flight begins here in Ingersoll. From thousands of tiny plastic pellets a local company transforms them in what are known as "Flying Discs".

"Flying disc play is fast becoming one of the most popular recreational activities in North America and the world," proclaims Discraft Ltd., a London-based firm which makes three disc models.

One of them, known as the Tournament 125 model, is

made in town by Scott Douglas Plastics Ltd., on Janes Road. About every month and a half to two months the local company manufactures some 15,000 of them.

Christopher Greenwood is president of the disc company which rivals the makers of "Frisbee". He and his partner Jim Kenner, who works out of Michigan, operate the two and a half year old corporation.

The discs zip through the air in a flying saucer-like fashion. Part of the sport is throwing and catching them in an assortment of ways.

Discraft Ltd. makes three discs one of which is a

micro-disc. It is three inches in diameter and is primarily used as a calling card for promotion.

The newest model is the "Styler 160". The 160 represents the weight in grams and it has a diameter of 10 and a half inches. It is made in the United States.

The one made in Ingersoll is the "Tournament 125." It is a standard size of nine and a half inches in diameter. Besides sporting the Discraft logo they are also purchased in large quantities for advertising purposes. General Motors to boy scouts to festivals are among the 256 organizations that have used them for promotion.

Discraft provides the material and mold and Douglas Plastics does the work. About 400 pounds of tiny one-eighth of an inch pellets makes about 1,000 of the discs.

A hopper, which holds about 100 pounds of pellets, funnels them into a heated tube coil. Melted plastic is then injected into the mold and after about 35 seconds the mold opens and the freshly made disc is water cooled.

A run of about 15,000 discs will take about three straight days as 3,000 can be made in a 24 hour period.

When the production run

is completed they are shipped to London where they are stamped and packaged.

Discs are just one facet of the local plastics company

flight in Ingersoll

which employs about 40 persons. They also make everything from telephone parts, to candy containers to golf tags and paper towel

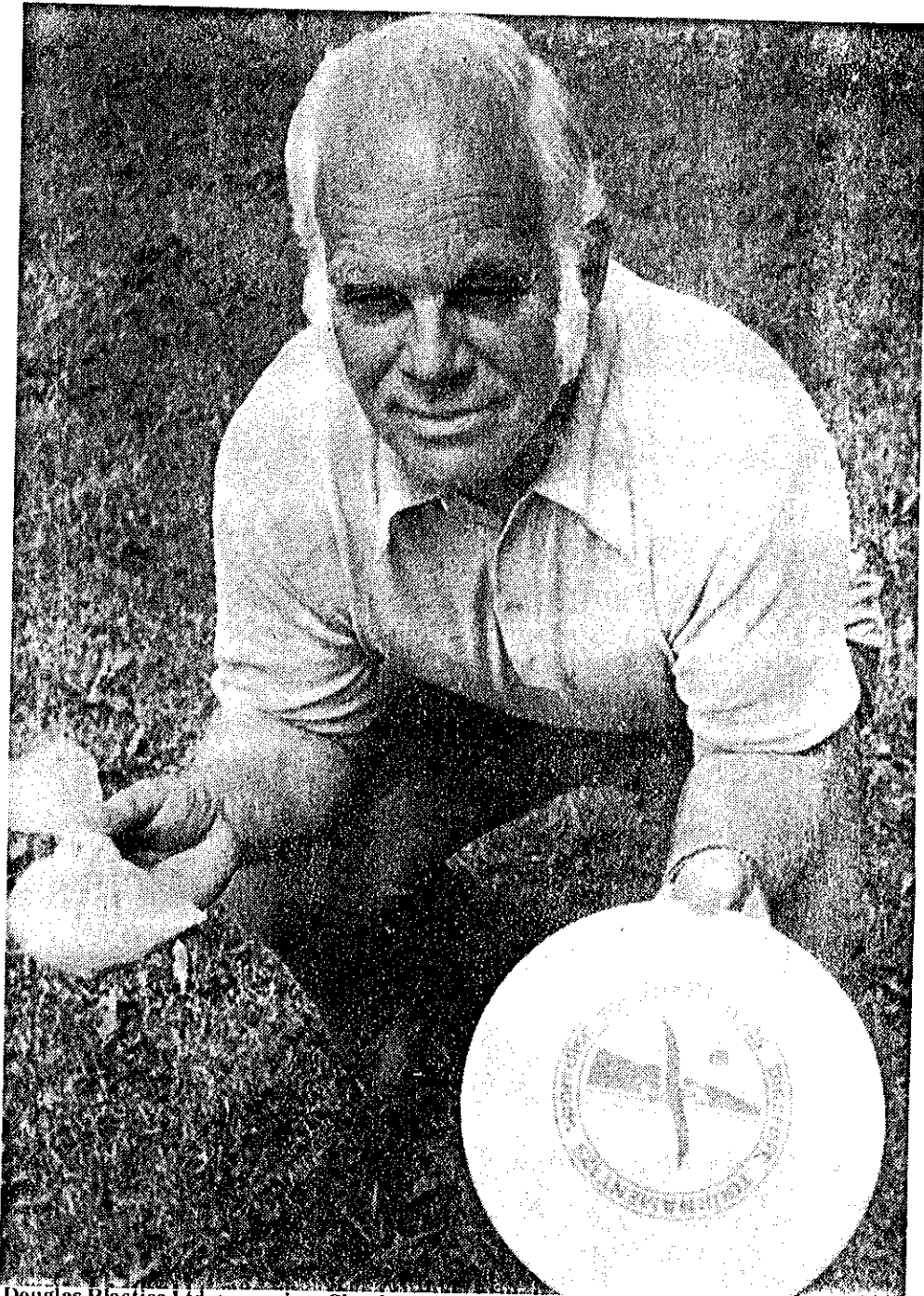
holders.

"In North America last year more flying discs were sold than all baseball, footballs, and basketballs com-

bined," says the box which holds the Tournament 125.

With that being the case

Scott Douglas Plastics Ltd. has to be flying high throughout the world.



Douglas Plastics Ltd. supervisor Claude Wright holds in one hand a bag of tiny plastic pellets and in the other the finished product. About 400 pounds of pellets makes 1,000 discs.

Ingersoll Times

July 23, 1980

(Page 2 of 2)

INGERSOLL TIMES

JULY 23, 1980

Developer wants to talk to Sobeys' before making any more proposals

By ERIC SCHMIEDL
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — The developer of a proposed plaza for the outskirts of Ingersoll wants to talk to his biggest customer before he makes his next move.

Khamis Samnah, executive director of the Orange Tree Development Corp. of Toronto, said he will be speaking with representatives of Sobeys' Food Village today.

Sobeys' is the anchor store in the plaza, which is proposed for construction on Culloden Road north of Highway 401. County council turned down the proposal last week, after it had gotten approval from town council.

To build the mall, the developer needed the county to redesignate the site as secondary commercial

property. Currently, it is designated as highway commercial land under the County of Oxford Official Plan.

Offered to reduce size

In an effort to get the county to change its mind on the proposal, Samnah has offered to reduce the size of the mall. The original size was set at about 35,000 square feet — his latest offer is for a 25,000 square foot project, he said.

Jim Hill, county senior planner, said Wednesday that he has talked with Ingersoll development officer Ted Hunt about the proposal but the county hasn't received a formal application on the 25,000 square foot offer.

Hill said he doesn't know how the offer will be handled because the county has never dealt with a developer bartering on the size of a pro-

posal.

There may be an amendment to the original proposal put before the county or Samnah may have to go through the entire application process again which could take "several months."

'Might not be able to wait'

"Sobeys' might not be able to wait," Hill added.

Although Samnah is addressing the size of the mall, that isn't the only issue involved. Hill said "I still think we'll have some concern about the location."

In an earlier interview, Hill said "there's no magic number" concerning the development.

Usually, when the county turns down a project, "that's the end of it, unless they go back to the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board)," Hill added.

Hunt said he understands the latest offer "is not acceptable (to the county)."

"The next move is in the developer's corner at this time."

Samnah, at last week's county council meeting, suggested he would go to the OMB to appeal the county's decision.

SENTINEL REVIEW

May 31, 1990

Developer considers next move

By ERIC SCHMIEDL
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — The developer of a proposed mall for the outskirts of town which has been turned down by the County of Oxford will know what his next step is soon.

Khamis Samnah, executive director of the Orange Tree Development Corp. of Toronto, said in an interview Friday that "next week, we'll know the move we're going to make."

Samnah met with representatives of Sobeys' Food Village — his larg-

est customer for the plaza, which is proposed for Culloden Road north of Highway 401 — on Thursday. Those representatives have to talk with higher-ups in the Sobeys' organization before a course of action is decided on.

In an attempt to get the county to reconsider allowing the mall, Samnah has offered downsizing the development. Originally set at about 35,000 square feet, his latest offer involves a 25,000 square foot plaza.

Jim Hill, county senior planner, said earlier in the week that the size of the mall isn't the only factor in-

involved with the issue. The location is of concern to the county.

In addition, Hill said he doesn't know how Samnah's bartering for the mall size will be handled by the county. Usually, when a proposal is turned down, that's the end of it unless the developer opts to appeal the matter to the Ontario Municipal Board, he explained.

In a *Sentinel-Review* interview following last week's county council meeting, Samnah said Orange Tree — which has already sunk \$2 million into the development — would appeal the decision to the OMB.

SENTINEL REVIEW

June 2, 1990

Samuel's offers casual family dining

Ingersoll's newest restaurant offers casual family dining.

Samuel's opened Thursday night on the location of the former Venus Dining House on Thames Street South.

Owners Gus and Sam Karamountzos of London have three other restaurants: two in London and one in Stratford.

They chose Ingersoll for their fourth Samuel's because they believe there is a demand for their concept here.

"You get your money's worth," Gus said, adding that patrons are seated and everything is served to the table. There are no buffet-style meals.

The menu offers a variety of seafood salads, steaks, spareribs, prime rib and pastas, as well as lighter items, such as crepes. There will also be daily specials.

"We cook everything to order," Gus said. He also pointed out that on Saturdays and Sundays the restaurant offers brunch.

Gus Krados, manager of the restaurant in Stratford, is moving to Ingersoll next week and is manager of the new Samuel's. Thursday night he was meeting and seating people.

And there were a number of patrons as the licensed establishment opened. "Right at 5 p.m. we

had people come in," Gus said.

Martin and Jane Brooks of Ingersoll gave the food a good review.

"It was an excellent meal," Martin said.

"It's a nice place," said Jim and Kathy Thain, also of Ingersoll. "And it didn't take them long to do it."

Renovations to the banquet

room downstairs were just completed this week. It will be open for meetings and banquets, Gus said.

The owners hired 20 employees, part-time and full-time.

"We have a chef from one of our places in London (here)," Gus said, "but everybody else is local."



Gus Krados shows Paul and Henny Weber of Ingersoll and their daughter, Lindsey, to their seats at the new Samuel's restaurant in town. (Liz Dadson photo)

Ingersoll Times

March 6 1991

Used clothing stores take on new look

Second-hand Rose would have been in her glory. There is nothing second-rate about today's used clothing stores. Fighting an image problem that has plagued them for many years, second-hand stores have emerged victorious with a fresh, new look.

Marianne Kivinen, owner of the Second Chance Shoppe in Ingersoll, said her best advertisement are her window displays, splashed with the latest designs.

The consignment store has been operating in town for the past two years selling "better quality" clothes from their Thames Street location. The store operates on a system of trust whereby people bring in their used clothing in an attempt to sell it.

The clothing is marketed in the store for 60 days and the owner receives 50 per cent of the selling price. If it is not sold after this time period it is returned to the owner.

Kivinen said the chances of selling are good, however, because of the high standards the clothing is required to meet.

A quick, visual inspection by Kivinen's experienced eye determines the articles salability. She has learned to recognize a garment's excellence by their name brand labels. Everything substandard is returned to the owner. "We take nothing stained, ripped or out-of-style." Articles are priced according to their condition, ranging anywhere from \$2 up. A fancy party dress could fetch up to \$200, the most expensive item in the store. Anything that fails to attract a buyer after 60 days is returned to the owner.

Kivinen said determining prices of articles depends on a number of factors, most importantly how contemporary it is in the fickle fashion business. Acid wash jeans, for example, will fetch a higher price than its more conservatively-styled counterparts.

All the clothing, however, will net a considerable discount for the consumer. Dresses range from \$10 to \$30, blouses from \$7 to \$9, pants from \$5 to \$10 and shoes from \$5 to \$6. A white rabbit fur coat sold for \$100 half an hour after it went on the rack.

Second Chance carries clothing for newborns up to ladies size 48. Small supplemental lines of maternity and men's clothing are also available.

Kivinen said her clothing is ideal for the bargain-wise, willing to wear last year's fashions but added her customers come from "every walk of life." A local doctor browsed around the shop that day looking for several outfits for a weekend trip.

"People are not as afraid to come in," Kivinen said. "There was a sort of stigma around a place that had used clothing. Now the richer people in town come in to pick up on the deals."

Kivinen said children's wear is the best seller. One woman left with eight shopping bags full of kid's clothing for less than \$150.

Many of Second Chance's selling clientele come from outside cities and towns. They include business women who change their wardrobe with each new season and local women who wouldn't be caught dead in the same frock twice.

"It's the middle to higher class that bring things in," she said. "In a small town you go to a lot of the same events with the same people and you want a new dress for each one."

Arden Smith, owner of Lorna's Closet Boutique on Thamesford's Dundas Street, is taking her consignment business very personally.

"Everything I wear comes from the store," Smith said. "And I'm taking a modelling class to learn how to carry myself properly."

Smith sells only ladies and children's garments because "men like to wear clothes forever." Her clothes are also only of the best quality and a party dress that sells for \$150 new will sell in her store for \$30 like-new.

With about 500 consignees already on file, Kivinen is anticipating an increase once spring cleaning is underway.

"We get new stuff in every day." Well, it's the next best thing.

INGERSOLL TIMES

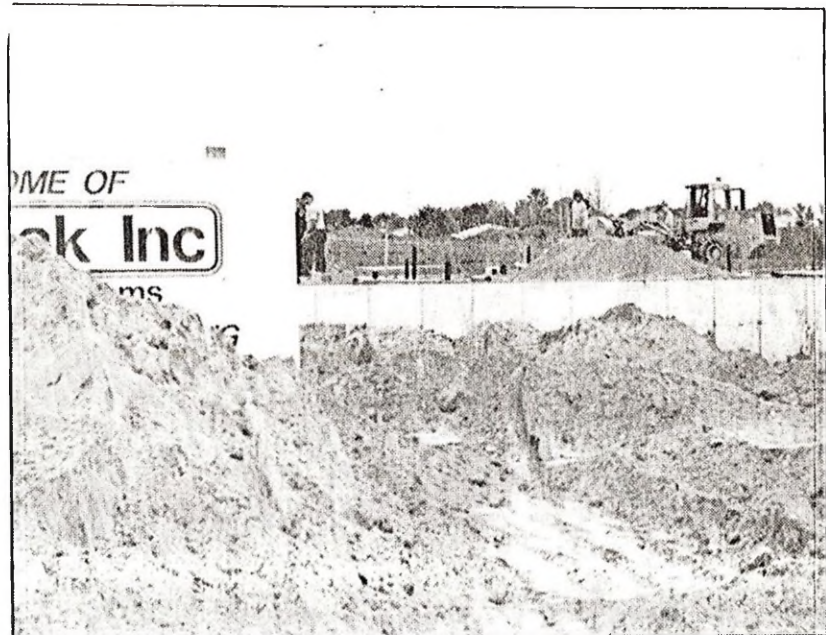
March 23, 1988

Sertapak extension

INGROX Limited of Ingersoll is developing a 10-acre parcel of land on Ingersoll Street, north of Fruehauf Canada Inc., for office and manufacturing space for the Sertapak Inc. plant.

Bob Pike of INGROX said the current Sertapak building is 11,000 which is not enough space. The extension will be 30,000 square feet and is being built by Reid and Deleye Contractors Ltd. of Tillsonburg.

The building is scheduled to be completed by mid-November, Pike said.



WHAT IT IS: Office and manufacturing space for Sertapak Inc.

LOCATION: Ingersoll Street

COMPLETION DATE: mid-November

SIZE: 30,000 square feet

DEVELOPER: INGROX Limited of Ingersoll

INGERSOLL TIMES

September 27, 1989

Ingersoll shop gives clothing a second chance

By MARK REID
of Ingersoll This Week

It seems odd that the people who

can least afford to purchase new clothing are the one who tend to shy away from the second-hand stores.

That says Liz Elliott, owner of the small *Second Chance Shoppe* which is literally overflowing with clothing

items on Thames Street, South.

And while the store is jam-packed with clothing, footwear — roller skates included — books, games, toys and purses, the list of specific items requested continues to grow.

"I think that people have a bad attitude towards used clothing," says Elliott. "People (on fixed incomes) can't afford it...the people who don't need it are the ones who buy."

Although some people do turn their noses up when it comes to used clothing, a request list at the store carries over 170 names.

"There is a whole bunch of people waiting for stuff that I can't get in," she says.

Baby clothes and tag along shopping carts — she has had one cart stolen — are two of the more requested items.

In addition, black leather jackets, especially those with tassles and buckels, are in high demand.

Her consignment store has about 660 members, all of whom have each paid a nominal \$2 registration fee allowing them to sell from there.

Clean clothes in good repair and generally in the current fashion wave are brought in by members. Each article is tagged, registered in a log with the seller's name before being placed in the store.

Tattered garments are not wanted.

Elliott will keep any particular

item for a maximum of 60 days. If the article does not sell and the owner does not return to claim it after 60 days on the shelves, it will be given to the Salvation Army or put into a Goodwill box.

After purchasing the former family-run store in July, 1988, Elliott spent a great deal of time — and a whole lot of safety pins — putting her store in shape.

Like in any retail business, the second-hand clothing store also experiences its ups and downs in terms of the volume of sales.

In addition to used clothing, the store does offer a few new items, but a lull in sales has prompted Elliott to stop purchasing new stock.

New items purchased for sale at the *Second Chance Shoppe* have to be acquired at "a good price," says Elliott.

Halloween has traditionally been good for sales. Although last October Elliott had no second-hand costumes in stock, the innovative party-goers and trick-or-treaters mixed and matched what was available for costumes.

Elliott's small store is packed full. She does have a desk, but hasn't seen it for some time.

She has looked into moving to a larger location, but she has yet to come up with the ideal combination of a new location offering both good pedestrian traffic and reasonable rent.

"Somewhere in here there's a desk," she said.



LIZ ELLIOTT, owner of the second-hand clothing store in Ingersoll, says it is odd that the people who can least afford to buy new clothing are the ones who turn their noses up at used clothing.

(Staff Photo)

JANUARY 16, 1990

SENTINEL REVIEW - INGERSOLL THIS WEEK

At look at Ingersoll industry

Sertapak continues to grow and grow

By PAULINE KERR
of Ingersoll This Week

Sertapak might be called the little business that grew...and grew...and is still growing.

From a 1,200-square foot basement operation in 1982 to a thriving 30,000-square foot plant in 1990, Sertapak has come a long way in a very few years.

"We started with \$10,000 borrowed money, two desks, two phones and a second hand typewriter in the basement of our home in Scotland, Ontario," said owners David and Elizabeth Nettleton.

At one point there were 10 people working out of that basement, with the owners occupying office space in a caboose.

Until recently, the administration end of the business continued operating from the Scotland location while the manufacturing took place in the Ingersoll plant on Ingersoll Street near CAMI Automotive Inc.

Now both operations have been consolidated under one roof at 271 Ingersoll St. in a building designed to the owners' specifications. The 30,000-square foot structure con-

tains a design lab/show room, meeting facilities, increased plant capacity and the built-in ability to expand to double the size.

There are now 24 employees including office staff and plant workers. Both benefit from the consolidation because it has allowed the employees to gain understanding of other operations, said Liz Nettleton, vice-president.

Continued on page 9



DAVID AND ELIZABETH Nettleton, owners of Sertapak, and Doug Gibson, technical sales representative, discuss the type of reusable container which is rapidly

gaining in popularity. Made of recyclable corrugated plastic, it is designed for shipping a specific item, here an automotive part.

(Staff Photo)

SENTINEL REVIEW -
INGERSOLL THIS WEEK
April 3, 1990

SERTAPAK

WHAT'S NEW(S) IN BUSINESS

New corporate faces, shifts

By PAULINE KERR
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — The recent additions to the town's thriving business community reflect several areas of interest.

The Dogwood Business Centre at King and Duke streets, officially opened April 27, provides a base of operations for a wide range of enterprises. It's an interesting alternative for small businesspeople, entrepreneurs, young professionals and others who need an office and occasional secretarial services but who aren't prepared to invest in their own office equipment and staff.

Donna's Restaurant on Thames Street north of Charles is a homey new dining spot for shoppers and downtown workers, a convenient place to stop for breakfast or after work. And it's ideal for the after-church lunch crowd. The decor is light and bright, the food tasty and traditional.

Says owner Donna Miller: "The only complaint we've had so far is the amount of food we put on the plates. They (customers) say it's too much, they're too full to eat dessert."

Donna's features lunch specials and the daily special along with the full menu. Already popular is the peameal bacon - no regular bacon is served. Business is described by the owner as "fantastic" since the April 10th opening.

Miller has worked in area restaurants up to the management level since she was 12 years old. Her goal is to have a Country and Western bar someday - "a nice place, where you can go for a quiet drink." But until then, there's Donna's, a welcome new place to dine.

* Shades of London, the third dealership for the London based firm, is located in the Zehr's Plaza and offers window coverings of every kind, from verticals to awnings.

Verticals and venetian blinds are very popular right now in Ingersoll, says dealership owner Dave Baty. Striped blinds account for 80 per cent of sales in blinds: "People discover an extra color doesn't double the price."

Laverne McBurney expects to turn an 18-year background in agricultural research and sales with a Mississauga firm into success for



PURINA HAS a line of chow, for every sort of dog, from the overfed pet to the hunting dog, says *Ingersoll Feed Store* owner Laverne McBurney. The Purina dealership is one of several new businesses in Ingersoll.



Kathleen Boyd

Ingersoll's new Purina dealership, Ingersoll Feed Store, adjacent to Oasis Flea Market near the rail tracks, opened March 6. The official grand opening is scheduled for June

9 and 10.

McBurney carries a full line of Purina products for the pet owner, the hobby farmer and the full-time farmer.

Livestock feed is kept in stock, as well as pet food to fill most needs. For older, overweight dogs there's "Low Calorie Dog Chow"; for active working dogs there's "High Energy". Kennel owners have "Pro Plan", "Mainstay" and "Field n' Farm" are chow supplements for country dogs. A similar range of products is available for cats.

In addition, McBurney intends to specialize in water softener salt, with home delivery evenings and weekends.

Hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 Mon. to Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat.

Patina's, while not new to Ingersoll, has a new location in the downtown core. In larger quarters on Thames Street South, the store now carries a wide range of gift items from all over the world.

Co-owner Kathleen Boyd says, "We have so many new lines - butterfly gardens and bubble glass from Nova Scotia, 'Gentlefolk' figurines of dragons and wizards from British Columbia, and African wood carvings." But Patina's also showcases the work of local artists and artisans. It's the right place to go for a gift that's unusual, top quality and reasonably-priced.

SENTINEL REVIEW

April 29, 1989

Demolition works begins on former Shelby building

Vacant since the mid-sixties, the former Shelby Knitwear building is being demolished.

Winlock Park Holdings Company and GMEL Holdings Company of Toronto have been issued a permit for demolition, according to building inspector Ted Hunt.

Mac Vannatter of Ingersoll has been contracted to raze the building. He said that demolition on the building started three weeks ago and is expected to be completed in another week and a half.

The building has been dangerous to work in and has had to be dismantled differently from the usual manner, according to Mr. Vannatter.

"Usually the roof is taken off first," he said, "but this building had to be stripped from inside with only the supporting beams holding the roof. We had a special machine here on Monday to take it off."

The north and south walls of the building were bowed in approximately 18 inches, Mr. Vannatter said. He attributed the weakening of the walls to pressure from the banks on which the building is situated.

The structure is four bricks thick at the base and three bricks thick at the top.

An addition at the rear of the building which housed Allied Photo until several weeks ago was not dangerous, according to Mr. Vannatter. It was constructed with steel supports but it was slated for demolition as well.

Mr. Hunt estimated that the building has been vacant for 10 years.

The site has been slated for a plaza, but development has been stalled for almost two years. Because of its location on flood plain land, the ministry of environment and the Upper Thames River Conservation Authorities have demanded extensive engineering procedures for any new structure to be constructed on the site.

Ingersoll lawyer Gus Tatulis, who has been representing the

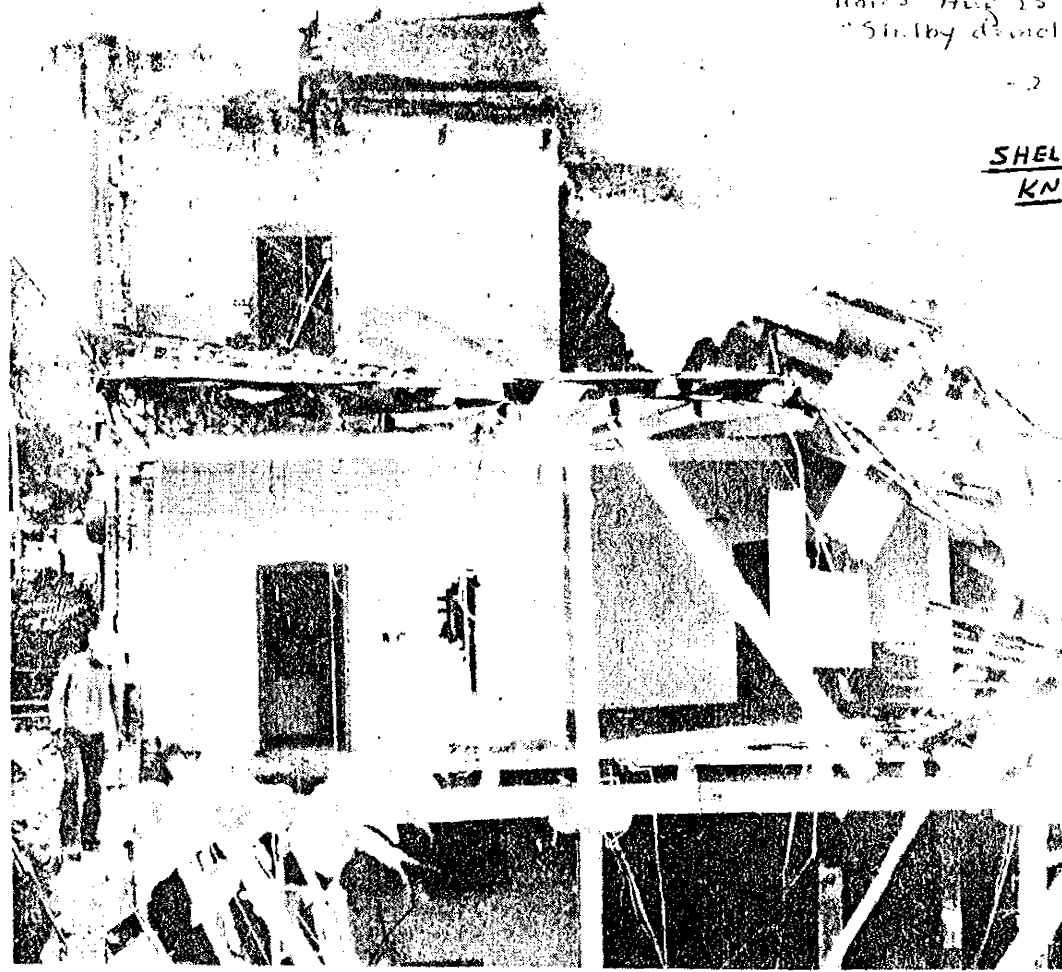
Toronto developer, declined to comment Tuesday on whether or not the demolition was being carried out to make way for the plaza development.

The UTRCA waived its initial objections to development on the site, and the Ontario Municipal Board approved the rezoning of the site from industrial to commercial two years ago.

Reasons given for failure of the development to proceed at that time involved the question of obtaining a major tenant for the plaza.

Mr. Hunt said that he had no indication of whether or not the developer was intending to proceed when the present structure is removed. The permit for demolition was taken out in June of this year.

SHELBY
KNITWEAR



The Shelby Knitwear building has posed demolition problems for Mac Vannatter of Ingersoll. Mr. Vannatter said that the roof is usually taken off first but because of the building's condition it had to be stripped first before the roof could be removed. The walls of the building were bowed 18 inches in some spots, he said.



The former Shelby Knitwear building, now owned by two Toronto holding companies is being demolished. Mac Vannatter

of Ingersoll is razing the building and expects to be finished in early September.

Florist worked his way up

Harry Shelton knows how to spread sunshine and smiles. The local florist's formula? A bouquet, or even a single stem, of fresh flowers.

The job of a florist is a

very satisfying one, he said, noting that florists get to work not only with beauty, but with brilliant colors and lovely fragrances.

He said that although it has never happened to him,

he has heard of cases where recipients have actually refused to accept flowers.

Generally, however, customers are overjoyed to receive flowers, and Mr. Shelton loves making his customers and their friends or family, smile.

"Seeing a customer smile just about makes my day," he admitted.

Mr. Shelton has been in the floral business for close to 10 years and has now developed a keen sense when it comes to arranging flowers. He learned his business in the hard school of trial and error, but said because of his dedication to flower design, he has met success.

Mr. Shelton is not only recognized locally and in Oxford County as one of the top florists, but throughout the province, and even, at a national level.

Mr. Shelton began his training at a local shop called Millar's. After spending a few years with this Ingersoll floral business, and moving from the bottom of the totem pole to the top. Mr. Shelton then moved to Tillsonburg where he was demoted from a floral wed-

ding arranger, back to the bottom of what he refers to as "the low rung on the ladder." After his Tillsonburg job, he moved to Niagara Falls. It was here that a Sarnia florist noticed his work and offered him a job as a top designer.

"The offer was like paradise," he said.

Now back at the top of the ladder, Mr. Shelton was able to land a job with a London floral shop where he was not only the top florist but had several other top designers working under him. It was while he was working here, that opportunity knocked at his door again, and Mr. Shelton was able to advance from manager to store owner.

When the chance to operate his own business in Ingersoll arose, he knew he couldn't let it pass. Now, with years of experience behind him, Mr. Shelton is satisfied with his career so far.

The job of florist is a very satisfying one, he said, although he admitted it is sometimes difficult making arrangements to suit all sorts of occasions, and to suit all sorts of people.

INGERSOLL

Times

August 17, 1983

Town business improvements

There has been a lot of movement in Ingersoll's business sector in the last few months.

Three new businesses opened their doors, including Special Creations, Ingersoll Furniture in February, Ingersoll Appliance Repair in March and Remax Realty in April.

Special Creations, which has moved into a Thames Street South location beside the Beckers store, is a woodworking business specializing in wall units and kitchen cabinets.

Ingersoll Appliance and Repair found a home at 42 King Street East where they repair and sell used appliances. They specialize in major

appliances including refrigerators, stoves and washing machines.

Ingersoll's newest furniture store is located at 15 Thames Street South and sell many types of furniture and a complete line of major appliances. Ingersoll Furniture took over the building which housed the now-defunct Community Cleaners.

Remax Realty has been helping locals find homes for almost two months. Their Thames Street South office works in conjunction with its Woodstock counterpart.

Several other businesses left Ingersoll during the early part of the year including Clair Bray Real Estate, based here for many years.

Thames Street South's Ingersoll Billiards also closed its doors along with the Ingersoll Feed and Farm Supply on Victoria Street.

Still in town but at a new location are Academy Music which relocated from Thames Street to King Street and the Salvation Army Thrift Store which moved from Thames South to King Street East.

*Still in business but under new ownership are the Super X Drugs on Charles Street which is now a Shoppers Drug Mart and family business Fleischer and Jewett Ltd. now Paul Burroughs Oldsmobile. The ownership of ABC Radiator also changed hands.

INGERSOLL
TIMES
June 1, 1988

SHOPPERS DRUG MART

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Wanted: Ingersoll Items

D. KENT SHOULTS

By Appointment

Business keeps to servicing lighter side

By MARK REID
Of Ingersoll This Week

A lighting business that blossomed out of a hobby is 28 years old and the future looks bright.

Kent Shoultz, who runs Shoultz' Antique Lighting and Brass, passed the 28-year milestone May 4 and more recently has sold a shipment of refurbished lights to a new nursing home in Calgary, Alta.

After working for an antique dealer in Ingersoll for seven years, Shoultz went out on his own, finding it easier to specialize in one area of the business.

Today, his crowded, 6,100 square-foot King Street West business is home to literally thousands of lights, in addition to bathroom fixtures, door handles, hinges, brass beds and other brass and copper household items.

"It started as just a hobby," he says, noting he was bringing home old lights for his own use.

"I kept taking them in the house and my wife said if anymore came in something has to go out."

SPRUCING UP

In addition to restoring and mod-

ifying old lighting fixtures for sale from his store, Shoultz also hires out his services for people wanting their own items spruced up. He offers one-week service on lamps and one-day service for door knobs.

A unique feature to the business is the trade-in system. If you paid X-number of dollars for the lamp 10 years ago, it is worth that much today or 10 years from now.

The lamps are cleaned, then buffed and treated so they will not tarnish.

He offers a lifetime guarantee on the treatment and to date he has had only one customer return a lamp — outdoors for seven years — because of tarnish.

Moreover, customers bring new brass items — mail slots, house numbers — to be treated.

It costs about \$150 to buff, coat and rewire a four-arm lamp.

The nickle plating or chrome is removed from old bathroom fixtures and the brass underneath is polished.

Shoultz also converts gas-fueled lamps from the turn of the century to electric lamps. When hydro was



ANTIQUE LIGHT DEALER Kent Shoultz is not sure how many lamps are in his King Street West shop. In business for 28 years, Shoultz recently supplied the lighting for a new nursing home in Calgary.

first available, many lamps used both electricity and gas because people were not sure how long hydro would last.

Kerosene lamps are restored to their original, functioning glory as well.

SHADE COLLECTION

Shoultz has one of the biggest collection of lamp shades in the

country and lamps are sold without shades so the customer can choose whichever shade he/she desires. At last count in 1986, there were 4,000.

He has many old factory books and catalogues showing what the lamps looked like when they were new.

Shoultz says many of the lamps are sold to people with new homes.

In addition to selling the fixtures, his lamps are used in productions of the Ingersoll Theatre of Performing Arts, Woodstock Little Theatre and Stratford. Shoultz rents out period costumes to theatres also.

Shoultz does not have much time to travel and purchase lamps for his business but he has "pickers" here and there who do the buying for him.

Art's Drug Store

INGERSOLL DIRECTORY.

AMTIS MCINTYRE

Robinson



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J. D. LOVERIDGE

\$2-million wire plant to open by year's end

INGERSOLL — A town plant with a total investment of \$2-million and providing employment for 75 workers will be in production before the year's end, it was announced today.

Mr. Paul Ivanier, executive vice-president of IVACO Industries yesterday announced plans to build a new wire mill in Ingersoll.

According to Mr. J. D. Loveridge, a director of IVACO and president of Ingersoll Machine and Tool Co. Ltd., the new plant will be situated on 11 acres of land directly south of Ingersoll Machine. It will have 75,000 square feet of floor space and is expected to cost 750,000.

Mr. Loveridge said he expects the new mill's production to rise to \$4 to \$5 million giving employment to 75 men.

Production machinery worth \$1.5 million has already been bought for the building and production is scheduled to start at the end of the year, Mr. Loveridge reported.

Mr. Loveridge said the mill was part of a general expansion of IVACO in Ingersoll, Buffalo, and Maryville, Quebec. The Ingersoll plant will manufacture many sizes of wire, welded wire fabric, and other wire products.

Ingersoll was not simply the

passive recipient of its economic good fortune. Mr. Loveridge said he wanted to acknowledge the help of the Ingersoll town council and Bud MacLachlin, manager of the Ingersoll PUC, in bringing plans for the new plant to a successful conclusion.

According to Mr. Loveridge, the town of Ingersoll has agreed to lower the grade of Thames Street in order to provide ready access to the wire mill and the Ingersoll PUC has assured IVACO management of the availability of power, water and other services as required.

Mr. Loveridge said the additional land was available at the mill site should it be needed for future expansion.

Another factor in the choice of Ingersoll as a site for the new mill, according to Mr. Loveridge, was Ingersoll's classification as an Ontario area with a low growth rate.

Mr. Loveridge said that because of this classification IVACO was able to apply to the Ontario Development Corporation for a forgivable loan of \$100,000. The loan negotiations were in their final stages and Mr. Loveridge reported that he was confident that the company's application would be accepted.

Ivaco adds to economic life of town

Four plants, owned by IVACO Industries Ltd., Marieville, Quebec, contribute between \$2.5 and \$3 million in annual salaries to Ingersoll residents. Ingersoll Machine and Tool has been a part of the industrial community since 1912, employing close to 100 workers.

The company supplies truck parts and trailer axles for Canadian and United States

markets. John Loveridge, president of the Four Ingersoll companies, said the decline in truck sales has hurt market conditions, although he expects an upswing during the summer.

The company supplies original equipment for truck manufactures when truck sales increase again, the Ingersoll company will also increase sales.

Ingersoll Machine and Tool is located on a 13 acre site on King St. It covers a working area of 100,000 square feet.

The Sivaco company on Thomas St. manufactures wire and welded wire mesh used for reinforcing concrete pipes and floors.

The plant covers 72,000 square feet and employs 50 people.

Products are sold throughout Canada and the United States.

Mr. Loveridge said IVACO "is always" looking to update its plants with new machinery and modern equipment.

Ingersoll Fasteners is the newest IVACO plant. The new facility, which took over much of the work formerly done at the Morrow plant, opened in October.

It is the most modern bolt making plant in North America, employing 75 people. Fasteners are distributed to buyers throughout North America. Some of the manufactured products are exported.

The Thomas St. plant covers about 60,000 square feet.

The old Morrow Screw and Nut building on Thames St. has been sold. The new plant on Thomas St. is an extension of the Ingersoll Fastener operation.

Mr. Loveridge said some bolts and fasteners that need extra work, such as grinding, are sent to the Morrow building before shipping.

Between 25 and 30 workers are employed at the new Morrow plant.

Mr. Loveridge said the old Morrow company employed about 120 people, but added that most of these jobs were absorbed by Ingersoll Fasteners when it opened.

In the first nine months of 1974 IVACO had sales of \$116 million.

Sivaco

LAYOFFS**Ingersoll plant
losing 125 jobs
before October**

Most of the space at Sivaco will be converted to a warehouse. A union official is blaming free trade.

By Brent Jang
The London Free Press

Less than three months after closing a plant in St. Thomas, Ivaco Inc. said Friday it is laying off 350 workers, including 125 at its Sivaco wire plant in Ingersoll.

Most of the space at the Ingersoll plant will be converted to a warehouse and by the end of September, only 30 workers will be left to make steel rods.

Ivaco, a Montreal-based steel producer, said it is considering further "rationalization" — reorganizing its assets and cutting jobs — at its wire division that includes nearly 20 plants in the U.S. and Canada.

"Ivaco indicated the layoffs are irreversible," said Al Seymour, area representative for the Canadian Auto Workers. "What we have is the survival of the fittest except I don't understand the rationale. Management told us the Ingersoll plant was making money."

Most of the 125 Ingersoll workers affected are CAW production staff. "It's just like playing checkers, moving the pieces around," Seymour said. "There's no question this is being provoked by free

trade. We're going to see companies doing more of this in the future."

Ivaco owns three other plants in Ingersoll: Ingersoll Fasteners, Infatool Ltd. and Ingersoll Machine and Tool Co. Ltd. The United Steelworkers of America represents more than 450 employees at those three operations.

Leo Gerard, the steelworkers' Ontario director, is asking the provincial government to "take strong public measures dealing with plant closures and major layoffs."

In addition to the Ingersoll layoffs, Ivaco is closing its Lundy Steel division in Dunnville and its nail plant in Virginia, affecting 175 and 50 workers respectively.

Said Gerard: "Earth to Premier. Earth to Premier. Are you there? Little by little, Ontario is losing industrial jobs. Little by little, Ontario's industrial base is being packed up and shipped elsewhere."

He said the steelworkers and the CAW will start putting pressure on the government for a system of "prior consultation, consideration of options, justification and compensation."

On Nov. 30, Ivaco closed its 104-employee Canron Inc. Foundry Division in St. Thomas. It had purchased Canron in 1986.

Gerard said he's worried about Ivaco buying companies and shutting them down shortly after.

Ivaco expects 150 jobs will be created once manufacturing is shifted to three expanded facilities in Tonawanda, N.Y., Chambly, Que., and Marieville, Que.

LONDON FREE PRESS

February 4, 1989

Employees at Ingersoll Sivaco had no idea jobs would be lost

By MARILYN SMULDERS
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — Workers at the Sivaco wire plant here didn't suspect their jobs were on the line until management gave the word on Friday.

In fact, things looked pretty good at the plant, said the plant's union representative Wes Davie. Sivaco had recently expanded, once in 1988 and once in 1987. And, it was one of the few wire drawing plants under the Ivaco Inc. umbrella that was turning a profit.

"Total disbelief," said Davie. "We had been hearing rumours for basically three weeks now but we tended to regard them as rumours because our plant is a viable one."

Al Seymour, the area director for the Canadian Auto Workers, was also shaking his head.

"I really can't understand the rationale. Why close down a facility that was making profit? Every indication that we had right from the start was that everything appeared rosy for Ingersoll. They were even talking about future expansion."

Ivaco, a Montreal-based steel producer, announced Friday that it would shutdown its Dunnville operation and a nail plant in Virginia while cutting back on employees at Sivaco. A total of 350 workers will be laid off, including 125 people at Sivaco in Ingersoll.

Processing of steel rods will continue at the operation in Ingersoll but

most of the space will be converted to a warehouse. After layoffs are complete in September, approximately 30 people will remain to do jobs for Sivaco's three other "sister companies" also based in Ingersoll: Ingersoll Fasteners, Ingersoll Machine and Tool and Infatool, said George Goldstein, Ivaco's vice president. The massive Canadian-owned company controls 70 steel products plants, 43 in Canada, 26 in the United States and one in Australia.

'Re-organization'

Most of the orders now handled by Sivaco will be directed to Ivaco's operation in Marieville, Quebec. American orders will be processed by a plant in Tonawanda, New York.

The reason for the changes was answered in a word by Goldstein: "re-organization."

"It's certainly a free trade oriented move. The big plants will get bigger at the expense of smaller operations," said Davie.

Added Seymour: "I think we'll see more of this in the future — companies going through restructuring in attempting to stay competitive."

Negotiations will start soon between the union and plant management over severance packages and the continuation of fringe benefits. Discussion will also centre on helping prepare workers to handle finding a new job with retraining programs. The first meeting will take place on Feb. 20.

But in the meantime, Davie wants

Ontario's premier, David Peterson, "to wake up and smell the coffee." Legislation on plant closures is desperately needed in the wake of free trade, said Davie.

Expresses sympathy

INGERSOLL — Mayor Doug Harris and the rest of town council expressed sympathy for workers laid off from Sivaco.

"It's disappointing," said Harris at a meeting yesterday. "Different political parties will blame it all on free trade but all I know is that there are people now without jobs."

SENTINEL REVIEW

February 7, 1989

Sivaco offers lucrative severance deal

By JOHN MENTEK
of The Sentinel-Review

Severance pay almost double the amount required under the terms of the Employment Standards Act is part of a partial plant closure agreement at Sivaco in Ingersoll, according to a Canadian Auto Workers spokesman in London.

The surprise layoffs occurred early in February, when the company announced a major "consolidation of operations," the only official explanation for the closure the union has ever received from the parent company, said Al Seymour, London-based area director of the CAW.

Only 27 union jobs are left out of 108, said Sivaco plant chairman Wes Davies, who claims the Montreal-based parent company, Ivaco, is saving about \$5 million as a result of combined plant layoffs in Canada and the United States.

Sivaco will continue to process some steel in Ingersoll, but most of the plant will be converted to warehouse space by September.

The CAW claims the Ingersoll jobs are being transferred to Ivaco's Quebec operations and to a plant in Tonawanda, New York.

Ivaco shut down two plants this year in addition to the partial closure in Ingersoll, affecting about 350 Canadian and American workers. Termination benefits have been negotiated for all, including 18 employees in Ingersoll already laid off when the closure plan was announced.

Severance package

An agreement with Sivaco's union, CAW Local 2163, signed in mid-February covers pension plans, group insurance and preferential hiring.

Laid off employees will receive one week's severance pay for each year of service up to five years, 1.5 weeks for each year from five to 15 years, and 1.75 weeks for each year in excess of 15.

This total amount will be increased by an additional 50 per cent.

"A member earning \$14 an hour with five years service who would have been eligible for nothing under the Employment Standards Act will get \$4,200 in severance pay under this agreement," Seymour said.

"Someone with 11 years will get \$11,760, almost double the terms of the Act."

Ivaco owns 43 steel plants in Canada, 26 in the U.S. and one in Australia.

SENTINEL REVIEW

March 6, 1989

24 Sivaco workers still looking for jobs

By MARK SKEFFINGTON

Twenty-four workers thrown out of work from the downsizing of Sivaco are still looking for jobs.

To date, 63 Sivaco Ontario workers have found new jobs, according to a letter sent to the Town of Ingersoll. The letter, dated Jan. 2, asks the town to consider hiring the displaced workers if there are openings.

In Feb. 1989, it was announced the Thomas Street plant, which manufactures wiring, would permanently layoff approximately 125 workers by the end of 1989. The plant would become more of a warehouse, its parent company, Ivaco Inc., of Montreal, announced at the time.

Approximately 175 workers at a plant in Dunnville were also to be affected by Ivaco's decision to 'rationalize' its operations, as were 50 workers at a U.S. plant, the original announcement said. In 1988, a St. Thomas plant was shut down affecting 104 employees.

Sivaco plant manager Bruce Roddick said Monday the downsizing of

the plant is basically complete.

There were layoffs on Oct. 27 and Nov. 24, according to the letter. Roddick said a decision hasn't been made yet on further layoffs.

A committee to find displaced workers jobs was set up after the Feb. 1989 downsizing announcement, involving representatives from the company and the Canadian Auto Workers, who represented the workers.

The Sivaco Ontario Employees Assistance Committee has been quietly working on placing the employees. A spokesperson at their job search office, Cathy Harvey, said members of the committee couldn't discuss their work.

Among the skilled workers available according to the letter are: a welder, crane operator, sales manager, accountant, truck driver, shipper, roofer, secretary, and others.

"Over half of the workers have long term service and all have developed a number of skills which would be an asset to any employer who may hire them," the letter says.

INGERSOLL TIMES

January 10, 1990

Two new exercise centres offer complete make-overs

Ingersoll residents should be a healthy lot when two new exercise centres get into full swing this month.

Ziggy's Trimline 2000 and Slimmer-Trimmer-U both opened their doors last week in an effort to attract locals tired of travelling out of town to get in shape.

"I felt Ingersoll needed a place like this," Slimmer-Trimmer-U owner, Mary Somer, said. "I knew I needed it."

Ziggy's owner Mary-Ellen Zegers and husband Jim also recognized the void and decided to incorporate their hobby into a business.

"We are both interested in being fit," Mary-Ellen said. "And we were not involved in any other club."

Both Thames Street South's Slimmer-Trimmer-U and King Street East's Ziggy's use toning tables as their exercise tool. New to Canada, the toning tables offer a complete workout for the body without the sweat.

Each of the tables is geared toward toning a particular body part. Exercisers are to use each

table for a 10-minute period, moving through a circuit of six machines for an entire workout including waist and stomach, legs and upper body.

Somer, who uses gear-driven tables, said they are safe for everyone including those with bad backs and arthritis. Exercisers can use the tables in passive or more advanced stages.

Trained instructors will be on hand at each centre to coach.

Diet is an important part of both programs. Slimmer-Trimmer-U offers personalized diet plans for each client based on the Canada food guide rules.

Ziggy's diet program is a little more high-tech. They enter personal data, including height and weight, into a computer system which produces an imprint of the client's silhouetted body as it is now and what it will look like when the weight loss goal is reached. Silhouetted characters in between represent the body changes during the transformation.

Both centres are promoting a "one-stop-shop" where clients can

come in for a workout, a trip to the suntanning bed and a manicure and pedicure all in the same morning or afternoon.

Ziggy's studio also includes a hair salon where clients can have their hair done on a one-to-one basis. Free day care is offered in an adjacent room where children can amuse themselves with toys and videos while watching their parents through a glass window.

Both Ziggy's and Somer said they have had excellent response in the community from those curious about their services. A complimentary first visit is being offered at each of the centres to give clients a feel for their programs.

Men, women and children are all invited to drop in.

At Slimmer-Trimmer-U, clients pay as they go without a long-term membership obligation. Each session is \$10.

At Ziggy's, 25 sessions cost \$189, 12 sessions are \$98 and a single session costs \$10. There is a separate cost for the suntanning beds.

INGERSOLL TIMES

August 24, 1988

SLIMMER - TRIMMER - U.

Smiles opens with a smile

By JONATHAN STOVER

Smiles, a new Ingersoll business which held its grand opening this Saturday, offers a number of services. With a photographic studio, custom framing facilities and both limited and mass edition prints for sale, Smiles is relatively unique for Ingersoll.

Kevin and Deborah Hughes are the owner-operators of the store. While the two live in Ingersoll now, up until a few years back they did photographs and framing out of their Aylmer home. They moved to Ingersoll as part of the preparations for opening Smiles, which has been on the drawing board for two years.

"Ingersoll seemed to need something like this," Kevin Hughes said. Waiting for the right location to open up occupied part of that time. The Hughes seemed pleased with the location they finally decided upon, at the corner of Thames and Charles streets.

Both Hughes have photographic training. Kevin Hughes studied at Toronto's Humber College, and the two decided that they wanted to open a business that specialized in something they both enjoyed.

The store is aimed at people who might not normally frequent a print shop. "A lot of people feel really intimidated by art stores," Hughes noted. Part of that intimidation comes from uninformed beliefs about how much an artist's print costs. "(Prints) don't have to be ex-



Deborah and Kevin Hughes' new art and photography store Smiles celebrated its grand opening over the weekend. (Jonathan Stover Photo)

pensive -- many have very reasonable prices," Hughes said. "You'd be hard pressed to find a print over \$70," he added.

The Hughes don't intend to stock a lot of limited edition prints, while the less costly unlimited run prints -- more akin to high-quality posters than anything else -- will be available for customers both at the store and to order through catalogues. "If we don't have it, we can get it," Hughes said.

He also noted that the store will try to encourage area artists to have shows at Smiles as well. "We hope to have artists featured on a regular basis," Hughes said.

Customers are encouraged to come in and browse through print catalogues and look at the prints already available in the store. A lounge area is set up for such browsers.

The photography studio, complete with a trained photographer, is aimed at portraits and wedding photographs. "Ingersoll just seemed to need a studio," Hughes noted. The custom framing facility completes the store's service base. "There's no other store like it around," he said. An official opening, complete with municipal officials and a prize draw, is scheduled to take place in September, but Smiles' doors will be open all summer.

INGERSOLL TIMES

July 26, 1989

New art and photography shop opens with a smile

BY LIZ DADSON

Smile, we're affordable.

This is the slogan of Smiles, the new art and photography shop which opened officially Monday afternoon in Ingersoll.

Owned and operated by Deborah Hughes and her husband, Kevin, the shop offers a wide range of artwork and framing, as well as portrait, wedding and commercial photography.

The couple has lived in Ingersoll for almost a year, having lived in Aylmer briefly and in Toronto for four years prior to that. Deborah is originally from Aylmer, while Kevin hails from London.

Smiles has been open for two months so its owners could "get the bugs ironed out," they said. The official opening was designed to make the store become better known.

"We're not an art gallery," Deborah said. "We carry high quality artwork at affordable prices. We're also meeting a need for quality photography in this area."

The couple spent the past two years scouting the area from east of London to west of Toronto for an ideal town for their business. They had been looking in Ingersoll for eight months when the location at the corner of Thames and Charles Streets, formerly the Ingersoll Sports Shop, became available.

"It's at a major intersection,"

Deborah said. "We're on a corner but we have the benefit of the park (which is actually situated at the corner)."

Smiles offers 24-hour photofinishing which is sent to a laboratory in London. The profes-

sional photography is handled at a separate laboratory in Toronto where the photos are hand-finished.

The portraits, wedding and commercial photography are done with a medium format camera that produces a negative which is 2½"

square. Deborah said this larger negative provides better enlargement results than the smaller negatives produced by a 35 mm camera.

Kevin does most of the portraits (at a studio in back of the shop) and wedding photos, while Deborah handles the framing and artwork. Their employee, Ruth Schooley, does most of the commercial photography.

"Kevin is my backbone," Deborah said. "He's the major source of my ideas, my inspiration and my motivation."

"Ruth is an excellent commercial photographer. She has a wonderful eye for things."

Smiles carries a large selection of fine art prints from almost any time period and style, Deborah said. There are also limited edition prints and a catalogue is available to order prints not carried in the shop.

Deborah emphasized that the prices, for both artwork and

photography, are extremely competitive, sometimes selling below the suggested retail price.

The Hughes hired two students to do most of the renovations in the shop. A month later, they were ready to open.

The couple has three children, Heather, 15, Lee, 13, and Aaron, 11. They all plan to get involved in the community. Deborah has been appointed to the promotions committee on the Ingersoll Business Improvement Area and the shop will open its doors to an Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute student in the cooperative placement program.

There are also plans for Smiles to hold a local amateur photography contest, and local amateur artists will be invited to display their work at the shop.

The comfortable atmosphere the owners hope to convey also produced the name Smiles. "We hope that's how people feel after they leave here," Deborah said.



Deborah Hughes (centre) and her husband, Kevin, stand with their employee, Ruth Schooley, at the grand opening of Smiles, an art and photography shop on Thames Street in Ingersoll. (Liz Dadson photo)

INGERSOLL TIMES
September 20, 1989

SMILES

Smith Bros.

ANOTHER INDUSTRY.

Smith Bros., of London, Removes their Fly Paper Factory to Ingersoll.

Messrs. Smith Bros., who for some years past have conducted a successful fly paper business in London, have removed their machinery and stock to Ingersoll, and are now located in the old Queen's Hotel. They manufacture both the sticky fly paper and the poison fly felts, and we think we will be quite within the mark in saying that their goods are not only the cheapest and best, but the most popular on the market. They give constant employment to some seven hands, and while the institution is not as extensive as some others it is none the less welcome in our town, numerous small industries being just as valuable to a place as one large one.

The Chronicle extends the glad hand to Messrs. Smith Bros., bids them cordial welcome and wishes them every prosperity in their new home.

DAILY CHRONICLE
March 14, 1902

Oatmeal Mill Constructed By Jas. Smith

INGERSOLL— The new flouring and oatmeal mill erected by Mr. Jas. Smith on the upper end of Thames street strikes the eye in a very prominent manner, situated as it is just on the curve of the street.

This mill is built on the site of an old sawmill erected by Chas. Ingersoll, Esq., and which was burned down about fourteen years ago. This new

mill is intended for the manufacturing of flour and oatmeal, being provided with a kiln for drying the oats and three run of stone — two for flouring purposes and one for oatmeal.

Its area is 40 by 60 feet exclusive of the wheel-house, is four storeys high, the first being of stone and the other three frame of the most substantial construction.

The mill machinery is furnished by Mr. Whitelaw of Beachville. The flouring stones are supplied by Gartshore and Co., of Dundas, and the oatmeal stones come from Glasgow, Scotland, but have not yet arrived.

The mill will be driven by a breast-wheel, the dimensions of which are 12 by 14 feet. The cost of this mill is estimated at

about \$6,000 and the building of the dam will be about \$400 more. This mill will prove a valuable acquisition to the town and vicinity, and is, as well, an ornament to the place.

Sobey's food store in planning stage

A proposed Sobey's Food Village is now in the planning stages, slated for the Orange Tree development at Culloden Road and Highway 401 in Ingersoll.

The public works and planning committee discussed the proposed Official Plan amendment and zone change by the Toronto developer which would allow additional commercial uses, including a bake shop, drug store, and retail food store.

Town clerk Gerry Staples told the committee the developer requires the zone change in order to allow the major food chain store Sobey's into the development.

"It's the anchor tenant," he said, "and the key to the proposal."

According to the application, Sobey's would take up 35,000 square feet of space, with other retail outlets filling up the other 27,000 square feet.

"They (developer) don't care about the rest of the stores provided they have the anchor store," said

Mayor Doug Harris. "We have experience at that."

Councillor Jack Warden said there are certain stores the town could use in that development which would not affect the main street businesses. "That's the sort of thing I would like to see out there."

He added that his major concern is that these services are provided, even if in a mall on the edge of town, in order to keep consumers from going out of town to buy.

Staples said a public meeting for the zone change will be held in Ingersoll, while the public meeting for the Official Plan amendment will be slated for Woodstock. But both are "down the road apiece," he added.

"These comments are a little premature," said Councillor Don Hillis.

The committee agreed to table the proposal until it receives further information from the Oxford County planning department.

INGERSOLL TIMES

March 7, 1990

Ken Willett
City Editor
537-2341

Oxford planning group negates Ingersoll project

By GREG ROTHWELL
of The Sentinel-Review

One day after Ingersoll town council endorsed a proposal for a large retail plaza in the southwest end of the community, containing a major grocery store, Oxford County's planning committee turned thumbs down to the project.

"It's a nice development and I think it would do well, but I don't think it would help Ingersoll," said committee member Jim Muterer, who feels the plaza would have a drastic impact on businesses in the town's downtown core.

The planning committee is recommending Oxford County council deny a request from the Orange Tree Development Corporation of Toronto for an amendment to the County of Oxford Official Plan so the project on the east side of Culloden Road, between the Clarke Sideroad and Highway 401, can proceed. County council will deal with the matter May 23.

PLANS TO OPEN A SOBEY'S

The company hopes to open a 35,000-square-foot Sobeys grocery store on the 5.9 acre site, along with 27,000 square feet of other business space, including a cinema, a pharmacy, a dry cleaning establishment and a dry cleaning distribution centre.

On Wednesday, Ingersoll council supported Orange Tree's application, with the provision that three other businesses — a bake shop, a laundry and a personal service shop — be dropped from the project.

The county planning department, in a report to the planning committee, recommended that the application not be supported because of the negative impact the development would have on Ingersoll's central business district.

At the planning meeting, Khamis Samnah, from Orange Tree, said the development will attract shoppers to the community.

"It's going to keep money in the area," Samnah said. "It will attract people to stay in the town and spend money in the town."

'THIS IS A POSITIVE THING'

Ken Troughton, real estate manager for Sobeys Inc., was even more adamant that the project would be good for the town.

"This is a positive thing for the town," he said, describing the plaza as "a gateway" to the community.

The opening of a Sobeys supermarket "is going to introduce some sheer consumer competition" into the grocery store market in Ingersoll, Troughton said. The town is now served by two supermarkets, a 19,000-square-foot Zehrs and a 12,600-square-foot IGA. A 5,300-square-foot Valdi's store is being built as part of the Carnegie Square development in downtown Ingersoll.

Troughton said prices at the IGA and Zehrs outlets are "above the norm, they can do quite better, frankly." A Sobeys store would provide lower prices, he said.

The planning department noted that a 35,000-square-foot Sobeys would almost double the existing and proposed grocery store space in the community. Troughton said Sobeys is prepared to reduce the size of the proposed Ingersoll store to 32,500 square feet, the same size as the Sobeys that's being constructed on Devonshire Avenue in Woodstock.

THE STUDY ESTIMATES

A grocery store market impact study prepared for Orange Tree by the consulting firm Laventhol and Horwath found that \$25.5-million a year is spent by the 6,500 households in Ingersoll and communities within a 10 mile radius of the town. Of that, \$16.6-million, or 65 per cent, is spent at the IGA and Zehrs outlets; \$1-million, or 4 per cent, is spent at stores in Embro and Thamesford and the remaining 31 per cent, or \$7.8-million, is spent at stores in Woodstock, Tillsonburg and other centres.

The study estimated that a Sobeys store in Ingersoll would stem 18 per cent of that \$7.8-million annual outflow, and the store itself has a potential of taking in \$3.6-million annually, with its location along the 401.

In addition to the location along that major highway, the plaza site is near the CAMI Automotive Inc. plant and the Relax Inn, located to the southwest, which is part of an earlier Orange Tree development.

Two years ago Orange Tree brought forth a proposal to develop the plaza site for industrial uses. That scheme fell through.

The 5.9 acres are zoned for special highway commercial use, which limits the types of businesses that can be established there. In addition to the application to amend the Official Plan, Orange Tree would also require an amendment to Ingersoll's zoning bylaw, changing the designation on the property for secondary commercial use.

Planning commissioner Ken Whiteford told the planning committee that a rezoning of the property would eliminate virtually all available highway commercial land at the south end of Ingersoll. A four-acre site to the south of the proposed plaza is now being developed for highway commercial purposes and a second highway commercial site on the west side of the Culloden Road is limited in terms of servicing and the configuration of the lot.

SENTINEL REVIEW

May 11, 1990

County council rejects Sobeys store in Ingersoll

By JEFF CULP

Oxford County Council rejected plans to build a major shopping plaza on Culloden Road just north of the 401 in Ingersoll.

The 14-6 rejection of the project, billed by the developer as a gateway to Ingersoll, is directly opposed to the overwhelming support for the project from Ingersoll town council.

The development was to have been anchored by a 32,500 square foot Sobeys's supermarket, and contain 27,500 square feet of additional retail space, including a cinema and a drug store. A change in the official plan was required to allow Sobeys's, the cinema, and a drug store into the project.

A market study commissioned by the developer suggested the new supermarket could be supported by the market, but a review of the study, by Robin Dee and Associates, concluded the supermarket would be "only marginally viable."

The proposed Sobeys's would have been about the same area as both existing downtown supermarkets combined. A new Valdi's supermarket, planned to be about 5,300 square feet, is about to begin construction in the core.

Representatives of both Zehrs and Loeb's I.G.A. told council the market couldn't support another supermarket of this size.

Bill Beatty, representing Loeb's, told council any new supermarket would have to draw from Woodstock, London, and Tillsonburg to survive.

"Wrong place, wrong time, too much," said Daphne Wagner, a lawyer representing JNS Developments and Landawn Shopping Centres. She told council it should consider the impact on the core, and any possible move to revitalize the downtown, before

voting in favor of the new project.

"Does it belong by the 401 in an area that is not fully developed?" Ms. Wagner asked councillors.

"I've heard the word 'gateway' used," said Terry McGovern of IPCF Properties, representing Zehrs. "This isn't a gateway, it's a supermarket."

Sobeys's Real Estate manager Kenneth Troughton told council all the surveys agreed more supermarket space was needed in Ingersoll, the only difference of opinion being how much.

Further, he said the 'gateway' concept was in line with the county's

official plan.

"The plan in its basic intent is still being honored. This project is not on a regional scale. The commercial integrity of the town can be developed not only in the core, but on the periphery as well," Mr. Troughton said.

Ingersoll's development commissioner Ted Hunt also supported the project. "There have been 90 amendments to (the official plan), most since 1986. This suggested the plan is out of step with the times in which we live. Downtowns are not the focus of the retail business sector in Ontario," he said.

Most councillors rejected the plan because of the size of the proposed Sobeys's store. "Competition is great, but blatantly putting people out of business is crazy," said Councillor Marg Nummoch.

The size also bothered Coun. Joe Pember. "If Sobeys's feel they can do it, they should build in an area that is allowable." No zoning changes would be necessary were the Sobeys's to locate downtown.

Coun. Jack Warden, of Ingersoll, was the loudest voice in favor of the proposal. "If you people could possibly tell me where in the downtown this would go without rip-

ping down the whole downtown, I'd like to hear it," he said. "Whether Sobeys's comes to Ingersoll or not, our empty stores downtown will still be empty. Until we revitalize the main street -- which we intend to do -- we'll still have the empty stores."

Coun. Warden predicted council's action would lead to another Ontario Municipal Board hearing.

Last year, council rejected another retail development for the periphery of Woodstock. That project had been supported by Woodstock council. An OMB hearing is scheduled for the fall.

INGERSOLL

TIMES

MAY

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1990

SOBEY'S FOOD VILLAGE

The Daily Sentinel-Review, Fri., June 8, 1990—3

ORANGE TREE DEVELOPMENTS

Sobey's pulls out of proposed plaza

INGERSOLL — The largest customer of a proposed plaza for the outskirts of Ingersoll has pulled out of the deal following Oxford County's thumbs down on the proposal, leaving the developer of the mall wondering what his next step will be.

Khamis Samnah, executive director of the Orange Tree Development Corp. of Toronto, said Sobey's Food Village has refused to reduce their store in the proposed plaza to 25,000

square feet.

The size reduction "made it not possible for them," Samnah said.

Previously, Sobey's size had been set at 35,000 and then 32,000 square feet. Samnah had gone back to the county with the 25,000 square foot offer in an effort to get a reversal of the county council decision made earlier to turn down the mall.

Last week, county senior planner Jim Hill said he didn't know how the reduced-size offer would fare with

the county, as the location — not only the size — of the mall was an issue. In addition, the county has never dealt with a developer bartering on the size of a proposal, he said.

Samnah said now that Sobey's has decided to reject the 25,000 square foot idea, "we are left out in the cold"

Making an application to the Ontario Municipal Board is still an option, he said.

SENTINEL REVIEW

June 8, 1990

Mayor defends position on Sobeys

BY MIKE SWITZER

Ingersoll Mayor Doug Harris faced some heavy criticism for his vote against the Sobeys shopping plaza, at a meeting of the public works and planning committee Monday.

Town council had voted overwhelmingly in support of the project prior to its eventual rejection by Oxford County Council. Harris placed his vote with those against the project at the meeting.

"It doesn't bother me what people think of my vote," Harris said, "because I have to live with myself."

"I am disappointed at county council," said councillor Brian Rodenhurst. "We lost the project because some guy in Tavistock doesn't like it."

"If I wasn't the forgiving type," he added, "I'd say anytime Woodstock or Tavistock want something, we should vote against it. I consider it repugnant to anything I believe that they can tell us we can't have something."

Harris said there have been times when the town council has been "pretty happy" that certain things

were the county's responsibility.

He added he was receiving positive feedback from food stores in Ingersoll.

Representatives of Zehrs and Loeb's I.G.A. had earlier told council that the market could not support a 35,000-square-foot supermarket, as proposed by Sobeys.

Councillor Jack Warden described the issue as "plain and simple - competition."

"The marketplace will always right itself in time," he said, "That's not nice, but that is business. How much protection do we have to give? Do we let the market regulate itself?"

Councillor Gerry Binga suggested that the county Official Plan be amended to deal with similar proposals in the future. He said the issue would continue.

INGERSOLL TIMES

June 6, 1990

No Sobeys in Ingersoll

Sobeys has definitely pulled its grocery store plans out of Ingersoll.

Town development officer Ted Hunt said the property, located at Highway 401 and Culloden Road, is on the market again and Toronto developer Khamis Samnah is looking for another buyer.

"I'm promoting it here," Hunt said, "and Samnah is promoting it at his end (in Toronto)."

He added that any future proposals will be for uses already permitted on the property.

The proposed Sobeys Food Village was supported by town council but was turned down by Oxford County Council at the end of May.

The development was to have been anchored by the 32,500-square-foot Sobeys supermarket and contain 27,500 square feet of additional retail space, including a cinema and a drug store.

However, a change in the county Official Plan was required to allow Sobeys, the cinema and a drug store into the project.

Most councillors rejected the proposal because of the size of the Sobeys store.

Hunt said management at Sobeys attempted to down-grade the size, changing it to 32,500 square feet from the original 35,000 square feet, but the smaller store "couldn't have flown either," he said.

Ingersoll Times

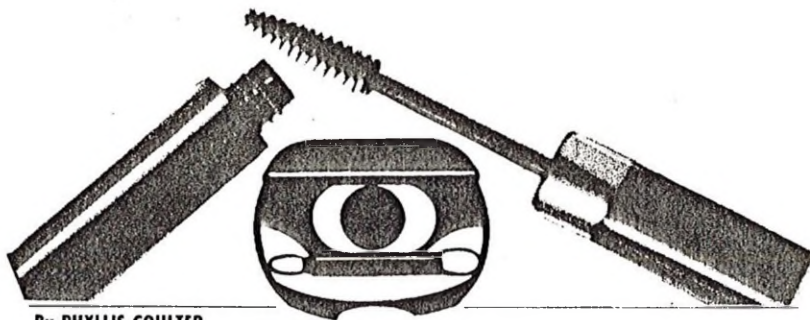
New business for Ingersoll

A new business has taken up residence in half the P.M. Fishleigh Ltd. building on Thames Street South. Something Special, a gift boutique featuring educational books and records for children, assorted gift ideas including jewelry, macrame and quilts, is owned and operated by Cheryl Dawdry.

P.M. Fishleigh closed one section of its business earlier this month, making way for the new business.

Along with Cheryl, there are two part-time employees.

She helps put your best face forward



By PHYLLIS COULTER
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — Ever wonder what you will look like 30 years from now? Is it a frightening thought?

Kath Oliver, who is in her mid-30s had the unsettling experience of watching herself age minute by minute until in the space of little more than an hour, she looked at least 70. This transformation took place at the hands of cosmetologist Kathy Nadalin.

Oliver became an older woman for a good cause — for her role in *The Curious Savage*, an Ingersoll Theatre of the Performing Arts (ITOPA) production.

Nadalin is one of three makeup artists who will be reinforcing character images with powder and paint for the performance of *Honestly Now* which opens Friday.

Nadalin is one of the many volunteers at ITOPA. For this work she doesn't get paid but she has also had worked professional actors in a film for Canada Trust, and has done makeup for a 3M production. This type of work does pay well, she quipped during an interview this week.

With makeup, she can make someone look older, younger, fatter or skinnier as required. However, theatrical makeup is actually a small part of Nadalin's business. She works out of her home in Ingersoll doing makeup for special occasions including weddings. She also has a regular clientele for whom she does makeup, nails, waxing, facials and pedicures.

Her business, known as the Special Affects Studio, is in her home on at the edge of town. She says many people like the privacy and personal attention of coming to a small studio for such services as hair removal by leg waxing.

Nadalin, the mother of three, has been in business for about a year. She studied cosmetology in London taking classes three days a week for 10 months. She said the schedule was demanding as she combined her studies with caring for her husband and three young children. She finds that working from home base is convenient as her youngest child is not in school yet. She considered moving her business downtown but she likes how things are going with her in-house location and expects to keep operating from here, even when her children are all in school.

SENTINEL REVIEW

June 1, 1989

Town business improvements

There has been a lot of movement in Ingersoll's business sector in the last few months.

Three new businesses opened their doors, including Special Creations, Ingersoll Furniture in February, Ingersoll Appliance Repair in March and Remax Realty in April.

*Special Creations, which has moved into a Thames Street South location beside the Beckers store, is a woodworking business specializing in wall units and kitchen cabinets.

Ingersoll Appliance and Repair found a home at 42 King Street East where they repair and sell used appliances. They specialize in major

appliances including refrigerators, stoves and washing machines.

Ingersoll's newest furniture store is located at 15 Thames Street South and sell many types of furniture and a complete line of major appliances. Ingersoll Furniture took over the building which housed the now-defunct Community Cleaners.

Remax Realty has been helping locals find homes for almost two months. Their Thames Street South office works in conjunction with its Woodstock counterpart.

Several other businesses left Ingersoll during the early part of the year including Clair Bray Real Estate, based here for many years.

Thames Street South's Ingersoll Billiards also closed its doors along with the Ingersoll Feed and Farm Supply on Victoria Street.

Still in town but at a new location are Academy Music which relocated from Thames Street to King Street and the Salvation Army Thrift Store which moved from Thames South to King Street East.

Still in business but under new ownership are the Super X Drugs on Charles Street which is now a Shoppers Drug Mart and family business Fleischer and Jewett Ltd. now Paul Burroughs Oldsmobile. The ownership of ABC Radiator also changed hands.

June 1, 1988

INGERSOLL TIMES

SPECIAL CREATIONS

Kitchens transformed

A local business is transforming ordinary kitchens into Special Creations.

The Thames Street business opened June 1 after Darlene Landon and her husband Parry had spent considerable time learning to renovate houses.

"We started out with the idea of just doing kitchen cabinets, but now people have started coming in and asking for quotes on kitchens, and asking if we could do (other things) for their house."

Special Creations now does kitchen cabinets in addition to wall units, custom vanities, medicine cabinets, headboards and night tables.

The pair also do counter top installations and can either order the material from the factory or custom-design the counters to individual tastes. And their customers are diverse.

"We do everything from income properties to \$225,000 units," she said, adding that oak and melamine are the two most popular finishing materials for kitchens.

Melamine is widely used in modernistic Euro-kitchens.

"It's durable, easy to clean and

can be done either in basic ways or dressed up a bit with oak frames and handles," Landon said.

Special Creations staff do all installations, although a special rate does exist for those customers who are handy with a hammer and wish to install their own cupboards.

"A lot of people are trying to save money by doing their own renovations," she said.

Customers today want oversized cabinets and products customized for their own homes.

But for those not sure of what they want, the Landons will also make house calls.

The store is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Landon said she and her husband feel comfortable doing business in Ingersoll and feel a part of the commerce community.

In 10 years she says she would like her business to be "a little busier but not much bigger. We like our business to be more personalized and satisfy the people."

The Landons also sell tee shirts and sweat shirts with customized transfers.

INGERSOLL TIMES

September 14, 1988

Making dream homes reality



Barry Schell, left, and Bob Taylor pose with one of the 32 fireplaces they'll be offering for sale at Specialty Brick and Fireplace, a retail outlet for Tweed Steel. Their warehouse and showroom are located on Highway 19, south of Mount Elgin.

Barry Schell and Bob Taylor want to help bring your dream home to reality.

The two men supply bricks, precast concrete and fireplaces to builders and homeowners. Schell, Technical Co-ordinator and Sales Manager of Tweed Steel, takes care of the wholesale end of it, and Taylor, manager of Specialty Brick and Fireplace, brings the products to private consumers.

The warehouse and showroom are located in a building on Highway 19, south of Mt. Elgin. Schell said it'll open to the public as soon as the showroom is ready, some time in early December. He added there's room for a third tenant.

Although the warehouse is part of the building, shoppers "can bring

their kids down here and be comfortable," said Schell.

Right now there are a few wood-burning and gas fire places in one corner. There will be a total of 32 types of fire place to choose from. Fire place inserts will be available to make existing stoves more heat-efficient. Gas logs will also be sold, Taylor said.

There are lines of brick "too numerous to count," he said. These include lines of American brick of higher quality that aren't available in London. The price is only "marginally" higher. Consumers can also consider clay and angelstone bricks.

To complete the dream house, homeowners can choose from a wide selection of landscaping products.

Tweed Steel's manufacturing plant is located in Tweed, Ontario. Strictly a wholesale supplier cross-Canada, it located a warehouse in Woodstock 12 years ago. That location eventually wasn't big enough for its operations. Although Schell is an Ingersoll resident, he said the town did not have a piece of land suitable for both Tweed Steel and Specialty Brick.

Both liked the proximity of Highway 401, but Specialty Brick wanted to serve the north-south corridor and stay out of direct competition with Woodstock and London.

"Why should everybody in this area have to run to London for everything?" asked Schell.

The only disadvantage right now is that the new location in the northern fringe of Tillsonburg means long-distance rates. Schell said a toll-free business number will overcome that inconvenience.

Besides the unique location, Schell and Taylor hope to get into an untapped and growing market.

"The attitude of the buyer has changed," Taylor said.

There are more double income families in Oxford County, and there are larger, newer industries, said Schell. That means a growing demand for quality products. "We're getting a better home being built."

The rising costs of building materials have also affected residential construction. "Fewer houses are built on spec," said Taylor. "Now they build houses by order."

It all means that consumers are getting more involved in the construction of their own homes. Although there is a masonry supply in Woodstock, "the attitude there is not retailer-oriented," said Taylor.

"Specialty Brick then is our retail supplier," said Schell. At the same time, Taylor can sell Tweed Steel products at trade prices.

what's new in business

WHAT STARTED as a small Ingersoll business, a dream come true for former competitive skater Linda Turner, has already become an important international supplier of skating dresses and accessories.

It's a case of the cart coming before the horse and the cart getting away, laughed Linda Turner at Wednesday's official ribbon cutting ceremony for *Spins 'N Sparkles Figure Skating Designs*.

Spins 'N Sparkles started off as a retail outlet. But by the time the shop opened, it had already become manufacturing, wholesale and retail. And it had an international customer list, virtue of the Spins 'N Sparkles purchase of Hachel, a Quebec based firm, one of four figure skating dress design companies in Canada.

Japanese skaters like Hachel dresses, Turner noted.

Spins 'N Sparkles, located above Debonaire Hair Styling, stocks a full line of skating dresses, accessories and skates.

Skates range in price from about \$75, to a \$400 skating boot (that's without the blade). Dresses run upward from around \$40, depending on what the customer wants. And figure skating dresses for competition can be quite elaborate.

Manufacturing is done on the premises, with designs by Wanda Hagan and Turner. Hortense Drepaul is chief seamstress.

Also involved with Spins 'N Sparkles is Ernie Parker, well-known in professional and competitive skating circles. He'll be doing blade mounting and skate sharpening.



CUTTING THE ribbon at Spins 'N Sparkles, are (left to right) Ernie Parker, Norma Jean Turner, Linda Turner, Ronda Turner and George Cornfield.

(Staff photo by Pauline Kerr)

SENTINEL REVIEW

September 30, 1989

New store spins and sparkles into business

Linda Turner has been a hairstylist in Ingersoll for the past 25 years and wanted to do something different.

The vice-president of the local figure skating club, Turner discovered a need for a figure skating apparel shop and decided to open one.

However, her plans for a retail apparel outlet mushroomed after she bought out Hachel of Montreal, a major manufacturer of skating dresses.

Now, the Ingersoll native has three businesses: manufacturing, wholesale and retail sales of figure skating apparel under the name "Spins 'N' Sparkles." She also plans to set up six other retail outlets in the area stretching from Sarnia to Sudbury to Toronto.

"There's a definite need here (for skating apparel outlets)," Turner said. "There are only three retail-wholesale licensed figure skating apparel outlets in Ontario and two of those are in Toronto."

She noted a lot of research went into planning the "Spins 'N' Sparkles" store over the past year. The shop was to open Sept. 5 but King Street

East (on which it is located, above Debonaire Hair Styling which Turner also owns) was torn up at the time.

So the opening was postponed to Sept. 18 at which time the sidewalk was torn up.

"Finally we just gave up and opened anyway," Turner said, referring to the store's grand opening last Wednesday afternoon.

At the grand opening, George Cornfield, manager of the Ingersoll Toronto Dominion Bank, and Ernie Parker, skate sharpener at the new shop, joined with Turner and her two daughters, Norma Jean, 14, and Ronda Lee, 10, in cutting the ribbon.

Turner said the store has grown a lot faster than she expected it would. "It's more involved and more work than I thought it would be," she said.

The store offers skates of every make, from the beginner level right up to the highest competitive level, with the cost ranging from \$50 to \$800 per pair. Blades range from \$50 to \$500 per pair.

Also for sale are a tremendous variety of skate dresses, and warm-up suits and sweaters that even non-skaters would be interested in,

Turner said.

"We've had people from St. Catharines to Sarnia ordering things," Turner said. "We have more than 260 precision dresses underway, to be finished by mid-October."

Besides the need for skating apparel, she said she wanted to open the shop in order to create different designs for figure skaters' outfits.

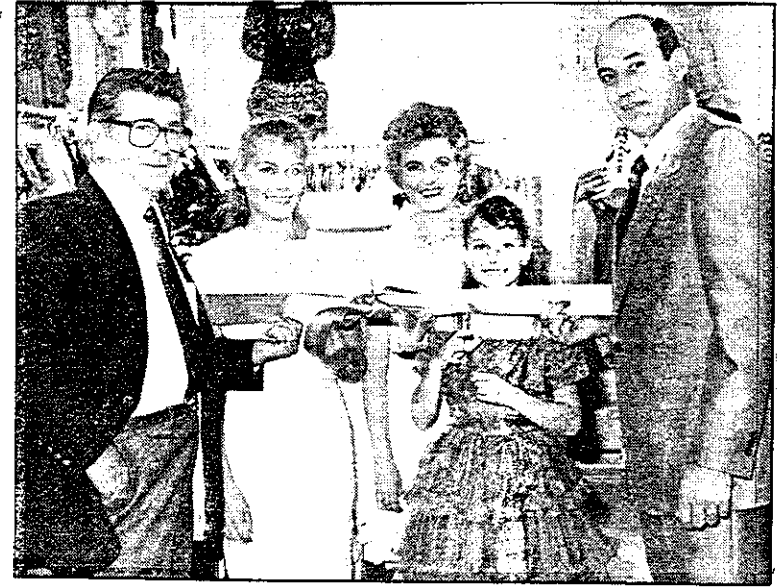
"We want no design the same," she said. "They (outfits) have to be very intricate so they won't be seen again on the ice (on another skater)."

"There's nothing we can't make for skaters," Turner stressed, "including men's and boy's costumes."

Nancy Dennis of Dorchester works at the store as the shipper and receiver. She also does many of the shows, promoting the skating apparel shop.

Spins 'N' Sparkles is open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

While the new store occupies much of her time, Turner said she would never give up her hairstyling shop. "This (new store) is just something different," she said.



Ernie Parker, skate sharpener, (left) and George Cornfield, manager of the Ingersoll Toronto-Dominion Bank, help Linda Turner (centre) and her daughters, Norma Jean (left) and Ronda Lee, cut the ribbon, opening the new figure skating apparel shop, Spins 'N' Sparkles, on King Street East last Wednesday afternoon. (Liz Dadson photo)

INGERSOLL

TIMES

SPINS 'N' SPARKLES

Rapid growth of costume business leaves heads spinning

By KATHERINE WILLIAMS
for The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — Working at Spins 'N' Sparkles sounds like it would be one big whirl of sequins and brightly colored-lyera, but owner Linda Turner has discovered it is a lot more.

Turner, an ex-figure skater and now a figure skating mom, has turned her attention from hairdressing to designing figure skating costumes. She knew there was a market for skating costumes from trying to buy special ones for her two daughters.

"There just was nothing in this area. If you wanted something really special, you could travel 300 or 400 miles," she said, adding a figure skater's nightmare is showing up in competition wearing the same dress as another skater.

In 1988, in a corner of her beauty salon on King Street E., Turner started carrying a small selection of costumes and skating equipment.

A typical day at Spins is "nuts. I'm generally 15 to 20 phone calls behind," says Linda Turner.

Life just hasn't been the same since.

"It's almost gone too fast for me. I planned to start this Mickey Mouse operation with Hortense (Spins' head seamstress)."

Within six months the boutique had taken over the shop and was spilling into the men's hairdressing section. Within a year, she had to renovate a five-room apartment upstairs for the business.

"And now we've grown out of that. I should have bought the building next door when I had the chance," says Turner.

She has 12 stores from Sarnia to Burlington, designs three lines of costumes and has purchased Hachel, one of the three largest figure

skating suppliers in Canada. Hachel did business internationally, but Turner says she is not quite ready for that yet.

A typical day at Spins is "nuts. I'm generally 15 to 20 phone calls behind," says Turner. Staff has grown to include an office manager, a wholesale manager, four designers, two of whom also sew and bead, and sales staff.

The Spins crew travels to competitions, hiring extra staff for the larger ones to help with about \$200,000 worth of stock.

Hortense Drepaul, head seamstress, can whip up 35 to 40 skirts in a day, but it's still a rush to keep up with demand.

Every March the 12 stores must return all merchandise — between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per store — to the Ingersoll head office for inventory. "It's a madhouse," says Turner.

Some skaters have their dresses designed with a special skating number in mind. Turner says

Fashion

EDITOR PHYLLIS COULTER 537-2341

many bring their music in, talk about what they want and watch while she sketches an idea. She works quickly and the rough drawing goes directly to Drepaul — affectionately known as the Mad Seamstress — and the result is what makes Spins so special.

Even those who buy off the rack can be sure no one else will be wearing the same dress at a competition. No two dresses are alike. "If they want a dress in a different size, I do something similar, but not the same," she says.

Turner acknowledges while there is a lot of politics in skating and a lot of attention to the trappings, skating is the athletic ability to perform the jumps and moves. Her attention to fitting boots reflects this.

"With boots and blades you're looking at a big investment," she says. "It's the important part." Spins offers a skate matching service to customers searching for second-hand skates.

Even practice outfits have grown snazzier in the last few years. Skaters used to wear basic blacks and sweaters for practice but bright, happy colors have taken over.

Turner enjoys her new business but misses the people contact of hairdressing. "Now it's me and the phone or me and the computer."

Her happiest times at Spins are when she creates just what the customer wanted. "When the kids don't want to take the dresses off, that's the best."



LINDA TURNER, owner of Ingersoll's Spins 'N' Sparkles watches as seamstress Hortense Drepaul puts together a custom figure skating outfit.



LINDA TURNER is surrounded by staffers holding some of the sportswear available at the King Street East store in Ingersoll. Mary White is at the top of the stairs while Turner is flanked by Kevin White and Eugene Duynisveld.

Daily Sentinel Review
Mar. 28, 1991

Local Stelco plant feels affects of steelworkers' strike

The local Stelco plant is feeling the affects of a steelworkers' strike which began last week.

Workers with the Energy Chemical Workers' Union at Stelco Steel Inc. in Hamilton went on strike at midnight last Tuesday and as of Friday 26 workers at the Stelco Chemical Limeworks plant, just outside Ingersoll, have been laid off.

Plant manager Dick Bowman said the lime plant exists to supply Stelco which requires 80 to 85 per cent of its production. The remainder supplies outside customers.

"We are going through layoffs," Bowman said. In addition to the 26, another 16 will be laid off in two weeks, with "a couple" more the following week.

"We expect a recall of some by the first of September," he added.

Of the 85 people employed at the lime plant, 74 are with Local 774 of the Energy Chemical Workers' Union whose contract expires at the end of next March.

Union president Edward J. Dukes said of the 26 workers let go Friday, 17 were permanently laid off and nine were temporary layoffs. He said the 16 workers being laid off in two weeks are employees with more than 11 years seniority.

"There's not much we can do about it because of the work stoppage in Hamilton," Dukes said. "We've been expecting it. In 1981, the same thing happened."

(Hamilton's Stelco steelworkers went on strike for 125 days in 1981.)

However, Dukes added that some of the final 16 layoffs will be recalled for two-week periods until October to fill in while others are on vacation.

Bill Hyde, workers manager at BeachviLime in Beachville, said the steelworkers' strike has not affected that company and he does not anticipate any affect.

"There's a possibility we could see an increase in business, supplying lime to the steel industry," he said.

The wholly-owned subsidiary of Dofasco has 180 employees with the Energy Chemical Workers' Union and another 45 to 50 staff employees, Hyde said.

Ingersoll Times
Aug. 8, 1990

Almost 20 workers still on lay-off at Stelco

Almost 20 workers remain on lay-off at the Stelco Chemical Limeworks plant, east of Ingersoll.

Plant manager Dick Bowman said 17 of the 74 employees in the bargaining unit and two of the 10

administrative staff continue to be out of work.

A deal was struck last month between Stelco Steel and its steelworkers in Hamilton after a strike which began in August.

Bowman said the local lime plant is "reacting to the needs of steel mills that are getting back up to production levels." However, these mills are producing for end sales only, no inventory, he added.

Almost 85 per cent of the local lime plant's production goes to Stelco. The remainder supplies outside customers.

Ingersoll Times

Dec. 5, 1990

Stelco workers OK 3-year deal

By GEOFF DALE
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — After nearly six weeks of negotiations, workers at Stelco Steel Chemical Lime Works have overwhelmingly accepted a new three-year contract.

Eighty-six per cent of 56 employees assembled at the Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall this week voted 48-8 in favor of the deal.

The package sees the average hourly wage (including a cost of living allowance) for operators and truck drivers increase to \$19.18 by April 1, \$20.16 by April of next year and \$21.68 by the end of the contract.

Skilled tradesmen will get hourly wages of \$21.04 by April 1, \$22.08 by next April and \$23.60 by the end of the third year.

Workers also got a \$4 pension increase, giving them \$32 a month multiplied by the numbers of years service plus a sup-

plementary pension of \$18 a month multiplied by years service.

"We're very pleased that both sides could come to an early agreement," said the company's plant manager Dick Bowman. "We have three years of understanding and we hope we can turn the corner in the industry. It's very soft now."

Stelco registered a \$197-million loss last year.

Ed Dukes, president of Local 774 of the Energy and Chemical Workers Union, said another major gain for the membership was the indexing of pensions to the inflation rate.

"These pensions will not just affect those who will collect them in the future but also those under the past agreement," he said.

Other areas of improvement include: dental plan, group insurance, vision care, benefits for laid off employees, severance

pay packages for laid off employees up to 52 weeks, ½-hour paid lunch, \$50 and \$100 coverall allowances and five day bereavement pay in the event of the death of a son, daughter or spouse.

"It is good deal," Dukes said. "Obviously with 86 per cent voting to accept, the workers are happy."

The current workforce is 59 with 15 laid off.

The company produces high calcium limestone products and high calcium lime for the Hilton Works in Hamilton, Lake Erie Works in Nanticoke and McMaster in Quebec.

"Basically we're 100 per cent captive suppliers to those operations," Bowman said. "Right now one furnace in Hamilton is down for major alignment and is at 45 per cent capacity."

"As they run is how we run," he said.

Daily Sentinel Review
Mar. 15, 1991

Student job market takes downturn

BY MIKE SWITZER

It has been a tough summer for students looking for jobs, said student placement officer Kristi Dill.

Dill said slowdowns in the economy could be seen in the student job market, particularly in the retail sector.

"Retail has been hit the worst by far," she said, "while casual jobs have been the least affected."

Figures at the Woodstock student employment office, which include the Ingersoll market, reflect this slowdown. While July registration was up one-half of one per cent, placements were down 13 per cent compared to last July.

Total summer job placements were down a total of 29.5 per cent over this period last year, although Dill said this indicated a slight rise

since the end of June, when the figure peaked at 41 per cent.

"It's picked up a bit," she said, "however things are not as good as we had hoped. Overall, when you compare us to other centres, we're in fairly good shape, relatively speaking."

Dill said that wages had dropped somewhat since last summer, and that employers were waiting a longer time before advertising any jobs. She added that employers were generally offering fewer jobs with less hours than last year.

"A lot of students have come to us expecting \$8-per-hour jobs, but these are few and far between. Five-dollar-to-seven-dollar-per-hour would be a more realistic expectation."

The Ingersoll student placement office, at 36 Charles Street, will re-

main open until Friday. After that date students can go to the Woodstock office.

Employers and interested students can call the office at 539-0444.



Student placement officer Kristi Dill stands at the counter of the Ingersoll student employment office. She said that placements have declined since last summer, with retail jobs being the hardest hit by recent downturns in the economy. (Mike Switzer photo)

The Ingersoll Times, Wednesday, March 6, 1991

New submarine sandwich shop to open

A new submarine sandwich shop is opening soon in Carnegie Square, between Carnegie and Catherine Streets.

John Cook, owner of the Subway Sandwiches and Salads franchise, said he hopes the doors to the new outlet will open sometime next week.

The Ingersoll native said his wife, Lisa, will be managing the outlet which offers a variety of submarine sandwiches and salads, including

roast beef, ham, cheese, crab, tuna, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, green peppers, pickles and olives.

It also offers fresh bread baked every four hours on the premises.

The take-out-style establishment has room for about 20 people to sit and eat, Cook said. It will employ about six to eight full-time and part-time workers.

Based in the United States, Subway has been growing phenomenally, said Fred DeLuca, president of the specialty food service chain of

more than 5,200 outlets, in a press release.

He is convinced that the current and growing trend toward fresh, healthful foods gives extra impetus to the success of the franchise.

Projections for 1991 call for a total of 6,200 Subway stores in operation by year's end, including 300 in Canada, DeLuca said.

Currently, there are 210 Subway stores open in Canada. Of these, 130 are in Ontario, 10 of which are in London.



EATING ON THE SUBWAY

Residents of Ingersoll can now go the Subway. The new submarine shop at 120 Thames St. N. was opened by owners John and Lisa Cook recently and the response has been good, said John. Here, he checks dough destined for the mouths of hungry customers. Freshly baked bread is a feature of the chain, which started about 25 years ago in the United States. There are 5,200 Subways in the U.S. and about 200 outlets have made their way into Canada so far, he said.

Daily Sentinel Review
Mar. 20, 1991

Two piano factories once located in Ingersoll

There was a time when pianos were as common in households as radios are today. There was also a time when Ingersoll had two of its own piano factories.

There was the Evans Brothers Piano Company located where the Fleisher and Jewett car dealership is now and there was the lesser known Sumner and Brebner located where the former plant four of the Morrow Machine and Screw Company was located, just west of Thames Street on Victoria Street.

The Douglas family of

Woodstock, purchased a Sumner and Hebner piano made in town, about 15 years ago at an auction. Since that time it has been repaired and is now good as new.

"It looked fairly small in the auction barn," Barbara Douglas recently explained, "and I just about died when we got it home."

It is a massive solid oak piano, which with the turn of a switch can create a mandolin sound and with the turn of another switch turns into a player piano.

The Douglas family couldn't use the player



Barbara Douglas and her family of Woodstock own a Sumner and Brebner piano which was made in Ingersoll. There were two piano factories in town at the same time and the other was Evans Brothers Piano Company.

piano since they couldn't find anybody that knew how to repair it. When they did, they put to use about 18 rolls that came with the instrument at the auction.

By pumping on foot pedals they can play waltz music, marches and ballads and even modern music may be purchased today.

Ted Bowman of Ingersoll remembers the Sumner and Brebner piano factory being a "smaller outfit" than the Evans Brothers.

Mr. Bowman remembered the company that "rivalled Evans Brothers", closed down about 60 years ago. It reopened for a short while before finally closing its doors for good.

Sid, Hubert and Ernie Sumner were the names Mr. Bowman remembered being connected with the business, a business he suggested that just got going after the piano business had peaked and was on its way down.

Mr. Bowman felt the demise of both Sumner and Hebner and Evans Brothers suffered from the advent of radio. He worked at Evans Brothers and recalled there, instead of making pianos, graduated to making radio cabinets.

According to "Ingersoll, Our Heritage", written by the late Harry Whitwell, the Evans Brothers first started business in 1887 and during its peak employed about 50 men who made about 400 pianos a year.

When Mr. Bowman worked there he said about 25 were employed there and about two pianos a week were constructed.

Mr. Whitwell's book said Evans' pianos were renowned coast to coast and Mr. Bowman elaborated by saying, "I know they were shipped off to South America and South Africa."

They were finely crafted pieces, Mr. Bowman recalled, where after the outside case was constructed, it would be sent to the third floor to be finished. There he said it would be stained, varnished and handrubbed before being left to cure for six months.

Then it would gradually make its way down through the factory, completing its assembly.

The Evans plant was eventually torn down in 1958 and although there are no piano factories in Ingersoll there are pianos made in Ingersoll that have withstood the test of time.

The Douglas purchased their piano at an auction in Ingersoll, about 15 years ago. Mrs. Douglas said when the piano went on the auction block, both she and her husband thought it was fairly small. Upon getting it home, however, they discovered it was mammoth. (Photo by C.J. Clark)

INGERSOLL TIMES
December 2, 1981

Sumner & Brebner

Two businesses coming to Ingersoll

Two retail chain stores plan to open in Ingersoll in the near future. Super X Drugs, a discount drug store and Bi-Way, a family discount department store, will both be opening stores in town.

Super X drugs will locate in the old Pro Hardware store on Charles Street West. Debbie Baker, advertising and marketing co-ordinator for the chain, said the store is scheduled to open February 27.

Mr. Delaney, an Area Manager for Bi-Way, confirmed that the chain would be opening a store in Ingersoll, but he said he was not aware of the location. He said the opening date would be this spring, but that the date would not be released until approximately two weeks before.

Ms. Baker said that the Ingersoll opening is part of a rapid expansion for the Super X chain.

"We tend to be a neighborhood-type community-oriented store. Ingersoll is a

community oriented city," she said.

The chain now has 67 stores in Southwestern Ontario. They have already opened two this year, and have plans to open another 10. The stores are franchised outlets, and most are located in plazas or malls.

Ms. Baker said they will be hiring roughly 19 full and part-time people, including manager and a cosmetician.

The store will carry cosmetics, health and beauty products, and prescriptions and other sundries are available.

Bi-Way is also an expanding chain, with 134 stores, most in Ontario, with a few now in the Maritimes. It carries a wide range of goods, from clothing to household items, toys, health and beauty products and cleaning products.

Company officials were not available to give any details on the size of the store or the number of people to be hired.

INGERSOLL TIMES
February 13, 1985

Super X Drugs

Young's Pharmacy merges with Super X

After operating Young's Pharmacy for the past nine years, Ingersoll pharmacist Jim Young has elected to close Young's Pharmacy and will merge the business with Super X Drugs.

"I recognized that the larger Super X Drugs store location would be able to provide my customers with a wider range of products and services," said Young. "I will be joining Super X Drugs and will become the manager of that store."

It is anticipated that the closure and move will take place around the middle of September.

The entire staff of Young's Pharmacy will be moving to the new store.

Tenley Newbold, the manager of the Super X Drugs store said, "I am ecstatic about the merger of our business. Jim Young and his staff have established a wonderful reputation in Ingersoll and a combination of our location with their staff bodes well for our respective futures."

Super X Drugs is a chain of 80 community pharmacies located in Southwestern Ontario.

INGERSOLL TIMES

August 19, 1987

Town business improvements

There has been a lot of movement in Ingersoll's business sector in the last few months.

Three new businesses opened their doors, including Special Creations, Ingersoll Furniture in February, Ingersoll Appliance Repair in March and Remax Realty in April.

Special Creations, which has moved into a Thames Street South location beside the Beckers store, is a woodworking business specializing in wall units and kitchen cabinets.

Ingersoll Appliance and Repair found a home at 42 King Street East where they repair and sell used appliances. They specialize in major

appliances including refrigerators, stoves and washing machines.

Ingersoll's newest furniture store is located at 15 Thames Street South and sell many types of furniture and a complete line of major appliances. Ingersoll Furniture took over the building which housed the now-defunct Community Cleaners.

Remax Realty has been helping locals find homes for almost two months. Their Thames Street South office works in conjunction with its Woodstock counterpart.

Several other businesses left Ingersoll during the early part of the year including Clair Bray Real Estate, based here for many years.

Thames Street South's Ingersoll Billiards also closed its doors along with the Ingersoll Feed and Farm Supply on Victoria Street.

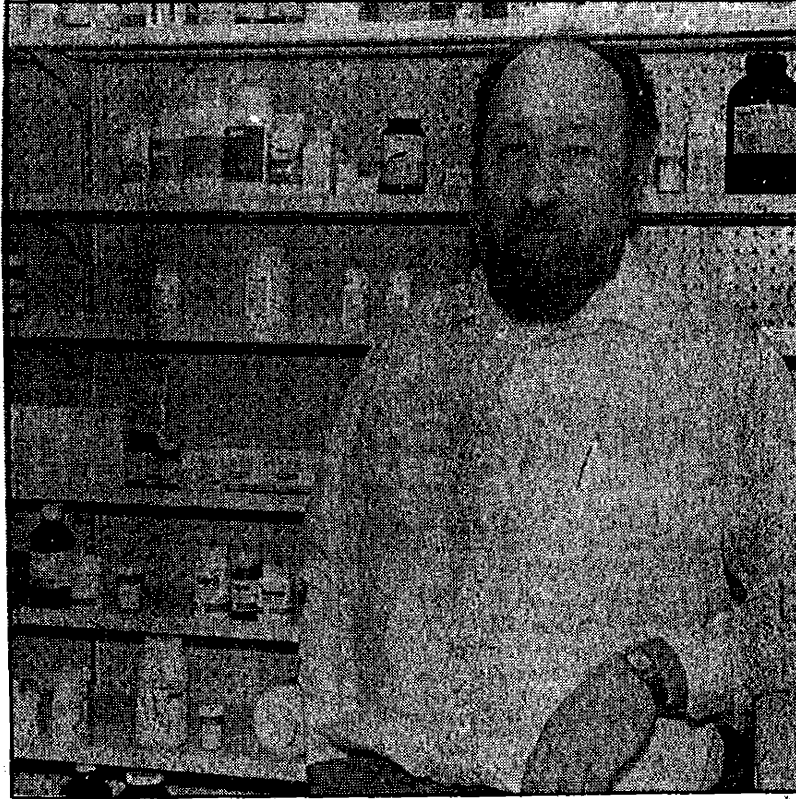
Still in town but at a new location are Academy Music which relocated from Thames Street to King Street and the Salvation Army Thrift Store which moved from Thames South to King Street East.

* Still in business but under new ownership are the Super X Drugs on Charles Street which is now a Shoppers Drug Mart and family business Fleischer and Jewett Ltd. now Paul Burroughs Oldsmobile. The ownership of ABC Radiator also changed hands.

INGERSOLL
TIMES
June 1, 1988

SUPER X DRUGS

what's new in business



ANOTHER PHARMACY

Thames Apothecary, owned by well-known pharmacist Walter Elviss, is located at 42 King St. E., Ingersoll. Elviss. He owned a drug store in the Town of Dorchester for 12 years and has been a pharmacist for 25 years. His store, featuring a small waiting area, will focus on prescription service and drug-related items. It will not be open on Sundays. Preferring life in smaller communities, Elviss says his small store will allow him more time to talk to people, which he enjoys.

Daily Sentinel Review
Dec 17, 1990

Hanlon-Campbell has That Special Touch

Michelle Hanlon-Campbell said she returned to her roots to open up That Special Touch, Ingersoll's newest interior design business.

Hanlon-Campbell, who was born and raised in Ingersoll, is well-known in the community as the author of the History of Ingersoll and a historical researcher for the Cheese Museum.

That Special Touch offers personalized interior design for both residential and commercial needs. They stock a varied collection of interior design accessories including paint window treatments, carpets and furniture and over 300 wallpaper books.

The business which specializes in old victorian charmer homes and new contemporary dream homes, operates a design consultant service which includes an initial consultation.

"We go to homes to ascertain preferences as to color, lifestyle, function of rooms, taste in furniture styles and various accenting accessories," Hanlon-Campbell said.

After touring the home and

completing an intense study, consultants submit a complete portfolio of suggestions as to how to accessorize the customer's room or rooms. The cost of this service with the portfolio is \$35; a single room will cost \$10.

All decorating supplies purchased through That Special Touch are installed by professionals in the field at little more than wholesale cost or can be purchased from the business for use at the customer's leisure.

"The customer is not bound by any contract whatsoever," Hanlon-Campbell said. "All wallcovering books, carpet samples and color paint chips are available to the customer on a loan basis to view in the comfort of your own home."

Hanlon-Campbell, who said she has always had a flair for decoration, is currently operating her studio from her English tudor home at 264 Oxford St. She feels her business is well-suited for the developing Ingersoll community.

"I think Ingersoll is ready," Hanlon-Campbell said. "They are people of the eighties."

INGERSOLL TIMES

September 30, 1987



SLINGING THE HAMMER

Looking like workers on a chain gang, Scott Thomas (left), 14, and Russell Denomy, 12, were eager helpers to workers preparing a vacant storefront in the IGA mall for a new tenant: a Tim Horton's donut shop. Thomas and Denomy donned their hardhats and decided

they'd rather work on their week off from school. The donut shop is expected to open in two-and-a-half to three months. It will be located where Radio Shack used to be.

(Staff photo by Rick Hughes)

SENTINEL REVIEW

March 14, 1986

New business opens in town

Five and a half years ago, Carl and Linda MaGee were in Sydney Nova Scotia with a Tim Horton Donuts franchise. A few weeks ago they came to Ingersoll and opened a new outlet of the highly visible franchise at the IGA mall.

Both Carl and Linda have a long history working with Tim Horton Donuts, but the Ingersoll franchise is the first new store they have operated. In Sydney the store was open for one year.

And the response so far has been excellent.

They opened quietly on May 13 with only the large store sign on Charles Street and an "open" sign in the store window to indicate they were open for business.

Opening that way gave the staff a chance to get accustomed to the workload and to learn their specific jobs within the operation.

Both have strong backgrounds in marketing and retail work picking up experience through their employment with such firms as IGA, Shoppers Drug Mart and the Second Cup.

Linda has been a baker with Tim Horton for 12 years, but in her role in both Sydney and Ingersoll she will be "doing whatever needs to be done" around the restaurant.

That's one of the attractions of a

store such as Tim Horton, the managers have to do all sorts of work ranging from cleaning floors when required to waiting on customers to decorating cakes and baking.

About 20 people, excluding Carl

and Linda, are employed at the store.

Carl stresses that Tim Horton's is not just a donut store, but also offers a variety of baked goods such as cakes and pies.

Ingersoll Times
May 28, 1986

Tim Horton's Donut
Restaurant

Former police officer runs donut shop

A former police officer has taken over the Tim Horton's donut shop on Charles Street West in Ingersoll.

Jim Currie, 32, of Mississauga was an officer with the Peel Regional Police Force for almost 11 years. He is originally from Oakville but he and his wife, Ann, decided they wanted to move away from the big city.

"I like it here," he said of Ingersoll. "The people are very friendly. In the big city, you're lucky if you know the people (who live) on either side of you. We want to be part of the community."

As a police officer, he admitted visiting enough donut shops and he knows of another ex-police officer who owns seven donut shops.

So far, owning a franchise has proved just as difficult as police work, Currie said.

"As an officer, I had someone once rip my revolver out of its holster and try to shoot me with it," he said. "The kid was only 18. I bit him and he let go of it."

The franchise business seems equally as life-threatening as Currie related an incident recently where an intoxicated patron, who was disturbing other customers, was asked to be quiet twice. When he refused, he was asked to leave.

"Then he stood up and hit me with a full cup of coffee," Currie said. "He shattered the mug on my forehead and put me in a headlock. A customer came up from behind and grabbed his legs and helped put the guy on the floor until the police came.

"I never expected it," he said, adding he was glad to see a customer come and help him. "I never saw who it was and I didn't get a chance to thank him."



New owner Jim Currie assists employee Pauline George in serving a customer at Tim Horton's donut shop. Currie took over the franchise Oct. 1. (Staff photo)

There were nicer aspects to police work, he pointed out.

"In 1982 I saved a baby's life. He was only 18 months old. He stopped breathing and I gave him CPR. I hadn't heard from the parents but eight years later, I heard from the boy and he's fine."

As for the Tim Horton's, he said the franchise is a 24-hour-a-day job. "I spend about 18 hours a day here and if there are any problems, the staff calls me at home, but I knew that would happen."

He has had some other minor problems, such as the mixer breaking down the same night the drunken patron hit him with the cup of coffee.

But business has been good. "We're busiest first thing in the morning and at noon. We have a special on right now of soup, a tea biscuit, donut and hot beverage for \$2.99."

He added that he has received lots of support from the regular customers at Tim Horton's. "They come in Friday and Saturday nights and stay until 2 a.m. to make sure nothing like that (other incident) happens again."

Currie took over the franchise from Carl Magee and plans to continue the same support in the community that Magee had, particularly with the Ingersoll and District Big Brothers and Big Sisters Association.

In addition, Tim Horton's is sponsoring the Ingersoll B's senior hockey team and has signed on to sponsor a minor hockey league team as well. He has also been invited to join the local Lions Club.

Being part of the community is important to Currie and his wife and for their children, Sara and Jamie.

New pet stores planned for downtown

INGERSOLL — Thames Street South will soon be going to the dogs . . . and cats and other pets.

A TLC Pet Centre is tentatively set to open May 15 where Powell's TV and Appliances once operated, said Michelle Sears, manager of the TLC shop in Woodstock.

The new shop will have tropical fish, aquarium supplies, pets and accessories, she said.

Meanwhile, a CJ Pet store is looking at opening at 46 Thames St. S. May 1, said Bob Pike, property manager at Ingrox Ltd. The property used to be the stomping ground of Universal Printing.

Daily Sentinel Review
April 17, 1991

A lasting friendship through partnership

Seventeen - years - ago, Tom Pavey and Gord Ponting were mere acquaintances with a similar interest-owning their own business.

Today they are like brothers. After 17 years of operating Tom and Gord's Shell Service Station, they have formed a lasting friendship through their partnership.

"This was a going business before we bought it" said Mr. Ponting in a recent interview. "Ken Graydon owned it then Tom (Pavey) bought it. He was looking for someone to buy into it with him and I was working out of town at the time but wanted to come back so it worked out for both of us".

And since that time, reflected Gord, "we've never had a bad word between us".

The friendship they offer one another and their customers is obvious.

"Ninety-eight per cent of our business is repeat business," said Gord. "We try to keep a steady relationship with our customers."

And regular customers realize how true this is.

Mr. Ponting said he and Mr. Pavey know most of their customers by a first name basis, out of concern

for their customers and in many cases, years of dealing with them.

Customers to the Charles Street East service station are almost always treated to a smile when pulling in. But customers aren't the only ones treated royally by Tom and Gord.

June 16, 1973 Hub Spooner, manager of the Prudential Life Insurance Company of America, Charlotte, North Carolina, U.S.A., wrote a letter to the Shell Company of Canada, recommending Mr. Pavey be awarded for his outstanding service.

The letter came about after Mr. Spooner was stranded in Ingersoll with little money and a flat tire. According to Gord the tire was changed at no labor cost and money for the cost of the tire was sent to the local station upon Mr. Spooner's return to Charlotte, N.C.

"We won't leave anyone stranded," said Gord. "In some situations you're liable to bend over even a bit more for a stranger than for someone you know".

Both Gord and Tom are well known in town for their community involvement. Mr. Ponting coached minor baseball in town for

a number of years and in 1961, 1963 and 1964 helped coach ball teams which won the Ontario championships.

Mr. Pavey is well known for his involvement in the St. John's Ambulance and in the local Snowmobile Club. As well, he has worked in co-operation with the Ingersoll Police Department.

Not only have the two men as individuals played an active role in community affairs, but as businessmen they have made a point of having their business sponsor and support various community sports, including minor hockey and minor baseball teams. As well, the business sponsors a women's golf trophy league and a women's bonspiel trophy at the local curling club.

Employed at the service station is one mechanic, one fifth year apprentice mechanic and two part-time employees. As well, Gord is a licensed mechanic and Tom is a licensed welder.

Both men reside in Ingersoll with their families. Mr. Ponting and his wife Jennie have one son, Hugh, and Tom and Joyce Pavey have three children, Kenny, Peggy and Polly.

TD bank to open its doors Friday

Ingersoll will see the opening of its first Toronto Dominion Bank branch Friday afternoon, with Mayor Gordon Henry officiating at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies scheduled for 3 p.m.

Although the new branch will not be open for business until Monday, Feb. 17, a special Open House is being planned from 2:30 to 5 p.m. on Feb. 14, at which time residents of the area have been invited to drop into the new branch to enjoy light refreshments and meet the new staff.

Newly appointed manager Guy Miller comes to Ingersoll branch with 14 years experience in Toronto Dominion Bank branches across the province, including Toronto, where he began his career, and Ottawa, Peterborough, and Kingston.

He comes to Ingersoll from Wyoming, Ontario where he was assistant manager. Originally from Prescott, Mr. Miller has lived for a period in St. Marys,

only 20 miles from Ingersoll, so feels that he has had a taste of the area.

In addition to Mr. Miller, the branch, located at 64 Charles St. W. between the new Brewers Retail and Liquor Control Board outlets, will open with a staff of three. Stephen Tomajko will join the branch as administrative officer, and two Ingersoll women, Joan McHugh and Mary Smith have been hired as the new tellers.

As a special offer to new customers, anyone who opens an account on the first day of business will be eligible to win a \$50 savings certificate in a draw to be made at the end of the day.

The Ingersoll branch will be one of the nearly 900 TD banks in operation across Canada, and will bring to four the number of banks in town.

Banking hours at the new branch will be the same as those for existing banks in town, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday.

Ingersoll business scene hopping with activity

By PAULINE KERR
of Ingersoll This Week

There's plenty happening on the Ingersoll business scene right now.

The long-awaited opening of Level II has taken place, and all reports give the town's newest night spot top marks.

* Toronto Submarine has reopened under its original owner.

Other new downtown businesses include Rick's Carpet and Trillium Realty Ltd., both on Thames Street South.

Doug Collins has opened a new business in a trailer located across the road from the Arena on Mutual Street.

DC Skate Sharpening came about when the young entrepreneur was looking for a winter job which would complement his highly successful but seasonal business, Concrete Impressions, involving the new and popular technique of installing colored, textured concrete as an alternative to patio stones, brick and slate.

DC Skate Sharpening is open for business evenings from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturdays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. although the high demand may cause these hours to be extended.

Collins sharpens skates for recreational figure skating (he's learning how to do skates for competition work) but most of his clients are hockey players. For

their convenience, he also stocks a selection of top-of-the-line hockey sticks, tape and laces, and is experimenting with a few other products.

He's now selling season's passes for skate sharpening - buy 10 and get two free sharpenings, saving \$5, or 20 with five free, saving \$15.

One of the most dramatic changes downtown really isn't a change but an updating and reorganizing.

Keith Black, owner and manager of Ingersoll Department Store, has decided to change his store's image and product lines to make it more competitive in a 1990's market.

Specialization is the way to go now, he said, and after considerable research and thought on what the town needed, the decision was made to go with two stores, each with its own entrance and lines of goods.

"Ingersoll Yarns and Fabrics" will include fabrics, yarns and notions, plus bedding, crafts supplies and picture frames.

The other store, as yet unnamed, will sell sportswear, with brand name lines including Adida, Rebok, Nike, Ocean Pacific and more. But it won't be strictly track suits, Black said. "We'll also have casual wear for men, women and children." Among the additional items stocked will be shoes and some equipment. He's prepared to



KEITH BLACK and Beth Black are gearing up for a major reorganization of Ingersoll Department Store. There will be no change in staff or ownership, but switching to two separate stores, one for sportswear, the other for yarns, fabrics and notions will allow for the type of specialization which spells success on today's market, says Black.

(Staff photo)

make special team orders on request.

The reorganization will provide room for expansion within the specialized areas but some departments will be eliminated, including toys and seasonal items.

This could benefit the canny Christmas shopper in search of bargains in decorations, cards and gifts — most items are 20 per cent off, some as much as 50 per cent off.

Black anticipates the sale will run well into the new year.

The new concept will be in place mid April, with no closing of the fabrics and notions side and only a possible two-week closing of the sportswear side.

Some things will remain unchanged. "It will be the same people, the same good, friendly service and the same quality merchandise," said Black, who is very excited about this new step.

SENTINEL REVIEW - INGERSOLL THIS WEEK NOV 21 1989

TORONTO SUBMARINE

The Daily Sentinel-Review, Ingersoll This Week, Tues., April 16, 1991 Page 11

New company on the block

Town and Country Real Estate opened its doors for business April 1 at 88 Thames St. S.

So far, the response to the business has been good and broker Joan Stephenson hopes to gradually build on that.

"I think the timing is right ... the recession is coming to an end. I think it's going to be a good year.

"I'm a little nervous but I think it's going to be fine. I'm not scared. I think we're in a good location ... people from out of town have been in for information."

The real estate market has started picking up in the last few weeks with several houses being sold locally, she said. Town and Country has all types of properties on its hands currently.

Stephenson is working with sales representative Fred Freeman.



JOAN STEPHENSON, broker at Town and Country Real Estate which opened April 1, said she thinks an end to the recession is near. The real estate scene has been picking up lately, she said.

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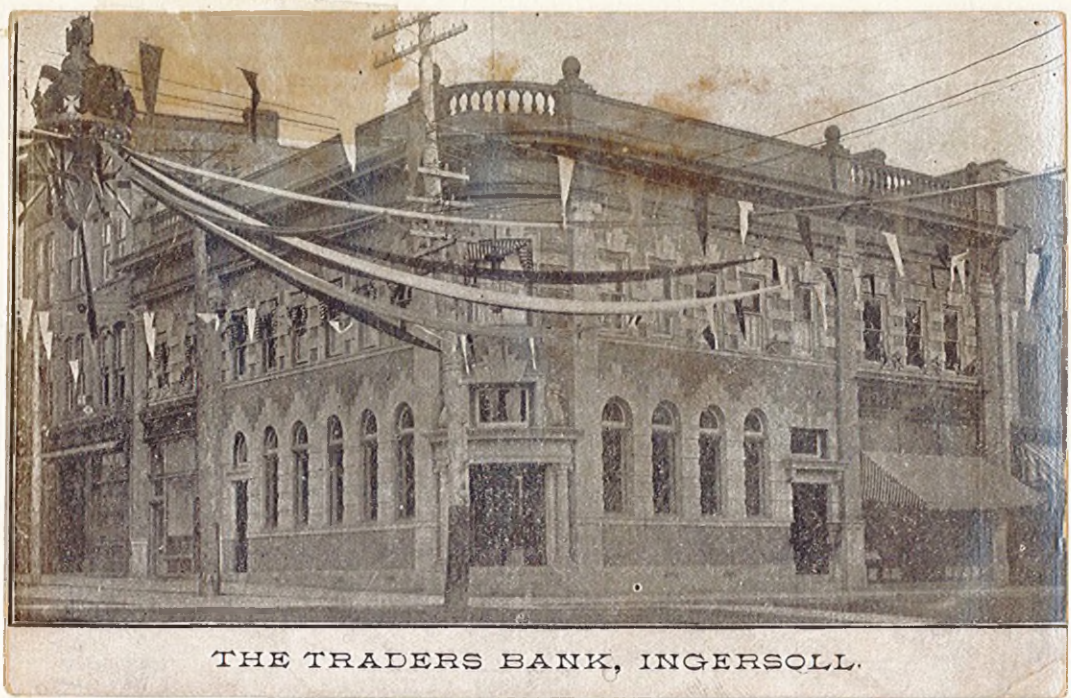
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Daily Sentinel Review
Ingersoll Mid Week Advertiser
April 22, 1991

corner Thames
King St.

TRADERS BANK



THE TRADERS BANK, INGERSOLL.

Underwood and Shoes Synonymous in Town

'Shoes, Shoes, Shoes', is the theme under which the Underwood family have operated for fifty-eight years. For all those years on the front street in Ingersoll these people have operated a business connected with shoes.

When Josiah Underwood left England in 1911 he had been in the shoe manufacturing business some years and it was not too long after his arrival in Canada that he again began to pursue his trade. On the lower north end of Thames Street Josiah Underwood in 1913 started a repair shop. Since this man had once made shoes it was no chore

clothing. It was the same location the shoe store is to-day.

Josiah closed out his business and joined his son Sid. Repairs to shoes were done in the back and still are, though not as much.

Gradually the clothing business disappeared and only the shoes remained. The Underwood business has always been geared to the taste of the people of Ingersoll and surrounding territory. Many shoes have been repaired by Sid and many fitted by him.

Both he and his father could have made 'made to order' shoes but it is a

shoe fitting is a different thing. Many people have to have various adjustments done to a pair of shoes purchased and it is here at Underwoods they can be certain of careful fitting and satisfaction.

At the death of Mr. Underwood Sr., some 20 years ago, Sid's son Ernie went into partnership with his father. All the family are well acquainted with the shoe business and know just how to go about the special business of fitting shoes.

Ernie and his father operated the shoe store together until Sid retired about seven years ago.



Above, Sid Underwood with his sons, Ernie on his left and Clifford to the right.

for him to repair them. The First World War started and his son Sidney (Sid) joined the 168th Battalion in 1915 and went overseas. He returned at the end of the war and bought a store farther up the street from his father's in June of 1919.

This business had been operated by John Lenihan and sold shoes as well as

costly business. Making women's shoes by hand is almost out of the question because of the rapidly changing styles. Shoe repairing is becoming a thing of the past mainly because of the cost and also because of the way in which shoes are made. Some soles are cemented on while others are sewn.

However, orthopedic

Another son, Clifford, teamed up with his brother and about three years ago they formed a limited company.

Since all the Underwoods can make shoes if necessary it is not surprising they branched out into a new line of business that of having their own brand and design of safety

shoes.

Instead of the theme 'These shoes are made for walking it becomes

'These shoes are made for safety'. They are the largest distributors in Southern Ontario of safety shoes at a wholesale level.

The top level of the store is devoted to retail shoe business while the basement contains the safety shoes. These safety shoes can be purchased at the store but the bulk of business is not done in that manner. Safety shoes are distributed by a mobile shoe service which is literally a shoe store on wheels. This mobile fitting service visits large industrial plants and solicits their order for safety shoes. After an agreement has been reached the truck pulls into the yard and is open for business. The workers file up and are fitted exactly as they would be in a store. However there are some factories who do not wish this service and merely purchase a certain number of shoes and do

their own fitting.

Whatever way the situation is viewed it would appear that Underwoods Shoe Store will still be operating for many more years in its same location. Whether it will be orthopedic shoes, safety shoes or just plain everyday shoes the Underwood family is here to serve. Oh yes they go to a lot more trouble and at times put through a special order or fitting for their customers.

BY C. J. CLARK

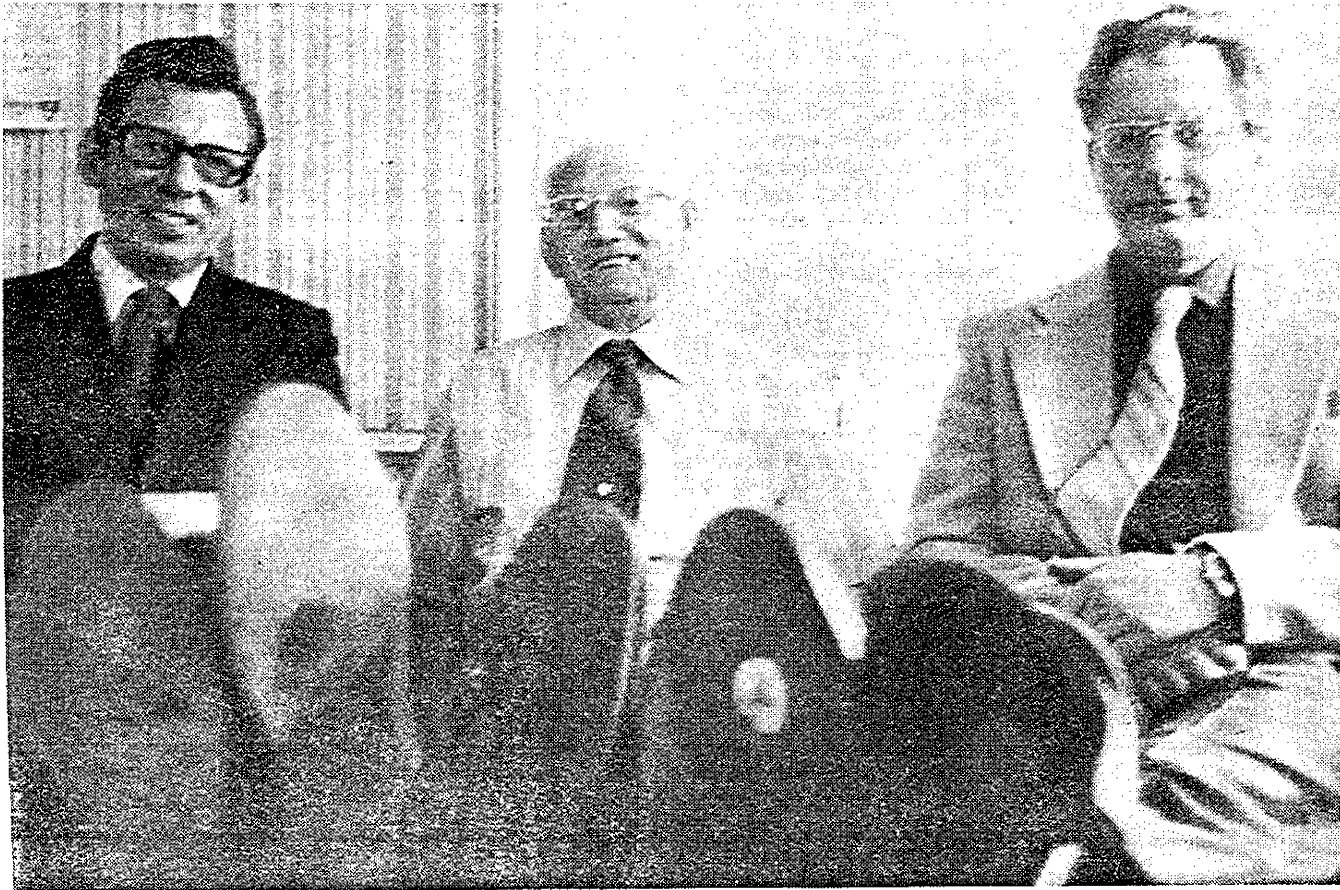
If the safety shoe fits, warehouse it, and that is what Underwood's Shoes Ltd. of Ingersoll has been doing for a good number of years now.

The name Underwood and shoes have been synonymous for four generations and the past three have taken place in Ingersoll. From humble beginnings in a shoe store, the business has expanded to a spacious warehouse in the Industrial Park.

It all started in 1913 when Josiah Underwood ran a shoe repair shop where Ingersoll Theatre is now located. Josiah's son Sidney returned from World War I and put his savings into a store which specialized in work clothing and work footwear.

Sidney Underwood worked out of what is now known as Gunstone Shoes and in June, 1919, father and son teamed up forming a partnership. Seeding out the clothes, the father and son duo concentrated on the footwear business.

Today, the company's president is Ernie Underwood who bought his grandfather's share of the business 32-years-ago. Clifford Underwood, the company's secretary-treasurer bought his father's share of



Safety footwear has been good to these Ingersoll gentlemen. They are the Underwoods of Underwood's Shoes Limited. Josiah Underwood opened a shoe repair shop in 1913 and later became a part of Sidney

the business about 23-years-ago.

It was 25-years-ago when the Underwoods got into the wholesaling business. Specializing in safety footwear, the amount of stock gradually took over their entire building, paving the way for

expansion.

Ernie Underwood recalled having to dig out the basement of the building in order to house more footwear and after the work was done there were about 6,000 pairs crammed into the basement.

Underwood's shoe store. The rest is history, including a new warehouse in the Industrial Park on none other than Underwood Road. Left to right are Ernie Underwood, Sidney Underwood and Clifford Underwood.

The company purchased the Faber Feed Company building, a warehouse behind the old feed company and the top floor of the old Steadman building to store the overhead. Even that later turned out to be not enough as Clifford Under-

wood started using his barn for storage and Ernie Underwood used his garage.

"We had been at the talking stage of building a new warehouse for a couple of years," said Ernie Underwood.

Underwoods expands to new home

*Underwoods
Shoe Store*

10-11-1981

January 9, 1980

INGERSOLL TIMES

The warehouse was erected late in 1979 and is now located in the Industrial Park on a road appropriately named Underwood Road. Instead of an estimated 7,000 square feet of storage, located in several areas, the warehouse has a spacious 17,500 square feet for storage in addition to office space, a dealer room and a sales room.

"The fact that our office was separate from our stock was a problem," Ernie Underwood said. "The new warehouse is really going to help. We should now be able to ship at a faster rate because working conditions are not so congested."

Most of the stock is now in the new building but the office area is not quite completed. The Underwoods travel from their old office to the new now, but come the middle of February, they should be established in their new home.

There are an estimated 30-40,000 pairs of footwear in stock involving roughly 180 different styles. The business was incorporated in 1970 but has been a successful manufacturer's distributor long before that.

Fourteen persons work for Underwood's Shoes Ltd. including four salespersons who cover the entire province of Ontario. The

company handles large volume sales to both industries and dealers. Tenders to large industries and even cities are handled by the local company.

"We sell to both industry and dealers," the company's president said. "And this is where we have the upper hand. Our competitors deal strictly with industry."

The company also owns two trucks that serve as mobile shoe stores. The trucks go to factories in southern Ontario and sell their wares out of the back of the truck.

The new warehouse will soon offer retail sales too. There will be an area where footwear can be purchased on location. Of course, there will be a wide variety of stock available, which includes everything from steel-toed running shoes to cowboy boots.

From a small shoe store on Thames Street, Underwood's Shoes certainly has gained a lot of ground. Also, with the new warehouse there is room for even more expansion.

As Ernie Underwood pointed out, besides the warehouse, they have additional land, and although it may not be used in the immediate future, it is there if needed. The way things have gone since 1913 it very possibly could be put to use before too long.

Underwoods expands to new home

Underwoods Shoe
Store

BY C. J. CLARK

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Carnegie Square Mall has first two tenants

BY LIZ DADSON

Ingersoll will soon have a Valdi Discount Food store and a Pizza Delight restaurant.

Both have leased space in the Carnegie Square Mall, which should be completed by the end of May, said Lisa Buchanan, manager of the Wonderland Mall and liaison for the developer, Landawn Shopping Centre. The mall is located on Thames Street between Catherine and Carnegie Streets.

Buchanan said the Valdi store will occupy 5,200 square feet, while Pizza Delight will take up 3,100 square feet. Both should be opening during the summer.

She added that the leasing agency hopes to have the entire 30,000 square feet filled by the end of the summer.

Bill Rutherford from the head office of Valdi Foods in Toronto said the company offers good food at discount prices.

Regarding the Ingersoll store, he refused to give details, saying all the plans have not been finalized yet.

Lloyd Dove of the Pizza Delight head office in Toronto said there is no definite date for the restaurant's opening but it will be no later than Oct. 1 this year.

Construction will begin sometime between June 1 and Sept. 15 for the fully-licensed restaurant which will

seat approximately 90 to 100 patrons. It will offer take-out and delivery service as well.

Dove pointed out the franchise will be built along the lines of a Pat and Mario's restaurant, using a roadhouse-style decor with etched glass and neon. "It will be an upbeat-type of decor for a family-oriented restaurant," he said.

The menu is extensive, including the full complement of pizzas, appetizers and gourmet pasta, Dove said. Once established, the restaurant will employ about 40 people, full-time and part-time.

Dove said Pizza Delight is expanding its market, having recently opened in Mount Forest, Orangeville and Kitchener-Waterloo. The new concept-style restaurant is opening in Aylmer and the company plans to continue into Tillsonburg and Stratford as well as Ingersoll.

INGERSOLL TIMES

May 2, 1990

Valdi's opening in summer, Pizza Delight by fall

BY LIZ DADSON

Valdi Discount Foods will be opening by this summer, while Pizza Delight will be open by Oct. 1.

The two businesses are the first tenants of the Carnegie Square Mall on Thames Street North, between Carnegie and Catherine Streets.

Bill Rutherford of Valdi's head office in Toronto said the lay-out of the 5,200-square-foot store will be the same as those in Tillsonburg, Woodstock, Stratford and London.

"We're waiting for the builders to finish first," he said Monday. "We hope to be open sometime before September."

Lloyd Dove of the Pizza Delight head office in Toronto said the restaurant will open Oct. 1 but a grand opening is not slated until a month later.

"We want the owners and staff to get their speed and productivity going first," he said.

Work continues on the floor plans and final mechanical drawings, Dove said. The project should be sent to tender in a week and then awarded to a contractor.

The company currently has two groups vying for the purchase of the franchise, he said, adding that a Pizza Delight is also being set up in Stratford.

The combination dining room and lounge will be a licensed establishment, Dove said, with 70 seats in the dining room and a 20-seat lounge. "It's not a bar," he said. "It's a quiet area for people to go at the end of an evening for a quiet drink."

Pizza Delight has 74 operators in Ontario. Nine are take-out and delivery, while the remainder are licensed restaurants.

*Ingersoll Times
July 18, 1990*



Valdi Discount Foods, Ingersoll's newest dry-goods grocery store, officially opened for business yesterday. Present at the ribbon-cutting were, from left, director of operations John Fisher, project coordinator Frank Callipari, mayor Doug Harris, regional manager Lou Zeppieri, Woodstock store manager Dianne Scott, and Ingersoll store manager Dave Rhea. (Mike Switzer photo)

Ingersoll Times Sept 19, 1990

In Ingersoll

Alberta company opens branch office

Vertec Industries, an Alberta-based manufacturing company of grain driers, opened its first Eastern sales branch in Ingersoll last month.

Three grain driers have arrived and are at the Vertec storage yard located near the railway tracks on Carnegie Street, Henry Vos, territory manager for the company, said.

The branch office is being set up for sales and maintenance only. The company may consider developing a manufacturing

plant if the branch office is successful, Mr. Vos said. Mr. Vos came to Ingersoll in May to set up the branch office and the new business opened July 1.

The grain driers, which come in different sizes, have a corn capacity of 200 to 800 bushels an hour.

"The price of the driers range from \$14,000 to \$25,000 depending on the options, Mr. Vos said.

"Some of the features that the farmers like are the instant clean-out, the quiet fan

and a low power requirement, making it possible for farmers to run the driers on their own power lines," he said.

The grain driers are screenless and dry all grains and oil seeds. Accessories that are available are automatic filling controls and equipment for wet grain, alternators to provide 115-230 volt electrical power for drier controls and accessory equipment where power is not readily available and automatic control accessories to compliment any grain handling system.

Vertec Industries is located in Vermilion, Alberta, which is 120 miles east of Edmonton. The company has 80 employees and just opened a new plant in Alberta, Mr. Vos said. Vertec is the largest Canadian manufacturer of grain driers.

Mr. Voss, 24, is a graduate of the University of Alberta and he holds a degree in agriculture with a speciality in engineering. He will be the only employee at the Ingersoll branch office, to start with, but looks forward to expanding in the not-too-distant future.

Vetrepharm

Local biotechnology firm may be best hope in the field

By GABE PERACCHIA
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — The lazy green landscape along County Road 9 hardly conveys the image of rigorous scientific research.

Yet, nestled amid the corn fields, pastures and uncleared brush eight kilometres west of Ingersoll, is the research farm of a young biotechnology company which, some say, represents Canada's best hope in the animal health care business.

Currently, the main activity of the Vetrepharm Inc. laboratory near Putnam is to make customized vaccines on which many southwestern Ontario farmers rely for the health of their livestock.

For instance, earlier this year, a farmer near Chatham lost \$32,000 worth of pigs to a

fatal outbreak of hemophilus pneumonia, a major swine disease in Ontario. The herd had been infected with a certain strain of hemophilus bacteria against which conventional, commercially available vaccines were ineffective. The Vetrepharm lab eventually provided a customized, or autogenous vaccine, specifically produced to combat that particular strain.

SPONSORS RESEARCH

While autogenous vaccines may be vital to disease-plagued livestock farmers, they make up a small part of Vetrepharm's overall research and marketing operations.

Aside from selling 125 animal pharmaceutical products, the five-year-old London-based company sponsors

research at various university and private labs in Canada and the United States. Some of these research projects, such as the testing at the University of Saskatchewan of a promising drug for herpes, are on the leading edge of biotechnology, while others are merely attempted innovations with well known concepts.

With 21 employees and \$700,000 in assets, Vetrepharm is comparatively small to its competitors. It commands about 2 1/2 per cent of Canada's \$100-million-a-year market in animal health care.

However, founder and president Graeme McRae says, Vetrepharm plans to rival the large multi-nationals which dominate the business. "Within 10 years, we hope we

are a major mover in the international veterinary marketplace."

OTHER MARKETS

Vetrepharm is now seeking approval of governments in Taiwan, Philippines, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil and Peru to introduce its products in those countries, McRae says. He also plans to enter the United States market within a year.

A man who devotes virtually all his waking time to his business, McRae projects a warm image of idealism, energy and commitment to animal health care and Canadian biotechnological research. "This is the most exciting thing I've done in my life. We feel we're doing something good. We're not

making candies that rot kids' teeth; we save farmers a lot of bucks."

McRae launched Vetrepharm five years ago after leaving Pfizer Canada, a subsidiary of the huge \$3.75-billion Pfizer International, of New York. He initially joined Pfizer in his native Australia and had been transferred to London, Ont.

TAILOR-MADE

Essentially, the raison d'etre of Vetrepharm is to serve the Canadian animal health industry in ways that large multi-national companies don't.

Unlike some large American firms, Vetrepharm provides products tailored to the needs of Canadian livestock, McRae

says. Many products of large U.S. companies have arisen in response to diseases found in the United States, and thus, are not necessarily effective against strains endemic to Canada.

For instance, as indicated in the above anecdote, commercial vaccines are not effective against at least one Canadian strain. In response to this need, Vetrepharm plans to introduce later this year a vaccine effective against all seven known strains of hemophilus bacteria.

Also, large multi-nationals sometimes offer animal health products which failed to be approved for their original intention - treatment of human diseases, McRae says. In contrast, Vetrepharm develops its

products with the animal in mind.

Furthermore, some multi-nationals don't bother to extend their products into Canada, believing the smaller market does not justify the effort to get Canadian government approval, McRae says. Thus, Canadians have less choice than Americans.

Reflecting its corporate motto, Progress through Canadian Research, Vetrepharm eagerly conducts and finances studies in biotechnology such as vaccine development, in vivo production of disease-

fighting antibodies, and DNA recombination. It currently has 20 research projects in progress. McRae boasts that Vetrepharm spends 20 cents of each revenue dollar on

research and development, more than any other Canadian company.

In one experiment at its research farm last winter, Vetrepharm stumbled onto a mysterious substance produced by horses, which had greater disease-combating effects than antibodies. Antibodies are large proteins made by the body's immune system, which attack and dispose of foreign material such as invading bacteria and viruses.

HYPERIMMUNIZED

In the experiment, researchers "hyperimmunized" horses, by injecting vaccines 15 to 20 times more often than normal. This caused the horses to produce 100 times more antibodies than normal, essentially turning the animals into vaccine-making machines. The hyperimmunized horses were then bled weekly, and their antibody-rich serum used to treat newborn foals or aging horses whose indigenous antibody levels are often low.

During the experiment, researchers detected a substance of unknown structure which was more potent than antibodies. For lack of a better name, it was called a sub-antibody which is now being investigated further.

Perhaps the most rousing of Vetrepharm's research efforts is the current testing at the University of Saskatchewan of a plant enzyme which has shown signs of curing herpes, as well as influenza B and rhinitis.

Lorne Babluk, a veterinary microbiologist supervising the tests, said the enzyme has shown a "more dramatic" effect than any other herpes drug. The enzyme, which is now being tested in lab animals, will have to undergo another four to five years of human testing before it can be sold commercially, he said.



VETREPHARM PRESIDENT Graeme McRae plans to introduce new vaccines later this year for diseases in swine and horses.

(Staff photo by Gabe Peracchia)

SENTINEL REVIEW
May 17, 1984

Vetrepharm Inc.

Coun. Jack Warden gets new lease on life

By BARRY WARD
Sentinel-Review staff writer
INGERSOLL — As the large sale signs in the windows indicate, a long-standing business is about to disappear from downtown Ingersoll.

"On Oct. 1, Warden's Appliances will cease to exist," said Jack Warden, who has owned the store for 22 years and been at his King Street West location since 1965.

But Warden, who is also councillor-at-large for the town, is not leaving. He plans to stay on as sales manager when Powell Appliances moves into the building.

"I had the opportunity to lease

the store," he said. "I've been in it for 22 years and I decided to do it."

Warden said he was approached by Powell Appliances, which is currently on Thames Street, about the deal and he decided the accept.

He said he would have been getting out of the appliance business and retiring sometime but decided to move the date up to take advantage of someone ready to move into the building he owns.

MIXED FEELINGS

"If I waited until I'm 65, I could have an empty store," he said.

Warden has mixed feeling about the move.

"After 22 years, you're sad to leave," he said. "But since I'm staying on it's not so bad."

Right now, he's busy with a sale to reduce inventory before the merger of the two stores' appliances.

"We're both anxious that the transition takes place as smoothly as possible," he said. The change won't affect servicing for customers who have purchased appliances at the store.

He said sales had been hurt by the jump in interest rates and the slump in housing.

"Hopefully with the drop in interest rates, they'll pick up considerably," he said, maintaining appliance prices in Ingersoll have remained competitive with those in larger centres.

"We're only 20 miles from London and nine miles from Woodstock. We have a lot of competition," he said. "In this day and age, people will drive 10 or 20 miles to save."

TAKE OVER

David Van Santen, president of Powell Appliances, said he felt "great" about the move. He approached Warden because of a disagreement about the terms of a new lease for his present location on Thames Street.

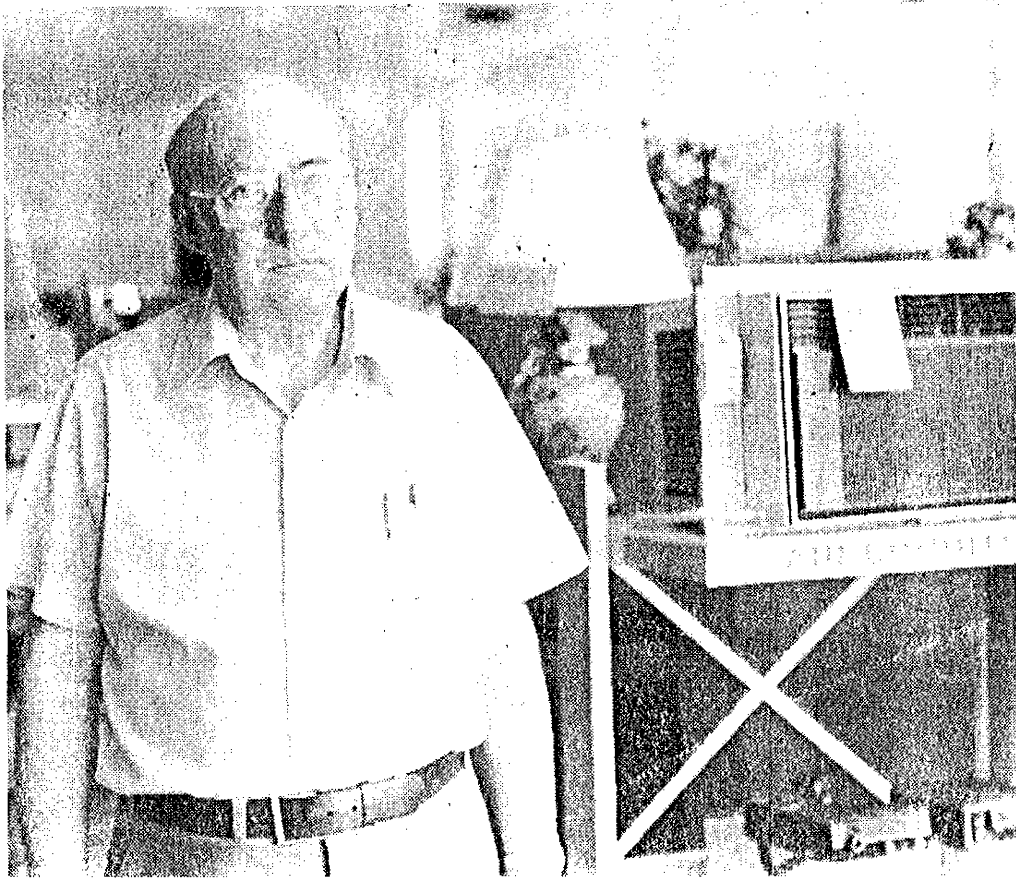
"I knew he (Warden) wanted out," said Van Santen. "It was an opportunity for someone to take over."

He'll be moving into a less-travelled part of the downtown but Van Santen pointed out that appliance buyers aren't the kind that buy on impulse.

"People look for you," he explained.

Powell Appliances was started in Norwich in 1938 by Gordon Powell. Seven years ago, Geoff Byrne purchased the business and soon after Van Santen joined the staff.

He is now a co-owner of the business. The Ingersoll store was opened in April, 1981, after Van Santen said they decided "to broaden our horizons."



JACK WARDEN stands in the store which has been part of

Ingersoll for 22 years. On Oct. 1, it will change hands. (Staff photo)

*Sentinel Review
Aug. 23, 1982*

SENTINEL REVIEW
August 23, 1982

Warden's sold

Warden Appliances and Lighting has been sold, and another appliance business will be taking over the location at 7 King Street West.

As of October 1, Powell TV and Appliances, of 119 Thames Street South, will be taking over the King Street building. Owner of Warden's, Jack Warden, said in a recent interview, he will be staying on with Powell's as sales manager.

"There will be no interruption of service to either Powell customers or Warden's customers. Business will carry on as usual," stressed Mr. Warden.

Dave Van Santen, manager of Powell's, is pleased with the future relocation and

feels the move off of the main street onto the side street will not be detrimental to his business.

"We're quite anxious to move up there to continue our service ... to upgrade our service. We will be making our service department bigger to serve his customers and Powell's," he explained.

"With the new location, there will be less traffic," he said. "But if customers are looking to buy an appliance, they will go around the corner. It's not going to make any difference at all. If any, the sidewalk sales will be the only drawback," he explained.

JACK WARDEN

INGERSOLL TIMES
August 25, 1982

Picnic lunch stop here attracts new business

WELCOME
AGRI AIR
CONDITIONING
LTD.

By ARMITA JANES
Sentinel-Review staff writer
INGERSOLL — Ingersoll got a new small industry this year because its recreation director last summer stopped to greet American visitors' picnicking at Reynold's Creek conservation area.

Darryl Vermedahl, with his family, homeward bound for Minnesota along Highway No. 401, turned off at the Putnam exit for a picnic lunch.

Vermedahl had been on an exploratory trip to decide on a southwestern Ontario location for a plant which would make air conditioning units for tractors and combines.

"It could have been anywhere within 200 miles of this fine farm area," he said, "But Judy Hayes suggested that we see Ted Hunt." (Ingersoll's industrial development officer).

And when Vermedahl got back to Minnesota he found brochures and pictures about Ingersoll waiting for him along with a letter from Hunt offering to meet him at the airport.

As a result, Welcome Agri Air Conditioning Ltd. set up operations May 1 in the Jetson Enterprises Ltd. building on Whiting Street.

Vermedahl, who was sales manager for a Minnesota firm manufacturing air conditioning units for the farm trade, said the decision to open a plant here was prompted by the number of inquiries received from Canada for the units.

But the Minnesota based plant ran into customs problems, with servicing he said.

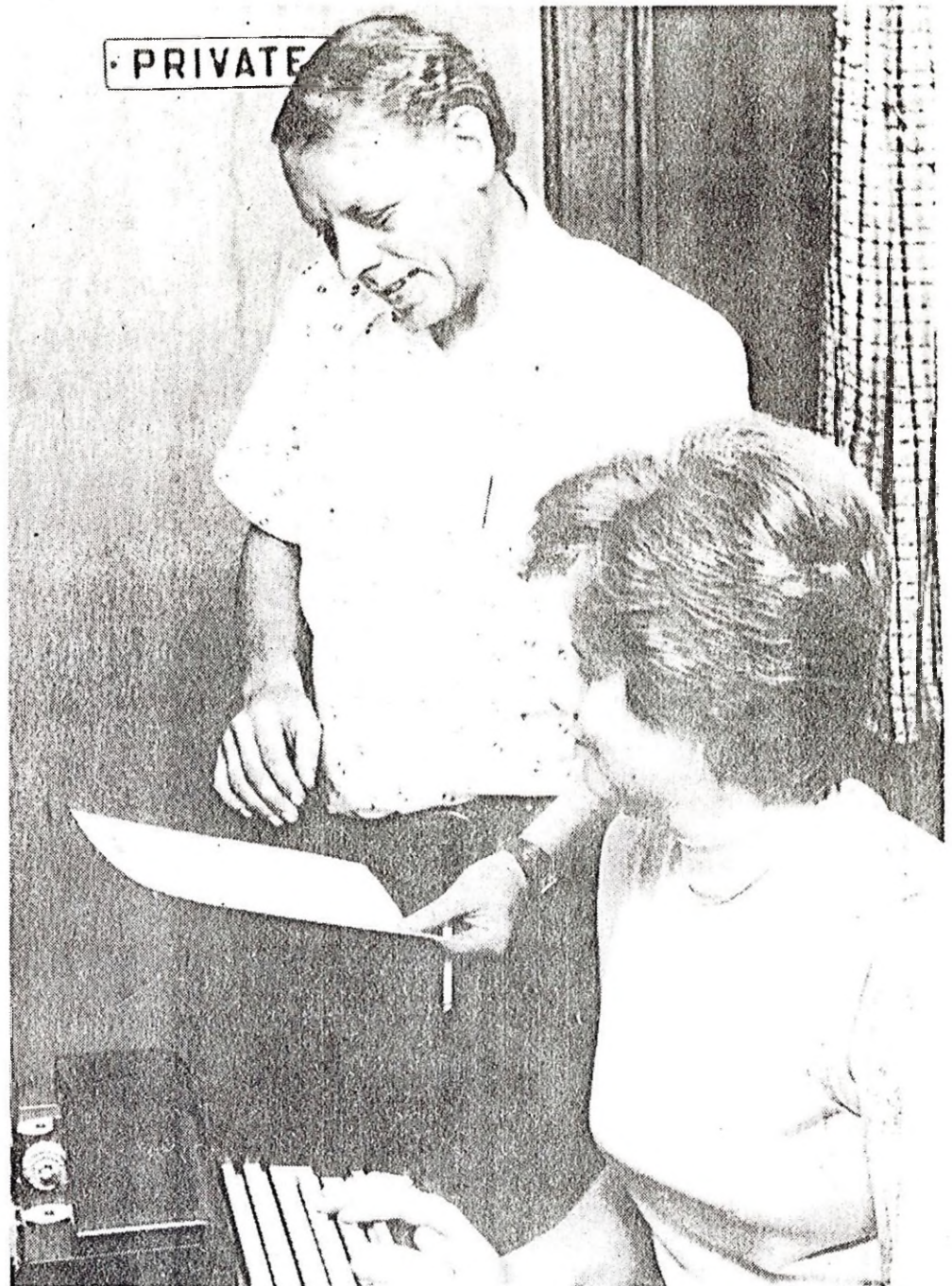
"Sending foreign labor into Canada is a no-no," he said, "so we decided to set up business in southwestern Ontario, hire local help and buy all materials possible right here."

Agri Air Conditioning Ltd. now has three employees, Vermedahl, the president and sales manager; M. Dean Hammond, vice-president and engineer; and Ellen Funnell, office manager.

In addition, casual help is employed.

Vermedahl anticipates the permanent staff will be increased to six as business increases.

A cool, wet spring,



Darryl Vermedahl checks an inventory list with Ellen Funnell in the office of Agri Air Conditioning Ltd.

followed by a long drought, has not helped sales, he said, but business has now begun to pick up.

Welcome Agri Air Conditioning Ltd. is the only company in southwestern Ontario that specializes in agricultural air conditioning to Vermedahl's knowledge.

The company's units for tractors, combines or after-

market cabs, are sold to farm equipment distributors for resale.

The units permit a farmer "by a turn of a switch" to control the climate in his cab, Vermedahl said.

With cabs today being made sound proof and air tight, to keep out dust, heat and cold he said the only way to get air is to open the

windows, and then its dust, heat or cold again.

In addition to making air conditioning units, for tractors and combines, Welcome Agri supplies kits for installation in most models, and services factory air conditioning.

Future plans include expansion into automotive and industrial air conditioning.

Pride in his work key to Bob's success

Pride in one's work is the key to a successful business operation and Bob and Sheril McClintock are not an exception to this rule.

This husband and wife team took over the BP service station on King Street two-years-ago and since then it has turned into a thriving business. So much so, that BP headquarters has bestowed several service awards to the McClintocks and they are now in the running for the best BP service station in Ontario.

Green Thumb

It is known as Bob's Westend BP service station and if travelling north on Whiting Street, you can't help but notice the well-kept premises. For their premises, the McClintocks received a green thumb award because of the colourful flower garden and well kept shrubbery.

Also to their credit is a superior merchandising award and a goldliner award. When the couple took over the station a goldliner sticker was re-

moved from their property because they were new owners. They soon earned it back, however, meeting with goldliner standards.

Criteria

Goldliner criteria includes the selling of a minimum of 200,000 gallons of gas annually, high merchandising standards, adequate equipment to service today's sophisticated automotive systems, superior customer service, the dealer must have management capabilities and the dealer must believe in the goldline concept and work hard to attain and maintain a standard of excellence.

The president of BP, George Milne, was personally out at the service station inspecting the premises.

Out of about 30 BP service stations, in the London area Bob's is ranked among the top six. A closer inspection, along with a photographic study, will decide where the McClintocks stand in the province. Awards are given in the spring to the top

outlets in the province and this local station is in the running.

Both Bob and Sheril agree that their success cannot be attributed to only

themselves. All that work, at the station play an important role too.

"It's our staff that does it, they're a great bunch," Sheril McClintock noted.

"They are the ones that take care of our overall cleanliness and tidiness."

Bob's Westend service station may not walk off with top honors in the

spring but at least we know it is one of the finer BP stations in the area, and will continue to be as long as the McClintocks are in charge.



Sheril and Bob McClintock have been running their BP service station two years now and while going about their business they have won several awards. Recently it was

announced they are in the running for the top service station in the province of Ontario.

Local company moving

By MARK SKEFFINGTON

Williams Form Hardware & Rock Bolt (Canada) Ltd. of Ingersoll is moving its operations to Tillsonburg while still keeping roots here.

The company recently purchased a 47,000 square foot building in Tillsonburg, and it will begin moving there in January.

The decision to move to Tillsonburg, was an economic one, said Chris Wilkinson, the company's vice-president and general manager. Williams Form Hardware has been in Ingersoll for 25 years.

The company has been investigating ways to expand in Ingersoll for more than a year, Wilkinson said. It currently operates out of buildings it owns at Mutual and Carnegie streets. The manufacturing plant is old, having been built by the Morrow Screw and Nut company, one of the town's first manufacturers.

The cost of building an addition or a new facility was too high, Wilkinson said. Nor was the company able to locate an existing building to purchase.

Wilkinson explains that the company has slowly been expanding and growing over the last two years. Recently the company purchased new machines that will do the latest in concrete forming. The company had no room in their existing buildings on Mutual and Carnegie for the machines.

Williams Form Hardware manufactures devices used in the forming of concrete. It also manufactures rock bolts that are drilled into rock to reinforce it. Its products are used in underground caverns, nuclear power plants, and other major construction projects.

The company started around 80 years ago. Head office is in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Wilkinson stresses that there was nothing wrong with Ingersoll which pushed the company to move. It was purely an economic decision. He is also quick to praise the company's new home.

"We're sad to leave Ingersoll but happy to go to Tillsonburg," he said. "It's a wise move. It's quite progressive from an industrial viewpoint."

The company is arranging to have a shuttle to take its employees to the Tillsonburg plant. The company has 12 employees and three managers. Two of the three managers live in Norwich.

Although the company is moving to Tillsonburg it will, at least for the present, still own its three-acre property in Ingersoll, which it hopes to lease out. It will also continue to use Ingersoll sub suppliers as it does now, Wilkinson said.

INGERSOLL TIMES

December 28, 1988

Ingersoll plant decides on short jump to T'burg

By MARILYN SMULDERS
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — A manufacturing firm here is pulling up stakes to move to nearby Tillsonburg.

Chris Wilkinson, vice president and general manager of Williams Form Hardware, said the small company needed greater space in order to add on a new product line.

Williams Form Hardware, a manufacturer of metal struts and wire used as reinforcements in concrete forms, has been expanding for the past few years. It has a 25-year history in Ingersoll, situated at Mutual and Carnegie streets.

The new facility in Tillsonburg is located in the town's industrial park. Wilkinson said the economics of buying a building as opposed to constructing new in Ingersoll dictated the

move. At 14,000 square metres (47,000 square feet), the facility on Lincoln Road is three times the size as the company's present quarters.

The move, to be completed in early February, affects more than 20 employees. For workers who are residents of Ingersoll, the company is arranging to have a shuttle bus transport them to Tillsonburg. Others who live in surrounding centres, such as Norwich, won't be as inconvenienced by the change.

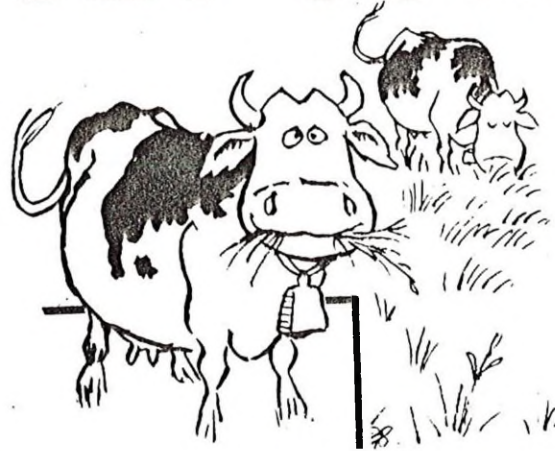
With the changes comes the need for more employees. Wilkinson said he expects to hire on four or five people to help handle the new product line.

Williams Form Hardware is a Canadian subsidiary of an American firm. Its head office is in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

SENTINEL REVIEW

January 3, 1989

HOLY COW!!



Fashion story and photos
by PHYLLIS COULTER
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — MOO-ve over if you think that by living in the Dairy Capital of Canada you know more cow puns than Carrie Wilson.

She's a master at making comical drawings of cows centered around cow puns.

She has plenty of inspiration at her family's farm just outside Ingersoll near the CAMI automotive plant. The Wilson's have 100 Holsteins on the farm, 50 of which make up the milking herd. Carrie started drawing cows with a piece of chalk when she was a youngster playing in the barn.

She has transformed her amateur doodles into a profitable hobby and added some witty style to produce fun fashions.

Each shirt is individually painted and signed; all designs are copyrighted. Her trademark is that each of the washable shirts has a small cow painted on the back doing something to suit the theme on the front.

Wilson, 24, who majored in nutrition in university will be attending teacher's college this year and hopes to eventually obtain a job as a high school teacher. Naturally when the Ontario Nutritionists' annual conference was planned, Wilson was invited to make some shirts for them. So if you see your favorite nutritionist wearing a *Mootritionist* shirt boldly showing a clever cow, you'll know where it came from.

PAINTING cows on clothing became the perfect flexible summer job for Wilson this year. This summer she went backpacking through Europe for a month and wanted to make some cash before she left. She has hand-painted more than 100 t-shirts and sweatshirts with cows, and has more ideas for new styles, often inspired by her friends. One friend suggested Hugh's heifer, depicting a cow in a bikini. This is one suggestion Wilson hasn't followed through.

What's a *Cow pool*? At the end of Wilson's brush it is the pastoral version of a car pool. For those who are single, they can advertise themselves as being *Udderly irresistible*.

Wilson is ready for the seasonal demand: she has designed a *Mooy Christmas* shirt in her mind.

The favorite to date is a cow band complete with a drummer and other dairy musicians entitled *Moosic*.

For the scientific-minded, there are *Cowsmonauts* complete in space gear. Her version of surf and turf was a cow windsurfing entitled *Beef on Sail*.

Speaking of beef on sail, Wilson's beefed up fashions are for sale at the Elm Hurst boutique in Ingersoll, the Feed and Seed store in Ingersoll and at her home.

They vary in price from \$12-40.

She even makes shirts for children which are especially comical.

You would think that Oxford County, being known for its dairy industry would definitely be the major market for cow fashions by a local artist, but Wilson has sold many of her creations through friends at the University of Western Ontario at London. These shirts are now being worn in Windsor, New Brunswick, Chicago and California.

Wilson also paints special requests and is ready to tackle most any project suggested.

Moo-ve over, New York designers, we have Carrie Wilson right here in Ingersoll.

Wilson's changes hands

By Dave Gamble

Staring blankly at passersby on Thames Street's east sidewalk stands a black-and-white, early 1950's television, beside its modern 23-inch color-tubed counterpart. The dated "boob-tube" sports a \$35 price tag.

A fully-operable 1920's-style National cash register stands rear-guard in the electronics showroom. According to the owner "it's been here since we first opened."

Above all, in the second-floor room that "used to be our radio repair shop" sits a 1949 seven-inch Admiral, "the first television we sold in Ingersoll," according to Donald Wilson.

"It sold for \$399," says his brother and business partner Joseph Wilson. "Now you can buy a 14-inch color set for the same money. The customer certainly is getting a bargain now."

A mini-tour of Wilson Television and Electronics reveals certain outstanding articles marking adjustments to local consumer trends, over the last 49 years.

And interviews with the Wilson brothers account seemingly wide-ranging merchandising and servicing policies to match.

"My brother Joe started repairing radios and installing car radios originally," Donald Wilson says.

He said their father, J.M. Wilson, dealt in hardware exclusively. He opened March 28, 1928, after purchasing an established business.

"Joe started working on the radios about a year later," he said.

Such merchandise as "Gurney ranges, team harness and Quebec heaters" moved through the hardware department, according to Don Wilson, while his brother "handled the electronics."

This year though, Joe Wilson will shift his major concentrations to restoring antique sports cars and possibly "ham radio", according to his brother.

As for Don Wilson, though he says

he hasn't "decided for sure" but will probably do a lot of gardening in the summer.

The business formally changes hands this week, Wilsons' electronics shop technician Peter Cox joins with Floyd Tisdale as the new owners.

According to Mr. Tisdale "we want to carry on the same business as the Wilsons."

As it stands now, this includes radio, television and Hi-fi sales, Joe Wilson says, plus service on what is sold.

"In the last four to five years I've been involved not so much in repair as in management and sales," he said. However, he implied this was not always the case.

He described his initial job in the family business as "radio repair", explaining that he was self-trained through a home correspondence course.

"I built my first radio in 1922", he said, adding that his interest in electronics led to assignment with an RCAF radar unit during the second world war.

He also claims building "the first television in Ingersoll, a five-inch black-and-white set in 1949."

Both brothers indicated television had a great impact on Ingersoll's market and their merchandise lines.

"We had crews out installing antennas with the first T.V.'s" Don Wilson said. "You had to sell the antennas. You couldn't sell televisions without one. The customers wanted to pick up the Buffalo (New York) stations. They wouldn't buy a T.V. if they couldn't"

He said the television boom "started hitting Ingersoll about 1954." "We had to drop the hardware lines. It got to be too much to handle when television came in."

According to Joe Wilson "we went straight electronics in '68," who added that both hardware and appliances were phased out.

Until then, Don Wilson said, he was mainly involved with "the white goods." "We carried and

serviced automatic washers and driers and (kitchen) ranges," he said.

Now televisions comprise the majority of sales, he says, explaining that "stereo sales are more permanent." "They're bought as a piece of furniture," he says, "while T.V.'s are dealt in." A few local customers deal their T.V.'s in every two years, like cars.

Although customers tended to buy from high-volume discount centres like "Consumers (Distributing)" the past few years, according to Joe Wilson, he says "customers are now buying where they can get the service."

"We've always carried a large inventory of parts and I've often wondered if the customer appreciated that," he said. "I guess they do, judging by the increase in business."

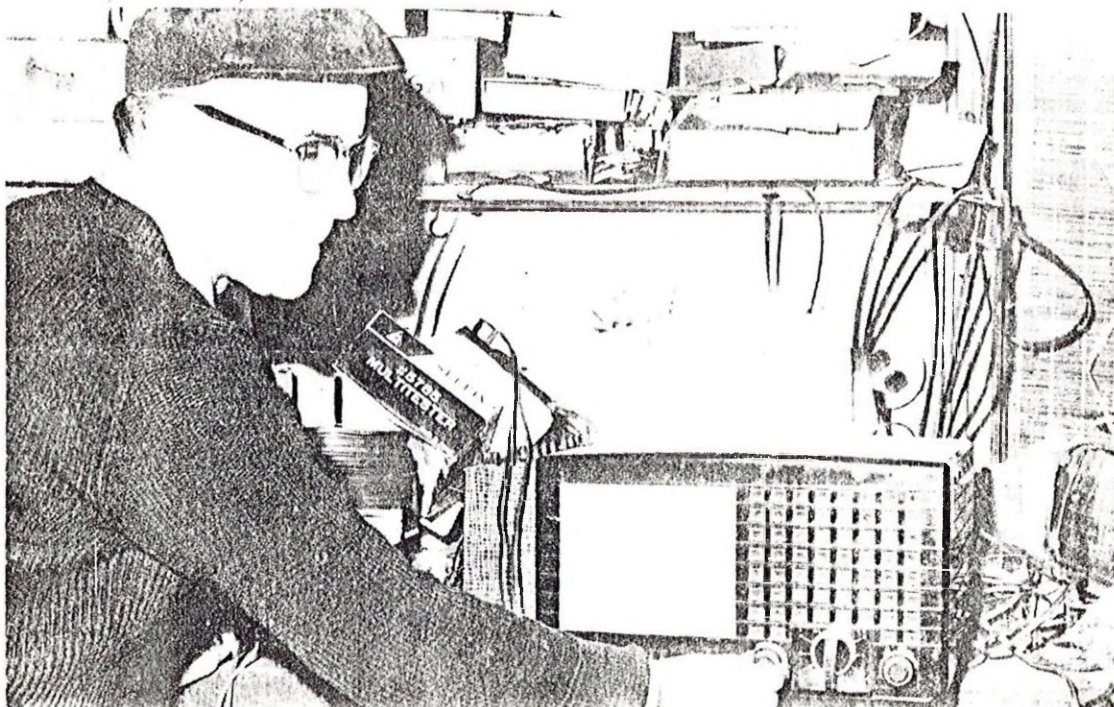
He described Ingersoll in past years as "a good farming town. Saturday night, Thames street used to be jammed (with shoppers)," he said.

"It's not that way now, but the sales volume has steadily increased every year," Mr. Wilson said.

WILSON TELEVISION
↓
ELECTRONICS



Donald Wilson mans the vintage register at the rear of the sales room in the Thames Street television shop. The mechanism spent almost 49 years under the Wilson name, ringing in hardware sales, home appliances, radios and finally, electronic products exclusively. This week it acquires new owners as the business changes hands. Peter Cox and Lloyd Tisdale take over from Donald and Joseph Wilson.



"Some customers trade their televisions in every two years, like cars," Donald Wilson says. Here he displays one trade-in that defies his account. The seven-inch Admiral trade-in is the first television sold by Wilson's in Ingersoll, according to Joseph Wilson. The vintage model was sold in 1919, Joseph says, the same year he claims building the first "tube" in town - his own five-inch

INGERSOLL
TIMES

February 23,

1977

New store owner settles in town

BY RON PRESTON

Dave DuBrule is filling a "life-long ambition" with his purchase of the Hawkins Feed and Seed store in Ingersoll.

The 38-year-old Montreal native "fell in love" with the idea of owning a feed store when he was national sales manager for the Ralston Purina feed company.

He has been looking on and off for the past 10 years for a store to buy. Before deciding on the Ingersoll store, Mr. DuBrule looked at businesses in Trenton, Peterborough, Montreal, Owen Sound, Oakville and St. Mary's. But for one reason or another, none of the deals were ever finalized.

He left Purina in 1976, after winning the company's highest sales award for the third year in a row, to be sales manager for another company.

Mr. DuBrule kept looking, and his many contacts in the feed business, including his brother H.J., informed him when feed stores came up for sale.

After living "in the fast track for 15

years" he was ready for the "relaxation" of owning a feed store.

When the Hawkins business became available, it took him "only two days once I made up my mind" to purchase the store, and five weeks to close the business deal.



Mr. DuBrule's wife Beverly, 39, and their two children, Aimee, 7, and David, 4, will be joining him soon. The couple have purchased a home on Oxford Street in Ingersoll.

The new business will be called Windale Feed and Seed Limited. While admitting he's no horticulturist, Mr. DuBrule believes any man can be success by "hard work and a keen desire" to do his best.

The store will be operated by Mr. DuBrule and his staff of three, all employees under the previous owner.

Mr. DuBrule's brother is also interested in owning his own feed store, and he hopes to help his brother fulfill his dream.

With his purchase of the Hawkins store, Mr. DuBrule feels he is "returning to what the family originally was." His maternal great-grandfather was an Ontario farmer, and three generations later, he hopes the great-grandson has found his homestead and happiness in rural Ontario.

He admits the building on King Street West is in need to some "tender loving care" and he hopes to do some repairs to the exterior.

The building was built in 1904 as a hockey and curling rink. A few years later, it was converted into a warehouse for William Stone and Sons Ltd.

The Stone company used it as a fertilizer and rendering plant. The company expanded, and was later bought out by Canadian Industries Limited (CIL).

Before their takeover by CIL, Stone had sold the old arena and warehouse to Roger Hawkins in 1946, who has owned and operated the feed company until the end of last month.

Auto parts plant next door to CAMI

By KAREN VINKE

CAMI has a new neighbor.

Last Wednesday, Woodbridge-Inoac Inc., a joint venture Canadian-Japanese company, announced the construction of a \$5 million auto parts plant in St. Marys. St. Marys was chosen above four other locations, largely because of its proximity to both Toyota in Cambridge and CAMI in Ingersoll.

Robert Calder, president of Woodbridge-Inoac in Montreal, is confident the new auto parts plant will supply parts to CAMI. The Woodbridge Group already has business relations in Japan.

"We're already supplying parts to Suzuki and Toyota in Japan," he said.

Calder expects negotiations with CAMI to be finalized by the end of the year.

Jim Cameron, vice president of CAMI in Oshawa, made no comment about Woodbridge-Inoac becoming a supplier. But he did say the company will not be alone in its negotia-

tions to secure a contract by year's end.

"We've got so many (suppliers) that we're going to be dealing with," he said.

Steve Stevens, plant manager of the Woodbridge Group in Toronto, agreed that negotiations are still in an early stage.

"Right now we're in a stage with many companies where we're supplying trial parts," he explained. Like Calder, he's confident that the fit, aesthetics and workmanship of the trial Woodbridge-Inoac parts will meet CAMI standards.

"We probably wouldn't spend millions of dollars on a plant in St. Marys if we weren't confident," Stevens said.

Inoac is a large and diversified supplier of auto parts in the Far East and around the world. Products include arm rests, head rests, bumpers, side moldings and air dams.

Stevens said the St. Marys plant would specialize in arm rests and instrument panels for the first couple of years.

INGERSOLL TIMES

September 30, 1987

Appliance store locates in town

There is a third appliance store in the town of Ingersoll and the new manager thinks the sure-fire winners are going to be the consumers.

"It's the best way to buy," said Bill Coomber, manager of Woodstock Appliances which opened on Friday on Thames Street. "The opening of this store expands on the consumers choice and they are the ones who'll benefit, I would say."

This is the second store for Woodstock Appliances. There has been one in Woodstock since 1959 which offers complete new, used, service and parts departments.

"In past years a lot of Ingersoll people shopped at our store in Woodstock," Coomber said. "People suggested we should open a store here and we thought we would give it a try."

Coomber's father Al started the business. At first it was a commercial refrigeration service and it slowly expanded into new and used domestic re-

frigerators. Al Coomber retired three-years-ago and sold Woodstock Refrigeration Systems to son David.

The domestic aspect of the appliance business was sold to Larry and Gerry Coomber. Now Gerry owns all of it. Expansion has been left up to Bill who has been in the business almost eight years. Three of those years he has been involved in the operation of the Woodstock store.

The store is located on Thames Street South at the corner of Charles Street East. It houses about 35 domestic machines including used and new washers, dryers, stoves and refrigerators.

"I think it shows a good cross section of what is being offered," Coomber said. "We have a lot of stock in Woodstock too and can guarantee almost immediate delivery."

"We also fill a need for the consumer who wants to sell," the manager said. He noted they have a large selection of used ap-

pliances with warranty they also accept a lot of used appliances, on a cash or trade in basis.



At home on the range? Here is Bill Coombe, manager of the Woodstock Appliance Store which opened just last Friday. It is located at the corner of Charles Street East and Thames Street South.

Young's Pharmacy merges with Super X

After operating Young's Pharmacy for the past nine years, Ingersoll pharmacist Jim Young has elected to close Young's Pharmacy and will merge the business with Super X Drugs.

"I recognized that the larger Super X Drugs store location would be able to provide my customers with a wider range of products and services," said Young. "I will be joining Super X Drugs and will become the manager of that store."

It is anticipated that the closure and move will take place around the middle of September.

The entire staff of Young's Pharmacy will be moving to the new store.

Tenley Newbold, the manager of the Super X Drugs store said, "I am ecstatic about the merger of our business. Jim Young and his staff have established a wonderful reputation in Ingersoll and a combination of our location with their staff bodes well for our respective futures."

Super X Drugs is a chain of 80 community pharmacies located in Southwestern Ontario.

INGERSOLL TIMES

August 19, 1987

At Ingersoll Youth Employment Service **Students already looking for summer employment**

By ERIC SCHMIEDL
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — Things are tough all over, even for the younger crowd:



Overeem

Usually, teenagers wait until it is nearly summer to look for seasonal employment, says Ingersoll Youth Employment Service (IYES) manager Rick Overeem. That is not the case this year. "They're already out looking," he said.

For January, the IYES has seen 19 new faces, compared with 16 for the same time last year.

For January, the IYES has seen 19 new faces, compared with 16 for the same time last year. It may not seem like much of a jump but the numbers have been up since September, generally making the caseload larger.

Interest in programs is up too. The Futures program has seen the biggest boost, Overeem says.

This year 27 people have come to the IYES to join Futures, compared to 12 last year. Futures, sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Skills Development, is a program for people aged 15 to 24. Under the program, people get train-

ing from an employer who in turn gets paid by the ministry.

This year 27 people have come to the IYES to join Futures, compared to 12 last year.

The part-time work/part-time school option of Futures has been especially popular, says Overeem. The option permits participants to split their time between work and going to school.

The ministry pays minimum wage for the hours worked and tacks on a weekly allowance of \$100 for the school portion of the program.

Other support is also available, he says.

"They're welcome to come in here any time."

Going into the IYES can alter things for the better for many youths, says Overeem.

Going into the IYES can alter things for the better for many youths, says Overeem.

"There is a lot of frustration out there. Young people are discouraged." After getting involved with a program, the picture often changes.

"Never give up. It'll always turn around and something will come up. Keep your head up," he encourages.

Daily Sentinel Review
Feb. 9, 1991

The Ingersoll Times, July 25, 1990



The crew of the Youth Employment Centre's summer job project works on the back yard of 68-year-old Jean Anderson's home. They are, from left: Tom Harrison, Marko Pinich (partially hidden), Ryan Fitzpatrick, Nathan Heald, Phil Ferrow, Hank Versteeg, John Cassidy, Jesse Meuleneester, and Kevin Burrill. (Mike Switzer photo)

Youth work program helps many

BY MIKE SWITZER

Cheryl Walther seems to enjoy being the "boss lady" as long as her efforts prove beneficial to both client and crew.

Walther is coordinator of a special summer job project at the Youth Employment Centre. Her crew consists of seven special education students from Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute and three from Salford. All are between the ages of 14 and 17.

Together they are spending the summer as a work crew, learning the principles of group cohesion, following directions, and esteem building.

"These kids aren't just cleaning," Walther said. "They're performing

a vital service and learning from it."

Wages are paid completely by the provincial government and there is no fee to clients for work done. The only requirement is a definite need for their services.

The majority of jobs so far have been performed at seniors' centres. Walther said this is an ideal situation for both groups.

"One of the problems with teenagers is a lack of contact with the elderly," she said. "With a project like this they can share values and ideas with each other. The seniors benefit enormously and the kids feel really valuable and appreciated."

Thursday the crew worked on the home of 68-year-old Jean Anderson, who has been incapacitated since

breaking her foot while attempting to wash a window in her home.

"It's unbelievable what they've got done," Anderson said, adding that the crew was a pleasure to have around her home for the day.

Their tasks included top-coating the driveway, trimming the hedges, weeding, cleaning the eavestrough, cultivating garden beds, picking stones, mowing the lawn, relaying patio stones, painting and washing windows, and general maintenance work.

"This has to be one of the best uses I've ever seen government money put to," Walther said. "I think it's a really great thing."

Anyone seeking further information can call the Youth Employment Centre at 485-6088 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

New grocery store opens for business

BY BRIAN SMITH

Hundreds of people turned out for the successful grand opening of Zehrs in the new Lansdown shopping mall yesterday.

Included in the 2,180 square foot grocery store is an in-store bake shop, a large produce department, a delicatessen catering take out foods and a garden gift shop. According to Dave Baid, store manager, Zehrs has hired about 90 people for full and part-time employment.

Although Zehrs is the only store to begin operations at the new mall, Mr. Baid said he did not know of any other tenants that have applied for the additional retail vacancies. Zehrs is also the only store to be completed but construction has resumed until the entire complex is finished.

The shopping mall, situated at 112 Charles St. has suffered many setbacks since it was first proposed nearly four years ago. Concern over its location on the flood plains of the Thames River resulted

in a long delay until the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority drew up construction standards. Construction was also delayed last September when

Ingersoll town council voted to prohibit construction by disallowing a minor variance by-law. Developers subsequently filed a \$1.5 million legal suit which persuaded council to reverse its earlier decision and allow the plaza to begin construction.

Local developer Mike McHugh filed a

petition to the Ontario Cabinet last November calling for an investigation into alleged construction violations. However, no violations were found and the plaza was given the go-ahead by the Ontario Municipal Board last March. Construction promptly resumed and enabled the Lansdown Shopping Centre to achieve its projected opening date.

Lansdown developers have met all standards laid-out to them and have complied with requests by the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority.



Produce Manager Paul Patrick of the new Zehrs store shows off some delicious watermelon to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Clapp of Ingersoll at the store's grand opening yesterday. If the present

heat spell keeps up, Paul shouldn't have any problem selling the tasty fruit.

Store operator surprised by meat mix charge

By GREG ROTHWELL

Sentinel-Review staff writer

The operator of an Ingersoll food store said Friday he is "definitely surprised" that he has been charged with selling a mixture of beef and pork as ground beef.

Dale Hurley, operator of Hurley Food Ltd., on Charles Street, Ingersoll, said inspectors from the consumer fraud protection section of the federal ministry of consumer affairs

inspected meat at the store in April.

He was notified of the charge Thursday, but knows nothing more "than what I've read in the newspapers."

Affiliated with IGA food stores, Hurley said he and other operators with stores in the group have sent samples of their ground beef to Toronto to be tested by IGA's own inspectors.

He said he grinds his own

meat, but frozen beef is purchased from wholesalers.

Hurley's business was one of two Ingersoll stores charged with the offence under the Food and Drug Act.

The Zehrs' store, on Charles Street, has also been charged. A spokesman there said that store also grinds its own meat.

Both store operators are scheduled to appear in provincial court in Ingersoll Sept. 26.

The maximum sentence the owners face, if convicted, is \$5,000 and three years in prison.

Nicole Hudson, with the communications branch of the ministry of consumer relations in Ottawa, said it is "almost impossible" for the consumer to spot pork in ground beef, either by sight or by taste.

She said she recommends people grind their own beef to be sure it is 100 per cent pure.

The stores charged were found to be selling ground beef with amounts of pork ranging from five to 40 per cent or even higher.

Stores with portions of pork that amounted to less than five per cent were given warnings.

The ministry is concerned with the health aspect of selling ground beef with pork, she said.

There is the danger of contracting trichinosis, an intestinal disease, if pork is undercooked, as ground beef sometimes is.

And there is also the religious aspect related to pork that concerns them, she said.

All of the stores were warned about the possibility that charges could be laid.

Miss Hudson said when the inspections were done, pork was cheaper than beef, which may have been a reason for stores to have added pork to the mixture.

Beef and pork charges dropped in area shops

Charges will be dropped against 57 food stores in Ontario, including two Ingersoll supermarkets, for having mixed pork in ground beef packages, the consumer and corporate affairs department announced Friday.

Zehrmart Ltd. and Hurley Food Ltd. were charged last August after a government survey found up to 40 per cent pork content in regular ground beef samples tested.

Dominion, Loblaws, Miracle Mart and Food City stores were also among those charged.

A consumer affairs department spokesman said the charges will be withdrawn as they reach the courts, and indicated the bad publicity the supermarkets received may be punishment enough.

Justice department experts had advised against proceeding with the charges because of the implications of a Supreme Court of Canada ruling on food standards.

A government official said inspectors will continue to monitor the way ground beef is labelled and advertised to ensure that consumers are not deceived or defrauded.

Technology advances into Ingersoll salon

By MARK REID
of Ingersoll This Week

Ziggy's Trimline 2000 is on the leading edge of technology when it comes to changing the style and color of a person's hair in addition to the application of make-up.

With the computerized New Image Salon System, clients can select from 200 hairstyles — all of which can be modified — and 30,000 colors and see the results before the stylist picks up the scissors.

A woman would not buy a new dress before trying it on, Mary-El-len Zegers uses as a parallel. "It takes the risk out of getting your hair done."

Zegers' interest in the California-developed system came into being after seeing it on the *Oprah Winfrey Show*.

"I had it done myself before I decided to buy it."

Staff at Ziggy's have recently become certified in the operation of the system following a two-week training program.

The consultation process takes about one hour to complete and the client receives a color photograph showing the now look, dubbed the new do.

Following a brief chat with the stylist and after selecting three styles from a book, a client's facial image is programed into the computer and displayed on the monitor. The stylist can also assist in style selection.

A band is then placed around the client's head so a second image showing virtually no hair can be recorded. A few seconds with the electronic pencil and pad are necessary to eliminate any leftover hair in Pac Man-like fashion from the screen.

The three chosen styles are tried on, modified in length, color etc., before the client makes his/her decision.

After the client decides which of the three hairstyles he prefers most, a before and after color photograph is printed so the person can try it out on family and friends.

"It's like a great big toy and it's so much fun to use," says Zegers of the system.

Information — style number, color number and make-up — is recorded on the appointment card.

She said stylists have been successful in completing a client's new image so it matches the one from the photograph.

The fee for the consultation is about \$40 while members of Ziggy's can get the same service at a reduced rate. Both include a gift certificate to be applied to the chemical (perm, color) process.

Zegers has relied to the most part on word of mouth advertising while her closest competition is salons in Mississauga and Chatham.



WITH THE USE OF the New Image Salon System, Mary-El-len Zegers is able to show her clients what their new hair style and make-over will look like before the stylist goes to work. The computer system was developed in California.

SENTINEL REVIEW -

INGERSOLL THIS WEEK

June 19, 1990

ZIGGY'S TRIMLINE 2000

Fitness Centre wars end with buyout

By JONATHAN STOVER

One Ingersoll business' misfortune has become another's gain.

Health and fitness centre Slimmer-Trimmer-U will go out of business this Friday night, but most of its equipment has been purchased by Ziggy's, and will be used by what is now Ingersoll's only health and fitness centre.

Mary Ellen Ziggers, owner and operator of Ziggy's, saw the deal for the equipment finalized last Friday. Everything from toning tables to office chairs and desks is now Ziggy's property. Not all of it will end up at Ziggy's, however. Ziggers plans to sell the newly-acquired body wrap equipment almost immediately. "We don't plan to go into that line," Ziggers said of the body wrap, "and we don't have the training for it now anyway."

Additional toning tables will also be sold, as Ziggy's already has enough equipment to handle customer flow.

Tanning tables and exercise equipment will be used by Ziggy's, as the business gears up for its expansion. Two thousand square feet of new facilities will soon open up in the downstairs area of Ziggy's, with everything from an aerobics room to a health bar serving fruit juices and protein supplements in the newly-renovated addition.

Ziggy's has been open since last August. Currently it has tanning, toning, hairdressing and other related facilities. Ziggers opened the independent business because of interest in the field, and has found enough success to allow the expansion into the fitness field. Low-impact aerobics, high-tech exercise cycles and various exercise machines will be added as renovations are completed.

Ziggers has high hopes for the expanded facilities. With health, beauty and fitness covered to some extent, and with free supervised babysitting on-site, she hopes that Ziggy's will become a draw for the whole family.

Seasonal fluxes in business for specific services offset one another - "you have so many things to fall back on," Ziggers noted. The tanning rooms are used almost constantly, while the hairdressing staff will be increased by two with the expansion.

"Business is good throughout the year," Ziggers said. The only real surprise has been the continued popularity of the tanning facilities throughout the summer.

The new downstairs facilities should be open by August, Ziggers said, with a grand opening to be held in September.



Mary Ellen Ziggers sits on one of Ziggy's tanning beds. The recent purchase by Ziggy's of Slimmer-Trimmer-U's exercise, health and office equipment will allow Ingersoll's sole remaining health-and- fitness facility to expand greatly. (Jon Stover Photo)

INGERSOLL
TIMES
July 12, 1989

ZIGGY'S TRIMLINE 2000

Two new exercise centres offer complete make-overs

Ingersoll residents should be a healthy lot when two new exercise centres get into full swing this month.

Ziggy's Trimeline 2000 and Slimmer-Trimmer-U both opened their doors last week in an effort to attract locals tired of travelling out of town to get in shape.

"I felt Ingersoll needed a place like this," Slimmer-Trimmer-U owner, Mary Somer, said. "I knew I needed it."

Ziggy's owner Mary-Ellen Zegers and husband Jim also recognized the void and decided to incorporate their hobby into a business.

"We are both interested in being fit," Mary-Ellen said. "And we were not involved in any other club."

Both Thames Street South's Slimmer-Trimmer-U and King Street East's Ziggy's use toning tables as their exercise tool. New to Canada, the toning tables offer a complete workout for the body without the sweat.

Each of the tables is geared toward toning a particular body part. Exercisers are to use each

table for a 10-minute period, moving through a circuit of six machines for an entire workout including waist and stomach, legs and upper body.

Somer, who uses gear-driven tables, said they are safe for everyone including those with bad backs and arthritis. Exercisers can use the tables in passive or more advanced stages.

Trained instructors will be on hand at each centre to coach.

Diet is an important part of both programs. Slimmer-Trimmer-U offers personalized diet plans for each client based on the Canada food guide rules.

Ziggy's diet program is a little more high-tech. They enter personal data, including height and weight, into a computer system which produces an imprint of the client's silhouetted body as it is now and what it will look like when the weight loss goal is reached. Silhouetted characters in between represent the body changes during the transformation.

Both centres are promoting a "one-stop-shop" where clients can

come in for a workout, a trip to the suntanning bed and a manicure and pedicure all in the same morning or afternoon.

Ziggy's studio also includes a hair salon where clients can have their hair done on a one-to-one basis. Free day care is offered in an adjacent room where children can amuse themselves with toys and videos while watching their parents through a glass window.

Both Ziggy's and Somer said they have had excellent response in the community from those curious about their services. A complimentary first visit is being offered at each of the centres to give clients a feel for their programs.

Men, women and children are all invited to drop in.

At Slimmer-Trimmer-U, clients pay as they go without a long-term membership obligation. Each session is \$10.

At Ziggy's, 25 sessions cost \$189. 12 sessions are \$98 and a single session costs \$10. There is a separate cost for the suntanning beds.

August 24, 1988
INGERSOLL TIMES

ZIGGY'S TRIMLINE 2000

Ziggy's co-owner named London's Young Entrepreneur of the Year

Mary Ellen Zegers, the 29-year-old co-owner of Ingersoll's "Ziggy's Trimline 2000," has been named London's Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the Federal Business Development Bank.

The award was presented on Sept. 28 in London. Zegers said she was "incredibly surprised" to be the winner, especially after hearing about the other 11 nominees.

"I couldn't believe it," she said. "I was happy enough just to be nominated."

Mike Walsh, district general manager for the development bank, said Zegers demonstrated sound business acumen, and was an active supporter of her local community.

"As an entrepreneur and wife and mother of three young children, you know that Mary Ellen Zegers has her hands full," Walsh said.

"In spite of this she hosts an eight-week summer day camp for children of employees and clients, she trains students through the Futures program and secondary school co-op placements, and she sponsors a number of hockey and soccer teams. She is remarkable and is a positive role model for other small business owners - young and old alike."

Ziggy's was established in 1988 as a one-stop beauty and health spa. The business initially employed three people in one 1,200-square-foot hair salon consisting of one hair station, one set of toning beds, one tanning bed and a day care area.

Today the shop has tripled its space to 3,200 square feet and employs 14 people. Clients can also take advantage of a Universal gym

with state-of-the-art weight training equipment, an esthetics clinic offering facials, pedicures, waxing, nails and lash tints, a computerized nutrition counselling program, yoga and aerobic fitness classes, and on-site day care.

Two months ago Zegers introduced the "New Image Salon System" which provides a before-hand visual image of proposed make-overs for men and women.

Zegers said sales have doubled

since the "New Image" system was introduced, and the business' sales territory has expanded to include London, Stratford, Woodstock and Tillsonburg.

When asked about her future plans for the business, Zegers replied that she was going to relax for a while.

"We've just finished so much stuff here," she said. "I'd just like to sit back for awhile and let people find out more about us."



Mary Ellen Zegers (middle), co-owner of Ziggy's Trimline 2000 was named London's Young Entrepreneur of the Year. Here she stands with Harry Norton, a member of the Toronto Dominion Bank's Entrepreneur Selection Committee, and Chic Allison, of the Federal Business Development Bank.

Ingersoll woman nabs award

By SENTINEL-REVIEW STAFF
Oxford Business

An Ingersoll businesswoman has been named London, Ontario's young entrepreneur of the year.

Mary Ellen Zegers, the 29-year-old co-owner of Ziggy's Trimline 2000, has received the honor, which is bestowed by the Federal Business Development Bank.

Ziggy's, formed in 1988, is a one-stop health and beauty spa that initially employed three people in a 1,200 square foot salon consisting of one hair station, one set of toning beds, one tanning bed and one day-care area.

By this year the business had tripled its space to 3,200 square feet and it now employs 14. The business now offers a wide range of services, including a weight-training gym, a complete esthetics clinic, a computerized nutrition counselling program, yoga and aerobic fitness classes and on-site day care. This summer Ziggy's added a computerized imaging service called the New Image Salon System, which provides a beforehand visual image of proposed makeovers. With the introduction of that system, the business has doubled its sales and its sales territory has expanded to Woodstock, Tillsonburg, London and Stratford.

DSR Oxford Business
Nov. 24, 1990

AYE, THERE'S THE RUB

Massage therapy can aid just about anything

By ERIC SCHWIEDL
of Ingersoll This Week

Mark Rath rubs people the right way.

A registered massage therapist (RMT), he puts the touch on Ingersoll residents who frequent Ziggy's Fit and Tan.

Rath got into his field of work after getting a massage of his own. Back problems had been bothering

"It was wonderful."

him, and after the massage "I had no pain for the first time in my life.

To become a RMT, the Putnam native had to take a 2,000-hour course at the D'arcy Lane Institute in London.

The course consisted of 100 hours of hands on massage training, as well as studies in physiology, anatomy and other associated subjects.

At its conclusion, he had to write three government-licensed exams and get 75 per cent on each.

Massage therapy can aid anything "from tennis elbow to consti-

pation." Any soft tissues can be dealt with, he says. Massages for some ailments can be painful but "results are incredible."

Massage increases circulation and cleans toxins out of the body, he says.

For such things as arthritis and muscular dystrophy, massage can help, even though it is hardly a cure.

"It just makes people feel better."

INJURY THERAPY

Whiplash is one of the more com-

mon injuries Rath is called upon to work with. He has had to deal with the after effects of such things as a broken back as well.

So he knows what problems he may come up against, Rath has his clients fill out a background information form.

When he encounters something, which he feels needs a medical di-

agnosis, he refers clients to a doctor before proceeding with massage therapy.

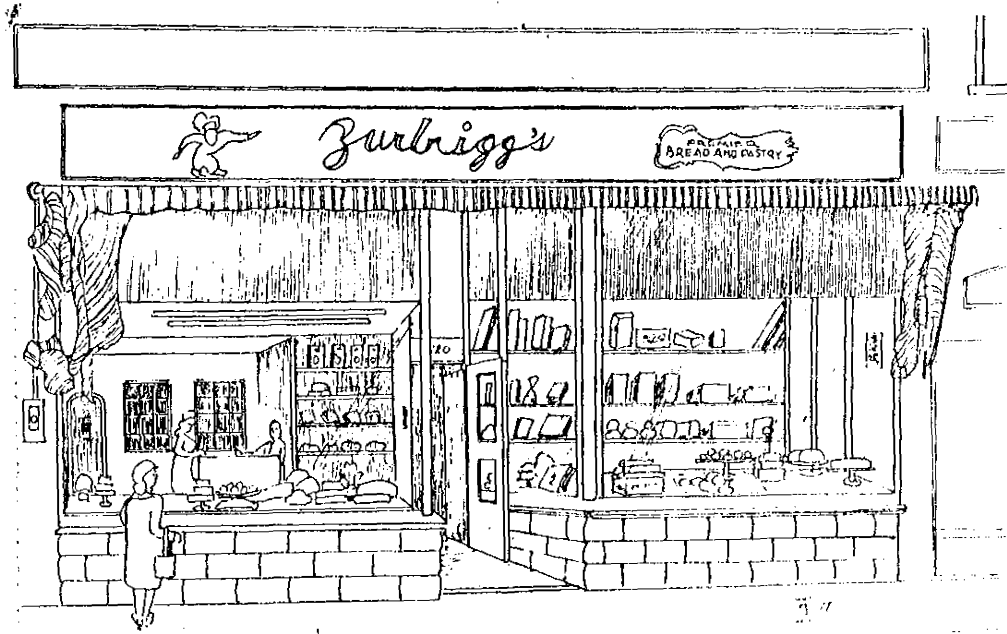
Referrals work both ways, with doctors sending patients his way for treatment, he says.

A half hour massage session costs \$25, with an hour going for \$40. Massage therapy is not covered by OHIP, but some health plans do have provisions dealing with it.



MARK RATH does a lot of work with his hands — massage therapy work, that is. To become a registered massage therapist, Rath took a 2,200-hour course over two years.

ZIGGY'S FIT AND TAN



Harry Whitwell sketch of Zurbrigg's Bakery.

Bakery with long history

INGERSOLL — Many of the businesses on the town's main street have a history dating back before the turn of the century.

One of these is Zurbrigg's Bakery started in 1894 by a baker, Neil Malcolm. There were several changes of ownership until Dec. 11, 1908 when Samuel Zurbrigg took over the business. He incorporated many small bakeries from Ingersoll, Thamesford and Beachville into his bakery.

The business became a limited company in 1939.

In 1943 the following board of directors was elected: President, Bernie Zurbrigg; vice-president, Herbert Bowman, Secretary, W.R.

Marshall.

Zurbrigg's Bakery originally was located in the McLeod and McBain Grocery store now occupied by Fernlea Flowers.

The business was moved to its present location in 1936. For several years Dean's Bakers, 55 King St., E., was used as a cake bakery in conjunction with the regular bakery. Later Zurbrigg's moved its cake production to Oxford Street on a site that now is the municipal parking lot.

In 1955 Zurbrigg's sold their nine bread routes to Wonder Bread Bakeries Ltd. This reduced their staff from 35 to about the dozen persons now employed.

Zurbrigg's bakes the old-fashioned way like grandma

By PAULINE KERR
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — If you have a taste for cookies "just like grandma used to make", you might learn grandma's secret with a visit to Zurbrigg's Bakery on Thames Street.

She may very well have filled her cookie jar with tasty treats from Zurbrigg's - Ingersoll people have been going there for baked goods with old-fashioned homemade flavor since shortly after the turn of the century.

Bud Bowman, the present owner, said, "We are 90 per cent a 'scratch'

bakery. Today everything comes in a mix - not here. We don't use mixes, we make it from flour, sugar and shortening. Our products have a different taste from other bakeries - some of the cookie and muffin recipes have been passed down since before I started. There are perhaps two or three within my time; the rest are way before."

Bowman more or less grew up with the business. His father Herb Bowman, a cousin of Bernie Zurbrigg, worked at the bakery 55 years, starting in 1920. Bud Bowman can

remember watching his father go to the bakery (at that point located on King Street) on a Sunday to build up the fire in the brick oven for the next day.

Bud Bowman started working part-time at the bakery when he was 14 years old. In fact, said Bernie Zurbrigg, the only time Bud was away from it was the year he spent at bakery school in Minnesota.

When Bud Bowman bought Zurbrigg's in 1976, he was carrying on a family tradition that started in December of 1908, when S.G. (Sam) Zurbrigg took over the bakery

behind a Thames Street drug store, the location of the present bakery.

Bernie Zurbrigg has been putting together a history of the business and described some of the changes in those early years.

"Bread was always made in the original bakery. In fact, all the baking was done there until 1935, when we took over the Dean Bakery on King Street."

The retail outlet was across Thames where Fernlea Flowers is now located. Cakes and buns were made in the King Street shop; later

they were made in a building across the alley on Oxford Street, originally a truck repair shop.

Bread delivery played an important role in the business until Wonder Bakery took over approximately 30 years ago and Zurbrigg's went back to being a retail outlet.

At first, bread delivery didn't mean trucks - they came relatively late in the operation. According to Bernie Zurbrigg, the first bread was delivered by train, to such centres as Salford, Mt. Elgin, Deerham Centre and on to Pt. Burwell, also to Putnam, Crampton and Avon. Trains delivered Zurbrigg's bread to stores in Embro. "The bread was packed in wooden boxes, 30 or 40 loaves to the box," he recalls. Of course, there was no plastic wrapping in those days.

Deliveries in town were done by horse-drawn wagon. In fact, at one time bread was delivered by the mailman. Then came the trucks. "We started with one up to 1930, then two. We got up to five trucks and three wagons," said Zurbrigg.

Ingersoll's old-fashioned bakery has succeeded while other local bakeries have become part of history because of a very modern willingness to innovate. Zurbrigg said there were three bakeries in Inger-

soll at one point. "They were all equipped about the same, until 1925, when Dad put in a high speed mixer."

And this same attitude continues today. Health-conscious customers can find high-fibre bread on the shelves at Zurbrigg's.

But bread isn't the most profitable product; cakes are, according to the owner — Christmas fruit cakes, Easter cakes, Valentine cakes and other special holiday cakes. People also order birthday cakes from Zurbrigg's. The most popular flavor is chocolate.

Zurbrigg's present competition comes from the bakery sections of the large grocery stores, where shoppers can purchase a good product with the convenience of free parking. "Paying five cents to come in and buy a loaf of bread seems a lot."

The bakery is more than holding its own. Five cents seems a small price to pay for the chance to get butter cookies with the taste of real butter, cakes with flavor and texture, pies with real fruit in the filling.

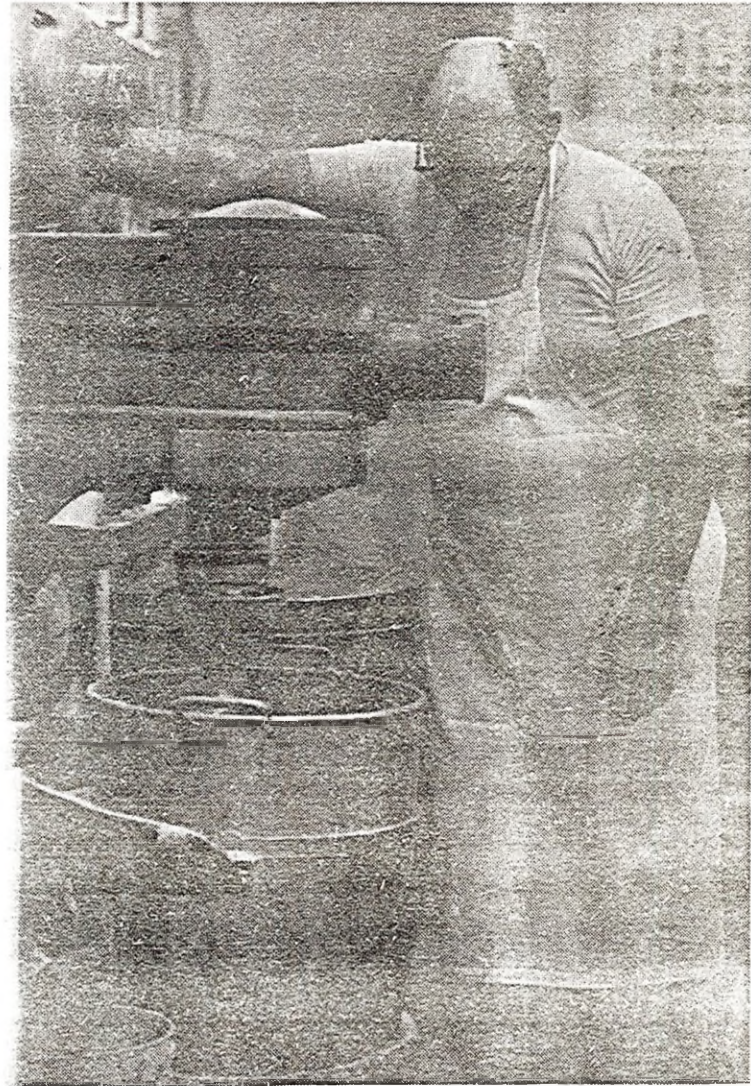
At a time when people are looking for a little old-fashioned flavor in a mass-produced world, people are discovering, or rediscovering, Zurbrigg's Bakery, with cookies just like grandma used to make.

SENTINEL REVIEW
March 28 1989

ZURBRIGGS
BAKERY



Although there have been many changes over the years, customers are still served with a smile.



Howard Garland watches over the dough being mixed in the machine.

ZURBRIGG'S BAKERY

INGERSOLL TIMES
April 5, 1978

TAKING A GLIMPSE INSIDE THE LOCAL BAKE SHOP

INGERSOLL TIMES
APRIL 5/78



H. GARLAND PASSES BREAD TO A. VERHOEVEN FOR SHELVING



THEY TURN OUT TRAYS OF HOT CROSS BUNS

Taking a glimpse inside the local bake shop

BY CAROL MCKNIGHT

Ingersoll has always had a bake shop and for as long as many people can remember, it's been Zurbrigg's Bakery, located on Thames Street South.

The small bake shop has provided thousands of customers tasty high-calorie pastries and wholesome fresh bread for 70 years.

In December 1908 Sam Zurbrigg moved from the Listowel area to Ingersoll, to buy up the bake shop already established in town. He and his four brothers independently owned three other bake shops in the province and according to

Mr. Zurbrigg's son Bernard, this one is the last of the four, still in existence.

In 1936 Bernard entered the family bakery. Although he retired two-years-ago after 42 years in the bake shop business he remembers it fondly.

"There have been a lot of changes over the years," he said. "Changes every day. At one point we had nine delivery routes." He said that due to the high delivery costs, the service was halted about 22-years-ago.

He remembers when the bake shop and the bake sales outlet were not one, as they are today.

"The store was originally located where Fernlea Flowers

is." He said the baked goods were made at the present location then taken across the street to be sold.

"We used to have two shops in town," he said. The second shop, which was located on Oxford Street, has long been gone and replaced by a present day parking lot.

One of the two bakeries was used strictly for making pastries, cakes and pies while at the other shop, only breads were made.

Bernard Zurbrigg recalls the changes in the baking industry too.

"The old brick oven was removed in '36" he said.

Replacing it was a gas fire reel oven which is used in the shop today.

When Mr. Zurbrigg decided to retire two-years-ago, the business was sold to another member of the family, his nephew Bud Bowman. Mr. Bowman's father Herb had also been in the business, he was the head baker at Zurbriggs for over 50 years according to his son.

At the present time, the local bakery employs 13 people. Baked goods are continuously being pulled out of the hot oven doors and the aroma of fresh baked bread or delicious pastries can often be smelt half a block away.

Skilled Bakers Turn Out Many Delectable Items

ZURBRIGG'S
BAKERY

(EDITORS NOTE: Everything from hockey sticks to chocolates are made in Ingersoll and the town is proud of its varied and many industries. This is the third of a series of stories telling about the various items that are manufactured in the town of close to 7,000. Today's story tells about the products made by the Zurbrigg's Bakery Limited. A story in this industrial series will appear each Monday in the Sentinel-Review).

Those delectable odors when freshly baked bread, hot cross buns or fried doughnuts are at hand or racked in a spotless display case, would identify a bakery to a sightless person, or one with the best of vision. The common aroma is found by weekday morning shoppers when nearing the location of Zurbrigg's Bakery at 120 Thames Street South.

Behind the long showcase in the front of the store and back in a long and comparatively narrow bake shop are the workmen and equipment which prepare the products for the front counter. Perhaps the products aren't delivered like they used to be, previous to 195, but they are just the same quality or even a little better. These baked articles which include the earlier mentioned bread, doughnuts and hot cross buns are cakes, cookies, pies and buns of all varieties and

After mixing it is placed into a funnel-shaped cutter with a controllable lever. When this lever is turned, small circles of dough, which will eventually become doughnuts, emerge from the bottom and fall into a kettle of frying fat at 375 degrees fahrenheit. After several minutes of waiting and of turning the doughnuts, a rack is pulled up from the kettle to remove 50 ready for the counter.

HOT CROSS BUNS

During the Easter season, and particularly the Thursday before Good Friday and the Saturday before Easter Sunday, the product which has been made daily since February, hot cross buns will be produced on a bigger scale. Flour, salt, granulated sugar, shortening, milk powder, yeast, spices, raisins, currants, and peel go into their production.

Before the Zurbrigg company sold their nine delivery routes to an outside company three years ago, these products were delivered to points within a 10 mile radius, which included the areas of Ingersoll, Woodstock, Thamesford, Kintore, Embro, Mount Elgin and Salford. There were 35 employees then, but now only six work to put the product fresh from the bakery to the sales counter on the same day by 12 a.m.

The company believes in buying products from the local area, whenever possible. Paper boxes, powdered milk and eggs are purchased from local companies. In fact, the president of the company, Bernie Zurbrigg stated that if all the local people would buy Ingersoll products it would help workers.

TO THE PRODUCTION

For the loaves to be out of the 10-foot square oven and ready for the counter by 12 a.m., the first steps in preparing bread must commence at 6:30 of the same morning. Shortly after the shop opens up the dough is set for bread and allowed to raise until 8:30 when it is scaled off and allowed to set in a dry proofer where it is formed into loaves. From there it is placed in pans and into a steam-heated proofer until it is ready for the oven.

When the gas-fired oven is at a constant 370 degrees fahrenheit, a maximum of 225 loaves of bread enter the oven. When the large rotating shelves, which move slowly when in operation, stop a narrow front door opens for the finished product to be drawn out of the nine-foot high stove for shelving.

A mixture of flour, eggs, shortening, milk, salt, baking powder and spices which includes the main ingredients for the doughnuts is placed in a cake mixer.

THE SPECIALITIES

Their specialty items for the bakery are various types of cakes which include wedding, birthday, anniversary and the ordinary variety. Formulae used in their production as in the production of other articles are developed by experiment, exchanged from other bakeries or found in bakers' magazines.

For their wedding cakes, which are a feature in their work they have special Canadian-made decorations to rest on the fruit cake as prepared by head baker, Herb Bowman. Some of their cakes, in fact quite a few of them, are four tier, and others have been five-layer projects.

Since the beginning of the bakery in 1908, by S. G. Zurbrigg, the company has been known to have sold wedding cakes to three generations of the same family. The Zurbrigg Bakery is just one of the local industries which has served and will continue to serve the Ingersoll district in its own special capacity.



DOUGHNUTS ARE DRAINED BY MR. GARLAND