

Back when they first opened, renovations needed to be done to the apartment the Dove family planned to live in at the back of the restaurant so they first lived for awhile at the Queen's Hotel. Seeking more space, June went to Oshawa to live.

Growing up in Colborne

Bill Ball was born in Colborne, two doors up Toronto Road from

Bill's high school career lasted a single day.

At 14, he headed off to Montreal to work. He phoned his mother when he arrived to let her know where he'd gone. Bill was gainfully employed making \$46 a week, working six 12-hour days a week.

Before long, he was back at home. He joined the reserves in Cobourg and tried twice

it ever since.

Bill had more than one interesting encounter driving his car. Before he even had his licence, he would, on occasion, pick up the village cop, Joe Farrell, and take him places. One day, he approached Joe to get a paper signed. Joe asked what it was for. The cheeky teen replied it was for his licence application.

In 1946-7, Bill joined the legion of kids who at one time or another worked at Doves. He served gas and worked the counter.

On one snowy day, the trucks were lined up the length of the then-Highway 2. There was no 401 and the sole way across the province was blocked. People slept all over the place. Cars lined the road, stuck in snow. People arrived at the restaurant on toboggans or walked. The legion was full. Some slept in churches. People were everywhere.

Residents of Colborne came out to help. They congregated at Doves and got sorted out.

"That was some winter," remarks Bill.

The the couple was young, there was a skating rink behind the old high school (now the Colborne Town Hall). Bill and June have 8mm movies of the skaters taken from the roof of Dove's.

An unforgettable wedding day

his sick bed to do the job.

It was a real production. June remembers they were stuck in the drive. The minister's cuffs were tattered. After the service, the reverend had to get some ashes out to put under the wheels of the car. June's mom and dad decided to tag along on the honeymoon.

They were dropped off with friends at the Oshawa Airport. June and Bill spent their one night at the Genosh Hotel. Bill fell

His boss would send him over to help with the construction.

The couple lived in various locations through the village. They bought their first home in east Colborne in 1964. One of their neighbours was Pat Westrope. On New Year's Eve 1977, they bought their current home on Creek Street. They moved in New Year's Day 1978.

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PHOTO COURTESY BILL AND JUNE BALL

In front of the restaurant: June Dove is flanked by her friends Betty Snelgrove, left, and Barbara Reid. In front is Howard Hall. Behind them is June's father's restaurant, Doves, known by many as the Victoria Opera House.

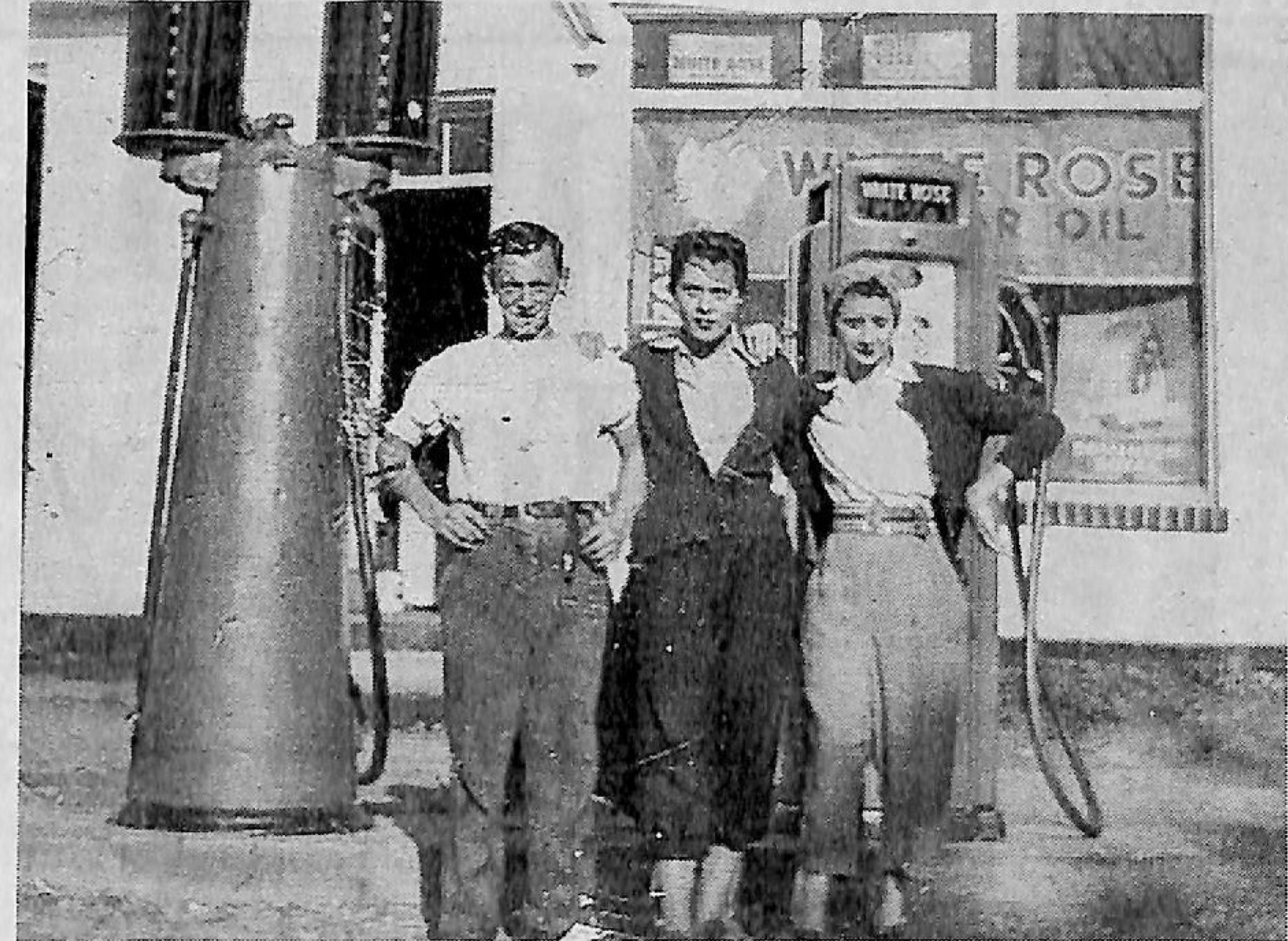


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Old friends: It was the late 1940s when Cecil Hall, Betty Snelgrove and Barbara Reid posed in front of the pumps at the Colborne White Rose station, now Mr. Convenience.