

SHOP DOWNTOWN • SHOP DOWNTOWN • SHOP DOWNTOWN • SHOP DOWNTOWN • SHOP DOWNTOWN • SHOP DOWNTOWN



New grocery open 14 hours every day

Toronto's loss our downtown's gain

Pinching the tomatoes and snuffing the melons will no longer be limited to the large grocery chains in town.

As of today (Wednesday), Georgetown residents have a new fruit and vegetable store to pick where they can choose their greens.

Main Mart, a 2,400 square foot grocery shop located in downtown Georgetown, where WIGO Television was formerly located (at 40 Main St.), has opened.

Owner Kioh Kim, 47, says his shelves are stocked with Canadian canned and boxed goods as well as the fresh fruits and vegetables. However,

he won't be selling fresh meat.

Mr. Kim is an old hand at operating grocery stores of medium size. This is his fifth grocery store, and his last shop was in downtown Toronto, close to Maple Leaf Gardens. He's been in the grocery business eight years.

That store was sold because Mr. Kim wanted to raise his family in a small community rather than in a large city.

"We came here for the kids," he said with a Korean accent. "This is a very nice town to live in. The people are very very kind."

It's taken him four months to renovate the

former television repair shop into a grocery store. Mr. Kim said he's done much of the work himself to try to save on the high cost of hiring labor.

Asked whether he wasn't worried about having two other medium-sized food stores just down the street from him, Mr. Kim said, "More competition means more business. If I worried, how could I get in here (and open shop)?"

Depending on the amount of business he gets, Mr. Kim plans to be open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day. As yet, he hasn't hired any staff, but if business goes right, he anticipates hiring two or three people.

The foundation has been laid

Now merchants can make the most of their 'place to meet and greet people'

As the first phase of downtown Georgetown's revitalization draws to a close, it will be up to the incoming Business Improvement Area (BIA) board of management to "build on all this hard work" and promote the downtown core as a viable shopping area. BIA chairman Lynn Barnard told The Herald recently.

Ms. Barnard, wrapping up her third term as the BIA's chief, said that the construction which has added a "turn of the century" flavor to the community's traditional shopping district is something in which residents and merchants can take a great deal of pride.

"Downtown is now a place for meeting and greeting people," she said. "It will be up to the 1983 executive to promote the downtown area around this new kind of atmosphere."

"This is truly the heart

of Georgetown. There are things that we, as merchants, can do here which the malls and plazas can't."

Sue Graham has been hired by the Georgetown BIA and the local Chamber of Commerce as promotions co-ordinator, signalling for the BIA a switch of emphasis. Construction has enhanced its historical characteristics, and now an aggressive campaign will make residents aware of what sort of shopping and value is available downtown.

"The new team coming on has this equally important job and they will still have to work on Mill Street," Ms. Barnard said.

A few vacant storefronts can still be found in the downtown core, but stores like Bi-Way and re-located Christiane's, have filled in gaps in services which previously

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SHOP DOWNTOWN



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Jason,
Age 6,
Maple Avenue,
Georgetown

Dear Jason,
I'm pretty sure I can get you a Pac-Man game, my boy, but getting your Mommy that winning ticket might be a little harder. But who knows? I'll look around and talk to my friends at Wintario. Don't make her any promises, though!
Merry Christmas from Santa



Dear Santa,
I would like if you can bring me a Sindy house and if you can, about one or two Smurfs and a good pack of pencils. Oh, by the way if you can bring me the furniture with the Sindy house if it's not too much trouble but if it is that's o.k. Have a safe trip around the world.

Love Daniela Rosset,
Georgetown

Dear Daniela,
That's a lovely name you have, dear. I'm sure it suits you, because I can tell from your letter and the way you're worried about me being able to bring you all these things that you're very thoughtful and kind. You keep on being such a wonderful child and I'll make every Christmas a very magical time for you and everyone you love.

Thanks for writing,
Love, Santa

Lots more letters in coming issues of The Herald

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