## Trio discount mart owner expands to five stores

Children aren't into Hallowe'en masks any-It's thetr memmys and daddys who are, says a local businessman.

"In the last five years, the kiddle stuff has gone more to makeup and less to face masks because of children not being able to see," Trio Mart owner Floyd Hotton, 48, said. "There's a big increase in adult sales and that's why we have more expensive masks."

Three years ago, Trio Mart didn't carry masks that cost more than \$3. Today, a display by the front cash register in the Halton Hills plaza store carries masks selling for up to

Makeup creams that wash off, wigs, colored hair spray, and thick black frames with plastic noses attached at the bridge are popular with the youngsters.

Last year, E.T. costumes were There's nothing really blg this year," Mr. Holton said. The monster look is always popular, he said.

The two Georgetown Trio Mart stores..the other one is in Moore Park Plaza..sell about 100 cases of Hallowe'en candy each, Mr. Hotton

sald. He starts buying for the season early in January and February. Easter things are on order already, he said.

LONGTERM PLANNING

"When it finally comes around, you're almost happy to see it go because you've been preparing for it, placing orders for nine months," Mr. Hotton

There are five Trio Mart stores in southwestern Ontario. There's one in Oakville, Grimsby and Mississauga, but the very first was the Moore

Park Plaza store, which opened in 1968.

It was run by Mr. Hotton and his wife.

"We used to meet on the highway sometimes; she'd work one shift and I the other," he laughed.

Mr. Hotton had spent ten years as a store manager with Busy Bee in Toronto, a grocery chain that changed its name to Loblaws. He got his business experience there, carrying it over into his growing chain of stores.

"When we first started, we were strictly selling health and

beauty alds," Mr. Hotton said. "Now, toys and gifts are more than half our sales.

"Next year, we'll be putting on household lines like pots and pans."

As the company found there wasn't enough sales in just health and beauty aids-department and food stores were also selling the same goods-new lines were added to keep up with the times.

The manager at the Halton Hills Plaza shop is Cathy Sweeny and the Moore Park store manager is Vi Norton.

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## Got a sweet tooth? Then walking around with a plastic pumpkin might appease it. Halton Hills plaza Trie Mart clerk Donna Olson is ready with bugs of chocolate goodles, but you have to catch her in her mask. Try her on Oct. 31. History of the poppy

Why was the poppythe flower of forgetfulness-chosen as the symbol of remembrance for

Canada's war dead? A writer first made the connection between the poppy and battlefield deaths during the Napoleonic wars of the early 19th century, remarking that fleids that were barren before battle exploded with the blood-red flowers after the fighting ended.

Lt.-Col. John McCrae. the Canadian doctor who wrote the poem IN FLANDERS FIELDS, made the same connection 100 years later, and the scarlet poppy quickly became the symbol for soldiers who died in battle.

Prior to the First World War few popples grew in Flanders. During the tremendous war the chalk soils became rich in lime from rubble, allowing 'popaver rhoess' to thrive.



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