

Saunders Bakery sold

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Rockwood Miller

This past weekend was a double celebration for Rockwood's Brenda Pettitt.

First and foremost, it was her and husband Randy's 20th wedding anniversary. And earlier in the week, she was all smiles after purchasing Saunders Bakery with fellow employee Paul Holman.

"We've actually been working on something for about a year-and-a-half and then it died down for a while. But when (former owner) Herb Saunders announced his retirement (in early July), we started working on a deal again," says the new co-owner who, along with Holman, came to a verbal agreement with Herb and his wife Marjorie last Tuesday. Brenda worked 10 years under Herb as a clerk and then took over a managerial role at the front of the store just over a year ago.

Pettitt, 37, admits she was initially shocked and surprised at becoming co-owner of the 80-year-old business, which is believed to have sold for between \$250,000 and \$300,000. But she now realizes it's more of a relief than anything.

"It was getting scary, because customers were starting to look for other places to shop. It was very upsetting to them and to us that we couldn't give them a definite answer as to the bakery's status. But they're much happier now," she says.

Marjorie, too, is relieved the sale has been completed.

"We're still on the saddle until this Saturday, but it's a relief in some respects, but sad too. Herb and I are quite happy Brenda and Paul are taking over the business, because we have every confidence they'll do an excellent job," said

Marjorie, who points out there were three written offers for the Main Street business and eight or nine other interested buyers who didn't present a written offer.

"They've been such faithful workers for so long and we've known them since they were born."

Although no member of the Saunders family will be at the helm come Sept. 6 — Pete and Ellie Saunders came to Rockwood and opened shop in 1914 — it will likely be the only immediate change the bakery will undertake.

The name, the hands-on old-fashioned baking, and most of the 11 staff members will remain when ownership changes hands following the annual two-week holiday the bakery takes come Saturday.

"I think it's important for the customers and helps them know they will be receiving the same product," Pettitt offers, adding Herb was insistent on keeping the family name for the operation. And with the sale came the purchase of the old-time recipes, something Pettitt and Holman are excited about.

"We'll basically carry on with what we had and will eventually add new products once we get

organized. Why change something that's good," argues Pettitt.

Marjorie says adding new products is only natural. She feels it's quite sensible in that people's tastes change.

Pettitt reveals Holman, who has worked as a baker the last 20 years, first approached her about his dream to run the bakery some day. In fact, it was always of interest to her, too.

"I've always liked working there and being there with the customers. It's a tiring job but a nice job," she says.

While there is still paperwork to be done, along with discussion between the two owners on their respective job descriptions, Brenda hinted Paul will continue to run the baking and the back of the shop, while she tends to customers and bookkeeping.

But one thing remains certain. There won't be a dry eye in the bakery when Herb and Marjorie leave for the last time as owners this weekend.

"But it had to be done," Marjorie says, referring to her husband's less-than-perfect health. "And it's nice we can leave with Herb in fairly good health."



PADDLE POWER: Stephan Hevey and Lynn Germain recently visited the Rockwood Conservation Area and decided a ride on a paddleboat to check out the picturesque sites was a good idea. (Doug Harrison photo)

Lawyer moves to historic Rockwood building

Special to The Rockwood Miller Douglas S. Black, Rockwood lawyer, played host to a reception on August 12, marking the relocation of his law offices within Rockwood to the historic building located at 118 Main St. S., which is owned by renowned chef, Hubert Biemann and his wife, Suzanne, of La Vielle Auberge.

The occasion was celebrated by Black, his wife Mary, his secretary Karen and several guests, who arrived in attire characteristic of a law office in late Victorian times, when the building was constructed.

"At one and the same time, we found a beautiful historic building, which is also very functional and suits our needs for more space and ground floor location," said Black. "We are particularly delighted to be able to offer clients considerable parking on Guelph Street, and on Main Street."

The law practice has increased

over time to the point where more space was required. "We are offering legal services in the area of real estate and mortgages, wills and estates, power of attorney, corporate and commercial law and litigation," commented Black. "This location permits us to carry out our work more efficiently, yet in a friendly, client-centred environment."

Over the past century the building has been the location of everything from the offices for the 1994 and 1990 community plays to Root Hardware to Lang's General Store.

Around the turn of the century, it served as a bakery sales outlet and confectionery for Simon Grieve, a baker who produced baked goods where Saunderson's Baker is now located.

Black concluded, "It is our desire to continue that tradition of providing service to the community from this historic building."

Home of the Double Hi-Loaf
No Preservatives added



SPECIAL THIS WEEK!

WHITE, WHOLE & CRACKED WHEAT
Bread \$1 ea

SAUNDERS BAKERY

Quality Baking
Since 1914

856-9561

102 Main St.
Rockwood

ROCKWOOD FOOD MARKET

YOUR



SUPERMARKET
With Customer Service

Mon-Fri. 8am to 9pm • Sat. 8am to 6pm • Sun. 10am to 5pm

WATCH FOR LOCKED IN PRICES!

Honeydew
Punches .59
Frozen Assorted Varieties
12 Oz. Tin

Royale
Bathroom
Tissue 1.88
8 Roll Pkg.

Knechtel
Cheese
Blocks 4.99
Assorted Varieties 800 g Pkg.

Fresh Crisp
Romaine
Lettuce 2/.79
Product of Ontario

Picnic Pork
Shoulder
Roast .89 lb.
Fresh Young Canadian Pork
1.96 kg

Kellogg's
Raisin
Bran 1.99
800 g Box
Special Price With Coupon
Special Price Without Coupon 2.99

COME IN AND SEE
US BEFORE

CAMPING, BOATING,
PAINTING OR FARMING

NOW OPEN SATURDAYS
8:30 AM TO 1:00 PM

LOTS of IN-STORE SPECIALS

At Hwy. 7 and Milton Fifth Line, Between Acton & Rockwood

HOURS
MON - FRI 8:30 AM - 5 PM
SATURDAY 8:30 AM - 1 PM



856-4505

