



TAKING AIM: Meghann Williams, 11, prepares to shoot a basket at the Knights of Columbus free throw competition held at St. Joseph's school last Saturday. Meghann advanced to the regional finals being held in Burlington this Saturday. (Eve Martin photo)

Al and Al's close after 10 years

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Coming off their most successful Christmas, Al and Janet Cunneyworth feel now is the time to go out on top.

After 10 years, the owners of Al and Al's Red Brand Meats will be closing their Mill Street store on Feb. 29 to pursue other business interests.

"We're really happy with our decision," Janet said. "We don't want to give people the impression that we're going bankrupt, because financially we're fine."

Having received their permits, plans to build and re-open the store beside their Main Street house are still a possibility, but not at this time, the couple said.

"Our ideal dream will be when we have our own store, our own building," explained Al, who began work as a butcher at Tullamore Farmers Market in 1976 before moving to Hillsburgh IGA six years later. "This is just another step on the way there."

Janet calls this past year the most memorable. Over Christmas 1,300 turkeys were sold compared to their previous high of 850.

"It's a tough decision for us to close, but we feel it's the right one for us," she added.

Said Al: "We still want to grow, but right here, right now, no."



NO REGRETS: Janet and Al Cunneyworth are happy with their decision to close Al and Al's Red Brand Meats after 10 years.

Al, who always dreamed of running his own shop, said this new venture will allow the couple to enjoy some much-needed and much-deserved time off.

"When you're running a small business, you don't always have the opportunity to have the time off. Now we'll be able to," he said. The only sad aspect of closing

the business, Janet and Al said, is missing the customers.

"The people weren't just customers. They weren't a number, but a face. We're going to miss them all," said Janet.

Al and Janet would like to thank all Actonites for 10 wonderful years and extend a special thank you to their hard-working staff.

Market for rural lots poor

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

Acton Councillor Norm Elliott wonders if the Town needs a review process for draft-approved housing developments, which delay construction for more than five years after Council approval is given.

While dealing the Sette Investment's request for another one-year extension of draft approval for its 18-lot rural estate subdivision on the east side of the Fourth Line between Hwy. 7 and the Halton Hills-Erin Town Line, Elliott outlined his concerns.

"I'm not suggesting a time limit, but this is the fourth time we've been asked to grant an extension and it makes me nervous."

Senior Planner Bruce MacLean said the question of when an approval runs out is a judgment call.

"When we review the process to extend the approval, one of the things we automatically look at are the conditions of approval to see that they are still appropriate to the thinking of the Council of the day and policies that are in place, like the Official Plan."

MacLean noted if Council and Halton Region, did not approve the request for an extension of draft approval, the applicant could go to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Ward 2 Councillor Kathy Gastle noted Council already has enough supply of draft-approved rural estate subdivision to last 20 years and suggested that the period of supply be extended to 40 years.

In a letter to the Town, Sette Investments said that poor market conditions for rural estate subdivisions were to blame for them not beginning construction.

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