

Canada Birthday

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Departure: July 8
Return: By July 23
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\$599

\$649

Andy's celebrating 20th anniversary

By **MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY**
The New Tanner

Andreas and Effie Katsilieris, owners of Andy's Restaurant, are celebrating 20 years of operation at their Mill Street location.

It wasn't easy but the couple considers Acton has been good to them and they have tried to return some of that friendliness and generosity.

Born in a small town near Olympia, Greece, Andy came to Acton in 1974 because his brother Terry owned and operated the Olympia Drive-In on Queen Street.

At first he found work at the Capri Restaurant, now the Diana, and then the Apollo 11, both on Wyndham Street in Guelph. Since he spoke no English when he arrived, he also took a full-time language course that year, working it in around his restaurant hours.

After a couple of years in Guelph, he decided to try his skills at the Ambassador Res-



DISHING IT UP: Effie and Andy Katsilieris pause before setting their handiwork out for the waitresses to pass on to customers.

taurant in Windsor, just opposite the Ambassador Bridge. While things went well enough, he decided fairly quickly he didn't want to work for others. He wanted his own place. He and Effie, a native of Athens, had their chance at three different places when they settled on returning to Acton.

"We worked hard and it paid off," Andy says with a grin. "We stuck together but we had fun, too. I don't know how my wife put up with me,

but she did."

The Katsilieris purchased a home in Georgetown south recently, partly because Andy wants to get a bit more separation between home and work and because the location will make commuting easier for his daughters.

"We've been blessed with two extremely good girls," he says with evident pride. Maria, the elder, is studying business as Humber College and also working there part time as a secretary. Dionisia,

or Denise as she is called, will enter university this fall.

"We're lucky we lived here. It gave us the chance to have the kids with us while we were working instead of having to leave them with a sitter," Andy says. "It was pretty hard for Effie sometimes trying to look after the kids, keep a home and work here too but it has worked out well."

Andy purchased the second portion of his restaurant in 1986 and rented it out until 1992 when he renovated the two buildings into one.

While Andy isn't sorry about his decision to come to Acton, he is very saddened to see the changes over the years and the empty stores along the main street.

"The community has changed," he says. "All I know for sure is that it's different and it's not an improvement. All the same I want to thank the town for treating us so well and giving us the opportunity to make a living."

Silver anniversary for local smith

The decision to move to a place where he could establish his own business was a good one, says Acton welder Joe Rinder.

Celebrating 25 years at Acton Welding on Highway 25 on the town's southern border, Rinder and his wife,

Klara, are more than content with what the change in lifestyle resulting from leaving Toronto has done for them and their family.

Born in a long-established ethnic German community in Czechoslovakia, both Rinders remember their



JOE RINDER works on a piece in his welding shop on Highway 25.

like. Just before a year was up, Mrs. Rinder told her husband she wanted to come back to Canada.

"You know how immigration works," she says. "If you leave before you get your citizenship then you can't come back. I told Joe if he really loved me he'd take me back to Canada. He didn't even discuss it. Not a word. He just came home from work the next day and told me he'd quit his job. He also had our passage to Canada booked for later in the week."

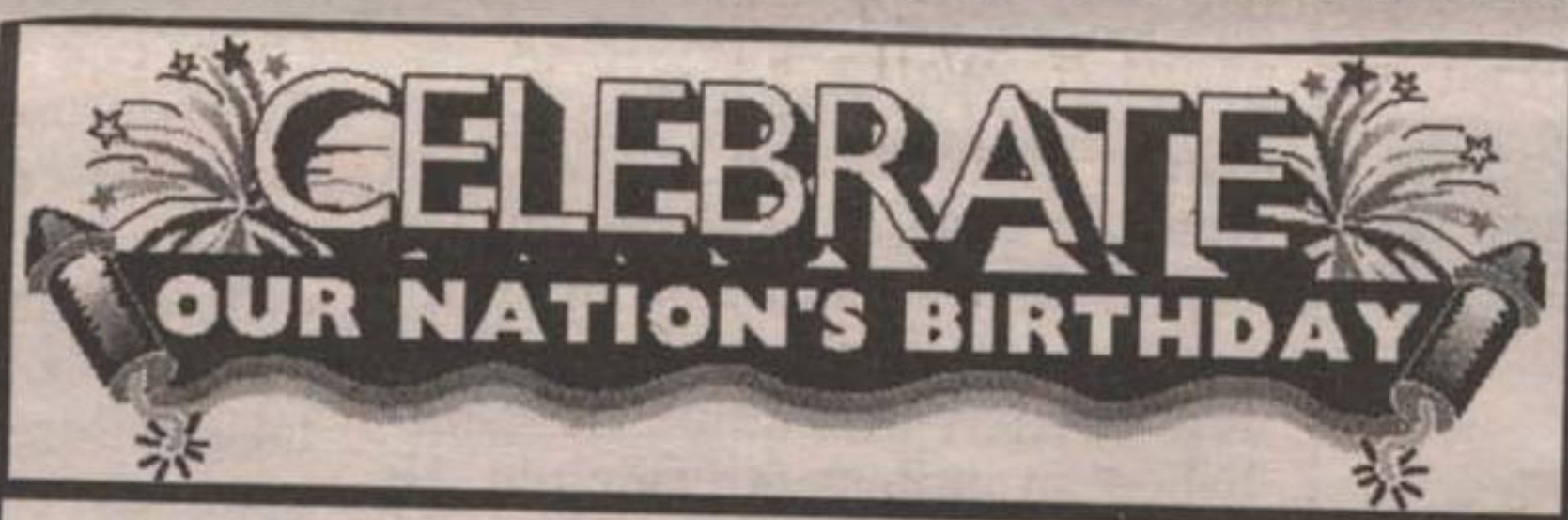
Their old Toronto landlady still had their apartment available from when they left the year before and Joe returned to the same job in the same factory. Rinder's decision to leave his secure factory job and move to operating his own business took his wife and family by surprise.

"He came home on his birthday and announced he'd quit his job. He was sick of working for other people. He wanted to work for himself. It was scary."

They went hunting for a business to suit Rinder and settled on O'Rourke's welding shop south of Acton. That too, proved fortuitous. The O'Rourkes treated them "like family."

"They made a big difference in our lives," Rinder smiles. "Now Acton's home."

Rinder welded structure for the construction of the Acton Medical Centre building and Braida and Henry's law office.



The Trunk Sale is every Saturday from May 24 for 20 weeks.

Therefore we are celebrating

CANADA DAY (July 1)

on **SATURDAY, JULY 4**

WOW - 2 Celebrations in one week!



Acton Citizens' Band will play a selection of old and new favourites from 10:30-11:30 a.m.



Halton Hills Rec. Dept. staff will face paint children and adults **FREE** (a \$1 donation toward their summer programs would be acceptable)



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Please drive cautiously and carefully over the holiday week so we can all enjoy the same festivities next year!

May our family wish you and your family a very happy Canada's Birthday!