



TRAIN TIME: Alan Derabbie of Rockwood Railroad carries trains, kits and tools among his various types of stock. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo

Railway is new business

Train buffs come in all ages. Alan Derabbie should know. His interest dates from the age of two. Now, as the proprietor of Rockwood Railroad, he gets to meet a lot more of them and indulge his own interest at the same time.

Derabbie and his fiancé Rachel, converted their living room into a store a couple of months ago.

While she has the retailing experience, Derabbie has the interest and experience with trains and contacts with crafters through his workplace in Milton.

Growing up in Nova Scotia with a grandfather who opened his own garage in the 1950s, Derabbie brought his ambition to own his own business with him when

lack of work forced the family to migrate to Ontario eight years ago.

A year ago the young couple bought the house which was once a storage area for Saunders Bakery. Since it had commercial as well as residential zoning, he decided to combine his entrepreneurial urges with his interest in trains. Along with their trains and kits, they carry a wide variety of hand tools, a collection of stained glass items, and hand made moccasins and dream catchers, among other things. They also repair trains and do custom work for customers. They

Consumers get cheques...

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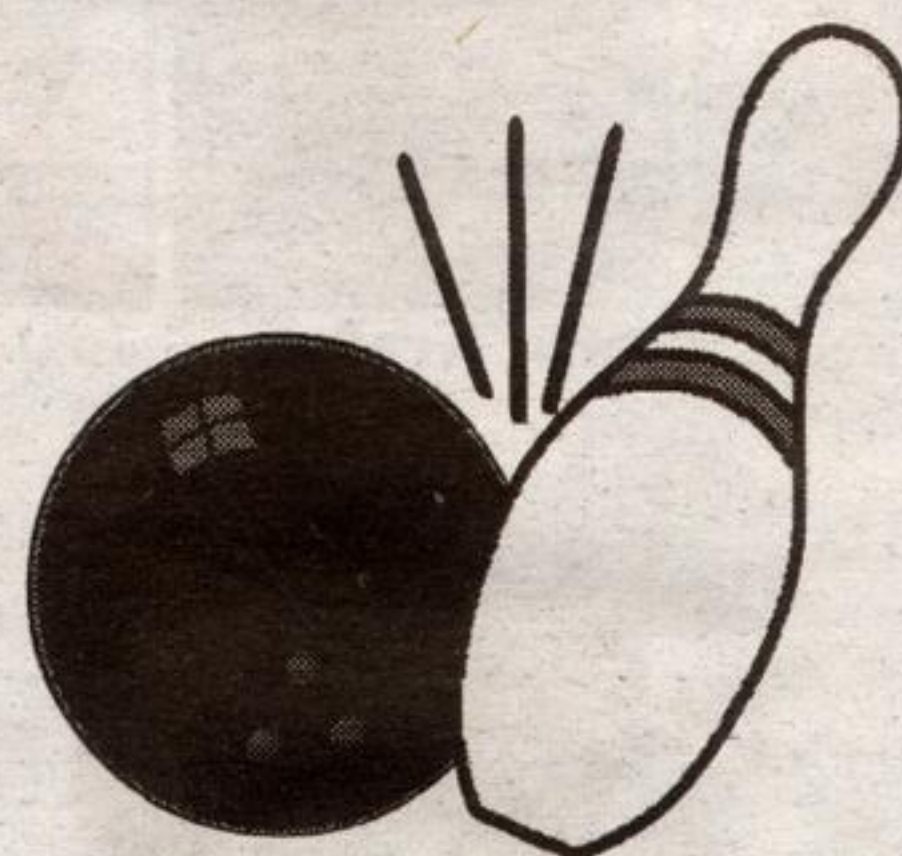
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