

Variety, big portions are the hallmarks of Muddy Duck

German born chef, Wolfgang Roessler, owner of the Muddy Duck Family Restaurant at 360 Steeles Avenue, has brought a world of culinary expertise to his customers for the past 20 years.

After earning his Culinary Masters Degree in Canada in 1982, he worked all over Europe honing his cooking skills. When he returned, he worked for 10 years as an executive chef at the Toronto International Airport. He then owned a restaurant in Brampton for five years and just after he sold that, along came the Muddy Duck.

"It's my hobby," he admits of his business. "My mother showed me how to get around the kitchen. She was an excellent cook, I learned lots of things from her. This building used to be an old A&W. When I took over, I converted it."

Open seven days a week, the Muddy Duck's

extensive menu includes burgers, chicken wings, roast beef, salads, seafood, and pasta. On Fridays customers can watch their meal come together before their eyes at a special pasta bar and different lunch and dinner specials are featured daily.

"People like our fast service, variety and big portions of food. We cater to the kids, too. Our goal is to please. The staff and management would like to thank all our loyal customers for their support and voting us number one."

One interesting anecdote, Roessler was the subject of a write-up in a German newspaper about locals who have found success in other countries. In it, he offered anyone who read the article to drop by the Muddy Duck for a free dinner.

Fourteen people, passing through Milton while visiting relatives in Canada, took him up on it, much to his delight.

No waiting at this station, thanks to slant on service

Niskar Petro Canada at 5 Main St. in Milton prides itself on customer service.

An Esso station in 1986 when co-owner Jim Nistas bought the business with his brother Dave and brother-in-law John, it became a Petro Canada outlet in 1988.

Besides two full-serve and two self-serve pumps, Niskar's offers a car wash, a well-stocked variety store and three service bays staffed by two fully licensed mechanics.

"We have a guy for each (full-service) pump. There's no waiting," says Nistas. "We're the number one station in Milton. It's almost a one-stop shopping depot to get whatever you need. You can have a coffee, get gas, have a car wash and pick up your milk, bread and pop."

What the customers like the most, Nistas says, is the high level of service thanks to Niskar's 11 employees.

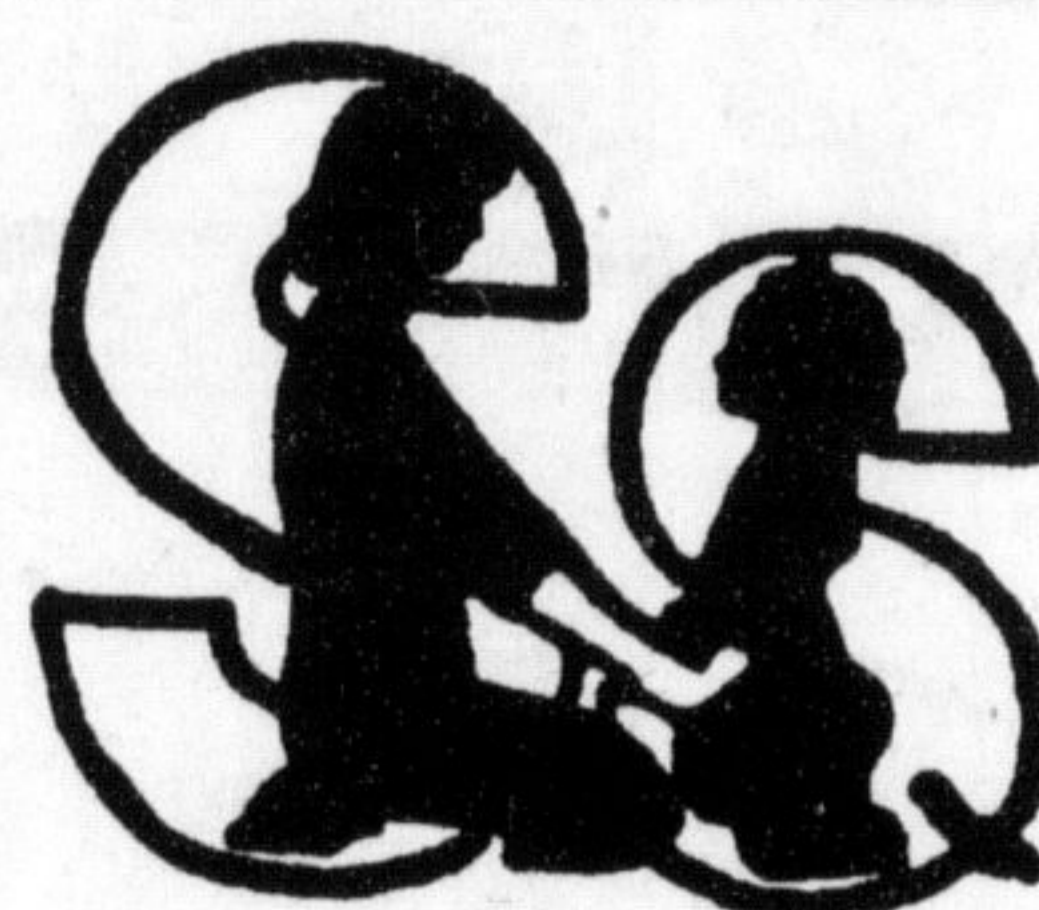
"Decisions are made right on the spot. We don't have to follow company rules and consult with the head office to make sure it's okay. And our employees are friendly people."

Speaking of friendly, an extra special bonus customers truly appreciate is Niskar employee, Marilyn Rydall. Nistas affectionately calls her his "right hand lady" since way back in 1986.

"She's a little lady with a big heart," he smiled. "Without her, I don't know what I'd do. The customers just love her. She always has a smile no matter what kind of problem she has and goes out of her way. She's in the front lines, in charge of everything and gets whatever the customer needs."

As of February 9, Niskas will welcome a new Country Style Donuts outlet onto the premises.

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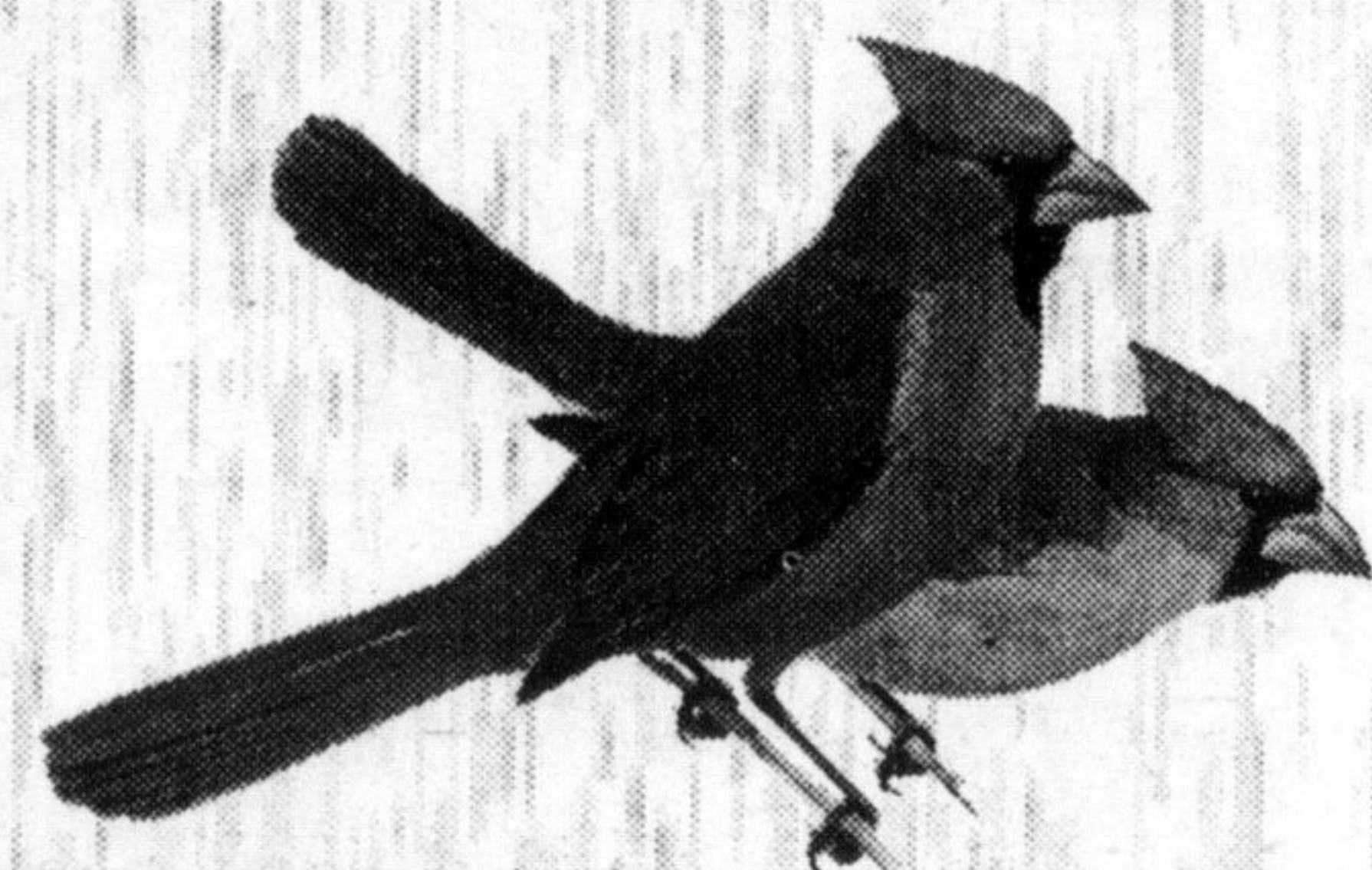


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