

Developers frustrated with process: Krantz

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Muddy Duck turns back time

The Muddy Duck restaurant is celebrating its 15th anniversary by giving customers a price break this week. The restaurant has reintroduced its original menu from 15 years ago and the response has been great, according to the owner.

Wolfgang Roessler says the old prices are about 25 per cent lower than those which appear on the 1992 menu. Customers are not only enjoying a price break, they're welcoming back some favourite dishes as well. Special prices also apply to selected wine and beer.

The party continues until April 5 at the Steeles Avenue restaurant.

Something Blue

Free alterations and personal service along with a selection of moderately priced women's wear form the foundation of *The Blue Room*.

Milton's newest women's clothing boutique opened two weeks ago at 84 Main Street West. Partners Naz Patel and Gail Payne had considered opening their own shop for some time. *The Blue Room* is the result of several months of planning.

The inventory includes casual to more dressy clothes, everything from blue jeans to office wear as well as jewellery. Among the clothing lines are Hob Nobber and Ira Howard and Barbara Semrick designer fashions.

The shop is open daily from Monday to Saturday and until 9 p.m. Thursdays and 7 p.m. Fridays.

What's in a name?

Firkin Brewery has a new handle and with it comes more varieties of beer recipes for customers to brew. It's now called *Hogshead*, a British term meaning 54 gallons.

The new logo, a warthog, is emblazoned on mugs and glasses.

There are now 53 varieties of beer and something new for summer — kegs can be rented for picnics and parties from the brew-your-own beer outlet on Nipissing Road.

Easter guest

The Easter Bunny will be available to pose with children for photographs at Hallmark Cards in Milton Mall on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The first 200 photos will be free but there will be a \$1 charge for photos the rest of the day. Young visitors will also receive free chocolate eggs and colouring books.

State of growth

The insurance business is booming for Paul Lonergan's State Farm Insurance firm. He's recently expanded the staff by two and expects to add another, bringing the total to seven, not counting Mr. Lonergan and his wife Pat.

To accommodate the larger staff, the office has doubled in size. Half of the Main Street building he owns used to be rented to another business. Now Lonergan Insurance occupies all 2,100 square feet.

A grand opening of the office is being held Friday from 2-5 p.m., at the start of the firm's reign as *Milton Advantage Business of the Week*. The awards program is sponsored by Milton Chamber of Commerce.

This week the award went to Fitness Technique on Main Street, another business which has recently grown in square footage.

Frustration, pure frustration with the bureaucracy of the development process.

According to Milton Mayor Gord Krantz that's the reason Town Council is seeing a number of development proposals put before it prior to the official application stage.

"What we're seeing is sheer frustration with the process," said Mr. Krantz with some measure of empathy for the developers. "That's why they're here. They're looking for direction."

Mr. Krantz then said that it wasn't appropriate for the council to be considering the details of a proposal rather than an application for development. He suggested that the concerns of Cardiff Developments regarding their property at 68-70 Main Street East near Elizabeth Street be treated as information by the council.

The property had been involved in a development plan which would allow a mixed commercial/residential use with two commercial units and 12 two-bedroom condominiums. The official plan of Milton encourages mixed use development in the west end area in question and the property is so zoned.

With the recession the developers felt that adding to the approximately 120,000 square feet of empty commercial space available in Milton was a mistake so they looked at the

possibility of turning the whole development into a residential seniors complex under the Halton Non-Profit Housing Corporation.

With this in mind Cardiff's Brian Holman came to council to explain their plan, anticipate possible objections and enquire as to the feasibility of continuing forward with the full application process.

"We've spent a lot of money trying to develop the site," Mr. Holman said. "We are looking for a fair hearing and support for rezoning, relief from the present zoning through the Committee of Adjustment or an amendment to the official plan."

Mr. Holman answered questions regarding the new development which would have 24 units. He said the re-development would not use an increased sewage capacity from the original plan, that parking allotment of 12 spaces was within Town guidelines for a seniors' building, that the height of the structure would not mar the neighbourhood.

"It's more expeditious and cheaper to go through a Committee of Adjustment than through a full blown re-zoning application," said Mr. Holman who made it clear that Cardiff Developments was looking for direction in the matter.

He said if the project was going to require a lot of time and effort to get through the various stages of ap-

plication then it wouldn't be worth pursuing at this time.

Asked by council what he thought of the proposal John Fior, Acting Director of Planning and Zoning, said that in his opinion the development would be "an overdevelopment of the site."

"Basically density provisions of the official plan and the size and scale of local developments are of

the most concern," Mr. Fior said. "The lack of commercial development is not a big problem."

Councillors all took turns supporting or opposing various segments of the proposed development before Mayor Krantz stopped them. Given the length and depth of the conversation it would seem that Mr. Holman and Cardiff Developments got the input they were looking for.



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