

Be a part of it...



Get to the Heart of it...

Bert's Shoe Shop

In 1967, having worked for Dominion Stores for thirteen years, Bert Lacroix decided to open a shoe store. "This was done literally on a shoe string," says Bert.

In the first years of business Bert would travel as far as Montreal looking for stock to sell at a reasonable price. Bert has since sold footwear to "three generations of feet"!

Bert says, "I always find it interesting to hear young couples who are buying their children shoes and comment on the days when 'their' parents brought them in for fittings at Bert's."

The Store has always catered to families looking for lower priced footwear.

"When the Shopping Malls arrived in the Midland area business dropped for everyone on the main street," Bert says. "I just simply donned an apron and began repairing as well as selling footwear. This has offset lost business quite nicely."

All is not geared to the shoe business at Bert's, however! Some excellent watercolor and oil paintings hang on the store walls. "Not so much to sell," says Bert, "but to let people see my efforts as an artist." Bert has been a part painter for years.

Bert's Shoe Shop has always retained that "friendliness and flavor" of a small town Shoe Shop. Bert says, "Hundreds of people, over the years, have stopped just to chat about my artwork or to have



some footwear repaired or simply looking for a bit of conversation."

Everyone receives a warm welcome and people in Midland seem to know Bert.

Asked about retirement, Bert glances at his paintings

and says, "I have a few more shoes to sell or repair before I can return to my first love."

A serious heart operation has not broken his spirit and Bert's Shoe Shop could be around to serve a "fourth generation of feet."

Lillian's Restaurant

Lillian's
RESTAURANT

Lillian's Restaurant opened, downstairs, in the Edwards Village Mall in March of 1986. Lillian Bachtis and Vince Cruise are the owners and staff members of this delicious fast-food restaurant.

Lillian has worked in the restaurant business for more than sixteen years. Now that she has her own restaurant, it's still the same, fast, friendly service and good food.

For the last few years, Lillian's has served a "Free" Turkey dinner on Xmas Day to the needy families in our community along with the cooperation of the Salvation Army and the owners of the Edwards Mall, Mr. T. Lembo and family.

Lillian says, "There's a lot more we can do for the community but we need everybody's help."

Lillian is married and has three boys - Jason, Terry and Mike.

"When you run a business, especially a restaurant, there's not a whole lot of time for outside interests. Anyway I really enjoy my job and the people are great."

If you're looking for a great meal with fast service and always a smile, drop in to Lillian's Restaurant, downstairs in the Edwards Village Mall.

