

# Business

## Hobo's hopes you'll drop in

In this day of trendy restaurants with bells and whistles and little else going for them, the opening of Hobo's Restaurant will come as a refreshing change.

The emphasis is first and foremost on a generous helping of food at a reasonable price and that's something restaurant owner Alvin Fawcett and general manager Jeff Harper say is their primary reason for being involved in a very competitive Milton market.

Mr. Fawcett is no stranger to Milton. He has owned the franchise of the Tim Horton Donut shop on Ontario St. for a few years now.

And it was because of that Mr. Fawcett decided Milton might be a nice place for just the kind of restaurant he had in mind.

"I've gotten to know a number of the people here over the past few years and they are always nice and friendly.

"I also have come to know the town and I really like the feeling of the place. Plus I know the owners of the building here and they have always been very easy to deal with," he said.

Being located at Tim Horton's, it didn't take Mr. Fawcett long to decide he would remain in the Mayrose-operated plaza. But the next problem, that of deciding what kind of restaurant to open, wasn't really a problem at all.

A friend of Mr. Fawcett's, actually a fellow Tim Horton's operator, opened his own restaurant in Barrie about three years ago and called it Hobo's.

That led to another in Orillia and it was at that point Mr. Fawcett made the decision to open a restaurant here patterned exactly on the one in Barrie which has proved to be quite successful, so successful that there are now two more Hobo's in what is starting to become a chain.

And so the day came in December when the doors opened and Hobo's became part of the Milton dining and entertainment scene. Jeff Harper is the manager and Mark Remen is the food manager.

"Our motto is now you've found the place for a good time everytime," said Mr. Harper. "What we offer is exceptional value for the food dollar.

"We do have large portions in our meals, but we want to be known for very good food, and lots of it for a good price."

The portions are the domain of Mr. Remen who has worked in the food business since he was a teenager.

Although the menu is long and varied, next week Hobo's will introduce an entire new line of tempting pastas to go with the menu which goes from finger foods all the way up to lobster.

Mr. Harper said the restaurant also has a children's menu so the family can come in and enjoy dinner without laying out adult prices for a pint-sized customer.

The restaurant features a warm wood decor with overhead lamps and lots of plants and illuminated stained glass fixtures to give what Mr. Harper calls an atmosphere where people coming into the restaurant will feel relaxed and want to enjoy themselves.

There will be no loud dance music and you won't find a dance floor in the restaurant unless there is a special occasion.

"We want this to be a fun place, a place where you can meet your friends for a nice meal or a few drinks and feel comfortable instead of being blasted by the sound system," Mr. Remen said.

## Good news for Halton Credit Union

Reports of increasing economic stability and good prospects for future growth were the highlights Saturday at the 27th annual Halton Community Credit Union annual meeting held in the main branch office in Milton.

"Your credit union has once again earned a profit," reported the president of the board of directors, Gordon Krantz. He praised the board for continuing to direct the Credit Union with a view to improving economies, efficiently and service to the member-owners.

Halton Community Credit Union operates two branches in Milton and one each in Acton, Georgetown and Oakville.

Peter Buwalda, general manager, also had some good news for the officers, staff and members attending the annual meeting.

The credit union's assets have grown \$3.3 million to \$31.2 million representing a 12.05 per cent increase in the nine-month fiscal year. Annualized, the figure shows a 16.06 per cent increase.

Loans increased by 15.42 per cent or \$3.6 million most of which went into mortgages. Deposits increase by 10.46 per cent or \$2.8 million, Mr. Buwalda reported.

A net profit of \$45,000 was made after extraordinary expenses.

Loans manager John Kruchuk reported \$15.3 million was loaned to members in 1984, including 1,257 personal loans and 169 mortgage loans. The consolidated net loan-mortgage balance for the five branches at year-end (Sept. 30) was \$27.3 million. Since it was chartered in 1958, the credit union has loaned a total of \$222.9 million, he said.

Milton resident, businessman, and town and regional councillor, Brad Clement, was elected to the board of directors for the three-year term. He replaces incumbent, Roy Zvolman. Directors, Gordon Krantz and Ivan Shepherd were returned to office for three-year terms.

## Entrepreneur featured on TV

Milton's Brent Hackett is now something of a celebrity having been featured last Wednesday on the "Heart Beat" portion of the CFTO evening news program.

Brent, 17, was shown with some of the advertising novelties he is currently marketing out of his bedroom.

If you are interested in seeing some of the items — like talking wristwatches — he is working at Maureen's variety store on Main St. where he displays part of his wares in the store.



Hobo's is Milton's newest restaurant where the atmosphere is designed to be cozy and the emphasis is on good food and reasonable prices. Shown from left are: Jeff Harper, general manager; Alvin Fawcett, owner; and Mark Remen, food manager. The restaurant is located on the northeast corner of the Derry Rd-Ontario St. intersection in the Mayrose plaza.

## Kearse heads department Business head is named

Brent Kearse has been appointed as the new business director for the Region of Halton's business development department.

Prior to the appointment he had served as the acting business director of the region for 1.5 years. In his new post Mr. Kearse will be making \$46,150 a year.

Mr. Kearse said one reason the position remained vacant so long was because the area municipalities and the region were going through an evaluation of the need for a business office at the regional level.

Regional council recently passed a business development bylaw granting the

member municipalities the right to set up their own business offices. At the same time, however, it was decided to keep the regional office for co-ordination, research and advertising Halton's advantages to new, perspective businesses.

One of his first tasks will be to review the region's business departments structure in light of the recent change, and determine whether the department should remain at its current three-member level. He must also decide whether to fill two vacant positions in the department and bring it up to a budgeted staff complement of five.

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