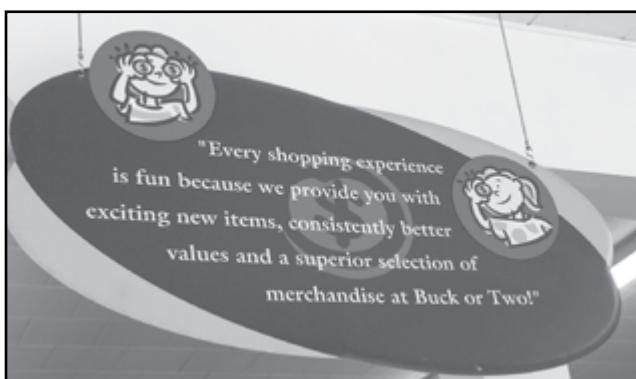


Independent Shorts

- On Saturday, start your day at 9:00 am at the Town Hall for "Coffee with Council" to discuss current events and concerns with Councillors in a casual, friendly environment. Then, head to the Hall of Fame to cheer on the local players at the 2016 Scotts Pitch Hit & Run skills contest, which begins at 10:00 am on King Field.
- The Town of St. Marys is offering youth and adult tennis lessons at the tennis courts beginning Monday, June 6 and running on Monday evenings until July 11. For youth lessons (ages 9-12), the cost is \$50 and lessons run from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm. Beginner adults lessons cost \$60 and last from 6:30 pm to 7:15 pm. Intermediate adults lessons are also \$60 and run from 7:30 pm to 8:15 pm. For more information, call Vanessa de Groot at 519-284-2340 ex. 621 (or email vdegroot@town.stmarys.on.ca) or Brian Tschirrow at 519-284-2340 ex. 626 (or email bschirrow@town.stmarys.on.ca).
- New in theatres this weekend is the highly anticipated sequel from Marvel Studios, Captain America: Civil War. This latest blockbuster features a huge cast of returning Marvel superheroes, including Iron Man (Robert Downey, Jr.), Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson), Ant Man (Paul Rudd), Falcon (Anthony Mackie), Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner), and, of course, Captain America (Chris Evans), as well as a few new faces. The film currently has an excellent rating of 92 percent on the movie ratings site Rotten-Tomatoes.com.

Business of the Week

A Buck or Two Plus



By Dan Rankin

Our Business of the Week is A Buck or Two Plus, your one stop retail shop for a variety of everyday and party-planning needs, located at 125 Queen Street East and owned by Karen and Bruce Robertson.

Karen and Bruce have owned the downtown dollar store for 14 years.

"I've always enjoyed retail," said Karen, noting that before they got involved with A Buck or Two, they owned a magazine shop at a mall in London. "When we were living in London, there was a Buck or Two setting up, and I inquired about helping to do the set up. They kept me on as a staff member. I worked there for nine months, and re-

alized, hey, I'd like to purchase one of these."

After about a decade commuting between St. Marys and London, Karen and Bruce – whose two boys had grown up and moved out – made the move to St. Marys three years ago.

This week, the new-and-improved sidewalk in front of A Buck or Two Plus was installed, putting their front entrance once again back into use. "We're very pleased about that," she said. "It's been a long six weeks for us."

Their business is a franchise of the Vaughan, Ontario-based Extreme Retail Canada. However, they're proudly locally-owned and operated. "We're not a big box store that comes in from out of

"We have just about everything in the store," said Karen. "Toys, kitchenware, school and office supplies, arts and crafts, anything you need for a party or a barbecue or a reception or anything like that, snacks, gardening supplies."

Among their party supplies are specific themes, ranging from seasonal holiday decorations to "special event" birthdays (30th, 40th, 50th, etc.). "We have balloons for every occasion and all different price ranges depending on the theme you want your party to be," she said.

They also offer helium balloon-inflating service, even for balloons brought in from outside the store, she said. "We get asked about that quite often," said Karen. "We're always ready to fill balloons of any kind."

A Buck of Two Plus is open 9:30 am to 6:00 pm Monday to Friday, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm Saturdays, and 11:00 am to 5:00 pm Sundays.

For more information, call the store at 519-284-0281.

town," she said. "We employ people who are local also."

While they still carry items starting as low as \$1, a few years ago, the company started carrying some items at a higher price point as well – that's where the "Plus" comes from. "The majority of our items range from \$1.25 to \$2 of \$3," she said, mixed in with the occasional \$5 and \$10 items. "I always try really hard to look for the best quality products I can sell. We have a selection of products we can carry, and I'm always looking for products that will stand up better than your typical \$1 product."

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