

New Look for Longtime Auburn Business

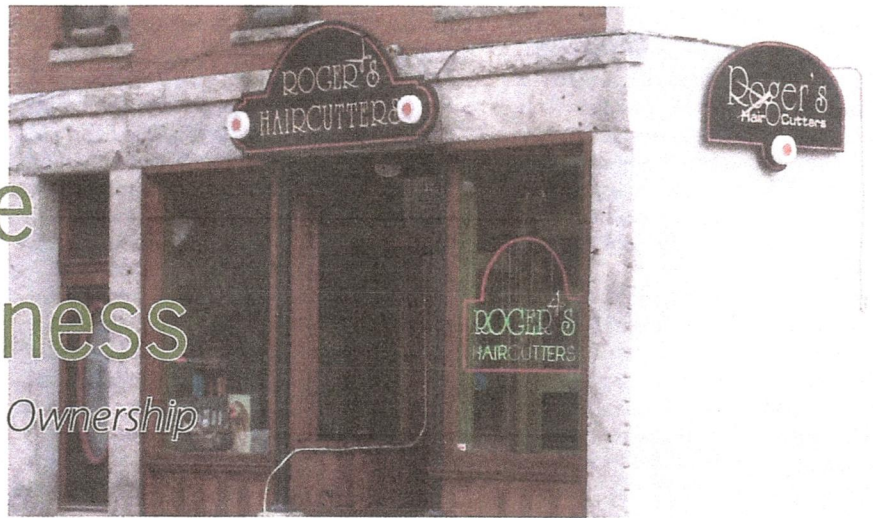
Roger's Haircutters Changes Ownership

By Jennifer Boenig

It's a new year and a new look for Roger's Haircutters salon in Auburn. Since 1975, Roger Blais has owned and operated the salon at 94 Main Street, and at the start of the New Year, he sold his business to two longtime and trusted employees. "After 42 years, it was time to change hands," said Blais. "I couldn't have picked two better people to run it."

Lisa Morin and Debbie Jacques officially took over ownership of Roger's Haircutters from Blais on January 1. Morin, who has been at Roger's for 24 years, and Jacques, who has been there for 19 years, wanted to open their own business but didn't want to leave the salon. Both women heard Blais talk about being tired of running the business — end of the salon so they decided to approach him about selling. "We approached him and he thought about it while out on vacation and when he came back, he said yes," Morin said. Over the years, Blais said he's been thinking of ways to exit the business side of the salon without having to give up cutting hair. After hearing Morin and Jacques' proposal, he thought it was a good way to eliminate the stress of being a business owner, but remain as a haircutter as well as the building's owner.

Helping the women in their new jobs as co-owners of the salon are their husbands, Todd Morin and Jim Jacques. Though the



ownership has changed, the name of the salon will remain the same, as will the 13 staff members. "We have a great staff. It will all stay the same," said Morin. Some changes and new promotions will come over time, said Jacques and Morin, but for now, not much will change. "I will still see all of my clients and work some more hours, probably," Jacques said. Morin added she'll continue to see her clients as well and probably work more hours, too, now that she's a business owner.

Though Blais may have stepped down as owner, he's not planning on putting down his scissors any time soon. "I'm still going to be here cutting hair. The thing I love to do most is hair," said Blais. "I can devote as much time as I need to my clients and take on new clients."

All three say the response from clients regarding the change has been positive; some have sent flowers and even champagne. Blais credited his great staff for the loyal clientele and said after working there, they all have a solid foundation in barbering skills. Blais, whose grandfather was a barber, said the broad view of barbering skills has gotten lost in today's teaching of new stylists and pointed out the nearest barber school is in Boston.



So whether you want a trim or a whole new look, the staff at Roger's Haircutters can help. This full-service family salon is open Monday through Saturday. Walk-ins are welcome or call 784-0251 to make an appointment.

Roger's Haircutters has undergone a makeover and gotten two new owners. Blais (left) who opened the Auburn business in 1975 and has operated it ever since, has sold the salon to longtime employees Lisa Morin (standing) and Debbie Jacques. Jennifer Boenig photo

Need a Chartered Bus?
Weddings, school trips, sports teams, casino runs...

Experience our new 29 seat hybrid mini bus with lavatory and luggage space!

NORTHEAST Charter & Tour Co. INC.
 235 Goddard Rd. Lewiston, ME
 (888) 593-6328
 207-784-3159
 www.northeastchartertour.com

K + L GREEN CLEAN, INC
 COMMERCIAL CLEANING

www.kandlgreenclean.com

Helping THE ENVIRONMENT ONE JOB AT A TIME!