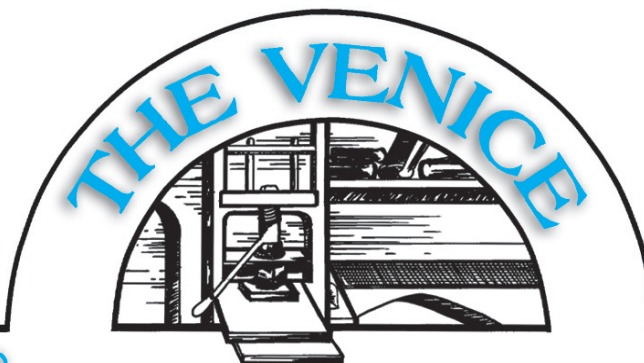


February 2011
FREE OF CHARGE
 (513) 738-7151
 SERVING
 Millville, Morgan Township, New Baltimore,
 Okeana, Reily, Ross, Scipio



HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY
 Monday,
 February 14

Cornerstone

INDEX

Features

Community News 2-10

Life-Styles

School Sports 11-12
 Sports 13-14

Tempo

Church Directory 15
 Classifieds 15

Be a Name Dropper, Please!

Be a "Name Dropper" while patronizing our advertisers in The Venice Cornerstone. Tell them we sent you! We appreciate it and so do the advertisers!!!

Meet Our Area's Newest Dog Groomer



Tammy Thomas

Say hello to our newest dog groomer, Tammy Thomas. She has 22 years of experience and has opened shop at 4421 St. Rt. 128 in Ross.

For more information please see her ad on page 4.

Ross Subway Opens!



Had a bad day? Don't feel like cooking? Either way check out our new Subway in Ross at One Lane Plaza.

Subway comes to Ross

James Sprague | The Venice Cornerstone

The Ross community welcomed a new restaurant to its fold as Subway opened its doors for business Dec. 1. The store, located at 3825 Kraus Lane in the One Lane Plaza, is the first Subway franchise store in Ross.

Its proprietor, Tony Farquis, said the amount of business at the restaurant has been surprising and steady.

"It's been really good, much better than I expected," Farquis said. "We've gotten a lot of local support and it's been great."

Business picks up at approximately 11 A.M., Farquis said, and is steady until 8 P.M. The store's location and frequent traffic from students at Ross High School has contributed.

"The location has been perfect," Farquis said. "And we have students coming back and forth from the high school for wrestling practice or basketball practice that stop."

Some orders have been so large that the restaurant decided to take large orders in advance by fax, Farquis said.

Farquis, 47, is a Badin High School graduate and former football player at Purdue. He recently moved back to Hamilton with



Proprietor of the new Ross Subway, Tony Farquis.

his wife and two children after living in the Chicago area for the last 10 years.

It was while living in the Chicago area that Farquis got the idea to purchase his own Subway franchise from his sister-in-law and father-in-law, who own multiple franchises in the Chicago and northern Indiana regions.

Farquis said that he has plans to purchase more Subway franchises in the area, but did not elaborate on locations.

He did elaborate, however, on a new deal at the restaurant.

"Tell them [customers] that if they mention the article, they'll get a free cookie," Farquis said.

R. Wizard's becomes Rod's Restoration Wizard's

James Sprague | The Venice Cornerstone

The name is changing, but a Ross business fixture isn't going anywhere.

Rod's Restoration Wizard's, formerly known as R. Wizard's, is the long-time auto collision repair and restoration shop located at 2338 Venice Blvd. in Ross. Rod Black, an employee of the shop for the last 17 years, purchased the business from the Mann family in October 2010. Rod had run the business for the last two years after the death of the previous owner, Chuck Mann.

It was after those two years that Rod thought about owning the business himself.

Rod has not changed much besides the name. He has remodeled the shop's office and has plans to build a showroom, but the focus of the business – collision repair and vehicle restorations – is the same, as is the pledge to customer service.

"I treat every vehicle like it was my own," Rod said. "The quality of work is the main element. It must meet my standards in order



Rod Black, the new owner of Rod's Restoration Wizard's holds his award for Best in Class at the 2011 Calvalcade of Customs automotive expo. Black won the award for his restoration work on the 1930 Ford Model A truck shown next to him.

to leave my shop."

Customers can be assured that work will be done at a fair price with no shortcuts, Rod said, because he works for the customer and not the insurance company.

It's a way of customer service that Rod watched Mann provide while he was just an employee.

"I enjoy working with the people in this community," said Rod. "I saw Chuck do it for years. Together we created a great relationship with the community."

His relationship with Mann was more similar to family than boss and employee, Rod said, and will influence his ongoing relationship with the Ross community.

"This is a great community to be apart of and I'm ready to continue serving this community with my best ability, experience, knowledge and expertise," Rod said.

Rod has two employees assisting him with the business, an apprentice and a 25 year ASE – Automotive Service Excellence – veteran.

Rod – who is also ASE certified – takes much pride in his work and expertise, and it is illustrated by the amount of awards he has achieved during his 17 ears in the business.

See Rod, page 6