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Ron 'Putsy' Otte fries chicken in the kitchen of his steakhouse.

Photography: Randall Howell

## Ron's Place

### Carroll's Family Steakhouse, Bar Built on Friday Fish 'n Chicken Fry

By Randall Howell

One man's bankruptcy can be another man's bonanza.

That's Ron "Putsy" Otte's success story. Chief cook and bottle washer, Otte is none other than the owner of Ron's Bar in Carroll a steakhouse, bar and grill, coffee shop and restaurant combination on that western Wayne County town's Main Street.

Ron's Place, as it is variously called, is known far and wide in northeastern Nebraska for its every-other-Friday, fish-and-chicken fry.

AND IT all started with a bad turn of fortune for a Sioux City man whose operation was headed for bankruptcy.

Without money to buy anything, Otte borrowed funds from the State National Bank & Trust Co. of Wayne to buy the operator's supply of chicken and fish.

Otte held his first Friday-night fry and they came from miles around to look, talk and eat...and eat...and eat.

That was several years ago, and they're still coming from miles around to look, talk and eat. But things are different now.

It's the same smorgasbord menu, the same Ron Otte and it's at the same place. But the place has changed.

"THAT'S-HOW it all started," said the Carroll native who describes himself as "39 and holding."

He's closing out a decade in downtown Carroll and, by his own admission, things have never been better.

"It's (the bar) the best thing that ever happened to me," he said with quick, clipped speech that nails you in your seat. "This is the longest I've been in one place in my life."

Otte almost got away. He was headed for Alaska when a friend convinced him he should buy Carroll's V&L Bar — an antique tavern owned then by Vernie and Lucy Schnoor.

Otte had just sold Ron's Cafe and Putsy's Pizza in Wayne. He was on the move, again.

"THE BANK (State National Bank and Trust Co.) in Wayne called me and asked whether I'd be interested in buying a bar," he recalled.

Otte arrived in Carroll to buy a bar his uncle Ejnor Cook had once owned back in the 1950s. "I had a \$10,000 mortgage and \$268 in my pocket," he said. "That's all the money I had in the world," he quipped, hands busy frying chicken in the south kitchen — the one that serves the steakhouse.

That was in 1972. He and his daughter, Rebecca, moved into a mobile home behind the bar. That mobile home, something he



Ron's Steak House and Garage in Carroll.

Photography: Randall Howell

curses under his breath, is two or three steps from the back door of the bar.

It was home until a month ago when Otte and Rebecca, now 16 and a student at Wayne High School, moved into a white, wood-framed home across the alley.

Otte, still checking the frying chicken and stirring his special homemade chicken gravy, parts the restaurant's kitchen curtains and points to it with a huge smile on his angular face.

THINGS WERE tougher in 1972 for the Navy veteran who cooked aboard aircraft carriers during a "6-year, 9-month and 27 day" tour of duty that took him from San Diego to Siapan and from Brooklyn to Boston via Korea.

When the name changed to Ron's Bar, Otte put in a small kitchen area at the west end of the place where he could serve sandwiches to his customers.

Two years later, he built the steakhouse on a vacant next-door lot. That more than doubled his space — space linked by a door

at the center of the long, narrow original building.

Ron's Steakhouse was born in September of 1974 two years after his September contract signing for Ron's Bar. He opened the new eating facilities complete with kitchen, storage and dining-room bar facilities.

THE MOVE was so successful that his customers were still dining elbow to elbow, so Otte decided to expand again.

In 1976 he bought an old car-repair garage at the corner. His next-door neighbor to the north, the garage was owned by Vernie Hulbert and had been unused for years.

Otte renovated the entire structure, put a dance floor in with a stage for live music and had an open-grill kitchen area put in one corner. He calls it his "party room," but officially it's known as The Garage.

Today, with nine years under his belt and a reputation for fine family dining at reasonable prices, Otte finds himself the owner of 800 square feet of restaurant-bar

See RON'S PLACE, Page 12

## Restaurateur Becomes Area Legend in His Own Time

"The chicken ain't done, the chicken ain't done, the chicken ain't done," he cracks, his voice snapping the cook to attention.

He grabs the plate, and the kitchen staff does double time and the breasts are back in the cooker before the customer has time to complain.

"Nothing I hate worse than raw chicken," Ron Otte mutters, without losing a beat in the conversation he's having with friends.

steady customers at his bar-steakhouse coffee shop in Carroll

THE CUSTOMERS call it Ron's Bar, or Ron's Place or just Ron's. That's all you have to say. It gets instant recognition. It's hard to find someone who hasn't eaten there at one time or another — for lunch, for supper or during one of his now-famous family-style, every-other-Friday fish and chicken fry.

It's home-cooking away from home for his customers and some of them don't hesitate to walk into the kitchen to help themselves.

The huge complex sprawls over half a block to anchor Carroll's downtown business district. Tractors, pickup trucks and cars are door handle to door handle in the parking places out front during lunchtime or on Friday and Saturday nights.

And, during the fish and chicken fry — the next one's May 15 — smorgasbord, the

hungry customers are elbow to elbow in the more than 200 seats around tables and booth.

OTTE HAS built it from a small-town bar where the farmers dropped in for a beer and played cards in the back while continuing yesterday's discussion about the weather, to a \$100,000 northeast Nebraska eatery that ranks with the best of them for family-style food and fun.

The farmers still play cards in the back. Morning coffee practically empties the stores on Main Street, but it fills Otte's tables and booths with friends eager to spend their money and time at the only eating place in town.

And, there's free bubble gum at the front counter for any kid willing to ask for it over the tall glass counter.

Bottles of liquor reach toward the ceiling on old, dark wooden shelves that frame ant-

que mirrors along a wooden bar that stretches to the sandwich kitchen at the rear of the narrow original building.

TO THE LEFT, through a door that cuts the bar, is the steakhouse. Recently repainted, the decor sets a subtle mood with burnt orange, brown and dark paneling.

Diners are served from a new kitchen — one of three in the place — toward the rear

See RESTAURATEUR, Page 12

### Wayne Company Makes, Markets European Product

## New Shutters Rolling Out at Marra's Shop

Wayne's Marra Home Improvement Co. is rolling out the shutters.

That's right. And, Wayne's Marra Home Improvement Co. is now out with rolling shutters. That's right, too. That is to say, they're on the market now — a new product in America's war against wasted energy.

ROLLING SHUTTERS, as old as the hills in Europe, have recently been introduced to energy-wise American homeowners and Marra Home Improvement making them for northeastern Nebraska, northwestern Iowa and southeastern South Dakota customers for several months. Over six months ago, the 31-year-old Wayne company purchased the right to assemble, wholesale and retail the rolling shutters in this trade territory.

Produced by Pease Rolling Shutters, parts for the energy-saving devices are

shipped to Marra Home Improvement plant in Wayne's Industrial Park area on East Seventh Street.

ONCE THERE, the company's backshop crew assembles the shutters for distribution throughout a territory that's anchored by the Wayne operation and a store in Sioux City, Iowa.

The shutter itself is a design used in Europe for more than 100 years. Used originally for security and privacy, the rolling shutters also help control inside temperature and light conditions.

Although quite new in the United States, the rolling shutters are found on the windows and doors of homes, apartments, hotels and commercial buildings throughout Europe.

WHEN THE RAW stock arriving from the Pease Co. in New Castle, Ind., is assembled

the rolling shutter looks something like the sliding cover of a roll-top desk. The flexible shutter, which is stored around a roller in a top-mounted housing, can be custom fitted to any window or doorway.

The pull of a cord attached to the storage box brings the shutter down from the roller to seal off any amount of window space desired. When not in use, the same cord reverses the shutter which is rolled up in the housing, once again, for protection and storage.

Fully extended, the rolling shutter allows an adjustable filter of light into a room, or blocks it entirely, depending on the needs of the energy room.

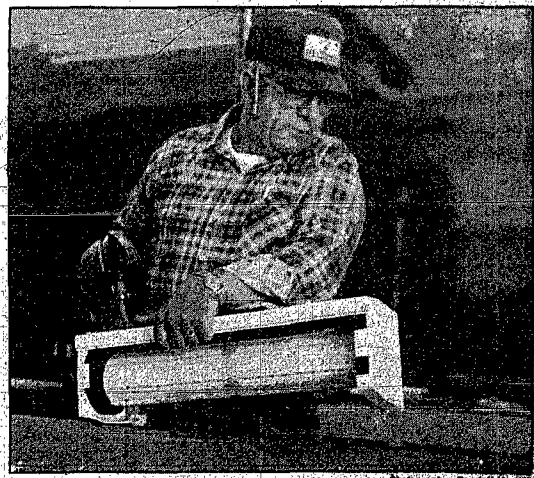
In addition to helping homeowner control energy costs and providing light control, the shutters offer security, privacy, heating and cooling control, noise control and high wind and weather protection for windows.

MARRA HOME Improvement not only assembles and markets the new product, but has a crew of installers available for home improvement customers.

The rolling shutters are made of interlocking horizontal slats of extruded PVC vinyl. The slats slide smoothly up and down on tracks — aluminum slide rails. They can be mounted in an existing soffit, on the surface or directly within the wall on new construction projects.

The new product line is the second home improvement item to be manufactured at Marra Home Improvement Co. The firm makes Solar (brand name) combination windows and doors.

The Wayne company was founded by Wilmar Marra more than three decades ago. Marra, his wife, Luella, and their son, Ken and his wife, Sheryl, operate the home improvement company.



Delbert Krueger, Belden, works on a rolling shutter.

Photography: Randall Howell

















## Men's Slow Pitch Softball Opens

The Wayne Men's Slow Pitch Softball League will open its season this week at the Wayne State College fields.

Games will start at 6:45 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Two seven inning games will be played at each field.

New rules which have been added to the league competition are: foul ball on the third strike is an automatic out, designated hitter is allowed, re-entry rule will be in effect, 10 players must be present to start a game. As in the past, no steel spikes are allowed and the 10-run rule will be in effect. Each team will furnish one umpire.

The 'B' League teams and schedule have been released. Teams are: 1. Bill's GW, 2. Tacio del Sol, 3. Mitchell Con-

struction, 4. Valley Squire, 5. KTCH, 6. Western Auto, 7. Smokey Sharpening, 8. Sherman Construction, 9. First National Bank, 10. St. Mary's Men's Club, 11. Heritage Homes, 12. TP Lounge, 13. Logan Valley.

May schedule:  
May 11-2 vs. 1 at south field; 9 vs. 9 at north field.  
May 12-4 vs. 13 at south field; 5 vs. 12 at north field.  
May 13-6 vs. 11 at south field; 7 vs. 10 at north field.  
May 18-12 vs. 2 at south field; 1 vs. 7 at north field.  
May 19-8 vs. 6 at south field; 9 vs. 5 at north field.  
May 20-10 vs. 4 at south field; 11 vs. 3 at north field.  
May 25-3 vs. 8 at south field; 5 vs. 6 at north field.  
May 26-12 vs. 1 at south field; 2 vs. 9 at north field.  
May 27-4 vs. 7 at south field; 13 vs. 11 at north field.

# Triple Play Helps Blue Devils Win Pitcher's Duel from Trojans

People who thought they had seen everything discovered they were wrong when they watched Wayne nip Wakefield 2-1 in high school baseball action, Wednesday at the Wayne State College field.

Wayne second baseman Jim Sperry inflated a nifty triple play that deflated Wakefield as the Blue Devils held on to win a pitcher's duel.

KEVRIN NISSEN FIRED a three-hitter for Wayne while Wayne Guy and Mark Starzl combined to pitch a one-hitter for the Trojans. Guy pitched 4 1/2 innings of no-hit baseball with three strikeouts. Starzl took over in the fifth after Guy walked two batters and finished the final 2 1/2 innings, allowing one hit and striking out five Wayne batters.

Hallstrom on second base and Billy Warren on first, Joedy Sherer slapped a line drive up the middle.

Wakefield's hit-and-run attempt backfired as Sperry snagged the line shot, stepped on second base for the second out and fired the ball to first baseman Todd Skokan to complete the triple play.

DEVILS STRUCK back in the top of the fifth as the momentum carried over. After opening the inning with a strikeout, two Wayne players drew walks.

day (Monday), at Laurel. Wakefield will play Bancroft at 2 p.m. and Wayne will face East Butler at 4 p.m. Wayne's record is 6-5 while Wakefield drops to 1-7.

Wayne Wakefield AB R H

Wayne Wakefield AB R H



WAYNE GUY of Wakefield is tagged out by Wayne second baseman Jim Sperry in Northeast Nebraska Baseball League action, Wednesday. Wayne won the game 2-1.

## Schuyler Wins Wayne Jr. High Meet



PETE MARCH (right) closes in on another runner in the 1,600-meter run at the Wayne Invitational junior high track and field meet held Tuesday at the Wayne High track.

A second place finish in the final event enabled Schuyler's boys to trim Wayne's junior high for first place in the Wayne Invitational track and field meet, held Tuesday at the Wayne High track.

Schuyler won the boys division with 104 points and also won the girls division with 131 points. Wayne scored 94 points in the boys division to place second and placed fourth in the girls division with 34 1/2 points.

FOUR FIRST PLACE finishes led the Blue Devil boys team. Kevin Koenig kept his track success going strong by sweeping the shot put, discus and 400-meter run. Chris Wieseler won the high jump.

Koenig threw the shot 47.0 and the discus 125.0 to set new invitational meet records. He ran the 400-meter dash in :56.59. Wieseler won the high jump by clearing 5-2 1/4. In addition to Koenig's records, six other existing meet records fell.

PAULA KOPLIN placed second in the 75-meter hurdles in :13.44 and Wayne's 400-meter relay team won that event in :57.32.

The Wayne Kiwanis Club assisted with the track meet. Members of the group were

filmmers and pickers. Wayne finishers: Boys Division Pole vault: 5. Tim Fleming, 7.6; 6. Jim Thomas, 7.6. Shot put: 1. Kevin Koenig, 47.0. Long jump: 3. Carl Urwiler, 15.1; 6. Dan Gross, 14.3.

HIGH JUMP: 1. Chris Wieseler, 5-2 1/4. Discus: 1. Kevin Koenig, 125.0. 1,600-meter run: 2. Pete March, 5:20.89. 100-meter low hurdles: 2. Chris Wieseler, :16.02. 100-meter dash: 5. Carl Urwiler, :12.83; 6. Brad Moore, :13.3. 200-meter dash: 4. Carl Urwiler, :27.62; 6. Brad Moore, :27.99. 400-meter relay: 4. Wayne, :54.7. 400-meter run: 1. Kevin Koenig, :56.59; 2. Dan Gross, 1:00.55. 800-meter run: 3. Pete March, 2:26.3. 800-meter relay: 5. Wayne, 2:00.03.

Girls Division Discus: 4. Mary Sieler, 67.6; 6. Amy Jordan, 64.6. High jump: 5. Jody Allen, 4.4. 75-yard hurdles: 2. Paula Koplin, :13.44; 4. Lisa Jacobsen, :13.66. 100-meter dash: 5. Jody Allen, :13.88. 200-meter dash: 6. Lisa Jacobsen, :30.5. 400-meter relay: 2. Wayne, :57.32. 400-meter run: 5. Jennifer Moore, 1:07.94. 800-meter relay: 6. Wayne, 2:08.23.

## Wildcats Split Games

The Wayne State College baseball team split a doubleheader with Buena Vista College Thursday winning the first game 12-7 and losing the second contest 3-2 in eight innings.

In game one, the Wildcats pounded out 12 hits and scored 12 runs to give them their 26th win of the season. Second baseman Mark Glatteer went three-for-three and knocked in five RBI's as he hit his 11th home run of the year.

Brian Blatchford was two-for-four with a home run to lead the Wildcats' attack. Grady Hansen picked up his seventh win of the year, pushing his record to 7-3.

In the second contest, WSC dropped a close game that saw Buena Vista push across the winning run in the bottom of the eighth. Greg Dostal was the losing pitcher. The Wildcats are now 26-20 on the season and will start district play May 13-16 at Kearney.

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## Help Wanted

**WAYNE STATE COLLEGE**  
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**TYPIST II:** Responsible for clerical duties in the office of Extended Campus. Duties include typing correspondence and transcription from a dictaphone, development of advertising materials, handling of advance registration of students, and serving as receptionist for the Director. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Type 30 words per minute, be a high school graduate, or equivalent, and have had a course in typing plus one year of clerical experience. Ability to interact positively with the public by telephone, written correspondence and in person. **SALARY:** \$398 per month, plus benefits. **APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** Send a letter of application to the Office of Vice President for Administration, attention Mrs. Vera Hummel, Wayne State College, Wayne, NE 68707 by May 14, 1981. THIS COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

**HELP WANTED:** Apartment supervisor to do minimum supervision for two developmentally disabled adult males, also live in supervisor to supervise developmentally disabled adult female in an apartment situation. Apply, Region IV Services, 206 Logan or call 375-4884. Equal Opportunity Employer. m413

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**HELP WANTED:** Salesman age over 21, male preferred, salary and commission. Send qualifications to Wayne Herald, Box T, Wayne, NE 68787. m713

## Card of Thanks

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all our friends, relatives, and neighbors for their kind thoughts and deeds at the time of the death of our loved one, Marvin Malchow. To all those who brought food to our home, church fellowship hall, sent memorials, flowers, cards, letters and extended sympathy in so many ways. Also a special thanks to Rev. John Bass, Rev. Alvin Norden, and Rev. Daniel Cloeter for their prayers and services. Also thanks to the Christ Lutheran Ladies Aid members for serving the noon luncheon. God Bless you all. The family of Marvin Malchow. m11

**FOR SALE:** 1968 Olds 98, full power, good condition. Phone 375-2974. a16

**FOR SALE:** 1970 1/2 ton Toyota pickup, new tires, new brakes, burns no oil. Asking \$695. Call 375-1424 or 375-2602, ask for Randy. a3011

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**FOR SALE:** Brand new Vantage electric guitar and Crate I amplifier. #35-2263 before 10:30 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m. m713

**GOOD BUY** — Nice 3 bedroom home in Randolph. New basement and paint. Will sacrifice at low interest rate. Priced to sell at \$23,900. Call 254-3964 or 371-8400. a2018

**FOR SALE:** 35mm camera, Nikonomat, with 35mm (wide angle) lens and 135mm close up lens. Excellent shape, recently tuned. Asking \$250. Call 375-2600 or 375-1424, ask for Randy Howell. m11

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**STUDENT AMBASSADORS**, who will travel abroad this summer as part of the People-to-People Student Ambassador Program, represent six area communities. Front row seated: Mark Schwedhelm of Winslow, Terry Schlickbernd of Emerson, Laura Christensen of Pilger. Second row from left: teacher leader Mike Mallette, Kurt Janke, Jodi Frese, Steve Rathwisch, Marria Rathwisch, Jon Jacobmeier, Traci Hansen, Perry Benshoof, Karen Sandahl, all of Wayne. Back row from left: teacher leader Donna Mallette, Joan Miller, Susan Rouse, Hayley Greig, Teri Schwarten, Dilynne Byers, all of Wakefield; Tessie Reppert, Liz Reppert, Viann Kent, Dave Westerhold, all of Pender.

# Twenty Area High School Students Plan People-to-People Tour Abroad

Twenty fortunate high school students from Wayne and surrounding communities will have the opportunity to exchange ideas with students and adults of other countries by traveling abroad this summer.

The People-to-People High School Student Ambassador Program will send 1,500 high school students overseas. In 1981, Northeast Nebraska will be represented by participants in the program for the first time ever.

Mike and Donna Mallette, Wayne, have been selected as teacher leaders for the program this summer. They will sponsor a selected group of area students.

The group will fly on June 9 to Washington, D.C. where students will attend orientation meetings, visit Capitol Hill and sightsee for two days. From Washington, the group will travel by jet to Austria, Germany, Italy and Greece. At Austria, Germany and Greece, students will spend time with homestay families.

Nearly one-half of the 28-day mission for student ambassadors will be spent living with the homestay families. The rest of the time will be spent on pre-planned, guided tours and activities.

The People-to-People program was founded in 1956 by President Dwight Eisenhower whose aim was to promote better international understanding and exchange ideas with students and adults of other countries. According to Eisenhower, his goal was "world peace through world contact".

The area students who will participate in the program are:

Wayne: Kurt Janke, Jodi Frese, Steve Rathwisch, Marria

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**Class B District High School Baseball Tournament** from Laurel Monday, May 11 2 & 4 p.m.

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## Ron's Place

(Continued from page 1)

space. It's gone from a \$10,000 business to \$100,000 in less than a decade.

A HORSE fan turned golfer (He hit a hole in one on the Wayne Country Club course this week.) Otte also does "a little fishing." In fact, he opened his "party room" in September of 1976 after returning from a post-Labor Day fishing trip to Canada.

Born in Carroll, Otte is the son of Harry and Lulu Otte. His father worked for the Chicago Northwestern Railroad.

Third of four children, Otte has two sisters, Norma and JoAnn, and a brother, Duane. Duane is retired in Tucson, Ariz. His

sisters, both interior-decorators, live in Fremont and Los Angeles. Otte attended elementary school in Carroll, Wayne and Wisner. He joined the Navy at 17 and cooked aboard several aircraft carriers, including the U.S.S. Princeton and the U.S.S. Tarawa. He spent 18 months on Japan, a tiny island in the Pacific Ocean near Guam.

WHEN OTTE returned stateside, he worked at a drive-in restaurant in Haystack, N.C., for his father-in-law. Then it was off to Brooklyn, N.Y., a place familiar to him from his years in the Navy and his time at the Brooklyn Navy Yard there.

There for four years, he cooked in a number of restaurants before moving to Omaha, where Rebecca was born, in the late 1950s. In Omaha he gave up the tools of the kitchen for a shovel, working for the Metropolitan Utility District as a "ditch digger" for a short time.

"I couldn't stand it," he said, explaining that he soon returned to cooking. Otte worked in several Omaha restaurants during the "4 or 5 years" he was in Nebraska's largest city.

After Omaha, Otte came to Wayne where he worked at Jerry's El Rancho (now Jen's El Rancho) south of Wayne on State Highway 15. He took over as

manager on the car-accident death of the owner in 1967.

But, in 1968, Otte started his own business. He opened Ron's Cafe and Putsy's Pizza (now Karel Furniture) on south Main Street until selling it in 1972 with plans to move to Ataska.

"PEOPLE DON'T know why I stay here," he said. "But, we've got a good business. It's the best damn thing that ever happened to me. Besides, I ain't got nothing else to do."

But, there's a serious question whether his customers would let him quit. They arrive for a beer or a meal, but they also arrive for Otte himself. His mark is

everywhere. His personality helped build the place.

He knows his customers by name with a familiarity that allows him room to slip them with a well-placed verbal jab. They know him well enough to jab back.

Rarely sitting still for more than a minute or two, he pops from kitchen to kitchen, his quick tongue and friendly smile welcome customers that range from a farmer in town over the lunch hour to pick up seed to Mayor Wayne Marsh of Wayne, who's a regular lunch-time customer.

## Restaurateur

(Continued from page 1)

where there's a dining room bar for customer convenience.

Soft lighting offers a contrast to the old, dark corners of the original bar, where wooden booths stretch the length of the north wall for lunchtime customers.

Back in the bar, waitresses hustle from table to table over a grey-white floor tiled in thousands of pentagons and worn smooth by the scuffing of shoe leather. Again, a contrast to the plush carpeting found in the steakhouse to the south and the "party room" to the north.

THE "PARTY room" is really called The Garage, since it was renovated from an old auto repair shop in 1976. More than 120 diners can be seated comfortably in the north-side addition, with

plenty of room for dancing and live, on stage band.

Steaks are often crackling on the "finger grill" in the northwest corner where an open kitchen area invites customers to watch their meals being prepared. Decorated in soft earth tones with family style eating in mind, The Garage frequently hosts private parties and serves as a community meeting room for Carroll area residents.

But, unless there's a meeting such as the federal corruption seminar there last week, the steakhouse and party room come alive only at night and on weekends.

RON'S BAR, the old, pressed tin ceiling painted black and still in place is where things happen in Carroll. It's a place for coffee, for lunch, for conversation, for

business, for entertainment, for people watching, and the help will even serve you a beer for the asking.

From the sandwich counter, where manager Pat Morris keeps the staff hopping from table to table with urgency of a traffic cop, to the slow moving, conversational card games at the rear tables, Ron's Bar was built not out of nails and wood, brick and mortar, but on the drive and personality of a man who likes people.

Somewhat gruff at times, owner Ron Otte — a rough-and-tumble guy with the look of the devil in his eyes — works side by side with them. There's no job he won't do.

One minute he's here with Faye Hubert, waiting on tables. The next, he's over there with Alice Oberhelman, settling a loyal

customer's bill. Look away for a minute and he's with Pat Morris tending the kitchen oven or back out on the floor with Audrey Frederickson, making sure the customers are treated right.

Full-length apron draped around his neck and tied at his back, Otte is a man able to do a hundred things at one time while listening, talking, and tending his customers.

And, they love it. There's give and take. Otte gives, they take. They give, Otte takes and gives it right back. It's a ritual with him and they wouldn't have it any other way.

THE FOOD price is right and the rest is free, from the bubble gum to the recognition from a man who came home — a home town boy who made good.

Otte traveled the world with the Navy and traveled the country as a cook with "Putsy" tattooed on his forearm, and a cigarette in his hand, he meets and greets his friends with the familiarity that only a hometown kid could get away with.

You're somebody when you

stop in at Ron's, that's all these is too it. He knows you are and he treats you that way. And it makes no difference if you're wearing bib overalls from a nearby farm or your dress uniform is a three-piece suit and patent-leather shoes.

It works. The energy is there. It's energy for his customers. It's energy that's still in reserve after tending to late-hour customers and beating the sun up in the morning to bake and cook.

IT'S ENERGY that stays in the atmosphere when he's out of town on business or pleasure.

It's energy that comes from an old German family, that put roots down in Carroll. Otte's grand father used to run the local drug store back in the 1930s. His uncle ran the bar Otte now owns.

His graying, well-groomed hair sets off a man who looks younger than his years. Solid German stock, with a zest for life — that's Ron Otte.

It's a way of life for him. And, the energy has built him something of a legend — his own legend in his own time.

## 'May Flowers' Tea Theme At Annual Spring Program

Joanie Burst of Joanie Designs in Wayne presented a "May Flowers and May Poles" program at the annual Wayne County Home Extension Spring Tea.

Nearly 70 women attended the program May 1 at the Carroll auditorium. Members of the Scattered Neighbors Club were in charge of registrations.

Mrs. Verdel Backstrom of Wayne, vice chairman, welcomed the group and read a poem, "Song of Spring."

Linda Huinker, Wayne County Extension Agent-Home Economist, spoke briefly about the many benefits Wayne County Home Extension Clubs offer their members, and urged women who are not members of an extension club to consider joining one of the 16 clubs in the county.

MRS. MILTON Owens introduced Mrs. Burst, who spoke on the origin of May Day and various May Day traditions throughout the world. She also displayed several May baskets and floral arrangements.

Special music was provided by the Treble Clef Singers of the First United Methodist Church in Wayne.

Mrs. Marian Jordan accompanied group singing of the Extension Club Song.

MRS. HERB Niemann and Mrs. Verdel Backstrom poured at the tea.

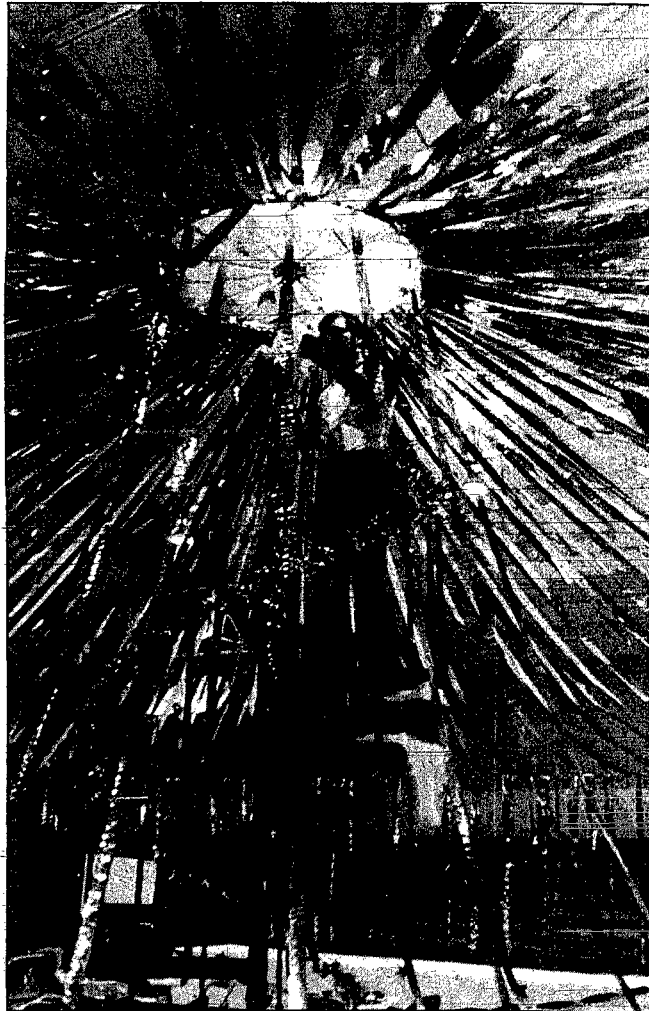
Members of the Spring Tea committee were Mrs. Milton Owens, Mrs. Walter Fleer and Mrs. Keith Owens.

EXTENSION Clubs in Wayne County and their presidents are: A. Teer, Mrs. Walter Fleer; Farm Fans, Mrs. Robert Hansen; Happy Homemakers, Mrs. Gerald Pospisil; Highland, Mrs. Orville Brockmeier; Hillcrest, Mrs. Emma Eckert; Hoskins Homemakers, Mrs. Ezra



JOANIE BURST OF Joanie Designs in Wayne offers several unique ideas for May baskets, using fresh and silk flowers, fruit and candy. Mrs. Burst presented her program for about 70 women during the annual Wayne County Home Extension Spring Tea at the Carroll auditorium.

Jöchens; Klick and Klatter, Mrs. Owens; Sunshine, Mrs. Julius Baier; Three M's, Mrs. Delwyn Sorensen; Town and Country, Mrs. Merlin Kenny; Twentieth Century, Mrs. Don Johnson; and We Few, Mrs. Fredrick Janke.



DAN PLANK OF Gothenburg helps members of the junior class at Wakefield High School with some of the more difficult last minute decorations in preparation for the Junior-Senior Prom held May 2 at the school. Dan was junior Susan Baker's escort to the prom.

## 'Looks Like We Made It' Theme of Wakefield Prom

"Looks Like We Made It" was the theme of the Junior-Senior Prom at Wakefield High School on May 2.

Students attending the dinner and dance were welcomed by Rita Wilson, junior class president, followed with a response by Jeanni Tullberg, president of the senior class.

The dinner was prepared by the school cooks and junior class mothers.

history teacher, presented the address. The program also included the reading of the Prophecy by the junior class and the reading of the Will by the senior class. Introductions were by Steve Warren, junior class vice-president, and closing remarks were by Rita Wilson.

Music for the dance was provided by the New Road Band from Columbus.

WAITRESSES and waiters were sophomores. Cheryl

Engstedt, Cristy Hingst, Jean Lunz, Becky Pretzer, Renee Wenzel and Mark Borg. Mike Carlson, Rod Nixon, Paul Schoppe and Brent VanderVeen. Junior class sponsors are Mrs. Jackie Ditman and Mrs. Val Bard.

FOLLOWING the banquet and dance, students attended the movie "Roller Boogie" at the Wayne drive-in theatre and were breakfast guests in the Dick Ditman home in Wayne.

## You're Tops 4-H Club Members

Pop's Partners

The Pop's Partners 4-H Club met April 13 at the Centennial Store in Wakefield.

Colleen Weddingfelt was welcomed as a new member. Leigh Johnson, news reporter

## Hoskins Honeys

Members of the Hoskins Honeys 4-H Club and leader Mrs. Larry Neitzke met at the fire hall May 5 at 4 p.m.

Older girls worked on jump suits, and first year, members worked on their applique projects Mrs. Neitzke brought treats

Club members also worked on their jumpsuits and applique projects when they met with leaders Mrs. Neitzke and Mrs. Richard Behmer on April 27 at the fire hall Refreshments were served by Mrs. Neitzke

The club will meet again on May 11 at 4 p.m. Cammy Behmer, news reporter

## Pleasure and Profit

The Allen Pleasure and Profit 4-H Club's April meeting was held at the school house Six members responded to roll call with their favorite food.

Two new members joined the club, Tabitha Burnham and Tammy Noe.

Project books were distributed and the group discussed several upcoming events. Mrs. Roberts demonstrated how to pot a plant. The meeting was adjourned by Steve Jones. Candice Jones, news reporter.

## Wayne Bowling

### Monday Night Ladies

	WON	LOST
Ellis Barber	43	25
Greenview	43	25
Wayne Herald	39	29
T.P. Lounge	38	30
El Toro	34	33
Gerard's	33 1/2	34 1/2
Kiddie World	31	37
Windmill	31	37
Carhart's	31	37
Hervasio's	30	38
Danielson's	29	39
Wayne Vet's Club	24 1/2	43 1/2

High Scores: Frances Leonard, 212, 529; Greenview Farms, 900; TP Lounge, 2,499.

Women's 180 games and 480 series: Frances Leonard, 212, 529; Deb Peterson, 180; Marion Evans, 485; Toobie Love, 204, 480; Dee Schultz, 504; Linda Gehrner, 492; Jeanie Sturm, 190; Donna Lutz, 192; Cleo Ellis, 188; Geri Marks, 188, 517; Glendennie Barker, 483; Sandy Bennett, 182.

# BLOOMING MAY BARGAINS

## Sunday-Monday-Tuesday

May 10-11-12

Store Hours  
Mon. thru Sat.  
8 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sunday  
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**79¢**

Crunch Donuts  
Pkg. of 6  
**99¢**

**\$7.15**

Fresh Pork Riblets  
**59¢** Lb.

**59¢**

Blue Bunny Sour Cream  
12 Oz Carton  
**59¢**

**Wellman's IGA**

**\$3.49**

Charcoal Starter  
Gallon-Can

**99¢**

Crackers  
1 Lb. Box  
**99¢**

**PLEASEING YOU... PLEASES US!**

Be Sure to Stop In Thursday at 8 p.m. for the \$1.000 Give-Away