



Judy McLaughlin, kitchen helper, checks bacon and hamburger on the grill. (Rees Photo)



Karlee Cormier, Angie's niece, a student, who started working at the clam factory in 2009, later switching over to the restaurant, scooping scoop ice-cream. (Rees Photo)



Diane's Restaurant was moved onto a new basement in early spring 1999 on land on the main highway which had been purchased in 1998. The new basement built in summer 1998 shortly after the land was purchased. (Ruth Power Photo)



It was too early to open, but Ruth Power took this picture from her driveway looking across the highway to show the piles of snow in February 2000. (Ruth Power Photo)

# Angie Purchases Diane's

By Maurice Rees

Angie (Cormier) Davis knows the restaurant business having worked at Diane's almost since its inception in the mid-80's. Even though she had a full work schedule operating Cormier Five Island Clam Factory at nearby Wharf Road, it didn't take long for Angie to move forward to purchase the restaurant operation from her mother, whose name the restaurant carries.

The transfer of ownership was completed this winter. Angie knew the retirement of Francine Cormier at the end of the 2009 season would place added responsibility on herself and other staff members, who have also been dedicated employees for many years. Francine, who was head cook for many years, decided to retire last year after she became a widow.

Even with the added responsibilities, Angie has found time, after consulting with staff, to add eight appetizers to the menu and a "seniors section" which includes six selections, to the 2010 menu. Of course seafood, including steamed clams, will always be the featured menu selections; combo plates and Southern Fried Chicken have been included.

Another new item, which is quickly becoming a favourite, is the "Five Islands Mess", a heaping plate of fries smothered in hamburger, onions, gravy and cheese curds. Priced at \$5.99, the feast is gaining popularity with locals and tourists alike who bring a large appetite to the restaurant.



Leona Allen setting the table. (Rees Photo)

A quick review of the menu features clams, scallops, lobster roll, fish and chips, and fish burger. With a more detailed look one discovers, Clam dinner, Lobster Roll and fries, Scallop dinner and the ever popular seafood platter. Steamed clams is quickly becoming a favourite.

With the expanded 2010 menu, the Combo Plate section reveals: clams/scallops, fish/clams and fish/scallops. For those wishing lighter fare home-made seafood chowder is always available as are chicken, burgers and dogs.

A large segment of the business is the take-out windows. Yes, two windows, one for ice cream, sundaes, shakes, etc, the other for favourite take-out meals, for tourists to enjoy at numerous picnic tables, or for cottagers and local residents to take home instead of slaving in their own kitchen on a hot summer day.

Many motorcyclists use Diane's as a favourite stopover to "stretch their legs" and enjoy a light snack or larger menu selection. Some motorcycle clubs will organize a "day-trip" along the shore to enjoy, not only for the beauty of the Bay of Fundy, but also, to enjoy feast of fresh local clams.

Each year the restaurant operates from April to October from 11:00 am to 9 pm weekdays. On Saturday, Sunday and holidays, the restaurant is open from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. In July and August, breakfast is served on Saturday, Sunday and holidays. If you wish the owner to cook you breakfast, drop by on any Sunday during July and August. Angie takes her turn in the kitchen to continually hone her cooking skills and to give regular staff a much needed break.



Shoreline Journal publishers, Maurice and Dorothy Rees, enjoying an order of clams, which Jackie cooked especially for them.

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