

Cindy's Home & Garden offers unique shopping for everyone



Pictured above, Cindy's Home & Garden owner Ken Martin stands in the businesses' spacious gift shop. At right, Cindy's Too offers plenty of unique and tasty items as Manager Tammy Whiteside receives an ice-cream from Cathy Brown.

Cindy's Home & Garden has become a destination location in the Town of Kingsville, thanks to the foresight of owners Ken Martin and wife Christine. The couple has created a unique gift shop, garden centre and country store that they feel isn't just a shopping store, but rather an experience for all customers.

"When people walk into Cindy's for the first time, they are often in awe of how spacious and beautiful the store is," explained Manager Tammy Whiteside.

Cindy's began in 1989 as a single greenhouse operation, initiated by Cindy Martin. In 1997, the same year Cindy passed away, the business expanded to five greenhouses and a small greenhouse.

A further expansion came in 2004 with the construction of the 4,000 square-foot gift and garden shop. The structure features a real mulberry root ball hanging

from the 16-foot ceiling, and offers an array of plants, flowers and garden accessories.

"Cindy's boasts the largest variety of perennials in Essex County, as well as an extensive array of annuals," Tammy explained.

Now, in addition to more parking, including spaces to accommodate buses, Cindy's Home & Garden has expanded to include a new whimsical country store, "Cindy's Too".

The Martins have transformed their previous home into a destination for kids of all ages.

"You can enjoy a hand-scooped ice-cream, pastry, irresistible fudge, specialty coffee and much more," said Whiteside. "You will want to bring the whole family and enjoy a treat while sitting under a huge maple shade tree outdoors, or underneath a collection of mini hot air balloon replicas inside."

For Ken, the expansion

just made sense. "Often times you would see the women get out of the car to go shopping, while the men stayed," he said. "Now, they can come in and read the paper and enjoy a refreshment while the ladies shop."

Added Tammy, "We wanted to be a destination for the entire family."

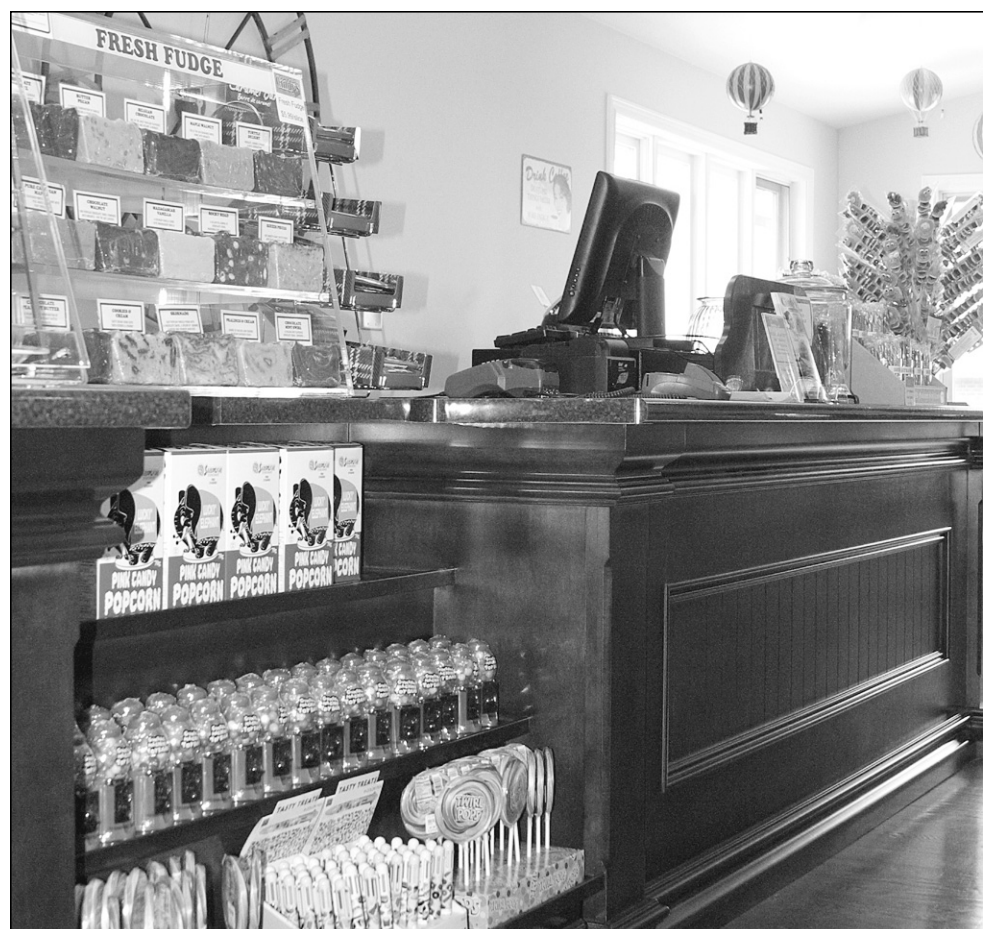
As well as the delectable treats, Cindy's Too offers giftware, kitchen gadgets and other fun items.

The success of the business, in Ken's eyes, comes down to customer service, product quality and value for your dollar.

Thanks to modern technology, you can shop online anytime by logging on to www.cindysgarden.com.

"We can stay in touch with our customers through our Cindy's Club Card holders, as customers are made aware instantly via email and through Facebook about our new products, events and sales," said Tammy.

"Through our continued marketing efforts, Cindy's now hosts many tour buses



and has become a favourite stop for the local winery trolley tours."

Ken feels that the business, is truly a destination location.

"There's nothing like this in the area," he said. "Because we don't offer meals, we're a great com-

plement to the fine eating establishments in Kingsville. It's a win-win."

Tammy noted that Cindy's Home & Garden draws patrons from across Michigan, Ohio, Kent and Lambton Counties and beyond.

"Cindy's is a full force

shopping excursion, and yet still maintains a quaint small-town feel our customers appreciate," she said. "We also support the local economy by offering employment for local residents.

Cindy's Home & Garden is located at 585 Seacliff Drive. To learn more, visit the location today, they are open seven days a week at 8:30 a.m. until the late evening. You can also call 519-733-9425.

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