

BUSINESS

9 TO 5
The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about people in our community who are starting a business or changing an old one.
Call the Journal at 285-7411

Family business celebrates 25 years

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The owners of J&D Family Foods in Littlefork are celebrating 25 years of business this month with a special anniversary offers, as well as drawings, cake, and a meat sale.

Del and Joyce Peterson moved to Littlefork from Wyoming, Minn., in November 1989 with the goal of purchasing a grocery store, finding a good church to attend, and finding a good school for their six children, Del said.

“Littlefork has been a great fit as it gave our six children an opportunity to work with us at the store, be part of the Littlefork Baptist Church and graduate from the Littlefork-Big Falls School,” Del said. “It gave all of us the opportunity to be part of a community that we have come to love.”

The business has gone through numerous changes

over the years, Del said, including the name. It was originally the Littlefork Big Dollar Store, then the Littlefork IGA, and finally the current name, J&D Family Foods.

The family also remodeled the interior and exterior of the building, Del said, and have replaced all the refrigeration and compressors that run the refrigeration system. A new scanning system and computer system have also been added over the years. The most recent update involved installing a new meat case, produce case, and rearranging the store to its current configuration.

Today, the Peterson’s son Shawn manages the store, and two of his sons, Evan and Jacob, now work at the store.

“Although there are difficult times there has been



STAFF PHOTO BY SPENSER BICKETT

Joyce and Del Peterson and their son Shawn are celebrating 25 years of business as owners of J&D Family Foods in Littlefork.

many blessings as well,” Del said. “Joyce and I have had the opportunity to work with our family under one roof as the children were growing up.”

One notable hardship was in November 2004 when employee Anita Charbonneau smelled smoke, and the Littlefork Fire Department was called to put out a fire. The store was closed for 10 days, Del said, while everything was put back in

order. Insurance was able to do some of the remodeling that needed to be done in the aftermath.

“Although it was a difficult time it turned out to be a real blessing,” Del said. “When everything seems the darkest, there is light at the end of the tunnel.”

Over the years, the Petersons have been able to hire employees for whom it was their first job, which has been a blessing, Del said.

“It is a joy to see them mature and go on to bigger and better things once they leave high school,” Del said. “Many come in shy, but because of the experience they receive working with customers they come out of their shell and can better relate to people.”

Some of those employees have stuck around for nearly the entire time the Petersons have owned the store, Del said. Jerry Linder

has worked for them for nearly 20 years, Del said, and has built up a stellar reputation for the meat department. Charbonneau was with them for 17 years before retiring at the age of 80.

“It is the employees that deserve the credit for making a retail business successful,” Del said. “We have been blessed with many good employees over the years.”

Laminate...

Maps, posters and shop drawings up to 38" wide. No seams.

Also, we can mount documents onto 3/16" or 3/8" foam core.

North Star PUBLISHING

Printing & Design

1602 Hwy. 71 • 285-7411

HAPPY 1ST BIRTHDAY

Deacon

Love –
Daddy, Mommy, Cohlton, Nicholas, and Berkley

Falls Eyecare

PRIMARY EYECARE

Why Pay More?

Great Quality-LOW, LOW PRICES.

- We accept outside prescriptions
- Hundreds of frames to choose from
- In-store lab
- Most insurance accepted

Affordable eyewear for the entire family with hometown friendly service.

DR. JAMES SAURDIFF

Open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Located at 621 3rd. Ave. International Falls (across from Northern Lumber) 218-283-2525

GET UP TO A

\$70

COOPER TIRES

VISA® PREPAID CARD

AUGUST 27 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2014*

when you buy a new set of four qualifying tires built not just for the way you drive... but the way you live. That's real-life performance.

\$70 Reward – A/T³, CTS

\$60 Reward – CS5, Cooper Zeon RS3-A, Cooper Zeon RS3-S

\$50 Reward – H/T, H/T Plus

\$40 Reward – CS3

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO COOPERTIREREBATES.COM OR CALL 1.888.288.0369

COOPERTIRES 100 Years

LIFE'S A ROAD TRIP. COME ON, LET'S GO!™

GO TO COOPERTIREREBATES.COM FOR REQUIRED DOWNLOADABLE OFFICIAL MAIL-IN FORM AND FOR OFFICIAL TERMS & CONDITIONS. FORM AND TERMS & CONDITIONS ALSO AVAILABLE AT POINT OF PURCHASE. PAYMENT OF REWARD BASED ON PURCHASES IN THE U.S. AND PUERTO RICO WILL BE MADE THROUGH A COOPER TIRES VISA PREPAID CARD. CARDS ARE ISSUED BY CITIBANK, N.A. PURSUANT TO A LICENSE FROM VISA U.S.A. INC. AND MANAGED BY CITI PREPAID SERVICES. CARDS WILL NOT HAVE CASH ACCESS AND CAN BE USED EVERYWHERE VISA DEBIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED. OFFER IS IN EFFECT FOR TIRES PURCHASED FROM AUGUST 27, 2014 TO OCTOBER 31, 2014. OFFER BASED ON AVAILABILITY OF ELIGIBLE NEW TIRES AT TIME OF PURCHASE. ELIGIBLE TIRES ARE THE COOPER CS3 TOURING, COOPER RESPONSE TOURING**, COOPER GLS TOURING**, COOPER CS5 TOURING, COOPER ZEON RS3-A, COOPER ZEON RS3-S, COOPER ADVENTURER A/T**, COOPER DISCOVERER H/T, COOPER DISCOVERER H/T PLUS, COOPER DISCOVERER A/T3, COOPER DISCOVERER LSX**, COOPER DISCOVERER LSX PLUS**, COOPER DISCOVERER ATP**, COOPER DISCOVERER HTP**, COOPER DISCOVERER RTX** AND COOPER DISCOVERER CTS TIRES. REWARD AMOUNT DEPENDS ON QUALIFYING TIRES. **AVAILABLE AT SELECT RETAILERS.

All Season Equipment Inc.

TRAILERS • TIRES • FULL SERVICE GARAGE

2200 2nd Ave., International Falls, MN • M-F 8-5, Sat 8-12

(218) 373-0373 • www.AllSeasonEquipmentInc.com

Surgical oncology close to home

We understand that when choosing a provider, confidence in their experience, training and expertise is essential. Wesley Papenfuss, MD, FACS, has returned to Sanford Bemidji with fellowship training in surgical oncology, to provide patients with specialized cancer care close to home.

Dr. Papenfuss provides expertise in:

- Breast cancer surgery
- Esophageal and thoracic surgery
- Lower gastrointestinal, colon and rectal surgery
- Upper gastrointestinal and stomach surgery
- Thyroid and parathyroid surgery
- Lung surgery
- Melanoma and sarcoma surgery
- Pancreas, liver, bile duct and gallbladder surgery

Choose expert care. Choose Sanford.

(218) 333-5283

bemidji.sanfordhealth.org

SANFORD
CANCER CENTER