

New businesses opening in Coe Hill



Grand opening of The Barn Chefs in Coe Hill last Saturday. Chefs Luca Molteni and Sarah Woods, with Hastings-Lennox and Addington MP Mike Bossio and his wife Irene.

By Jim Eadie

The newest business to settle in Coe Hill has opened with a bang, drawing over 200 visitors and supporters to their grand opening on May 21. After many years of international work as chefs in the hospitality industry, and saving all of their money, a young couple and their son have realized a dream come true to open their "slice of Italy in Coe Hill".

The Barn Chefs "Luca Molteni, Sarah Woods, and their son Matayo" have erected a brand new facility on the main corner in Coe Hill "a great spot for a traffic light, should the town ever decide to put one in. Molteni is from Italy, and is a fourth generation chef. Woods, also a chef, is from small town Ontario.

"We believe in good food, handcrafted with natural ingredients, and created with passion," said Molteni. "Food made right can make the world a better place on many levels."

"We are very particular about the types of food and ingredients that we buy, manufacture and sell," said Woods. "In making good decisions, it not only benefits you, but also the farmers, the community and the planet."

The couple is offering a wide array of cold cuts, cheeses, custom cakes, preserves and chocolates, all handcrafted in Coe Hill.

Also attending the opening were Mike Bossio, MP for Hastings Lennox and Addington; Rick Phillips, Warden for the County of Hastings; and Wollaston Township Reeve Graham Blair.

"We are very pleased," said Woods. "This was way bigger than what we had planned. We are very happy and thankful for all of the community support."

"I am very happy to see new small businesses opening in North Hastings, and I hope that they do well," said Phillips.

"It is great to see more rural entrepreneurs," noted Bossio, who crossed the road and discovered another new business, open for only its third day. Tracey and Joe Hughes have purchased the former bakery and legendary Ingram's Hardware store, and when Bossio arrived were in the process of hanging out their new business sign: Coe Hill Café.

"We offer home cooking, breakfast and light lunches," she said. "A peaceful, easy feeling atmosphere." The Hughes family has moved to Coe Hill from Oshawa.