



OCONOMOWOC ENTERPRISE

A LAKE COUNTRY TRADITION SINCE 1830

70 years later, an original Kiltie carhop returns

By Sarah Williams-Berg
Special to the Enterprise

TOWN OF OCONOMOWOC — She donned her own white blouse, red shorts and tennies after school at Oconomowoc High, and went to work for The Kiltie Drive-In's second owner in the early '50s. Shorehaven resident Pat Miller proudly tells her peers that she is part of an elite league of women who served as one of The Kiltie's first carhops.

Shorehaven staff escorted a busload of skilled care residents back to their favorite summer spot this month. Miller spotted the diner's sign and said, "Feels just like I'm home."

Kiltie's owner Drew Howie jumped on the bus to welcome all the residents, and tipped his hat to Mrs. Miller.

"I bet you have a lot of memories of this place," he laughed.

Staff walked her from the bus to the Kiltie window to place her order. Miller peered inside at the kitchen and smiled, "It looks so much the same."

Carhop Jenna Anders boarded the bus to take orders and asked Miller what it was like to serve as one of the first employees.

Miller recalled being interviewed for her first job over a fence in her backyard, shopping for a fitting red and white ensemble, chatting with coworkers, and earning



Photo courtesy of Sarah Williams-Berg

Kiltie carhop Jenna Anders connected with original carhop Pat Miller on a recent visit and journey down memory lane.



Photo courtesy of Sarah Williams-Berg

Kiltie Drive-In owner Drew Howie, back right, welcomes Shorehaven residents on a field trip this month to a favorite destination.

minimum wage and nickel tips. Each Wednesday she looked forward to the same gentleman ordering the Kiltie's famous steak sandwich, a sole customer who provided a weekly 50 cent tip.

"Now that was really something," she said.

Working three years in high school and returning each summer in college, Miller told Anders, "You made real friends here with the customers."

The giant gravel lot was home to '50s Thunderbirds, Corvettes and Cadillacs, "and no one wore roller skates, as

some people still think."

Custard to go, slushes, malts and flurries, Miller maintains the french fries were always a hit. "People drove a long way for those fries."

Anders served the group cones in a cup and bid farewell to her new friend.

"It was so awesome meeting her," she said. "My mom worked here and had the idea I should, too, so we span Kiltie generations, too. We've had people stop and say they worked here long ago, but I've never met one of the first carhops."

OCONOMOWOC AREA

Board admi with l facili

Plan will help c sell of fo

By Alex Nemec
anemec@conley.net.com
262-513-2661

OCONOMOWOC — The Oco Area School Board met last week to discuss a long-range facilities plan to aid the board in its decision on or not to sell the former Meacham Elementary School in the Oconomowoc.

The former school — which is occupied by Thirst Church — has been a point of discussion in the community with some people asking for it to be sold while others want to see it kept.

According to a document filed with the agenda, the plan's major goals in

AJ's Pub to Owner reflects of operating lor

By Alex Nemec
anemec@conley.net.com
262-513-2661

OCONOMOWOC — AJ's Pub, 125 N. Main St., has sold and will be closing by the end of the year, according to owner Jenny Keepman.

Keepman said the bar's last day will be Dec. 7.

"We're just trying to have a fun summer as we count down our last days."