



New in Town

Patty's Old Fashioned Popcorn open in Hyde Park

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Written by Shauna Steigerwald

Randy Sloan harbors fond memories of spending time in the kitchen with his father while growing up.

“He worked an awful lot; on Sundays, his hobby was making candy,” Sloan said of his father. “I was the one who showed the interest in it, so I got to be ‘Dad’s helper.’”

That interest led the Decatur, Illinois native to start his own popcorn business in Utah, which he grew to four stores, about two and a half decades ago. Though he sold the business to pay his daughter’s medical bills and spent years working in medical insurance and logistics, the desire to get back into treat making stayed with him.

“I’ve always thought, ‘if I ever got the chance, I’d love to do it again,’” Sloan said.

That chance has finally presented itself: Sloan and partner Pat Atkinson, now Florence residents, opened Patty’s Old Fashioned Popcorn at 3437 Michigan Ave. in Hyde Park, in the former lululemon athletica space, last week. The athletic wear shop moved into a larger, 3,600-square-foot space at 3500 Michigan Ave. in late October.

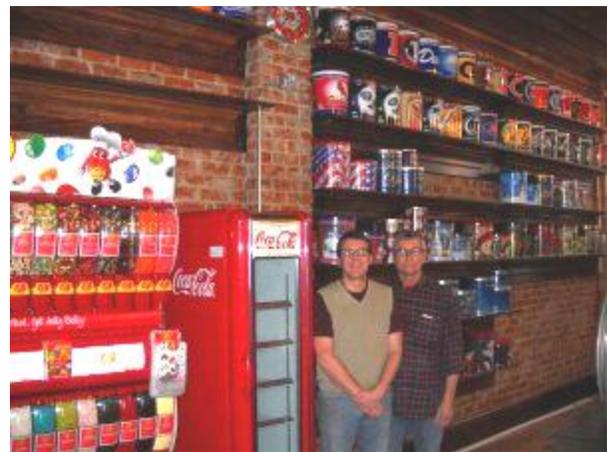
Patty’s carries made-from-scratch, preservative-free popcorn in traditional flavors such as kettle corn, caramel corn and cheddar cheese corn, plus specialty varieties such as Sloan’s “Shop Suey,” caramel corn with wide ribbon coconut and redskin peanuts, served in Chinese food containers. Half-gallon through 10-gallon decorative cans featuring sports teams and holiday themes are available, as are customized cans created by an on-site vinyl cutter.

Aside from popcorn, Sloan carries treats such as homemade fudge, pralines, fresh roasted nuts, homemade peanut butter, cotton candy and carnival treats.

“When I was a kid, you went into JC Penney or Sears, and they always had a candy counter,” he said. “It’s loosely based on that, [with a] nostalgic, old-fashioned feel.”

Hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday.

Info: 513-533-CORN (2676).



Randy Sloan (left) and Pat Atkinson are pictured in front of the Jelly Belly display and wall of popcorn tins at their new shop, Patty’s Old Fashioned Popcorn. (Provided photo)