

Milestone in Business



Left to Right: Jarrett Blight, Jamie McKeen, Marion Imeson (McKeen), Jed McKeen, Jody McKeen, Lisa Blight, & Marianne Thompson.



Paddy's Market Family Owned & Operated for 64 Years

Since 1955, Paddy's Market has been family-owned and operated. The business, which today is a well-known name whose memorable and lovable jingle can be heard on local radio stations year-round, was originally focused on repairing and selling used appliances. "Really, what my father did was grab a few washers from the dump and had them in the front yard, and people started stopping in to buy parts off of them," says current owner Jed McKeen. "That's how it got started."

Interestingly, the business didn't even have a name when it began. "Our customers really named it for us," Jed laughs. "Someone asked my father, 'What's this place called?' My aunt Pat was there, so my father told the man he might as well go ahead and call it Paddy's Market."



Jed and his wife Jody have run the store since 1989 after taking over from his aunt, and as is true of each of our successful family businesses here in Durham, they have invested a lot of time and energy. "The reason we're so successful is that we work for the customer," Jed says. "It's great when everything goes smoothly, but when there's a problem, that's when you've got to put

the work in, go the extra mile for your customer." Also, Jed credits the store's success to the fact that in his buying practices, in the deals he looks for, he is looking to pass those deals on to the customer. "It feels great to be a part of a community that is expanding as rapidly as Durham Region," he says.

"It's our job to expand with our community, and that's what we've strived to do."

