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Showing postings 1 - 13 of 13 in the thread: Bill's No.7.

Posting: Bill's No.7	Posting 1
Poster: Tina	
Date: 23 May 2006 1:47 PM	

Does anyone know why it was called Bill's No.7?

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7	Posting 2
Poster: Ada	
Date: 23 May 2006 4:34 PM	

Good question! It was called that when Henry Rothblatt ran it. Did it become Corsi's after that (late 1960's?).

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7	Posting 3
Poster: JayJay	
Date: 23 May 2006 5:01 PM	

Proprietor, William "Bill" Sledjeski during the 40's. He lived on Windham Road. Great guy, hard worker, liked by everyone.

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7	Posting 4
Poster: Ernie G	
Date: 23 May 2006 5:01 PM	

I believe that it was named for Bill Sledjeski who owned it before he bought the Shell Chateau in the early Forties.

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7	Posting 5
Poster: Tina	
Date: 23 May 2006 6:01 PM	

But why the "No.7"?

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7	Posting 6
Poster: Tom	
Date: 23 May 2006 7:05 PM	

Apparently, Joe Corsi (pictured in Bill's No. 7 in 1977) purchased this eatery at 725 Main Street from Henry Rothblatt, who in turn had acquired it from Bill Sledjeski. Rothblatt had decided to keep the name, Bills' No. 7, so called because it had been Sledjeski's 7th restaurant: Joe Corsi and his wife Mary continued the tradition.



Charlie Barret has connected the No 7 restaurant to the Lucky Strike lunch counter. He recalled that Bill Evashowski was No 7's dish washer, and that his brother, "Jocko" worked for Bill Rieff, who ran the lunch counter at the Lucky Strike in the late 50s and 60s. Jocko worked as a pinboy for the LS bowling alley owner Frank Barber too.

"Lots of characters hung out at LS -- like "Nick The Stick," a black man, who lived with his wife down underneath the bowling alley in an apt. that faced the Wili River. Those were very interesting days in willi's colorful history!"

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7 Posting 7
 Poster: Roger L. Abare
 Date: 23 May 2006 7:32 PM

Bill Evashowski was a good bowler and entered many tourments at the Lucky Strike Alleys. Jocko did set pins, I know because for a short time I did also. I worked down stairs where the women bowled. They were slower bowlers and the beginner pinboys could handle the pace. The Murphy brothers worked upstairs along with Jocko. Jocko tried to organize a strike for more pay and only two of us went out. Both of us were fired and rehired a day later. I know the pay was based on each string. Money wasn't everything, we also got to see the great tourments.

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7 Posting 8
 Poster: Francis "Whitey" Sellars
 Date: 23 May 2006 8:58 PM

The lucky strike luncheonette was also run by Fritz Lariviere. The luncheonette was also a bus terminal, they sold grey hound, blue line and a couple of other lines tickets. Fritz disappeared and was never heard of again. Nobody to this day knows what happened to him. A willimantic mystery.

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7 Posting 9
 Poster: JayJay
 Date: 23 May 2006 10:24 PM

To Ernie G: I completely forgot that Bill Sledgeski had owned and operated the Shell Chateau. His operation of "No. 7" really went back to the late 30's. Since the threads are connecting to the Lucky Strike Luncheonette, seems that back in those days it was at least operated, if not owned, by "Mundy" Normandin and his wife. My parents and rest of the crew from the St. Joseph's Guild who ran the parish bingo on Friday nights would go to the LS for a bite before calling it a day... excuse me, a night! That was the standard routine.

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7 Posting 10
 Poster: Ernie G
 Date: 24 May 2006 1:37 AM

Whitey, Bobby Connell also ran his taxi business (Murphy's Taxi) from the front window corner in front of the lunch counter. Bill Sledjeski also owned the Light House at the intersection of route 6 and 6A in Columbia. It was only open during the summer and had pony rides for the kids. My Dad ran it for a few summers.

I know quite a bit about that corner. I was involved in a bad accident in 1953 when I was in the Air Force. the car that I was in had a head on collision with a semi that had new cars on it there. I was pronounced dead at the scene but I made it OK. Dr Majors sewed me up at Windham Hospital but I still have the scars.

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7 Posting 11
 Poster: Bill Sledjeski, (jr.)
 Date: 5 June 2006 8:26 PM

The restaurant was originally located on 7 Railroad St., near the railroad station. It moved to it's location on Main St., early 40's, and retained the no. 7 address.

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7 Posting 12
 Poster: William Brainard
 Date: 5 June 2006 8:31 PM

Kewl! I learn something new every day!

Posting: Re: Bill's No.7 Posting 13
 Poster: Ada
 Date: 6 June 2006 3:02 PM

Thanks for this bit of history, Bill. That is so interesting. Your Dad and mine were in Kiwanis together for years.