

LES FABRIQUES AT NEW LOCATION

The process began over two years ago when Carolyn Betts of Downer & Associates met with Carla Quenneville of Les Fabriques. For 12 years, the trendy fabric store was located at Barracks Road Shopping Center, and for the last 14 years in Shoppers World.

“Carla was looking for more space, more visibility and easier access for her customers,” Carolyn noted. “She also wanted to be on the 29 North corridor if possible.”



CARLA QUENNEVILLE (LEFT) AND CAROLYN BETTS AT NEW LES FABRIQUES LOCATION

“I think I’ve found the place you want,” Carolyn later said in a phone call to Carla. The 8,000 square foot site turned out to be the space previously occupied by Bassett Furniture in the former Ron Martin Building across Rt. 29 from Lowe’s.

“Carolyn was instrumental in helping realize my dream of a better location for Les Fabriques, yet one that was affordable,” Carla stated. “She understood my vision and helped us from the search process through the negotiations. I absolutely recommend Carolyn and Downer Realty when it comes to finding an ideal location for a new or an existing business.”

Les Fabriques is now assisting many people who have never taken a “Home Economics” class in achieving skills at a sewing machine. From younger ladies just beginning, to those who once sewed and are returning to their machines, Les Fabriques is fast becoming the fabric store of choice.

“There has been a resurgence in home sewing,” Carla said. “Some can be attributed to the economy and some is the joy of sewing that people are discovering and rediscovering.”

Many women today find that if you don’t like the colors of choice and the current styles offered by the fashion stores, you’re out of luck.

“Those clothes don’t look good on me,” they say. Or, “I can’t find clothes that fit.”

Carla has been sewing since she was girl.

“I make almost all the clothes that I wear and that my daughters wore,” she admitted. “I love to sew. I find it to be my creative outlet, and many others do as well.”

The store offers innovative dressmaker fabrics such as fine silks, linens, wools, cottons, designer fabrics and beautiful imports. The store also has a Bridal Salon where future brides can select elegant fabrics. A sewing

professional, and designer, Rosalba Valentino, is on staff to assist with selections and/or custom make the bridal gowns. In some cases, it can actually be less expensive to have a gown custom-made than to buy it off the rack and have it altered.

“Rosalba does beautiful work,” Carla emphasized. “She is very avant garde and makes the dress work for the bride, not the other way around.”

Les Fabriques opened in its new location on January 3 and already customers are raving about the openness, the friendliness and the décor of the store.

“I was welcomed with open arms,” said a customer, new to sewing and quite inexperienced.

Les Fabriques has ongoing sewing classes during the weekdays, weeknights and weekends. They offer patterns and professional instruction.

“We have many talented, teaching instructors,” Carla said. The shop also sells and services sewing machines, including Brothers and Pfaff.

Stop by soon and see the beautiful array of fabrics and chat with the friendly staff at Les Fabriques. Call them at 434-975-0710 or go to www.lesfabriquesinc.com. For expert commercial real estate advice and service, call Downer & Associates at (434) 296-0545 or visit www.downerandassociates.com