

# Clint & Lori Rohdin open “Smokestack Trading Post”

SANGERVILLE – If you’re over age 40, the old mill with the iconic chimney in Sangerville will always be Dover Stove.

With a big nod to the past, new owners Clint and Lori Rohdin have big plans for the future of the surprisingly well-preserved structure, perched perfectly between the Moosehead trail and Carlton Stream.

They purchased the building from the estate of longtime friend Charles MacArthur in December 2015. Charlie saw potential in the building due to the dam out back for hydropower, the three-phase electrical system for manufacturing and easy access for shipping.

They are having an open house on Saturday, Sept. 17 from 2-6 p.m. so visitors can see the inside of the historic structure.

Clint and Lori had no idea what they were going to do with the property. But while working on cleaning out the mill, its true potential began to be obvious.

Like most residents who live on Route 23, they often thought if they could just tap into the steady stream of northbound out-of-state traffic that only hits the brakes in Sangerville to go left, they could show people the hidden jewel Sangerville is and make a buck in the process.

The large lot – visually accessible from the raised road – makes an awesome display area, so they’ve put in an office and are going to sell used cars. You may have seen the “Smokestack Trading Post” sign already.

The next step is to build a space in the old receiving room out back on the waterfront for a small restaurant to lease out to some entrepreneur.

Meanwhile, they’re trying to sell off the accumulation of cool stuff that always seems to migrate into Clint’s yard so they can focus on the mill itself.

The third floor has room for five spacious waterfront motel rooms with efficiency kitchens for vacation rentals.

They are looking at ways to market to the stream of motorcyclists because they could park inside, eat in and stay over. They also fit more bikes on the site than campers.

Lori is thinking that the 5,000 square feet on the second floor would make a great event center, but this is only in the planning stage at this point.

Clint and Lori want to thank Sangerville Town Manager Ken Woodbury as he has been extremely helpful and available.

At the open house, they want to hear ideas about how to bring income into the state and also how this property would best serve the residents of this town

They also know their plans seem a little over the top for two “country bumpkins” from nowhere. However, they are a true “power couple.”

They met in 1992 while working at Dexter Health Care, barely making ends meet.

Clint quit that job – along with many more he can’t remember – spending the last 20 years painting, plowing, and installing metal roofing as a private contractor.

He was also on a History Channel program recently which proved to be costly and frustrating. While he enjoyed the opportunity to show Sangerville to the nation, he said he would not do it again.

Lori was a CNA for nearly 10 years but interrupted her career to be a mom and lead the local Girl Scout Troop for seven years. She also worked as an always-available volunteer at school and in the community while doing the unsung work homemakers do to keep the home fires burning.

Clint and Lori have tried to experience all life has to offer: snowboarding skydiving and riding motorcycles together all over the state and never shy away from adventure.

Now with their daughters Nina and Cassidy helping, they are looking to hunker down and see what kind of life they can carve out with both feet on the ground, side-by-side in the place they are proud to call home: Sangerville, Maine.