

Patrice and Ron Brezner of Driftwood Dr., owners of Dobski's restaurant in Waterford Township, closed up shop after 10 years.

Last call for pierogi, stuffed cabbage and other homecooking when Dobski's Restaurant closed its doors for the final time. Owners Patrice and Ron Brezner have sold the building at the corner of Cooley Lake and Williams Lake roads and closed for good Feb. 15.

The couple had hoped to build a new restaurant on property north of the current location, but the plans stalled while the developer who bought their building was ready to move forward.

"Everything happened so fast," Patricia Brezner said. "Timing is everything." Brezner said it would be unfair to close for six months and have the staff move on and then try to reconstruct the business in a new building.

"It just wouldn't be the same without the whole gang there," Brezner said. "It wouldn't be fair to the staff and it wouldn't be fair to other employers to let them go work somewhere else and then try to hire them back in six months.

The restaurant's namesake, Ted Dobski, opened the restaurant in 1958. Brezner and her husband bought it in 1993. In an era of chain restaurants, Dobski's built a steady business by offering homecooked fare.

Brezner said the place has its quirks, which she attributed to Ted Dobski. "The coffee pot would turn off, or the light would go on we'd all say 'There's Ted again,'" she said.

One downside to the business has been the tight quarters, Brezner said. John R Lumber yard sits next door. The two roads are within feet of the outside of the building and the rear area was reserved for parking.

"Our business was literally bursting at the seams," Brezner said. The whole corner will be developed to house a CVS drugstore. The lumber yard has already closed. When the doors closed, they had an auction to sell off furnishings and other equipment. We wanted to be able to say goodbye to our customers and go out on a high note," Pat said.