



This Rensselaer Super Service station was the predecessor of Arihood's Tire Mart located at Washington and Front streets. Herb Arihood's uncle's father, John Marlatt, started the business

in 1912 and Herb's father, Herbert E. Arihood, purchased the business in 1948. In the picture from left are Perry Marlatt, Fritz Wallace and Jen Mackey.

Arihood family runs tire store since 1912

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RENSSELAER — In taking a look around Arihood's Tire Mart at W. Washington and S. Front streets, one might think that the business has not changed over the years.

Even a look inside the confines of the bay area and tire mounting spaces would leave one thinking that not a whole lot of different variety is here. But then take a look again at what is stacked up all around.

Owner Herb H. Arihood has worked at the Rensselaer tire store since 1954, and his operation is one of the largest tire suppliers in this part of the state.

"Our business has changed at least 180 degrees in just over the past few years," Arihood said. "When I started, we had about three sizes of tires. And now we have about 35."

The business was the first garage in Rensselaer and started in 1912 when Arihood's uncle's father, John

Marlatt, began putting Rensselaerians on wheels. His father, Herbert E. Arihood, bought into the business in 1948, and became the sole owner in 1951. It has been an Arihood business for 37 years.

"It has changed with the times really because basically we have consolidated into a different aspect with a wheel and custom shop," Arihood said. "We have had to decrease our workforce over the years, but our gross sales factor has doubled while we have reduced our

overhead."

Arihood claims that if you don't make the change with the times, then you won't exist. At least 25 percent of his business comes from outside the company because of the variety of products he makes available to the customer.

"We find that if you are going to stay in a position, you either change with the times or expire," he said. "Today's automobiles and trucks are so diversified that you have to keep a very large stock and variety of tires," Arihood said.