

# From Paul's Desk



by Paul Haig



**HAIG'S**   
**of ROCHESTER**  
**FINE JEWELRY**  
*custom • classic • antique*

## DIAMONDS WORTH THEIR WEIGHT

One of the factors that consumers should bear in mind when purchasing a diamond is "carat" weight. The term is derived from carob, a popular chocolate substitute. In ancient times, merchants in the Mediterranean region used a single carob bean to designate a unit of measured weight. At the same time in the Far East, four grains of rice were used to equal the weight of one carob bean. In time, the carat was standardized at 200 milligrams (one-fifth of a gram) and the grain was standardized at 50 milligrams. Diamond weights are also referred to in terms of points, with one carat equaling 100 points. Thus, a 75-point diamond will be equal to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of one carat.

Valentine's Day is a wonderful day to get engaged or to tell your loved one how much you care. If you are considering a diamond purchase, determine the cut, color and clarity grade you're looking for in a diamond. Then it is easy to determine the carat weight of a diamond that will fit within your budget. HAIG'S OF ROCHESTER FINE JEWELRY has a knowledgeable and professional staff that will work with you to choose the very best diamond with consideration to her style, the size of her finger, the size of your setting and your budget. We are conveniently located at 311 Main Street in downtown Rochester. We are a full service jewelry store and can be reached at 248-652-3660 or at [service@haigsofrochester.com](mailto:service@haigsofrochester.com).

Spend \$150 or more in our store February 11, 12 or 13 and YOU MIGHT WIN A \$1000 SHOPPING SPREE. See our web site at [haigsofrochester.com](http://haigsofrochester.com) for details.

P.S. While carat weight is used as a measure for gemstones other than diamonds, they may be smaller or larger than diamonds because of their different densities.

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