

LOCAL

life



Photo by Ted Amsden

STAY THE COURSE: David Gray mans a floor sander during the refinishing of the Victoria Hall Concert Hall floor.

The last tour inspired concerns about the Concert Hall floor, she admitted.

"It's wonderful to have it looked after, because we were really afraid it was going to be in big trouble."

As guardians of the trust, they try to act unobtrusively, she said — yet they are always there if needed. By contrast, said Ms. Craig, the refinishing of the woodwork around the Concert Hall floors and doors is being done out of their regular budget: half now and half later, probably in January.

"It was looking a little sad and it needs a special finish," she said.

It's not a simple refinishing job, she explained. It includes some graining to make the wood look nicer.

"A gentleman from Northumberland Painting did that with a crew member who had just finished work at Casa Loma," she said.

Library to open all week

BY CECILIA NASMITH
STAFF WRITER

COBOURG — For the first time in its history, Cobourg will soon be able to take advantage of seven-days-a-week library service.

Sunday openings, which begin September 13, are a response to a 1997 user survey in which a large number of student patrons asked for Sunday opening, said library board chairman Art Cockerill. The Sunday openings bring to 55 the number of hours weekly in which the library is open. The board's 1998-2000 business plan envisions an eventual 64-hour library week.

At the time of the survey, said trustee Wendy Curtis, the library closed at 3 p.m. Fridays, leaving students only Saturdays to make use of the library over the weekend — a concern since the board is keenly interested in making the library's resources, including internet access, available to students, she said.

Sunday hours will continue throughout the school year, said Ms. Curtis. During that time, some kind of user survey will be undertaken to determine whether Sunday

usership is mainly confined to students. Should there be heavy family use of the library Sundays, she said, "we would strive to maintain those hours."

This is part of the board's shift from being a resource deliverer to trying to understand the needs of the community, she added.

The Sunday openings are from 1 to 5 p.m. The other hours remain the same as they have been for the past three months, when the hours were last expanded: 1 to 5 p.m. Mondays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Ms. Curtis is trying to determine how many other Ontario libraries offer Sunday service.

"My bet is very, very few," she said. "This is superior-quality service, and we are striving to do that in every way, shape and form."

The increased hours will not affect the library's two branches in Hamilton Township. In Bewdley, the hours are 3 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. In Gore's Landing, the hours are 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

Victoria Hall led upgrade

BY CECILIA NASMITH
STAFF WRITER

Upgrades of about 15 percent were completed from the Victorian era.

Ms. Craig had not been refinishing the King Street edifice since the 1980s.

"It's the first chance to finish, Ms. Craig said. One in the evenings are of the materials used. But the last of goes on tonight.

It's the first chance to finish, Ms. Craig said.

Work carried out by the trust service that subsidizes the Victoria Hall.

Mary Jane Pocock, heritage trust fund manager from the restoration.

Our of Victoria Hall and just make sure up the way we think, way back when, a hard to get the hall

Facing more charges

Several alleged assaults took place in the town of Cobourg and Hamilton Township.

Mr. Hillier was an employee of the Cobourg Police Service during the

14.

Detective Constable J. Murphy of the Northumberland OPP Crime Unit, based in Brighton, is continuing the investigation.