

# Langcraft brings European love of hobbies to town

One of the Halton Hills Arts Council's few commercial member-groups, downtown Georgetown's Langcraft, started out as Georgetown Hobbies and Crafts in the spring of 1971. Store owners Jim and Lida Langedyk emigrated from Holland in 1952. Mr. Langedyk accepting civil engineering jobs in Alberta and Saskatchewan before being transferred to Ontario six years later. He currently works for Cannon Incorporated's pipe division in Toronto.

The Langedyks moved to Georgetown in August, 1970, and soon decided that what the community needed was a good hobby shop. Mr. Langedyk recalls that he searched the town high and low for a razor knife with which to pursue his own hobby interests, but had no success.

Since his youth in the Netherlands, Mr. Langedyk has enjoyed hobbies as diverse as remote-control model plane flying and dollhouse making. The whole family - the Langedyks have raised ten children - derives much pleasure from hobbies and

Two more member-groups of the Halton Hills Arts Council come under close scrutiny in the following "double feature", part of an ongoing Herald series about the Arts Council, an umbrella organization for local arts-oriented groups. From the annual Summerfest celebrations to the new "Musical Trillight" concert series, which began last Wednesday night, the Arts Council is actively promoting the fine arts in Halton Hills. For more information, contact president Gretchen Day at 877-8680 or publicity director Gail Finlayson at 877-0357.

crafts, the kind of activity that Europeans pursue much more so than North Americans. Mr. Langedyk estimates that one in every three European homes has a model train set up somewhere inside, compared to only about one in 25 here.

in the store, especially Richard, Vera, Mary, Linda, and daughter-in-law Michelle. MAIN STREET From modest beginnings on Wesleyan Street as strictly a hobby shop for men and boys, Langcraft has moved to the Main Street site now occupied by Aalto Travel and again across the road to its present location in what used to be half of Silvers, and has grown to provide a wide-ranging variety of hobby supplies for the whole family, with yarns, stitching kits and art supplies joining

models and trains on the shelves. Mr. Langedyk estimates his crowded shelves feature 5,000 different items, with the biggest sellers being yarns and picture frames (the store offers a framing service). Plastic model kits are as popular as ever, he adds.

Almost as popular, though, are Langcraft's weekly courses in macrame, crochet and needlecraft and occasional workshops in doll-making and preparing Christmas decorations. Other workshops showing participants how to make pinecone wreaths, decorated brooms and mats and Christmas centrepieces have a significant part in the store's service, particularly since 65 per cent of its annual business comes around Christmas time. Keen interest in the courses and workshops has helped convince Mr. Langedyk the future is bright for Halton Hills' arts and crafts community. It's a refreshing trend, he says, when the old-fashioned crafts - employing natural utensils - return in popularity, and families are again hanging

non-artificial Christmas wreaths on their front doors. More and more local people, he reports with pleasure, are enjoying working more with their hands.

Among Halton Hills hobbyists, the Georgetown Model Railroad Club had a head-start. Kindred spirits gathered when the Langedyks opened their hobby store, and until the move across Main Street, the club had a permanent railway display set up in the store. Langcraft usually holds an annual exhibition which is open to all hobbyists, but the past year's proven too busy a time.

ARTS COUNCIL Adding to Mr. Langedyk's optimism about the future is the Halton Hills Arts Council, a group he credits for much of the progress witnessed on the local arts scene in recent years. Having joined the Arts Council because they felt they can contribute to that scene, the Langedyks are regular exhibitors themselves at the Council's annual Summerfest celebration of the arts.

Langcraft carries many different styles of mouldings suitable for paintings, photographs and needlework and offers picture framing and needlework blocking as store services.

As well as sharing their own knowledge and talents at demonstrations around the area, Lida and daughters Vera and Linda attend many crafts courses themselves both in Canada and in the U.S.



Christmas crafts were the subject of a workshop conducted by Vera Girdwood at Langcraft last week. Langcraft supplies and offers workshops and courses in specific crafts. The store is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Langedyk. (Herald photo)

## Sharing talents, resources key to Credit Valley Artisans

By TINA ROSS

Herald Special

One of Halton Hills' most fundamentally important arts-oriented groups, the Credit Valley Artisans (CVA) began with more than a little help from the town recreation department in 1975, from the start, its chief objective has been to maintain and build a pool of facilities and supplies to accommodate an increasingly varied group of local arts and crafts groups.

"The Cottage" has done much to help the CVA meet its objective, and again, town recreation officials deserve a vote of thanks.

The Cottage is Cedarvale Park's other traditional homestead, located immediately beside the community centre. Long a part of the girls' school which Cedarvale once housed and more recently a gathering place for socially-minded senior citizens, today it's busier than ever providing space and comfort to dozens of artisans.

The CVA finds most of its financial support through membership dues, course fees, sale commissions and town and government grants.

Anyone interested in joining the CVA or finding out more about its work can contact president Bonnie Smith at 853-3331.

Members agree that Cedarvale Cottage, the home of Credit Valley Artisans, is a fun place to meet for work or play.

Downstairs, brightly-painted orange heat ducts lend a gay look to the potters' refuge. The other arts and crafts are housed on the main floor in warm and comfortable camaraderie.

The courses that Credit Valley Artisans offered this fall included Pioneer Crafts, Beginners' Weaving, Silver and Calligraphy. Past courses in various sessions have also included Drawing and Composition, Watercolor, Stained Glass, Off-loom and Intermediate Weaving, and Silk Screen.

Winter courses will start in early January; the programme for these will be announced later in the year. Children's and teenagers' pottery and weaving generally run as Saturday courses in the summer.

Future plans include various workshops, such as off-loom weaving, pottery and pioneer crafts.

The weavers of the area have the opportunity to make use of CVA's 100-inch loom which is housed in the cottage. Some really beautiful work has come out of that



Monica Jordan and Michelle Corney were just two of the women who took advantage of the Credit Valley Artisans just-completed course in pioneer crafts. This particular craft involves making wreaths from pinecones. The Credit Valley Artisans offer a wide range of craft courses, including pottery, weaving and stained glass.

(Herald photo)

room, either personal use or at times, as the mainstay of a raffle to raise funds.

The Georgetown Palette and Pencil Club meets at the cottage on Tuesday evenings to work and exchange ideas. The work is professional and the artistic chatter enthralling.

The Club also use the cottage for special shows to exhibit and sell their work, which includes oils, watercolors, prints and sketches.

The first of many planned "Film Nights" was held at the cottage last night (Tuesday). Short films examining Japanese Art, the World of Andrew Wyeth and the Silver Smith of Williamsburg were shown. The Film Night's function is twofold: They not only give CVA members a chance to learn about different art techniques, but also an opportunity to meet for informal get-togethers. Future Film Night dates will be announced in the newspaper. The CVA hope to have one a month.

Credit Valley Artisans also participate in the Halton Hills Arts Council's annual Summerfests, the 1979 version of which was held in Acton; this year it ran in

conjunction with Georgetown's Pioneer Days. Space was provided for artisans to

demonstrate and sell their arts and crafts.

For the first time, members were asked to participate in a juried show in which awards and artistic critique were given for the following categories: 1. Painting (printing, drawing, batik, etc.) 2. Clay work 3. Weaving, on and off loom, stitching 4. Metalwork, enameling 5. Glass, stained glass, lapidary 6. Wood and leatherswork 7. Folk arts and crafts (apple dolls etc.)

Plans are now afoot for further juried shows so that CVA members may continue to benefit from periodic appraisal of their work.

CHRISTMAS SHOW

One of the most important annual events for Credit Valley Artisans is their Christmas Show and Craft Sale.

As a prelude to Christmas, the cottage is decked in holly, and the seasonal tune of Christmas carols creates a wonderfully warm and friendly atmosphere. Here, Credit Valley Artisan members display many types of artwork, including painting, weaving, stained glass, pottery, silk screen and much, much more. Hot punch and Christmas cookies are offered to those who come to browse or buy.

This year, the Christmas show will be held at Cedarvale Cottage Nov. 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Apart from refreshments, there will also be a bake table and raffle. Admission is free.

### Recreates role

A popular local minister, Peter Barrow, will turn actor this month for a production of the historical play, "Murder in the Cathedral".

Rev. Barrow will appear as the First Priest in the play but it won't be his first venture as an actor. Many years ago, Rev. Barrow appeared in a production of the same play at Lincoln Cathedral in England. At that time, his role was that of the First Knight.

Completing the cast in this Nordic Studios production will be actors from the Georgetown and Brampton Little Theatres.

The combination of church and theatre is an old tradition which many people may not be familiar with. But for centuries, dating back to the morality plays and before, the church and the theatre were closely connected.

Based on the life and death of Thomas Becket, an Archbishop of Canterbury who



PETER BARROW

was murdered while at vespers in the church, the play will be presented in the sanctuary of Knox Church on three succeeding nights, November 11, 15 and 16.

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