



GDHS HONORED

These Georgetown District High School students received an award of appreciation from the Red Cross Society for their help at a blood donor clinic that was held at GDHS. The students are members of the MECCA Club. From left to right are Mrs. Erica Thompson, chairman of the

Georgetown Branch of the Red Cross, Peter Rasanen, president of the club, Leesa Frank, Jennifer Dalton, Rob Smith (back Paula Zilo, Jo-Anne Davies and Mrs. Flo Street, the past chairman of the Red Cross.

(Herald photo)

Christmas decorations

On a shoe string budget

By SHIRLEY LESSARD

Herald Special

Neighbors may need to guard their shrubs and evergreens if Susan Spalding's tongue in cheek remarks are taken seriously.

While showing the women from the Howden Ladies Club how to decorate for Christmas on a shoestring budget she told them to cut trimmings from their own trees and then laughingly suggested the women visit their friendly neighbors' trees for snips if their yard was bare.

All in fun, she made a table centerpiece from a piece of styrofoam, three candles, a bow, a few decorations and, of course, evergreen trimmings. She did not say how these came into her possession.

"Press the candles into the styrofoam and use white glue to fix them in place, cover the base with as much greenery as you want and the sides with ribbon," she said. "Buy pine cones on a stem or, borrow a few from your neighbor, and add store-bought picks to them to

hold them in place." A word of advice from the interior decorator that she is: "Tend to put everything in threes, it looks better."

The arrangement was done in oranges to complement her color scheme.

"It isn't everyone that can have red and green decorations in their home," said Mrs. Spalding. "But you can still decorate so it will look Christmasy."

To prove her point she made the table arrangement with orange candles and bow. This centerpiece is not only for show, she will light it for her family on Christmas.

To prevent fire or water damage she advises water spraying the greenery at least twice a week and using satin ribbon to make the bow as velvet ribbon will lose its color if sprayed with water.

A naturalist in decorating, she prefers using real things to work her magic. An actual loaf of braided bread bought at a bakery made one of her most impressive centerpieces.

"Buy the bread and place it in the oven at 200 degrees F overnight," she said. "Leave it in until it is nice and hard but not brittle, about eight hours, then make holes in it with a sharp instrument and give it seven coats of shellac allowing each coat to dry before adding the next. Then use candles, ribbons and pine cones, or any decorations to decorate it."

"Although I do believe in using natural things to decorate a few artificial berries or decorations are fine - cheating on a few things never hurt."

To give her arrangement some life she removed the ends from a few small Christmas tree balls and shoved a pipe cleaner in the hole to help secure it to the centerpiece.

"Making arrangements can be a great family project," said Mrs. Spalding. "By using small candy canes as ornaments and letting the children decorate their own arrangements, you can bring them into the spirit of the season." For a more formal look in decorating "use lots and lots of candles, they make everything look so nice."

In keeping with the shoestring budget, she brought out round wicker plates with a hole in the centre, wound

brightly colored ribbon around it, added a bow with long streamers and made an eye-catching door decoration.

When Mrs. Spalding decorates for Christmas everything in the house, even the bathroom, gets its share.

"Again I've cut down some leafless shrubs, either mine or you know whose, sprayed them with white paint, placed them in a pot and added tiny bows to the branches." Voilà an easy-care, quite avant-garde decoration that will look great in any room.

One of her secrets to bathroom decorating is using clippings from eucalyptus trees dotted with small bows.

"In case you didn't know, eucalyptus absorbs odors."

—Courtesy Brampton Times



Mary Barak of Durham Street snuggled up to a Humpty Dumpty doll made by a fellow resident at the seniors' home, Millie Munshaw. The doll was one of many hand crafted items for sale at the seniors' bazaar Saturday afternoon. Turnout at the bazaar was high.

(Herald photo)

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Moving to town? Try joining YMCA Newcomers Club

By ROBIN BAKEWELL

Herald Staff

Anyone who has just moved into the community and is feeling a little lost or would like to get out and meet people is invited to join the "Y" Newcomer's Club.

The club, now in its fifth year, is open to anyone who has been in the community less than two years.

During monthly meetings a variety of social activities take place through involvement with the club including a games club, gourmet dinner club and craft club.

Formed under the auspices of the Georgetown Y the present club officers are as new to the community as many of the members. Club officers are changed every couple of years to keep the spirit of the club new.

Guest speakers are featured at every meeting and there is plenty of coffee and conversation. November's meeting, which was attended by about 15 newcomers to the area featured wreath making displayed by co-chairmen Heather Clemmer and Jo-Anne Smithson.

The craft, according to Jo-Anne Smithson, takes about eight hours to complete and involves compressing wet moss into a wire frame in which pine cones are then wired.

A variety of nuts and other items may be added after which the wreath goes through a two week drying period.

Claudette Smith, executive director of the Georgetown Y, was on hand at the meeting to welcome some of the new members into the

community and familiarize them with some of the programs offered at the Y.

Citing her feelings when she first arrived in town, Mrs. Smith said the club was a great social thing and a good

way of meeting people.

The club gets together at the Halton Hills Kinder School, 14 Main Street South in Georgetown.

Interested parties may call Heather Clemmer at 877-1240 or Jo-Anne Smithson at 877-5768.

Lutheran congregation special dates

Christmas Worship at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Georgetown: In addition to our regular 11 a.m. worship every Sunday, there will be two special services to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

One will be on Monday, Dec. 24, at 7:30 p.m., and the other one will be on Tuesday, Dec. 25, at 10 a.m. Both services will feature the singing of traditional Christmas hymns.

A special feature of the Christmas Eve service only will be the singing by candlelight of "Silent Night", first in the original German and then in English.



Jo Anne Smithson demonstrates the process for making Christmas wreaths at the November meeting of the Georgetown "Y" Newcomers Club. The club meeting was attended by approximately 15 newcomers to the area.

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