

Eclectic craft and gift shop opens in Rockwood

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

The Rockwood Miller

The owner of Rockwood's newest business, Karen Frawley at An Elegant Touch, said that the village seemed to be an ideal place for her to locate.

"Rockwood draws a lot of tourists interested in what I carry, which is everything from furniture to crafts to one-of-a-kind home furnishings," Frawley explained in an interview Wednesday.

Frawley, who has a background in interior decorating and craft making and teaching, offers both consignment and retail items in her store, along with craft lessons for youngsters.

"I have a lot of early American pine and some oak furniture, crafts, folk art, leather goods and wedding stuff and also I have gifts and gift baskets for every occasion," Frawley said, noting that she will soon offer fresh-cut flowers, along with the dried arrangements now in

her shop.

Frawley, who grew up in Ospringe and has lived in Rockwood for five years, began by decorating her own home.

"Soon, friends and other people were asking me to either work on their homes, or show them how to do it themselves and my hobby turned into a business."

Frawley is also offering weekly craft classes for children in which they will make their own piniatta as well as make and paint clay pots and then grow herbs from seeds in them.

"We will also decorate a bird house, do some bead crafts, sponge painting and string art and the older kids, including teens, can take part in a tole painting course offered in the afternoons," Frawley said.

The morning crafts courses are geared for seven to 11-year-olds and run daily from 9 am until noon and include a snack and drink.

The cost is \$75 per week.

The tole painting class runs three afternoons a week and costs \$45 with an additional \$17 cost for two wooden projects that will be completed during the classes, including a double-heart scissors holder and a rabbit welcome sign.

"Although the tole program is for teens, I have a nine-year-old girl enrolled now and she is enjoying it and able to do the work," Frawley said.

Frawley said in the near future she will also offer wedding classes for couples who want to keep their costs down by making their own wedding decorations and gift baskets.

Frawley is also still accepting work from consignment artists with unique products.

An Elegant Touch is located at 128 Main St. N. (the former Scott's Oak and Pine Furniture location). The phone number is 856-4730.



AN ELEGANT TOUCH: Karen Frawley has a store full of unique gift and craft items, some created by herself, others by local artisans.

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Learning to canoe a 'Canadian' act

Continued from Page 17 exiting and launching a canoe while the afternoon includes an on-the-water demonstration where participants will learn strokes, maneuvers, how to empty a swamped canoe and canoe-over-canoe rescues.

Wilhelm, who said they never know how many people to expect, suggested anyone with a canoe and equipment should bring it with them.

The clinics are geared to all ages and Wilhelm said they hope to encourage families to attend and participate in the program.

"Canoeing is becoming more popular. Urban paddling, also known as non-destination canoeing, is different in this area because most people won't be going on a canoe trip, but just paddling for recreational purposes," Wilhelm said.

Wilhelm said that nostalgia has a lot to do with the new interest in canoeing for recreation.

"People want to relive the footsteps of our voyageur ancestors - it's a Canadian thing and the more you learn about canoeing, the better it gets."

The Safe Canoeing Program will be offered at Rockwood on Friday, and again on Thursday, Aug. 8, beginning at 10 a.m. at the canoe and boat rental area.

Although the program is free, participants must pay the Conservation Area gate fee, which is \$3.25 for adults, \$2.50 for students and seniors, \$1.75 for primary school-aged children and preschoolers are free.

For more details call the Rockwood Conservation Area at 856-9543.

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Your LETTERS

Heart-felt thanks

To the Editor,
Ann's Aerobics would like to thank those who contributed to our annual "Fit for Heart" event on Sunday, June 2. This was a four-hour fundraiser for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

I would like to thank Aberfoyle Springs, The Acton Tanner, Coca Cola Bottling, Dino's Athletics, European Aesthetics Spa, Guelph Mazda, Hog Hill Enterprises, K.L. Leisurewear, La Vieille Auberge, Purple Pig Pizza, Rockwood Health Services, Sealtest,

Zehrs-Eramosa and Kenda Palmer and Larry Walsh for their generosity.

I would also like to thank those who volunteered to provide childcare: Nicole and Dominic Mammoliti, Sarah and Heather Brown and Sarah and Vivianne Biemann.

A heartfelt thanks to co-ordinators Lynda Meesmer, Sherol Steinberg and Joan Mammoliti for all of their dedication and enthusiasm. You are most appreciated.

Unfortunately, we did not reach our goal this year, due to the lack of interest in the community. However, I feel the event was a success because every little bit helps in the fight against Canada's No. 1 killer.

Anne Mammoliti
"Fit for Heart"
Co-ordinator