

FIND UP TO \$1,500.

NEW CLUES EACH WEEK
Somewhere in Midland Town Centre, there are hidden 6 medallions (worth either \$100, or \$1,000, each). New clues can be obtained with your sales receipt each week from any participating merchant.

TREASURE HUNT

MIDLAND TOWN CENTRE

Wyevale window is Xmas card

by Shirley Whittington
Julie Barker has completed her annual Christmas card to the community of Wyevale. The windows of Genier's General Store and Post Office are aglow with colourful Christmas decorations designed and installed by Julie.

She has created a stained glass window effect, with the figures delineated in a double layer of black paper, and filled in with coloured tissue paper.

The windows are beautiful by day, but at night, when the lights within the store shine through the coloured paper, the effect is spectacular.

Julie Barker began this tradition about five years ago. "I was in the store one day and Cliff (Genier) was wondering aloud what he'd do with his windows for Christmas. I told him that was the sort of thing I liked to do. For a couple of years, I painted designs on the glass, but this year I decided to try the stained glass effect."

practical things to give away at Christmas. One example she offers is a padded coathanger—useful for drying drip-dry articles. The trick is to use a sport yarn (colour fast of course) and cover the hanger in a blanket stitch, finishing with a colourful decoration at the hook end.

"By running the yarn through the coil in spring clothes pins, and securing them to the bottom of the hanger," says Julie, "you can make a useful hanger for drying mitts or stockings."

Another of Julie's suggestions for children is to cover a tin can with photographs, and then to cover the whole thing with Mac Tac to protect and waterproof the surface. Then a small plant can be put in the tin, or it can be used as a pencil holder. "If the pictures are of the grand children," says Julie, "this makes a good gift for grandparents."

Meanwhile, Julie Barker's Christmas card is stopping traffic and saying Merry Christmas to everyone who passes by Genier's Store.



Christmas card artistry

For a number of years now, Julie Barker an artist who lives on a farm near Wyevale, has decorated the windows of Genier's General Store in Wyevale. It's her Christmas present to the community. Store owner

Cliff Genier says the stained glass window effect is particularly beautiful at night, and that passing motorists frequently stop to admire the colourful art work designed by Mrs. Barker. Staff photo

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Just in time for Christmas

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Christmas SPECIAL

WHITE SEWING MACHINES

Reg. \$149.95 for **\$110.00**
Plus case or cabinet

FREE GIFT WRAPPING
Small deposit will hold till Christmas

MIDLAND SEWING CENTRE
235 King St., Midland 526-2574

TREASURE HUNT STORE
WIN up to \$1,500.
Get clues to the location of the medallion at this store.

for Christmas GIFTING

VISIT OUR ONE-STOP FAMILY SHOE STORE

WALTER WOODS SHOES
297 King St., Midland 526-2421

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TREASURE HUNT STORE
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Get clues to the location of the medallion at this store.

This year, give...
"The comfort gift of a lifetime"

give a genuine **LA-Z-BOY®** Recliner - rocker

We welcome you to come in and browse...no charge

- LAMPS Table-Floor-Swag. Largest selection in the area
- HASSOCKS Many styles & colours
- PICTURES & WALL PLAQUES
- CERAMICS
- A VARIETY OF SMALL GIFT IDEAS

A. BARRIE AND SONS FURNITURE, KING ST.

TREASURE HUNT STORE
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Get clues to the location of the medallion at this store.

ROPER MOTO-MOWER

Get this 8 hp. for only **\$669.95**
complete with chains

The right machine for this area.

FIELD'S Hardware
"The Friendly Store"

323 King St., Midland 526-8001

TREASURE HUNT STORE
WIN up to \$1,500.
Get clues to the location of the medallion at this store.

Drug talks success:OPP

Constable Chuck Coulson of the Midland detachment of the OPP has commended the people of Waubushene for the response they showed to two drug abuse seminars held recently in that municipality.

"I think some recognition is due to the groups and individuals in Waubushene who asked us to come and speak. I think this shows they recognize there is a problem and that they are willing to take some steps to educate themselves," he commented.

The drug seminars were held at St. John's Roman Catholic Church on December 1st and 5th. Over 140 people attended the two sessions.

The seminars are part of the OPP's continuing program on drug abuse education. Similar seminars have been held locally in Midland, Wasaga Beach, and Bracebridge.

The December 1 session was open to those interested in Waubushene residents over 18 years of age. At the seminar, Constable Coulson presented a slide show which documented the history of drugs, the story of how they came to be abused, and how the illegal drug trade has become firmly entrenched in the underworld.

Coulson also discussed and demonstrated aspects of drug recognition, and the visible effects certain drugs have on users. He showed a display containing 42 different gadgets that have been confiscated and collected by one officer at the Midland Detachment of the OPP, emphasizing that the ability to recognize drug related

paraphernalia is often a valuable first step to recognizing a drug abuse problem.

Residents are aware The Waubushene residents learned that the drug abuse problem is no more acute in Waubushene than in any other centres in the area. The difference between Waubushene and other areas, he explained, is that people are willing to accept the fact of drug abuse and learn about how it can be combated. They also learned that drugs are not the only stimulants which are often abused. Alcohol, Coulson, explained, represents an equally serious problem, especially among school aged children.

The December 5 session was open only to the youth of Waubushene. The reason for the limited admittance, Coulson explained, was because young people tend to be more open about their thoughts and experiences when their parents are absent. About 70 young people turned up for the seminar, and heard talks from Debbie Swearie, a Public Health nurse, a retired physician, Dr. Allan Minnes, and Barrie OPP Corporal Wes Prosser.

The young people were presented with the same slide show their parents saw, learned how different drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, opium, and amphetamines are classified under the law. They were also educated to the extreme dangers of using solvents such as gasoline and airplane glue as stimulants. The solvent problem is complicated, they learned, by the fact that no legislation exists to either limit its sale or

discourage its use.

Without judgement In talking to the under 18's, the seminar leaders avoided passing moral judgement on the use and abuse of drugs, opting instead to explain the medical effects and complications of drug abuse, the social problems that are caused when drugs are abused widely, and the legal position of an individual apprehended with them in his or her possession.

This policy, Coulson explained, is consciously pursued by the OPP in its drug education seminars. The prime reason for adopting this policy is based on the fact that people, especially young people, tend to become alienated from someone in a position of authority who "pushes them into believing that drug abuse is bad."

"The force in no way moralizes in this program," Coulson said. "We simply give the people all the information we know with the hope that it speaks for itself."

Being told the blunt facts about drug abuse, said Coulson, can be "unnerving for some people."

"When you sit down and tell them some of the things we're aware of in this area, they're often pretty surprised. But all they have to do is realize that our area is no different from any other area," he said. Coulson emphasized that the OPP is willing to conduct sessions similar to the ones held in Waubushene at any time and in any centre in the Midland OPP's jurisdiction. He asked that any requests for drug abuse seminars be directed to Staff Sergeant Doolittle at the Midland OPP headquarters.