



Bird of peace cardmaking

Huronian Museum's contribution to Peace Day last Sunday in the Midland YMCA was on several fronts. Above, youngsters made greeting cards with a bird of peace drawing. Nearby, volunteers painted children's faces in Indian face painting patterns. The Museum was open especially for the afternoon.

Marcelville thank community for help

by **Connie Marion**
On May 13, at precisely four p.m. in the afternoon, an alarm went out to area firefighters that Marcelville Antiques was on fire. When firefighters arrived on the scene, they were greeted by a blazing inferno.

The fire started just outside the restoration building. Everything which was constructed of wood, was completely destroyed.

Flames from the disaster, could be seen from as far away as Lafontaine. Vehicles lined both sides of Highway 93, as people watched the raging blaze. In an hour and a half, 24 years of hard work was completely lost.

This proved to be only a temporary set back, as by mid-August, Marcelville Antiques and Reproductions and Custom Cabinets was back in business.

"People were so helpful" according to co-owner Rosalie Graziani. "A lot of local people helped us. Bill Lediard brought his men and trucks over and worked all week at cleaning up, and in a lot of rainy weather for free. Nelson Cote and Guy Ealey took some of their men, off other jobs and in a lot of bad weather, they laid bricks and poured cement."

"Anything with wood, we could do, so we kept several of our men working," commented Graziani. "Many worked for a couple of weeks for no pay. Friends and neighbours came after their work to help us put up walls and move things. Walkers Electric did the electrical work

and they came at a time to suit us," said a grateful Graziani.

Looking at the newly constructed building, you'd never know there was a fire. It is approximately the same size as the previous structure. The only notable difference is the front porch, as it is quite high and is a full porch.

Rosalie's husband, Denis, "designed the front to look like a train station. With our type of business, people are always loading and unloading things, the same as a train depot."

"We also wanted a building that would do the Penetang area proud," stated Rosalie.

The owners had full insurance, when the mishap occurred, but were under insured. It cost a lot to ful-

ly rebuild the business. They are gradually acquiring the tools they need, through sales. "I'd say the building is probably 495 per cent more fireproof now," said Graziani.

"It was only on October 24 that the heating was turned on. We're very happy to be back in business. We felt a responsibility to our customers and staff who are very important to

us. We couldn't survive without them. We have a close relationship with our customers."

As for the future, they have "no plans." "We like it (the business), the way it is, the personal contact and time we can take with our customers; by having a small business. We are just very happy and thankful to be back in business," ended Graziani.

History buff meet

The Simcoe County Historical Association will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18 at the Parkview Centre located at 189 Blake St. in Barrie.

The session will feature a slide presentation on interesting historical features

of Huronia being presented by Brian Baker of Thornton.

Books on local history will also be on sale.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend the meeting which begins at 8 p.m.

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