



### Passing the time

John McCreath and his sister Elena busied themselves on Saturday while their mother helped man the Big Sisters table set up Saturday in Mountainview Mall.

The Big Sisters Euchreama, this Friday in the Athenian Hall, was being promoted.

## Shelter helps children in crisis

Children of the women who are forced to seek shelter at Rosewood are as much in crisis as their mothers, says Child Care Worker Lynn Anderson.

"Through no fault of the mother, who is involved in a daily struggle to provide a safe environment for herself and her family, the needs of these children are often overlooked," says Anderson. "Feelings of fear, anger, worry or guilt are usually repressed and come out in behaviour like whining, clinging, eating problems, troubles at school, and so on."

Anderson is busy designing new programs and facilities at Rosewood to meet the needs of these young victims of family violence. She has helped to set up a new playroom, complete with a water and sand table, craft table, toys and games, for the kids to enjoy during their stay in the shelter. Her main aim, however, is to encourage better communications between mother and children.

"Most children do not need long-term counselling," she says. "What they do need is information,

support and advocacy." Since family violence is usually kept secret, their greatest need can be simply for someone to listen and understand.

Anderson's background as a primary school teacher, a Sunday School teacher and an interpreter at Sainte-Marie among the Hurons has given her the communications skills needed to work with children and their mothers. Now, she is learning new skills by attending courses in early childhood development, alcohol abuse problems and counselling.

Anderson was hired early this year under the Job Development grant which has also provided Rosewood with a Transition Worker, a Native Worker and a Fundraiser.

Rosewood officials hope to make these positions permanent, through funding from the Province and their own fundraising efforts.

Rosewood is open day and night. For more information on the services offered at Rosewood call 526-4211.

## Bullen: election warhorse

Unemployment is the biggest problem facing the riding of Simcoe East, says one person vying for the NDP nomination in that riding.

Fayne Bullen, 'an old election warhorse' as he calls himself, says he sees this lack of opportunity for young people every day because he teaches high school in Orillia.

"I'm a teacher, I understand the problems of young people," Bullen said. "It's my issue."

He also said the 'natural assets' of the Simcoe East area need to be further developed, especially the hotel and tourist industry.

A shortage of housing is also becoming apparent in the area, says Bullen. "The rents are too high," he said, adding that he is involved in promoting non-profit housing.

Bullen said environmental issues would also be on his agenda were he elected to represent the riding.

He said he is not afraid of the Liberal tidal wave that political pundits predict will roll over On-

tario when Premier David Peterson calls an election. Bullen confidently says "I have the winning campaign. I am the leading contender" in Simcoe East. "I'll be in Queen's Park next year," he said.



Fayne Bullen

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