

Dance aids Hugh and Elsie Miller Raise nearly \$3,000

CLAREMONT — A gala benefit dance raised nearly \$3,000 in aid of fire victims Hugh and Elsie Miller. Singer Sylvia Tyson and her studio band The Great Speckled Bird entertained a large crowd at the Pickering Recreation Complex. Friday Organizer Peter Dickerson termed the event a tremendous success considering there was only about two weeks' promotion time. Sylvia Tyson donated her time and the Town of Pickering supplied the hall. Complimentary bartending service was also provided by the Pickering Kinsmen Club. All funds raised Friday will be used to help restore the Millers' historic north Pickering homestead. It was gutted in a January fire. The Millers are now residing in a house trailer at their Thistle Ha property, located on Conc-7 south-east of Claremont.

Rick and Sandy Rose of Whitechurch Stouffville are the proud parents of beautiful twin girls, Shannon Blanche (7 pounds, 2 ounces) and Stephanie Jean (4 pounds, 15 ounces) were born March 14 at York Central Hospital. Happy grandparents are Jean and Joe Rose, Brock Road South, Claremont, and Teresa and Harvey Peddle of Scarborough. Great grand parents are Blanche Cook and Mary Peddle.

Claremont's men's fastball team will hold a meeting Tuesday, April 2 at Claremont Legion. Starting time is 8 p.m. The club is looking for new coaches and players. For more information contact Cliff Catherwood at 852-7324.

A new self-help group has been formed to serve the Claremont, Uxbridge and Stouffville areas. Called 'The Survivors', the organization held the first of its weekly sessions yesterday (March 26). To qualify as a member a person must have experienced either physical or mental difficulties, or have been disadvantaged due to lack of social or vocational experience. For more information contact Bill Hammond at 649-2462 or Jim Ward at 640-5956.

Claremont United Church will host its annual beef supper on Palm Sunday, March 31. Sittings are scheduled for 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets, at \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children 12 and under, are available from Bernice Ward at 649-2183.

The Rouge Valley Quilters Guild will host a two-day quilt show, April 20 and 21. Over 100 pieces will be on display at the Pickering Recreation Complex, according to show co-ordinator Linda Hoiko of Pickering. It will run from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Sunday. Admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$2 for seniors.

The Tribune's new Claremont correspondent, Doris Burton, will begin writing her weekly community column in the next edition (April 3). Anyone with items of interest about Claremont can contact Doris at 649-2429.

In the spring of 1984, a survey was conducted in the Town of Pickering's rural library branches — Claremont, Greenwood and Whitevale. Through comments of patrons, it became quite apparent the residents of these hamlets enjoy and appreciate the convenience of having a local library branch. This survey also attested to the value of the inter-library loan service.

The Royal Canadian Legion, Uxbridge branch 170, hosted a zone public speaking competition Sunday. Branch president Bette Potter, (far left), was on hand to congratulate the winners. They are (left to right): Nicki Allard, representing Oshawa branch 43 in the Grade 4 to 6 category; Jonathon Goad, Bowmanville branch 178 for Grades 7 and 8; Paul Visser, Whitby branch 112 for Grades 9 and 10; and Lauren Gillen, Oshawa branch 43 for Grades 11 to 13. The judges were Sylvia Robb, Bill Ballinger and Bruce Clairmont.

—Chris Shanahan



Outstanding public speakers receive awards

Royal Canadian Legion, Uxbridge branch 170, hosted a zone public speaking competition Sunday. Branch president Bette Potter, (far left), was on hand to congratulate the winners. They are (left to right): Nicki Allard, representing Oshawa branch 43 in the Grade 4 to 6 category; Jonathon Goad, Bowmanville branch 178 for Grades 7 and 8; Paul Visser, Whitby branch 112 for Grades 9 and 10; and Lauren Gillen, Oshawa branch 43 for Grades 11 to 13. The judges were Sylvia Robb, Bill Ballinger and Bruce Clairmont.

—Chris Shanahan

Shop items include dolls, sea shells

BROUGHAM — The sign reading 'The Crafty Lady' can't help but catch the eye of anyone passing through the hamlet of Brougham.

The crafty lady it refers to is Doreen Simpson, who is busily preparing for her store's official spring opening on Saturday, March 30.

But her quaint craft shop almost wasn't reopened this year, following a late February flooding incident. Oil from nearby storage tanks seeped inside and ruined a new carpet, she says, but fortunately none of the stock was damaged.

Everything was evacuated and a thorough clean-up was undertaken to rid the store of a lingering oil smell.

Doreen praises her neighbors, particularly fellow craft-maker Betty Graham, for helping out during this trying time.

"I was ready to give it up," Doreen admits. "I'm positive that if she (Betty Graham) hadn't been around at this time I would have given up."

Now Doreen's anticipating a busy spring and summer season at The Crafty Lady, located on Hwy. 7 next to the Brougham fire station.

Among the shop's popular items are Betty Graham's Apple Orchard Dolls, based on the original Xavier Roberts design.

Doreen also sells the work of Claremont toymaker Gord Brook, and her stock includes exotic shell jewelry, plus Victorian dolls and puppets made by Whitby's Lorraine Chien.

And the crafty lady has an exclusive line of Hawaiian hula outfits for Cabbage Patch Kids, complete with a squirt bikini bra top and lei.

Operating hours are Thursday to Sunday, each week from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Later on, this will be expanded to include Wednesday.

Doreen prides herself on the fact she offers quality

crafts at affordable prices.

"We stress quality, and we keep the cost as reasonable as you'll find anywhere," Doreen says.

Doreen first got interested in the business through her own craft-making activities. She still makes many of the items on sale at the shop since its 1982 opening.

She says manageress Helen Plauschinn and part-time worker Dorothy Byrne are invaluable help-mates at The Crafty Lady. Doreen's husband, Ed, also helps out.

Business begins to pick up in the summer months and it

naturally peaks at Christmas time. She travels to craft shows in search of new Canadian-made stock items. Doreen also keeps her eyes open for appealing locally-crafted merchandise.



Crafty lady

Doreen Simpson has been operating The Crafty Lady shop in Brougham since June of 1982. She is pictured with a variety of crafts that'll be available upon her spring opening, Saturday.

—Chris Shanahan

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