

## HERITAGE CORNER

### Moore Museum hosts a delightful March Break surprise drop-in event

The Moore Museum opened its doors during March Break to host a surprise drop-in event that attracted families from all over the township and beyond.

Although this drop-in concept has been used before during the off-season, it proved to be a novelty for many young families.

In the kitchen, museum staffer Linda Wood cooked up several pans of delicious apple crumble that filled the main museum building with an aroma nobody could resist.

**Photo Right:** Brothers Torin, 7, and Rorek, 9, of Corunna, contributed some muscle to the apple crumble creation by using a old time apple peeler to supply raw material for Linda's use. The boys were taking in the museum sights accompanied by their grandparents Luba and Rick Boutotte of Corunna.

**Below Left:** Out in the Shaw Building, museum volunteer and expert carver Leo Griffith's whimsically wonky cotton wood houses and wooden boots provided an intriguing scene for the Wasson family of Courtright. Krystal Wasson and her daughter, Kinsley, 4, took a few minutes to contemplate who might be living in the tiny houses.

**Below Right:** A fascinated guest from Manitoba was given a tour around the site by museum volunteer and chief engineer of the train room, Tom Walters. His fellow train enthusiast, Morgan Turney of Winnipeg, not only got a sneak peek into the train room, he also got to see the museum work shop where repairs, refurbishments and special projects take shape. One of the most noteworthy refurbishments currently in the works is a pair of time-wary windows that came to the Moore Museum with a provenance dating back to 1895 in Petrolia. Morgan holds a tattered cord that once held a weight which helped open and close one pane of the window.

The windows were originally part of the Michigan Central Railway station when Petrolia was one of the MCR rail line. When the railway stopped running, the station was decommissioned in 1930 and sold, with the provision that whoever bought it would need to remove it from the property. The buyer hauled the building away on a horse-drawn trailer, and part of it made its way to Bright's Grove, where it became part of a cottage that still stands near the shore.

The windows were removed before the building was relocated and had several owners before they arrived at the Moore Museum. The handy museum volunteers have been using their extensive woodworking skills to restore the windows to their former beauty. When ready, they will become part of two new artifact display cabinets.



B. Stevenson

### HANDY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT MOORE MUSEUM



We have lost a lot of our volunteers over the pandemic and are hopeful that more people will decide to join us in our work. The activities and projects our volunteers work on vary widely; from wood working, vehicle maintenance, building maintenance, display preservation work, and helping with museum events, we work to preserve and share the history of St. Clair Township. The only qualification our volunteers require is the will to help us make Moore Museum a place where local history lives and thrives.

For more information, email the Moore Museum at: [mooremuseum@stclairtownship.ca](mailto:mooremuseum@stclairtownship.ca)