

Knots and Weaves rises from the ashes

By Alan Thomas

Published: Sunday, April 10, 2011

Jim Greim is working toward Knots and Weaves' reopening party in about two weeks. It's a comeback of sorts. Jim and Kerry Greim's business was on the ground floor of an apartment fire that woke up most of Malvern and the seven area fire companies that responded early in the morning last Dec. 9.

Three people had to be rescued from the burning building, and Paoli firemen Jay Wustner was seriously hurt in a fall.



"We're about 80 percent there," Greim says, standing in one of two galleries of Oriental and Persian rugs, in dozen-deep piles on the floor or on hanging racks with reggae music in the background, in his new location on Church Street, just a half-block from the King Street corner where Knots and Weaves burned in the early morning four months ago.

And there's an irony in that the new Knots and Weaves is in the just-renovated Old Malvern Fire House, separated by only a parking lot from the window-shuttered, plastic-canopied apartment-fire site.

"The timing worked out well," Greim says of his new location, which has a bricked entryway and hardwood floors and trim that highlight and complement the knots and weaves of the rug and carpet trade.

To honor the firefighters of Malvern and Paoli, Greim intends to donate part of the first week's sales to the companies. Although most of Greim's inventory is new, he said that some of the inventory had been salvaged after the fire.

"We're going to do some specials," Greim said.

Perhaps souvenirs, looking at it another way.