

Roofers fixes problem— free of charge

# Homeowner 'moved' by responses to her plight of a leaky roof

**TED BROWN**  
Staff Writer

It appears there are some very caring people in Halton Hills.

In the Friday edition of *The Independent & Free Press*, a story appeared about Norval area resident Helena DeSalvo's plight in trying to get her leaking roof

repaired. Her calls to seven local roofers had fallen on deaf ears for more than three weeks.

Within 36 hours of the story appearing in the newspaper, DeSalvo received 11 calls from roofers willing to help, and *Independent & Free Press* reporter Ted Brown received seven e-mails offering to assess the problem as well.

Local roofer Kevin Blondin, proprietor of KB Enterprises, was at the DeSalvo house at 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning with his helper Al McGyver as they checked out the leaky roof problem.

"My wife called me at work yesterday afternoon (Friday) said Blondin, "And she just said 'Kevin, you've got to help this lady'."

"We pulled off the flashing— it was a complete mess," said Blondin, "It was nothing short of atrocious, the job the previous roofer had left behind. He'd used the incorrect material to flash it, he hadn't used step flashing at all— it was just all wrong. I'm surprised Helena hadn't had the ceiling fall in off her living room, with water damage."

Where the roof met the chimney at the peak of the house, Blondin found a gap, almost an inch across, where he could look directly into the attic.

"It makes me angry to see such poor workmanship as this," said Blondin, "It gives all of us roofers a bad name."

Blondin and his helper tore off all the old flashing and applied 'ice and water'



Local roofer Kevin Blondin, proprietor of KB Enterprises, checked out the leaking roof at the DeSalvo house Saturday morning before correcting the problem that has caused owner Helena DeSalvo three weeks of grief trying to track down a roofer to address the problem.

*Photo by Ted Brown*

sealer around the chimney, then installed step flashing, which is placed under each shingle, and goes up the roof like little steps, sealing each shingle individually. The flashing is custom cut to fit the join of each brick/stone of the chimney, and then caulked at that join to seal out any chance of water coming in.

The best part— Blondin did the entire job for free.

"I didn't come here to fix it for the money or the recognition," said Blondin, "I just came here to help out someone who was frustrated and needed help stopping the rain from coming into her house."

DeSalvo was overwhelmed at the response to the story, and equally amazed at Blondin's offer to do the work on such

short notice, not to mention the fact he was doing it for free.

"There are a lot of wonderful people around here," said DeSalvo, "I'm so moved at the number of calls I received from people willing to help. It makes me feel so good, knowing there are so many good people like that out there."

DeSalvo said she would be personally responding to all those who contacted her offering to help, to thank them for their concern and quick response.

But she said there was another person she would be looking after personally.

"I'm going to get Kevin Blondin's wife a huge bouquet of flowers," smiled DeSalvo, "She must be a very special person."

*(Ted Brown can be reached at [tbrown@independentfreepress.com](mailto:tbrown@independentfreepress.com))*



Helena DeSalvo was delighted with Kevin Blondin after he repaired the flashing on her chimney. The Norval woman had been trying unsuccessfully for three weeks to have a roofer repair the leak.

*Photo by Ted Brown*

## Time running out to join parade

The 76th Annual Santa Claus Parade, hosted by the Lions Club of Georgetown, will be held Sunday, Nov. 12 at 5 p.m. "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It 'Glow'" will be the parade's theme and floats will be decorated in keeping with that theme.

Organizers re expecting approximately 60 entries in total and are encouraging anyone interested to enter a float by October 31. No political or protest group entries will be allowed in the parade.

Anyone interested in entering a float in the parade is asked to fill out an entry form and mail it to Lions Santa Claus Parade, Box 73, Georgetown, ON, L7G 4T1. Entry forms can be obtained by calling Al Watt at 905-877-9896 or El Lloyd at 905-877-6831.



## Plenty of food for thought

Holy Cross School student council members assembled the results of their recent food drive for the Georgetown Bread Basket, which totaled 5,564 items in one week. On hand for the photo were (from left) principal Tony Agro, Meagan Tibbits, Erin Burke, Eric Holland, Rochelle Adamiak, Kailegh Halbertson, Nick McKnight and Caitlyn Doyle.

*Photo by Ted Brown*



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