

owners

...tied and his house sold, Lori suggested they pool their resources and buy a home together.

"I wanted to get out of Toronto, but not too far, because of visiting my kids," Dorothy relates. So, they began their search in the Port Hope/Cobourg area.

"Lori could tell whether or not she liked a place at first glance without even going in. Or, she would step in, take one look, and go out and wait in the car," Dorothy laughs. "I like to see everything - every nook and cranny before I decide."

Their agent included some Colborne area properties. As soon as they walked through the front door of 4 North Street, both women knew this was it.

They took a long closing date, which gave the vendor, a university professor, the

The gardens had been neglected, so major trimming and brush clearing was undertaken, revealing the outlines of the original flower beds and paths.

The house, blessedly, is structurally sound. That left the major challenge as interior decorating with two very different tastes: Lori's mad about giraffes, animal prints, unusual items while Dorothy favours classical and traditional patterns (Blue Willow china, colonial furniture, classical music).

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The kitchen underwent a major repainting, and, remarkably, the perfect border is the one both chose as the only option.

There are three guest rooms: one with a queen bed, one with two twins, one with a double. It took hours selecting the perfect mattresses because, Lori laughs, Dorothy had to try every single option. When it came to choosing the extra pieces to complete the bedrooms, there was no trouble. They were completely in agreement on the pieces they chose at Stirling Collectables.

Dorothy is preparing an antique shop in the basement of the huge old home.

Lori cleans, Dorothy cooks. And what a breakfast overnight guests receive: a fresh fruit plate, choice of juice, choice of cereal, porridge if desired, bacon and eggs or frittata, toast, muffins and a wide assortment of teas and coffee, special or vegetarian diets honoured with pleasure.

"Sunnyside Market has the greatest bacon," Dorothy notes.

Both women are computer literate, their office offering ample room for both tastes and interests. Dorothy is still busy with medical transcription contracts. Lori keeps her hand in with part-time accounting services, and has just signed up as an Avon rep.

Room rates are \$55 to \$65 per room (less for single occupancy), including breakfast. Thus far, guests have found them via the internet or by local word of mouth.

"Guests are free to use the downstairs sitting room and there is an upstairs sitting room as well," Dorothy explains. "Some people like to sit and visit with us."

Each room offers cozy robes, slippers and fluffy towels for guests. There are magazines, lots of books ("Short stories so they can read them in a sitting," explains Lori), plus photo tomes, games, videos, and radio.

Treasure House is aptly named. It's a treasure. It's a house that's a home for Lori, Dorothy and all who enter there.

For information, contact Treasure House at Box 707, Colborne, K0K 1S0, phone (905) 355-1803, e-mail treashse@eagle.ca.



PHOTO BY MANDY MARTIN

Dorothy Fade's favorite reading spot is in the ground floor living room next to the stereo system.

opportunity to remain until the end of term. And, truth be known, it was to take some time to combine three households for the relocation: Lori's, Dorothy's and their father's.

"We moved in last May 3, just as the flowers were coming out. It was so pretty," Lori recalls.

"There were old apple trees and pear trees in back that were in blossom. And whoever had planted the garden way back when, knew exactly what they were doing," Dorothy says.

"The tulips, daffodils, delphiniums, et cetera all come into bloom at different times so there are always rotating blossoms," Lori reports.