

Get the most out of this barbecue season

Now that summer cookouts are just around the corner, the Canadian Gas Association (CGA) offers the following suggestions to get the most out of the barbecue season.

The CGA estimates it costs less than \$10 to operate a typical natural gas or propane barbecue for the summer. This is based on 20 hours of use, and is less than half of the estimated comparable cost of charcoal type grills.

With a natural gas or propane barbecue you get fast, even heat with no mess or fuss, and with proper maintenance durable gas barbecues will outlast most charcoal grills for many years of cookout fun.

At the start of each season, clean the barbecue with hot soapy water or oven cleaner. If the burner requires cleaning, remove it and use a stiff brush to clean a cast iron burner or a cloth and soapy water for a stainless steel burner. A thin wire can be used to open any clogged burner ports. Make sure the burner is seated properly at the gas valves when you put it back. Don't tamper with the air shutter at the base of the burner without referring to your owner's manual for instructions or to a qualified service person if necessary.

Follow manufacturers instructions when lighting your gas barbecue and after starting, allow it to preheat for approximately 10 minutes before starting to cook. You'll get juicier and better-textured results from your barbecue if you cook most foods at

the "low" setting, while using the high temperature setting for pre-heating and quick searing only. Several hours in a marinade will help soften less tender meat or poultry fibres by natural enzyme action. Oil-based sauces added just before cooking will seal in meat juices. Glazes should be applied only during the last 10 minutes of cooking to avoid burning.

Gas barbecues have lava briquets which should be spaced in a single layer. Several times during the season, turn the briquets so that residues can burn off during cooking. Avoid grease or dried-on food build-up by removing the cooking grids and washing with soap and hot water periodically.

If you are reconnecting a propane tank to your gas barbecue, check all joints prior to use by applying a soapy solution to them. If bubbles appear, reconnect or tighten joint until bubbles are no longer visible.

Gas barbecues are attractively styled and come in a wide variety of models and sizes. Many consumer features are available including electric spark ignition, clock timers and temperature indicators, rotisserie and shelf attachments for food preparation.

Gas barbecues, like other gas products, undergo rigorous safety and performance tests at the CGA certification laboratory. Consumers should always look for the CGA Seal of Approval before buying a gas barbecue or other gas products.

New vehicle rate hikes announced

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation has announced that, effective May 1, fees for certain driver and vehicle transactions will increase.

Many of the fees affected have not gone up since the early 1980s, despite inflation and rising administrative costs. The new fees will be in line with those charged for other services offered by the ministry.

The written test for a driver's licence will now cost \$5 on each attempt. Applicants used to be allowed three tries for \$5.

The cost of a complete motorcycle driver examination (Class M) increases to \$19 from \$11, the current cost for a Class G test. The written test costs \$5 and the road test \$14.

For driver instructors, the initial examination fee goes to \$30 from \$25, subsequent road test to \$14 from \$8 and replacement licence to \$5 from \$2.

All cheques for driver's licences which are returned to the ministry because of insufficient funds will be assessed a penalty if the driver does not pay within 30 days of notification. The penalty will be \$5 for each driver's licence number covered by the cheque, or 10 per cent of the amount owed, whichever is greater. This is similar to the amount charged when an NSF cheque is issued for a vehicle transaction.

The cost of replacing a garage licence is also increased to \$5 from \$2.

Replacing a validation sticker will cost \$5 instead of \$2; temporary registration of a passenger vehicle \$10, up from \$5; and the cost of transferring a vehicle into a dealer's name goes to \$3 from \$2.

The cost of replacing a motorized snow vehicle permit is raised to \$5 from \$2; copies of documents such as abstracts, microfilms and abstracts for motorized snow vehicles increase to \$5 from \$3, in keeping with other document fees. Collision report copies will increase to \$10 from \$5.

Certification of all ministry documents, such as abstracts, microfilms and collision reports, will cost an additional \$5.

Brazilian youth seeks new home for a year



Daniel Badke

ferent countries, Daniel will be arriving in Canada this August to spend a school year living and learning with Canadians.


Interculture Canada is the nation's leading non-profit international exchange organization. It needs to find homes for students like Daniel and is appealing to families across the country for support.

Over the past 10 years, Canadian families have helped hundreds of foreign students make a dream come true by participating in Interculture Canada's hosting program. In return, these families have discovered a world common to us all - friendship.

Those wishing more information on hosting or on related volunteer work may call Russell Morley or Fioretta Perta at (416) 877-6130 or, toll-free, 1-800-361-7248.

For average Brazilians, Canada may well simply represent a very large and distant country, but for student Daniel Badke it is soon to become a second home for an entire school year.


Daniel is a 17-year-old student from Sao Paulo who has been selected to participate in Interculture Canada's Year Hosting Program. Along with 200 other high school students from 28 dif-




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Home Post Scripts

By Glenda Hughes, Sales Rep.

873-0300

I promise, I will never again make light of your proposed move! At 8:30 this morning, with-barely my first coffee inside of me, our movers arrived, all bright eyed and bushy tailed, to start packing the contents of our home. It was like an invasion! They headed off into different directions with their tape, boxes and determination on their faces - and the dog and I were trying to stay out of their way, plus trying to carry on in some normal fashion. I called the office and told them of my frustrations, and would you believe it - some of them laughed at me! Well, I guess I deserve it, for I certainly have been on the other side of the fence for six years now, and it is easy to forget. As my dear hubby thoughtfully mentioned the other night: "If all our clients thought that moving was as much of a pain as I did, (we), my dear lady, would be without a job!" Interestingly enough, I had not thought of it in those terms, so I immediately shut up. However, I am still amused, that such pain, for about a week, is repeated with such regularity, amongst so many of us, so often.

So, now with the day behind us, and more boxes stacked up throughout the house, than I thought could come out of our cupboards and closets, we are in for two more days of "moving." This evening, we have been unable to find anything more interesting to drink than coffee (which I protected from the packers with an alarming look on my face this morning) and some dog biscuits. Not a very appetizing selection to say the least, but I assure you, that EVERYTHING is packed... even our telephones would have gone if I had not rescued them in time. We've been reading the paper this evening by one bare lightbulb in the living room, and propping our feet up on the stand of our coffee table, as the glass top is packed. It is all rather funny - it sort of reminds me of my first apartment, where bricks and boards were coffee tables, milk boxes were end tables and chairs were large cushions. It brings one back to basics pretty fast - and you know what - it was kind of fun then.

Soon it will all be over, the "nightmare" behind us, and we will be living in our all new home. It seems like ages ago that we made the big decision to take the plunge, but it has gone with amazing speed. Lots of good has come out of it too - like understanding new building contracts, and how to look sane while I am going crazy.

I think it is all going to be worth it, for the house looked great today as we made our final inspection - but I really do think it will be a long time before I will be persuaded to move again! As for my clients or readers that are contemplating their next move - just remember - "It's sort of like having a baby - you forget the pain pretty fast."

"Homes sold Creatively"

Halton museum celebrates International Museums Day

An Open House will be hosted by the Halton Region Museum on May 18, in celebration of International Museums Day. Visitors are invited to take advantage of free admission to the Museum to view the travelling exhibit "Our Limestone Legacy: The Niagara Escarpment." On loan from the Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Niagara Escarpment Commission, this exhibit will be displayed at the Museum until August 31.

Visitors will also be able to view school programming in action in the 1870 Pioneer Life exhibit located in the log cabin on museum grounds. Under the direction of a costumed interpreter, children participating in the program will

be performing a variety of typical 19th century domestic chores, including churning butter, baking scones, stuffing a mattress with straw ticking, carding and spinning.

Public hours at the Halton Region Museum are from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The museum is located in the Kelsd Conservation Area west of Milton. For more information, call Sandy Lucs at 875-2200, Halton Region Museum, RR3, Milton, Ontario L9T 2X7.

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