



Jacqueline Crepault stands in front of her Limehouse home for which she won a Niagara Escarpment Development Achievement Award. The award is given to people who show sensitivity for the surrounding natural environment when they build in the escarpment area. (Photo submitted)

Limehouse resident wins NEC award

Limehouse resident Jacqueline Crepault is one of eight people living along the Niagara Escarpment to win a 1990 Niagara Escarpment Commission Development Achievement Award, the NEC announced Monday.

The achievement awards recognize those landowners that develop a piece of property "that greatly surpasses" the building requirements laid out in the Niagara Escarpment plan, according to a NEC press release.

Ms. Crepault was recognized for the extensive renovations of her Limehouse residence.

Ms. Crepault said her one-storey home is a bungalow that is approximately 75 feet in length. It took two years to renovate the house which was originally a tree nursery, she explained.

Aware of the mature trees on one side of the property and the cedar-covered valley of the Black Creek on the other side, Ms. Crepault said she renovated the building in such a way that the house lies between these two natural features.

The NEC also stated the "house design, materials, and coloration effectively blends the residence into the village landscape." The house is built out of volcanic stone that comes from California and cedar, said Ms. Crepault. The stone is colored beige and pale browns, she explained.

Other award winners included Tony Cesaroni in Grey County, who completely transformed several gravel pits into viable rural landscape. As well, Jon Joup-pien from St. Catharines restored a two-storey stone residence inside and out.

Respect, better pay and incentives reflect nurse's research views

Respect, better pay and more incentives are just some of the conditions to be researched says Anne Cillis, a local nurse union contact.

The Ministry of Health will provide up to \$2 million to the University of Toronto and Hamilton's McMaster University to research the quality of working conditions. This funding is part of a five-year \$15 million program announced in 1989 to improve the recruitment and retention of Ontario nurses.

"I think one issue is money," said Mrs. Cillis, who is also an operating room nurse at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. "The nursing profession doesn't get the respect it should," she said.

As a nurse for 24 years, Mrs. Cillis believes better incentives should be offered to retain nurses. "There aren't enough perks like personal leave days or professional development days," she said, adding that even if a nurse's child is sick she cannot take the day off.

"There aren't enough incentives to stay," Mrs. Cillis said. She explained that after a year a nurse gets three weeks' holidays and after three years in the profession a nurse gets four weeks. But after 17 years of service a nurse only gets five weeks of holidays, she said, insisting that the increase doesn't properly recognize seniority.

As an operating room nurse, Mrs. Cillis said she works 160 hours in three weeks, an average of 54 hours each week, which includes being on call twice a week. "It's a stressful job and we're not paid well enough to do it," she said. Mrs. Cillis said Georgetown hospital experiences the same staff difficulties as other Ontario hospitals. "It's a problem getting staff and the nurses are burning out and leaving."

Nurses should be able to further

their education because fewer schools are offering nursing courses, said Mrs. Cillis. "It's very difficult to continue your education when it's not readily available," she said. A nurse isn't even respected for the education and knowledge they possess, Mrs. Cillis believes. However, the incentives aren't there to motivate a nurse to continue her education.

Nursing facilities at McMaster and U of T have formed a research group consisting of practising nurses, educators and researchers from across Ontario, as well as representatives from British Columbia and the United States.

The research group will identify what should be changed to increase job satisfaction and improve recruitment and retention of registered nurses and assistants. A permanent research centre for the evaluation of nursing issues will be

created to use as a source of information for nurses, researchers, professional organizations and government bodies.

Marlene Quackenbush, Assistant Executive Director of Patient and Resident Care said the Georgetown hospital doesn't experience the same nurse recruitment and retention difficulties large hospitals face.

Georgetown is a small community hospital which offers free parking and less of the city's "hustle and bustle. That's appealing to nurses," she explained. That's why Georgetown doesn't have the problems of large hospitals.

The hospital has implemented a Tree of Growth program to encourage nurses to participate and make suggestions about hospital conditions, said Ms. Quackenbush. She said it is a way to get creativity in nursing to help solve problems in the workplace.

Colour and Form to highlight exhibit

The Colour and Form Society is having an all members exhibition, in the Spectator Gallery, 534 Brant St., Burlington, from September 21st to October 27th. Opening reception to meet the artists and to view the works of the CFS members will be held on Friday, September 21st from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Please join us.

Forms for the Colour and Form Society's 38th Annual Open Juried Exhibition, to be held from November 10th to November 29th, are now available at the Mississauga Arts Council office in the Mississauga Civic Centre, 300 City Centre Dr., Mississauga, L5B 3C9, or by calling 822-8477 or 822-5077. This very prestigious exhibition is held at the Skylight

Gallery in the Northern District Library in Toronto. It is from this exhibition that accepted artists are invited to become members of the Colour and Form Society.

"The Azores" - an exhibition of works done by the participants of the George Rackus Artists Workshop, held in the Azores last February, will be shown in the Great Hall of the Mississauga Civic Centre, 300 City Centre Drive, on September 17th to 21st. Participating artists and photographers are from Toronto, Burlington, Mississauga and Dundas, Ontario. This exhibition is made possible with the support of the Mississauga Arts Council and the participation of the Portuguese Community.



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