### **GREEN THUMB** GARDENING



By CHRISTINE COLE

### SPRING SAP

Does the approach of warm spring weather make you think about Maple Syrup? It is no longer a common practice. But it used to be. Our native Indians and the early settlers used to make it an annual festive event. Maple Syrup and Honey were their main sweeteners, so making their own Maple Syrup was a necessity. Now it is just an enjoyable hobby.

Sugar, Silver and Red Maples all produce sap that can be reduced to a sweet syrup. However, Sugar or Hard Maples sap contains twice the sugar content of the other Maples. That means that the sap from Sugar Maple trees boils down to syrup much faster. It takes approximately 33 gallons of sap to produce 1 gallon of syrup. That equates to a lot of boiling to drive off the excess moisture. As the sap boils down you keep adding more sap to replace the lost moisture and/or to cool down the mixture from boiling over. Boiling over can be a major crisis, not to mention the loss of the syrup - that tasteless sap that turns into a golden, sweep syrup.

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The average sap run is from early March to early april, with the heaviest flow at the beginning of the season, and in healthy well branched trees. Trees with few or dead branches should not be tapped. The spiles are usually inserted into small holes drilled into the bark when the right temperatures fall below zero and the days are warm and sunny. That's when the sap will start flowing. If done too soon the holes will dry up before the sap starts moving. It is not recommended to tap trees that are less than 10 inches in diameter, and only put two spiles in a tree that is 20 inches in diameter.

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace!

### TUITMAN'S

GARDEN CENTRE ACTON 853-2480

### BILL MCKEOWN KNOWS REAL ESTATE



RE/MAX SUBURBAN (91) INC. 877-5211



TORONTO 874-3051 **ERIN** 833-7117

Call me at home on Sunday RES.

873-2437

"I WAS TOO BUSY TO HAVE MY PICTURE TAKEN THIS WEEK".

Call Bill McKeown, Associate Broker today for a clear, concise marketing plan by a proven professional. All property evaluations are strictly confidential.

Not intended to solicit property already listed for sale.

#### BILL KNOWS REAL ESTATE....

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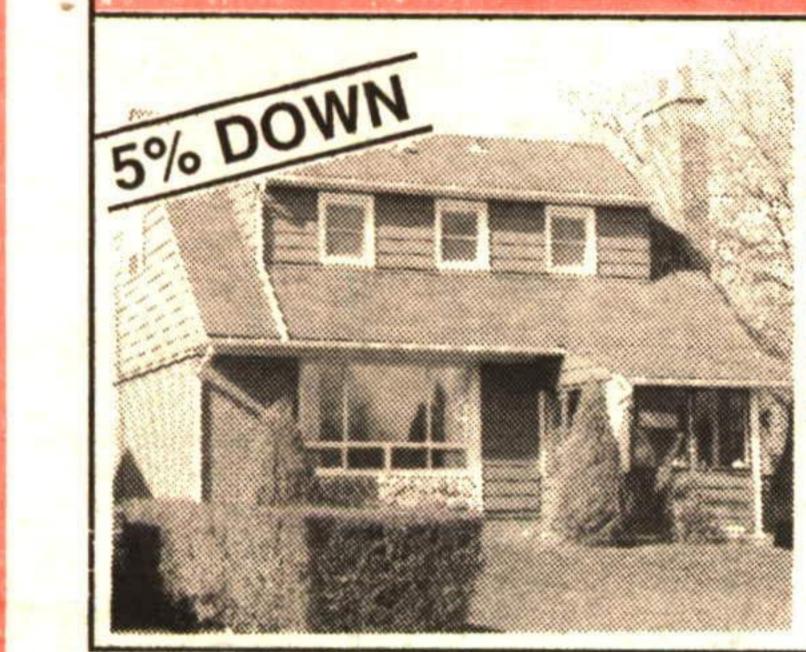
### \$128,900!! 5% DOWN Fully detached 2 bedroom home with 1 bedroom apartment rented for \$550./mo. Main floor has large country kitchen upgraded bathroom with ceramics. Better rush on this one. RM020-92 Call Bill McKeown, Associate Broker at 877-5211

# JOIN THE CLUB

Welcome to the "Devon" offering 1084 sq. ft. of Penthouse luxury. Panoramic views of the ravine below making this unit. "The" place to live. Neutral decor throughout, large storage & laundry room. This unit has never been occupied and is priced to sell.

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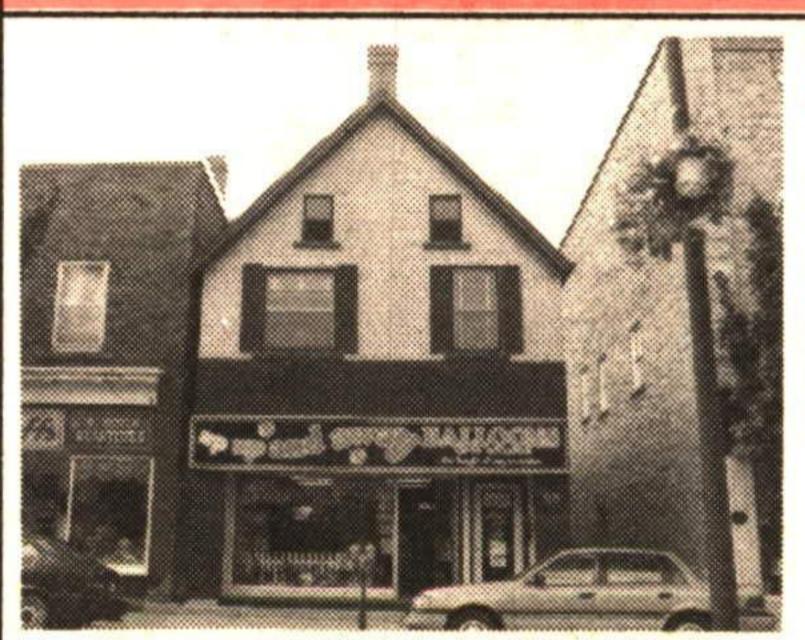
## BEAUTIFUL



This quaint home has 3 bedrooms, central air, upgraded furnace, recent windows, fenced yard and much more on a quiet street for only \$149,900. Call today for your RM253-91 appointment.

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### DOWNTOWN



Income property in OLD Georgetown, rented & in great repair. Includes luxury residence, store & an office rental space. A must to see for prudent investors only RM218-91 \$299,900.

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### LIVE AND WORK IN THE SAME PLACE



2500 sq. ft. custom home with 3 large bedrooms, 2 fireplaces, sauna, hot tub, pool and much much more plus 10,000 sq. ft. industrial building. 12.5 foot ceilings, 1000 sq. ft. office and 1000 sq. ft. apartment. All on a 1 acre site in Limehouse. Priced to sell at \$459,900. RM087-92

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### CAN'T RESIST



This immaculate 4 bedroom home has new "Euro" style kitchen, upgraded flooring, basement walkout, fireplace, fresh neutral decorating and much more. This home represents great value at today's prices and must sell.

RM133-91

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### 3 PLEX



Income plus on this totally renovated property with new wiring, plumbing, kitchens, bathrooms, drywall, all on separate meters. 3 - 2 bedrooms. Income at \$26,000 and priced to sell at \$249,900.

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### HIGHWAY 7 COMMERCIAL



One plus acres on a busy corner on #7 just west of Georgetown with an operating fruit and vegetable business. This ideal location makes this land a good investment. Call today at \$595,900. RM089-92

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