

## Country living Worth considering?

For all their lives, Douglas and Susan Powell had lived in 'the big city'. When they got married, they had an apartment in the downtown core, close to both their jobs.

When their first baby was due, Susan left her job and the family bought a home in the suburbs, meaning Douglas had a 45-minute commute to work.

Within a few years, Susan was looking after three small children. In summer, they played in the small backyard, because busy traffic on the street precluded them playing there.

On weekends, Douglas took the family on outings to the country. He also wanted the break himself from the noisy neighborhood and city traffic.

They began to do wishful thinking. "Wouldn't it be nice to have a large house in the country with some real property?"

After a while, they started seriously considering the idea of moving out of the city. They considered the negative factors like the greater distance to work, to attend cultural events and other issues. But when they thought of the benefits, and the quality of life in the country, they decided to take the plunge.

Knowing little about property values outside the city, the Powells found a real estate representative who specialized in country and rural properties, who lived and worked in the area they were considering.

They told the representative that Douglas had to live close to a commuter train station, and Susan wanted four bedrooms so each child would have a room of his own, and hoped for a minimum half-acre property.

And the Powells agreed that their new home shouldn't cost more than what they'd receive when they sold their home in the city.

Within two weeks, the Powells made an offer to purchase which was accepted.

So now they live the 'country life'. They all wake up earlier than they used to. The two older children are bused to school four miles away. Douglas takes the commuter train which leaves at 7:35 a.m. They don't see as much of their old friends as they used to, but have made new friends, too.

Home ownership in the country is a little less expensive than it was in the city and taxes are substantially lower. However, Douglas has commuting expenses.

Overall, the family found the benefits far outweigh the minor drawbacks. Their environment has changed for the better. The air is fresher and the pace is slower. They are more relaxed and maintain a large vegetable garden and have a larger lot for the children to play on.

Country living isn't for every family. But for some families it is worth considering and investigating seriously.

This column is provided through Royal LePage Residential Real Estate Services.

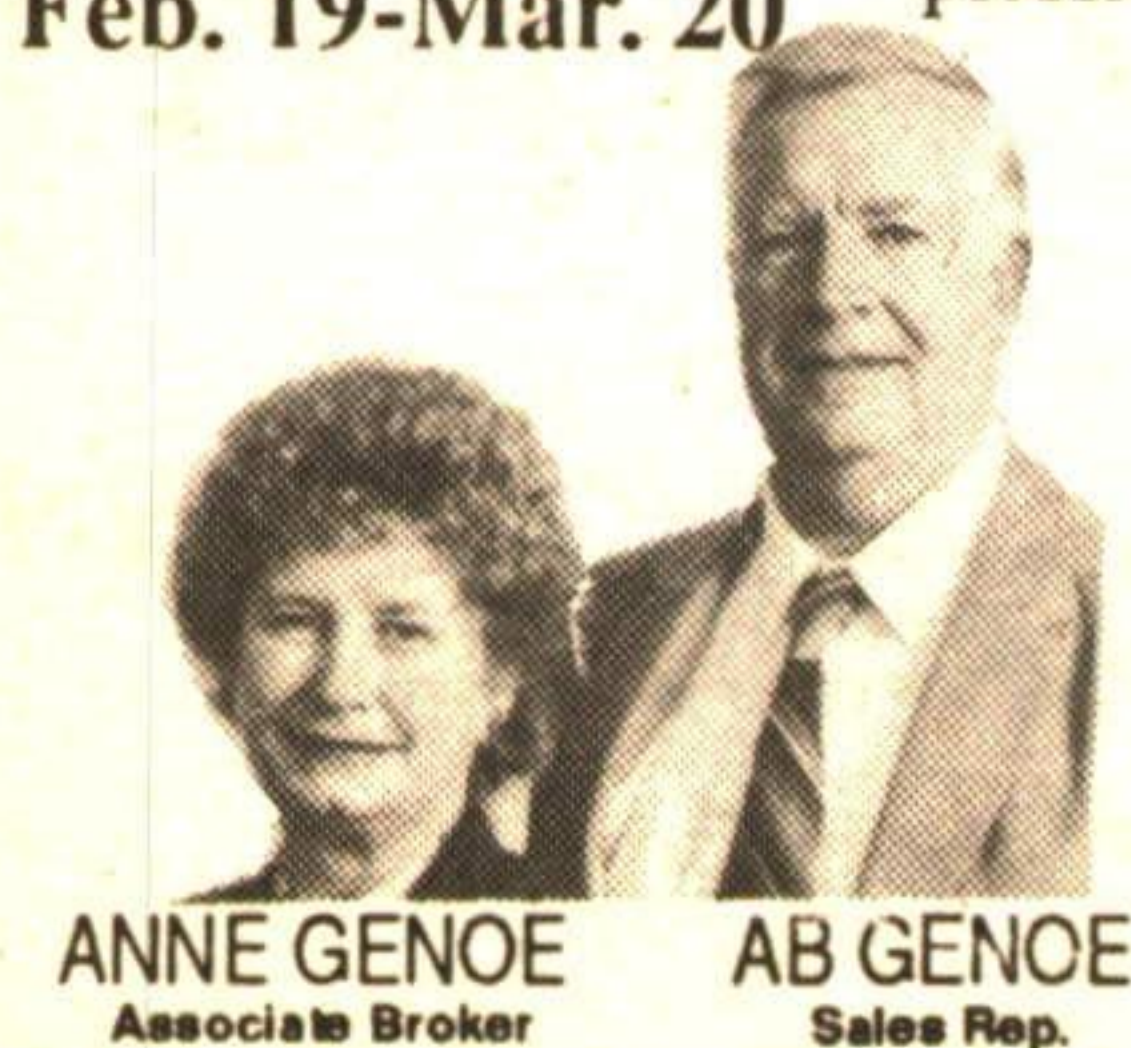
### Your Week Ahead Horoscope

- ARIES**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
Advantageous career move lies ahead. Timing is right to pull up roots and start over. Strike while the iron is hot.
- TAURUS**  
Apr. 20-May 20  
Assignment may be cancelled. Use time wisely to evaluate present relationship. Avoid maudlin theories.
- GEMINI**  
May 21-June 20  
Listening more closely could earn valuable rewards. Family member could benefit from your expertise.
- CANCER**  
June 21-July 22  
A gesture of good will from old adversary can spark new relationship. Don't be deceived by false promises.
- LEO**  
July 23-Aug. 22  
You must be more convincing if you want to achieve your goals. Older relatives look forward to your visit.
- VIRGO**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
Be sure you have all the facts before making an important decision. Incomplete data can cause problems.
- LIBRA**  
Sept. 23-Oct. 22  
Spouse or mate reveals pertinent information. Show your appreciation. Wining and dining would be appropriate.
- SCORPIO**  
Oct. 23-Nov. 21  
Your popularity declines. Unfortunate circumstances highlight your shortcomings. Look carefully for help.
- SAGITTARIUS**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
Conservative ideas will net you a less healthy position, career-wise. Be more creative and inspirational.
- CAPRICORN**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
May-December romance can work. Age should not be a factor if love is really present. Don't listen to gossip.
- AQUARIUS**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
Travel should not be encouraged. Take care of the more important problems at home before you begin to tackle others.
- PISCES**  
Feb. 19-Mar. 20  
Don't be discouraged by failure. Take another turn. Keep pressing until you get it right.

# RE/MAX

## SUBURBAN (91) INC.

360 Guelph St., Georgetown  
877-5211



ANNE GENOE Associate Broker  
AB GENOE Sales Rep.

## Buying with the environment in mind

Canadians are concerned about the state of the environment. The greenhouse effect, the depletion of natural resources and the growing mounds of garbage are just a few of the issues we must face. There is a growing awareness of the need to find ways of protecting the environment. This includes our homes and how we live in them.

According to the Greater Toronto Home Builders' Association, energy efficiency is one of the most important steps which home owners can undertake in support of the environment. Heating, cooling and ventilating a home, cooking, laundering and many other activities which are part of operating a house, all rely on the use of energy.

The environment is affected by energy use in many ways. The production and use of fossil fuels such as oil and gas result in the build-up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. This in turn contributes to changes in the climate such as global warming.

In Canada, we have taken our water resources for granted - luxuriating in hot showers and baths, watering our lawns for hours to create that lush, green look.

However, we need to change this approach to ensure not only an adequate supply of clean water in the future, but indeed the survival of our waterways, lakes and oceans.

There is no better time to find out about energy conservation than when you are looking for a new home. There are a number of different products and technologies which can be incorporated into your home to enable you to be more environmentally sensitive.

Consult with your professional home builder for information and guidance to make the right decisions for your family. What environmentally-friendly options are available to you? How will these options influence your lifestyle? What are the long-term costs and energy savings?

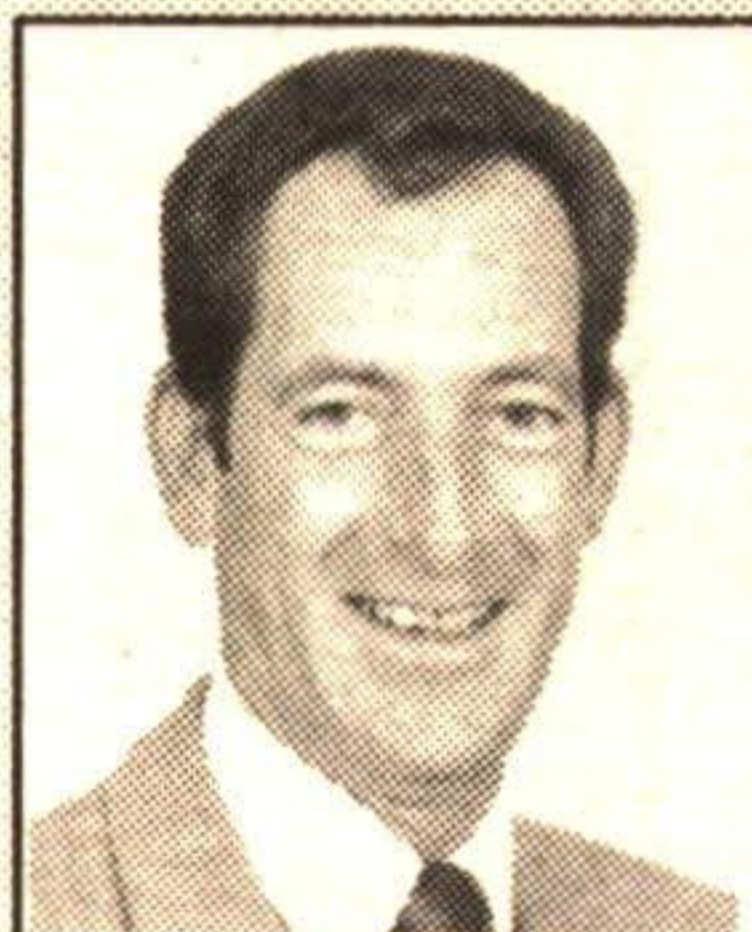
Here are some products and

technologies on the market now:

- high performance windows - they contribute to the energy savings of a home, reducing your heating requirements by between nine and 17 per cent.
- energy-efficient lighting - the new compact fluorescent light bulb uses up to 80 per cent less energy than a standard incandescent bulb and lasts up to 10 times longer. In dollar terms you can save from \$25 to \$30 over the life of the bulb.
- energy-efficient appliances - washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, stoves and dishwashers - account for between 13 and 16 per cent of residential energy consumption in a typical household. If you're purchasing new appliances, an 'energuide' allows you to compare and evaluate the energy performance of each appliance.
- water conservation makes economic and environmental sense. Reducing use with low-flow showerheads, for example, reduces consumption of water by half.

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MAL DODGE  
Sales Representative



LINDA ROBINSON  
Sales Representative

AWARD WINNING TEAM



RM093-92



### VERY PRIVATE YARD

Sturdy brick bungalow with gleaming hardwood floors, large kitchen, extra bedroom, bathroom and kitchen facilities on basement level. Asking price \$169,900. Call MAL DODGE or LINDA ROBINSON, Sales Reps. at 874-3051. RM145-92



### EXCELLENT VALUE

Sturdy brick bungalow with new roof and aluminum trim. Broadloom over hardwood. Cheery living room with big picture window. Carport has been converted to a special office or play room. \$144,900. Call MAL DODGE or LINDA ROBINSON, Sales Reps. right away at 874-3051. RM131-92



### PLAN YOUR SUNDAY DRIVE . . .

to an acre on the edge of Georgetown - "15 Sideroad". Imagine all this space around you! Custom home boasts huge rooms and extra high ceilings. Dream kitchen, main floor family room, four bathrooms! Like to see it? Meet you at the property. Call MAL DODGE or LINDA ROBINSON, Sales Reps. at 874-3051. RM043-92



### NEW PRICE

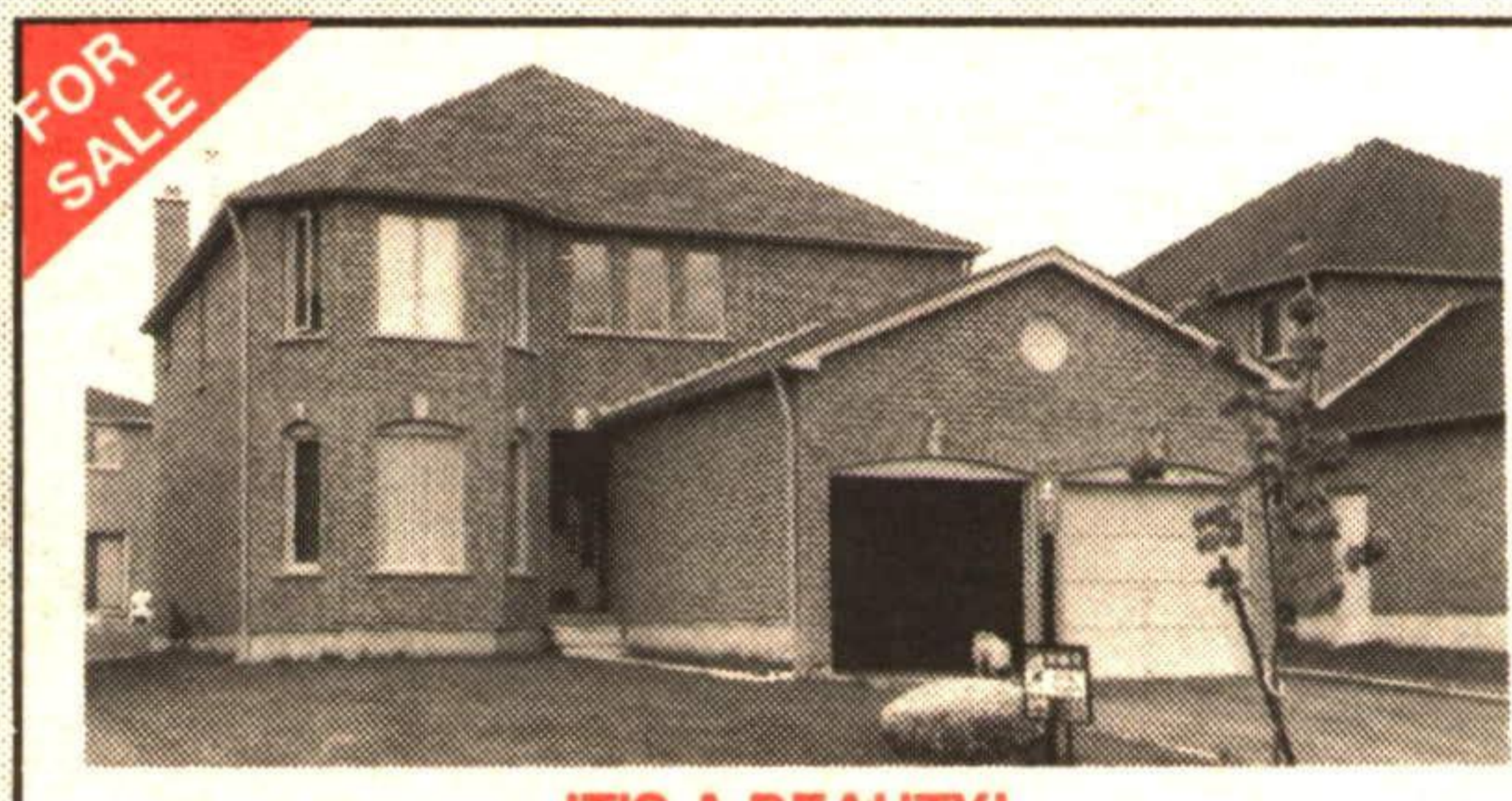
### PRIVACY PLUS ON 10 ACRES!

Follow the long, newly paved driveway to this great hideaway on Hwy. 25. Separate living and dining rooms. Freshly decorated kitchen and family rooms both with sliding door walkouts to quality deck across the back of the home. Maintenance free aluminum and triple car garage. Asking \$319,000. Call today! LINDA ROBINSON or MAL DODGE, Sales Reps. 874-3051. RM159-92



### STARTER OR RETIREMENT

All the work has been done, large living room, dining room, two bedrooms up & one down. New roof & new siding. Mint condition, just move in. Asking \$144,900. For more information, please call MAL DODGE or LINDA ROBINSON, Sales Reps. after hours or Sunday 877-5466. RM120-92



### IT'S A BEAUTY!

Gorgeous executive home, approx. 2800 sq. ft. - on excellent street of comparable homes. Impressive "Scarlett O'Hara" staircase to 2nd floor landing and four generous bedrooms. Quality broadloom and flooring. Dream kitchen with oak cupboards and adjoining family room with fireplace. Asking \$249,000. Call MAL DODGE or LINDA ROBINSON, Sales Reps. at 874-3051. RM133-92