

Wet basements continue to plague home owners

Wet basements plague owners of new and old homes alike. Especially in times of heavy rain or where water tables are high, unhappy homeowners may see water seeping up through cracks in the concrete floor and along the edge where it meets the foundation walls.

Although some people attempt to apply solutions or materials to the concrete floor, nothing will hold back the pressure of water underneath.

The only remedy is to improve the drainage around the foundation walls and under the floor.

A sump pump may do the job and is one of the less expensive solutions. But often it's necessary to dig down to the footings, either outside or inside the foundation walls, and install drainage lines which can be connected to a storm or sanitary sewer.

You and your neighbors should discuss this problem with your local building or public works department.

SINKING PROBLEM

Some unfortunate new homeowners find that the concrete floor of an attached garage sinks where it joins

the house.

In some cases the floor slab was likely poured on loose soil which was pushed back into the excavation around the foundation wall without being properly compacted by the builder.

When the loose soil settles, the garage floor has sunk with it. Check your warranty and see if your builder is responsible for fixing the problem.

MOSSY PROBLEM

If you don't like moss growing on the concrete of your home, it can be removed. The moss doesn't harm

the concrete, and some people like the look, but if you don't, it can be scraped off with a broad putty knife or similar tool.

Afterwards scrub the concrete with detergent and a stiff brush.

CRACKED PUTTY

If you own an older home, you may find that the putty on the windows is dried, cracked and may be falling out.

To correct this problem, you first have to remove the hardened putty. Much of the loose putty will come out by simply lifting it out, or you may have to soften it with the heat

of a soldering iron, then scrape it off with a putty knife.

To replace the putty, take a ball of putty or glazing compound an inch or more in size and roll it between your hands to make a rope about a quarter of an inch in diameter. Press this in place and then smooth it with a putty knife held at a 45 degree to form a triangle bead.

Let the putty dry for a week before painting it.

The paint should extend about 1/8 inch over the glass to seal the edge of the glazing compound.

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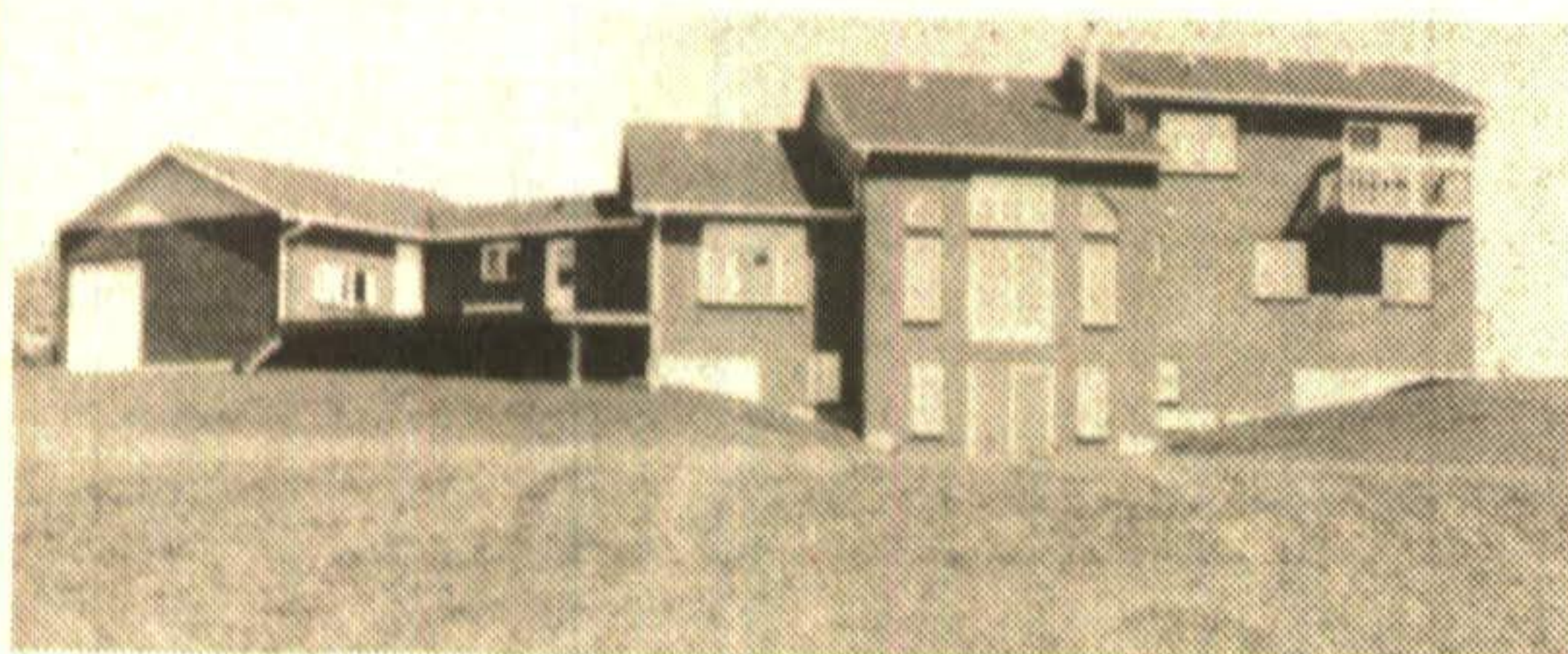
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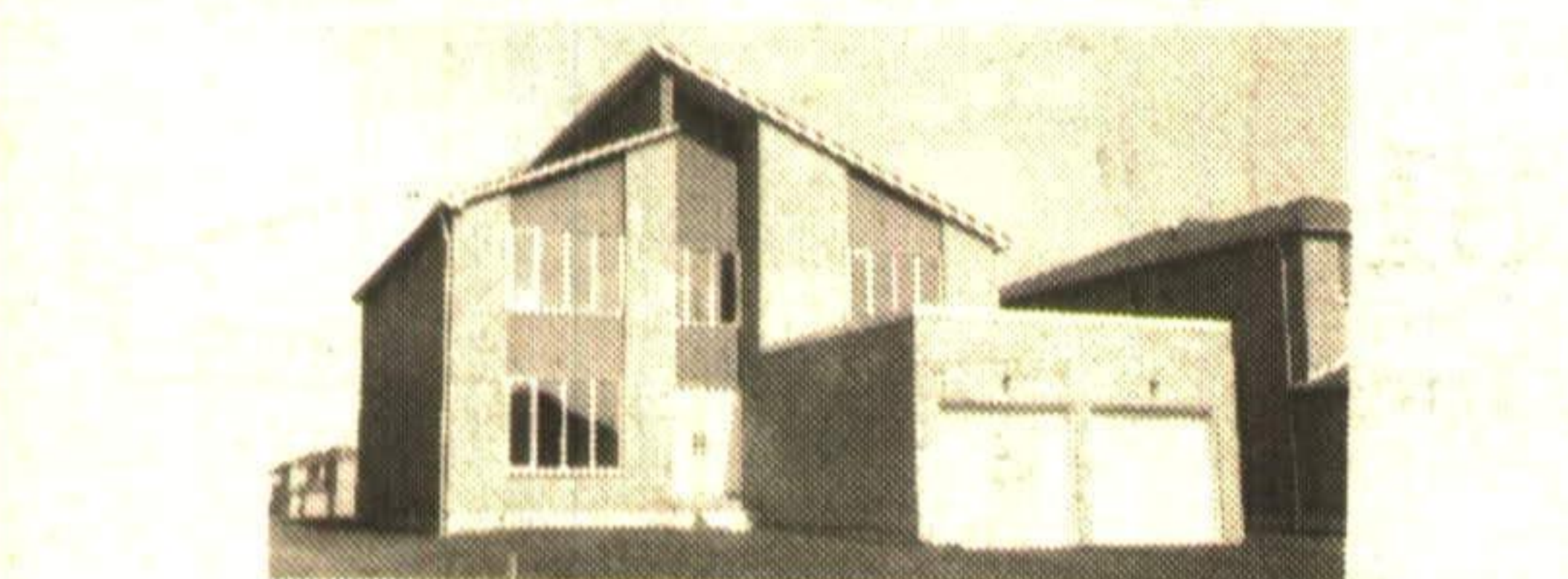
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THANKS TO THESE PEOPLE WHO LET ME WORK FOR THEM THIS YEAR:

Mr. & Mrs. Boyd, Chris & Celine Christenson, Lou & Colleen Costello, Steve & Tami Eyles, Archie & Harriett Hopkins, Jerry & Martha Hughes, Joe & Debbie Kenny, Larry & Joan Litke, Alex & Bev McKee, Egied Pellegrims, Muriel Pierce, Norm & Ann Pride, Bob & Grace Rylett, Norma & Bill Sim, James & Mary Stewart, Rose & Brian Turford, Julie & Dan Wallace, Denise & Richard Wilkes, Canada Homes.

Your Week Ahead Horoscope

- ARIES**
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
It will be necessary for you to take charge if that new project is to get off the ground. Show enthusiasm.
- TAURUS**
Apr. 20-May 20
The best offense is not always a good defense in business. Show some initiative and creativity. Take a novel approach.
- GEMINI**
May 21-June 20
You will meet with an obstacle too tough to tackle. Determination and strength will be needed to overcome it.
- CANCER**
June 21-July 22
Be more receptive to your partner. He may be worried about job security. He will need your moral support.
- LEO**
July 23-Aug. 22
You did not accomplish your goals alone. Give credit where it is due. Show appreciation to those who deserve it.
- VIRGO**
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Lay aside all agendas and programs. Go with the flow and spend time relaxing and basking in the warmth of the sun.
- LIBRA**
Sept. 23-Oct. 22
Do not be taken in by scam artists. Your trusting nature could get you into hot water. Check credentials.
- SCORPIO**
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Social activities play an important part in your step up the ladder. It is good to be seen in the right places.
- SAGITTARIUS**
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Your genius has been noticed. Someone in authority is aware of your potential. Expect to receive financial favors.
- CAPRICORN**
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Your clandestine romance is due to be exposed. Admitting your true feelings now may save embarrassment later.
- AQUARIUS**
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Devote more of your time to family life. You have been missed at home. Listen to your heart.
- PISCES**
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
A new perspective may be gained by listening to improbable source. Everyone is entitled to their opinion.



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"My doctor told me to slow down or else and my boss told me to speed up or else!"



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