In a surge of activity, over 33,000 houses were purchased by first-time buyers in the first quarter of 1994, the Honourable David C. Dingwall, Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), announced today.

Since its inception in February 1992, over 174,000 Canadian households have bought their first home with a minimum five per cent down payment, on a federally-insured mortgage, under CMHC's First Home Loan Insurance program (FHLI).

"The first quarter activity represents almost half of the total units purchased under the FHLI program in its first year of operation," said Mr. Dingwall.

"The program's success lies in the fact that it has increased access to homeownership without added cost to the government and enabled more Canadians to invest in a home to build equity," said Mr. Dingwall.

Of the 33,086 houses purchased, representing \$3.3 billion of loans insured by CMHC, 26,426 were resale units (\$2.5 billion), and 6,600 were newly constructed units (over \$700 million).

Purchases of newly constructed units

showed a marked increase. The first quarter's 6,660 new units represents 54 per cent of the number of new units insured in all of 1993 and 86 per cent of those insured in 1992.

According to CMHC, consumers may have sped up their decision to buy, based on a combination of almost ideal homebuying conditions. On a national basis, house prices are stable across the country. Mortgage interest rates were at the lowest they have been in almost 30 years. The five year mortgage interest rate dipped to 7.25 per cent during the first quarter. This rate has not been this low since 1965.

Another possible factor may have been the uncertainty regarding the continuation of Revenue Canada's popular Home Buyer Plan, where homebuyers could use up to \$20,000 each of their RRSP funds as equity for the purchase of a primary residence.

As was announced in the federal government's budget speech on February 22, 1994, the Home Buyers Plan was continued, but participant eligibility was changed to first time home buyers only. The change in the Home Buyers Plan, in concert with FHLI and relatively low mortgage interest rates will

24 HOUR PAGER 877-5165

Res. 877-7303 Tor. 874-3030 Erin 833-7117 Oak. 875-2143

ARTHUR F. JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES LIMITED REALTOR

247 Guelph St., Georgetown



Presswood





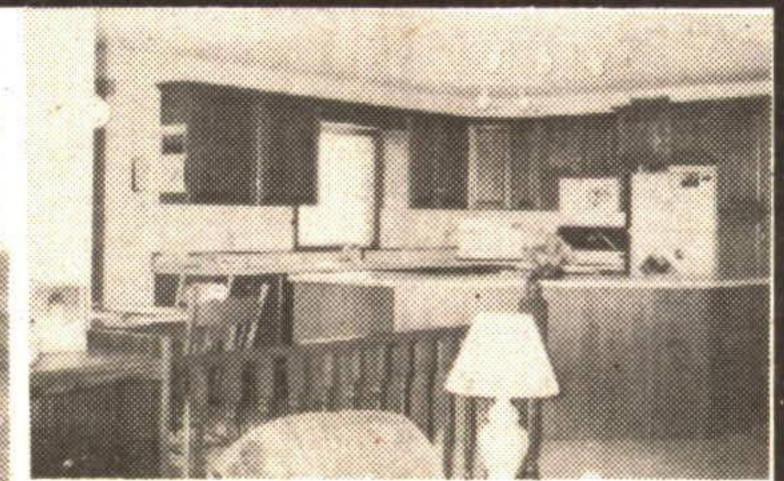
Guaranteed Advertising Until Sold!

Feature Home ...

QUAINT QUIET NEIGHBOURHOOD

Two storey, three bedroom home located in the older part of Brampton. Large front verandah, pressure treated rear deck. Pine floors, freshly decorated. A great home in a super area. To inspect call Rod Presswood*. 94-2-WE





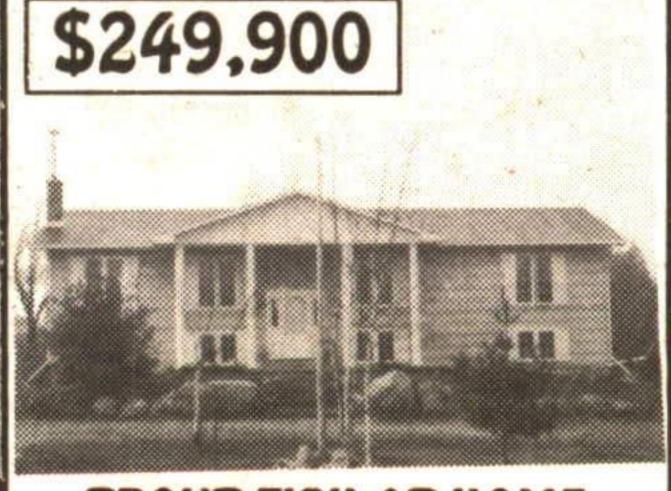
OLD FASHIONED QUALITY

Good workmanship and natural woodwork are found in this brick bungalow with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, family room with fireplace and double oversized garage. Come see. \$219,900. 94-2-238



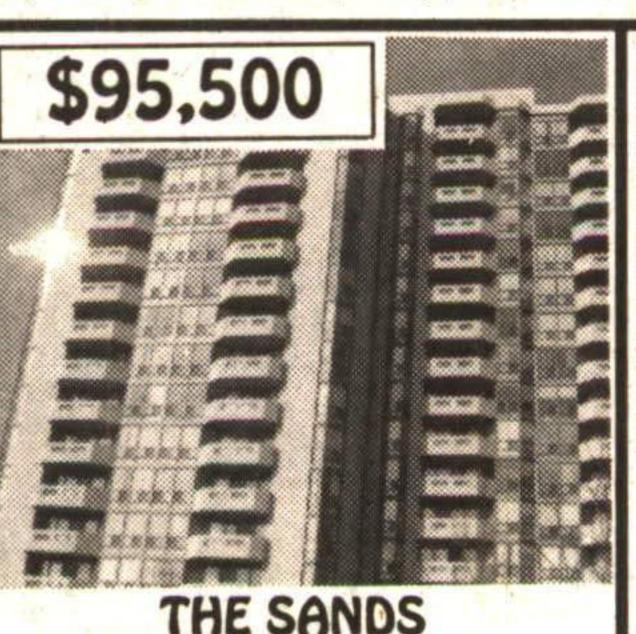
SUPER LOT

Three bedroom home located on the edge of Georgetown. 400 ft. deep lot. Above ground pool, detached games room with woodstove. Check this out at \$159,900. Call Rod Presswood*. 94-2-358



TROUT FISH AT HOME

Beautiful 9.5 acre property backing onto Nottawasaga River. Lovely, bright raised bungalow with in-law potential. Now \$249,900. Call Rod Presswood*. 94-2-153



THE SANDS

One bedroom condo, upgraded with ceramics. Great place to start. Listed at \$95,000. Call Rod Presswood*.



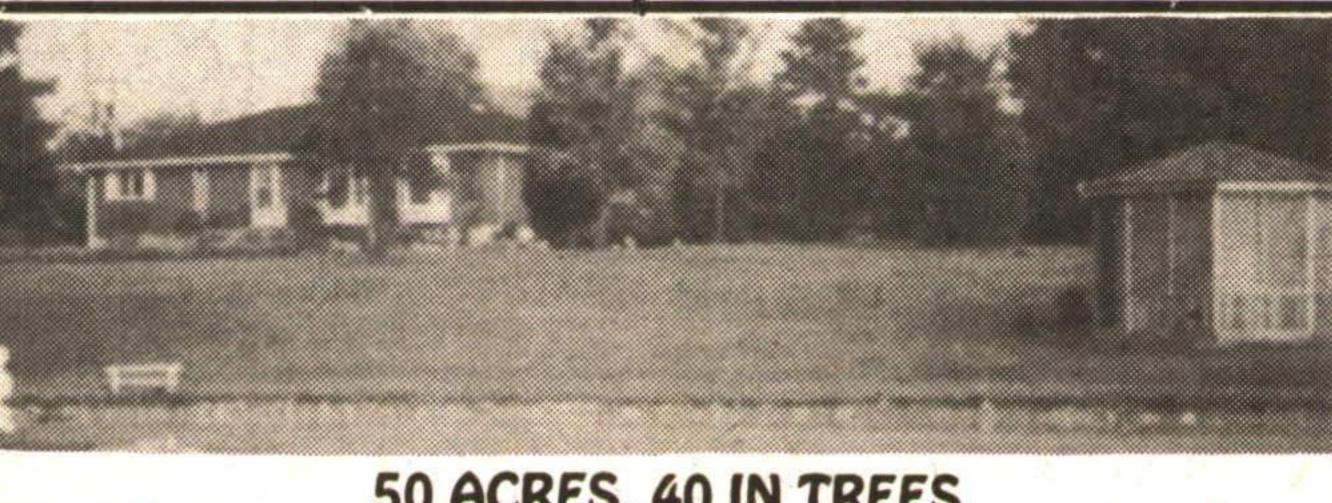
NEAR THE LAKE

Attractive 3 bedroom quality home, approx. 1,200 sq. ft. Lovely oak kitchen, walkout to deck, very large totally fin- gious area of Georgetown. Large spaished rec. room. Oversized double cious rooms, family room with fireplace garage. All for \$146,500. Call Rod and walkouts. A designer's delight. Presswood*.



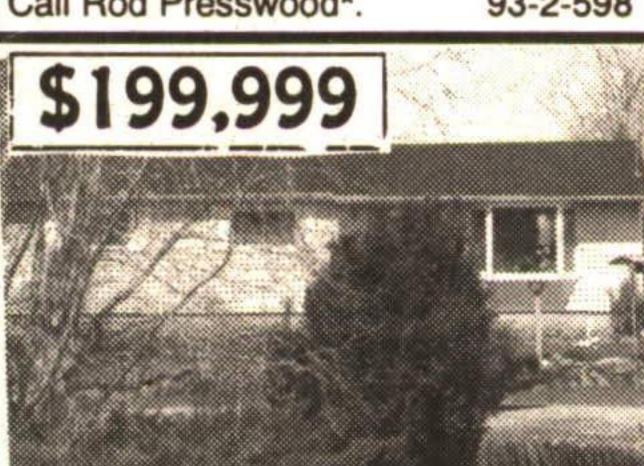
IF YOU LIKE DIFFERENT

Modern design home located in presti-94-2-268 Call Rod Presswood*. 93-2-598



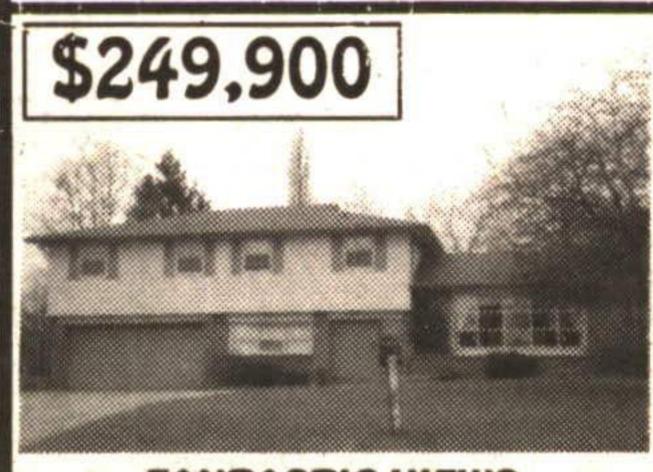
50 ACRES, 40 IN TREES

2 spring fed ponds. 3 bedroom brick bungalow, central air, one acre. Minutes to Georgetown. close to 401 and GO. Newly decorated, carpeted throughout. Extra high basement with lots of potential. All this with a minimum upkeep. Must be seen.



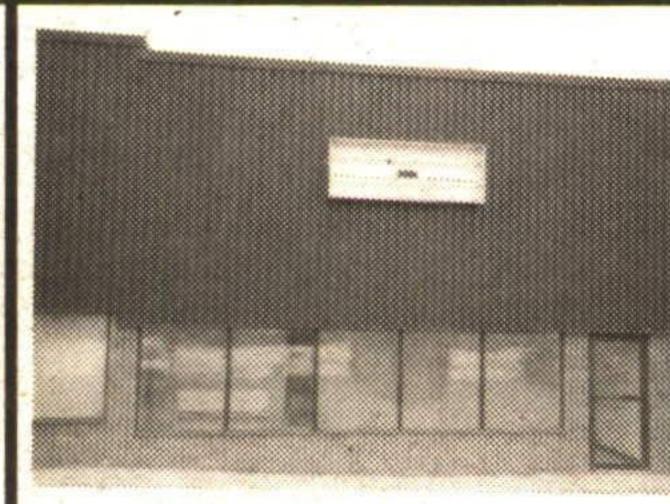
BALLINAFAD BEAUTY

Three plus bedroom bungalow set on Large deck off the master, finished rec room with woodstove. A very well appointed home. Priced at \$199,999. Call Rod Presswood*.



FANTASTIC VIEWS ALL YEAR LONG

window. Watch the birds in the rear yard from the breakfast area through another large picture win dow. This home is large and offers in-law potential. Call Rod Presswood*.

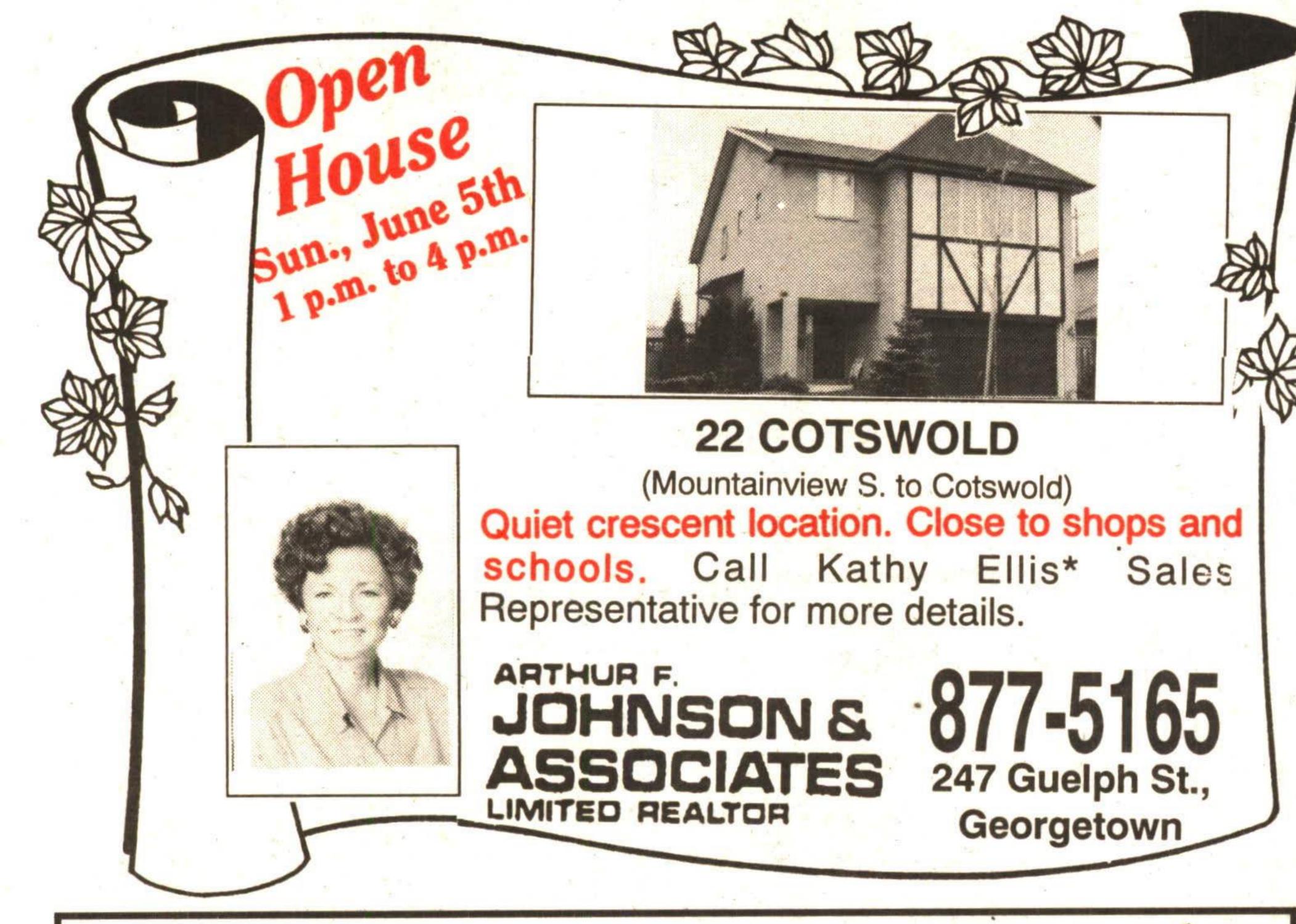


INDUSTRIAL CONDO

Prime location, almost 2,000 sq. ft. industrial space. Perfect for small business. All for \$110,000. Call Rod Presswood*. 94-2-219

IN-TOWN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING LOTS

Starting at \$199,900. For all the details, please call Rod Presswood*



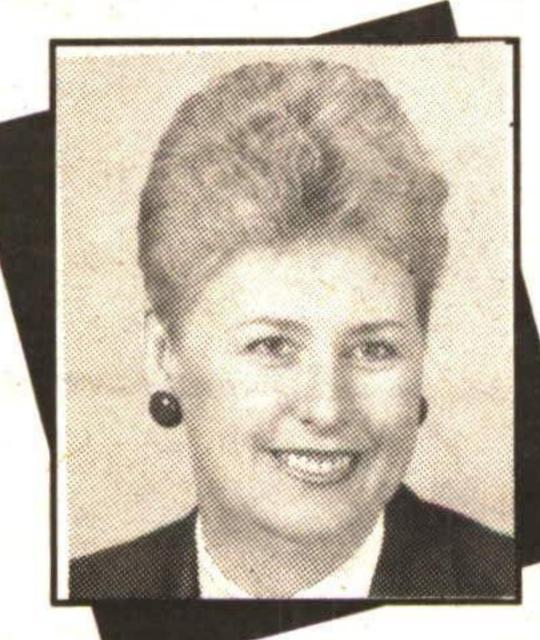


ARTHUR F. JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES

877-5165

- 24 Hour Pager -





Pam Reid* *Sales Rep



MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE!

Rare opportunity to own a spacious and well- Best describes this bright open concept home. 3 maintained triplex in a nice residential area of large bedrooms, oak kitchen with pantry, b/i dishthis unique property.



SUNNY, SUNNY, SUNNY!

16+ ACRES

in 10 days for 97%

of asking price

Gre. Great hobby farm with frontage on two lines. 3 bedroom home with large country kitchen and renovated bath. Bank barn, 4 box stalls, drive shed and garage/workshop. Call Chris* for more information, \$249,000. 94-2-145