

# Ask The Professionals

Send your questions for any of these professionals  
**"Ask the Professionals"**  
 Independent & Free Press,  
 211 Armstrong Ave., Georgetown L7G 4X5

**RE/MAX BLUE SPRINGS REALTY (HALTON) CORP.**



360 Guelph St.,  
 Georgetown

**877-5211 873-1058**

*The better way - Donna Rae  
 Sales Representative*



DONNA RAE

**Q:** I have read your article in the past and my question to you is "What should we look for when picking a Real Estate Agent?"

**A:** A real estate representative should be truly proud of his or her calling, not only as a salesperson, but as a counsellor and advisor, and community builder. There is an obligation to oneself and the community. The salesperson must develop a capacity for improving his knowledge of the field, including market trends and new techniques. They should be knowledgeable of Listing and Solds, changes in zoning laws, and developments in various neighbourhoods which affect the value of property. The well informed salesperson is the successful salesperson because they know their field and impress their prospects with their knowledge.

## AT YOUR SERVICE

**Home Cleaning Specialists  
 FREE ESTIMATES**

LISA BROWN  
 1-800-405-1594  
 OR LOCAL (905) 873-1486



LISA BROWN

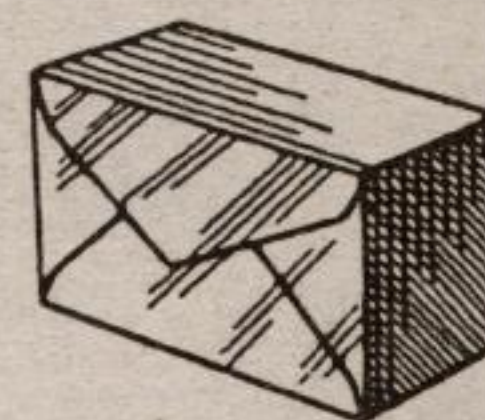
**Q:** I work full-time and have always cleaned my home myself. I do find housework time consuming, but I just can't justify hiring help. Why are others hiring professionals? Is it necessary?

**A:** A clean home is a happy home. Generally people feel more comfortable when their home is clean and tidy. Hiring a professional to do the cleanup for you is a greatly appreciated luxury. Some people justify hiring help as the reward they get for working hard five days a week. Other people continue to clean their home, but occasionally treat themselves to help. Professional manicures are not a necessity, but once in a while we all pamper ourselves with one. The frequency of service is the sole decision of the individual, and usually based on the customer's need and what they can afford. Although prices are competitive, shop around until you find a price that's comfortable. Professional cleaning companies are normally insured/bonded as are their staff members. At Your Service provides you with a list of traditional spring cleaning and regular chores. You just fill it out and leave the rest to us.

## Attention Readers

Send any questions you may have for the professionals on this page clearly stating who your question is for and with the heading "Ask The Professionals"

### MAIL or FAX

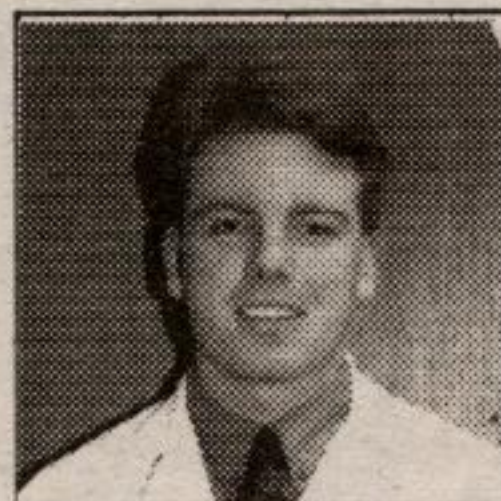


## The Independent & Free Press

211 Armstrong Ave.  
 Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4X5  
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**Attention: Ask A Pro**

**GREG J. LAWRENCE, B. Sc., D. Ch.**  
 FOOT SPECIALIST/CHIROPODIST

350 Main St. E.,  
 Milton, Ontario, L9T 1P6  
 1A Princess Anne Dr.,  
 Georgetown, Ontario L7G 4W4  
 (905) 873-3423



Greg J. Lawrence  
 B.Sc. D.Ch.

Member of the Ontario Society of Chiropractors  
 and the Ontario College of Chiropractors

**Q:** My feet are flat. What causes this, and what can be done?

**A:** The arch of your foot is its main supportive structure. If this arch loses strength, the bony framework begins to collapse, causing your foot to flatten. Like a sagging bridge, the weakness in the middle strains the joints at both ends of your foot.

There are many causes of flat feet. Some people are born with them. Others acquire flat feet as a result of arthritis, trauma, or musculoskeletal disorders. Overuse or repeated pounding on hard surfaces can also weaken the foot's arch. Discomfort from flat feet often does not appear for years. At some point pain may be felt and walking may become awkward as increasing strain is put on your feet and calves.

If the feet are diagnosed at an early age, chances are good that nonsurgical treatment or medication can help. Flat feet are often treated with a stretching regime which is done daily. Proper footwear is essential and the use of orthotics (arch supports) are often indicated. With athletes, I can apply strapping to the foot and who you how to apply this yourself for sporting events.

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BARBARA A. LEIGHTON  
 BA, LLB

**Q:** My spouse and I have separated. He wants joint custody of our two children, but I want them to live with me, What exactly does joint custody mean?

Many people confuse the primary residence of the children with custody. Custody does not dictate where the children live, but rather who has decision-making power with respect to the children.  
**A:** Specifically, the custodial parent has the right to make decisions regarding the children's names, residence, education, religion and health treatment. Thus, if parents have joint custody, they will both have to make these decisions jointly.

With respect to where the children actually reside, any sort of arrangement is possible. For example, the children may live with one parent and visit the other on weekends, while the parents share joint custody, or while one parent has custody and the other merely has access rights.

If the parents are not able to get along well enough to agree to make decisions affecting the children, then joint custody is probably not appropriate. The courts will very seldom order parents to share joint custody in this type of situation, although it does happen.

If you are separated from your children's other parent and do not have a formal written custody agreement or court order, you should see a lawyer immediately to become advised of your rights and what courses of action are available to you for securing those rights.



For more information call:

Georgetown (905) 843-3758  
 Milton 1-800-363-3797



MELANIE DEMARCO

**Q:** Why should I use a private home day care agency instead of finding someone on my own?

**A:** We help to match parents and children with compatible providers who have been carefully screened. This screening that potential Wee Watch Providers go through include verification of I.D., an in-home interview, the WEE WATCH Situational Survey, personal and business references, a criminal reference check, a site safety check, a fire evacuation plan, and a medical/immunization record on each family member. We attempt to offer you a choice of homes that are close to your home or workplace. All providers go through an initial training session to ensure that they are aware of the required regulations and procedures. Unannounced monthly visits to Providers' homes are done by qualified E.C.E. trained Home Visitor, who also acts as a resource person. Workshops are offered for staff and Providers, and parents are encouraged to attend as well. Information about workshops, topics of interest, special events or agency news appears in our monthly newspaper. If your regular Provider is sick or on holidays, a back-up Provider will be available to care for your child. Private Home Day Care Agencies are licensed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, so the homes are not only inspected by agency representatives, but a percentage are checked annually by Ministry personnel, to make sure that the agency is following guidelines as set out in the Day Nurseries Act. All these checks help to ensure quality day care for your child.



Byron Conrad  
 Home Comfort Consultant

SALES, INSTALLATION & SERVICE  
 • AIR CONDITIONERS • FURNACES  
 • GAS FIREPLACES • BOILERS  
**876-1020**

**Q:** Do I need a permit for the installation of a central air conditioner unit for my home in Halton Hills.

**A:** Definitely Yes. At Select Energy we follow the required process, which is the preparation of a Heat Loss/Gain load calculation by computer, to determine the proper size unit (cooling tonnage). Some of the variables include measuring your home, all door and window openings, wall and ceiling insulation, location and direction of your home to sun and wind, and the number of family members that occupy your home. The heat/loss report is then submitted to the Town for review together with the recommended equipment specifications. The installation of your Air Conditioner proceeds as soon as the permit is issued by the Town. When the work is completed, the town building inspector will complete the inspection. It is important to have a permit on file when it comes time to sell your home in future. A prospective buyer will normally request a house inspection before closing. A diligent house inspector acting for the buyer will be looking for properly registered permits.



Tanya Belanger

Telephone/Facsimile: 905 873 2602  
 E-Mail: tanya@stn.net

**Q:** What kind of computer equipment do I need to get on the Internet?

**A:** The Internet started so that different kinds of computers could talk to each other using a common set of rules. This means that there is not one kind of computer that will work, but rather almost every computer will work on the Internet. Of course, if you have a Pentium computer it will be faster than a 386, but either work very well with the Internet. Your computer will also need a modem. This is a device that lets your computer talk using the telephone line. Just like your computer, the faster the modem, the faster that you can access the Internet. Regardless, any modem, from an older 2400 baud to the latest I.S.D.N. compatible, will work.

Most Internet companies will require that you have a computer with Windows, and this can be either Windows 3.x or Windows 95. If you have a Macintosh, you will need an operating system of 7.1 or later. Anything older than a 386 usually cannot support Windows, so you will need a 386 or higher. This is so that your computer supports the easy to use Windows based software such as Netscape. Macintosh users will be using similar Mac based software. Easy-to-use software helps to ensure that your time on the Internet is enjoyable.

I'll see you on the net at [www.stn.net](http://www.stn.net) or e-mail me at [tanya@stn.net](mailto:tanya@stn.net)

## Attention Professionals

If you would like  
 to be part  
 of this page call  
**873-0301**  
 Ask for Jeanette  
 or Mary O.

