Wine on the carpet?

Don't fret here's some helpful hints for carpet cleanup

on't fret over spilled milk ... cranberry juice or candle wax. With a little planning, you can stand prepared for those inevitable spills.

With upholstery, carpets and rugs at risk for stains, these helpful tips from Georgetown's Carpet Barn Carpet One flooring expert will help you get ready to react quickly to whatever drips and spills life may toss your way.

"It's helpful to set up a well-stocked stain emergency kit with supplies suited to various flooring surfaces so you can deal with common spills quickly and efficiently," said Jeff Dean.

According to Dean, the following are

recommended "emergency stain kit" items to have ready, so you can treat any stain situation:

- unprinted white paper towels
- baking soda
- clear dishwashing detergent
- a laundry presoak solution
- white vinegar
- a non-bleaching clothing spot remover

Here are a few simple solutions for common stains.

Candle wax: For removal of melted candle wax, start by scraping off as much excess wax as you can with the blunt edge of a butter knife. Freeze the area

with ice cubs until the wax hardens. Continue scraping off as much excess wax as you can. Vacuum the remaining area to ensure you've picked up any remaining wax particles.

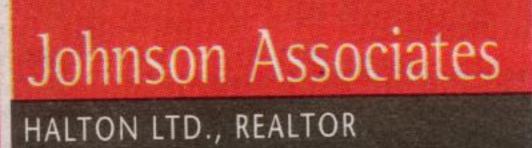
Lipstick: To remove stubborn lipstick stains, start by applying a dry cleaning solvent, using a dampened cloth. The trick is to use a blotting motion, not rubbing as that will embed the stain deeper into the carpet. Repeat this solvent application again followed by applying a damp cloth to the stain. Finish by blotting with a clean towel.

Fruit punch, juices and soft drinks: For these stains, start by blotting up excess spills. Apply a detergent solution (1/2 tsp clear dishwashing liquid diluted in water) using a damp towel. Apply white vinegar to the remaining stain. Blot with a clean towel or put a thin layer of white paper towels over the area. When it's dry, vacuum or brush to restore the texture in the carpet.

Meat juices and gravy: Start by blotting up excess spills and apply a detergent mixture of 1/2 tsp of clean dishwashing detergent and one cup of warm water. Use a blotting motion, not rubbing, to remove as much of the liquid as possible. Apply a small amount of white vinegar to a dampened towel and continue blotting the stain. Use a clean damp cloth and blot remaining stain area.

Coffee, tea, red wine and chocolate: For these stains, blot or scrape up the excess liquid or food. Mix a 1/2 tsp of clear dishwashing detergent in one cup of warm water and dab on the spot with a dampened towel. Continue to blot the area. Next, dab on undiluted white vinegar to the stained area. Blot again. Rinse by dabbing with a damp sponge. Blot once more and finish by applying a weighted pad of white paper towels overnight.

For a handy Stain Removal Guide, featuring more tips on how to remove the most common stains, visit the Carpet One Web site, www.carpetone.com, call 1-800-CARPET1 or visit the Carpet Barn Carpet One at 26 Guelph St. (at Mill St.) in Georgetown.



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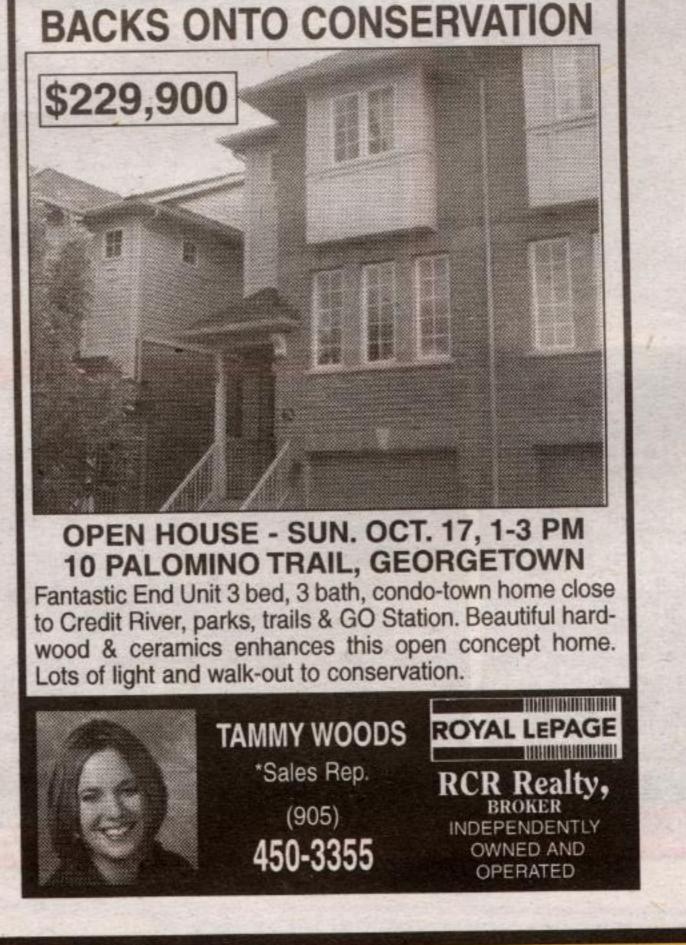
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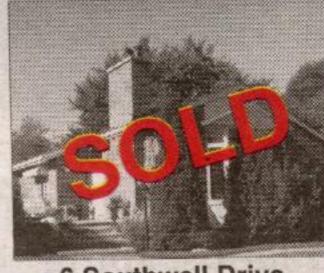
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