# Sealing air leaks saves you in energy money

The average house loses as much as 40 per cent of its heat because warm air is allowed to escape outside, through tiny nooks and crannies.

Together the air leaks in an average home would be the same as having a four foot square hole in the outside wall of your house.

Plugging leaks throughout the house is the homeowners first line of defense against this enormous heat loss.

To save on the warm, caulking and weatherstripping has for most homeowners been their best investment.

In an average home the entire volume of

air within the house can be exchanged with outside air once every hour.

New construction techniques aimed at sealing up the cracks, have meant that some Canadian homes have an air change rate of less than once every thirty hours.

Draft areas can be easily identified by either holding a candle, cigarette or piece of tissue in the location of a drafty area.

While a tiny crack may appear to be inconsequential, a crack one-sixteenth of an inch at the base of a house, where the wall meets the foundation, represents a space that totals an area of two square feet.

Even more difficult to detect are leaks from interior wall sockets, switches and recessed lights.

To stop cold entering the house caulk cracks in fixed joints, and weatherstrip around moveable joints such as doors.

Cost wise, caulking and weatherstripping materials are inexpensive and represent the best dollar value of any heat conservation measure that a homeowner might apply.

Ecology House, an energy efficient demonstration home in downtown Toronto, has achieved a fuel savings of up to 30 per cent because of weatherstripping and caulking.

Windows without weatherstripping can allow up to five times as much air to pass through them. A large number of renovators contend that the spring metal type of weatherstripping is not only the best choice but widely available and easily installed.

When caulking, it's advisable to caulk on the inside of the house to prevent water vapor from seeping into the walls.

An outside crack should be plugged only if it is quite large or leaks water.

REALTOR

Koyai Irusi

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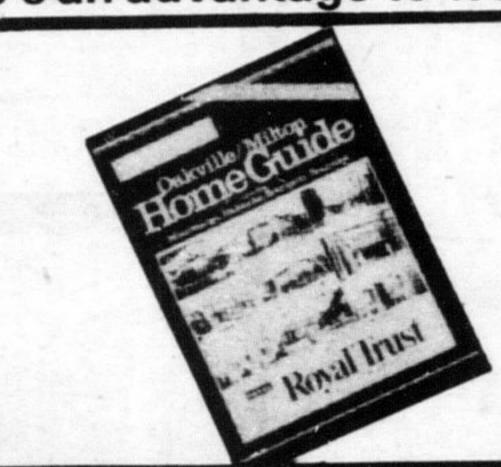
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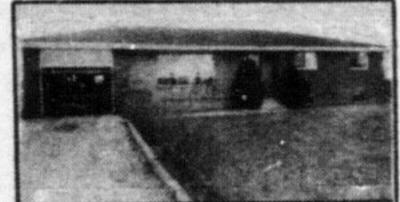
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The asking price is \$129,900 for a 4 bedroom sidesplit on private 1% acres. Double car garage. See it with **CAROL FREE 878-8188.** 

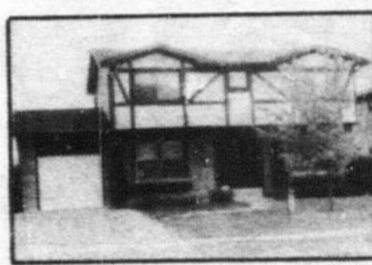
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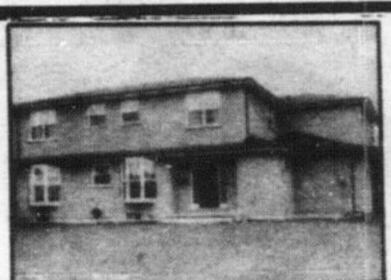
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\$121,500. Call now-RON NORTH 878-8188. **JEWEL-LIKE \$250,000** Elegance is everywhere in this trea-

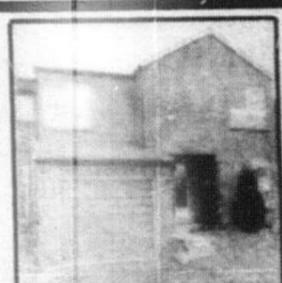
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