

saving *energy*

Programmable thermostat allows complete control of temperature in each room

One responsibility that should be added to the job description for today's homeowner is that of energy manager, since effective use of energy can translate into substantial savings for households.

Among the many products allowing people to control their energy consumption are baseboard heaters, which supply heat individually to each room in a home. They are ideal for 'zone heating'; that is, heating occupied rooms while allowing unoccupied ones to remain cooler.

For even greater effectiveness, a programmable thermostat should be added to the mix. Homeowners gain complete control of the temperature in each room – and hence the electricity consumption by the baseboard heater – at all times, whether they are in the room or not.

If properly programmed, the thermostats can pay for themselves in energy savings well within their first year. This translates

into substantial savings in subsequent years. With prices for programmable baseboard thermostats ranging from \$30 to \$200, the potential energy savings are high.

"Consumers should have programmable thermostats for any kind of heat source in the home," said Stacey Hare, a marketing expert with Selectpower, the retail affiliate of Guelph Hydro.

"Heating our houses and our water accounts for about 80 per cent of our energy use, with appliances, lights and so on consuming the rest," Hare added. "So a programmable baseboard heater thermostat can make a substantial difference on your bill."

"I estimate it can save \$200 to \$300 on energy costs a year. They easily pay for themselves."

While the cost and energy saving advan-

"Heating our houses and our water accounts for about 80 per cent of our energy use..." Hare added.

"So a programmable baseboard heater thermostat can make a substantial difference on your bill."

tages of a programmable baseboard heater thermostat are clear, homeowners need to remember that the cooler parts of the home still need to be heated to well above freezing to avoid freezing pipes.

Baseboard heaters are suitable for people adding rooms to their homes through renovations, looking for ways to heat odd-shaped rooms, or looking to supplement their central heating. They are ideally installed beneath windows, where the heater's rising warm air counters falling cool air from the cold window glass. Baseboard heaters are seldom located on interior walls because standard heating practice is to supply heat at the home's perimeter, where the greatest heat loss occurs.

Aside from their energy management advantages, other benefits of baseboard

How baseboard heater programmable thermostats work

Baseboard heaters use a process called electric resistance to heat a room. The electric cables inside the heater warm the air that passes through it. As this warm air rises out the top of the heater, it pulls colder air into the bottom. This cycle continues until the air entering the heater reaches the temperature specified by the thermostat.

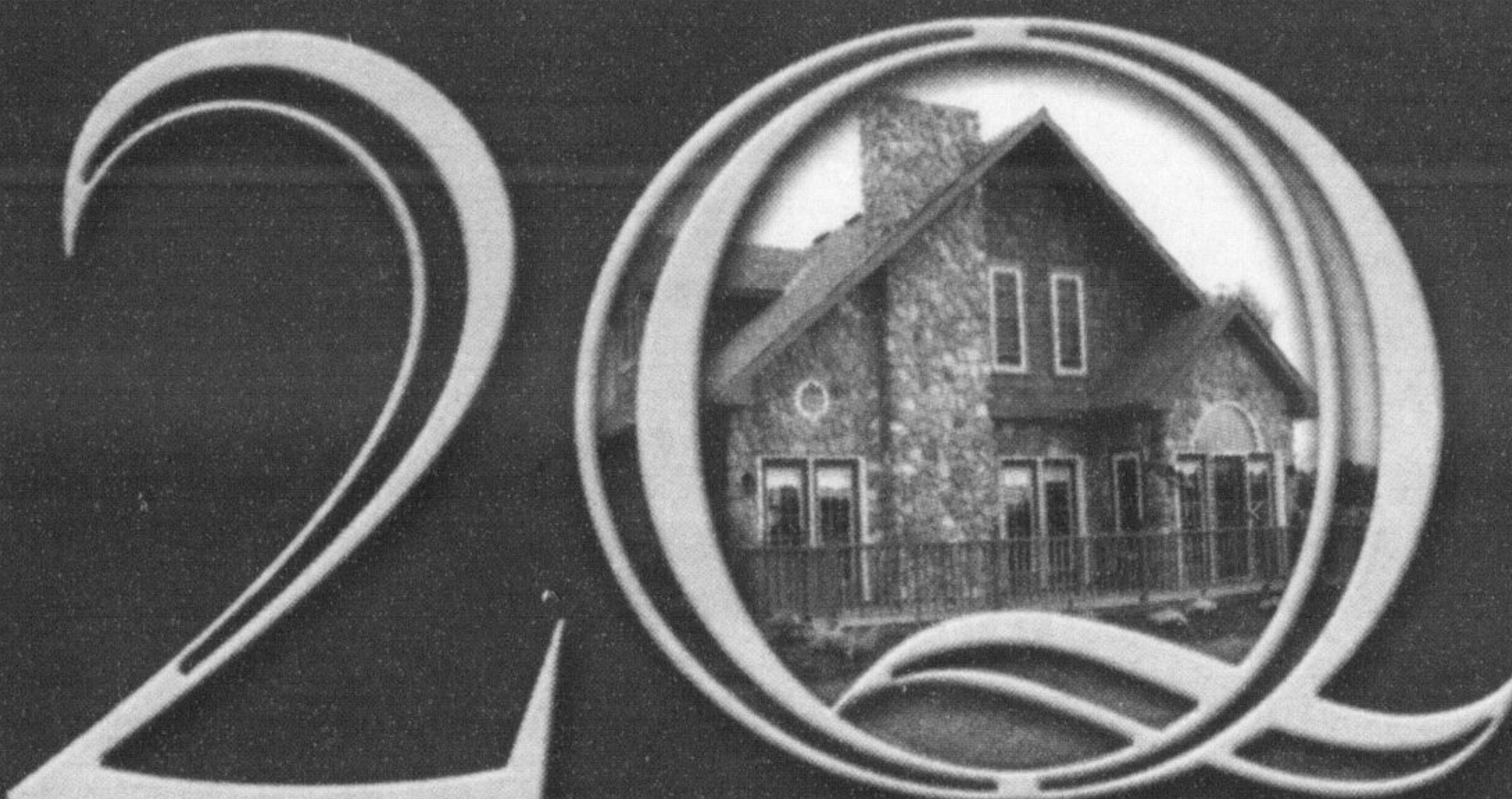
While all methods of electric heating are controlled through some type of thermostat, it is most effective to use a remote line-voltage or low-voltage thermostat installed on an interior wall. Both of these models of thermostat are available in programmable versions, which allows the homeowner to automatically set back the temperature at night or while they're away.

heaters – especially those with a programmable thermostat – are that they require little space, no ductwork and the initial cost is relatively low. As well, the units are easily installed in almost any kind of space. Since there are no moving parts, baseboard heaters are essentially maintenance-free.

Programmable thermostats are currently being promoted by The Conservation Bureau through the "Every Kilowatt Counts" campaign. All residents of Ontario are being offered money-saving coupons to reduce the cost of purchasing motion sensors and other energy efficiency products. These coupons are redeemable at most major retailers in the province, with more than 3000 stores accepting them.

The campaign is part of a concerted effort by the Government of Ontario to encourage all Ontarians to conserve energy and ease pressure on energy supply. The Conservation Bureau, which is part of the Ontario Power Authority, was established in 2005 to develop, coordinate and promote energy conservation programs.

CELEBRATING



20 YEARS OF QUALITY

Precision built homes & cottages for your lot. Anywhere in Ontario.

Visit our newest sales and decor centre, featuring 2 designer decorated models
GRAND OPENING IN GRIMSBY

To celebrate,
we're offering
\$50,000
in no-charge upgrades*

qualityhomes.ca

NEW in GRIMSBY
Sales Centre & Model Homes
9 Windward Dr. between QEW exits
Fifty Rd. & Casablanca Blvd.

KENILWORTH
Factory Tours & Model Homes
R.R. #2 Kenilworth, Ontario
8 km south of Mt. Forest on Hwy 6

COOKSTOWN
Sales Centre & Model Homes
Cookstown Outlet Mall
at Hwy 400 & Hwy 89

FOR MORE INFO toll free: 1-800-265-2648 or visit qualityhomes.ca
Prices and specifications subject to change without notice. E & O.E. *Offer ends March 31, 2007. Please call or visit for details.

this week

Allan Roshko
NEW HOMES MANAGER
(905)632-4444 ext. 233
aroshko@burlingtonpost.com

Wendy Oleszkowicz
REAL ESTATE MANAGER
(905)632-4444 ext. 228
wendyo@burlingtonpost.com


Jenn Crass
ADVERTISING & MARKETING CONSULTANT
(905)632-4444 ext. 256
jcrass@burlingtonpost.com

Susan Myers
ADVERTISING & MARKETING CONSULTANT
(905)632-4444 ext. 285
smyers@burlingtonpost.com

Suzanne Trickey
ADVERTISING & MARKETING CONSULTANT
(905)845-3824 ext. 242
strickey@oakvillebeaver.com

Marijana Prica
SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR
(905)632-4444 ext. 300
mprica@haltonsearch.com

Sue Grzeskowiak
PRODUCTION DESIGN



cover story

**Hawthorne
Village on the
Escarpment**

Mattamy Homes introduces its
desirable Detached Main Street
Homes in Milton

See pg. 3

The Canadian Champion
Milton's Community Newspaper Since 1860
875 Main Street L9T 3Z3
www.halfonsearch.com
Fax: (905) 632-1121

DEADLINES
BOOKINGS: Tuesday 5 pm prior to publication DISCS: Wednesday 10 am

Portfolio of New Homes and its advertisers are not responsible for errors made in advertisements or editorial. All prices are correct at press time, however, due to the lead time required to publish Portfolio of New Homes, prices and other conditions may have changed. Please note prices and conditions are subject to change without notice.