

Good use of furniture will enhance your home

If you're in the market for some new furniture to enhance your home, you may have already envisioned exactly what you want and now your only task is to find it — if you can. Or, if you're totally new to the home decorating scene you may not have a clue where to start.

Whether your tastes are contemporary or traditional, sophisticated or rustic, there's something for you out there — depending of course on your budget and space restrictions. You may prefer to acquire pieces one at a time, saving up for items in between — or you may want to outfit an entire room all at once.

Regardless of which route you choose or what your personal preferences are, make sure you decide what you absolutely need and what you want, so you don't find yourself getting carried away once you start shopping.

Take measurements

It's very important to accurately measure the space you have to work with before you actually start shopping. After all, it's very disheartening to buy an item on impulse, have it delivered, and find out it's too big or too small or too short or too tall. Measure any doorways and staircases that you'll have to manoeuvre things through as well, so you don't run into problems.

Keep special features of the room you're buying furniture for in mind — such as the type and colour of your woodwork and walls — and the size of your windows. You'll likely want pieces that complement these elements — not overshadow them and drown them out entirely.

And once you start to shop, don't necessarily buy the first thing that catches your eye — you might regret it later. Look

around and compare prices and styles and fabrics. If you're investing in pieces that you want to last for a number of years, try to avoid items that are too trendy because chances are they'll look outdated in a couple of years.

If you're into antiques, decide whether you want to refinish pieces yourself, or buy them already refinished. If you enjoy working with wood, you may find it more economical and rewarding to handle the refinishing yourself. Auctions are a fun way to acquire the right pieces — but be sure to examine the items carefully before making any bids.

Try things out

When buying furniture in stores, make sure you try items out to see if they're comfortable, functional and durable. Push down on sofa cushions to see how quickly they

spring back. Try pushing chairs around to get a feel for their weight and ease of use. If you're buying a sofa with a pull-out bed, ask the sales staff to pull out the bed for you, so you can check the thickness of the mattress. And don't be too shy to lay down on it to see how comfortable it really is.

Once you've made up your mind about what you want to buy, find out about delivery charges and if the items you want are in stock. Keep in mind that items can be custom-made to fit your particular space or colour requirements — but you'll have to be willing to wait — and this will likely cost you more.

This article is provided by local realtors and the Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA) for the benefit of consumers in the real estate market.



Miltowne Realty Corp
Milton's #1 Real Estate Company
22 Ontario St. South 878-7777

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KATRINA WALTON
Sales Representative

Office: 878-7777
Res: 878-1588
Tor. Line: 825-4485

SOLD THROUGH M.L.S.

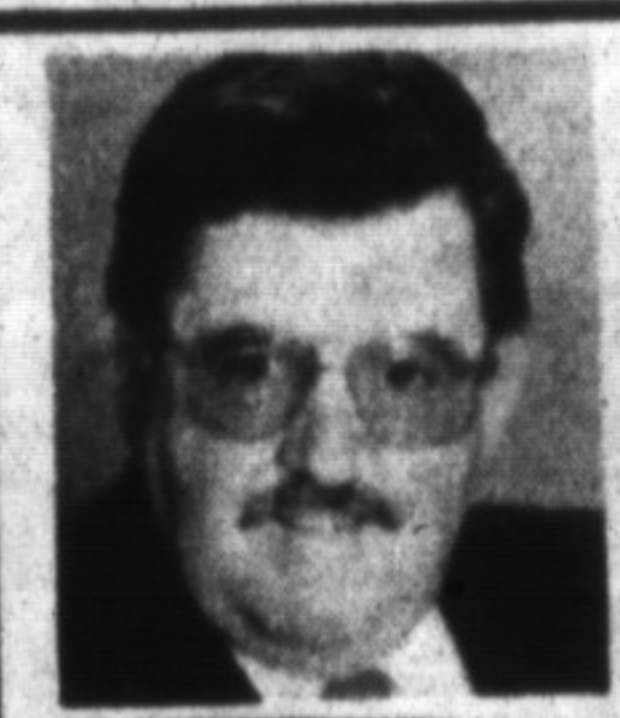
479 VANIER DRIVE
716 SYER DRIVE
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673 ELLIOTT CRESCENT
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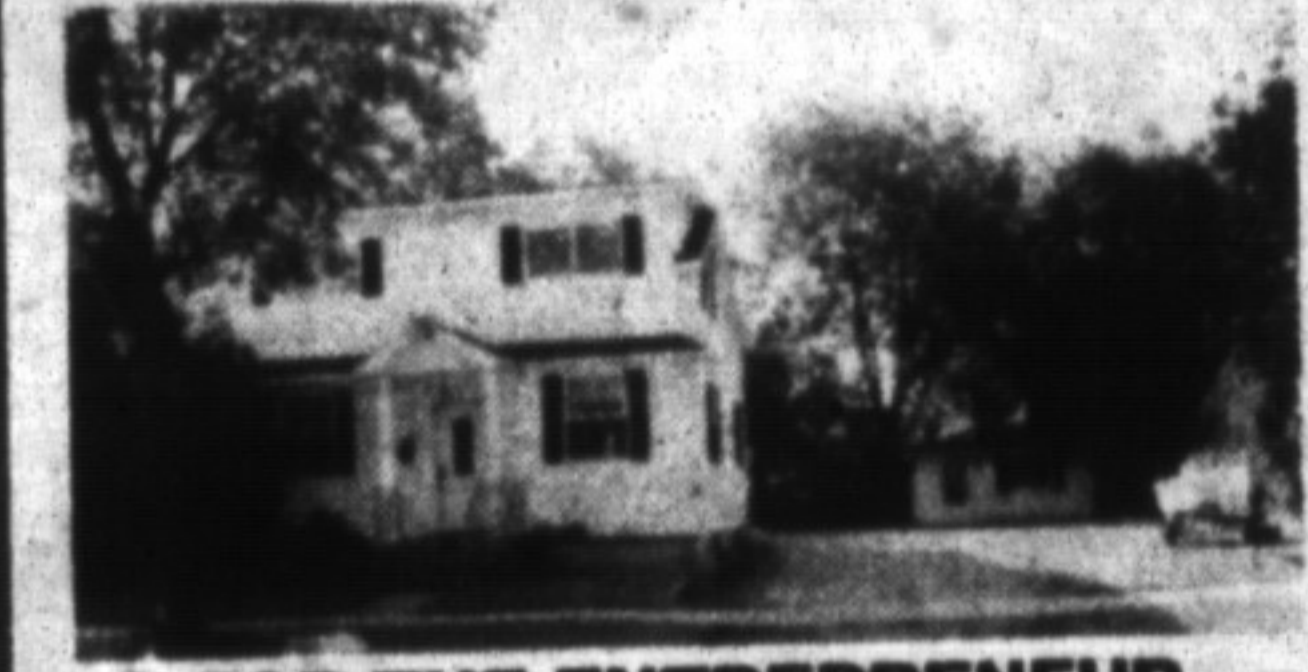
BRIGHT AND CHEERY!
Lots of sunshine in this one. 4 large bedrooms, large kitchen, upgraded broodroom and hardwood in dining room. Professionally finished rec room with wet bar will just add to your enjoyment of this home. Call today for your appointment. Asking \$189,000.



ABSOLUTELY CHARMING!
This cozy two-bedroom bungalow offers shining hardwood floors, large sunny living room, eat-in kitchen with great pantry. Rec. room, workshop, good size laundry room and extra 2-piece bathroom complete the lower level. Call Katrina for your appointment. Asking \$154,900.



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Sales Representative
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TAKE A BREAK FROM THE USUAL
- And view this spacious 3 bedroom backsplitted featuring open concept styling. Eat-in kitchen, large living room & dining room, family room with fireplace, central air, central vac, fully fenced private yard & more. Call Sharon for more information. \$199,900.

CAROLE D. BUDWORTH
Sales Representative
OFFICE: 878-7777
RES: 878-8545
FAX: 878-7029

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GONE IS THE COLD,
WHERE ARE MY LISTINGS?
THEY ARE ALL SOLD!**

 536 Roseheath 545 Beaver 6351 Bell School Line SOLD	 310 Wilson 659 Clover Park 811 Cabot Trail 527 SOLD	 868 Maple 360 McNabb 666 Roseheath SOLD
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Listings that have sold or closed since January 1994

Why not call someone with a proven track record to help you put a SOLD sign on your lawn. I would be delighted to provide a complimentary market analysis at your convenience, plus show you what is available in properties listed.




COUNTRY DELIGHT
Wooded setting on 5 beautiful acres. Spacious family home features 4 large bedrooms, huge living room with gleaming hardwood floors, fireplace & walkout. Separate dining room, main fl. den & more. 32'x22' barn in excellent condition with full loft & hydro. Now \$279,900

VACANT LAND - CAMPBELLVILLE
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