

Entertain in style this summer with a new pool

To Build or rebuild, that is the question. Pool and landscaping projects are one of the biggest investments that can be a GREAT investment IF installed properly. There is no better way to entertain and enjoy your backyard by expanding your leisure space.

A pool brings family, friends and of course neighbours together in a safe and enjoyable environment. However, there are few key points that I would like to share with you if you are in the market of purchasing a new pool or simply renovating a previously enjoyed pool or landscape.

I will start with a fundamental rule...you would never put cheap rims on a new car, so don't go cheap when it comes to your landscaping; it will enhance your pool. Going with the lowest bidder does not always save you money, it may actually be costly in the long run.

Get creative! Invest in a plan and make your backyard shine! You can't build a house without a plan, so why try to bring both a pool and landscaping together and expect no issues. A plan could cost as little as 1-5% of your total job, it just makes sense.

Hire a company that can coordinate both the pool and landscaping components together in a organized and timely fashion.

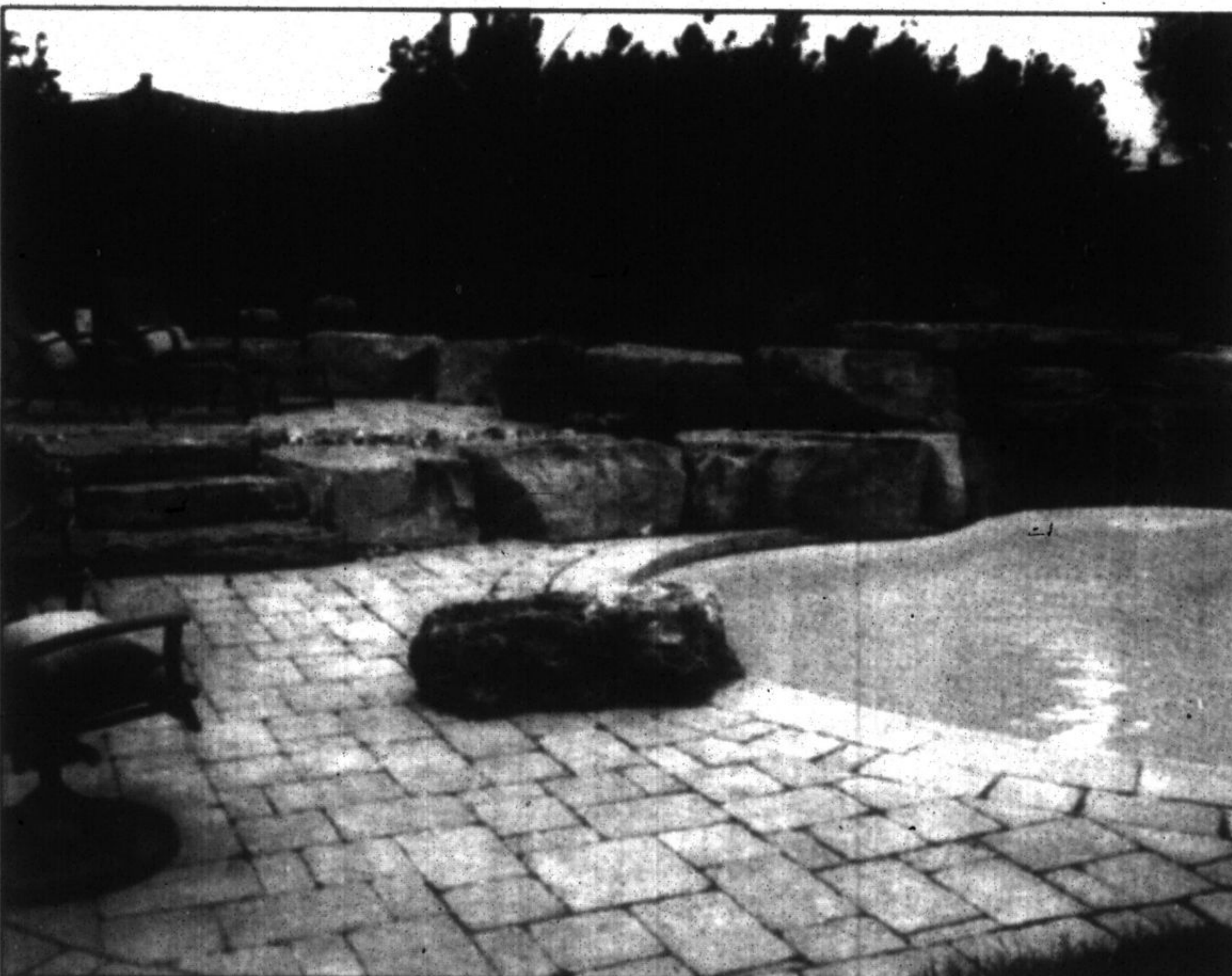
Furthermore, Mother nature can be a "menace to society", so please be patient with her AND your contractors.

Always inform your neighbours that you are having work done...then invite them to your pool party, it can become a real disaster zone if not managed properly. On that note, a professional company will respect not only your immediate neighbours, but also the neighbourhood by simply keeping the road clean and placing pillions.

Deal locally, this allows for a prompt installation and less down time. When it comes to pool renovation, install coloured lights for night time use or have the ability to control your pool from your iphone or black berry when you are away. In addition, always install new plumbing if the patio is being replaced. There shouldn't be any settling in your patio as long as it has been compacted properly, but if you are concerned and want to invest then use "Dry Concrete". Dry concrete or Ultra Base is a dry, stabilized base material for interlocking concrete and retaining walls.

Lastly, enjoy your backyard and invite your contractors for a pool party!!

John "JJ" Bouwmeister
LA dip, BA, CHT



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