



COMPASS DIRECTS DRIVERS

The award-winning Millard Street and Langen Gate street print compass was installed last year to bring more awareness to the intersection, according to Mike Molinar, director of engineering and capital projects for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Millard Street is an east/west collector road, on the north side of Stouffville, with various traffic calming measures in place, including roundabouts and raised centre medians.

The compass, which is made of Street Print XD and is an epoxy that adheres to the underlying pavement, is something a little different that also ties in with the subdivision's nautical theme.

"There are oftentimes traffic issues," Mr. Molinar said of collector roads. "The colouration on its own may not slow traffic down but bring awareness to it," he said. It is an all way stop intersection.

The project cost about \$80,000 and is being utilized as a test site.

A similarly-themed street print intersection will be installed at the Baker Hill Boulevard and Millard Street roundabout. The project is expected to cost about \$130,000, according to Mr. Molinar.

If successful, the coloured concrete pedestrian crossings currently being utilized will be phased out in favour of this product, according to Mr. Molinar.

There is a site in Ajax with street printing that is about seven years old and "this seems to be holding up quite well," said Mr. Molinar.

Stouffville's Millard Street compass was one of several local projects to win awards from Landscape Ontario this year. Betz Pools won seven.

Tricked-out projects score landscaping honours

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

Remember the days when back yards were considered to be fully tricked-out if, along with the well-manicured lawn, there was a table with a large umbrella, outdoor-only chairs and a gas barbecue on an interlocking brick patio? If there were kids, the back yard would be considered the neighbourhood hot spot if it also had an inflatable pool.

Today's definition of a tricked-out back yard looks more like a room inside the home – a full kitchen, flat-screen TV, cushy couches and a fireplace. The pool is in-ground with a waterfall.

Three local companies recently received a number of awards of excellence from Landscape Ontario, a horticultural trades association, in recognition of their abilities

to transform the ho-hum into wow. Bouwmeister Landscaping received a 2013 award of excellence for residential construction between \$100,000 and \$250,000.

The property is in Sleepy Hollow and consisted of flagstone and teak wood surrounding an in-ground pool, along with unique privacy fencing, according to co-owner Gary Bouwmeister.

THREE FIRMS WIN

"It was a real challenge with the materials," he said.

It was the only submission for the company this year.

"In our field, the best come out and try to win," Mr. Bouwmeister said.

Awards of excellence for construction, maintenance and design fell into 41 categories and were judged by industry experts, accord-

ing to Landscape Ontario's media release.

Griffith Property Services brought home six awards this year for residential work in Ballantrae, Unionville and Aurora that ranged in cost from \$25,000 to \$250,000.

The company also won in the category of special interest construction. It was for a project for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and consisted of a compass street stamp at the intersection of Millard Street and Langen Gate.

"Apart from the plaque, it's the prestige of winning," said Kimberly Borg, landscape designer for Griffith, of why the company submits entries to the competition on an annual basis.

In 2012, the company brought home five awards and the year before that, four, according to Ms Borg.

"We think we're doing a great job, so it's nice to know others think so, too," she said.

Betz Pools is known for, well, installing pools.

But over the past few years, the company has decided to add landscape design and construction to its skill-set.

BRANCHING OUT

"Our reputation as a pool company is slowly being transformed. ... We're trying to sell a landscape lifestyle," said Marc Luff, one of the owners and a salesperson with Betz.

Betz Pools won seven awards from Landscape Ontario for residential projects that ranged from \$50,000 to \$1 million. The company also picked up two design nods.

"They're very prestigious and considering we're a pool company,

winning these awards is even better," he said.

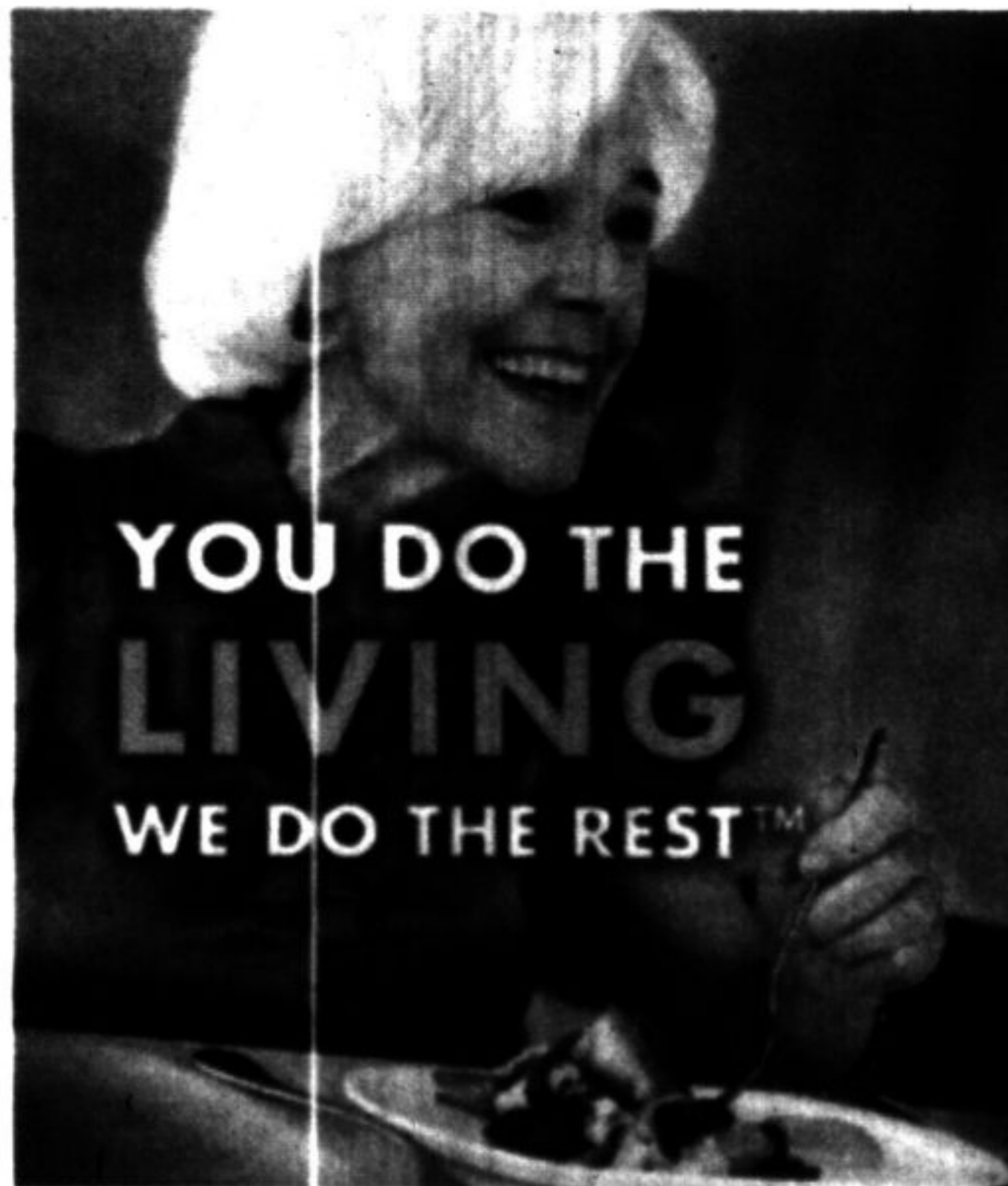
The company first entered the Ontario Landscaping awards three years ago. Betz Pools came away with two wins in each of the first two years.

"This year, we went seven for seven," Mr. Luff said. "We were quite proud of that."

Local gardening guru Mark Cullen received two special awards – the Canada Blooms Volunteer of the Year for 2012 and the Environmental Award for 2103 for the Trees For Life program.

The 40th Landscape Ontario Awards of Excellence ceremony was held in conjunction with the Congress International Horticultural Lawn and Garden Trade Show and Conference in Toronto.

For more information go to <http://landscapeontario.com/>



SIGN UP TODAY! For Your Choice of Suite.

Plus, move in within the first 90 days and you'll become an exclusive member of the FOUNDERS CLUB, entitling you to a special package of your choice, worth approximately \$1,500.

PRESENTATION CENTRE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

For more information
and future updates visit
themarleigh.ca or call
905-947-9990.



**THE
MARLEIGH™**
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

INGS AVOURING LAUGHING SHARING CELEBRATING LIVING EXPLORING

YOU DO THE
WE DO THE REST

