

# CLARINGTON Promoter.ca

**Jim Abernethy**  
 BROKER  
 ROYAL SERVICE REAL ESTATE INC. BROKERAGE  
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Volume 1 | Issue 9

Delivered by



TO OVER 31,000 HOMES AND BUSINESSES IN CLARINGTON

December 2011

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Featured Home  
*of the month*



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See page 9 for more details.

## Christmas Traditions in Clarington II



Horse drawn wagon ride at Knox Pumpkin Farms located north of Mitchells Corners. Photo by Kristin McCre. View her photo gallery at [www.ClaringtonPromoter.ca](http://www.ClaringtonPromoter.ca)

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Visit: [www.claringtonpromoter.ca](http://www.claringtonpromoter.ca)

Website Link of the Month



Visit [www.claringtonpromoter.ca](http://www.claringtonpromoter.ca) and click on the Link of the Month to see photos and stories of the Animal Gift, an annual presentation by the Bowmanville Zoo.

by Charles Taws

**CLARINGTON MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES**  
[www.claringtonmuseums.com](http://www.claringtonmuseums.com)

When talking about an early pioneer Christmas it is important to have an approximate date. The very earliest settlers, who came at the end of the 18th Century, would have celebrated the holiday differently than the ones who came later at the end of the 19th Century. To the first settlers Christmas was a religious holiday. Families may have gotten together for a religious service or attended church if one was relatively nearby. Their festive dinner would be more likely to include beaver, deer, moose, fish and pigeon rather than goose or turkey. Some gifts may have been given, but

they would be practical in nature and certainly not as big a part of the holiday as it is today. It's important to remember that many of our pioneers came from Scotland. To them Christmas was strictly a religious holiday. Their big party day was New Year's Eve which they called Hogmanay.

By the late 1800's the growth in Canada's population and prosperity along with the general development of the middle class made the Christmas we enjoy today. People had more leisure time to devote to holiday activities, more money to spend on decorations and gifts and they had access to familiar foods such as turkeys, geese, oranges, flour and sugar. Many Canadian Christmas customs are a blending of the nationalities that settled here. The Irish brought the custom of light-

ing a candle in the window and setting out a miniature nativity scene; the Dutch introduced us to Santa Claus; the English gave us mince pies, plum pudding and the Yule log tradition and the Germans, the Christmas tree.

In 1995 Hilda Tamblin wrote down her memories of a Christmas Day in Clarke Township in 1945. She recalled the trip from her home in Orono to her parent's house on the Lakeshore just east of Newcastle:

Christmas Day dawned clear and crisp but with high swirling winds at times. It was very cold and some roads were snowbound and they would remain so until an early spring thaw. Snow ploughs were rather primitive by to-day's standards. Farmers made gaps in their field fences so if the roads became plugged people with sleighs

could cut across their fields. Farmers carried a shovel in the cutter or sleigh and might have to walk ahead (leaving the reins to the wife, already shivering, and wondering why she hadn't stayed at home) and shovel out a very deep snow drift. Sometimes a stream would get plugged and create a large frozen pond. This was ideal for skating in sunny afternoons and moonlit evenings.

We lived in Orono and my husband used a panel truck for his business. In it we packed our two little boys and baby girl. The baby was kept in her carriage with a rug over the top to keep her warm. We also had a small bundle of parcels and off we started for Newcastle and beyond along the Lake Shore Road. We had phoned ahead as we knew the road was not passable all the way. My dad

Continued on Page 4

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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Wishing you and your family a Happy New Year  
 Rick, Angela, Joanne, Ralph, Heather, Constance, Dave, Vance, Jim, Tim, Rob and Laurens

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# Planning for the Unexpected



by Peter Hobb

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We all hope we can leave our business at a point in time we are ready to leave, we can transfer or sell the business to whom we want, and it occurs at a value that is consistent with our wealth objectives. Unfortunately it doesn't always happen this way. Death or a permanent disability can derail your plans for an orderly transition of your business. If this happens do you have a

contingency plan in place that will ensure that the people you care about most will be looked after? Death or permanent disability while running a business, if it is not planned for, can quickly destroy the business. This event can leave your family in a position where they have to wrestle with many personal and business issues without your guidance.

The first step in developing a contingency plan is to provide written instructions as to what should happen if you are unable to be active in your business. Who should run the business, whether the business should be sold and who the purchaser may be, and the advisors the family should turn to assist with the sale, continuation or liquidation of the business. You need to provide your contingency plan to your key advisors and of course review it with your family. Nor-

mally the business is the most important asset of most business owners. The protection of the business is normally one of the key considerations to ensuring that your family will be looked after.

What are the risks to the business if there is no contingency plan? Normally the business owner has strong relationships with the customers and suppliers of the business. If the owner is no longer running the show and there is no game plan in place, customers will likely get nervous and possibly move their business to someone else. Key suppliers may stop supporting the business. Worse yet, the business's bank may restrict access to new funds or even demand repayment of existing loans. If no one is given the authority to make decisions confusion will rule the day and key people will possibly leave. People may

start pursuing their own agenda, including family members, and consequently, not do what is best for the business. The business needs to be able to respond quickly. This will be difficult if there is no contingency plan in place.

Insurance can play many roles in any contingency plan. Insurance can be used to ensure the family's financial needs are looked after in the case of your death. Key man insurance can be purchased on the life of the owner that would pay a death benefit to the company. This money can be used to provide breathing space to allow the company to adapt to new management, take the time needed to sell the business, provide extra funds to pay bonuses to key people to encourage them to stay, etc. If you have other partners or shareholders insurance can provide funds to purchase the

shares of a deceased shareholder leading to a much less stressful transition of ownership. If this purchase is not funded the family may be left waiting for the money possibly leading to financial hardship. If you have partners who hold shares in your company make sure you have a shareholders' agreement. One of the elements of this agreement would include a section setting out what would happen in the case of death or permanent disability of one of the shareholders.

One big risk arising from the premature death or disability of the business owner is the loss of knowledge and skills critical to the business. This is one very important reason why you should be working towards making yourself expendable. Most business owners do not like this concept but it can be essential if you are going to have a sustainable busi-

ness. You need to be transitioning knowledge on a regular basis and making sure that your business has access to the skills you bring to the table if you are not there. Document what you do and how you do it. Train and educate employees so they can step into your shoes. Not only will this facilitate your exit from the business but it will also make life easier for you while you are active in the business.

Preparing a contingency plan detailing what should happen if you are not there should be the first step in developing a plan to exit your business. Planning brings clarity, gives you more control over your future, enhances the chances that you will achieve your business and personal goals, and reduces anxiety for the people you care about most.

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# Many Hands Make Light Work



by **Jim Abernethy**, Editor  
jim@ClaringtonPromoter.ca

The Occupy Toronto story was a tragedy for St. James Park and all of the people who benefit from walking over a small patch of green grass growing in the middle of a city the size of Toronto.

Fortunately for the taxpayers of Toronto another grassroots movement mobilized to repair the damage done by the first.

Members of Landscape Ontario and Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario gave back to their community when they volunteered thousands of man hours, topsoil, sod and machinery to restore the park.

We have a similar situation unfolding right here in Clarington.

No, nobody is occupying one of our parks. However a growing list of volunteers and local businesses are coordinating efforts to give back to our community in a similar fashion, and on a much grander scale.

I am one of more than 30 volunteers working together to educate the public about a preventable tragedy that occurs each spring and fall. We are also coordinating the fund raising efforts that are underway to complete a unique construction project to prevent this tragedy.

Al Strike and Harold Hammond are Co-Chairs of the Valleys2000 Fund Raising Committee which includes: Jim Abernethy, Kevin Anyan, Russ Arbuckle, Justin Barry, Eleanor Colwell, John Greenfield, Jack Hampsey, Jackie Hampsey, Peter Hobb, Bill Huether, Bill Humber, Doug James, Robert Lloyd, Frank Lockhart, Edgar Lucas, Paul McIntyre, Neale McLean, Paul Morris, Brad Parker, Gail Rickard, Joe Raby, Doug Rutherford, David Shrivess, Sherry Shrivess, Derrick Stroud, Charlie Trim, George VanDyk, Paul Hood and Ron Robinson.

Last month I dedicated this column to help build awareness about the construction project which is truly "A Miracle in the Making."

The project is called the Valleys2000 Fish By-pass Channel, and in my opinion the "Miracle" is the way in which the project is unfolding.

I invite you to learn more about the project. If you have access to a computer and would like to learn more about this tragedy visit: [www.valleys2000.ca](http://www.valleys2000.ca) or visit [www.claringtonpromoter.ca](http://www.claringtonpromoter.ca) to access the article in our November edition, on page 6 written by William Humber.

No access to a computer? Drop by the newly opened Valleys2000 Office located inside the Veltri Complex at 68 King St. East, Bowmanville, 905-261-7448 right next to the offices of Bev Oda MP.

The Fish By-pass Channel is a collaborative project between five entities: Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), the Municipality of Clarington (MOC), Veyance Technologies (formerly Goodyear), Float Fishing Conservation Group, and Valleys2000 which is a non-charitable organization of volunteers whose mandate it is to rejuvenate and manage the public trails running through the valleys of Bowmanville Creek and Soper Creek.

Considering that the project cannot proceed without approvals from the Provincial Ministry of Natural Resources and our Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, one might say that coordinating this number of government agencies is in itself a miracle.

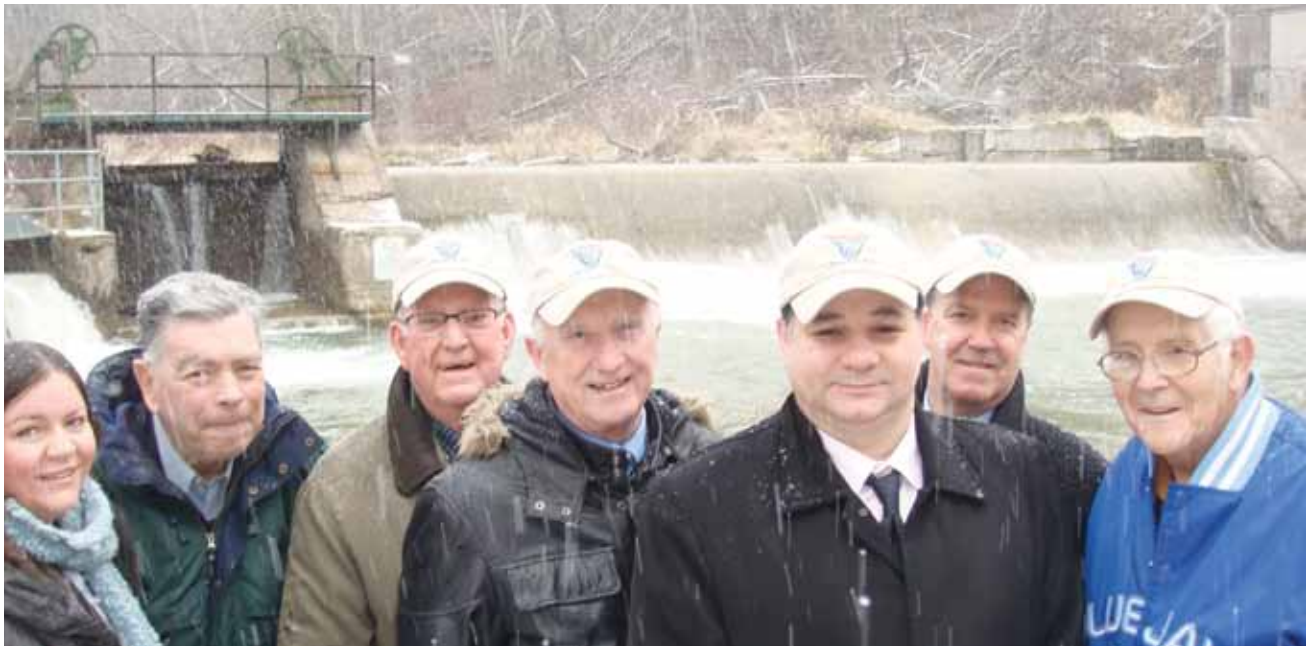
The "Miracle" however is how individuals and our business community are coming together to meet and overcome the many challenges and obstacles that stand in the way of a project that promises to bring educational, social and economic benefits to our community.

Two of Clarington's largest employers have stepped up to the plate without any hesitation. More are coming, but more are needed.

OPG provided the seed money to help complete the initial engineering report which now forms the project blueprint and is expected to continue to play a Major Contributor role in the project.

St. Mary's Cement, another Major Contributor, has generously offered to donate the specially formulated concrete required to build the new channel and shore up the earth on the east side of the dam.

Our community is fortunate to have two great corporate citizens such as OPG and St Mary's and we appreciate that they are always there to help our community.



Committee Co-Chairs and representatives from OPG and St. Mary's tour the project site to better understand why the fish by-pass channel is needed and how it will increase the number of large fish that navigate upstream past the old Goodyear Dam in the Bowmanville Creek.

Others are helping too! Here are more examples of our community coming together for the "Miracle in the Making."

Walter Hillman of Trade-Tech Industries on Lake Street offered his help when he learned that one of the components of the project is to build and install a steel viewing bridge to span the fish by-pass channel. The bridge will facilitate safe observance of the enormous sized trout and salmon jumping below.

This large bridge is an important, yet expensive feature which is expected to become both an educational platform and a major tourist destination in our community.

It just so happens that the Toronto Conservation Authority has for sale a used bridge that needs some work. Walter, being in the steel fabrication business offered to donate his resources to refurbish and deliver the bridge to the project site, further reducing the project costs by thousands of dollars.

Another example is the management and staff at Boston Pizza. They have offered to donate 10% of the total value of the dinner receipts generated at their Bowmanville location, between the hours of 5-8 PM on Sunday January 8, 2012. So mark your calendar, invite some friends and enjoy a dinner knowing you are making a donation to Valley2000.

These are but a few examples our community spirit to help "A Miracle in the Making" happen right here in Clarington.

Our primary challenge is to raise \$376,000. These funds are required to begin the tender process to select a contractor in time to allow the project to be completed during July/August 2012. Understandably, the summer months are the only months The Ministry of Natural Resources will permit the creek bed to be disturbed because the water levels are then at their lowest, and the fish are not spawning.

Thanks to the many people who completed and mailed the donor card that appeared in our last edition. Your donations are appreciated..... many hands do make light work.

There is much to do and little time to do it. So we have upgraded the Valleys2000 website to allow you to make your donation on-line..... simply visit [www.valleys2000.ca](http://www.valleys2000.ca)

Remember that Christmas is a time of giving. No gift is too great or too small. Know that your donation to Valleys2000 is a gift that will go on giving, including to the children that are expected to stand on that bridge and learn about nature, the eco-system of the valley and the life cycle of the fish.

Merry Christmas!  
Jim

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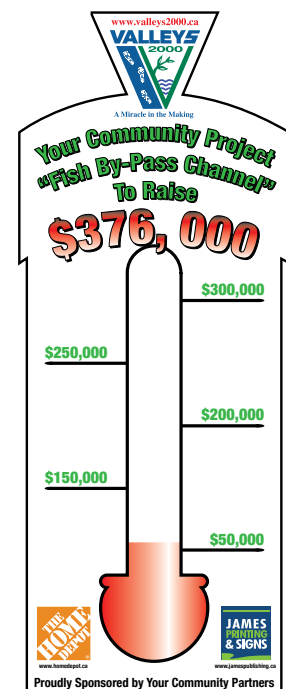
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# Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

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from our Management & Staff

In support of our association of volunteers  
Memorial Hospital Bowmanville

## Christmas Traditions II

Continued from Page 1

and brother had a team with sleigh waiting to meet us at Lake's Hill.

They lifted the baby carriage and all onto the sleigh and we bundled up the boys

as it was a very cold morning with the Lake looking as if there were clouds of steam rising from it. Sleigh-bells ringing, the horses took us along the road a short distance and then through a fence gap and into a field.

We travelled across fields and over two railway bridges before we pulled into the yard of "Grandma's House". We unloaded and had our Christmas greetings and then got unbundled and warmed by the box stove. Through this trip the baby slept blissfully on.

Christmas gifts at this time were usually much needed items such as: mitts, scarves, toques, sweaters, pyjamas, pillow cases and tea towels (usually hand embroidered). Many of these would be hand-made from salvaged material. However, a child might also find a book or game under the tree as well. A box of homemade candy, such as maple fudge, was an acceptable gift and soon disappeared as it was passed around. Few people had turkey for Christmas

or New Year's. It was more likely goose or a brace of ducks, which the housewife had raised that year. Some advantages to a pair of ducks were that there was two pair of wings and drumsticks, which the children liked best. After a hearty dinner and some gift opening the baby was given her two o'clock feeding and then it was time to repack and get taken back to where we left the truck. The men on the farm would hurry back with the team and begin their afternoon chores at the barn.

To start a cold vehicle on a frosty day was no mean chore. It sometimes took quite a while to get it started and the heater was not comparable to what comfort people enjoy today. Even while riding in the truck one could feel the cold nipping



Traditional Christmas Card, circa 1910 from the collection of the Clarke Museum and Archives.


at one's cheeks and ears and one's legs and feet became ice-cold. Snowsuits of synthetic fabric and interlining were unknown fifty years ago and when one got home from an outing it took some time to get limbered up and cosy again.

Although Christmas has

been celebrated for almost 2,000 years, the way we celebrate it has changed over the centuries. One wonders what Christmas will be like 50 years from now, and what fond memories the children of today will be telling their children and grandchildren in the future.



Remember when a pair of skates or a sled kept a child busy all winter long.



**Clarington Older Adult Association**  
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11:30 am  
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Advance Tickets Required

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acrylic engraving, one of our many new offerings in 2012.  
inset: one of our new technologies, Engraving Machinery

## OPENING TO NEW MARKETS IN 2012

In an effort to expand our services and open new markets we will be installing a CNC router and engraving machine in the new year. Both machines can be used for 3D carving, V-bit carving, profile contouring, fluting, and engraving of wood, foam, plastic, acrylic and light metals such as brass and aluminum. These machines will allow us to produce custom dimensional signage projects, lamacoids, plates and labels.



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Rick James, President

## SIMPLICITY IS THE ULTIMATE FORM OF SOPHISTICATION

Your time is precious, your deadlines seem impossible and your profit margins keep getting squeezed. You need a simple solution when it comes to promoting your business with printing, signage and the internet.

James Printing and Signs is your answer. From concept to completion, we provide design and print solutions for our clients that make their purchasing decisions, quite frankly...simple.

Rick James is the fourth generation to operate the long-time family business. "Our number one priority is customer service because that's where we can always beat our competitors. If you phone us, you will never have to go through a list of dialing options to hopefully reach someone with an answer."

As we enter our 158th year of business, we're adding more services and equipment to our 20,000 square foot facility in downtown Bowmanville to meet the demands of our clients. "With the equipment we're adding, we will be able to offer a wider variety of custom solutions for printing and signage. We love doing the type of jobs that challenge us whether it's a custom shape, unique material or using a customer's database to create truly individual marketing ideas for their customers," said James.

"The companies we deal with demand products that meet or beat their specifications for price, quality and delivery time. We have a new client that asked us to customize a wooden pallet used to ship expensive parts. Using our flatbed sign printer, we were able to image a simple pattern directly on the wood to help workers load the parts in the proper order and minimize damage. The company estimates the simple solution will save the company millions of dollars per year."

One of the most exciting parts about our business is how rapidly things change. A few years ago, nobody had ever heard of Facebook or Twitter. Today, they are important components of a company's marketing plan and we are here to help make sure your printing, signage and internet presence all match and deliver the same message.

Leonardo Da Vinci, Einstein and Steve Jobs all preached the importance of keeping things simple. Please take a few moments to look through this edition of Media Post and then let us create a marketing solution for you that is effective, yet simple.

### INSIDE OUR DESIGN DEPARTMENT



Dave, Constance, Joanne, & Heather - our design team.

Twenty-nine years of combined experience in the industry and staying on top of the current trends gives this team a talented edge.

A typical day consists of 'getting the creative juices flowing'. Brief meetings to collaborate on both sign and print projects often determine which artist is assigned to which project, as each artist possesses unique strengths. Sometimes a tag-team approach is taken to finalize the artwork.

The artist then goes to work creating concepts, sourcing artwork, colours and sometimes stocks or substrates. After the initial design is complete it is sent to proof-reading and then sent to the client for approval. Deadlines are a common thing and stress and laughter are a big part of the daily routine but the end result is worth it. Making our clients happy - Makes us happy!

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- posters, tickets and presentation folders

#### signs :

indoor | outdoor | assembly | installations

- vehicle wraps, magnets and decals
- banners and tradeshow graphics
- construction and directional signage
- pylon, backlit and LED signs
- real estate, wall posters and floor decals
- billboards, flags and A-frames
- tactile, braille
- CNC & Engraving

#### design :

branding | marketing | design

- print, website and sign design
- consulting, development and art direction
- original photography/stock imagery selection
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- Metroland Media Group Limited
- Ontario Power Generation
- St Marys Cement Group
- Mosport International Raceway
- Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce
- Memorial Hospital Foundation – Bowmanville
- Municipality of Clarington
- Ping Canada
- City of Oshawa

## our AWARDS

At James Printing and Signs we have come to learn that if you do your job well, you receive a little recognition from your peers. The real winners are our staff, the talented people, be it in the office, in design, on press, in the bindery or making deliveries, each employee takes a special pride in doing their utmost on each client's job, from concept through completion.

2003 to 2007  
Reader's Choice Award Winner - Best Printer

2007  
Business Excellence Award  
- Rick James, Business Person of the Year

2008 to 2009  
Reader's Choice Award Winner - Best Printer

2010  
Reader's Choice Award Winner - Best Print Shop

2011  
Reader's Choice Award Winner  
- Best Print Shop & Sign Maker



### factoid

LESS IS MORE. Designers consider more than making your sign look great. Legibility is a major concern and fitting in copious amounts of copy is not always the best way to go. The standard viewing distance on 4" letters is only 100'. So, if you want your new poster-sized sign to be read from the street keep content to a minimum.



## GET TRADE SHOW READY

### HOPUP Fabric Backwall



Save \$200  
~~\$1,399.00~~  
plus HST

#### Straight Unit HOPUP Fabric Backwall

- Features & Benefits**
- « 89.25" X 89.25"
  - « Great for trade shows
  - « Quick & Easy set-up
  - « Aluminum Frame
  - « Travel Bag w/rollers
  - « Full colour front graphic printed on Power Stretch Fabric.

**Optional**

- « Lumina 200 LED lights - \$189.00 ea.

only \$1199

### AERO Display System



Save \$400  
~~\$1,499.00~~  
plus HST

#### Indoor / Outdoor Modular Display

- Features & Benefits**
- « Great for trade shows
  - « Quick & Easy set-up
  - « Adjustable positioning

#### Modular Back Wall Display Kit Includes:

- 4 - Bases
- 4 - Uprights
- 2 - Universal light fixtures
- 1 - 1500 mm wide center banner printed full colour on one side
- 2 - 1000 mm wide side panel banners printed full colour on one side
- 1 - Carrying Bag

only \$1099



Banner, Hopup and Aero Sale offers expire March 30, 2012

## THE SALES BASKET

Bring in the coupons below and SAVE!

### 500 FULL COLOUR BUSINESS CARDS

2" x 3.5" - Printed one side, 12pt C1S from the customer's press ready pdf. Taxes extra.

Expires April 30, 2012.

ONLY **\$59**

### COLOUR COPIES

Printed one side, 20lb Xerox, 8.5" x 11"  
Taxes extra.

Expires April 30, 2012.

**40¢** ea.

### FULL COLOUR POSTERS

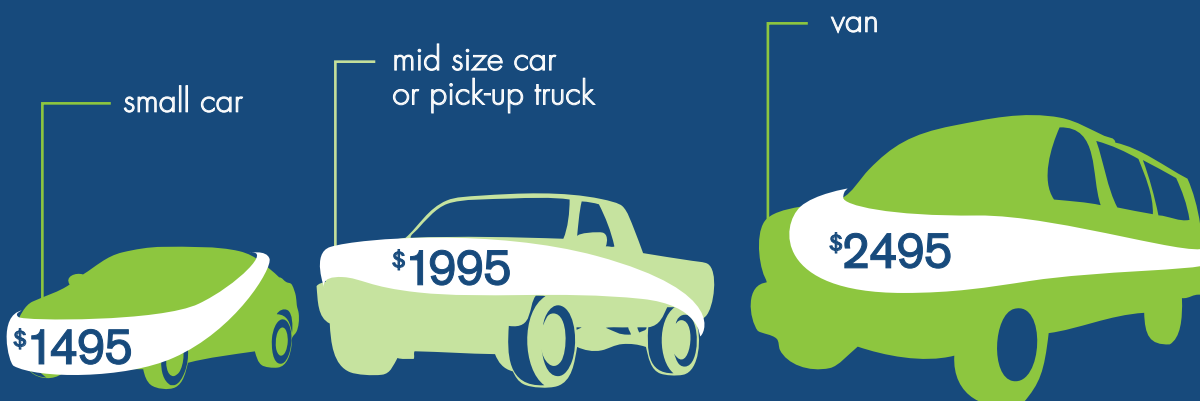
24" x 36" - Printed on 9 mil poster stock. Minimum order of 20. Taxes extra.

Expires April 30, 2012.

ONLY **\$8.50** ea.

get the most with your advertising budget this year. . . **GET IT WRAPPED!**

By creating a mobile billboard for your business you'll GET NOTICED BIG TIME!!  
Vehicle wraps & graphics can generate 10,000+ impressions DAILY!!



## INTRODUCING: BLACK & WHITE WIDE FORMAT

up to 36" wide  
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INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL

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\*additional charges may apply

This is a great opportunity to print your blueprints, CAD drawings, stained glass/woodworking patterns and MUCH MORE!



## place an online order for a chance to **WIN...** a **BANNER UP!**

One Winner will receive a 33.5" X 78.75" Retractable Banner Stand printed from a supplied digital file, a **\$279 VALUE!**

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2. Click the 'now open' button
3. Place any online print order

To qualify entries must be received by 5:00 pm on March 23, 2012.

Only one (1) Winner will be selected.

The Winner will be posted on our Facebook page March 30, 2012.



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print | design | signs | vehicle wraps

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NOT INTENDED TO SOLICIT Buyers or Sellers currently under contract with a brokerage.

## Featured Home *of the month*

## GANARASKA FOREST ESTATE

8622 Mercer Road, Ganaraska Forest \$1,245,000



### This property is the complete package!

Features:

- Contemporary Fieldstone Home nestled amongst the trees on the southern slope of the 11,000 Acre Ganaraska Forest.
- Spectacular views for miles to the south and easy.
- Private forest trails, open pastures, mature woodlands, spring fed streams.
- Your own 2 Acre pond stocked w/trout.
- 95 acres of some of the prettiest countryside within 50 minute drive of Toronto.
- Home is designed for casual lifestyle & formal entertaining with generously sized rooms.
- Features Include: indoor pool, sauna, change rooms, wet bar and more.
- Ideal for the horse enthusiast.

To view additional photos of this property, email JimAbernethy@RoyalService.ca or telephone 905-261-7788



### 4204 Concession Rd 8, Orono Secluded, Private, Picturesque



**\$639,000**

Perfectly sized home situated in a wooded hillside setting overlooking two spring fed ponds, surrounded by rolling hills, meadows and trees. Wait, it gets better! 40 acres of private wooded trails, 40x60 building with Box Stall and really low property taxes resulting from a Provincial Forest Management Plan.

Call Jim Abernethy, Broker 905-261-7788  
jimabernethy@royalservice.ca

### 12 Silver Street, Bowmanville



**\$229,000**

Free standing building in the Downtown Business Section of Bowmanville, with 4 parking spaces. Ideal for Professional Services, coffee shop or retail outlet. Interior antique red brick and old beams expose this building's history - The Bowmanville Blacksmith Shop!

Call Jim Abernethy, Broker 905-261-7788  
jimabernethy@royalservice.ca

### 5821 Ochonski Road, Orono



**\$309,900**

Looking for a small bungalow with a country setting? This well cared for brick bungalow fits the bill. No neighbours in front or behind. 75' x 200' private treed lot, finished basement and detached single car garage. The stream is a bonus. Just Listed, can close quick, won't last!

Call Jim Abernethy, Broker 905-261-7788  
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### FOR LEASE / FOR SALE / WANTED

- **WANTED** - Productive Farmland (100-200 acres) Buyer will Lease Back.
- **FOR LEASE** - 2,500 - 5,000 sq ft Highway Commercial on 1.77 acres.
- **FOR LEASE** - Bowmanville Commercial 800 sq ft free standing building.
- **FOR LEASE** - Bowmanville Professional Office Space 2,400 sq ft.

- **FOR SALE** - 127 Acres on outskirts of Newtonville only \$3,850 per acre.
- **FOR SALE** - 174 Acres in Ganaraska Valley - \$4,540/acre with \$24k annual income.
- **FOR SALE** - Residential Building Lot in Oak Ridges Morain - \$99,900.

Call Jim Abernethy, Broker 905-261-7788 · jimabernethy@royalservice.ca



# HOME COOKING *with Cathy*

by Cathy Abernethy

HOME PROMOTER CONTRIBUTOR

I thought I would include a very easy appetizer to serve over the holidays. Christmas is the one time of the year when there never seems to be enough hours in the day. This appetizer is easy but looks impressive when it is completed. I would like to wish everyone a wonderful Holiday season and look forward to sharing lots of good recipes in the New Year.

## Caramelized Onion and Gruyere Tart



### Ingredients:

- 1 Package frozen puffed pastry
- 1 Red onion
- 1 cup of grated Gruyere Cheese- Swiss cheese (You can also use cheddar cheese)
- 1 egg beaten with 2 Tbsp. water to make egg wash
- 1 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp. good quality olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

### Preparation:

Thaw puffed pastry following the directions on the package. Roll puffed pastry into a rectangle about 12 inches by 8 inches (approximately). Cut about 1 inch of pastry on all sides of rectangle and place on top edges of the rectangle. This just frames in your tart and keeps all the ingredients inside the tart. Seal with an egg wash and place on baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Put into the fridge until ready to bake. Pastry should be kept cold.

Slice a red onion into small thin slices and place in frying pan with 2 Tbsp. good quality olive oil, a Tbsp. of brown sugar and salt and pepper to taste. Cook on low heat until the onions are caramelized, about 15 minutes.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grate Swiss or cheddar cheese and set aside. Once onions are caramelized, bring the pan of pastry out of the fridge and prick the pastry with a fork. Place onions on pastry, then cover with lots of cheese and bake for about 30 minutes or until golden brown.

Slice into small pieces and serve.

## An Old-Fashioned Christmas

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*“Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season.”*

The Honourable  
**Bev Oda**  
Member of Parliament for Durham

Bev.oda@parl.gc.ca  
[www.bevoda.ca](http://www.bevoda.ca)

68 King St East, Bowmanville, Ontario, L1C 3X2  
1-866-436-1141(Toll Free)

## A Miracle in the Making

[www.valleys2000.ca](http://www.valleys2000.ca)

### How Can You Help ?

- Learn more about the project - visit [www.valleys2000.ca](http://www.valleys2000.ca) and forward the address to your friends
- Drop by the Valleys2000 office - Veltri Complex 68 King Street East, Bowmanville
- Donate on-Line
- Donate by Mail
- Develop you own Company or Organization Fund Raising Campaign

In April of 2008, CLOCA, the conservation authority having jurisdiction over the Bowmanville Creek Valley, hired Greck and Associates to design a Fish Passage Improvement Project at the Goodyear Dam (now Veyance) so that various species of fish, now hindered, could by-pass the dam to spawn upstream. Many of the larger fish could not make it up through the existing fish ladder, dying on the cement shelf and in the pool and stream below the dam, resulting in an objectional stench.

A final report on the fish passage, released in January, 2010 recommended the construction of a by-pass channel with a leaping component to prevent the upstream passage of sea lamprey, as a cost effective solution to the poor migration of fish upstream; and it would provide a valuable educational addition to the Valleys mosaic.

And guess what? Valleys was asked to raise the funds necessary for the new by-pass channel.

**\$376,000**

Labels on funnel: \$50,000, \$150,000, \$200,000, \$250,000, \$300,000

## Now accepting On-Line Donations



# Trim A Tree Fresh At Clarington Farms



by Tom Coleman

DURHAM FARM FRESH  
www.durhamfarmfresh.ca

December is here, and the first few snowflakes of the season have started to fall. If you're like me, your family is itching to pick out the perfect holiday tree. This year, consider locally grown options in Durham Region. At Durham Farm Fresh farms, you can cut your own tree, pick from a pre-cut selection and also take part in festive family fun on the farm.

At Prestonvale Tree farms in Courtice, you and your family can browse 64 acres of balsam fir, fraser fir, and spruce trees. Cut your own or pick one already pre-cut, and enjoy the tasty refreshments available too. Make a day out of it, and start up a holiday tradition your family will always remember. Visit www.



Horse drawn wagon ride at Knox Pumpkin Farms located north of Mitchells Corners. Photo by Kristin McCrea. View her photo gallery at www.ClaringtonPromoter.ca

prestonvalereefarms.com. Nearby in Bowmanville, Powell's Trees offers both cut-your-own and pre-cut options. Choose from their selection of scots and white pine, spruce, balsam and fraser fir. And once the snow starts to fall, take advantage of their 25 acres of hilly landscape, great for sledding and walking. Phone 905-263-2762 for more information. Knox's Pumpkin Farm in Hampton is inviting local families to make holiday memories this season. Enjoy

fun winter activities, including wagon and sleigh rides, a live nativity, candy-cane hot chocolate, baked goods, carols around the campfire and a bountiful boutique. And that's all before even taking home your family's tree. Visit www.knoxpumpkinfarm.com. Whether you're looking for that perfect Christmas tree or just picking up some last-minute decorations, gifts or gift baskets, Pingle's Farm Market (also in Hampton) has everything you will need to make this holiday

season special. Fresh trees, along with fresh garland, poinsettias and wreaths. Choose from a wide selection of trees hung and displayed in the comfort of their greenhouse, including the balsam fir, fraser fir and spruce varieties. Visit www.pinglesfarmmarket.com. Discover the local difference—see you on the farm! For more information, find us online at www.durhamfarm-fresh.ca or call 905-427-1512.

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From all of us at the Village Card and Gift Shoppe we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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