

HOMES

Warming glow

Light up dark afternoons and dark corners, **PAGE 10**



Just like home

Rideau River Lofts remind couple of life back in New Brunswick, **PAGE 14**



Bridlewood
NEW TOWNHOME
RELEASE ON
FOXHALL WAY

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OTTAWACITIZEN.COM/HOMES

THE OTTAWA CITIZEN, SECTION I

designwise

The lottery home is packed with detailed design lessons, starting with dramatic lighting and smart insets and tiles

BY PAULA MCCOOEY

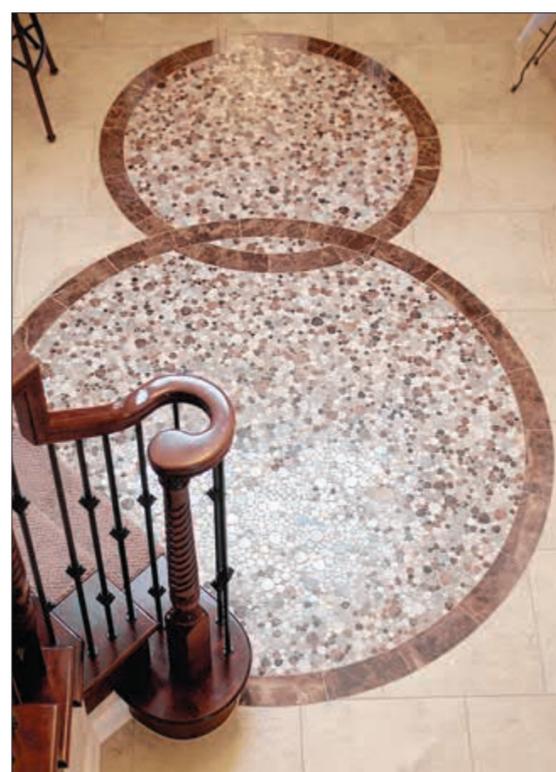
Flipping through flashy magazines is a great way to find out what's hot in design trends, but if you want to experience the real thing head to CHEO's lottery home and see for yourself.

You'll immediately notice that tiles have become big and colourful and lighting is sophisticated, with a sometimes funky flair. Tiles and lighting can completely change the look of your home, whether you are doing a bathroom makeover or a weekend design blitz to light up dark corners.

Designer Donna Correy worked tirelessly with local contractors in the city and manufacturer's designers to pull together several thousand dollars worth of finishings to make Minto's 4,786-square-foot lottery home a contemporary show-stopper, says Connie Lebrun, corporate development officer for the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Foundation.

"The lighting reveals a unique style that includes crystal and frosted fixtures throughout the home," says Lebrun, who worked closely with Correy, the owner of KISS Interiors and the designer behind Minto's large collection of model homes. "Donna selected fixtures that create a diverse quality of light."

"A lot of tradespeople and



suppliers give back and provide a lot of this at no charge," says Lebrun, who helped source a long list of suppliers, including Living Lighting, which supplied almost all of the lighting fixtures, and Euro Ceramics, which supplied the colourful and exotic tiling throughout the home.

TILES

Euro Ceramics supplied the colourful and exotic tiling throughout the home.

■ The mosaic tile in the foyer comes in a 12 by 12 inch mesh by Terra Verre. The Petrus retails for \$29.30 a square foot.

See DESIGN on PAGE 15

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LIGHTING

Living Lighting supplied almost all of the dramatic fixtures in the lottery home.

ABOVE:
A round orange and white striped table lamp glows in a child's bedroom.

RIGHT:
The Caledon adds light to the master bedroom. A crisp, white fabric shade is surrounded by a collar of satin nickel.



PHOTOS BY JULIE OLIVER, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

HOME FRONT SHEILA BRADY

The Gift Home

How the renovation and sale of a two-storey red brick in Qualicum will help house 10 Ottawa families

An Ottawa man's love for his Calgary family, a Calgary lawyer's desire to give back and the infectious enthusiasm of a dream renovation team add up to an ambitious \$1-million Gift Home campaign for Habitat for Humanity.

If all goes to plan, and plans change daily, Habitat hopes to raise enough money to house 10 low-income working families, says Donna Hicks, chief executive officer of the National Capital Region offices of Habitat for Humanity.

Hicks and Habitat President Melissa Clark were giddy with excitement on a recent evening when they announced the largest donation in the history of Habitat NCR during the Steel Toes and Stiletto Gala at the Westin Hotel.

Calgary lawyer Marilyn Vavasour donated the house, a two-storey red brick affair in the well-heeled community of Qualicum. The home had been bequeathed to her by Ottawa lawyer Jim Reid who died in Calgary following a



PHOTOS BY CHRIS MIKULA, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

A dream team, led by Friedmann Weinhardt, left, Gordon Weima and Chuck Mills will be gutting and renovating this Qualicum house for Habitat for Humanity.

stroke in February 2008.

The two met in 2004 at the Peter D. Clarke Long-Term Care home. Reid spent hours there every day with his wife, Vivian, and Vavasour flew in

one weekend a month to spend time there with her father. Both were struggling with Alzheimer's.

See GIFT on PAGE 3



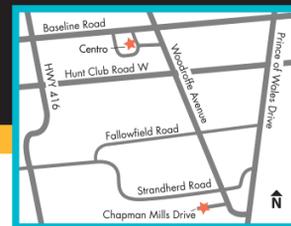
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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Gift: 'You couldn't get a better location'



SHEILA BRADY
HOMEFRONT

Continued from PAGE 1

The two lawyers struck up an enduring friendship based on politics and their Scottish heritage. The relationship blossomed after the death of Reid's wife and Vavasour's father, with the two spending time in both cities.

After Reid died, Vavasour wanted to do something special with the house and contents, something more than sell it and bank the proceeds.

She talked to several charities, hoping they could make use of the house. In April, one of the charities suggested she contact Habitat. "I never considered donating the house to Habitat because I thought Habitat only did builds of new housing," Vavasour wrote in an e-mail.

"It was such a happy experience for me to see the donation of the house growing into something larger than I ever imagined and that it will end up helping many more families than I had ever thought possible.

The house, which was built in 1967 by Ottawa developer Bill Teron, still has fragments of the Reid family, with a gilt mirror over the fireplace in the living room and china in

'There is a lot to do and we have six months to do it.'

GORD WEIMA,
Design Builder.

the glass hutch in the dining room. Pots and pans are in the kitchen and down in the basement family room is a funky, round Electrohome stereo straight from the '60s.

More often than not, a huge wooden table off the kitchen now does double duty as a temporary boardroom table, with space to spread out plans plotting the massive renovation planned for the 3,000-square-foot home.

"The first order of business is to have an estate sale and sell the furniture, china and silverware," says Hicks, who is in talks with estate sales experts.

"We want to start ripping by early December," says Friedemann Weinhardt, owner of Design First Interiors and co-lead designer of the Gift Home campaign.

It took Weinhardt a nanosecond to jump into the campaign, and then longtime colleague, veteran renovator and custom builder Chuck Mills took another nanosecond to become the other co-lead designer.

"This is a big project," says

Weinhardt. "We will need help."

Practical help came in the shape of Gord Weima, an award-winning design builder. He is going to co-ordinate all of the trades and implement the six-month project to turn the 42-year-old house into a million-dollar gift home designed with donations from the housing industry and muscle supplied by volunteers.

The plan is to have the Gift Home be the star of Habitat Canada's 25th annual convention set for late May in Ottawa. The home will be open for public tours and then sold for as close to \$1 million as possible by Milestone Real Estate representative Myra McKeen.

"When I first saw the house, I was ready to pull out my cheque book," says Weinhardt. "You couldn't get a better location."

Neighbours should also be pleased because initial discussions investigated the possibility of setting up a group home, while Habitat looked at taking the home down and putting up townhomes or semi-detached homes for deserving families.

"Zoning only allowed us to have a single-family home," says the resourceful Hicks, who with the help of her communications group, conjured up the Gift Home Campaign.

"Reaction has been immediate and positive," says Hicks.

Ottawa architect Barry Hobin joined the campaign to make over the exterior, suppliers have donated stair railings, Direct Energy is giving a new furnace and Dearie Contracting is going to check out the heating and cooling system.

There is a long way to go, but Weinhardt, Mills and Weima, are confident it will come together.

The three were prowling through the Qualicum house this week, drafting and reconsidering plans for a deck spanning the rear of the house. Plans call for jiggling around spaces, adding a mud room.

Weinhardt, who will design the new kitchen and eating area, wants a new patio door leading out to the deck. Mills warned a deck would block windows and light to the basement. They found a compromise, lowering the deck so the basement windows still receive light. "It's amazing how we can come up with ideas and make them work," says Mills.

Mills is going to renovate and design the master bedroom and ensuite during the campaign, while Ottawa designer Linda Nolan will work her design magic on the living, dining and sun rooms that stretch down one side of the house.

"We want to find people to take over a room — but first



PHOTOS BY CHRIS MIKULA, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

Habitat 101

WHAT IS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY?

An international organization building homes with teams of volunteers for low-income and working families. Families have to apply to Habitat and then donate 500 sweat hours. Their mortgages are held by Habitat and the homes can not be sold.

WHAT IS THE GIFT HOME?

Renovation and sale of a two-storey home on Esquimault Street in Qualicum. Calgary lawyer Marilyn Vavasour donated the home and contents to Habitat. Habitat hopes to turn the home, currently valued at \$510,000 into a \$1-million home by May 2010, selling it and using the profits to house 10 Ottawa families.



Qualicum house, which was built in 1967 and sits on a huge lot, will be gutted and turned into a dream home by area designers and contractors. The aim is to sell it for \$1 million, raising money to house 10 Ottawa families.

THE GIFT HOME WISH LIST

- **3 Esquimault St., Qualicum**
- Cabinetry
- Flooring
- A new roof
- An electrician and plumbers
- Windows and doors

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Donate** new building materials
- **Offer technical services** and skills
- **Volunteer** to help demolish and rebuild the home
- **Supply a lunch** for hungry volunteers
- **Write a cheque** to the Capital Campaign, Habitat for Humanity NCR. Mark your cheque Gift Home and you will receive a tax receipt.
- **Contact** Habitat for Humanity NCR 170-2370 Walkley Rd. 1-613-749-9950
- **Donna Hicks**, CEO, NCR Habitat for Humanity, 613-749-9950, ext. 222
- **Hilary Evans**, volunteer co-ordinator 613-749-9950, ext. 229 or volunteer@habitatnrcr.com

we will have a plan so it will all fit together," says Weinhardt, who visualizes a clean, modern home with a Scandinavian touch.

The team hopes to save as much as they can, including the wooden treads, while installing new windows and gas inserts into the two fireplaces.

"There is a lot to do and we have six months to do it," says Weima.

Habitat will use all of the proceeds to buy land and build for 10 families in Ottawa. "We have never done this before. It is a first for Ottawa," says Hicks.

The Habitat NCR offices, supported by a wide network of corporate supporters and volunteers have built 35 homes for working families since 1994.

Sheila Brady is the Citizen's Homes Editor. You can reach her at sbrady@thecitizen.com.



Organizers hope to soon have an estate sale, selling furniture, silver and bone china.



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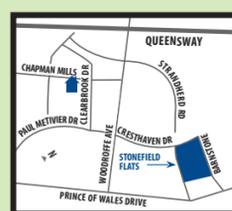
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