



LIFE AT HOME

DECOR • DOMESTIC ARTS • RENOVATIONS • RENTALS • RESALE

EDITOR: LISA MONFORTON 235-7428 FAX: 235-7379

WWW.CALGARYHERALD.COM

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2007

AROUND THE HOUSE

HGTV adds six new shows

TELEVISION • Whether you're looking for free homes, dream homes or green homes, you'll find it on HGTV this season.

Six new series and nine new seasons of existing programs begin this week on the home and garden television channel.

■ Sarah's House, on Tuesdays, follows designer Sarah Richardson as she guts a house, rebuilding each room in her signature style.

■ Green Force, Tuesdays, brings together a team of garden do-gooders who bring environmentally sound projects to communities in need of a little greening.

■ Also on Tuesdays, Urban Outsiders sees the transformation of ugly outdoor spaces under the guidance of England's popular garden guru Matt James.

■ In the Great Home Giveaway, Wednesdays, families and couples try to win a home by guessing its value.

■ Selling Houses Abroad, airing Fridays, sees no-nonsense real estate agent Andrew Winter take homeowners to task as they try to off-load hard-to-sell vacation homes in western European countries.

■ Rounding out the week, on Sundays, Digging Deep analyzes eight unhappy gardens to see what they say about their owners. Find out what your garden says about you.

Some of the returning programs include My First Place (Mondays), Design U (Mondays), Buy Me! (Wednesdays), Handyman Superstar Challenge (Thursdays), Relocation, Relocation (Friday) and Dream House (Sundays).

— The Calgary Herald



Think spring, despite the weather

PRODUCTS • Although summer seems a long way off this week, you can try to get into the right frame of mind with HomeSense's style guide to spring and summer.

The Chinois Chic line mixes traditional designs and textiles with modern shapes and surfaces.

"The trend is about mixing pretty Chinese floral patterns with minimalist and abstract Japanese textiles and adding a dash of Canadian style," says Natalie Jikerjian of HomeSense. Products include a deep red Chinese drum table, a topiary-style table lamp with a tweed shade and delicate cups and saucers.

Out of the Blue is a potpourri of Chinese, Greek, Portuguese and Dutch influences with a blue and white theme. Plates, blankets, storage boxes and textiles all look clean, crisp and sea-worthy in this collection.

Modern Mix updates items from the past and makes them unconventionally modern. Using outdoor materials inside, such as teak and bamboo, provide a fresh take on summer style.

Backyard Bliss focuses on outdoor entertaining. A teak ice chest is just the ticket for patio parties as are melamine dinnerware and drink mixes.

— The Calgary Herald



Three Calgary men have attained car park perfection, taking the renovation craze to the next level with their 'garage-mahals'

Kim Butler's garage is a tribute to his passion for NASCAR and racer Dale Earnhardt. The flashy garage has turned a lot heads in the neighbourhood.



Ted Rhodes, Calgary Herald
Austin King, 11, left, and his friend Gianni Silvestri, also 11, play pinball in the indoor garage of the King's family home.



Mikael Kjellström, Calgary Herald
Bill Toombs and his harlequin Great Dane, Lincoln, relax in what Toombs calls his "manly-pursuit place."

Three Calgary men have attained car park perfection, taking the renovation craze to the next level with their 'garage-mahals'

MOTOR MECCAS

LISA KADANE
CALGARY HERALD

Kim Butler wants to upgrade this room's lighting, to better illuminate the art on its walls.

Bill Toombs plans to install a urinal in his.

Dave King boasts a trophy case and two pinball machines inside his space.

We're not talking living rooms, bathrooms or rec rooms. The room in question is the garage. But in the case of these three Calgary-area men, their garages are more than parking spots for the sports car, truck or SUV.

Instead, call them manly-pursuit spaces, garage mahals or even mansoleums.

Toombs, Butler and King are far from alone in their quest for car-park perfection.

SPRING LOADED

Part 2 of a three-part series

March 31 Clear the air. Is your hoe's air quality good for your health?

Today Garage Envy. These garages are more than just a place to park a car — any time of year

April 14 Just in time for tax season, purging the paper trail

As garage specialty stores flourish and homeowners move the renovation craze into a new room, more Canadians are looking to improve the first space they enter when they return home.

"It's a \$2-billion industry in the States... but it's just in the

last year that (Calgarians) are starting to think about it," says Trevor Strome, owner of Garage Gadgets.

"It's definitely a growing industry."

Fuelling the drive to organize the home's largest and most under-utilized room, says Strome, are a robust economy and the fact that the garage is the final frontier for renos.

Andrea Zacharias agrees. "People ignored (the garage) for a long time," says the co-owner of Premier-Garage's Calgary franchise.

"Everybody was concentrating on their kitchens and their closets and their master bedrooms and now that's done. And now we're that next step to having that completed home."

SEE GARAGES, PAGE G3



Tim Fraser, Calgary Herald
Kim Butler's NASCAR-themed garage, with its GM Goodwrench colour-pattern scheme, houses his red Corvette and Dale Earnhardt racing memorabilia.

samcorea

Marketing your home for all it's worth™

403-870-8811

www.samluxuryhomes.com

RE/MAX
HOUSE OF REAL ESTATE



Elbow Valley \$1,050,000

12 Fishermans Landing

Custom designed, with family in mind, this 1983 s.f. bungalow has a walkout basement w/ 3 large bedrooms & media room with Smart Home Theatre system! Kitchen w/ fireplace & Sub-Zero fridge, heated deck, triple garage.

Elbow Valley \$1,190,000

335 Whispering Water Bend

Breathtaking mountain views are showcased in this roomy bungalow with developed walkout basement & a total of 4 bedrooms (all with ensuite) and almost 3900 s.f. of living space, soaring ceilings, large windows, west exposure.

Elbow Valley \$1,190,000

320 Clearwater Cove

Backing onto the pond, step out your backdoor & go skating! 1900 s.f. bungalow + walkout, 3500+ s.f. of development w/ 1 + 3 bedrooms + den, 10-ft ceilings, travertine floors, professional style kitchen w/ Wolf range & granite counters.

Discovery Ridge \$1,350,000

63 Discovery Valley Cove, SW

Backing onto the river & Griffiths Woods Park! Perfect location, contemporary, clean-lined bungalow, 2045 s.f. + developed walkout bsmt, 10 & 12-ft ceilings, master bedroom w/ dressing room & steam shower, huge deck w/ fireplace.

West Springs \$1,190,000

79 Westpoint Place, SW

New luxury home, on a desirable cul-de-sac, 3022 s.f. + finished walkout bsmt! 4 + 1 bedrooms, main floor den, upper library, high ceilings, many built-in features, dream kitchen w/ 2 dishwashers, 2 ovens, warming drawer & double fridge.

Cranston \$1,495,000

7 Cranleigh Manor, SE

On the ridge w/ beautiful views, overlooking future golf course & siding onto a park! Energy efficient "Green" home, low utility costs, elegant European country style bungalow + developed walkout, incredible former showhome, almost 4000 s.f.

Discovery Ridge \$1,190,000

8 Discovery Valley Cove, SW

Idyllic location, across from Griffiths Woods park & siding onto a greenbelt! Large bungalow w/ developed walkout basement, over 3500 s.f. in total, beautiful wrap-around deck w/ outdoor fireplace, rich, traditional style newer home.

Aspen Estates \$1,995,000

159 Aspen Meadows Place, SW

One-of-a-kind walkout bungalow, this stunning 5700 s.f. home offers one spectacular feature after another, perfect for entertaining, sure to please millionaires & movie stars, with gym, wine cellar, theatre, spa, doggie shower & auto aficionado's garage!