

INSIDE

CLASSIFIED

LISTINGS BEGIN ON PAGE G3



LIFE AT HOME

DECOR • DOMESTIC ARTS • RENOVATIONS • RENTALS • RESALE

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AROUND THE HOUSE

Protect your home — and your wallet

CONTRACTORS • Don't be a victim of contractor fraud. The City of Calgary is reminding residents that contractors are required to hold a valid business licence from the City — and that the City has the authority to suspend or revoke that licence.

While the majority of contractors are legitimate business people, here's what you can do before you hire a contractor, to help guard against bad business practices:

1. Get the business or trade name of the contractor/company, the owner's name and the business address and phone number.
2. Call the City of Calgary at 311 to confirm that the contractor holds a valid business licence.
3. Check these resources for more tips about protecting your home — and your wallet:
 - Alberta Seniors and Community Supports: seniors.gov.ab.ca
 - Better Business Bureau: calgary.bbb.org
 - Calgary Police Service: calgarypolice.ca
 - Canadian Home Builders' Association "Get it in Writing": hiringcontractor.com
 - Heads Up Fraud Prevention Program: heads-up.ca
 - Renomark: renomark.ca
 - Service Alberta Home Renovations: servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/1018.cfm

— Calgary Herald

Tiles set design mood

BOOK • If you have a passion for using tiles in home decor, you might want to check out a new book on the subject. The Home Decorator's Tile Bible by Morwenna Brett covers just about every area of tile use and design in its 256 pages. From floors, walls and ceilings to your front walkway, there are tiles and layout options to suit every taste.

Looking for that original pattern and texture to match your own unique personality? Just flip through this book, which is arranged in a convenient, durable ring-binder style. The heart of this book's easy-to-use layout is the fact that it is organized by colour.

The Home Decorator's Tile Bible (Firefly Books \$29.95, hardcover) offers step-by-step instructions and about 800 photographs show the huge range of tile options.

— Peter Wilson, Canwest News Service



Photos, Christina Ryan for the Calgary Herald

The hearth is the centre of this family room that opens onto the dining room and kitchen, all designed with a European sense of country style.

Hearth & Home



French Provincial stylings infuse a new prairie home with warmth

YVONNE JEFFERY
CALGARY HERALD

Once upon a time, in the middle of a great wooden hall in Northern Europe, a hearth radiated warmth to those gathered around it.

Over the years, the design of the hearth evolved. It moved to the end of the hall, inglenooks were built around it, and it even migrated to individual rooms. But still, the flames and coals gave heat to all nearby.

North of Calgary, a new home on the prairie has used the concept of the hearth to inform its entire interior, particularly the L-shaped main floor space where kitchen, dining and living sectors create the home's core.

"The hearth truly constitutes the heart of the home," says interior designer Blinda Bilou, who worked with the homeowner and the builder, McKee Homes, to achieve an integrated

vision for the space. "Warmth, sustenance and companionship are all found enveloped in its arms."

But it's not just the hearth that infuses the home with warmth. From the furniture-styled kitchen cabinetry to the oversized terracotta tiles that flow through the space, a European sense of country style (more luxe and less medium oak than traditional North American country) balances new construction and old sensibilities.

"Everything that kept appealing to me was the French Provincial and the warmer tones," explains the homeowner, Jeanette, who found inspiration in magazines and show homes. "I knew how I wanted the space to be... I like having things around me and not having it so open. I need walls and defined space."

Bilou adds that the result is an "earth" rather than "air" look. "Everything that we choose for our homes is very deep seated, very psychologically rooted," she says. "Sometimes, we don't even know where it comes from."

Like the hearth.

"The whole concept goes back millennia — it has such an importance in our lives, but we don't always know why."

SEE HEARTH, PAGE G2



The kitchen and dining area is open concept, but it's made cozy with the addition of built-in cabinetry and a large island.

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Discovery Ridge, \$359,000

#537 - 10 Discovery Ridge Close, SW - Penthouse suite! 1099 SF 2 bedroom, 2 bath in desirable Discovery Ridge - Premium stainless steel appliances, stone-faced fireplace in great room & incredible views of Griffiths Woods from large balcony with gas line for BBQ!

West Springs, \$565,000

9033 Wentworth Avenue, SW - 2002 SF, 5 level split backing ravine in desirable Wentworth! Contemporary 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath feat. 2 story great room with dramatic window-wall & centre fireplace, hardwood floors, granite counters & stainless steel appliances.

Discovery Ridge, \$575,000

6 Discovery Ridge Gardens, SW - 2052 SF 3 bedroom family home situated on a large pie-lot in a quiet cul-de-sac in desirable Discovery Ridge! Central A/C for warm summer months. Vaulted master suite w/ 4 pc ensuite, large great room w/ h/p & loads of maple cabinetry in kitchen.

Richmond Hill, \$579,000

1040 Sierra Morano Court, SW - Car lover's dream! This home has 2 double garages (attached & detached)! 1923 SF, 4 bdrms/4 baths, developed basement, 2-sided fireplace, wine cellar. Recently upgraded water tank/furnace/roof & Low-E windows.

West Springs, \$698,000

749 Wentworth Place, SW - Across from a park! This 2256 SF home features soaring ceilings, granite counters, stainless steel appliances & fully dev'd basement w/ media room, 4th bedroom & full bath. Master boasts vaulted ceilings, 5pc ensuite w/ stainless steel sinks & corner soaker tub!

Spruce Cliff, \$775,000

624 - 36th Street, SW - Brand new home in Spruce Cliff: walking distance to the Shaganappi Golf Course & an easy commute to downtown! This 3 bedroom, 2039 SF home boasts hardwood floors, granite counters throughout, handsome Cherry-stained maple built-in's and more!

Killarney, \$799,000

3020 - 27 Street, SW - New home! Executive attached home w/ developed bsmt & double garage, over 2800 SF of living space, granite counters, Grohe fixtures, vaulted master, rain shower, 3 bdrms up, bsmt w/ wet bar, games room, 4th bedroom.

Richmond Hill, \$875,000

119 Sierra Morano Court, SW - Over 10,600 SF pie lot - one of the best in Richmond Hill! Over 3600 SF featuring incredible mountain views, hardwood floors, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, & developed walk-out! Absolutely amazing!

Altadore, \$895,000

2015 - 40th Avenue, SW - "The Dorchester" boasts hardwood floors, crown moulding throughout, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, 3-sided h/p in master & in-floor heating in fully finished basement! 1954 + 771 SF of luxury built by Saddle River Custom Homes!

Altadore, \$895,000

4218 - 18th Street, SW - Another gem by Saddle River Custom Homes! 1898 + 741 SF with a fully finished basement. "The Chelsea" features hardwood flooring, legacy kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances & granite counters & 3-sided h/p master, 6 pc ensuite w/ jetted shower!

Bridgeland, \$899,000

228 - 6A Street NE - Large home on a 44-ft lot, in an excellent location facing onto a park with wonderful city views from both levels. 3040 SF + developed basement, 5 bedrooms upstairs, renovated kitchen & baths, granite counters, steam shower, jetted tub.

Springbank, \$995,000

55 Springside Street - Spectacular mountain views & developed walkout, 5 bdrms, 2374 SF acreage home on 2 acres. Renovated kitchen with granite counters & upgraded appliances (including a Wolf gas range). Vaulted family room, easy commute to DT.

Elbow Valley Estates, \$1,149,000

44 Golden Aspen Crest - Main floor hosts romantic master suite, 2nd bedroom, full bath, formal dining & spacious laundry room. Granite counters & stainless steel in kitchen. Full basement developed to include 2 bedrooms, a vast family room, media room, den & full bath.

Springbank, \$1,295,000

64 Springland Way, SW - 2 1/2 (+/-) acres of gorgeous land in Springbank, this 6 bedroom + den, 2-story home has more than enough room for any large family, with plenty of play space outside & in the fully developed basement! Solarium w/ hot tub and luxurious master suite!

Discovery Ridge, \$1,295,000

35 Discovery Ridge Cove, SW - Backing directly onto Griffiths Woods! Beautiful pie lot w/ professional landscaping, 2848 + 1212 SF family home with 4 bedrooms up + developed walkout w/ 2 more bedrooms. Dark oak hardwood, soaring ceilings, granite counters & more!

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