



French's Fine Homes

MUSKOKA'S MOST ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDER

Newsletter

Bert French & Son Limited

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Apr- Jun 2013
Printed quarterly



HISTORY IN THE MAKING



We love what we do, and the fascination of going from nothing to everything has never diminished. We want to share a build story with you from start to finish. This one is particularly interesting because it's a winter build, which has its own unique challenges.



Josee and Charles live in Manitoba. Charles has been in uniform for 29 years, 21 of those years with the CN police in Winnipeg. Josee has worked in the health care field for 25 years.



While they were scouting Muskoka for property, they focussed originally in the Huntsville area. Their initial contact with us was early June 2012. By late July, they found the perfect lot with a beautiful setting just across the road from her sister in Port Sydney. By early August, they had chosen the "Paradise" model from our catalogs. Using the services of our own Auto-Cad department, they were able to make changes to the floor plan that would suit their long term plans.

The planning and pricing process carried us through the fall, but by the end of November it was all settled. They came to Ontario for another visit and signed the contract on Saturday, December 15th, 2012.



Lot clearing started promptly on Tuesday, December 18th. However, the site had a long wait while we prepared and submitted plans to the building department; some delays due to our Christmas shutdown, and then - finally - a permit issued February 8th, 2013.

Some of the red letter days since then were:
The excavator is on site! February 15th
Foundation walls are poured! Feb 25th
Hey, the framer is starting today - March 5th
Shingles are going on! March 22nd

Although Charles and Josee live in Manitoba, they are not the least bit worried about the distance between them and the build. They are able to keep up-to-date online with our BuilderTrend website. Here we can show them the schedule, photos of the progress, and they can sign for change orders if they request any.

We have the well drilled now. Mechanical crews coming to site to start their rough-ins should be the next stage. In our upcoming newsletter, we'll tell you more about our progress on this home.

Come see us at the:

Muskoka

Home & Cottage

Show

April 26th to 28th, 2013

Gravenhurst Centennial Center

101 Centennial Drive

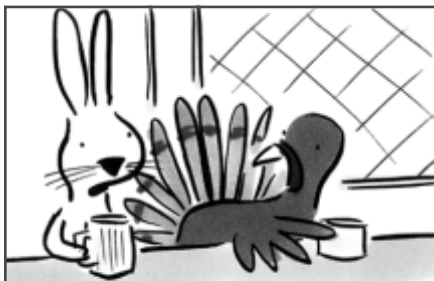


Admission is FREE with any donation to the Food Banks of Muskoka (cash or non-perishable food item)

UNDERSTANDING YOUR HRV

Could you use some help understanding your HRV? We now have a video on our website that you will find helpful. Check it out at frenchsfinehomes.ca. You will find it under the "Miscellaneous" tab.

HUMOUR CORNER



"Take the groundhog - now that's a sweet gig."



"Here's our retirement plan: at age 65, we'll get divorced then marry other people who planned better."



...Just can't wait.

mildred A.C. French

December 15, 1925 - March 8, 2013



A verse Milly lived by-

This is the day which the LORD hath made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalm 118:24

On December 15th, 1925 **Mildred (Millie) Annie Clarissa Stevenson** was born to Elizabeth Hannah (Nickason) and Donald James Stevenson. She was born at home and that bedroom became the dining room of the French family home on Stephenson Road 1 East.

During her childhood, she lived in various homes in the Port Sydney area, and attended the one room school house SS#5 known as Maplegrove, completing Grade 10 there.

She went to work at various cleaning and housekeeping jobs. She talked a lot about Mrs. Sherwood at Clearwater Lake, and Mrs. Wright who had a lodge. In May of 1945, Bert French came into her life and on August the 10th they married. They were blessed with seven children - Bert, Larry, Mair, Faye, Helen, Dan and Dorrie - who were all raised in the home on Stephenson Road 1 East.

Milly accepted Jesus Christ as her Saviour when she was a teenager. She and Bert were an active part of the assemblies in the Huntsville and Deer Lake Gospel Halls. For much of their married life they took their kids to Sunday School and gospel meetings along with anyone else who wanted a ride.

Despite various hardships, Millie felt that she had a great life; loved her husband and all her kids; delighted in spoiling her grandchildren; loved running the roads; helped the neighbours anytime she could; and opened her home and fridge to anyone who came along, expected or unannounced. She loved walking in the bush, and camping in the trailer with Bert at many parks. At home, she read and did jigsaw puzzles, crossword puzzles, and Scrabble. She sang at all hours of the day - cheerfully, though not always in tune, and she often made up the words from whatever she was thinking about!

Milly had a few jobs outside the home, but the one she liked best was cleaning the new homes that Bert French & Son built. She also loved to help with the baking for the company children's Christmas party.

Near the end of her life, Millie had multiple health problems - heart arrhythmia, osteoporosis, and eventually vascular dementia. She dealt with all of this bravely: "Even if I'm not okay, I'll be okay". After Bert died, she enjoyed a couple of years at Muskoka Haven on South Mary Lake Road. Her final year was spent under the excellent care of the staff at Muskoka Landing.

Milly died on Friday, March 8th, 2013 in her room at Muskoka Landing with family around her. Millie thought herself blessed to have such a great family, but in reality she was a blessing to all the people around her in this life. Now she is in heaven with her Saviour, her husband, and her mother, and she's still singing.

Maintenance Checklist

April

- Check & clean eavestrough & downspouts
- Clean furnace & HRV filters**
- Clean humidifier
- Check driveways for waterflow
- Check walks for unevenness
- Clean range hood filter
- Landscaping (soil settlement)
- Turn on exterior water supply



May

- Inspect fences
- Check ground slope
- Check caulking
- Check exterior finishes - staining, painting
- Check windows and screens
- Check septic system; pump tank every 3 years
- Clean range hood filter
- Lawn preparation
- Clean HRV filters**
- Test GFI's



June

- Inspect air conditioning
- Check roof
- Check sheds and garages
- Check sealing around windows and doors
- Fertilize lawn
- Check water heater
- Check and reset ground fault circuit interrupter (GFI)
- Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors



** 4" and 5" pleated media filters for your furnace are available at Dean's Home Hardware in Port Sydney.

HUNTSVILLE & BRACEBRIDGE
MODEL HOMES
DIRECTIONS AND HOURS
Open
Wed. to Fri. 12pm to 4pm
Saturday 10am to 4pm
Sunday 12pm to 4pm

\$510,799
HST INCLUDED
REBATES ASSIGNED TO
French's Fine Homes



Huntsville Model
8 Woodstream Drive



To reach our model from Hwy 11, exit Hwy. 11 at Hwy. 60. Left onto Muskoka Rd. 3 N. Go 2 km. Watch for Muskoka Meadows sign on left.

Call 705-788-3141

\$906,900
PLUS HST
REBATES ASSIGNED TO
French's Fine Homes



River Front Property
Bracebridge Model
135 Keith Road



To reach our model from Hwy 11, exit at District Rd 118 W (Ecclestone Drive). Turn right onto Keith Road. Watch for signs.

Call 705-645-6717



18 Gainsborough Road, Bracebridge
\$389,234^{HST INCLUDED}
1,431 sq.ft. Bungalow

READY FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY

About this Newsletter

We mail out this quarterly newsletter to our customers, past, present and future.

We hope you find it helpful and informative.

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