

BY JENNIFER SCHLEICH
PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVE SMALL

KEEPING *cosy*

It's getting frosty outside but hopefully it's still toasty inside your home. Snuggling in front of the fire and sipping hot cocoa at the end of a snowy day is one of the best parts of winter, second only to waking up in the morning to a house kept warm all night by your trusty furnace.



▲ Chris Knickle

Mountain Top "The Stove Shop"

WHEN SHOULD CHIMNEYS BE SWEEPED? Chimney sweeps should be done in the late spring or summer. Creosote is corrosive and should be removed before the next burn season.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS FOR A CHIMNEY FIRE? To reduce the risk of a chimney fire it's important to burn properly seasoned wood to regulate air control. Smouldering wood creates creosote and unsafe burning conditions.

SPECIALTY: We offer wood burning and gas fireplaces, installation and service of all units, along with hearth accessories. We can also sweep chimneys and perform visual inspections of fireplaces for a customer's peace of mind.

◀ Cathy and Ken Beitz

South-Port Mechanical Inc.

GEOTHERMAL VS. TRADITIONAL HEATING:

Geothermal has a larger upfront investment, but the pay back is between four to seven years over propane or oil and it eliminates the use of fossil fuels.

WHAT KIND OF ANNUAL MAINTENANCE DOES

A GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM NEED? Like any heating appliance Geothermal should be serviced every year. The most important thing is to keep the filter clean.

WHAT ARE SOME UNIQUE HEATING PRODUCTS YOU OFFER? We install and service Carrier furnaces, air-to-air heat pumps, boilers, in-floor heating, a wide range of gas and propane fireplaces, wall heaters and garage heaters.

Continued on page 48

Introducing... **ROUGH Chic**

The Quality you want...more affordable than you think!

492 10TH ST. HANOVER | 1-888-385-6660
HANOVERCABINETS.COM

HANOVER
KITCHEN & BATH GALLERY

Bring a little warmth
& style into your home.

Enviro

Come visit our cozy showroom located at
13 Toronto Street North in Markdale
to view our beautiful display models and accessories.

Need servicing! Mountaintop services gas furnaces, fireplaces & stoves.

Sales, installations & service | Wett Certified Technicians on staff
519-986-2112 mountaintopchimneysweep.ca

MOUNTAIN TOP
"The Stove Shop"

people

Sandy Hamilton ► and Tom Ramage

Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc.

YOU'VE MOVED! We recently merged two established firms, Northern Heating & Ventilation and Sandy Hamilton Plumbing and Heating. We are now capable of installing and servicing all mechanical and plumbing requirements for homes and businesses.

WHAT'S AN ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL HEATING? Geothermal. The installation and service of geothermal systems continues to be one of our areas of expertise, with over 24 years of experience.

BEST TIP FOR KEEPING WARM THIS WINTER: Have an annual inspection of your equipment to ensure safe and economical performance.



▼ Bob Wilson

The Fyre Place & Patio Shop

GAS VS. ELECTRIC: An electric fireplace is suited for creating ambience in a small room. If you are looking to keep warm, a gas fireplace is an effective way to heat a room and is not dependent on electricity.

WHAT SERVICES DO YOU OFFER? We provide complete installation of our stoves and fireplaces, including wood cabinets or decorative stone finishes. We also offer full maintenance.

TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT: Our major supplier, Napoleon, offers a variety of interesting burners, such as river rock, clear or coloured glass, crystals and realistic wood logs.



▲ Rob and Erin Wepler

Air-Tech Mechanical

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE FOR YOUR FURNACE: The most important thing is to start the heating season with a clean filter. Pre-season maintenance from a contractor would also ensure your furnace's components are ready for operation.

WHAT IS RADIANT HEATING? Unlike conventional heating where air is circulated around the room, rises and collects near the ceiling, radiant in-floor heating radiates through hard-surface floors and rises evenly into the room.

WHAT TYPES OF FIREPLACES DO YOU OFFER? There's nothing cosier than a fireplace on a cold day. We sell Continental Fireplaces manufactured by Wolfe Steel Ltd. in Ontario. **OH**

Over 30 years experience in the water industry.

We Specialize In:

- Well Pumps, Well Maintenance
- Water Softeners
- Chalet/Cottage-Water maintenance
- UV Disinfection Systems
- Reverse Osmosis Systems
- Well Flow Test
- Iron Filters

Call us for your complete water system installation or service.
519.986.4743
www.mccannwatersystems.ca

Direct Vent Fireplace Systems **CONTINENTAL FIREPLACES**

AIR TECH MECHANICAL
We Care About Your Air

519-934-3358 117064 Grey Rd.3, Keady
www.air-tech.ca
HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • VENTILATION SYSTEMS

Let us make your house a home.

The FYRE PLACE & PATIO SHOP
Since 1973

Located at Highway 6 & 21
Springmount (Near Owen Sound)
519.371.2963 | www.thefyreplace.com

NAPOLÉON
QUALITY FIREPLACES