

KIM ALLDREAD

REAL PEOPLE, REAL LIFE, REAL ESTATE



inside this issue

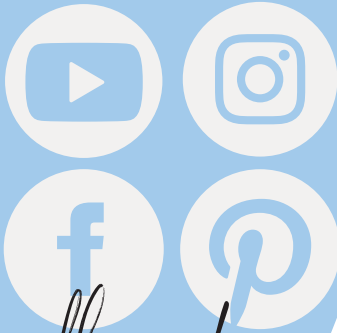
IT'S WINTER WONDERLAND!

Embrace this holiday season with all it's glory - it's almost as if it's right out of a fairy tale. Plus, we have some great businesses for you to celebrate the season with!



KIM ALLDREAD, SALES REPRESENTATIVE

RE/MAX ROUGE RIVER REALTY LTD.,
KIM@KIMALLDREAD.COM
WWW.KIMALLDREAD.COM



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A Message

From Kim

Well, what in the world happened? It's the end of the year, and I swear it feels like just yesterday we were all bright-eyed and bushy-tailed on January 1st wondering what 2023 would bring. But, oh boy, what a rollercoaster it has been, especially in the world of real estate. It's been a year that's made us scratch our heads, raise our eyebrows, & even consider building a pillow fort for safety. We've seen prices come down but interest rates have increased. People keep asking me to don my crystal ball & make predictions about the market, & I do believe late 2024 into 2025 we will see the rates start to fall. When that happens, it's going to be like rocket fuel for the market and the prices will jump again.

But let's not forget the best part of this time of year, Christmas! I mean, who doesn't love the twinkling trees, the lights that could outshine Times Square, & all of the scrumptious treats that appear as if by magic? It's the season of giving, & we're once again hosting our annual Mitten Tree. Don't leave your old winter gear hanging around like forgotten ornaments; let's spread some warmth to those in our community that need it the most & make this holiday season as toasty as a chestnut roasting on an open fire! Wishing your family a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Take care,

Kim

WE TRIED IT

[something we tried this issue we think you'll love!]

Sweetened Condensed Milk Snowballs

- 1 Cup Butter, Softened
 - 1/2 Cup Sweetened Condensed Milk
 - 2 Cups All-Purpose Flour
 - 3 Teaspoons Baking Powder
 - 1/2 Cup Confectioner's Sugar
- *Makes 22 Cookies

Preparation

1. Preheat the oven to 320°F.
2. Add softened butter to a mixing bowl & beat until light & creamy - about 3 minutes.
3. Pour in the sweetened condensed milk & beat into the butter for two minutes. (If adding extracts for flavouring, add it now, but no more than 2 teaspoons)
4. Scrape down the sides of the bowl & beat again for another minute or two.
5. Finally, add the flour & baking powder. Beat into the butter & milk mixture until mixed through.
6. Using a cookie scoop, portion the dough into mounds onto a parchment paper lined baking sheet, leaving 2 inches in between.
7. Bake for 12 minutes.
8. Remove from oven & let cool on the pan for 5 minutes.
9. Transfer onto a wire cooling rack. Use a sifter to liberally dust the cookies with the confectioner's sugar.

WE RATE IT:

4

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5

SPOONS

MEET THE MAKER

UNFOLDING THE PINE-VENTURE THAT BROUGHT THIS FAMILY HERE



HOW IT ALL SPROUTED

Fun fact, Powell's Trees started by accident. George & Marianne were on the hunt for a home that was close but secluded and bushy as they enjoy country skiing. Lo and behold, a 70-acre patch of land beckoned them in December of 1980. They thought, "What the fir, let's snag it!" Little did they know, it was a tree-mendous surprise. As the snow melted away, they discovered thousands of Christmas trees sprouting like they were part of Santa's secret garden. They looked at their children and said "Guess what kids, we are going to be Christmas tree farmers!" The family embarked on a crash course in tree-taming, bug-battling, and seedling-sowing. Their family blossomed into tree-crazed lumberjacks whose goal is to grow trees that make people as happy as a squirrel with a nut!



SPRUCE UP YOUR HOLIDAYS

Get a glimpse at this hard working family in action by visiting them this season! Introduce yourself to George & Marianne, say hello to their son Bert, or their daughter Dana, and don't fir-get their lovely granddaughter Cosi. They grow Fraser Fir, Scotch & White Pine, Norway & Blue Spruce, and Balsam. All trees are carefully sheared and very full, deep green. Enjoy the fun of cutting your own tree with provided saws or pick from their selection of pre-cut trees available for different price ranges. They can help you bale your tree for \$5.00. They accept debt or e-transfers, but prefer cash where possible. Get in the holiday spirit with many reasonably priced Christmas crafts, boughs & honey available while you visit. Take in the scenic landscape while you walk the property, and even bring a sled for the kids. It's a rootin' tootin' good time for the whole family!

FIND POWELL'S TREES



2945 Durham Rd. 20,
Bowmanville



Powell's Trees



(905) 263 - 2762

MEET THE MAKER

THESE LADIES ARE SWEET, ADDICTIVE, AND ARE MELTING OUR HEARTS

WE'RE COCOA-VER HEELS FOR THESE TWO

These two self-taught treat architects, moonlighting as a nurse & payroll administrator, watched their chocolate empire rise like a soufflé with unshakeable determination, & more late nights than a cookie jar without a lid. Amber & Tracey Thompson the dynamic duo behind this cocoa-coated escapade, hatched their delicious journey in 2020, right after welcoming their bouncing baby boy. What began as a scrumptious maternity leave experiment soon sweetened into a part-time venture for this pair. They kicked off by cooking up hot chocolate bombs for their inner circle, but it wasn't long before their cocoa creations spread faster than sprinkles at a candy store - delighting local vendor shows, markets, & flea markets. Today, their chocolatey confections shine as the stars of the show in various stores across Durham Region, York Region, & Northumberland County.

CHOCOLATE; NATURE'S CURE FOR MONDAYS

Their love for all things chocolate didn't stop at hot chocolate bombs; it expanded faster than dough rising in an oven! They've dipped sour keys, pretzel rods, licorice, rice krispie squares, & oreos! On special occasions, they offer smash hearts that'll make someone's heart skip a beat, or concocting party favours so spot-on that even picky guests can't help but crave more. Their hot chocolate lineup is a diverse assortment of fan favourites & seasonal sensations. In their quest for more sweetness, they also offer treat boxes, teacher/day care gifts, stocking stuffers, & wholesale orders. Why settle for plain candy when you can enjoy their enchanting array of sweets?



FIND 2 MOMS HOT CHOCOLATE BOMBS



Bowmanville, ON



2 Moms Hot Chocolate Bombs



2momshotchocolatebombs

MEET THE MAKER

ILLUMINATING CLARINGTON
ONE WICK AT A TIME



FINDING HER SPARK

Your friendly neighbourhood ICU nurse turned wood wizard, we would like to introduce you to Sarah. She is a loving wife & mother to her two rambunctious boys & two fluffy feline friends. Her woodworking journey starts with her late grandfather's passion for woodworking that he passed down to her father. While she dabbled with woodworking by her father's side, it was not until her second-born arrived that she fully embraced the sawdust lifestyle. Battling with postpartum anxiety & depression she was looking to keep her hands busy. Mixing her experience with woodworking & interest in the aromatic arts, begins the dough bowl candle making extravaganza where the bee and the birch tree was born! She loves being a woman rocking a male-dominated world, girl power for all the fellow lumberjills out there.



CARVING HER OWN PATH

Mixing up candle scents is her version of a mad scientist's lab. She deep dives into essential oils & fragrance oils, creating heavenly concoctions that will fill your home with pure bliss. Not to mention that Sarah is a huge Christmas fan like us, so she has a great collection for the season for your parties to be lit! She's got Winter Cottage, Gingerbread Cookie, Christmas Clementine, Spiced Plum, Christmas Tree, Melted Snowflake, & a New Year's Kiss. Your nose is in for a treat! She's had the warmest welcome to our community's local business gang, & it's made her appreciate all things local even more. You can find her creations at Markets Ontario right here in Downtown Bowmanville or check her out online to see what local markets she is attending & get ready for a sensory adventure like no other!

FIND THE BEE AND THE BIRCH TREE



Bowmanville, ON



the bee and the birch tree



thebeeandthebirchtree

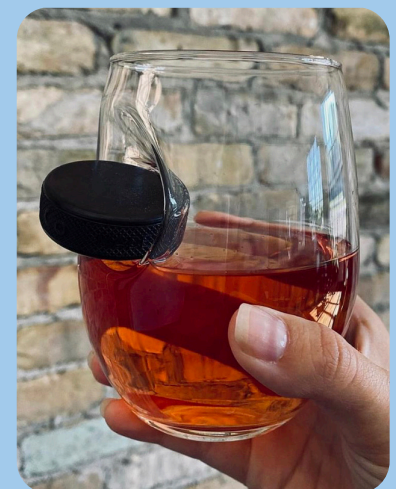
MEET THE MAKER A FAMILY SKATING THROUGH LIFE WITH ONE GOAL IN MIND

LET US BREAK THE ICE

This all-star team is a family-run Hockey Lifestyle brand that is dishing out apparel, gear, and gifts with more style than a Gretzky hat trick! It is our pleasure to introduce you to the Shaw family - Kirsten & Dave, and their two children Claire & Eddie. They've always had a love for all things sports, especially when it comes to hockey. Involved in the local minor hockey association, Kirsten was organizing a tournament for 2 years when COVID hit & everything got benched. She had met amazing vendors & wanted to keep working with them, she curated a 'Hockey Mom' box that sparked this adventure. A hockey mom box might not be on the roster right now, but they still have great gifts for those dedicated souls!

A SLAP SHOT OF CHARM

They're sticklers for perfection when it comes to creating custom apparel orders, complete with player names & numbers - so you can hit the ice in personalized pizzazz! Need to score big with your team or fellow hockey fanatics? Check out their customizable gift boxes - perfect for those rink-side team parties, frosty team holidays, end-of-season slapshots, and birthday bashes. But wait, there's more! They've got a penalty box full of coach & fan gifts that will have you cheering, from Hockey Puck Glassware for those hard-hitting beverages to keychains that'll unlock your hockey heart. To stick it to the competition, they've teamed up with a local business to create their very own small-batch of Hockey Stick Wax, the application is so easy it's like an empty net goal. So lace up your skates, grab your hockey stick, and skate on over to check out their awesome lineup. It's a slapstick good time, and they're here to assist on & off the ice!



FIND TWIG N' BISCUIT HOCKEY SUPPLY CO.



Courtice, ON



Twig n' Biscuit Hockey Supply Co.



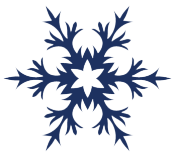
twignbiscuihockey

HOW TO

TURN YOUR HOME INTO THE MOST MAGICAL WINTER WONDERLAND

'Tis the season, as it is the most wonderful time of the year. This year we are embracing the beauty of the Canadian snowfalls with a Winter Wonderland theme. Whether you are hosting a winter wonderland party or just want to up the ante on your holiday home decor, there are a variety of decorations to have your home feeling like a fairy tale!

ARTIFICIAL SNOW OPTIONS



Your home can't be a winter wonderland without snow, so here's a couple different options for you to tinker with. First, you can use cotton batting or similar fake snow-like products for table decorations, mantels, & other areas your home - if you spray the fake snow with spray glitter it creates a glimmering effect. Second, you can purchase spray snow that works well on windows, a perfect snowy welcome for your guests.

SPARKLY, GLITZY, GLITTERY SNOWFLAKES



Whether you find snowflake ornaments at a store or if you would like to make paper snowflakes at home & cover them in glitter - we know for a fact that if you suspend them from the ceiling you will set a magical tone to any room. Truly there are so many snowflake decorations to be found & you can place them anywhere from the Christmas tree to the mantel to wreath on the door.

THE POWER OF TWINKLE LIGHTS



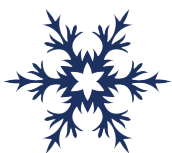
Everyone loves a good set of twinkle lights! String white twinkling Christmas lights along windows, mantels, banisters, or even along the edges of tables. You can even drape twinkle lights along with tulle fabric on the ceiling, walls, or front door for a magical feeling.

FROSTY CHRISTMAS BOUQUETS



Hosting a party? You can put together the most fabulous balloon centerpieces to grab your guests attention, or even set-up a cute balloon backdrop to capture all of your photos. We suggest picking up the pearl-finish balloons for a super frosty look.

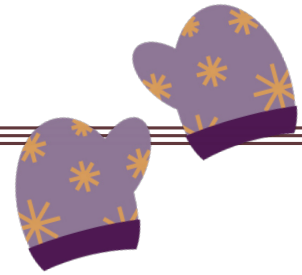
FOLLOWING THE COLOUR SCHEME



Whites, silvers, and blues will be your bestfriend while curating your perfect Winter Wonderland. This can be used when thinking of your tree & its ornaments, garlands, mantel pieces, outdoor arrangements, wrapping paper, tablesettings, & more!

GIVING IN THE COMMUNITY

this holiday season



Giving back is part of every holiday season for most of us and this year is no exception. Our warm clothing drive (or more well known as our Mitten Tree) is back again this year to support St. Vincent de Paul and St. Joseph's Church in Bowmanville. We will be collecting warm clothing like touques, hats, mittens, scarves and coats for children and adults in need in our community for distribution in their Christmas Hamper Program as well as at the Food Bank to keep folks warm all Winter.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Whether you're a knitter, crocheter or not, we are looking for things to keep people warm this winter. By purchasing or making these items, you are keeping a child or adult in our community warm this winter.



WHEN YOU CAN DONATE

We will be accepting donations until the end of December due to the demand for these items throughout the Winter at the Food Bank. All donations made prior to December 11th will be used in the Hamper program facilitated by St. Vincent de Paul and St. Joseph's Church.

WHERE TO DONATE

Please bring new or gently used warm clothing and accessories to our office at 106 Waverley Road, Bowmanville to hang on the 'Mitten Tree' !