

## Yvonne O'Hara knows your neighbourhood

I hope you don't mind but I thought this month I would tell you a bit about myself and how I might be of help to you with your real estate needs.

I have lived on Clinton Street for over 20 years. I have raised two children in the neighbourhood. My husband, a general contractor, has done much of his business among us, and I have chosen to buy and sell real estate in this great neighbourhood.

I have lived here all these years because I love it! The schools have been great for my kids, the owners of daycare a few doors away helped me raise them, and continue to be friends and now clients. The parks, where I can hang out with my dog, are in abundance and filled with people I enjoy seeing every morning. The staff at my favourite coffee shop, Sam James, know me by name and serve me up the creamiest of lattes. The ladies at the Riviera Bakery make me feel like I'm visiting my mom—they send me home with the best tuna pasta for my growing boys. The TD Canada Trust has cookies for my dog, Holly. The Grace Butcher makes the best chicken salad and can always recommend something delicious for the barbecue. The new restaurants on Harbord Street, the new and old ones on St Clair, and the great markets at Dufferin Grove and The Wychwood Barns are just a few more of the many reasons so many are attracted to this area.

We are very lucky to live in this neighbourhood, and because we got in early we are now in a position to reap the benefits of our smart real estate decision! Houses in our neighbourhood are attracting multiple offers and leaving buyers satisfied to get into a great neighbourhood and sellers in a position to upgrade their homes by buying just outside of our area.

Allow me the chance to help you. I will listen to you and make sure that I only show you properties that are within your needs, desires and financial parameters. I am very flexible with my time and will make myself available to fit in with your schedule. I understand that the process—whether buying or selling—can be overwhelming, so I will strive to make it as quick and easy as possible. My experience will help me to guide you through negotiations and contract terms with ease. I always take the time to make sure that you understand what is going on and what happens next. I promise to be available to you after the closing, because I hope that we can remain connected.

I will happily answer any questions you may have, give you a market evaluation of your home or be available to tell you what your neighbours' home sold for!

Yvonne O'Hara | Sales Representative | RE/MAX Unique Inc., Brokerage  
416.928.6833 | YvonneOHara.com • yohara@trebnet.com

## Get great photos at great prices with portrait mini session

If you would love to have professional photographs but it's not in the budget, hosting a Portrait Photography Mini Session with *Holly Sisson Photography* is the answer! By finding at least four other interested groups (families, couples, friends—groups no larger than six, owners with their pets), your mini session is FREE.

Each mini session is 30 minutes and includes 3 digital images. Cost for each group is \$250 (plus an additional \$25 per group if it's a weekend or holiday). On day of session, you schedule the groups to arrive in 1/2 hour intervals, scheduling your own session at the beginning or end of the mini session. As the host your session is FREE—including three digital prints, plus you get an extra 15 minutes of photography time.

Working primarily in natural light, *Holly Sisson Photography* specializes in capturing you as you really are.

Give yourself the gift of photography, contact *Holly Sisson Photography* today to book your mini session.

Holly Sisson Photography | HollySissonPhotography.com



## Nilli Salonspa makes every day a great hair day

Hair cuts by Nilli Liman, of *Nilli Salonspa*, have changed the way we view our hair. Having been told many times that we have great hair, we finally see that it's true!

Nilli has given us the hair we've always dreamed of—hair that is shiny, healthy and easy to manage. Nilli works with our natural hair tendencies, for a cut that enhances our features and also fits our lifestyle.

Nilli has been internationally recognized for her skill and creativity. Her talent is creating haircuts so easy to maintain that, even when left to air dry, they fall naturally into place.

Spring is a great time for a new 'do. Having the right cut and colour can take years off your appearance, giving you a fresh and more youthful look. If you are stuck in a rut with your hair, maybe it's time for a change. Choosing the right stylist, with the skill to bring out the best in your hair, is a great place to start.

*Nilli Salonspa* is focused on hair health, using the best products and technique for maintaining your hair health. Even with hi-lights and colour every six weeks, our hair is healthy, soft and shiny, with beautiful colour that lasts from one visit to the next.

Nilli Salonspa | 521 Eglinton Avenue West | 416.487.1762 • NilliSalonspa.com



We're also completely devoted to the Kérastase styling and product line, especially the new Age Premium line—enriched with anti-oxidant ingredients, it's gentle on our hair, leaving it rejuvenated with body and suppleness.

Give yourself a fresh new look this season. Visit *Nilli Salonspa* for a new cut and colour—mention **Just Around the Corner** to receive a complimentary Kérastase treatment (a \$55 value).

# in house

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SPRING 2011

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ANNEX & LITTLE ITALY

INSIDE: The best of the season from your local shops plus home improvement & personal services

www.JustAroundtheCorner.ca

## Julia West Home has seasonal home decor, accessories & gifts

Since 1998, *Julia West Home* has been bringing the best of past design traditions into the present. Famous for furniture design and construction, free parking just south of their building makes visiting easy.

Inside their large showroom is a wide selection of beautiful items designed by *Julia West*. Find bed linen lines, trendy aprons, soft home furnishings and accessories like great throws and wonderful pillows such as the often requested Carpe Diem Pillow.

Also find *Julia's* trademark furniture such as the hideaway desk featured here. It's an end-table... then it's a desk. And of course letterboards are available in dozens of designer fabrics, or made to order with your own fabric—they are perfect for keeping you organized.

*Julia West's* custom design service creates projects ranging from custom-made draperies or an armoire designed and made just for you, to whole room and whole home design build projects. Work directly with *Julia West* and the in-house design team for items perfect for you.



Visit, pick up a few new items, a throw or a pillow or two, some accessories, and instantly update your decor for the season. Mention **Just Around the Corner** and they'll pay the tax on your next showroom purchase!



Julia West Home | 140 Kendal Avenue | 416.324.7500 • JuliaWestHome.com

## Make wine now, enjoy delicious cocktails & save money



*The Wine Boutique* has an exciting new product, perfect for the spring and summer seasons!

The Lounge line of products simulates the taste of your favourite summer cocktails—at a fraction of the price and also with a lower alcohol content than the standard blends.

Each selection makes 15 bottles (750 ml) and costs just \$105, including taxes, labels, corks and shrink wraps (add \$10 for bottles). Choose from the following delicious blends: Cosmopolitan gives the taste of the standard cosmo, usually made with vodka, triple sec, cranberry juice and freshly squeezed lime juice; Mojito, a Cuban

classic summer cocktail, this blend simulates the traditional white rum, sugar cane and lime juice recipe, consider muddling with raspberries, mangoes or your favourite fruit; Pina Colada, the queen of tropical drinks, this blend captures the essence of the original rum, coconut and pineapple recipe.

The Lounge products take about four weeks to mature for bottling. They can be consumed immediately, or aged to allow flavours to blend. Make these cocktails now, save money this summer.

The Wine Boutique | 585 Markham St. (in Mirvish Village) | 416.516.9463

## There's something on the menu for everyone at *Insomnia*

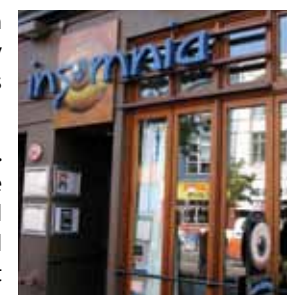
There's lots to love about *Insomnia*. Enjoy Krombacher 25cl pints for \$3 on Tuesday, Martini Madness on Thursday, \$5.50 a martini with a vast array from which to choose, and gourmet pizzas for \$9 and Mill St. Organic pints for \$4 on Sunday.

A great appetizer menu makes *Insomnia* a perfect place for after work. Favourites for sharing include the Mediterranean Platter and Cheese Plate for two. For bigger appetites there are thin crust pizzas, pastas and full entrées. *Insomnia* has weekly menu specials, with an emphasis on local products and seasonal items. Visit their new mobile-friendly website at [www.insomniacafe.com](http://www.insomniacafe.com) for current and feature menus.

Brunch is fabulous. Try the Eggs Manami—a lightly curried rice patty with poached eggs and hollandaise. Craving something sweet—try waffles or pancakes topped with fruits, chocolate and even ice cream.

This spring, bring your copy of *Just Around the Corner* to *Insomnia* and receive a free dinner appetizer (up to \$9 value, one per table) with order of any entrée. Open daily 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. (including kitchen).

Insomnia Cafe | 563 Bloor St. W. | 416.588.3907 • InsomniaCafe.com



## Chia—the super seed that gives an extra healthy bite

The Chia seed, which can help improve heart health and stabilize blood sugar levels, is now available at *COBS Bread* in a range of white, whole wheat and flax breads.

Chia seeds were first used as early as 3,500 BC and were one of the mainstays of the Aztec and the Mayan diets. They were so highly valued for their nutritional and hydrating properties that they were even used as a form of currency.

Chia seeds are the highest combined plant-based source of omega-3 fats, fibre, protein, antioxidants, vitamins and minerals. Just two slices of *COBS CHIA Bread* provide 100% of the daily intake of omega-3 fats for children and women and 90% for men. They also provide up to 30% of the daily recommended intake of dietary fibre. "Bread is a staple in so many of our diets and *COBS's* new

CHIA Breads make it easy to meet our daily needs for these nutrients" says Ramona Josephson RDN, the best-selling author of *Heart Smart Nutrition*.



"We pride ourselves on delivering healthy products to our customers. Our partnership with The Chia Company will enable us to pass on the health benefits of Chia through our freshly baked bread" said Elise Gillespie, Vice President of *COBS Bread*.

Customers can try CHIA Bread at their local *COBS* bakery. For more information about *COBS* as well as a list of bakery locations, visit [www.cobsbread.com](http://www.cobsbread.com).

COBS Bread • cobsbread.com  
172 Baldwin St. | 416.977.5700  
370 Bloor St. West | 416.924.9555



## Learn about your local shops

With six editions, distributed to 90,000 households, *Just Around the Corner* reminds you about your local shops and businesses every season. Sign up for our free e-newsletter for your chance to win great prizes from some of our participating businesses.

Visit our website to learn about shops in your favourite neighbourhoods, including Forest Hill, Rosedale, Yorkville, Bloor West Village, The Kingsway, Leaside, Davisville Village, Lawrence Park, The Annex, and Little Italy.

JustAroundtheCorner.ca

## Summerhill Nursery & Floral—Canada's Premier Garden Centre



*Summerhill Nursery and Floral* is a destination garden centre. Located south east of Casa Loma, there's simply nothing else like it in the GTA. Most city garden centres consist of a small store front and a few flowers stuffed onto racks. At two and a half acres, this place is huge by comparison. *Summerhill* has a full selection of annuals, perennials, exotic tropicals and woody plants. There is an endless selection of accessories for the garden, too. From patio furniture, planters, fountains, and statues—this place has it all. You can spend hours browsing the enormous indoor showroom and outdoor yard.

While the selection at *Summerhill* is impressive, it is the experience of shopping there that is most memorable. Whether you are a die-hard gardener or a casual enthusiast, *Summerhill* is an enjoyable adventure. Colour and fragrance blend with arresting and inspirational displays. The staff are supremely knowledgeable and will take the time to answer questions, give advice or enthusiastically talk about their favorite plants. It's fun to talk to other gardeners shopping at *Summerhill* for ideas and camaraderie.

*Summerhill Nursery and Floral* has lots of complimentary parking on the east side of the store. There is carry-out help and delivery service available, if needed.

Summerhill Nursery & Floral | 301 MacPherson Avenue | 416.922.6902 • SummerhillNursery.ca

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### Panacea—an eco & vegan shopping oasis



The Annex is now home to Toronto's first and only vegan health food and eco-goods store. Located on Bloor Street, west of Markham Street, Panacea is an oasis for healthy and ethical shopping choices without the usual greenwashing.

Panacea is a one-stop-shop for animal-friendly, earth-friendly, and people-friendly essential consumer goods—all at fair and competitive prices.

The store features full dry, refrigerated and frozen grocery departments, all free of animal products and GMO ingredients. Most items are certified organic and kosher, and there is a good selection of gluten-free foods, too.

They also carry an extensive line of natural and organic cleaning, and health and beauty products—including the best items for new moms and babies. Ethically-produced gifts, clothing and accessories in organic cotton, hemp, bamboo and recycled fabrics and a book section round out the store's offerings.

Panacea is a great place to find an eco-friendly gift and fulfill your healthy grocery needs.

Panacea | 647.350.3269  
588 Bloor St. W. • PanaceaEcoShop.com

### In House Home Improvement—a home renovator you can trust

Investing in a home renovation, no matter the size, is an important decision that will affect the value of your home as well as the quality of your life. In *House Home Improvement* does not take that decision lightly.

It has been a life long dream of Shaun Salikin to own his own business, and *IHHI* has been in operation since 2008. Shaun has been in the construction business since 2001, beginning as a tradesman for *Cityscape Developments* in the historic Distillery District. In 2003 he was hired by *Urban Innovations Custom Homes* where he was soon promoted to site supervisor, and then to project manager, where he oversaw new home construction, and existing home remodels and renovations.



The skills and experience Shaun gained led him to open his own renovation and home improvement business. Courtesy and craftsmanship are the foundation of *In House Home Improvement*. With the introduction of their **Green Seal Renovation Program**, there is great excitement for the future of the company.

Shaun works throughout the G.T.A., but he has a strong connection to The Annex, having lived in the area for many years. *IHHI's* services include painting and staining (interior/exterior), drywall and insulation, fine trim carpentry, basement waterproofing, masonry, window & door installation and roofing, to name just a few. *IHHI* is licensed and certified in plumbing, electrical and HVAC. *IHHI* is fully insured. A full list of services is available on the website at [www.ihhi.ca](http://www.ihhi.ca).

**Testimonial:** We are happy to provide references to Shaun's skill, craftsmanship, project management and courteous service. Shaun worked on a condo we bought in June 2010. He worked in extremely tight time constraints, and handled unexpected additional work added to the job. Shaun and his team were excellent. Everything was done as promised, they arrived promptly in the morning and seldom even stopped for lunch. In addition, they cleaned up the job at the end of every day—a really nice touch. Shaun even picked out the subway tile for our kitchen backsplash (and did a great job), after we made a last minute change in plans. We are happy to provide a more detailed testimonial on request. Email us at [info@justaroundthecorner.ca](mailto:info@justaroundthecorner.ca).

Publisher, *Just Around the Corner*

In House Home Improvement | 416.545.9479 • ihhi.ca

### Speaking of Dogs—rescuing all breeds of dogs since 2001

Considering adopting a rescue dog? Perhaps you can't make the commitment but would like to help by caring for a dog short-term, in which case you might want to think about becoming a foster parent.

*Speaking of Dogs Rescue*, an all-breed rescue launched in 2001, is Toronto-based and always in recruit mode for responsible, caring people to become part of its foster parent team.

Dogs taken into the rescue come in all shapes, sizes and breed mixes, with the majority originating from shelters or puppy mills. More importantly, older dogs are welcomed at *Speaking of Dogs Rescue*; the senior citizens who have been abandoned through no fault of their own (often due to an owner passing) are often in need of a second leash on life.

*Speaking of Dogs Rescue* covers veterinary and medical attention, food and all the supplies needed for the dogs in foster care. Foster parents need to offer a safe environment along with heaping helpings of TLC; patience and understanding are also requirements. Fostering is a serious responsibility with unmatched rewards. It is a great option for people who travel south for the winter, have seasonal careers or even people who are considering adopting but would like to 'wade in' before making the plunge.

If you are interested, contact [www.speakingofdogs.com](http://www.speakingofdogs.com) for a foster package that is chock full of everything you need to know to get started!

An application can be sent to you by emailing [lorraine@speakingofdogs.com](mailto:lorraine@speakingofdogs.com).



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\*Just Around the Corner special rates subject to availability

### Visit the new STUDIO VOGUE GALLERY

From April 6 to 27, STUDIO VOGUE GALLERY hosts Sheree Rasmussen in her solo exhibition 'Fabrications'. Rasmussen uses textiles as a medium of expression which goes far beyond the boundaries of traditional textile art. Using fabric like a painter's brush, her wildly expressive and powerful abstract collages are developed out of the complex play of colour and movement. Through an improvisational process, she brings an initial chaos of colours and shapes and tames them into a harmonious relationship.



Sheree Rasmussen, *Leaving the Temple*

Hosting a different exhibition every month STUDIO VOGUE GALLERY is one of Toronto's most eclectic galleries. Their program of exhibitions, group as well as solo, offer visitors an opportunity to enjoy many styles of art in a warm and relaxed environment.

Join them in celebrating the opening of their new gallery space. Mention *Just Around the Corner* and they will pay the HST on your next purchase or custom art commission.

Open Wed to Sat 11 – 6; Tues by appointment or chance. Visit website to learn more

STUDIO VOGUE GALLERY | 216 Avenue Rd. (just n. of Davenport) | 416.459.9809 • StudioVogueGallery.com

### This spring make Midoco your creative outlet



Colour your world on rainy days with a high-quality umbrella from *Midoco*. Besides the Dahlia (featured), new designs include a chrysanthemum, tulips and, the current favourite, 'raining cats & dogs.' (\$29.99). Playful patterns are also available in a kid's size (\$17.99).

*Midoco* guarantees creative fun—indoors and out—with a variety of puppets, bath toys and remote-controlled Litehawk helicopters. Choose from dozens of new art, craft and science kits: make a garden stepping stone, cute headbands, or a solar-powered robot. Also available are Easter projects for egg-dyeing or for moulding and painting springtime fridge magnets. (All kits \$3.99-\$99.99)

To suit any age and taste, there's a great selection of bags, lunch totes and laptop sleeves. New 18-month diaries have arrived from Moleskine and Paperblanks, as have stationery, journals and mugs in exciting new spring colours and patterns. Buckyballs, "the amazing magnetic desktoy you can't put down," will make an ideal Mother's or Father's Day gift.

Come on in and make *Midoco* your creative outlet.

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### After Akhmatova premieres in Tarragon's extra space

It is 1968. Young academic Alan (**Paul Dunn**) travels to Leningrad to interview an almost unknown Soviet historian, Lev Gumilyov (**Eric Goulem**). Lev's late mother was no ordinary woman: she was Anna Akhmatova (**Sarah Orenstein**), a poet who composed one of her greatest poems, "Requiem", at the height of Stalin's terror. Alan believes writing "Requiem" was the ultimate act of defiance, but Lev's long stint in the gulag has taught him otherwise. Can art stand against ruthless tyranny? Alan sets out to prove that it can in this testament to love, legacy and resistance.

**Kate Cayley** is a writer based in Toronto. She is the artistic director of *Stranger Theatre*, and has co-created, written and directed eight plays with the company, most recently *The Hanging of Francoise Laurent* (*SummerWorks 2010*). Her work with *Stranger Theatre* has been performed in Toronto, Halifax, Montreal, Chicago, New York City and Istanbul, Turkey. She is also the co-artistic director of *The Cooking Fire Theatre Festival*. She has been shortlisted for the CBC Literary Award for Poetry, and was a finalist for the Toronto Arts Foundation Emerging Artist Award. Her first book, a novel for young adults called *The Hangman in the Mirror*, will be published in September by Annick Press. She is currently a playwright-in-residence at *Tarragon Theatre*.



**Alan Dilworth** (*If We Were Birds*) directs a terrific cast with **Claire Calnan** (*The Clockmaker*), **Paul Dunn** (*East of Berlin*), **Caroline Gillis** (*Communion*), **Eric Goulem** (*Democracy*), **Richard McMillan** (*Molière*) and **Sarah Orenstein** (*Wild Mouth*). The creative team for *After Akhmatova* includes set and costume designer Jung-Hye Kim, lighting designer Kimberly Purtell, sound design by Thomas Ryder Payne, and stage manager Kristen Kitcher.

*After Akhmatova* opens Wednesday, March 30 and runs until Sunday, May 1, 2011.

Prices start at \$23; seniors' and students' prices are available. Friday night and Sunday matinee rush are \$10. Tickets are available online at [www.tickets.tarragontheatre.com](http://www.tickets.tarragontheatre.com).

Tarragon Theatre | Box Office: 416.531.1827 | 30 Bridgman Avenue • TarragonTheatre.com



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