



PHOTOS: GREG SOUTHAM/EDMONTON JOURNAL

A favourite spot for an afternoon with a good book, or just for daydreaming, this cosy window seat covered in cushions sits just off the landing at the top of the stairs in the two-storey home.

# Window seat a spot for reading, dreaming

*RETIREMENT*  
*Continued from page 11*

He demonstrates how the double-hung windows in the porch adjust to open either up or down, or pull out entirely to evoke an open, Cape Cod mood. The rustic-feel flooring is ceramic tile that resembles brick.

Since the couple had to sacrifice yard space for a detached garage, they agreed to making that garage as pretty as possible. Clad in cedar shingles and fibre cement siding by James Hardie that looks like wood, the gabled creation matches the house.

Numerous wooden french doors combined with large windows — including a set that open to both ventilate and extend the sun porch into the dining area — create a sense of airiness throughout the home. Built-in shelving at one end of the dark oak kitchen island provides a display space for the couple's collection of pottery by Ardrossan's Sam Uhlrich.

Just off the kitchen, a large mud room, equipped with a sink for washing off dirty paws and footwear, is also plumbed to facilitate a main floor laundry one day.

The couple enlisted Effect Home Builders to install geothermal heating and the company's signature, thickly insulated walls, with the dual benefits of energy efficiency and noise dampening.

A simple oak-and-white spindle staircase leads upstairs to a favourite spot for escaping, reading and dreaming. The large window seat just off the landing makes Janet think of the kinds of secret

hiding places in her favourite reads, including *Anne of Green Gables* and *Jane Eyre*. She admits their dogs also enjoy the 180-degree view and the explosion of blossoms on the neighbour's apple tree each spring.

The large master bedroom faces east and opens to a third deck for enjoying morning light.

The house is wired for sound throughout. With the flick of a switch, classical music floods the ensuite bathroom, where a large soaker-style tub, low pine bench, and glassed-in shower evoke the feel of a Scandinavian spa.

The second west-facing bedroom currently acts as the couple's shared study and leads to another deck for enjoying sunsets.

Door handles throughout the home are all levered for easy opening, and the spacious main-floor guest room, which also acts as a den and guitar room, was created with aging-in-place in mind. Its ensuite bathroom features a walk-in glass shower.

At the room's entrance, a large pine rocking cradle, which Ted built for their first-born, stands like another perfect nest, just waiting to be filled.

*Nancy can be reached at  
rempeln@gmail.com for  
comments or suggestions  
for future features on  
unique or beautiful homes  
in the Edmonton region.*

*edmontonjournal.*  
*com*

*For a gallery of photos of Janet and Ted's home, and for more in the My House Beautiful series, go to [edmontonjournal.com/house](http://edmontonjournal.com/house)*

A photograph of a wooden front door with a transom window and side panels, set in a wooden frame. The floor is covered with large, irregular stone tiles, and a red patterned rug is placed in front of the door.

The walls in the home's entrance are painted a rich russet-rose that complements a Shaker-style front door.

**NEW  
SHOWHOMES  
NOW OPEN!**

**Drop by the Estate Showhomes to learn about the Premiere Lots**

Trumpeter  
BY BIG LAKE

SURROUNDED BY NATURE

*Trumpeter is a unique community in the Edmonton area with over 80 acres of woody ravines, parks, ponds, a natural lake and walkways that connect you to nature.*

## Estate Builders starting from the \$600s

Create your own dream home  
with our custom builders

Fekete Homes  
(780) 430.8440  
Montorio Homes  
(780) 249.7643

## Classic Builders starting from the \$400s

*A great selection of floorplans  
and styles to suit your family*

Homes by AVI  
(780) 410.1904  
Montorio Homes  
(780) 249.9110  
Sabal Homes  
(780) 756.7794  
Sterling Homes  
(780) 757.1733

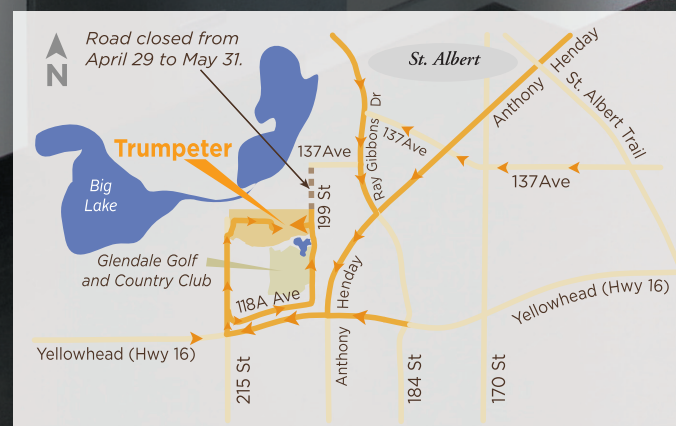
**Duplex Builder**  
starting from the \$320s

*Easy living in a natural community  
surrounded by nature*

Homes by AVI  
(780) 410.1904

**Townhouse Builder**  
*Enjoy green space  
in a natural setting*  
Village at Trumpeter  
by Rohit Communities  
(780) 938.5478

**TRUMPETERBIGLAKE.CA**



UNITED  
COMMUNITIES

780.421.7272  
unitedcommunities.com