

HOMES & CONDOS



Part of the Bouclair Home contemporary Kori collection, the crib bedding will sell for \$89.99.

Bouclair launches baby line

The proverbial stork will be landing on Bouclair Home's doorstep soon with a new baby line that is both modern and affordable.

The collection, scheduled to arrive in stores mid-March, features five separate lines that showcase different colour schemes. Each will include bedding, pillows, throws, lamps and storage options so they can easily be pulled together to create a cohesive look.

The Adelie and Jabiru lines represent traditional soft pinks and blues. But there's also the more contemporary vibrant tangerine Kori collection that would suit both girls and boys.

Sandra Bracken, Bouclair's vice-president of marketing, says it was just a matter of time before the retailer introduced a baby line.

"We were covering off every other room in the house — the only one missing was baby," says Bracken. "Customers do not always want typical looks for their baby — they want something that is contemporary, reflects their style — but you don't have to pay a fortune for it."

Throws start at \$7.99, cushions are \$9.99, and a full bed set will sell for \$89.99.

And the most interesting aspect of this line?

"Truly the co-ordination," says Bracken. "You can get all the pieces you need to pull together a fun, modern baby room, full of colour and cool design."

The complete collection may not be available in all stores, but will be available online at Bouclair.com after the launch.

Paula McCooey

New home sales up in January

The year got off to a positive start in the new home market.

Sales were up more than seven per cent in January compared to January 2013 (265 homes sold versus 246), according to the monthly report from industry analyst PMA Brethour Realty Group. And sales were up a whopping 23.8 per cent over December, which saw 202 homes sold.

Minto and Mattamy led the charge, with each claiming almost 25 per cent of the market, followed by Richcraft and Claridge rounding out the top four.

Freehold townhomes proved to be the most popular, at 40 per cent of the market share, while single-family homes accounted for another 32.5 per cent.

In terms of area, the south and west combined for almost two-thirds of the units sold, much as they did last year, but the central area saw an increase of five percentage points over January of last year.

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HGTV host Sarah Richardson talks design at Elite Draperies

PAULA MCCOOEY

OTTAWA CITIZEN

Canada's celebrity design sweetheart Sarah Richardson will be popping into the capital this spring to talk textiles and the business of design at one of Ottawa's oldest full-service interior decorating businesses.

The exclusive event will be held at Elite Draperies and Home Decorating, which recently teamed up with Richardson to carry her newly launched fabric line by Kravet (sarahrichardsondesign.com).

Richardson, an interior designer and HGTV host, will give a presentation in Elite's new designer showroom to an audience of 100 industry experts and design enthusiasts.

"I will be talking about my signature style, the inspiration behind my work and my new fabric line for Kravet, and sharing ideas, insights and tips about renovating," Richardson says from an undisclosed vacation spot where she is working on a book about design, which is to launch this fall.

With so many stores selling furniture and accessories these days, there is the temptation to take the easy route and buy ready-made items, she says. But customizing pieces as Elite does — even on a small scale — will ensure a unique, personalized finish.



Designer Sarah Richardson's new textile designs for Kravet are available through Elite Draperies and Home Decorating, where she will be appearing in April.

"I suggest finding your own fabric and creating a one-of-a-kind piece. However, if that's not your style, then I suggest buying a simple neutral chair or sofa, and seeking out fabu-

lous fabric for your window coverings and pillows. There are so many ways to get dramatic results that suit your style and allow you to work within your comfort level for design."

Tickets are limited and cost \$100 for the April 9 event, which runs from noon to 3:30 p.m. at 148 Colonnade Rd. For details, call 613-730-9090 or visit elitedraperies.ca.

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