

Everyday Matters

January

Inspiring ideas for day-to-day living

BY DONNA PARIS



5 WAYS TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR

VANCOUVER

Start 2011 with a cruise aboard the luxurious *Pride of Vancouver* – and get a grandstand view of the fireworks display at midnight and the Vancouver skyline in the distance.

BANFF, ALTA.

Head to the heart of Banff National Park and make reservations at The Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel for their gala dinner, cocktails and entertainment.

OTTAWA

Grab a spot in Major's Hill Park in Ottawa to celebrate the tradition of bidding farewell to the old year and welcoming the new one with a spectacular fireworks display.

TORONTO

Thousands flock to Nathan Phillips Square for New Year's Eve celebrations that include celebrities, live entertainment, fireworks and the big draw, the new year's countdown.

MONTREAL

On the best party night of the year, take your pick of restaurants and nightclubs on Crescent Street or head up to Mont Royal for an evening you'll never forget.

Or stay at home and ring in the new year with friends and family. Visit canadianliving.com/january for an elegant New Year's Eve menu for eight.

A Real Tooth Fairy

The World Health Organization estimates that 90 per cent of the cavities of children in developing countries go untreated. So Toothena's vision is simple: to provide every child worldwide with a toothbrush, oral hygiene education and access to dental care.

Toothena (a.k.a. CoraMarie Clark), a real live tooth fairy from Calgary, is a dental hygienist; she founded the Tooth Fairy Children's Foundation to do just that. This past summer, she travelled to Kenya with a volunteer dentist and 3,000 toothbrushes in tow, educating and treating the dental problems of Maasai children north of Nairobi.

These kids rarely get the opportunity to see a dentist. "I couldn't handle the thought of a child lying awake night after night from a toothache," says CoraMarie. "I knew that I just had to do something to make a difference."

The foundation's hope is that oral hygiene education, accompanied with the gift of toothbrushes, will motivate children to brush their teeth so they can keep them for life. For more info, visit toothfairykids.org.

