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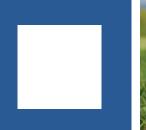




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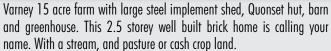
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Laura Lisk*
519.379.2624



Bob Vaillancourt* 647.961.2738 bob.vaillancourt@c21.ca

FEATURED LISTINGS







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Bedrooms: 5 Living Space: 3100 sqft Bathrooms: 3+1 Lot Size: 1.5 Acres

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and ask to speak with the Residential Hospice Clinical Coordinator who can assist and provide guidance

Who can make a referral?

Substitute Decision Maker (SDM)

Physicians

A Care Coordinator

• Any individual 18 years+ for themselves

Who qualifies for hospice?

HOW TO MAKE A REFERRAL?

Physicians may fax their Residential Hospice

application requests to 519.881.1425.

throughout the admission process.

Palliative Care.

Call 519.371.2112 and ask to speak with your Care-

Or call Chapman House directly 519.370.7239 ext.3

Coordinator about Residential Hospice options for

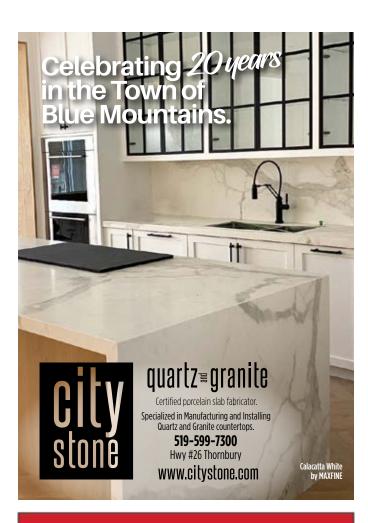
Any individual (18 years +) who has been diagnosed with a life limiting illness or has a life expectancy of less than 3 months from the time of admission.



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OUR HOMES is a registered trademark of OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC. OUR HOMES Grey & Bruce Counties is published four times a year.

OUR HOMES is distributed to residents of Grey & Bruce Counties via direct mail. Copies of OUR HOMES are available for free pick up at high-traffic locations throughout the region. OUR HOMES is sent to select business leaders via direct mail.

> OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. is a proud member of the Owen Sound and District Chamber of Commerce.

Please send all letters and/or feedback to OUR HOMES Magazine, 25 Elgin St., Collingwood, ON Canada L9Y 3L6, Or email us at editor@ourhomes.ca. All letters received are subject to editing for grammar and length.

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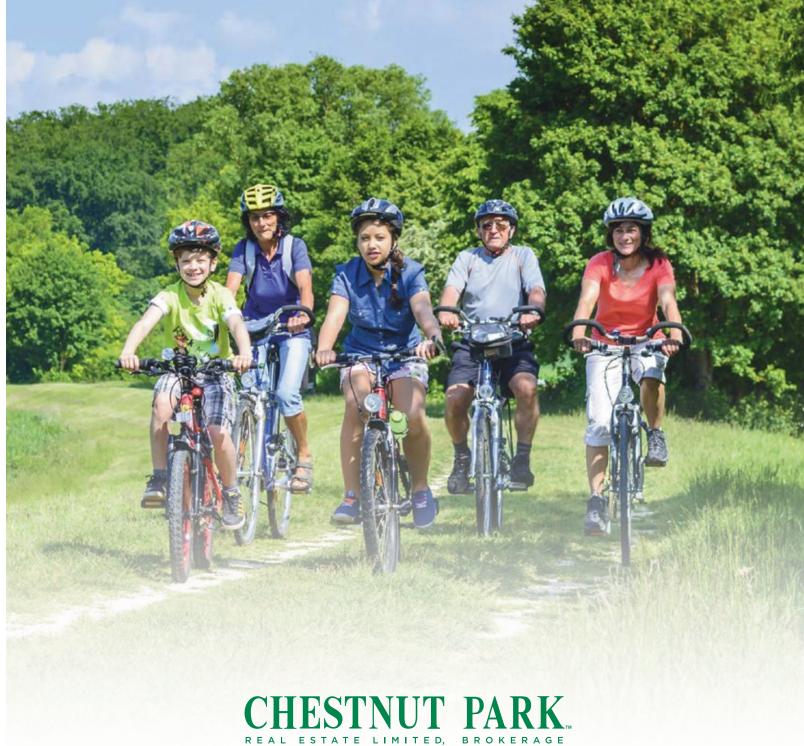
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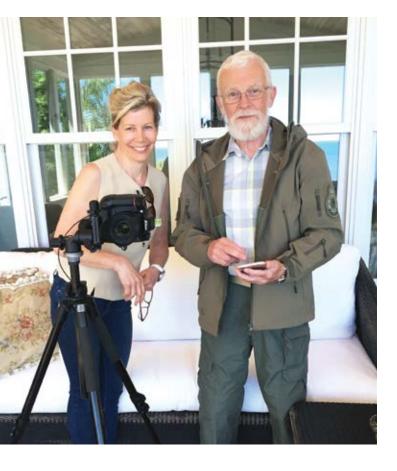
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Back in junior school, playing team sports taught me the life lessons of how to work together, share, communicate and persevere with confidence.

What I learned playing basketball, volleyball and running relay has stayed with me and has helped me through this past year.

Those lessons are also highlighted in this issue. We have three features that show how communication and teamwork produce beautiful results. All three homes are captured perfectly by interior photographer Sandy MacKay, my teammate on photo shoots for the past six years. When we work together, Sandy and I, (along with our writers) bring homes to life for our readers through pictures and words. Sandy and I are pleased when a homeowner tells us how happy they are with the feature – it really means a lot to us.

On a personal note, over the past year I have found my communication skills have made doing nothing seem exciting and interesting to friends and family when they phone. I now have the confidence to know I can get through just about anything. Sharing a tidbit from my dinner with the dogs seems to make them as happy as it makes me. Perseverance has gotten me through the sometimes monotonous days, and although alone, I also feel I was working and supporting everyone else by staying at home – truly a

I wish everyone a long, hot summer filled with, hopefully, some team sports where we can continue to work together.

Smile and be kind!

Sona Montin

Sara Martin, Managing Editor sara.martin@ourhomes.ca

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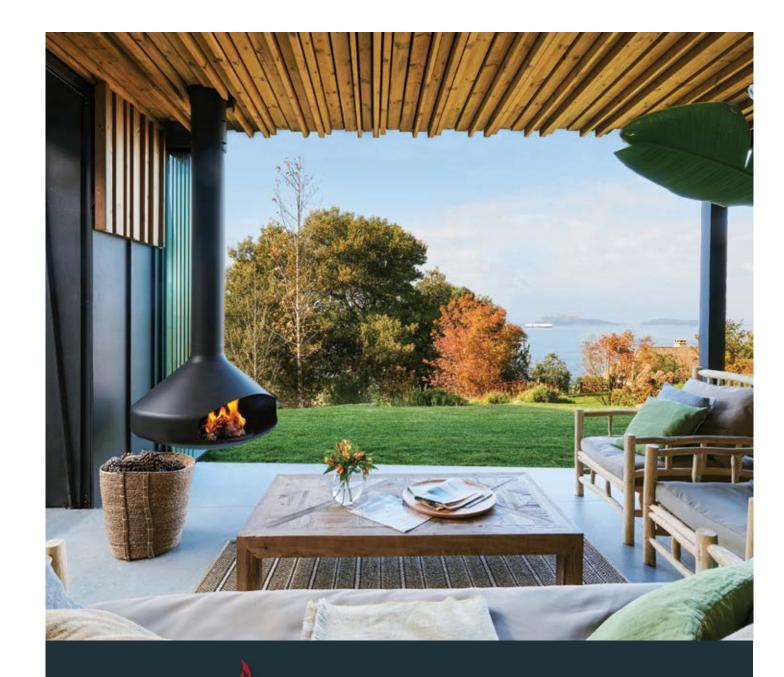
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ON THE COVER

A calming, escapist bath takes relaxing to the next level. Story, page 50. *Photography by Sandy MacKay.*





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advice



IHE ETHICS OF SOURCING

Interior Designer Tamarisk McNalty Stephens shares her ideas

The housing industry contributes significantly to the Canadian economy and plays an important role in our local – and global – communities. However, the procurement of products involved in the construction, design and decoration of our homes can also have a significant impact on the well-being of both people and the planet.



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To meet a growing expectation from consumers, businesses are adopting an ethical sourcing approach to ensure products are obtained responsibly and sustainably. To be effective, it depends upon the integrity of the entire supply chain to include environmental standards as well as a commitment to safe working conditions, fair labour practices and living wages for the workers producing the goods.

In a global economy, with different environmental and social standards across countries, this can be a complex, layered issue – so how do we know where to begin?

Here are some simple ways we can all source more ethically:

Choose less. The most sustainable product is the one that is not produced.

Choose local. A local supply chain reduces shipping, emissions and energy usage.

Choose vintage, reclaimed, recycled or upcycled. Reuse or repurpose a material or product that is already in circulation.

When sourcing, do your own research and don't be afraid to ask the supplier questions on the procurement of goods. Businesses must take responsibility for the goods they provide. A transparent process builds trust with customers.

- Where was this product manufactured?
- Mow was this product manufactured? What resources and energy were required?
- What raw materials were used in the production? How sustainable are they?
- Does the production of this material cause environmental degradation to the local ecosystem?
- what is the company's policy surrounding ethical sourcing?
- are the working conditions safe for those who produced the product? Are living wages and fair labour practices ensured?
- What will happen to this product at the end of its useful life?

 Does the company offer a recycling program? Will it eventually biodegrade? Or will it end up in a landfill?

Several certifications have been developed to help consumers identify responsibly sourced products. Although these certifications provide a good starting point, it's important for buyers to continue asking questions and performing independent research to understand the certification requirements. Consumers can also identify products that may not carry certification, but the producer/ supplier/business may still have high independent standards for their procurement of goods. Examples of certifications to look out for:

- Fairtrade sets standards for sustainable production and livelihoods for factory workers and farmers.
- FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) responsible forestmanagement standards.
- GoodWeave certifies child-labour-free rugs.
- GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard) products meet strict organic criteria.
- Nest Ethical Handcraft Program monitors artisan supply chains for ethics and sustainability.
- © OEKO-TEX textile certifications concerning health, environment and fair manufacturing.
- RWS (Responsible Wool Standard) supports the well-being of sheep and the land they graze on.

A criticism of ethical sourcing is that it does not address the core issue of consumerism. If sustainability is a basic tenet of ethical sourcing, as privileged as we are in the Western world, we must acknowledge that our current rate of consumption is simply not sustainable. We can begin to evaluate basic needs, research the environmental impact of purchases (big and small), prioritize the well-being of people and the planet, support local supply chains and become more intentional and mindful consumers. Aligning our habits of consumption with our values will help contribute to the world we wish to see today – and for future generations.





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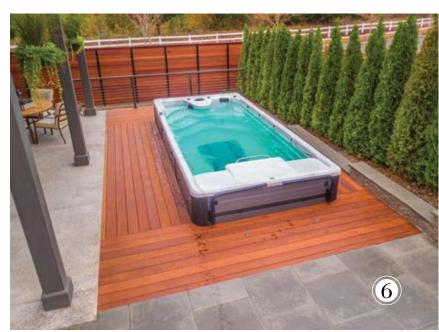
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Continued on page 32

ourhomes SUMMER 2021 | 31

style picks





Outdoor Fireplace

The Napoleon Galaxy outdoor gas fireplace has weather-resistant brushed stainless steel, offering durability and style. Even on a windy night, the flame will burn brightly as you enjoy the great outdoors.

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CHARCUTERIE PICNIC BOX

There's nothing better than charcuterie for a picnic. Whip up a quick charcuterie box and head to the beach to enjoy the sunset!

A How-To Guide to Charcuterie:









WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Meats and cheeses choose 2-3 of your favourites

Fruits - grapes, berries and kiwi

Dried fruits – apricots, figs or dates

Condiments – olives, jams, grainy mustard and nuts

Crackers and bread

A portable to-go box - you can use a baking dish as well

TIPS AND TRICKS

Try layering a variety of textures and colours. You don't want similar items next to each other.

Start with the bowls you will use. These will act as a placeholder for the rest.

Next, layer in your larger items (the cheeses and then the larger fruits).

Crackers come next, then fill in the spaces with things like dried fruits and nuts.

Rule of thumb: Start with the larger items and work your way into filling the gaps. Finish by filling your condiment bowls.



TO-GO APEROL SPRITZ

This classic summer cocktail is perfect to enjoy outdoors. It's easy to make ahead and ideal for sharing.





INGREDIENTS

Aperol

Dry sparkling wine Soda

Oranges, to garnish 1L sealable container

DIRECTIONS

The recipe for this cocktail is very simple – just follow this ratio: 1 part Aperol and 1 part soda to 2 parts sparkling wine.

Simply mix together all ingredients in a

resealable container. Serve over ice with a slice of orange.



MASON JAR TIRAMISU

This recipe is the perfect to-go dessert this summer – easy to transport and eat outdoors. It also stays true to the original by utilizing egg yolk to give it a custard-like feel.



INGREDIENTS (Serves 6)

4 egg yolks

½ cup granulated sugar, separated

34 cup heavy cream

1 cup mascarpone cheese

1 cup espresso, cold

1/4 cup liquor of choice*

12-18 lady fingers**

Cocoa powder, for dusting

6 500 ml mason jars

DIRECTIONS

Over a double boiler, whisk together egg yolks and 1/4 cup of sugar. Continually whisk for about 10 minutes until the sugar is dissolved and volks double in size and turn pale yellow. Set aside to cool.

In a separate bowl, whip cream and the remaining sugar until stiff peaks form.

Once cooled, fold the mascarpone cheese into the egg yolk mixture until combined.

Next, gently fold yolk mixture in the whipping cream until combined.

In a shallow bowl, combine espresso and liquor.

TO ASSEMBLE

Break lady fingers into pieces to fit the circumference of the mason jars. This will be a bit messy and won't be perfect. Quickly dip the lady finger pieces into the espresso and place into the mason jar in an even layer.

Top with about two tablespoons of the cream mixture and repeat the layers.

Sprinkle cocoa powder on top to finish.

Place the lid on each jar and store in the fridge for up to one week. They taste better after a few days!

RECIPE NOTES

*Traditionally, tiramisu is made with Marsala wine but you can also use rum, brandy or coffee-flavored liquor.

**Depends on the size of your mason jars.

Traditionally, tiramisu is made with raw egg yolk but this recipe tempers the yolks to ensure safe consumption and shelf life. OH











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WITH THE ONSET OF LENGTHENING DAYS AND WARMER

TEMPERATURES, many OUR HOMES readers will be familiar with the urge to change up winter clothes and comforters and feather their nest with fresh décor for the fine weather ahead. It's something we have in common with the avian migrants that have just returned to our backyards, fields, forests and lakes - the birds have transformed their drab winter wear into fresh and colourful spring wardrobes. Once winter settles into spring, thoughts turn to summer construction season. for humans and birds alike.

MASTER BUILDERS

From hummingbirds, the original "tiny house" builders, to osprey and eagles with their palatial lakeside and rural homes, birds are master architects and master builders. Much of this construction gets underway right in your own backyard. If you want to expand your knowledge of bird biology you can be the local bird building inspector! A typical property with established trees, shrubs and gardens could easily be home to up to 10 different species of birds, all working on their nest projects. It can be a fascinating deck-chair study to see just how many species are exercising squatter's rights on your property for the season. Continued on page 40





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birding

MASTER ARCHITECTS

Each bird builds its nest with an architectural style unique to their particular species. Each style perfectly suits the species' needs. Exuberant house wrens are easily attracted to bird boxes and will stuff it high with fine twigs. Occasionally a sweet little chickadee will use the birdhouse and fill it with only the softest quality materials. In more rural settings the bluebird of happiness will gladly occupy a bird box, as will the tree swallow, which will swoop by with incomparable grace. Chirping sparrows, with their jaunty red caps and sporty white eyeliner, and serenading song sparrows will seek shelter in lower, thicker shrubberies, lining their tightly spun fine grass cups with cosy hair or fur linings. Mourning doves are not famous for their nest-building abilities – a few twigs laid on a supporting spruce branch will do. The ubiquitous robin will build its sturdy, mud-lined grass nest on almost any tree branch or ledge. Eastern phoebes will construct their lovely, mosscovered nests under an eave, often on a light fixture – if a robin doesn't get there first. Cardinals and blue jays will hide their rather large but loose twig nests deep in your cedar hedge. Brilliant Baltimore orioles, master architects, will hang their intricately woven deep pouch nests from the outer branches of tall backyard trees. Meanwhile, goldfinches will wait until later in the summer when thistledown is available to line their lovely nest beds. Depending on your location, numerous other species may be busy at work in quiet corners of your yard as well.







AN ABUNDANCE OF BIRDS

Discovering this hidden activity can open your eyes to the secret life of birds. Birds are the most apparent form of wildlife you will encounter. Just think, you might see a few mammals in your yard once in a while, but it's possible to see dozens upon dozens of different bird species migrating through or stopping to nest from time to time. To give you an idea of the possibilities: I've documented 292 different species in, flying over, or seen from my yard alone! Obviously, there's a lot of time involved staring out the windows, but it's time well spent, considering the interest and entertainment songbirds bring.

DO NOT DISTURB

While observing nests and watching hatchlings grow on their bellies full of bugs (gleaned from your yard as a free pesticide service) can be exciting, always be mindful of the Code of Birding Ethics – the welfare of the birds and their habitats come first! Do Not Disturb! Resist the urge to get up close and personal. If adult birds become agitated. back off. Some birds such as red-winged blackbirds and the elegant barn swallow are not afraid to take you on with all of their 50 grams of heft behind them.

Finally, while you're enjoying your new-found feathered friends, perhaps think a bit about how you can give back to them. Incorporate native trees, shrubs and flowers in your landscaping plans. Native species provide a much greater abundance of higherquality natural food sources birds require. Hang a hummingbird feeder, put out oranges for orioles, nuts for the nuthatches and sunflower seeds for almost all others. And sit back and enjoy! on



Lynne Richardson is a retired environmental planner, now active in natural heritage conservation and citizen science projects, with a focus on birds.

Let me get you some Grey Bruce memories of your own.





If I had any advice for six-year-old me, (aside from, 'lose the Speedo') it would be to keep cherishing your roots, and buy lots of waterfront. My summers were carefree and simple - just me and my little brother, the Bay, and my parents waving at us from time to time. It was amazing, and why I have chosen to raise my kids in Grey Bruce. Let me find you a slice of paradise, or if you're ready for another family to enjoy your property, please get in touch. 226.974.2144

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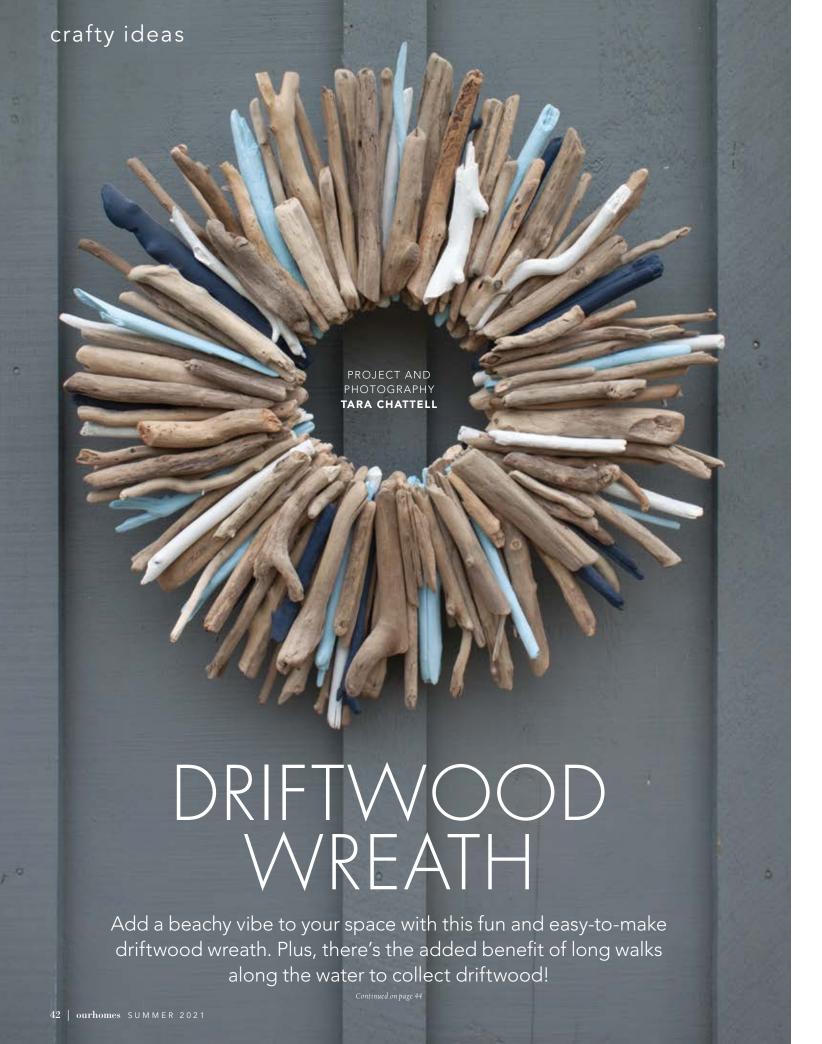
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TOOKS

Pencil

Jigsaw or scroll saw

7-inch diameter bowl

Paintbrush

Glue gun

Screwdriver

Wire cutters

MATERIALS

1/4 to 5/8 inch-thick plywood (large enough to cut a circle 14 inches in diameter)

Roll of kraft paper

Lots of driftwood pieces, 9 inches in length or a little shorter

Sandpaper

Hot alue sticks

Acrylic paint in three colours (we've used navy, light blue and white)

Picture-hanging hardware (screws, D-ring hangers and wire)



HOW-TO

To create the plywood backing for your wreath, draw a 14 inch-diameter circle with a 10 inch-diameter circle inside. Don't worry if it's not perfect; it will be hidden behind the driftwood. Cut your circles with either a jigsaw or scroll saw to create a wooden ring.

Place your ring on a large piece of kraft paper. Using something round, with a diameter of about 7 inches, trace a circle with a pencil inside your wood ring. This will be your quide as you begin gluing the driftwood pieces onto the ring. You can temporarily glue your backing to the paper to prevent sliding. Peel paper from wood when complete.



Paint approximately 10-12 pieces of driftwood in each of the three colours you've chosen and leave the rest of the pieces natural. Let dry before gluing onto backing.



Begin gluing the driftwood pieces onto the wood ring, using the longest pieces first. Do not go too far past your pencil guideline on the inside of the ring. Leave some space between each piece to get a nice starburst shape.





Once you have the first layer glued around the entire ring, begin filling the spaces with slightly shorter pieces. Continue layering driftwood pieces until the backing is completely hidden.



Use shorter pieces and layer with the smallest pieces on the top layer.



Decide which way to hang the wreath and attach hardware and wire to the backing.



Now you're ready to hang and enjoy your work of art! OH

Looking to buy or sell?







STORY MELANIE REKOLA

Composting is perhaps not the most elegant of subject matters. The word may conjure a messy, stinky, high-maintenance process, but it doesn't have to be so. Composting can be very gratifying and it certainly has a role to play in supporting a beautiful garden, a strong body and a healthy planet, too. Compost is your veggie and flower gardens' best friend. Imagine the magic of creating the best, healthy soil conditioner through a natural and free process designed by Mother Nature herself! The key is to support the many responsible microbes. Much like our own microbiome, a host of tiny life forms allow plant life to absorb an optimum amount of soil nutrients.

Composting has an enormous impact on your carbon footprint. The average reduction is 663 pounds of carbon per person, per year, which is more than two average sized backyards full of trees. It also cuts your garbage by almost half.

It doesn't have to be complicated. Anyone can compost, regardless of living situation – even condo and apartment dwellers. The fundamental start to any composting is combining carbon-rich materials called browns with high-nitrogen greens. Browns rot more slowly and are usually woody or fibrous, such as paper, nut shells, dry leaves and twigs. Greens rot fairly fast and are typically moist, such as fruit and veggie scraps, coffee grounds and any fresh, green leaves. Green and browns should be layered equally to create an optimum composting environment. But even if your quantities aren't perfect, the material will compost eventually. By adding your brown layer last you'll help cut down on odours and flies.

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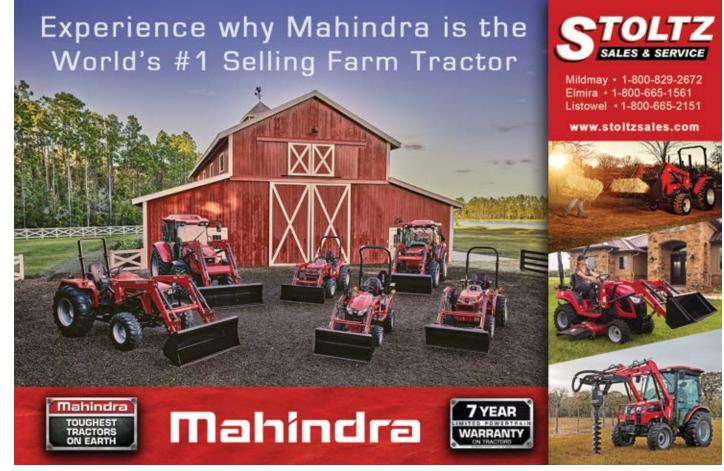
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gardening

There are quite a few ways to compost, with varying degrees of complexity, but the basic methods are:









Use a typical outdoor compost tumbler or pile method (if you have the room)

Yes, they are not attractive but they do the job. Alternate green and brown layers and tumble or forkturn occasionally.

Keyhole composting

Make a tube of chicken wire and partially bury it in the middle of your veggie garden bed. That's right, you can compost within your growing garden! The same layering techniques apply., except you don't turn or mix it. By watering your veggie garden through the compost cage, the nutrients spread throughout your garden bed. I've been using this technique for several years and cannot believe the increase in production and great taste of my garden yield.

Electric composting

I've been using the Vitamix FoodCycler FC-50 as a trial and I'm amazed how easy it is to use - and with no odour! I actually like the smell of the resulting compost. It doesn't hold a large volume, so you have to use it often and there is the added expense of the electricity to run it, but it's really perfect for anyone who finds composting icky.

PRO TIPS: Don't add meat, bones, dairy or fats to your compost – it will attract unwanted critters. Any large fruit or veggie pieces should be cut so they break down faster. And citrus peelings should be avoided as they kill microbes.



I can't speak about composting without also touching on cooking and food usage. Many food scraps can be saved and reused to make a nourishing and wholesome broth, such as animal bones and veggie peelings/ends. Making broth is easy, stretches your grocery dollars and further lowers your environmental impact. At my home I save my favourite savoury veggie ends and peelings from a weeks' worth of cooking - such as carrots, onions, garlic, beets and artichokes - in a bag in the fridge. They can also be frozen until ready for use. Simple broth recipes are available online and as many great chefs know, broth is easy to use and a wonderful starter for many mouth-watering recipes.

Happy brothing, happy composting and happy gardening dear readers summer is upon us! on

Melanie is a certified horticulturalist and landscape designer











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RIGHT: The exterior is painted Benjamin Moore's Simply White. Steps to the right of the house lead to the parking area and an entry to the home's lower level. BELOW: Many evenings are spent by the firepit watching the sunset and listening to the water, which is a stone's throw away.



hen Connor and Allison
O'Neill are asked to
describe their Port Elgin
home in three words, they
hesitate for only a moment
before readily agreeing: Cohesive. Calming.
Inviting. After a few years of neon Toronto life,
the couple returned to their hometown to be
closer to both sets of parents. "It's comforting
to have their support as we have two young
girls," Allison says. Finley, age seven, and
two-year-old Bridget have quietly shaped the
couple's perception of home and community.

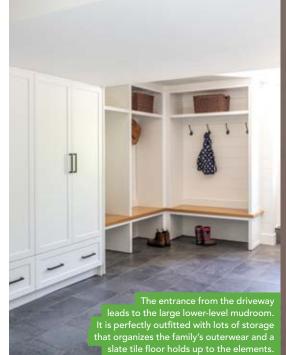
A typical Sunday in the summer involves zero planning because the itinerary is assumed and unspoken. "We pick up honey croissants from Offshore Bakery and drink Dizzy Bird coffee on the deck until it's time to go the beach. The neighbourhood kids all get together to swim and we order in pizza."

In 2018, the affable couple were a week away from beginning construction on a new house with **Steve Dennison** of **Dennison Homes**. Serendipitously, a 2,200 sq. ft. waterfront house on Miramichi Bay was listed on the market and they switched from building to buying and renovating.

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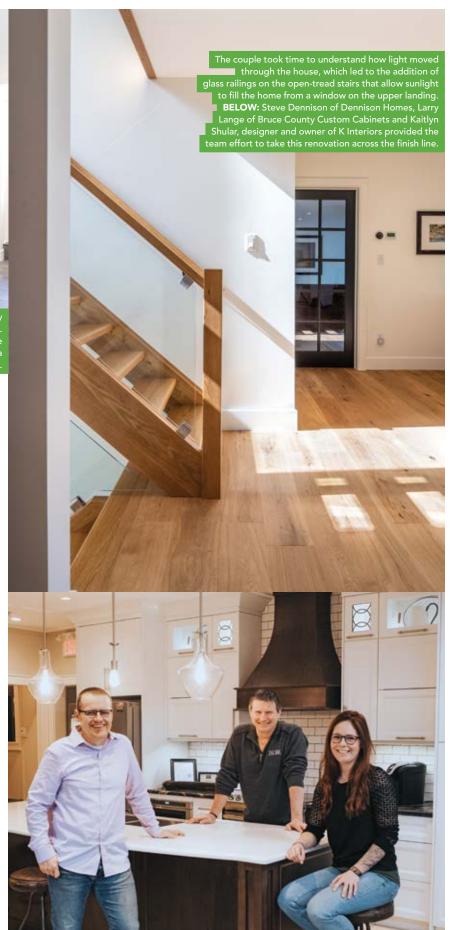
"This house was built in 1980 and it had been untouched since, except for a few coats of paint," Connor explained. Allison agreed, "It aligned with our vision of what we wanted for our home and family life. Connor totally executed it, fine-tuning the floor plan on grid paper. The only thing that remains from the original house is the foundation and framing."

The couple were confident in Steve's ability to balance quality and cost and his sustainable practices. "He's a custom builder who caters to clients instead of imposing his own ideas of a 'Dennison-style' home," Connor says. "And Steve's house designer and owner of **K Interiors**, **Kaitlyn Shular**, fully understood our direction. We had done our own extensive leg work and presented her with a refined concept. We wanted bright, useable space and purposeful rooms and Kaitlyn's selections reflected those desires."

Connor and Allison's real estate resume began when they built their first home a decade ago. Then came the six-bed, five-bath Port Elgin behemoth that was oversized for their needs. Both experiences, coupled with renting stints, helped exact their current design. Juggling a newborn and the hiccups of the pandemic, they opted to move into a rental for nine months.

Like Goldilocks, they shifted from a house that was too big to one that felt just right.

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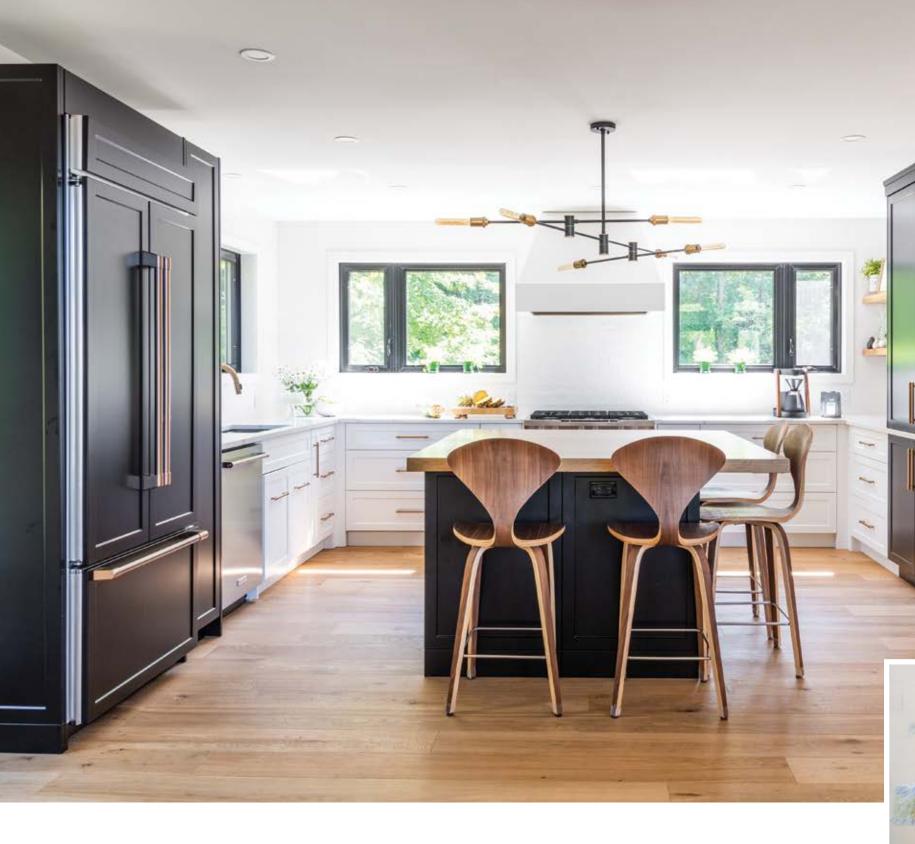


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home & builder

BELOW: The girls have their own room for toys, art supplies and a quiet spot to watch television. A vintage map over the sofa inspires a love of travel for Connor, Allison and their daughters. **RIGHT:** In the kitchen, the panel-ready refrigerator from Square Deal Neil's is balanced on the opposite side of the space by a similar bank of cabinets in Benjamin Moore Black, made by Bruce County Custom Cabinets. The island is the gathering spot for Negroni nights with friends. **INSET:** A simple bouquet of daisies sits next to a lemon layer cake on the kitchen's quartz countertop sourced from The Old Barn.





"Connor is more of a modern minimalist so we both had to bend a little, but we landed happily in the middle," says Allison. Allison wanted to carry favourite elements from their previous home into their renovation – like the escapist bath. The kitchen had to accommodate Negroni nights, with enough space for friends and family. Sleek stainless steel

KitchenAid appliances from **Square Deal Neil's** and grey-veined Cambria quartz countertops from **The Old Barn** achieved the streamlined look and entertainment-ready vibe they desired.

Connor's non-negotiables were easily established: "I wanted a wood stove and an open-concept living room without a TV. The space

had to revolve around books, music and conversation." The Blaze King Chinook stove they selected from **Heritage Fire Company** has helped take the edge off the deep winter nights. Allison says, "And we have music on all the time. It suits the house. Both are so good for the soul." *Continued on page 58*

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LEFT: A high window in the family bathroom fills the large subway-lined shower with light. Natural-oiled white oak on the ceiling adds warmth, colour and depth. **ABOVE:** In the primary bedroom, the door has been mounted on barn door hardware and is painted Black by Benjamin Moore. Custom cabinets organize clothes and are the same design as the kitchen cabinetry, creating continuity throughout the home. **BELOW:** A large fan and shiplap add a beach vibe to the primary bedroom. Maximizing the size of the windows lets the view of Lake Huron be part of every morning and evening in this relaxing room.

Just like their interior and exterior **Benjamin Moore** Simply White palette, timelessness was requisite. Inspired by Studio McGee's Modern Mountain Home in Park City, Utah, contrast and cohesiveness became paramount. When asked about their best decisions, Connor is most impressed by the open-concept living, kitchen and dining room space. "We observed how light moved through the house during the day and purposely opened up the stairs and maximized the glass at the front of the house. It was expensive but essential to us."

"It's like living in a globe of nature now," muses Allison. "And I don't know how I lived without a larder before." Handcrafted by **Bruce County Custom Cabinets**, "It allows us to contain the daily mess of the toaster, coffee grinder, cereal and electrical in one cabinet."

Continued on page 60



home & builder

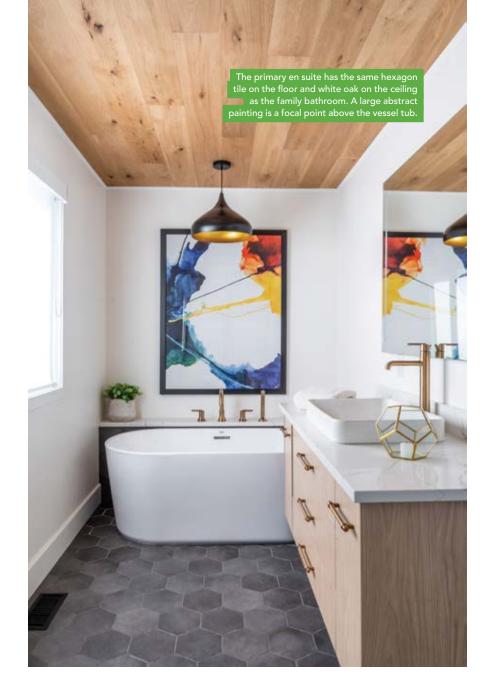
When asked about their coffee table books, Allison laughs at the eclectic pile. "Connor's mom gave him a design course textbook called Human Dimension and Interior Space. He read it before we bought new furniture." Connor admits to his meticulousness in optimizing the space and understanding how furniture size influences flow. "I'm conscious of not adding things and keeping our home as empty as possible. Pieces have to be functional and aesthetic only."

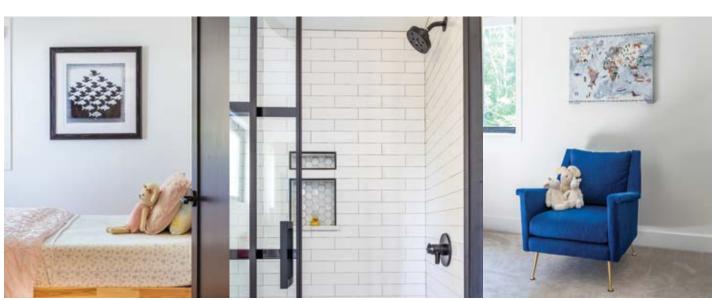
Even the whimsical wall maps are functional. "They're reminders of what we want to do with our time on this planet," Allison says. "We want the girls to experience the world. Both Connor and I began working immediately after graduating and we want to see more of it too."

What next? Finley suddenly chimes in on the speaker phone, reminding her parents that the bunkie doesn't have bunk beds yet. Connor assures her that it's on his list along with the unfinished lower level and updating the deck.

In a space that is purposeful and full of intention, the girls have been introduced to a bright world of thoughtfulness, intelligent design and inspiration. Simply white, empty but full. он

BELOW L-R: A favourite stuffed toy waits for bedtime in Finley's bedroom. The family bathroom showcases black in the plumbing fixtures, accents on shower shelf and the steel frame of the enclosure. In Bridget's bedroom, an electric blue chair is a comfy spot for











STORY DENISE WILLSON | ILLUSTRATIONS SHEILA BRITTON

A smooth renovation requires partnership, a melding of minds. Beyond sheer manpower and expertise, a homeowner needs to know that a contractor or builder shares their vision. It might surprise you to learn a contractor needs the same from a homeowner. The result of this perfect pairing is often visible: a well-built home that meets or exceeds the expectations of both sides – the builder and the homeowner.

ıtinued on page 64



How does this kind of magic happen? Here are the top five things a contractor and homeowner need from each other to make a renovation run smoothly.

BIG-PICTURE SCOPE

While details such as lighting, flooring and cabinetry are always discussed, both parties need more. "It's imperative we draw out the homeowners' core needs," says Brent Pym, president of Pym & Cooper Custom Homes in Niagara. "Details like why the homeowners want to renovate, and why renovate versus move or build. Most homeowners are surprised to discover their needs aren't what they originally thought." Answers define the project scope - noted in writing, discussed and agreed upon before the work begins. "By creating and following a concrete plan," says homeowner Margaret Graves, "we met with vendors to choose fixtures, appliances, paint colours, etc., in an order that retained our vision while helping our contractor, Pym & Cooper Custom Homes, keep a steady schedule and finish on time."

BUDGET

By wading into financials, builders can help homeowners refine their wish list. "Budget is not a bad word," says Louie Zagordo, owner of SLV Homes and VP of the Ontario Home Builders Association. "Pricing and costs should be clear, documented and discussed at length. It's the only way to ensure the homeowners' wants and needs are financially viable." A payment structure with clear instructions ensures contractors and their trades are paid at specific stages while homeowners understand what they're paying for. "Most projects don't go over budget," adds Louie. "The ones that do are usually homeowner-driven - add-ons or a change in the plan."

CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

When both parties discuss and document expectations, disappointment is rare. For example, when a builder creates a schedule and sticks to it, the homeowner

understands how long each stage takes and respects those requirements. Renovations are messy, loud, inconvenient and sometimes dangerous for young children. When homeowners relocate and store personal items, contractors can work unencumbered. When moving out isn't possible, a contractor can make a plan to minimize any negative impact on the homeowners' lives. Communication is key to setting clear expectations. When both sides provide contact names and numbers and respond promptly, questions don't cause confusion or delays.

QUALITY **WORKMANSHIP**

When we think of quality workmanship, building materials come to mind, or the expertise of the principal contractor or project manager responsible for the renovation. While these elements play a part, quality workmanship must extend to the builder's staff, designers, vendors and experienced trades. "When a contractor and their trades present themselves in a professional manner, you can rest assured your home is in good hands," adds Ben Helder. Ben and his partner Rachel spent most of 2020 living in a rental while their home was under renovation.

TRUST

Trust flows both ways. Both sides must be professional and honest at all times. A contractor must trust the homeowner will respect an experienced perspective. "Trusting your contractor is paramount," says Ben Helder. "Rely on the professionals you hire, on their judgment, on their creativity. A contractor must respect your wishes, but you must respect theirs as well since they are the experts." When both parties understand what the other needs, the renovation experience is not only smooth but spectacular. OH



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The pandemic has squashed many of our travel plans both near and far. Lockdowns, vaccination delays and safety concerns have forced Canadians to re-evaluate road trips and flights due south. While some have leaned on Netflix, podcasts and books for escapism, there's no reason why you can't turn your kitchen island into a destination. It can be as easy as upgrading your pantry shelves and wine cellar.

BOOK IT!

You can transport yourself everywhere with cookbooks. Chef Sean Brock's South: Essential Recipes and New Explorations is a fast ticket to the southern states and classics like grilled catfish, fried green tomatoes and stovetop grits.

County Heirlooms: Recipes and Reflections from Prince Edward County by Natalie Wollenberg and Leigh Nash offers a decadent collection of 42 recipes from chefs, farmers, beekeepers and food truckers with tap roots in the county, Mexico, Sweden, Brazil and beyond. Jump from Spinach & Ricotta Gnudi to Dill & Garlic Sauerkraut.

For those who like to keep things local, you can – with a Swiss twist! Ilona Oppenheim's Savor: Rustic Recipes Inspired by Forest, Field and Farm will appeal to those seeking twists for a farmer's market haul. From garlic scapes and lamb sausage to chanterelles, Ilona offers a generous serving of simple and savoury ideas.







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in the kitchen



BEAN THERE

Expand your horizons from the moment you wake up. Instead of a generic drip, visit your local indie coffee shop and introduce yourself to another perky part of the world via coffee beans. Join a monthly coffee club to receive curated beans on your doorstep. Subscribers are privy to samples of new releases from women's collectives and family-owned estates. Learn about the farmers and their fincas while planning your future trip to Guatemala or Ethiopia.

Tea fiends can travel just as easily from Darjeeling, India, to Moc Chau Plateau, Vietnam, every day of the week. Ambitious teetotalers can try growing their own tea stock by planting herbs like mint, lemon balm, lavender and lemongrass.









RUN OF THE MILL

Thinking about crispy grilled chicken from that roadside oil barrel barbecue in Egypt? Missing the dense, buttered slices of hverabrauð (Iceland's famed "lava bread") buried and baked by geothermal heat in a tin can? Mexican street corn (elote) char-grilled and slathered in Cotija cheese and crema? Pay homage! While an oil barrel grill might be frowned upon in your neighbourhood, and a geothermal too deep to tap into, embrace the trade secrets of other countries when you can. Find a fancy Turkish pepper grinder and give cumin, coriander and cardamom a whirl! Add some sizzle with a wok, or woo your family with a fondue. International beer and wine tastings are definitely part of the curriculum.





SPICE THINGS UP

You c<mark>an inst</mark>antly bring the Middle East into your kitchen with za'atar spice. The blend of dried oregano, thyme, marjoram, sumac and toasted sesame seeds will elevate your dishes in a fragrant way. Have you tried garam masala? Kaffir leaves? Turmeric has been trending for a while, but don't worry if you're late to the game. Aji amarillo, a chile pepper popular in Peruvian cuisine, has been keeping pace with black lime (dried key lime) as 2021's kitchen gamechanger. Don't forget about the world of hot sauces.

HOMESCHOOL

There are countless virtual classes that allow you to experience the globe from the comfort of your own galley. Airbnb, Masterclass and Delish offer a satiating range for all palates and skill levels from cook-along videos for kids, handmade pasta classes with a Florence chef, and interactive Moroccan chicken tagine lessons. on







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FAIR WITH





BUILDING BLOCKS:

In 1948, Neil Sinclair started Sinclair Electric in Tara. As hydro moved down the roads of Bruce County, Neil switched to supplying his customers with refrigerators, stoves and televisions. Neil, who was also a skilled card player, was given the nickname "Square Deal Neil" by a radio station in Owen Sound. The slogan for his expanding business, Sinclair TV & Appliances, became "For a square deal, see Neil." In 1974 Neil's son Ian Sinclair joined the business and two years later the family opened their current location in Southampton under the name **Square Deal Neil's TV & Appliances**.



LEFT: Original store in Tara.
BELOW: Ian and Edith Sinclair
with Sophie and Shelby.















FAMILY VALUES:

In 1988, Ian and his wife Edith purchased the business from Neil, and their children Michael and Laura joined the family business. They've built a successful business by taking care of their customers. They service what they sell – only carrying brands that their service department can repair. They also offer warranty service on anything purchased at the store.

SELECTION:

Square Deal Neil's showcases trusted appliances in their showroom from

KitchenAid, Maytag, Whirlpool, JennAir, Amana and Danby, as well as LG televisions, Gladiator Garageworks and a full line of Panasonic microwaves. Their new Distribution Centre houses a large inventory, which has been beneficial throughout the pandemic.

A GOOD THING:

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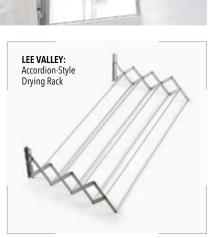




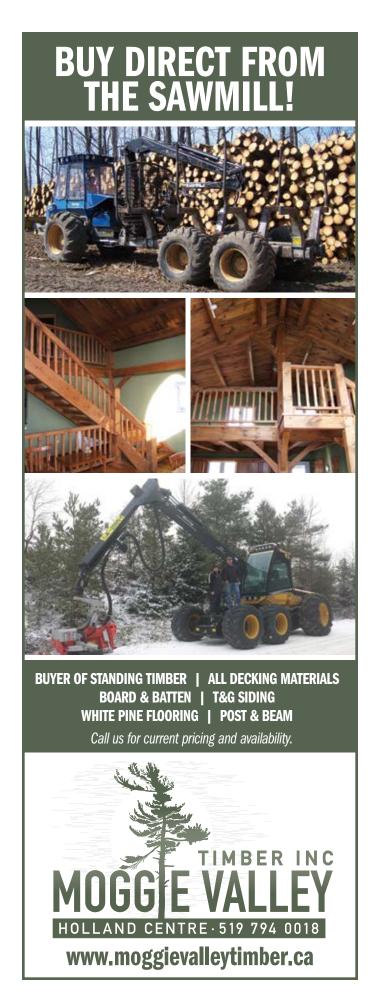
The sun is shining, the air is warm and it's laundry day. Ditch the dryer and hang your clothes outside. Line drying saves money, is good for the environment, makes your clothes smell super fresh, reduces static cling, whitens your whites and is easy exercise. You can install a clothesline in your yard or on your balcony, use a collapsible folding rack or install a system in your laundry room for year-round use. OUR HOMES found some cool products you can use to make doing laundry a feel-good



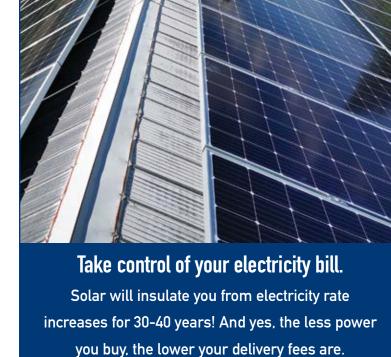
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FOLD SUNSETS



ABOVE: Cedar mulch from Hayes Timber Ltd. keeps weeds under control in the flower beds out front. Stone for the fireplace chimney and the front entrance was supplied by Owen Sound Ledgerock. Horton's Concrete Finishing installed the concrete driveway and walkway. **RIGHT:** A personalized sign welcomes guests at the steps to the beach.



STORY NICOLE EGAN PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY

When **Dave** and **Sandy** Ryder decided to sell their Sauble Beach cottage in 2016 they knew the task of finding the perfect new space for their family would take time. Five years later they're enjoying an incredible new build that ticks all the boxes.

While the world looks different than they'd expected in this pandemic universe, they've built a family oasis in Port Elgin, overlooking the stunning Lake Huron sunsets the area is so famous for.

At first glance, the cottage looks like an impressive modern structure, and it is, but it's so much more than that. Inside, it's clear that thought and attention went into the design to make it work for the family. With the help of **Heather Smillie** of **House Rules Design Shop**, the couple have witnessed the transformation of their thoughts into a functional and beautiful interior space that not only meets their needs, but also provides places to nourish their grown children's passions as well. Continued on page 81





From the home gym designed with their family in mind, to the storage to support a fishing passion, each member of the family has a stamp on the new build, executed by **Tim** and **Tom Clancy** of **Clancy Builders**.

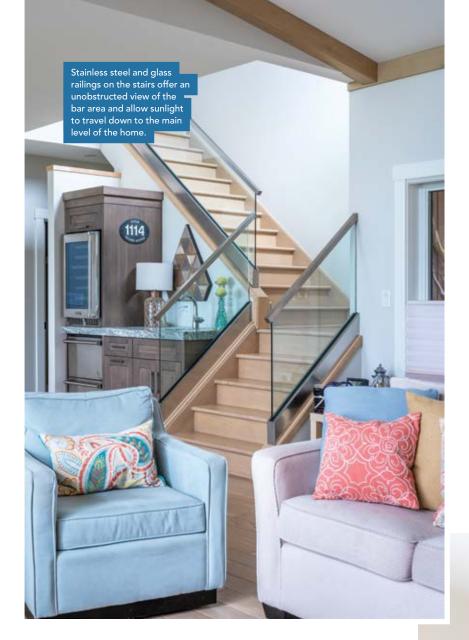
Decisions didn't come easily, but with architectural designer **John Peirson**'s revisions and the craftsmanship that brought those plans to life, the family is ecstatic about the final result. Both Dave and Sandy were clear on a number of their needs up front. The couple were keen to future-proof their space by placing their primary bedroom on the main floor, complete with a walk-in shower for ease of accessibility, not to mention simple bathing of Lucy, the family's springer spaniel. With a love of entertaining, Dave and Sandy were also keen to include a wet bar on the main floor near the kitchen, to ensure plenty of space for cocktails on arrival. "The space provides the perfect layout for plenty of family and friends – who we hope to be able to entertain soon once again," says Dave.

Continued on page 83



00 ourhomes SUMMER 2021 81







ABOVE: A sign above the keg fridge shows the number of moves the family has made over the years. **BELOW:** The main-level powder room has a soapstone vessel sink and three-dimensional flooring mimicked in the art hanging on the wall. All tile and flooring was sourced through House Rules Design Shop.

Situated in an ideal location, the wet bar tucks in underneath the modern stainless steel and glass staircase to the second floor. Accented with leathered granite counters from The Old Barn (purchased through House Rules Design Shop) and boasting a wine fridge, the space provides function with flair. The glass-and-steel staircase maintains the feeling of wide-open spaces.

A cohesive feel continues throughout the home, with cabinetry, vanities and built-ins in the kitchen, washrooms and laundry space – all from Chervin Inc. – providing additional continuity from room to room. Clean lines come together with modern fixtures and fittings from Ken Acton Plumbing & Heating Inc. and are complemented by soft shades of PPG paints from Grey Bruce Paint & Décor. From Bay of Fundy in the primary suite and en suite to Silent Smoke throughout the main floor and Paraffin in the lower level, the look and feel is airy and open with stunning views. It all works together seamlessly and it's clear details have been included with individual priorities in mind – a balance the couple attributes to Heather's design work. Continued on page 85







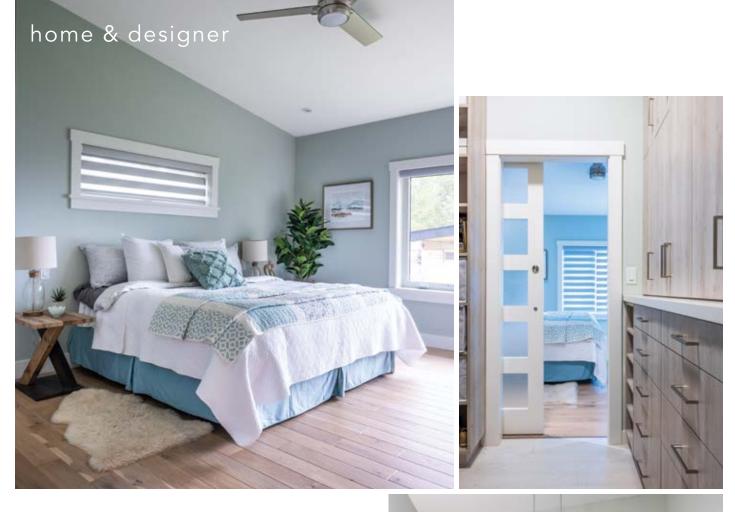
66 The space provides the perfect layout for plenty of family and friends – who we hope to be able to entertain soon once again. 99

For Sandy, the kitchen was key. Chervin Designer **Jon Staken** executed her vision perfectly, with cabinets incorporating smart design with intuitive accordion storage solutions. Quartz counters add to the bright, beautiful kitchen space with a view over the lake. Complete with a six-burner stove and side-by-side refrigerator/freezer, Sandy and Dave have more than enough space to prepare feasts while maintaining warmth and cosiness.

Dave takes credit for the warmth, having convinced Sandy that a wood-burning fireplace was an absolute necessity. Central to the home's design, the two consider the Valcourt living room fireplace insert from The Fyre Place & Patio Shop as the piece that brings the main floor together, "adding instant warmth." Continued on page 88

ABOVE: Gerbera daisies and snapdragons sit on the kitchen island. RIGHT: A summer charcuterie board of ripe and juicy cherry tomatoes, a rustic loaf of bread and local goat's cheese is ready to accompany cocktails. Lights in the home were sourced through House Rules Design Shop.



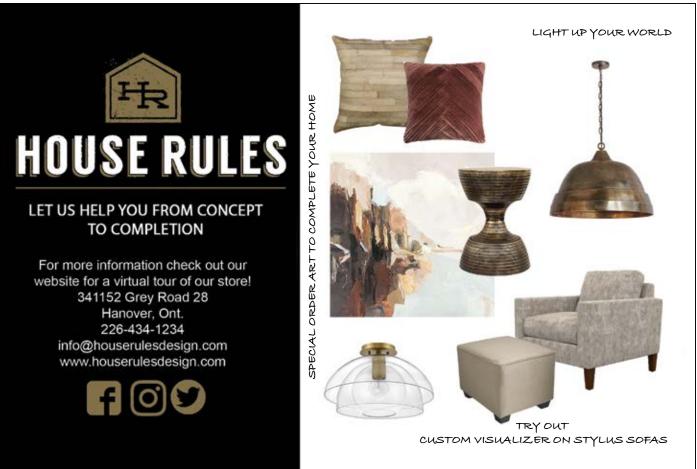


ABOVE: On the main level, the primary bedroom's king size bed is layered with lightweight quilts that coordinate with the Bay Of Fundy paint colour on the walls. Engineered hand-scraped white oak flooring continues from the living room. ABOVE RIGHT: The primary closet sits between the bedroom and en suite. Cabinetry was completed by Chervin Kitchen & Bath Inc. RIGHT: A high window over the en suite vessel tub has a shutter covering, with the louvers running vertically instead of horizontally. **BELOW LEFT:** The en suite's curbless, walk-in shower tile combines glass and porcelain into an interesting and colourful design. **BELOW RIGHT:** A corner of the primary bedroom is surrounded by windows that frame the Lake Huron view. There is also a door to the back deck for enjoying morning coffees.













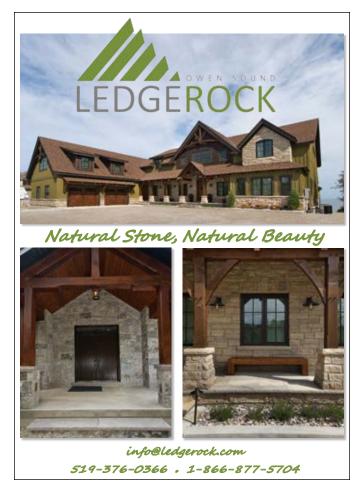
LEFT: The Canadian flag flies proudly over the direct access to 100 feet of shoreline. **BELOW:** The upper-level bathroom has a pocket door separating the vanity from the shower and toilet. The deep blue accent colour is a reminder of the water just steps from the home. **BOTTOM LEFT:** At the builder's suggestion, a cedar-lined outdoor shower keeps the beach sand outside.

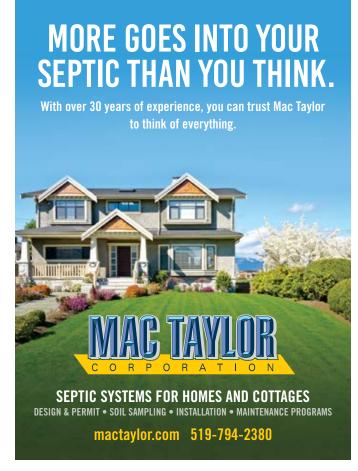
The finished lower level provides additional living space and the perfect entertaining area for movie nights and game nights with the full family and soon, hopefully friends once again.

Thinking back to the first time the couple brought their daughter to the property, Sandy recalls a neighbourhood Easter egg hunt and the feeling of home that radiated. The look of the property has changed since then but the feeling remains. As the couple look forward to hosting their daughter's wedding, the connection between home and heart has never been stronger. on











decorating

STORY MICHELLE BERWICK
PHOTOGRAPHY LARRY ARNAL

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PAINT

Paint an accent wall and repeat that colour through accessories. The shade doesn't need to match perfectly; mixing and matching shades of the same colour creates dimension and sophistication.

Spray your kitchen island. People are usually scared to do this. We often hear, "What if we don't like it in 10 years?" We would rather you be in love with something for seven-to-10 years than feel blah about it for 15.

Refinish your furniture. You don't always have to resort to white. Sometimes a soft colour can feel like a neutral.

Paint your cabinetry. A minty hue on lower cabinets can be an unexpected surprise when entering a kitchen. Don't forget about your laundry room! A perfect spot to really go for it. Continued on page 92



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decorating



TILE

Yes, bring on the tiles! We know it can be scary, but you won't regret it. We love using a bold colour or pattern on a tile, especially when it's a spot with only a little bit of square footage like a shower niche.



ARTWORK

A large-scale colour print will work wonders in a space and is a great opportunity to showcase your personality. Incorporating a mural can also be a fun way to add colour to a room.



ACCESSORIES

It's one of the easiest ways to take the plunge into pops of colour. Little art pieces for shelves, decorative objects and books are all small ways to make a big impact.

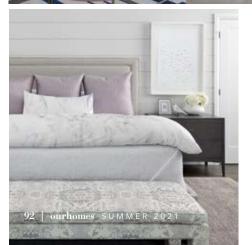
FLORALS

Make it temporary. Florals are a wonderful way to incorporate a fresh pop of colour. The best part is you can switch between whatever colours you want that week. OH



Designer Michelle Berwick specializes in residential





FABRIC

A few toss cushions? A comforter? Even a throw blanket. No need to go wild; we want the colours to speak for themselves.

Layering colourful patterns and textures

in your space will bring the room to life. Whether large or small scale, pattern brings a playfulness to a room. and commercial interior design.





countous

Projects are easy when you find the right partner to get the job done right.



PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY





EXTRAS

Range hoods as decorative focal points. It does not need to be ornate to stand out; it can extend beyond the cabinetry profile or feature an accent colour.

TRENDS

While white remains a popular colour scheme, warmer shades are starting to supersede the cool tones. These warmer colours pair nicely with wood tones and gold accents that are growing in popularity, as are natural wood tones in light and dark finishes. Wood feels organic and durable and pairs beautifully with white and darker paint colours.

Continued on page 96

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MUST-HAVES

During these interesting times we have found people craving living things in their homes – succulents, large tropicals and other living plants. We also offer our Bouquet of the Month Club that brings an uplifting smile every month with custom-arranged seasonal flowers.

Continued on page 98



OYAP is a School to Work program that opens the door for students to explore and work in apprenticeship occupations starting in Grade 11 or Grade 12 through the Cooperative Education program.

The goals of OYAP are:

- To provide students with the opportunity to start training in a skilled trade while completing the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
- To enable students to make the school to work transition by direct entry into apprenticeship training.
- To provide employers with the opportunity to train the skilled workers they require.
- To provide a viable solution to address the problem of skilled tradespeople shortages in general, and specifically the lack of young people joining the trades.

Contact Dave Barrett at Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program

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WATER SYSTEMS

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Continued on page 100











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Continued on page 102



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Continued on page 104





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Continued on page 106

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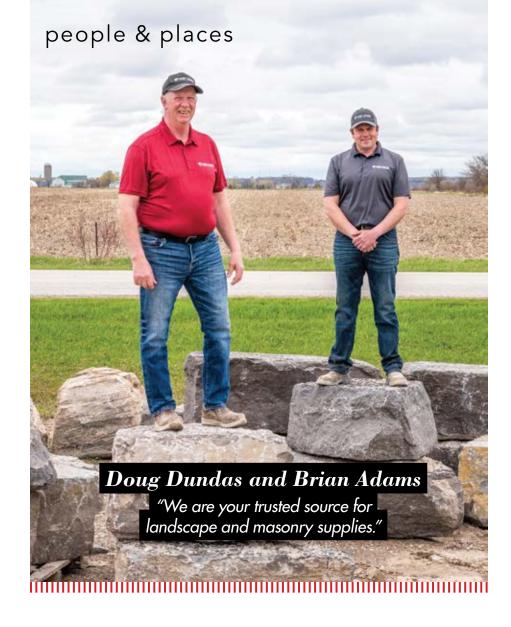


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TOOLS & MATERIALS

Hammer Pry bar Jigsaw

Nails or deck screws

Exterior paint
Metal swivelling

caster wheels

Painter's tape

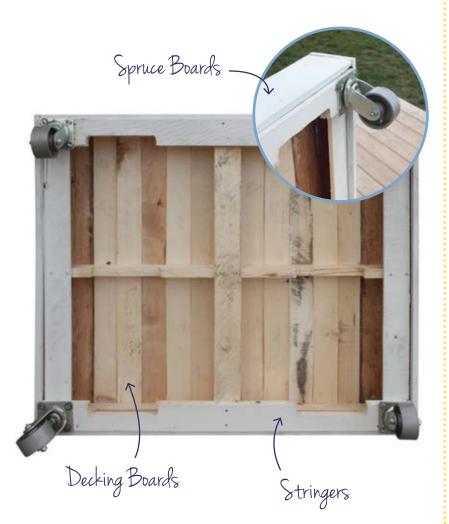
Exterior paint

2 wood pallets of the same size

4 – 1 x 6" spruce boards in 4-foot lengths

Paintable exterior caulking

Clear polyurethane





HOW-TO

Carefully disassemble one of the pallets using a pry bar and hammer.

Using the hammer and claw, carefully remove all nails from the boards.

To create your tabletop, use the decking boards from the first pallet to fill the open spaces on the top of the second pallet. You may need to trim some of the boards with a jigsaw to fit. Hammer or screw all boards into place.

Flip the pallet and nail or screw stringers from the first pallet around the perimeter of the base. This will add height to the table and create a stronger base for installing the caster wheels.

Attach the new spruce boards to the sides of the table, creating a skirt. You may need to trim the boards to fit. Remember to keep the top edge of the boards even with the top of the table.

Attach the casters to each corner of the table's underside

Use caulking to fill nail holes or cracks on the table.

Paint the entire table with an exterior paint.

Choose a design or pattern of your choice for the top. We used a five-pointed star from a quilting pattern and marked the design using painter's tape.

Apply two coats of paint to your pattern, allowing time to dry between coats.

Finally, seal the table with two coats of clear polyurethane, allowing time to dry between each coat. **OH**

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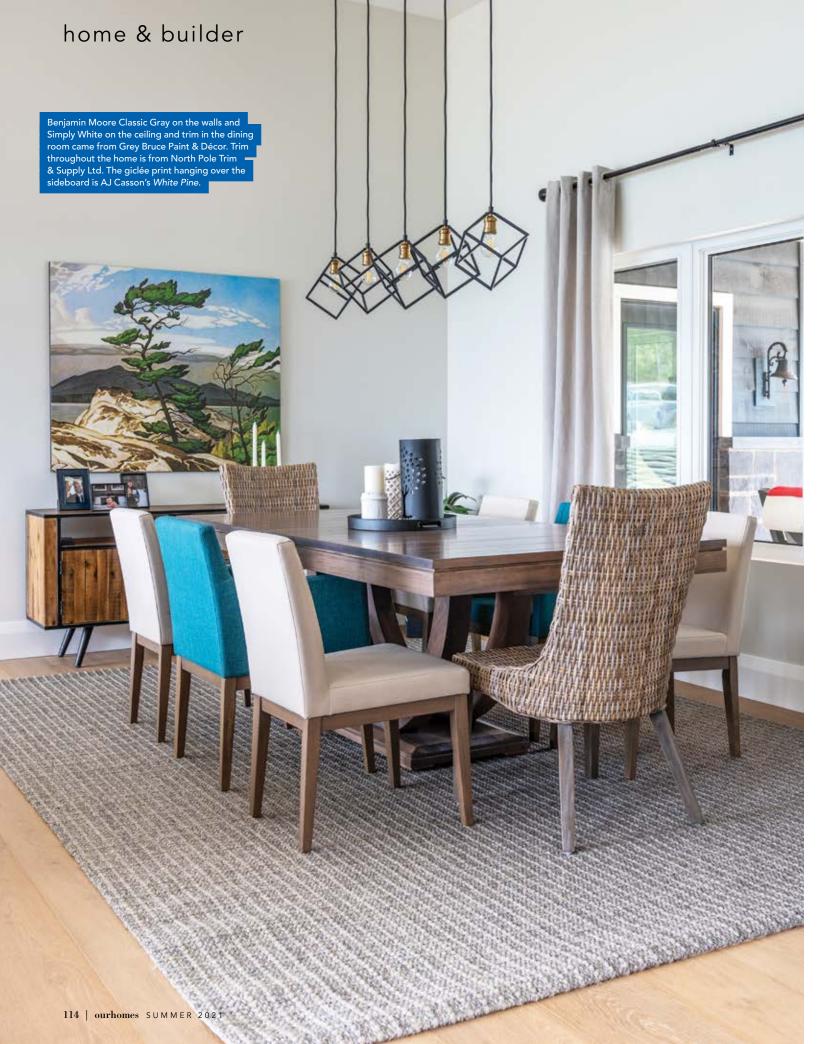
STORY RICK SHURMAN | PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY



An old maxim suggests you can take the folks out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the folks.

That is certainly the case for Jim and Margie Juniper. They both grew up near Georgian Bay and have always enjoyed the benefits of the wonderful life that comes with this special part of Ontario. Jim is originally from Meaford and Margie from Clarksburg. Their affection for the area has never wavered because of the glorious waters of the Bay, the rolling farmlands in every direction and the uniqueness of the escarpment. Continued on page 115







"We really do love it here," says Margie.
"I grew up on an apple farm outside of
Clarksburg and I lived for the outdoors –
swimming lessons on the Bay, baseball, figure
skating, skiing at The Peaks and, of course,
family and many good friends."

"Although we lived in London (Ontario) for 25 years as we grew our business and raised our two children, our social network, our extended family and our hearts remained right here," adds Jim.

They searched two years for the perfect property. They are sunset people at the heart of it, says Margie. "We spent many years going down to Mexico and relished the sunset every evening." That was a must for the Junipers, along with the water and the view beyond. It did not take them long to find the ideal property in Annan, just outside of Owen Sound.

With 20 plus acres, 300 feet of shoreline and a brilliant view, the building on the property was a hodge-podge of various constructs that began in the 40s. It was not a functional building by today's standards, but it had all the necessary potential.

Continued on page 116





ABOVE: Nine-inch-wide European white oak floors from Floorcrafters were installed throughout the home. Sam, one of the family dogs, heads to the kitchen for a biscuit.

ABOVE LEFT: Yellow chrysanthemums look lovely in the living room, which has large sliding doors to the bay. LEFT: In the front foyer, a giclée print by Franklin Carmichael, appropriately called Georgian Bay, hangs above the console table. Lights for the home were sourced at Design Electrical.

home & builder

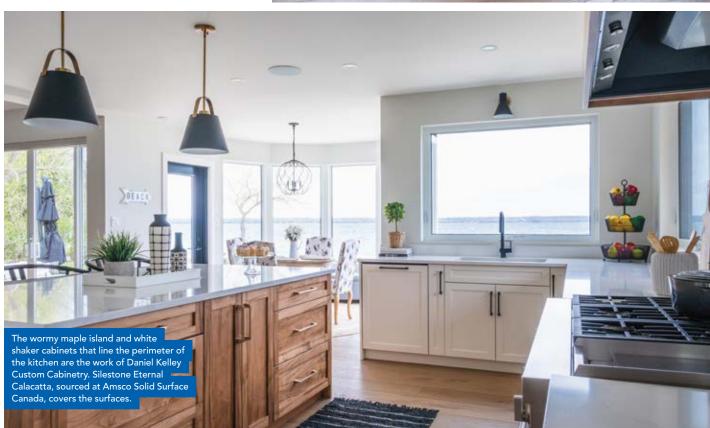
"Between the existing structures and the setting itself, we knew what type of design had to follow," says Margie. "We are self-admitted *HGTV* junkies and big fans of OUR HOMES magazine," adds Jim. "That actually gave us a leg up."

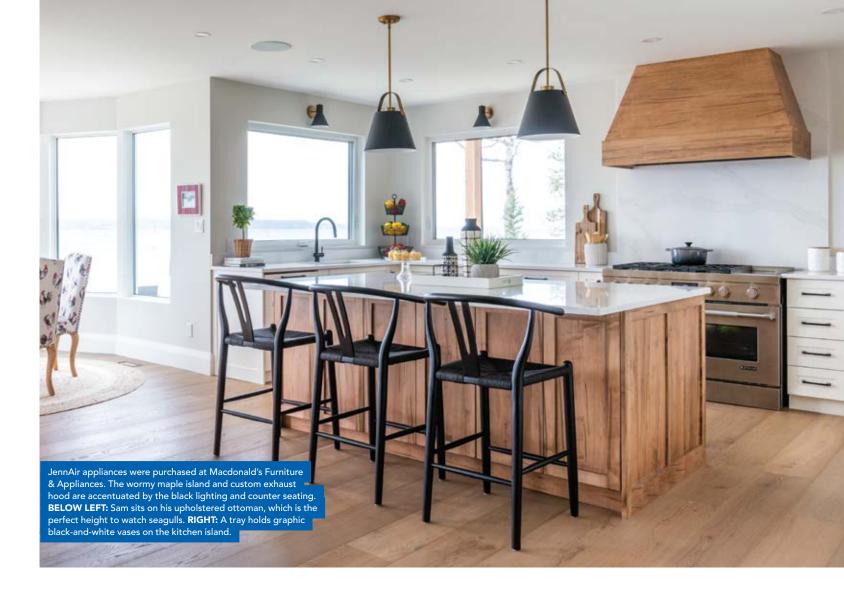
Margie worked with designer Angela Bobanovic in London to develop the basic plan that gave significant focus to guest comfort, an airy feel throughout the home and absolutely optimized the water view from as many areas of the house as possible. The new home had to reflect the personality of the bay and connect to it effortlessly.

"We interviewed a few contractors, but once we met Laurence Olivier of Olivier Construction we knew we had found our guy," says Jim. He was open-minded, understanding and free-wheeling, according to Jim and Margie. Laurence was able to interpret their plans and their wishlist and

RIGHT: This unique space offers a 180-degree view of the water. The curves of the rug, table and pendant light reaffirm the structural design. Electrical for the home was completed by Design Electrical.







incorporate them into the reconstruction and renovation of the existing buildings. "I had this vision of a modern, open-concept home, but holding on to the traditional cottage feeling," says Margie. With Laurence bringing his expertise, technical ability and trusted trades like **NuFlow Plumbing & Gas** and **Design Electrical** to the project, Margie says, "It turned out better than I could have imagined."

"He likes to use lots of natural products and finishings, like beautiful Douglas fir beams for featured structural supports," says Jim. "He is also very energy-conscious and made sure that every inch of the home was effectively insulated and air-tight. We can heat this place with a few logs in the wood stove downstairs and not have to turn on the furnace all winter."

"The Junipers were open to suggestions as to how to make the most of the space in the most efficient way," says Laurence. "We listened, proposed a solution and they trusted. The results tell it all. It really worked out."







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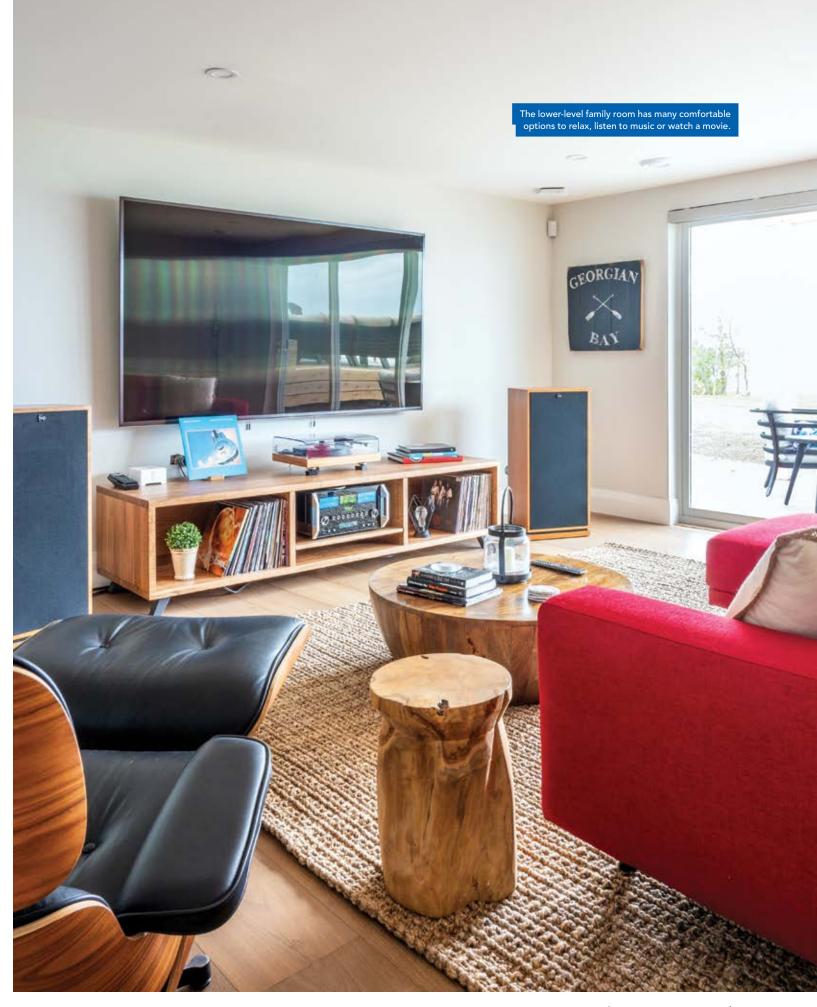
home & builder



Nine-inch, European white oak floors make for a lovely relaxed surface that dovetails beautifully with the textures and tones throughout this delightful home. Twelve-foot ceilings in the main living space help to achieve the airiness the Junipers envisioned. A two-sided fireplace gives the main living area an easy, comfortable feel on one side and presents a quiet, cosy reading area on the other – the best of both worlds. Large glass panes abound and gracefully frame the water view beyond and allow the outside in from every seat in the house.

With a spacious deck off the main living space, the house naturally flows from inside to out. "We get the early sun for our coffee in the morning and those endlessly wonderful sunsets in the evening, just as we'd planned," says Jim. "We definitely got the retreat we had hoped for. This is our home, the one we always knew we would love to have and it will be a legacy property for our children and our children's children." Continued on page 122





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We get the early
sun for our coffee
in the morning and
those endlessly
wonderful sunsets in
the evening, just as
we'd planned. 99



ABOVE: Each of the guest bedrooms on the upper level has an en suite. This vessel tub has a view that will have guests never wanting to leave. FAR LEFT: In the primary bedroom, the walls are painted Nimbus by Benjamin Moore. Pendant globe lights hang on both sides of the king-size bed. The sliding door leads to an upper deck with glass railings. LEFT: To the right of the gas fireplace from Gas Plus, a built-in desk has open shelving above to display family photos and unique décor.

Continued on page 122



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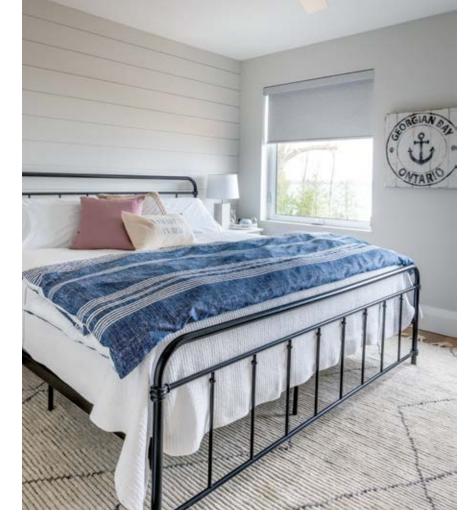


With one grandchild and another one on the way, it seems it was none too soon.

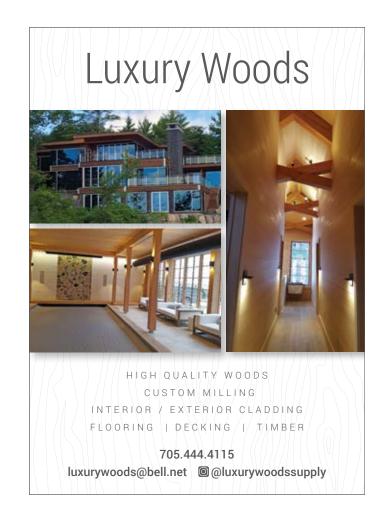
For the Junipers, the search, discovery, purchase and months of planning, hard work and construction turned out to be a very "sound decision." **OH**

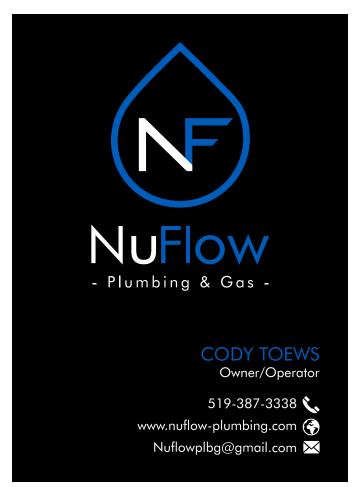
ABOVE: Steel roofing delineates the outdoor shower. Hooks hang close by for robes and towels. ABOVE RIGHT: The sign on the wall of a guest bedroom is a reminder of the position of this home. Window coverings were sourced at Ashton's Blinds Draperies Shutters. BELOW: Stairs run the length of the rear deck, which has zones for cooking, dining and conversation. The timber-framed detail from the front of the home is carried through to the rear facade. RIGHT: The shiplap accent wall in a guest bedroom is painted Forest Floor by Benjamin Moore. The giclée print is Tom Thomson's *The Canoe*.









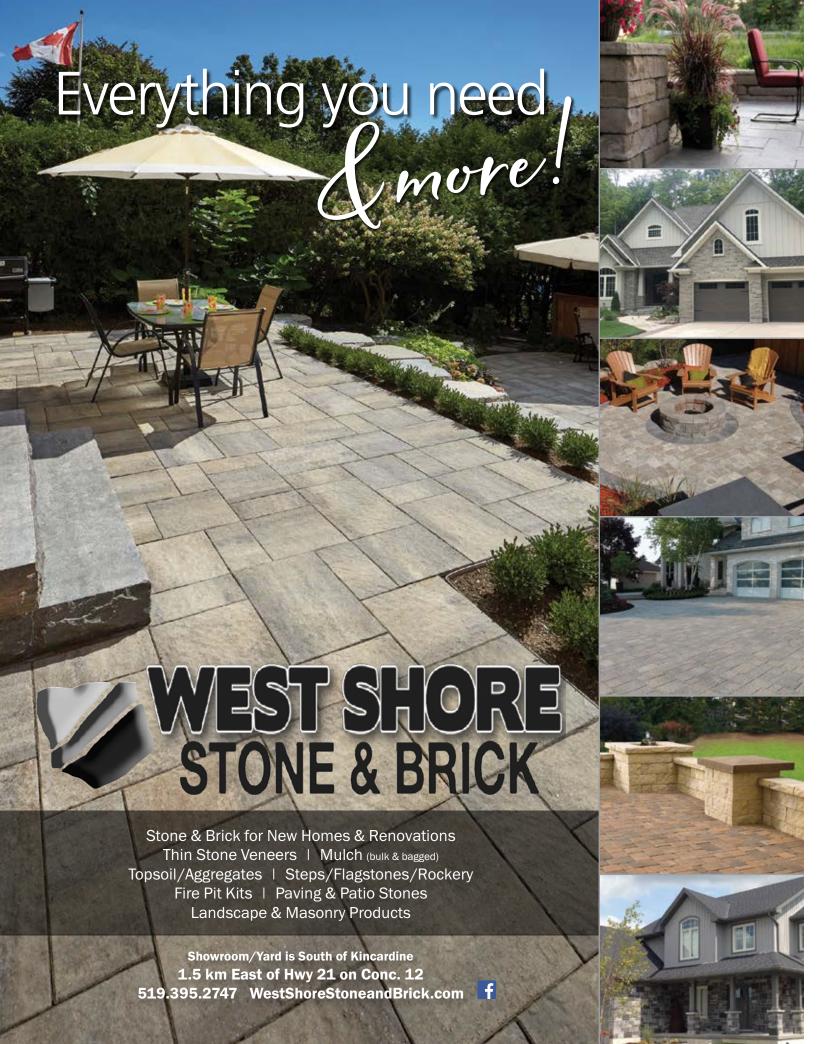






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TERRI HASTINGS – TERRI HASTINGS REAL ESTATE GROUP | KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY CENTRES

In 2006, Terri Hastings got her Real Estate license, and she's been working in the Bruce and Grey Counties in Ontario ever since. Her business has grown steadily over the years, and she now has a team of eight full-time agents spread across three different office locations in Wiarton, Tobermory and Port Elgin.

The **Terri Hastings Real** Estate Group is the topproducing team in the area - they sold almost 400 homes in 2020, and are on track to close even more transactions this year. Their knowledge and enthusiasm make every client feel like they are in good hands. "The passion of our Realtors shines through to buyers." Terri says. "We all love where we live, and we work hard to help newcomers appreciate the beauty of the Bruce Peninsula.

Terri's team knows their market extremely well. They are attuned to the cycle of purchasing and selling that remains consistent from year to year, and they use that knowledge to get the best possible prices for Buyers and Sellers in the area. Terri and her team have a large referral base, as they are pillars of the community and renowned for their excellent customer service

519.270.2655 | terrihastings.ca soldbyterri@sympatico.ca

(Please see ad on pg 65)



ONTARIO YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The **Ontario Youth** Apprenticeship Program or **OYAP** is working to help meet Ontario's future skilled trades labour needs by encouraging secondary school students to explore the careers and opportunities in skilled trades.

Did you know all of the secondary schools in Grey Bruce are equipped with tech shops? These tech shops allow students to explore various skills and skilled trades in the construction, industrial, motive power and service sectors which sets the groundwork for OYAP participants to successfully pursue careers in the skilled trades. OYAP is a cooperative program that allows 'real world' hands-on learning opportunities in an apprenticeship occupation, while the student works towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Students who determine the skilled trades are their pathway have an opportunity to become registered apprentices, work towards becoming certified journeypersons while still in high school and 'earn while they learn' throughout their apprenticeship.

Grade 12 students who are passionate about cooking and carpentry will want to have a discussion with their teachers about the OYAP Level 1 Cook and OYAP Level 1 Carpentry Accelerated Programs that run during 2nd Semester of 2021/2022.

To learn more about OYAP and 'Living the Skilled Life', visit oyap.com

(Please see ad on pg 97)



BUILT WRIGHT FENCING

Our primary focus is on what you want and vision when it comes to "changing the look of your property". Whether your project is for your residence, business or farm, our experienced staff will help you design and recommend the best solution for your fencing needs. Our expertise in chain link, wood privacy, wrought iron, vinyl and page wire allows us to build whatever you can imagine, giving you that one-of-a-kind look for your property.

Whether your fence is for curb appeal, privacy or security reasons, or just simply trying to keep something in or out, **Built Wright Fencing** is the best choice to assist you in making the most informed decision possible.

We know exactly what it takes to deliver a quality job at competitive prices with the best customer service in the business.

We are family owned and operated and stand behind our promise to you that we will deliver the products and service you want with the integrity and courtesy you expect.

Give us a call today; we are committed to making your dreams and ideas reality with a free onsite consultation and

Doug Wright 519.387.5022 builtwrightfencing.ca (Please see ad on pg 39)



CHAPMAN HOUSE

Residential Hospice of Grey Bruce believes each day can be filled with precious moments and memories.

Chapman House is located in Owen Sound, ON and was purpose-built for the exceptional palliative care we provide to residents of Grey and Bruce Counties who require end-oflife-care.

Hospice care is about living life to its fullest with quality symptom management. Our compassionate care is 100% free to all residents and their families.

We are staffed with incredible volunteers and professionals of many disciplines, 24 hours per day, 7 days a week with a multi-disciplinary team providing compassionate, dignified, resident-centered care to individuals with progressive life-limiting illnesses, empowering them to live well while dying.

Our team provides support with Advanced Care Planning, Bereavement and Grief supports Spiritual Care and follow-up services for families and residents during their stay and after they have left Chapman House.

The Government provides less than half the cost of operating our Hospice, therefore, each year we rely heavily on our community to help cover these costs. Generous monthly, memorial donations, planned giving, legacy and endowment funds to our organization are necessary, welcomed and appreciated. If you would like to donate

to RHGB please visit greybrucehhospice.com or call us 519.370.7239

(Please see ad on pg 16)



AND-ROD LANDSCAPE & GARDEN CARE SOLUTIONS

AND-ROD Construction Ltd. has expanded their services

in the North Bruce Peninsula by offering landscape and garden care. The AND-ROD Landscape & Garden Care **Solutions** division will be under the expertise of Cheri Janknegt. Cheri grew up in a family of gardeners, spending most of her formative years outside. This resulted in a passion for nature, a love of outdoors and gardening. Cheri began her career at a local nursey and has expanded her experience and knowledge in Landscape Horticulture, gaining her Horticulture Red Seal ticket in 2012. Cheri has returned to the beautiful Bruce Peninsula, an area for which she has great love and respect, to work with clients to impart knowledge and design while aspiring to use native plantings in natural settings. Whether you need

scheduled garden care and maintenance, spring/fall clean ups or a garden design consultation, we have the right package to ensure your property looks its best while you relax.

To learn more or schedule a a consultation, contact us at 226.459.0141or email: garden@and-rodcontracting.com and-rodcontracting.com (Please see ad on pg 4&5)



BUDGET BLINDS OF OWEN SOUND

Our primary focus is on meeting the needs and wants of our customers by providing them with solutions to their window covering challenges

The process begins with a free in-home consultation where owner Linda Urbshott meets with you to discuss your specific needs.

This consultation in your home is where the options that best suit your objectives can be discussed. Products are then picked that will solve the issues you decide are most important in your home.

Whether you need privacy, light control, or are just looking to enhance the look and feel of your home, there are a wide variety of options available. Colours can be picked in the natural light of your home to provide the best colour match. Then Linda will measure your windows and provide you with a quote.

Upon ordering it takes approximately three weeks for your order to arrive and then Linda and her husband Rob will return for the install.

This family run business has been satisfying the needs of homeowners in Grey Bruce for over eight years now and has developed a great reputation for standing behind their products and installation. Linda Urbshott

519.793.3921 budgetblinds.com (Please see ad on pg 67)



BLENDED INTERIORS

Blended Interiors is a creative team of women designers located in Owen Sound, focusing on renovations and new build residential design projects across Grey Bruce.

Our current trio can be found blending our unique skill sets and styles on all types of projects – from kitchen and bath design, exterior and interior design, or assisting our clients with finish and fixture selections. No project is too big or small. We love bringing our client's design aspirations to life.

Our shared passion of interior design is focused on the rewarding challenges of space planning unique homes and rooms. Having the ability to space plan a project before the project begins allows the client to fully appreciate how the rooms will function to ensure they are satisfied with the finished project.

Building relationships with our clients is so important to us - we enjoy hearing their wants and needs to establish a solid foundation on which to create beautiful living spaces.

To assist you with your future build or renovation, contact us to start a conversation and let us work with you to dream, design and bring your vision to life with our amazing 3D software.

Follow us on our design journey on Instagram & Facebook @blendedinteriors Check out our new website blendedinteriors.ca or send us an inquiry hello@blendedinteriors.ca

(Please see ad on pg 33)



CEDAR WELLNESS STUDIO -MOVE•TRANSFORM•RENEW

We have the power to live in the present moment, to feel centred and grounded. Life can be chaotic and ever-changing. Self-care is about showing up for ourselves every day, looking inward and understanding fully what we need to release, heal, embrace, and focus on. Cedar Wellness is a unique studio that offers opportunities to help build confidence within ourselves by offering a platform for everyone through fitness and wellness.

Mind, body and soul:

Combining authentic acts such as fitness, meditation and breath work will empower us to nurture ourselves, unifying mind, body, and soul. Our trauma informed yoga teachings assist our nervous system to release stored stresses. We are worthy of the time it takes to harness our potential. Being truly fulfilled starts from within. Feel successful after EVERY class!

Join us: Cedar Wellness offers unique experiences through virtual classes, as well as in-studio options for everyone. We are located on a peaceful treed lot, off a country road, south of Wiarton. To make a difference in our community we partner with local businesses, organizations, and charities. We are actively working towards giving back, getting involved and being an advocate for mental health. Namaste! cedarwellnessstudio.ca

(Please see ad on pg 137)

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126 | ourhomes SUMMER 2021 ourhomes SUMMER 2021 | 127



EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENT LOCATED ON STUNNING GEORGIAN BAY

Welcome home to **Annex** Georgian Bay. Escape the city, breathe in the tranquility of your surroundings and take a moment for yourself, you have arrived. Featuring luxury designs or custom options by Northridge Homes, with a choice of floor plans, some with walkout basements – you decide! Enjoy first rate amenities, stunning golf courses, beaches, marinas, and skiing close by. Georgian Bay provides an exceptional four-season lifestyle.

Located 10 minutes north of Owen Sound. Annex Georgian Bay offers space and privacy, while still close to world class amenities.

Choose from one of our tastefully appointed model homes, or let your dreams take shape in a custom design Overlooking Georgian Bay, Annex Georgian Bay features breathtaking water views; take a stroll and immerse yourself in the serene landscape or explore the beaches of the Bruce Peninsula. Delight in luxurious lifestyle

living in an area with few vacation properties. Secure 1 of 15 exclusive homes; registration is now open: annexgeorgianbay.ca It's your choice (Please see ad on pg 2)



KRISTA GILL - SUTTON **SOUND REALTY INC. BROKERAGE**

About Krista: I love where I live and I love what I do. I have been helping Buyers and Sellers since 2006. Ljoined Sutton Sound Realty Inc. Brokerage March 2020, leaving RE/MAX Land Exchange Ltd. Brokerage after 13 years. The transition has been interesting due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and although it is certainly not business as usual, I am proud to continue to help clients with their needs.

I currently live in Tara and have been a lifelong resident of Grey Bruce. Together with my husband Larry, we have raised our children in one of the most beautiful places in the world. We are a busy family and are actively involved in a variety of community clubs and events. One of the best parts of living in a small town is knowing and caring for one another like family.

Where I service: I am fortunate to live just 20 minutes from just about everything you could ever want in Grey Bruce. I proudly service the following communities and their surrounding areas: Tara, Owen Sound, Southampton, Port Elgin, Sauble Beach, Wiarton, Big Bay, Chesley, and Paisley.

Who I service: I work with both Buyers and Sellers, locals and newcomers, first-time buyers, and retirees.

The best compliment that I receive is referral of my service. I look forward to working with you! #LoveWhereYouLive

519.378.7653 (Please see ad on pg 63)



MAPLE LANE FARM SERVICE

Massey tractors have developed a reputation for quality and power with good reason. They're a perfect blend of versatility, size and power. The longer you own one, the more uses you find for it. You'll wonder how you ever managed without. Massey tractors are an all-season machine. Lawn mowing in summer, fall cleanup, moving snow all winter, mulching flowerbeds in spring, and all the projects in between. Maple Lane is proud to continue that legacy of getting the job done.

Sales: It all starts with our sales team. Our representatives will match you with the right machine for your specific needs, for today and into the future.

Parts: After you get the right tractor, our parts and service teams are at the ready. Parts support is one contact away. Enjoy the ease of buying parts online and we will ship your order to your door.

Service: Our shop in Mount Forest is central for all Southwestern Ontario. Bring your tractor to us or have a service truck come to you.

The Maple Lane experience is one of quality products and dependable service from start to finish. We'll match you with the perfect tractor so you can execute your projects more efficiently.

519.323.4289 9545 Conc 6N, Wellington North, Mount Forest maplelanefarmservice.ca (Please see ad on pg 105)



DRIER DISHES

One of the most common complaints about dishwashers is that they don't do a very good job at drying the dishes, especially as the machines get more energy efficient. Well, Bosch listened, and they've brought their A-game with their latest innovation in drying technology available at Macdonald's Furniture & Appliances in Meaford. Zeolite crystals, first introduced in Bosch's luxury Thermador line, absorb moisture and radiate heat to speed up and improve the drying process. Because the chemical properties of the Zeolite crystal are all natural, the technology uses less energy as well. Look for them in all of Bosch's newest 800 Series and Benchmark dishwashers at Macdonald's Furniture & Appliances in Meaford.

With a Bosch dishwasher, quiet operation is just as important as sparkling clean dishes. Their ingenious German engineering makes Bosch the quietest dishwasher brand in North America. For you, that means never having to wait until going to bed to run the dishwasher. And when hosting a dinner party you can start the dishes right after dinner, instead of waiting until everyone leaves. Because life doesn't have to stop just because your dishes need to be cleaned.

206518 Hwy 26 E, Meaford 519.538.1620 macdonaldsfurniture.com (Please see ad on pg 111)



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Continued on page 130



WEST SHORE STONE

Are you building a new home, renovating or enhancing your outdoor living space? **West Shore Stone** can help you with your masonry and landscaping needs.

At our showroom/yard near Kincardine you will find a huge selection of brick and stone, stone veneers, steps, pavers, firepits and more for all your projects. We have made great contacts with suppliers and quarries so we get the best quality and choicest selection of stone. You will find flagstone, armour stone, natural stone, interlocking pavers, walls and much more in a myriad of colours and styles.

We can help you out with any aggregate needs, bulked or bagged. We offer Mulch, Topsoil, Algonquin River Rock, Beachstone, Peastone, Gravels, Stone Dust, Brick Sand. Need an accent in your flower bed or lawn? Drop in and see our selection of decorative rock, from sparkly to rugged looking.

This is a one-stop shop for contractors where you will find masonry tools, mortar, sands, sills, lintels, etc. However, West Shore Stone & Brick is open to the public whether you are a do-it-yourself type or need a contracting or landscaping referral.

2047 Concession 12, Ripley 855.395.2747 westshorestoneandbrick.com (Please see ad on pg 124)



LOCKWOOD PAINTING

A perfect painting job can make any newly constructed home stand out from the rest of the crowd. A beautiful paint job makes for an unforgettable first impression and can inspire complete confidence in the overall building quality and value of a new home. Jeff Lockwood Painting Services has over a decade of experience with new home building projects. Jeff and his staff currently are providing priming, painting and staining services for upwards of forty newly constructed homes and renovation projects each and every year.

From spraying on the first coat of primer to applying the finish coat to the baseboards, Lockwood Painting can quickly finish a newly constructed home to completed perfection always on schedule and always on budget. Their seasoned team of professional painters can completely finish upwards of over 1,000 square feet per day. They stand behind their workmanship and quality with a full satisfaction guarantee. They are available "on call" and at a "moment's notice" for those important touch-ups for any warranty service calls. They have a large staff available to always provide a quick, high standard of service for all of their Home Builders and Renovator clients. Our pro painters are always ready to help you with all

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more information contact
Jeff Lockwood Painting
Services at 519.372.3008
or visit our website at
lockwoodpainting.ca
(Please see ad on pg 93)



PRECISION DECK AND FENCE

Your deck is an extension of your living space – it deserves the attention to detail you would expect in the interior of your home. While we at **Precision Deck and Fence** service a wide range of project budgets, the top priority is always craftsmanship. From the footings up to the railings, we pride ourselves in craftsmanship you can rely on.

Your deck may be the start of a stunning backyard complete with a stone patio, outdoor wood stove and kitchen...we would love to assist you in a complete design and build makeover.

Custom decks are our specialty, and we can install most any material you might choose. From PVC decking with a 50-year warranty to the timeless cedar with its natural grey tones to the rich character of Thermory Ash, we will partner with you to find and install the material that fits your project.

If you are thinking of a backyard makeover, or simply replacing your deck as part of your home upgrade, check out our new website at precisiondeckandfence.ca or reach out via phone 519.377.8130

(Please see ad on pg 75)



WILSON SOLUTIONS

Wilson Solutions is a family owned and operated business offering services throughout Grey & Bruce Counties. Bob and his father, Gary, founded Wilson Solutions in 2015 with a vision to serve the niche market of home extras. Over the years we have expanded our services to offer:

- Custom Closets
- Garages
- Blinds and Shades
- Rubber and Epoxy Floor Coatings
- Enclosures and Awnings
- Aluminum DeckingRailings and more
- From consultation to design and installation, we will provide you with unparalleled, professional service. We use 3D software when quoting closet and garage spaces so that you can envision your project completely before any commitments are made. On installation day we will arrive on time with our mobile

We offer friendly service, innovative design, quality and dependability with all of our products.

workshop and complete the

project with no mess left

behind.

Check out our new website at wilsonsolutions.ca or call us for your free estimate at 519.369.8225

(Please see ad on pg 14)



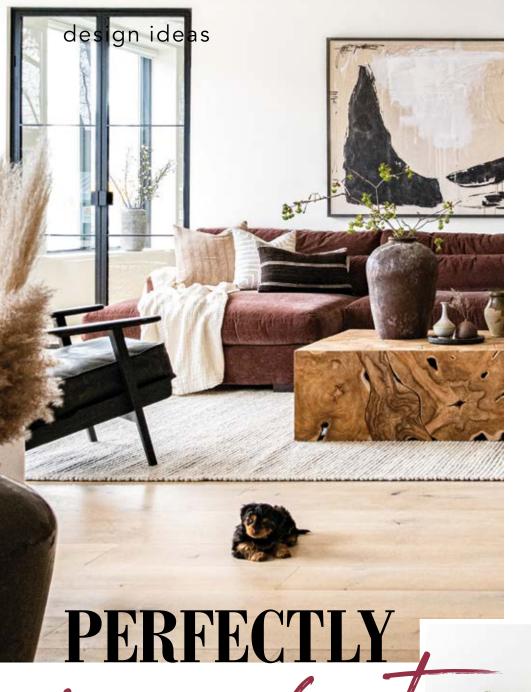
www.jancoconcretefinishing.com







519.373.1200



From a design perspective, "imperfectly perfect" interiors have been gaining popularity as the world becomes more accepting of imperfection and increasingly seeks out the beauty in it. Gone are the unattainable, stress-inducing standards of perfection. This interior trend is all about living our best life in comfort and style. Here's how to get this look.

MIX OLD AND NEW

Vintage pieces are key to this aesthetic. If it's distressed, aged and faded, all the better. Remember, they're not just scratches, they're stories. One reason I really love this style is that it doesn't demand the purchase of all-new items; the contrast between old and new can be quite beautiful. Some newly purchased furnishings and accessories can make your vintage pieces pop in a way that's uniquely you. This style is also conducive to upcycling cast-off furnishings with some new upholstery and a fresh coat of paint.

Generally speaking, avoid anything that's too matchy-matchy and aim for eclectic and artisanal. Look for contrasts and combine a variety of materials such as wood, glass, lacquer, metal and mirror. The goal is for your items to look collected rather than purchased in one afternoon at your local big box store.

Continued on page

imperfect

STORY SASCHA LAFLEUR
PHOTOGRAPHY WEST OF MAIN DESIGN

This world is full of wonderful things that happen entirely by accident, but when it comes to our homes, the "perfectly imperfect" aesthetic doesn't always come by chance. Though effortlessly curated in appearance, this distinctive style is quite deliberate, reflecting unique lives and interests, and the home that's at the heart of it all.



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Residential Construction • Project Management Kitchen & Bathrooms • Additions & Garages Siding, Soffit & Fascia • Renovations & More • Aging at Home

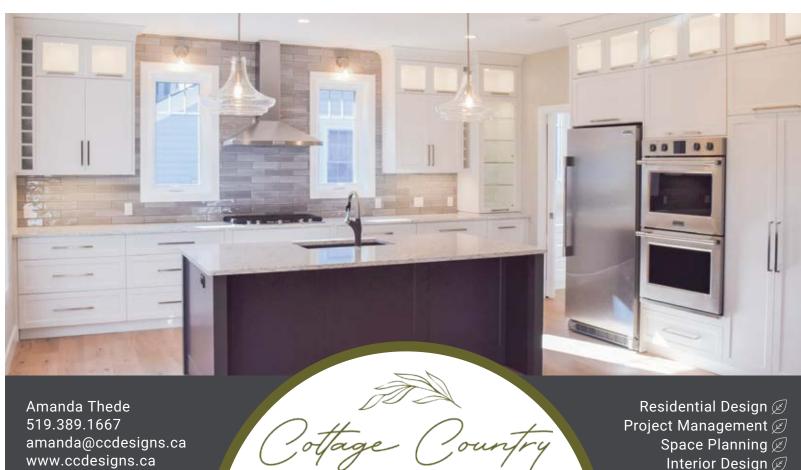
All the expertise you need, under one roof.

Over the many years, of building decks to building homes, we've acquired the knowledge and skills to tackle <u>any</u> home renovation. Big or small.

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Aging and want to stay in your home?
Give us a call.
We'll be happy to sit down with you and discuss your options.

519.924.0025 valleyhomeimprovements.ca

Custom Cabinetry 🕖



DESIGNS

design ideas

Try this: In the kitchen, take the mix-and-match approach to your metallic finishes. For example, try pairing brushed nickel cabinetry hardware with gold-toned lighting or plumbing fixtures. Just keep a consistent temperature warm with warm, or cool with cool. Alternately, matte black metal is a neutral and trendy option that pairs well with everything.







LIVE IN LAYERS

Textiles can completely change a room, adding warmth and dimension to what would otherwise be a cold and sterile space. Along with this particular aesthetic, pillows and throws were never intended to be neatly lined up and folded into a perfect little square. Just toss, drape and pile them where needed.

Your fabric choices create a mood and set a tone. Layer bold animal and cultural prints with more subtle patterns and solids for instant impact without having to make a huge investment or commitment. You can lighten up your fabrics during the warmer months with linens and cottons and go warmer and heavier during the winter with wool, faux fur and chunky knits.

Consider adding reclaimed antique rugs, window coverings, wall coverings, upholstery and accessories such as cushions and throws. Again, look for variety in colour, vibrancy, pattern and texture.

TELL YOUR STORY

Incorporate sentimental items and found objects that speak to your personal interests and experiences. Find a place to display that retro typewriter or your vintage camera collection. Put yourself out there through things that bring you joy and help tell your story.

Bring added interest to your collections by peppering your display with plants, books and artwork to create mini focal points through the space.

Think in odd numbers when displaying your collections and curios on tabletops, shelves or the fireplace mantel. Arrange your accessories in groups of threes or fives, with the largest item in the middle. This draws attention to the centre of your display and creates balance.



The final piece of decorating advice could easily apply to life as well. Rather than trying to fight the randomness that sometimes surrounds us, embrace it. Do things just because and you might be surprised by the outcome. **OH**

Sascha Lafleur is the principal senior designer at West of Main.

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This is the perfect fresh and bright salad for spring. Sweet, juicy melon and salty, slightly smoky prosciutto are a classic pairing.

INGREDIENTS

SALAD

1 cup melon, balled (your choice: cantaloupe, watermelon and/ or honeydew)

1 cup bocconcini cheese

8-10 pieces of thinly sliced prosciutto

Mint, to garnish
Basil, to garnish

DRESSING

¼ cup olive oil

2 Tbsp wine vinegar, your choice

1 tsp honey

A few leaves of basil, thinly sliced Salt and pepper, to taste

HOW-TO

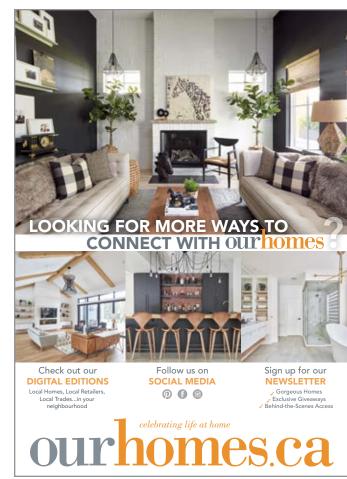
In a large bowl, mix together dressing ingredients.

Add melon and cheese and toss to coat in the dressing.

Place the melon mixture on a platter and arrange with slices of prosciutto.

Tear mint and basil to garnish on top. **OH**







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519.379.8876

OUR HOMES attracts the area's finest businesses to advertise in our pages, and utilize our unparalleled distribution and coffee-table appeal to market their products and services. We're making it easier for you, our readers, to become educated as you plan your home- and real estate-related purchasing decisions. View these business ads online at **ourhomes.ca**. The listings below are organized alphabetically by industry.

OUR HOMES is committed to ensuring the businesses below appear under the correct headings. To make a correction, or to have your business listed under more than one heading, please email bettyann.fawcett@ourhomes.ca. To have your business listed in our Home Resource Directory, call us to advertise at 519.986.2599.

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