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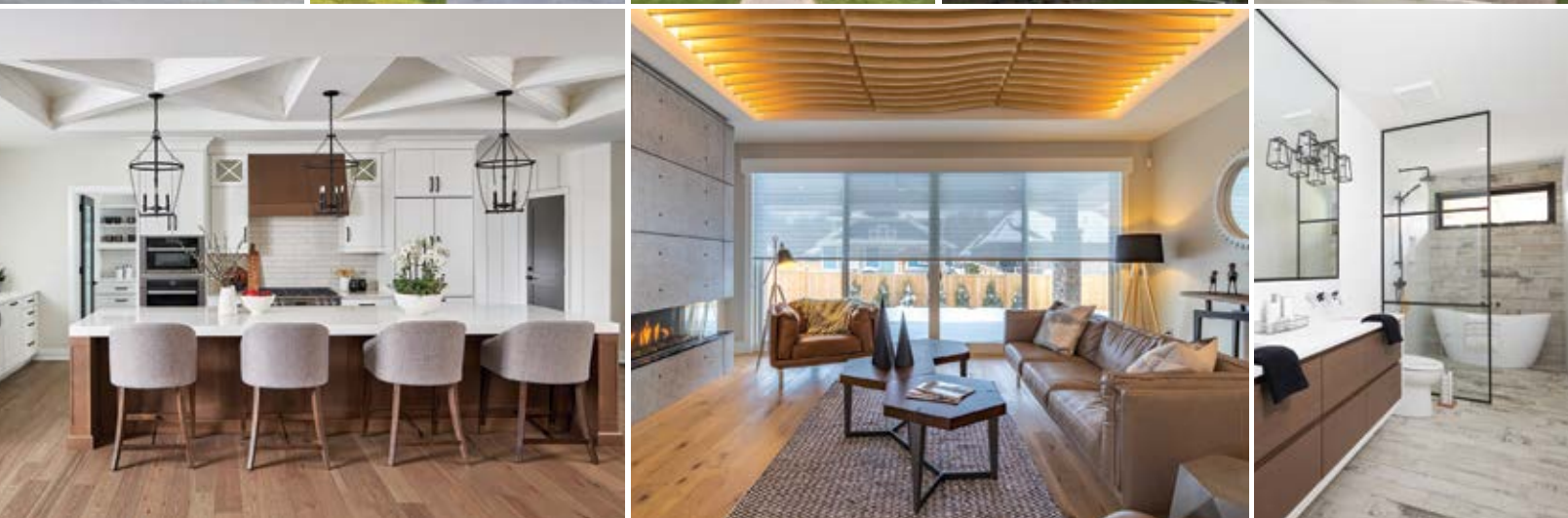
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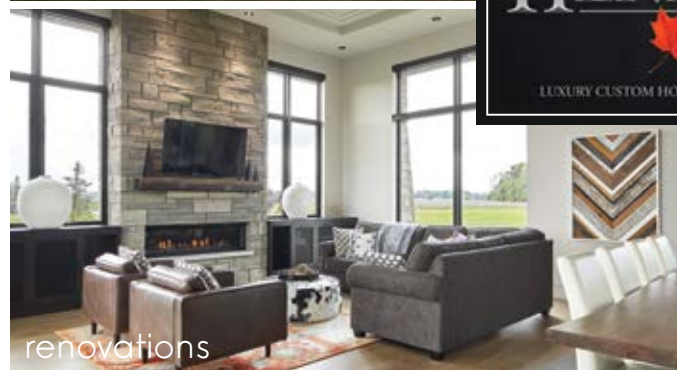
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OUR HOMES is a registered trademark of OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC.
OUR HOMES The Niagara Region is published four times a year.

OUR HOMES is distributed to residents of Beamsville, Grimsby,
St. Catharines, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls, Fonthill, Lincoln, Welland, Fort Erie, Port
Colborne and Smithville via direct home delivery and precision targeted neighbourhood mail.
Copies of OUR HOMES are available for free pick up at high-traffic locations throughout the
region. OUR HOMES is distributed to select business leaders via direct mail delivery.

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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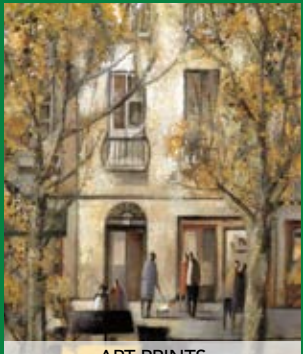
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editor's note



HAVE YOU EVER walked into a friend's room and said "wow?" Caught yourself looking at a shelf, marvelling at the perfect-imperfect curation of trinkets, books and photographs? Stared at a unique powder room's wallpaper and fallen in love? And then you return to your own home, ready to gut it down to the studs? Well, we have ALL been there. I have the secret for you – your friends have, most likely, spoken to a designer.

A designer will improve a space's function, making it better suited to its chosen purpose and the needs of the homeowner. They help choose the colours, materials, furniture, flooring, lighting and so much more that all comes together to create your home.

Designers will see an empty space between a fridge and wall and create the perfect spot for a cookbook nook. A designer will walk into a home with an outdated fireplace and transform it into a work of art – the functioning centrepiece of the home. They can stand in front of cubbies overflowing with swatches of fabric and spot the fabric to make the perfect toss pillow to complete a bedroom. They will design a house not just for display, but for family function and understand how life will be lived in it.

Let's face it, without designers, our homes would be duller, less functional and way less Instagramable.

We were so fortunate to speak with a number of inspiring Niagara designers this issue, as well as the tradespeople who bring their visions to life. As a result, our summer issue is busting at the seams with décor tips and products, an amazing full-home renovation and a model home that will make you want to get on the phone immediately with a designer to discuss your own home plans.

Go find a comfy spot in the sun, grab a bevvy and dive on in – you will not be disappointed!

Gabrielle Tieman-Lee

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COOL HOUSE

Designer **Tamarisk McNalty Stephens** explores the principles of sustainable living.

You may be fortunate enough to have air conditioning in your home, but did you know that there are some practical ways to help minimize your dependency on the AC? Read on for ideas that are good for the environment – and your pocketbook!



FANS

Ceiling fans should turn counter-clockwise in the warmer months as this creates a downdraft. The effect of moving air hitting the sweat on your skin is known as evaporative cooling. As sweat evaporates, it helps lower your overall body temperature. Thus, you can keep the thermostat turned up a few degrees and still stay cool. High-quality ceiling fans are worth the investment because they are often much quieter while providing powerful airflow.

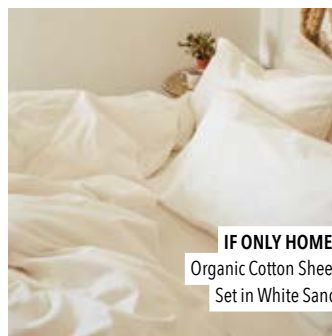
PAINT

If you have a room that gets a lot of southern exposure in the warmest months of the year, keep the paint light and airy. Dark colours can absorb the sun's radiant energy and that energy creates unnecessary heat gain.

BEDDING

An important consideration in the summertime is optimizing comfort levels in the bedroom. In addition to keeping the room cool (65°F is considered optimal for sleeping), another element that can greatly impact body temperature is the material of your mattress, pillows and bed linens. Natural materials are preferred over synthetics because of their ability to breathe. Some

synthetic materials (including most memory foam mattresses) are very dense and tend to trap body heat. Ensure your bed frame allows for proper airflow around your mattress. Consider a mattress topper made from natural material such as latex, wool or cotton. Select bedding that is natural and breathable – such as linen. Use a lighter duvet in the summer months made with natural down or wool filling. These will help keep you cool as they allow moisture to escape. A shredded latex pillow with a cotton or linen cover is a good combination to help keep your head cool. Latex is a naturally breathable material and when shredded, provides improved airflow.



HOLTEN IMPEX:
Autumn Tile in Grey

TILE

Porcelain or natural stone tiles generally provide cooler temperatures in the summer (look to Mediterranean architecture) – that is, if not continuously exposed to direct sunlight. Natural stone floors and porcelain tiles will hold heat, which is why they are often successfully paired with radiant heating options to warm up spaces in the colder months. Again, consider selecting lighter-coloured flooring in rooms that get direct sun exposure.

WINDOWS

If you are in the market for replacing windows, get the most energy-efficient windows you can afford. Spend some time with a professional to review the various frame, glazing and operation options. To minimize solar heat gain and reduce energy loss, you may require different energy efficiency ratings depending upon the exposure/orientation of various windows within your home and the overall ratio of window glazing to walls. A professional can also make recommendations on the operation styles and how the layout can optimize the breeze available from cool air entering through lower window openings, travelling through the house and the warmed air exiting at a higher location. Close windows first thing in the morning and open them up once the outside temperature has dropped in the evening.

HUNTER DOUGLAS:
Designer Roller Shades



WINDOW TREATMENTS

Window treatments are an excellent way to keep the cooling bill in check by controlling solar heat gain (while also adding an element of design). Blackout drapery is the most effective at preventing the sun from entering a room and offers a great solution for the sunniest times of day for south/west facing windows (specifically bedrooms). Solar shades provide various degrees of privacy, light penetration and heat transfer – all while offering a view to the outside.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping outdoors can also help to keep the inside of your home cooler. Planting deciduous trees, shrubs and tall grasses can provide shade that will help mitigate solar gain in the summer months.

APPLIANCES

Practical day-to-day tips include firing up the outdoor grill instead of using the oven, installing a clothesline for drying and waiting to use the dishwasher until temperatures dip in the evening. Also remember to turn on exhaust fans in the bathroom when taking a shower to remove hot, humid air. **OH**

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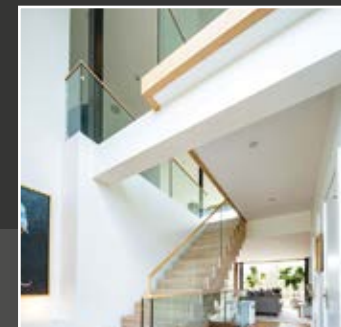
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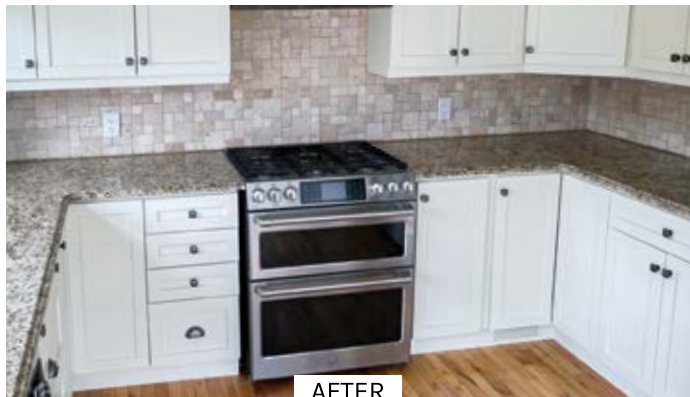
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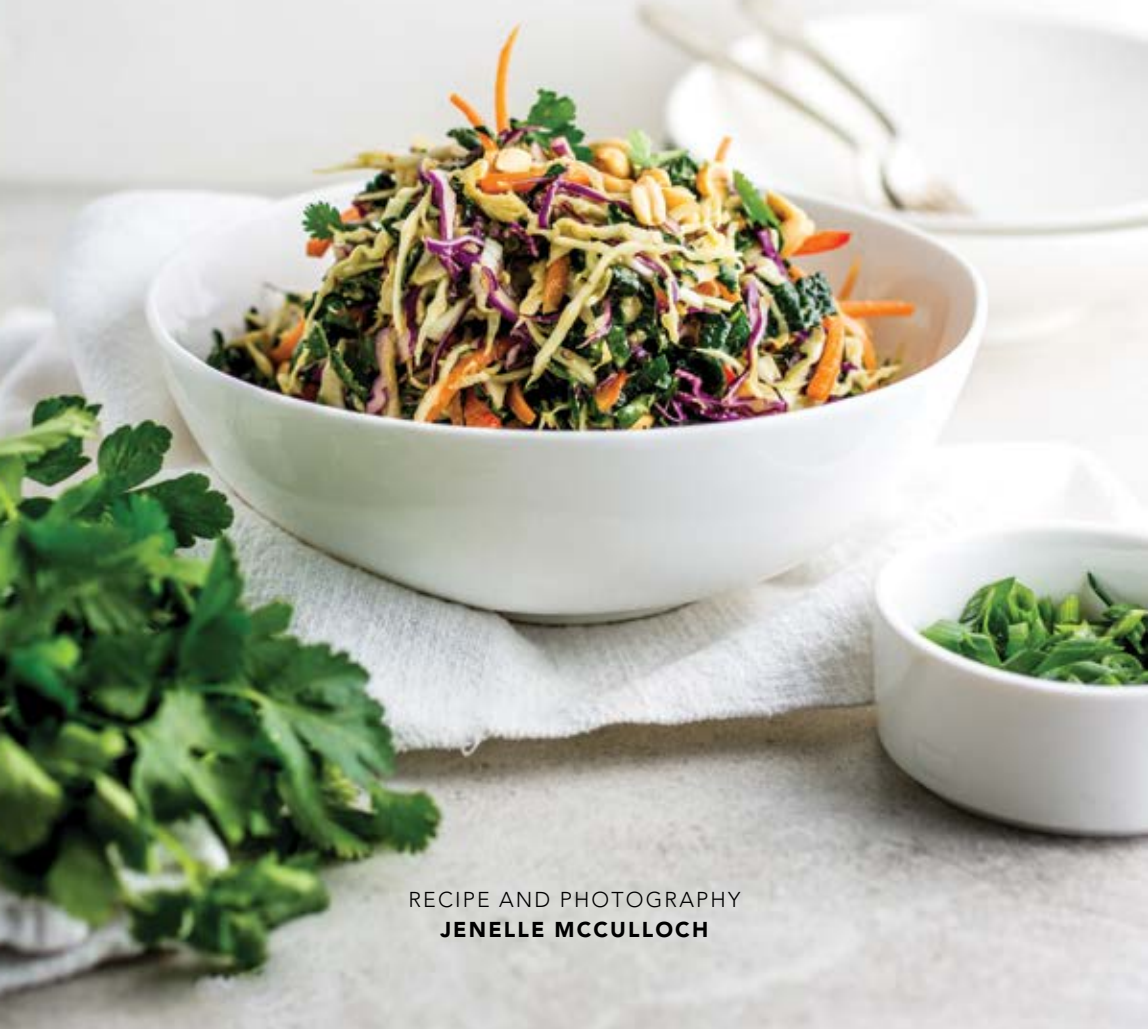
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- 2 cups cabbage, shredded
- 1 cup carrots, shredded
- 1 red pepper, thinly sliced
- 2 cups black kale, shredded
- ½ cup peanuts, roasted
- Handful cilantro
- 3 green onions, thinly sliced

THAI PEANUT DRESSING

- ¼ cup peanut butter
- 3 Tbsp rice vinegar
- 2 Tbsp honey
- 2 Tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Pinch of red chili flakes

Instructions

To make the dressing, combine all ingredients in a small blender or whisk together in a bowl until smooth.

Add salad ingredients to a large bowl. Pour dressing onto the salad and toss.

Serve with your protein of choice for a full meal! **OH**



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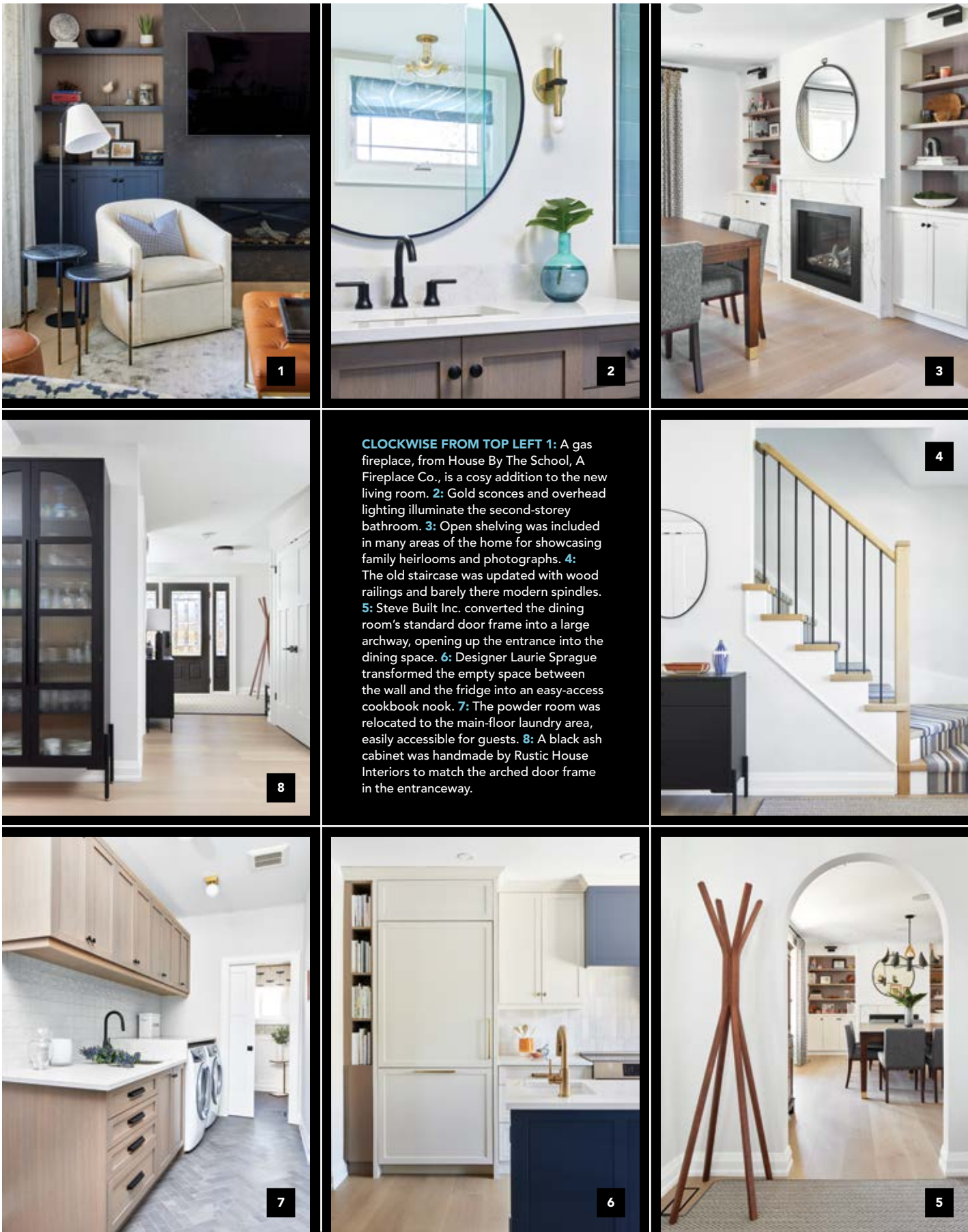
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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT 1: A gas fireplace, from House By The School, A Fireplace Co., is a cosy addition to the new living room. **2:** Gold sconces and overhead lighting illuminate the second-storey bathroom. **3:** Open shelving was included in many areas of the home for showcasing family heirlooms and photographs. **4:** The old staircase was updated with wood railings and barely there modern spindles. **5:** Steve Built Inc. converted the dining room's standard door frame into a large archway, opening up the entrance into the dining space. **6:** Designer Laurie Sprague transformed the empty space between the wall and the fridge into an easy-access cookbook nook. **7:** The powder room was relocated to the main-floor laundry area, easily accessible for guests. **8:** A black ash cabinet was handmade by Rustic House Interiors to match the arched door frame in the entranceway.

CHANGE

is good

STORY **DENISE WILLSON** | PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

WHEN THE HOMEOWNERS PURCHASED THIS 2,000 SQ. FT. ST. CATHARINES HOUSE IN 2006, IT MET THE NEEDS OF A YOUNG COUPLE WITH CHILDREN. FAST FORWARD MORE THAN 15 YEARS AND THE NOW EMPTY-NESTERS WERE CONSIDERING A MOVE.

Memories had been made, but the house was tired and no longer met the needs of this duo. They had visions of gathering friends and family in a setting meant for entertaining adults, and their abode no longer fit the bill. What they needed was a change.

"We thought we would buy a new house," says the homeowner. "Until we realized we liked our house." The couple then figured their time and money would be better spent renovating what they already owned. "We loved the area, our cul-de-sac and the ravine out back." The neighbourhood boasts mature trees, walking trails and easy-access amenities. "We didn't feel the need to downsize," says the homeowner. Being family-oriented, 10 or 12 people often visit at once, especially during the holidays. So, instead of moving, the homeowners decided to wipe the slate clean and start afresh.

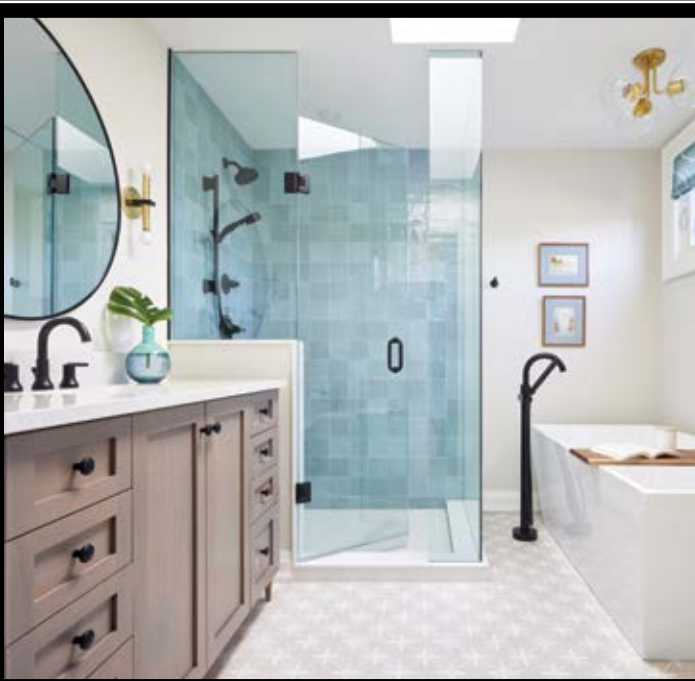
That's when they called in recruits. "We'd never used a designer before," says the homeowner. "But a friend suggested we talk with Laurie [Sprague] to discuss the benefits a designer could offer." They hired **Laurie Sprague**, the principal designer and decorator at **Sprague Interiors Inc.** "Laurie listened to our wants and needs and presented us with ideas we could envision for our home." The project started as a first- and second-floor reno but quickly became a whole remodel when water damage and mould meant

the basement and exterior needed work. **Jordan Station Design Co.** created the architectural plan and **Steve Built Inc.**, a local contractor, was brought into the fold. "We all worked together," says Laurie. "It took a lot of trust and belief in the vision and it turned out even better than expected."

Almost every room in this four-bedroom, four-bathroom house got a facelift. The original wall between the dining room and kitchen was removed to create a bigger open-concept kitchen, dining and sunken living room. A seldom-used formal sitting room was transformed into the new dining room to seat 12. A powder room was relocated from the entryway to the laundry area, expanding the foyer to allow more light and additional storage. "The renovation thoroughly changed the use of space on our main floor for the better," says the homeowner. "We now get a ton of light we didn't get before." Laurie designed hubs for storage and custom cabinetry executed by **Mission Custom Cabinetry** and shelving to display heirlooms and memorable trinkets. "It was important to make every inch into usable space," Laurie says. "The home needed to be beautiful and functional." The garage, for example, was transformed into a fully-operational gym. Heating and air conditioning was installed in the gym by **Marty's Heating and Air Conditioning**, and in combination with epoxy floors, the space was made comfortable year-round. *Continued on page 24*



FAR LEFT: This kitchen was designed to be highly functional, with double islands for prep and hosting and plenty of storage space. **LEFT:** Laurie Sprague, the principal designer and decorator at Sprague Interiors Inc. **BELOW:** Bathrooms were fitted with contemporary fixtures from Bathworks and new vanities, heated floors, showers, tiling and plumbing. **BOTTOM:** The off-white Shaker-style cabinetry by Mission Custom Cabinetry and textured backsplash tiles on the perimeter of the lengthy kitchen complement the slate blue islands.



The interior space boasts traditional elements dappled with contemporary features like black-and-gold lighting and hardware, yet the family’s lifestyle was at the forefront of every decision. Larger windows in the kitchen offer a spectacular view of the tree-lined backyard, where the family spends a lot of time enjoying the pool and patio. The off-white Shaker-style cabinetry and textured backsplash tiles on the perimeter of the lengthy kitchen complement two slate blue islands topped with white quartz by **Quartz Co.** “The counters look like marble,” says Laurie. “The soft grey veining matches the island cabinetry.” One island is for food prep and the other provides seating. “The T-shaped islands are great for entertaining while breaking the long kitchen into usage zones,” she says. Mission Custom Cabinetry created and installed the cabinetry and millwork on all three levels; **Aristocrat Floors** and **Centura** provided the floor and wall tiles, installed by



Lux Tiles. New appliances, including the built-in fridge/freezer combo, were purchased from **Nickerson Home Appliances.** Every wall was given fresh coats of **Benjamin Moore** Silver Satin and new gas fireplaces from **House By The School, The Fireplace Co.** add warmth to the living room, dining room and basement rec room. Bathrooms were fitted with contemporary fixtures from **Bathworks**, vanities, heated floors, showers, tiling and plumbing, and every closet was outfitted with custom shelving from **Closets by Design.** Creamy-grey white oak engineered floors in wide planks run the entire house for an uninterrupted flow, supplied by **Modern Hardwood.** Modern lighting, the jewels of the home, were found at **Don’s Light House** and installed by **Roberts Electric.** The exterior of the home was also given a facelift with siding from **Tip Top Exteriors.** *Continued on page 26*

ABOVE: Soft graphic wallpaper wraps the powder room walls. **TOP RIGHT:** A once seldom used formal sitting room was transformed into the new dining room – with comfortable seating for 12. **RIGHT:** A sunken living room is a step from the kitchen, encouraging togetherness and easy conversation.





Sprague Interiors created and supplied new furniture, area rugs and window treatments custom-made to suit each area of the home. “We aren’t fond of shopping,” adds the homeowner. “We don’t have an eye for colours and patterns that go together. We wanted to purge our old furniture and start over, but we needed Laurie to show us the possibilities.” The family had only used blinds in the past, never drapery, so the change took some persuading. “We’re fans of drapery now,” laughs the homeowner. “They add colour, texture and a softness we didn’t know was possible.” Laurie also updated the bedding and artwork, with many pieces commissioned from local artists, to add splashes of personality throughout.

“Our house is like new,” says the homeowner. “We use every inch and it suits us perfectly.” Renovating is sometimes better than buying. Sometimes, your perfect home is right there in front of you, just waiting for a change. **OH**

ABOVE: The large en suite shower makes a statement with dark blue tiles, coordinating nicely with the custom blue textiles in the primary bedroom. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Laurie is passionate about creating textiles for each room, including these unique printed drapes for the primary bedroom. **RIGHT:** The basement walls were brightened up with Silver Satin paint by Benjamin Moore and vibrant art from local Niagara artists. Gas fireplace from House By The School, The Fireplace Co.

LOCAL SOURCE GUIDE

- A&G Plumbing • Aristocrat Floors • Bathworks St. Catharines • B T Installs • Centura • Closets by Design • Dell Smart Home Solutions • Don’s Light House Inc. • House by the School, The Fireplace Co. • Jordan Station Design Co. • Lux Tiles • Marty’s Heating and Air Conditioning • Mission Custom Cabinetry • Modern Hardwood • Nickerson Home Appliances • Quartz Co. • Roberts Electric Inc. • Steve Built Inc. • Sprague Interiors • Tip Top Exteriors



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BEFORE & AFTER

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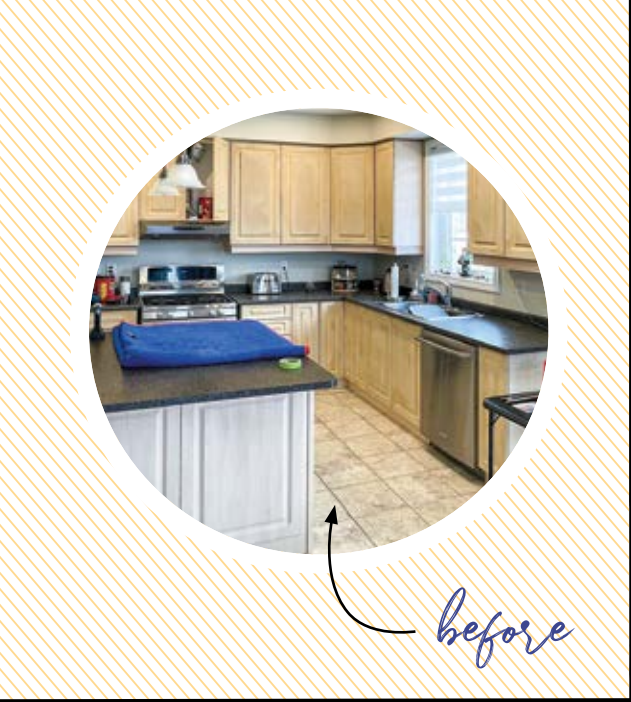
Nine Lives Custom Refinishing is Niagara's one-stop shop for home transformations. Specializing in kitchen refinishing, door respraying and furniture revival, their highly experienced staff is ready to breathe fresh life back into your home. The multifaceted business has refinished over 1,500 kitchens and thousands of pieces of furniture in the past six years. Today, they have three separate businesses covering all indoor and outdoor refinishing projects.

TEAM APPROACH

Professional spray finishers, in-home painters, installers and carpenters make up the experienced Nine Lives Custom Refinishing team. Every project receives a free in-home consultation, ensuring that each individual concept is understood; guaranteeing that all customers are 100 per cent satisfied when the job is complete. "That is the key to our business," says owner Kevin Coyle. "People are very visual and they want to know who they are working with. It's not just about price, it's about trust."



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG



TRENDING

White and grey cabinets continue to be the leading trend for restoration projects. "[White or grey] opens the kitchen up and creates flow," says Kevin. "This allows homeowners more room to introduce colour into other areas of the home." Nine Lives uses a professional process using a low VOC waterborne finish that can be applied to any existing surface.

PROCESS

Following a consultation, measurements are taken, design notes are made and the process begins. "We will go the extra mile," says Kevin. "There are projects we will tackle that other companies will not touch because it's not considered a full job. We not only refinish cabinets, but we will do minor modifications, like changing facings and adding soft hinges, when requested." Nine Lives will also connect homeowners with trusted local businesses that supply high-quality countertops, appliances and more to complete their kitchen.

SIMPLIFYING THE PROCESS

Nine Lives' newest service is the Eco-Safe On-Site Spray Truck. The first of its kind, this 17-foot truck is environmentally friendly and features a self-contained, on-board spray booth designed for refinishing exterior, interior and garage doors, shutters and patio furniture – all completely on-site. "This eliminates the pain of moving doors back and forth to the shop," Kevin explains. "We do these projects quickly right on site." **OH**

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Carolyn Coyle, Kevin Coyle, Dwane Ward,
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The theme of contrasting light and dark repeats throughout the kitchen and dining area space. **SNAPSHOTS,** **TOP:** The Rinaldi Homes sales and design team: Selena Fabi, Danielle Girhiny, Jacob Bergsma, Sandra Crowder and Victor Krmpotic. **CENTRE:** Members of Rinaldi Homes construction team. **BOTTOM:** Rinaldi's office team: Barb Lareau, Andy Montana, Eric Gill, Michael Rinaldi, Jerry Rinaldi, Joan Rinaldi, Brian Sherwood, Ruth Reynolds and Danielle Rinaldi.



Setting the Standard

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STORY **TIFFANY MAYER** | PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

Black Beauty is her name, and really, there is no better moniker for the bungalow at the corner of Baker Road in Stevensville.

Much like the timeless story of the horse bearing the same name, this 3,200 sq. ft. home (including finished basement) by **Rinaldi Homes** is all about contrasts, both obvious and well-played. The facade is clad in wide-plank, black siding and charcoal stone from **Burnstein Brick**, roofing by **Stark Lumber** and landscaped by **DeKorte's Landscaping**. But then you walk through the wood front door from **Pollard Windows & Doors** – the only exterior feature not in black – and the dark exterior gives way to the bright and open living space inside. *Continued on page 32*

home & builder

A den at the front of the home hints of the contemporary feel throughout – entirely enveloped in white walls but capped in a coffered ceiling with insets painted black by **Niagara Gold Painting**. On the floor, wide-plank hardwood with blonde and grey undertones from **Aristocrat Floors** spans most of the main floor.

That contrast of light and dark repeats in the kitchen, executed by **Artcraft Kitchens**, where generous storage is tucked behind painted white Shaker-style cabinetry. Built-in Fisher & Paykel appliances from **Nickerson Home Appliances** ensure flow right into the butler's pantry where small countertop appliances and remnants of dinner prep and parties can be hidden out of view.

The centerpiece is a black island topped in quartz cut with deep sides to add opulence. Black pendant lights from **Don's Light House**, a black range hood bracketed by glass cupboards with black trim and a gleaming white subway tile backsplash from Aristocrat Floors complete the space. **H Electric**, an Energy Star certified business, wired the entire home.

“Though the main living area is open concept, it's not merely one great room with kitchen, dining and lounging spaces blending into one another,” says Victor Krmpotic, Rinaldi sales and marketing manager.



ABOVE: A black pendant light from Don's Light House highlights the open eating area. **LEFT:** A private office/den was thoughtfully placed at the front of the home, tucked away from the bustle of the kitchen/living area. **BELOW LEFT:** Both the main and secondary sleeping spaces feature their own bathrooms furnished by The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom. **BELOW RIGHT:** The laundry room is fitted with ample storage and folding space.



Natural materials, like hardwood floors and linen textiles, introduce an organic aesthetic and add to the subtle modern country feel of the interior. **BELOW RIGHT:** The dark fireplace is a dramatic yet timeless addition to the lower-level rec room.

“The living room is set just off the kitchen and dining area for easy interior decorating.”

The main-floor living space extends outdoors with a covered patio that's standard on most Rinaldi homes – and a rare builder feature, Victor notes. Not only does it make the deck usable in rain and sun, it adds architectural appeal along the back of the home.

Just off the kitchen, a quiet and private bedroom wing can be found with access to both the main and secondary sleeping

spaces, each with their own bathrooms by **The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom**. The divide is a thoughtful touch but also a practical one that bucks the typical bungalow layout of a bedroom at the front of the home and one at the back, explains Victor.

“We took a lot of time thinking about who's living in the home potentially and how they'll live, and they might want that safety and security,” says Victor.

Wide, carpeted stairs by **Amber Stairs & Railings Inc.** lead to the lower level, giving

way to a sprawling rec room with space enough for a billiard table and a full sectional – perfect for gathering around the gas fireplace from **The One Stop Fireplace Shop** and large-screen TV.

Two additional bedrooms are tucked into a serene enclave off this main entertaining area. A further nod to Rinaldi Homes' consideration of living needs, especially in a post-pandemic era, is the glassed-in fitness room with ample space for exercise equipment just off the rec room. *Continued on page 34*



ABOVE: Michael, Danielle, Joan & Jerry Rinaldi



home & builder

“We really do it as if we’re building it for ourselves,” says Danielle Rinaldi, marketing and business development manager. “We want it all to work and be functional and have design appeal.”

It’s clear Rinaldi Homes has found a niche doing just that. *Black Beauty* is a testament to it, but so are the 35 years in homebuilding that the company, founded by Danielle’s father Jerry and her late uncle Frank, is celebrating this year.

The secret to their longevity is designing and building homes like *Black Beauty*, which set the trends in building and living standards rather than follow them, Victor notes.

“We’re always trying to stay ahead of the curve and be ahead in the industry,” he says. It’s apparent in other Rinaldi developments, too, including those that came before *Black Beauty* with their Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired Prairie design, now a standard in modern design.

That reputation for setting industry benchmarks will continue to be seen in Rinaldi Homes neighbourhoods that come next, like the latest community of “ultra-modern” townhomes selling now in Fonthill, each with their own elevator.

These townhomes epitomize “the evolution of floor plans,” combining living and working in the same home. Here, the entire main level is designed as work space “and then you can take the elevator up to the main level to the living space and have that separate from work,” Danielle explains. “You can live, work and entertain at home but have it so you’re not getting bored of the space.”

It sounds novel, but if Rinaldi Homes’ history is any indication, it’s bound to become the standard of living.

“It’s been a philosophy that Frank and Jerry have had since the beginning,” says Victor. “Let’s build it right to withstand the test of time and let’s build for the future. We don’t believe in following everyone else. We set our own path.” **OH**



A coastal colour palette gives the primary bathroom a spa-like serenity. **BELOW LEFT:** The large glass shower complements the clean, modern feel of the home. **BELOW RIGHT:** Additional height and contrasting paint was added to the primary bedroom’s ceiling for an added sense of grandeur.



LOCAL
SOURCE GUIDE

- All Green Irrigation • Amber Stairs & Railings Inc. • Aristocrat Floors • Artcraft Kitchens • Budget Blinds • Burnstein Brick • Closets, Shutters & More Inc. • DeKorte’s Landscaping • Don’s Light House Inc. • Gibbys Electronic Supermarket • H Electric • Kirkpatrick Stoneworks • Lows Glass, Mirror & Windows • Niagara Gold Painting • Niagara RoofMasters • Nickerson Home Appliances • The One Stop Fireplace Shop • Plumbtech Plumbing Inc. • Pollard Windows & Doors • Quartz Co. • Rinaldi Homes • Stark Lumber • The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom • Turkstra Lumber • Yarnell Overhead Doors Ltd.

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PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

215 DESIGN CO.

Melissa Tofano is the principal designer at 215 Design Co. She has embraced design since she was a young girl, understanding that by having a cohesive vision, you can maximize the flow and function of any project. She is able to take her clients' visions and make them come alive. Melissa is always exploring new and exciting design ideas and embraces the elements of design risks to bring her finished product to the next level. Melissa creates positive energy through design with the ability to take a space and transform it into a work of true artistry with a timeless aesthetic.



FAVOURITE TRENDS

I love moody colour palettes, like rich green or soft black. These are on trend but hold a timeless feel. Moody colours can set the tone for an entire space. Personally, I like to keep design choices timeless and not always follow the trends from year-to-year. The key to design is to feel at home in your space and to be able to enjoy the space for years to come.



Melissa Tofano



VISION INTO REALITY

I like to fully understand my clients before starting a project. I make sure to get a feel for the space we are designing as well as how they want to feel when living in the space. We draw from a lot of inspirational images to reference what their style is and we work together to come up with a unique design plan that suits their vision and needs. We all want a space to look and feel great, but it has to be functional too! We also create design plans and 3D renderings when requested so everyone can be confident with the end results

Continued on page 38



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

**Front: Jennifer Garner & Bren Petrunick
Back: Taylor Rumble, Elizabeth Braun-Loomis,
Declan Howard, Lynn Markoff, Kate Papadinac
& Gloria-Jean Bucowski**

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LEADING TRENDS

The modern interpretation of chintz is a welcome refresh on age-old patterns. We love the vibrant, large-scale blooms and florals this trend has brought forth and we think they're perfect for a statement sofa, armchair, drapery or toss cushions. We're also loving the attention that's being paid to hand-painted cabinetry and furniture; it wears well, can easily be repaired and offers you limitless colour combinations.

The focus on vintage and sustainable design, particularly furnishings, is especially appealing to us. We've always sought to breathe new life into old silhouettes by recoiling and reupholstering a classic armchair, settee or ottoman. There's a real art to balancing the traditional frames with modern fabrics and we love this opportunity to be creative.



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PHOTO: MATT YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHY

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Continued on page 40



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Continued on page 42

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3. Hire an arborist to maintain your trees.

Continued on page 44



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REFABULATED PAINTED KITCHENS & FURNITURE

At **Refabulated Painted Kitchens & Furniture** we believe your DREAM KITCHEN starts with the one you already have! Most kitchens were built with good bones and good design but over time the finish on your doors and drawers can wear and look tired and dated. We can help! We refinish cabinetry. We can customize your cabinetry at a fraction of the cost of a brand new kitchen without the hassle of a complete renovation. The best part? It leaves room in the budget for the elements that can really shine, such as quartz countertops or a beautifully designed backsplash.

We have a proven process with results that never disappoint. Share your inspiration with us! We are also full of good ideas as well as working with a designer for colour consults. We are confident we can help you create the kitchen you will love, starting with painting your cabinetry.

We also paint furniture, customizing with the Benjamin Moore colour palette. We offer discounted hardware from the latest designs to more traditional styles. The hardware on your cabinetry is the jewelry of your kitchen and should not be overlooked!

Call or text for your free quote:
289.690.1047
refabulated.com
(Please see ad on pg 41)



INTERIORS BY BETTER SHADE

Interiors By Better Shade: The destination showroom for all your interior design needs in the Niagara peninsula. A stone's throw from Hamilton and on the way to your Niagara-on-the-Lake getaway, we are Ontario's largest chair gallery with a beautiful selection of furnishings for your whole home, at a better price.

Fourth-generation family owned and operated since our beginning in 1955, we are renowned for our custom window treatments made on-site. From shutters to drapery, and everything in between, we make every type of window covering quickly and affordably.

Visit our inviting and beautifully-appointed showroom to meet with our experienced design team. In a relaxed, no-pressure atmosphere we will help your vision come together with results that exceed expectation and blend comfort with functionality, making your time at home more enjoyable. From new builds, keeping that fresh modern model home feel, to renovating or updating a single room in your home, buying local and shopping Canadian-made with us is a fun and stylish option. From Home Theatre Seating and recliners to custom sofas, sectionals, chairs and rugs, artwork and accessories, please come and see how we can make your whole home BETTER!

469 Glendale Ave,
St. Catharines | 905.227.4555
interiorsbybetershade.com
 @interiorsbybetershade
(Please see ads on pg 8, 9)



CLOSETS BY DESIGN

Closets by Design is the leading manufacturer of Home Organization products. Our offerings include design, manufacturing and installation of reach-in and walk-in custom closets, garage cabinets and flooring, home offices, wallbeds, media centres, laundry rooms, pantries, hobby rooms and more.

At Closets by Design® our custom products are designed with you in mind, so you can trust that our products will meet your needs with regard to function and aesthetics. Plus, our many available options and accessories mean you can always find features that match your existing décor. Maximize your storage space and maximize the possibilities.

Since 1982, Closets By Design® has built a reputation of integrity as the industry leader in customer service and total customer satisfaction. From our no-obligation in-home consultation, custom tailored designs and the highest quality product construction, our products simply offer the best value in the industry.

Imagine your home totally organized. Let Closets By Design® be your partner in realizing this dream.

1.877.563.7799
closetsbydesign.ca
(Please see ad on pg 7)



STONEY CREEK FURNITURE

For more than 50 years, **Stoney Creek Furniture** has offered families an unparalleled selection of beautiful furnishings for every room in their home. Our 85,000 sq. ft. showroom of inspiring looks for the living, dining and bedroom is a welcoming place where you can browse comfortably for that perfect statement piece or on-trend accessory. Helpful advice from our friendly design team is always available when you need it.

"Many of Stoney Creek Furniture's non-commissioned staff have been with us for decades, which contributes to the family feel and relaxed environment that has kept our customers coming back for generations," says Jim Fee, Stoney Creek Furniture's President. "They count on us for quality furniture from a community-based company dedicated to personal service. They also appreciate our ongoing efforts to increase our lineup of eco-responsible manufacturers who share our commitment to sustainability. So whether you are furnishing one room or a full house, we can help you create the look you'll love, knowing you'll feel good about it for years to come."

We invite you to drop in and experience Stoney Creek Furniture for yourself. You will be amazed at what's in store for you.
395 Lewis Rd, Stoney Creek
1.800.263.8575
stoneycreekfurniture.com
(Please see ad on pg 51)



SERENDIPITY SOY CANDLES

We proudly hand pour each of our 100% pure soy candles in Collingwood, ON. We are happy to make all-natural candles at an affordable price for all to safely enjoy. With over 500 scents and 30 collections, we have something for everyone. Join us at our downtown Collingwood locations for a Candle Making Workshop – book online. We also offer a fundraising program, franchise opportunities, corporate gifts and wedding and event favours.

9 RETAIL LOCATIONS:

- COLLINGWOOD Outlet Store
- COLLINGWOOD Downtown Store
- OAKVILLE Oakville Place
- BARRIE Georgian Mall
- HAMILTON Limeridge Mall
- ST. CATHARINES Pen Centre
- KITCHENER Fairview Park Mall
- PICKERING Pickering Town Centre
- LONDON White Oaks Mall

At Serendipity, we're dedicated to reaching the masses. That means offering an affordably priced product for more than just a lucky few to enjoy. We're committed to showing people how awesome and easy it is to make better purchasing decisions as a consumer and safely burn and enjoy a candle in their home that is safe and clean burning.

Hope you'll join us in spreading the word and SOY JOY while supporting our mandate to make the world a better place, one clean-burning candle at a time.
serendipitycandlefactory.com
(Please see ad on pg 10)



STEEBUILT INC.

SteveBuilt Inc. was founded on the principle that quality is paramount. This work ethic has been pivotal to the company as they've expanded their operations in the Niagara Region, receiving high praise from the community.

Their team takes pride in the excellent track record they have with their clients – this means that they always work with you to make your vision become a reality, providing you with experience-based solutions along the way.

Whether you're looking to build the home of your dreams, to shake it up with a whole home renovation or to add a specialized space with a home addition, SteveBuilt can take care of it.

Meeting deadlines, hiring licensed professionals, prioritizing cleanliness and possessing meticulous attention to detail are their keys to success.

You can have peace of mind in knowing that the SteveBuilt team are experienced, licensed and fully qualified to build your home.

The President and Operator, Steve Schroeder, was personally awarded with the title of Best General Contractor and Best Building Contractor/Consultant for Niagara's 2021 Reader's Choice Awards. As a company, SteveBuilt Inc. earned the title of Best Home Renovation Company.

SteveBuilt services the St. Catharines, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls, Beamsville and Fonthill areas.
905.401.9338
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stevebuilt.ca
(Please see ad on pg 21)

directory

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.

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finishing touch



SPECKLED Style

Terrazzo is back in all shapes and colours. And it's not just for floors, walls and counters. The terrazzo look is everywhere and we've found some fun ways to introduce this look at home.

1. RENWIL: Bruno Bookends 2. RENWIL: Teano Side Table & Magazine Holder 3. INDIGO: A4 Spiral Notebook in Terrazzo Blush 4. GEON TILE: Assorted Terrazzo Tile 5. SURYA: Terra Pillow 6. RENWIL: Castelo Pillow 7. S'WELL: Pink Terrazzo Takeaway Mug 8. IH CASADÉCOR: 9.5" Cutting Board Shape Ceramic Trivet 9. SIMONS: Concrete Disc Hook 10. NUEVO: Nani Sconce in Bubble Gum Terrazzo 11. CRATE & KIDS: Terrazzo Toddler Bedding 12. SUGARHOUSE CERAMIC CO.: Hand-Painted Terrazzo Mug in Speckle 13. STYLE IN FORM: Anthology Honeycomb Coasters 14. MADE GOODS: Janison Tray Set in White Mop Terrazzo 15. ABBOTT: Luncheon Terrazzo Napkins 16. SIMONS: Terrazzo-Print Shower Curtain 17. SIMONS: Terrazzo-Print Bath Mat 18. SIMONS: Terrazzo Printed Accessories OH



Beautiful is always in

The quality furnishings you'd love in your home are here to inspire you. Visit our remarkable 85,000 sq. ft. showroom where you'll find lots in stock and new arrivals. Exactly what you want with the advice you need to make it fit in beautifully.



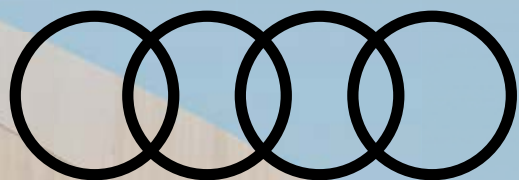
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