

FALL 2021

STYLE ■ COMFORT ■ IDEAS ■ REAL ESTATE

ourhomes

OAKVILLE BURLINGTON MISSISSAUGA | HAMILTON & AREA

RESTORING
NANCY'S HOUSE

HONOURING
Heritage

feathering
THE EMPTY NEST

PUMPKIN PIE
SHAKES

DIY RAFFIA MIRROR

Dream



FINE CUSTOM HOMES INC.

Design. Build. Project Management.

34 years international multi-site project management and operations

In-house Engineers, Architectural Technicians, PMP and PGSC by Canadian Construction Association

Featured in magazines, TV and newspapers

Fine Custom Homes and Boutique Custom Renovations

Building Trust. Creating a Lifestyle.



The FURNITURE GALLERY

175 Dieppe Rd., (beside Q.E.W.) St. Catharines, 1-800-680-5553
Monday to Saturday 10:00-5:00 www.furnituregallery.com

1975 Celebrating 46 Years 2021



Tel 416.777.2324 Dir 416.886.2290
4632 Yonge Street, Suite 202 Toronto, ON M2N 5M1

Email info@ambassadorfinecustomhomesinc.com
ambassadorfinecustomhomesinc.com

Multi Award Winning
Company including
Best Custom Home
in Canada



Strongest. Innovative.
Tough-as-nails.



DOORWAY INC.

Quality Doors - Since 1993



Pella is the most preferred window brand by homeowners in Toronto.¹

Pella® Impervia® windows are made from our proprietary fiberglass, the strongest material for windows and patio doors.² Tested from -40°F to 140°F and suitable for all climates, our fiberglass windows and patio doors help you create a comfortable home year-round. And with the patent-pending Easy-Slide Operator, available on casement and awning windows, you can simply slide the hardware to open and close your windows.



New Easy-Slide Operator

¹ Based on a 2020 survey of leading window brands among homeowners.

² Pella's proprietary fiberglass material has displayed superior strength over wood, vinyl, aluminum, wood/plastic composites and other fiberglass materials used by leading national brands in tensile and 3-point bend tests performed in accordance with ASTM D638 and D790 testing standards.

Pella Window & Door Showroom

Oakville, 1195 North Service Road West | 905.827.1690 | PellaofToronto.com

To book an appointment, please contact Amalia at STORMAD@PELLA.COM



*Visit Our Showroom To See Our
Fiberglass Doors on Display!*

4361 Harvester Rd, Burlington (Between Appleby Line and Walkers Line) 905.639.5122 www.doorwayinc.ca



**BATH
FITTER®**



HunterDouglas



Duette® Track Glide™ Honeycomb Shades

SALNEK'S™
CUSTOM WINDOW TREATMENTS
Covering Windows for over 30 years

BURLINGTON: 2202 INDUSTRIAL ST. | 905.320.4811

DUNDAS: 242 GOVERNORS RD. | 905.966.2551

BARRIE • BURLINGTON • COLLINGWOOD • TORONTO • DUNDAS • MARKHAM

WWW.SALNEK.CA

BLINDS • SHUTTERS • SHADINGS • DRAPERY



Design Studio® Side Panels with Luminette® and Silhouette® Privacy Sheers

FITS YOUR *standards*

With quality you can trust and a lifetime guarantee, Bath Fitter doesn't just fit your bath, it fits your high standards. Why have over two million people brought Bath Fitter into their homes? *It Just Fits.*

OUR BENEFITS



Easy to Clean,
Virtually Maintenance Free



Seamless Wall



High-Gloss Acrylic
Maintains Its Shine



Book your **FREE** design **CONSULTATION** today!

289-768-7029 30 TOPS DRIVE, GRIMSBY, ON L3M 4E8



It Just Fits™ **BATHFITTER.COM**



CORNERSTONE
HOME

Falling
INTO
LUXURY

*New inventory arriving weekly.
Check our social media for updates!*



PARIS

300 GRAND RIVER NORTH, PARIS **COMING SOON**

TORONTO

2886 DUNDAS STREET WEST T 416 767 8170

CAMBRIDGE

90 MAIN STREET T 519 740 9991

Love Being Home

Facebook icon CORNERSTONEHOME Instagram icon CORNERSTONEHOMEINTERIORS

CORNERSTONEFURNITURE.CA



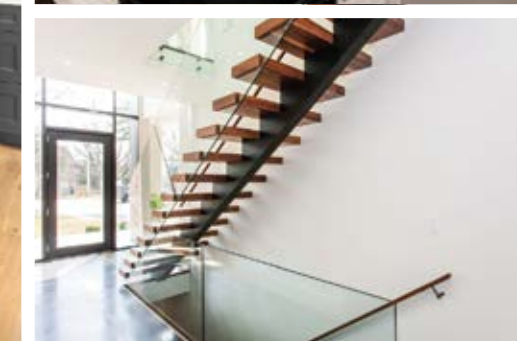
Finally there is a vinyl shutter that has the look, feel, and warmth of wood. Smart Shutter Canada has the latest innovation in shutters, delivering elegance and a low maintenance and eco-friendly product. Our shutters are V.O.C.-free and have been found to outperform the rest and are the best in terms of environmental impact and durability – they are custom made to fit your windows, will add instant value to your home and save on energy costs!

Based out of Hamilton, we are conveniently located to provide you with an outstanding shutter at a great price. We also do custom specialty shapes! Anything from arches, brows, triangles, circles, octagons, and everything in between. We measure, make, and install...Any shape, any size, we do it all!

With over 20 years of experience, and having dealt with thousands of customers, we have a strict set of guidelines that includes multiple inspection points throughout the fabrication process, ensuring we exceed our customer's expectations. We welcome the opportunity to earn your trust and to provide you with the best shutters on the market, with the best service, at the absolute best price!



custom homes and renovations
trusted, reliable and uncompromising



Call us, for all your window treatment needs.

905-389-9800
smartshuttercanada.com

We will not be undersold!

416.704.6381 | 3-348 Lakeshore Rd., E., Mississauga ON | jt@trubuild.com | www.trubuild.com

*First responders receive additional savings! We thank you for your service.





Oakville
KITCHEN & BATH CENTRE

599 Third Line
Oakville, Ontario

905.827.4611

www.oakvillekitchencentre.com

Oakville
KITCHEN & BATH CENTRE

QUALITY + DESIGN

Our reputation is built on our unique attention to quality & design.

We offer a full range of products and services to fulfill all your kitchen & bathroom renovation needs.



LIVE · LOVE · HOME

SOLID WOOD BEDROOMS | DINING | UPHOLSTERY | LEATHER



JOSHUA CREEK TRADING
FURNITURE
& HOME DECOR



VISIT OUR 10000 SQ. FT LOCAL SHOWROOM IN OAKVILLE

1029 SPEERS RD, OAKVILLE (SPEERS & 4TH LINE) 905.842.3739 JOSHUACREEKFURNITURE.COM

fracassi &co.



LUXURY REAL ESTATE | INVESTMENTS



COMING SOON TO SOUTH ALDERSHOT!

- 64'X150' CORNER LOT ON A QUIET STREET • 3235 SQ. FT. + FINISHED BASEMENT
- COMPLETION DATE: SPRING 2022

Notables:

- 4-bedroom • Main floor office • Oversized rear covered porch



f&co.

COMMUNITY PROFESSIONALS, BROKERAGE 318 Dundurn St S • Hamilton ON L8P 4L6 • 905.522.1110
VINCENT FRACASSI | 905.522.1110 | FRACASSIANDCO.COM





HOME OFFICE, GYMS & CABANAS

Benefits of Modular Construction

Finance Cost Savings

Production time of 3-6 months compared to 12-15 months for traditional builds = reduced finance costing.

Prefab Construction

Buildings are built 75-90% in a climate controlled shop = increased efficiencies, less waste and costs.

Metal Construction

Containers meet and surpass building codes. They are rugged and are ideal in harsh climates and rough terrain.

Comfort Benefits

Containers are spray foam insulated, therefore are much easier to heat & cool and keep drafts and bugs out.

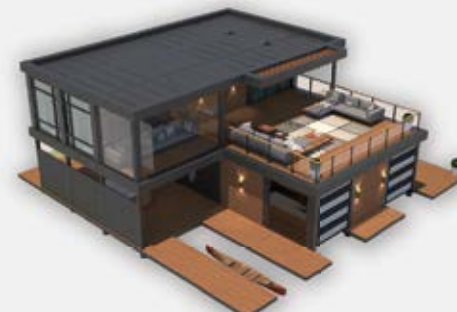
Green Benefits

Containers can be equipped with energy efficient heating, cooling, lighting, solar & smart technologies to reduce energy use, creating net-zero homes.

Reduced Impact on Neighbours

Building is installed in 1-2 days, finishing trades 1-3 weeks (versus 12-15 months for traditional builds).

HOMES



COTTAGES



LANEWAY & GARDEN SUITES

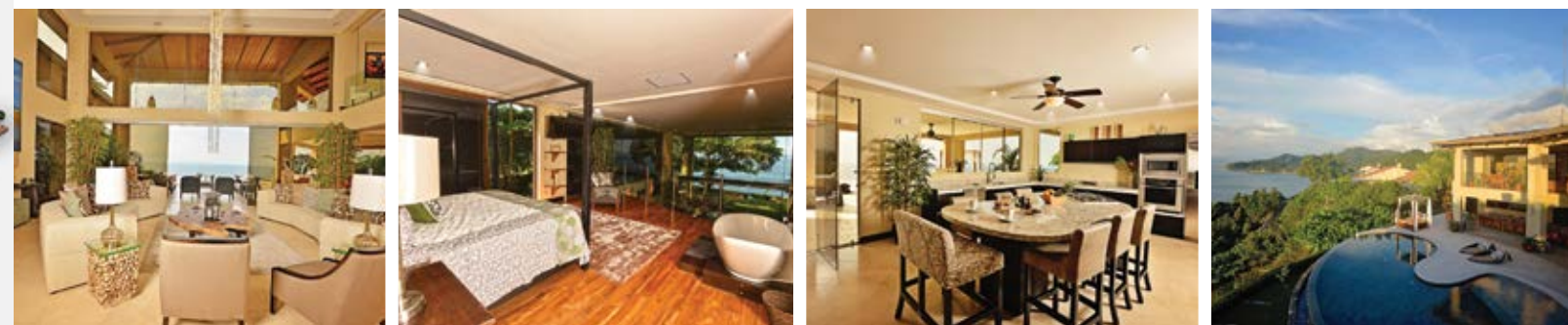


Exclusive Luxury Home - Casa Faro Azul, Costa Rica

Casa Faro Azul is a private luxury residence in Costa Rica perched at the edge of the rainforest on a small cliff above the Pacific Ocean on Faro Escondido, an exclusive community near Marina Los Sueños. This palace-like home was designed to make residents feel as if they are endlessly surrounded by picturesque scenery and breathtaking views of Costa Rica's Pacific Coast from its terraces and patios, hence its name "The Blue Lighthouse". 12,500 sq. ft. under nice high ceilings and refreshing central air conditioning, with additional 5,000 sq. ft. of balconies, decks, and patios with an enthralling décor that makes residents feel as though there's no boundary among themselves and the open breadths of Costa Rica's Pacific Coast combined with the common tropical environmental factors that are all part of a beautiful scenario.

THIS UNIQUE LUXURY HOME AWAITS YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF PARADISE.

Visitors will be assured of privacy and solitude, along with the Costa Rica Luxurious Lifestyles team's VIP concierge services, with a wide range of contemporary amenities.



Interiors By Better Shade

Furniture Draperies and Blinds

905-227-4555

469 Glendale Ave., St. Catharines

@interiorsbybettershade.com



Choose your...

#1 Style

#2 Fabric or
Leather

#3 Wood & Metal

#4 Height
Dining /Counter/Bar Height

Bar Stools!

Ontario's **LARGEST** Chair Gallery!

WE ALSO CARRY:

POWER LIFT CHAIRS | POWER HEADREST | RECLINERS | SWIVELS | WING BACKS
POWER LUMBAR CHAIRS | ZERO GRAVITY CHAIRS | WALLHUGGERS | CHAISE LOUNGES

STYLE • COMFORT • IDEAS • REAL ESTATE
ourhomes
OAKVILLE BURLINGTON MISSISSAUGA | HAMILTON & AREA

REGIONAL PUBLISHERS Jamie Jefferson
Georgette McCulloch

REGIONAL MANAGING EDITORS Gina Makkar & Melissa North

REGIONAL PRODUCTION MANAGER Lynn Derrick

MARKETING & ADVERTISING Marie Gallagher, 905.399.0717
marie.gallagher@ourhomes.ca
Lisa Ormsby, 705.445.5065 x200
lisa.ormsby@ourhomes.ca
Dianne Brown, 905.975.0280
dianne.brown@ourhomes.ca

REACH US EASILY: firstname.lastname@ourhomes.ca

OUR HOMES is a registered trademark of OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC.
OUR HOMES Oakville Burlington Mississauga Hamilton & Area is published four times a year.
OUR HOMES is distributed to residents of Oakville, Burlington, Mississauga and Hamilton & Area via direct home delivery. OUR HOMES is delivered to *The Globe & Mail* and *Toronto Star* subscribers across the GTA. 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.

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

OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC:

EDITORIAL

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Georgette McCulloch

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Kristin Schnelten

DIGITAL EDITOR Rachael Havens

MANAGING EDITORS

Nancy Belgue, Walter Franczyk, Mary Hatt,
Rachael Havens, Gina Makkar, Sara Martin,
Melissa North, Gabrielle Tieman-Lee,
Janet White Bardwell, Heather Wright

ART

ART DIRECTOR

Tara Chattell

ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTORS

Sheila Britton, Robynne Sangiuliano

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Jason Hartog

PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Lynn Derrick

PRODUCTION MANAGERS

Julia Dempsey, Kelly Donaldson,
Tracy Shuttleworth

OPERATIONS

MANAGING DIRECTOR, SALES & MARKETING

Jamie Jefferson
jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca

MANAGING DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS

Georgette McCulloch

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE &

DIRECTOR OF DISTRIBUTION Lisa Ormsby

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT Kelly Craig

ACCOUNTING Tyler Annette

CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Arnal, Michelle Berwick, Sheila Britton, Heather Dunbar, Louis Duncan-He,
Nigel Eves, Jason Hartog, Kelly Horkoff, Gina Makkar, Georgette McCulloch,
Jenelle McCulloch, Tamarisk McNalty Stephens, Melissa North, Melanie Rekola,
Lynne Richardson, Erin Rochon, Joel Smith, Jules Torti

Advertisements and the content, including photos, of advertisements published within
OUR HOMES magazine are supplied solely by the advertiser and neither the publisher nor
OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. accept responsibility for opinions expressed in advertisements or for
copyright issues with regards to photos, advertising copy and advertisements, nor shall they be held
liable thereby. By act of reading this publication, all advertisers and readers agree to indemnify and
hold harmless both OUR HOMES Media Group Inc., and the publisher thereby. Copyright ©2021
OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited.

OUR HOMES CAN BE FOUND IN THE FOLLOWING MARKETS:

- Barrie/Orillia/Midland • Grey Bruce • London • Muskoka • Niagara
- Oakville/Burlington/Mississauga/Hamilton • Ottawa • Peterborough
- Southern Georgian Bay • Toronto & York Region
- Wellington County/Orangeville/Caledon/Waterloo Region • Windsor



Interiors By Better Shade

Furniture, Draperies and Blinds

905-227-4555

469 Glendale Ave., St. Catharines

ADD US TO INSTAGRAM

@interiorsbybettershade.com

Home theatre seating to elevate every moment at home



Choose from 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 seat options in a straight or curved formation. Exceptional comfort and
luxurious power recline functions combined with LED lights, cupholders, storage consoles, USB
charging, and a range of optional accessories to provide the ultimate in convenience and relaxation.
Tune in, lean back and unwind knowing your Home theatre seating is **Canadian-made**
with the highest quality materials and mechanisms.

Ontario's **LARGEST** Chair Gallery!

We also carry: BAR STOOLS | RECLINERS | SWIVELS | POWER LIFT CHAIRS | WING BACKS | SOFAS | SECTIONALS | ZERO GRAVITY CHAIRS | WALLHUGGERS | CHAISE LOUNGES



SHOP AT NEST IN-STORE & ONLINE

Support quality local, Canadian and handmade.
Shop with us both in-store and online!
Discover all of your favourite animal themed
gifts, decor, crafts, and more.



nesthamilton.com/shop



Aftica Decor

438 Mohawk Rd W Hamilton | 905.574.2434
54 Wilson St W Ancaster | 905.648.2420
afticadecor.com

CURBSIDE PICKUP AVAILABLE

editor's note



A NOTE FROM Hamilton

CAN YOU FEEL IT – the steady rise in optimism now that we are getting vaccinated and everything is opening up? I've always loved fall, but this year it feels even sweeter.

We have a bumper issue for you – lots of beautiful

homes and interesting people to read about. And of course inspirational photos.

On page 110 you'll find a particularly poignant feature. The story of a run down house generously renovated by a host of champions to become a home, *Nancy's House*, for survivors of human trafficking.

For this story I interviewed Fiorella Kuczma, a survivor of human trafficking and now Interim Executive Director of Restorations Canada, and she spoke candidly with me about falling into exploitation when she was just 13 years old. Sadly, 13 is the average age children become involved in human trafficking, which is an ongoing problem in our region.

Today Fiorella works hard to help those who have lived through the experience, but wants preventative strategies in place so we aren't simply relying on reactive ones. She believes we need to raise awareness, communication and education.

"It's having those conversations, not just in the classroom between teacher and student but also parent and child," Fiorella explains. "Educating ourselves and understanding this is not a taboo thing. Yes, it can be uncomfortable. Yes, it's not pleasant. Nobody wants to hear this, but we have to hear it so we can understand what it is."

As we hopefully move into a safer, post-pandemic world, we could use our own homes as a place to discuss this difficult issue. The generosity surrounding the story of *Nancy's House* is wonderful. Wouldn't it be even more wonderful if, one day in the future, this type of home wasn't needed?

With wishes for a joyous fall!

Melissa

Melissa North, Managing Editor
melissa.north@ourhomes.ca

Follow us
Sign up for our newsletter ourhomes.ca/newsletter

online Get more at ourhomes.ca

Dal's HOME FURNISHINGS

BRANT COUNTY'S LEADER IN CANADIAN HOME FURNISHINGS



Durham Furniture

NEW EXPANDED MATTRESS GALLERY Let us help you get a good night's sleep!



QUALITY ■ CUSTOM ■ SOLID WOOD SOFAS, SECTIONALS, MATTRESSES, BEDS, DINING ROOM TABLES, BARSTOOLS & MORE!

NOW OFFERING
In-Home
Design
Consultations

Where Quality Meets Great Prices!

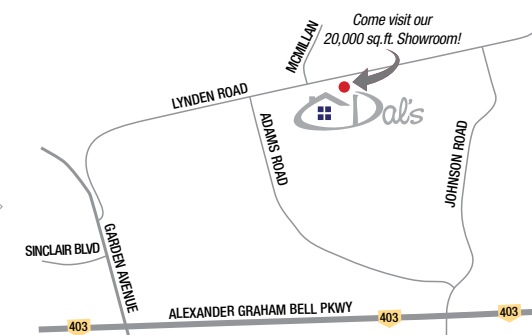
420 Lynden Rd, Brantford, ON N3T 5M1
519.647.3663 dalshomefurnishings.com



Durham Furniture



BRENTWOOD CLASSICS



TURN YOUR PAST JOYS INTO NEW ONES

Inherited Coin to Stay Connected To Family



\$2,246.17

During lockdown, Anne lost contact with her family due to the restrictions. She sold 1 of her inherited coins to help keep her family together during these difficult times, when being together was not an option. Mary's new iPad lets her see and talk with her daughter every day.

Silverware to Silver Anniversary



\$4,144.12

Diane & Tony sold their Birks Sterling Silverware set they received as a wedding gift 30 years ago. With the money, they purchased a hot tub on their anniversary.

Unworn Jewelry to a Bathroom Oasis



\$9,713.94

Rebecca sold her never-worn jewelry box treasures to renovate her bathroom.

GOLD - SILVER - PLATINUM JEWELRY - SILVERWARE - COINS



AU Jewelry Exchange Lab
498 Brant St (Brant St @ Caroline)
Call today or book online
(289) 921-1789 exchange@theaulife.com

theaulife.com

editor's note



A NOTE FROM *Oakville Burlington Mississauga*

MY ZIA IS SELLING HER HOME. It's been the heart of our big, noisy Italian family for half a century. Growing up, everything was a family affair, from birthdays

to holidays to Sunday lunches. Modest but impeccable, Zia's home was the hub, and the backdrop of many communions, confirmations, Thanksgivings, weddings and Christmas holidays. No matter what the celebration, there always seemed to be enough room, even with dozens of aunts, uncles and cousins clustered together, laughing, talking and eating for hours on end.

Life was simpler and sweeter then. No one ever seemed too tired or too strained. No one fussed about the cost. Everyone shared the responsibilities. Dinner became an all-day event, the kitchen a flurry of activity. Wine and espresso flowed. The table brimmed with family favourites. Pasta was a food group (still is!). Cousins became more like siblings. Conversation flowed freely. Neighbours dropped in. Silence was a foreign concept, especially when someone from Italy called and everyone waited for a turn to shout down the line.

A larger gathering meant more people, more food, more noise and more enjoyment. At Zia's house, home felt safe and secure. Home provided us with strong values and strong faith, where family, love and loyalty were the most important things in life. Zia's home was the heartbeat, a blanket that wrapped the family in warmth. Everything felt familiar. The gatherings, the occasions, the memories – a ritual that went on and on, year after year. A beautiful celebration of life itself.

Though my Zia is selling her home, the soul of what she created will always remain. I'm thankful for the memories, thankful for my big, noisy Italian upbringing, thankful for la famiglia.

Gina Makkar, *Managing Editor*
gina.makkar@ourhomes.ca

Follow us
Sign up for our newsletter ourhomes.ca/newsletter

online Get more at ourhomes.ca



4472 Escarpment Drive,
Burlington ON L7N 1W7

- 2+ acres
- 15,000 sq ft
- 2-storey gourmet kitchen
- 6+1 bedrooms
- 11 bathrooms
- Indoor bar / theatre room
- Outdoor entertaining area
- In-law / nanny suite
- Heated 5-car garage
- ...& so much more

Asking price \$11,900,000

Welcome home

Bespoke, breathtaking, resplendent. Welcome to 4472 Escarpment Drive. Representing the epitome of exquisite fine living, this custom, fully furnished home will meet all of your needs with comfort, splendour and function. Situated on over 2 acres in 'The Bluffs' of Burlington, it is only steps away from the Bruce Trail. It was designed with every detail imagined and no expense spared. Built by Hallmark Homes, it offers over 15,000 square feet of living space and features 6+1 bedrooms, 11 bathrooms and a 2-storey gourmet kitchen and servery, equipped with everything you need. Retire from dinner in the formal dining area to the master retreat, complete with gas fireplace and 'spa like' en suite with walk-out to private balconies. Or if you're ready to entertain, take it outside to the outdoor bar, gorgeous saltwater pool/hot tub and outdoor pavilion, or indoor bar, lounge and theatre room. And we're not done yet... 4472 Escarpment Drive also features a gym and games room, and a separate in-law/nanny suite in the finished lower level that is equipped with radiant heated floors. When you do venture out, enjoy inside-entry from the oversized heated five-car garage. This home really doesn't leave any stone unturned. It offers complete privacy and tranquility in a lush, green enclave while being close to all the amenities Burlington has to offer. You can work here, play here, entertain here, recharge here, have quality family time here... the possibilities are truly endless.

ELENA CIPRIANO - SALES REPRESENTATIVE
RE/MAX ESCARPMENT REALTY INC., BROKERAGE
Office: 905.639.7676 Cell: 905.399.7670
elenacipriano2@gmail.com | elenacipriano.com
 @elena_cipriano1

ELENA CIPRIANO



CONTENTS

FALL 2021



76

40



58

ON THE COVER

A stylish update preserves the character of a much-loved older home. Story, page 76. Photography by Kelly Horkoff.



106

54

LOCAL FEATURES

- 30 Style Picks** Must-have unique décor finds from shops we love.
- 40 Feature Home** A home makeover for empty nesters during the time of COVID.
- 54 Spotlight** Take Us For Granite knows countertops and surfaces.
- 58 Home & Builder** A contemporary Hamilton build tapping years of personal experience.
- 76 Home & Builder** Exceptional Westdale renovation brightens and rejuvenates.
- 90 People & Places** The right home pros to help you tackle your dwelling to-do list.
- 106 Spotlight** The Furniture Gallery specializes in unique, customizable furniture.
- 110 Feature Home** Community support makes a whole-home repair and renewal possible.



30

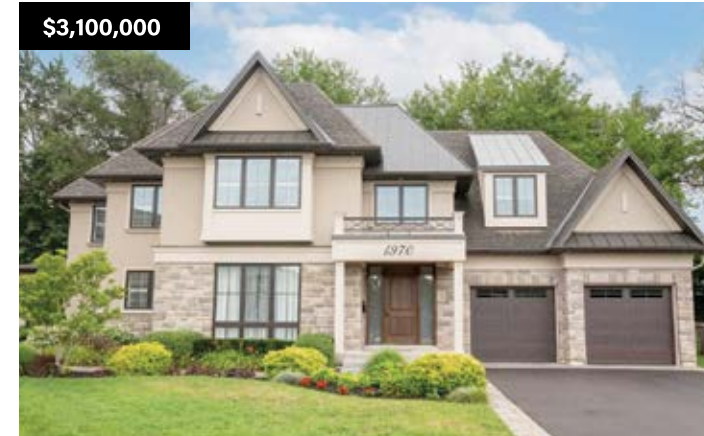


NEED YOUR HOME SOLD?
WE OUTSELL
THE #2 REALTOR
BY A 4:1 MARGIN*

SAM McDADI
 REAL ESTATE INC BROKERAGE



905. 502. 1500
McDADI.COM
 Sam McDADI B.Sc., MBA Sales Representative



\$3,100,000

This luxurious home boasts over 5,500 sq ft of total living with quality finishes and fine workmanship throughout. Formal separate dining room with butlers servery and great room with stone face feature wall and built-in cabinets. Chef inspired eat-in kitchen with professional series Jenn-Air stainless steel appliances, 6 burner gas cooktop, granite countertops and walkout to Patio. Master retreat with 6-piece ensuite and walk-in closet. All bedrooms with ensuites. Lower level with a large open concept recreation room, a wet bar, a den/office and family room.



\$3,749,000

This home sits on a massive treed lot backing on to the Credit River. This large pie shaped lot has incredible privacy, an inground pool and oversized deck and patio area. Home features large main floor principal rooms, a chef's kitchen with high end appliances and all with great views of the ravine. Large master suite with spa like ensuite and walk-in closet. Multiple walkouts from all levels of the home allow ravine views and access to a large deck, patio and balconies. Separate self contained in-law suite. This House is not to be missed.



\$5,388,000

Over 5,000 sq ft of living space with exceptional finishes and finest workmanship throughout. Sun drenched open concept living room and dining with walkout to deck. Dream kitchen with large centre island, built-in Thermador appliances, gas stovetop and porcelain countertops and backsplash. Family room with fireplace, wall wine cellar and home office with walkout to backyard. Upstairs you will find a master retreat with a spa like 5-piece ensuite, amazing walk-in closet and 4 more generous sized bedrooms. Basement with recreation room, stunning wet bar and theatre room with built-in speakers.



\$3,988,000

Stunning 4+2 bedroom, 6 bath, custom built gem boasts a spectacular eat-in kitchen with quartz countertops and a centre island. Custom millwork. High end appliances including Sub-Zero fridge, Wolf gas stove, Thermador built-in wall oven and warming drawer. The master bedroom with vaulted ceiling and seating area, double sided fireplace, 6 piece ensuite and walk-in closet. Spacious bedrooms all with their own ensuite/semi ensuite baths. Fully finished basement with a recreation area, a bedroom and a 3-piece bath.

*Based on TREB stats, both independent & with a team of 60+ agents.

Do You Know What Your Home is Worth? Call for a Complimentary Home Evaluation.

CONTENTS

FALL 2021



50



36



124



130



DEPARTMENTS

- 20 **Melissa's Editor's Note**
- 22 **Gina's Editor's Note**
- 28 **Advice** Healthy, Happy Home
- 34 **Good Taste** Spiced Pumpkin Milkshake
- 36 **Gardening** Fall Florals
- 50 **Design Ideas** Animal-Friendly Abodes
- 56 **Double Take** Sweet Sitting Area
- 68 **Decorating** Room To Grow
- 72 **In The Kitchen** Biscuit-Barrel History
- 74 **Real Estate** Maneuvering The Market
- 86 **Entertaining** Beautiful Tablescapes
- 102 **Birding** Fall Fowl
- 108 **Cooking At Home** Stuffed PB & J Cookies
- 124 **Cooking At Home** Roasted Root Salad
- 126 **Home Resource Directory**
- 128 **Projects** Rustic Raffia
- 130 **Finishing Touch** Wild About Wicker



56



SOLD

WATERFRONT LUXURY
ON GEORGIAN BAY.
4 SEASONS LIFESTYLE.

OFFERED AT \$4,500,000.



LAKEHOUSE sits on 117 ft. of east-facing shoreline located near Blue Mountain Resort. This exceptional home offers 5,400+ sq. ft. of professionally designed finished living space with stunning panoramic views of the Niagara Escarpment and the pristine waterfront of Georgian Bay. For a discerning buyer looking for rare waterfront opportunity and value.

MUST BE SEEN • 4+1 BEDROOMS • 5.5 BATHROOMS • GUEST QUARTERS • DOUBLE CAR GARAGE • WATER & MOUNTAIN VIEWS

SHERRY RIOUX, Broker 705 • 443 • 2793
sherry@riouxbakerteam.com



VISIT US: RiouxBakerTeam.com



Curate WELL-BEING AT HOME

Designer **Tamarisk McNalty Stephens** shares her ideas.

Creating a home that nurtures overall health and wellness has proven to be an important topic of conversation.

The beautiful thing about a home is that it is (or should be) a unique reflection of the values, priorities and lifestyle of its inhabitants. However, there are some basic tenets that can be applied regardless of style, aesthetic and functional requirements to create an atmosphere that fosters a greater sense of well-being. These recommendations can be implemented without a complete redesign or renovation.

Determine the pillars of how you want your home to feel

It is a privilege to have a home where you and your family can retreat. Having the ability (financial and otherwise) to curate a home that feels welcoming, calming, nourishing and restorative – especially when unpredictable circumstances occur in the world – is a true blessing. Take the time to determine how you want your home to feel. For example, creating a calming space is especially important when the news of the world feels heavy. A clean and clutter-free space can quiet the nervous system and make you feel better physically, mentally and emotionally.



OSLO FURNITURE:
Nordmark Sideboard



CSAs (community-supported agriculture) throughout the year and frequent the seasonal farmers markets. Consider installing a pantry or transforming a closet into food storage so you can buy more items in bulk (flours, beans, etc.) and if you have a cold-storage area, you have the ability to store certain vegetables long into the winter. Investing in an appropriate freezer and learning to preserve food are other helpful options. Condo dwellers can experiment with container gardening, learn about becoming a member of a community garden or perhaps barter with family or friends to use a piece of land for a small garden patch.

Generating your own electricity allows you to be less dependent on the larger system. For those not connected to the grid, investing in a generator in the event of a power loss enables you to keep the fridge and freezer running so you don't

Create peace of mind

Taking small steps to create a home that is a little more self-sufficient can contribute to a greater feeling of safety and security – especially when unpredictable circumstances arise. At the end of the day, food, water and shelter remain the fundamental and universal basic needs.

There has been a tremendous resurgence of people growing and raising their own food. There are also many local farmers who offer



BERKEY CANADA: Royal Berkey Water Filter System

lose your food supply – just create a regular maintenance schedule and ensure you have the appropriate fuel. Also having a stock of water on hand for a couple of weeks, or a filtration system (such as a Berkey) if you have access to fresh water, can provide added peace of mind. The notion of creating a safe home extends beyond a security system.

Define various zones

The experience of sharing space with the entire family at home for such an extended period of time, with multiple tasks happening simultaneously – such as working, learning, food preparation, etc. – has emphasized the importance of creating specific zones to maintain a semblance of order in the home. If you don't have a spare room you can transform into an office, or the floor space for designated desks and workstations, consider purchasing totes that hold everyone's individual work or projects. Investing in proper storage such as closed cabinetry or even open shelving with baskets (simple and easy to access) helps to keep everyone organized and the house from becoming overrun with the business of the day. It is also important to keep sleeping spaces reserved for rest and minimize technology there (avoid it if you can). We all know blue light from devices negatively impacts our circadian rhythm and the body's ability to prepare for sleep. It's difficult to relax at the end of the day if you're still looking at a large pile of work or if the notifications on your phone are going off at all hours.

Bring nature inside

Not only are houseplants an extremely cost-effective way to completely transform the feeling of your space, but adding greenery into your home can reduce stress and anxiety. There is the added benefit of air purification. Nature-inspired artwork can also help calm the senses. Connecting with natural materials such as linen, raw wood, beeswax candles, marble and wool can also help evoke a sense of well-being within the home. **OH**



TERRA GREENHOUSES LTD.:
Fiddle Leaf Fig

PROPERTY IDENTITY

Who We Are

We develop company, place and property branding for:

- Luxury Properties
- High-End Retail
- Vacation Rentals
- Boutique Hotels
- Property Development for Residential & Commercial Real Estate

At Property Identity, we approach every project with a hands-on and ready to go attitude to help our clients achieve stellar results. Not only do we develop and elevate brands but we share our knowledge and tools so that our clients are equipped with industry insights and confidence to reach the desired outcomes and recognition their brand and company deserves.

We are not just another design company, we help you build a business you've always dreamt of. Your property deserves a story worth sharing.

www.propertyidentity.ca | info@propertyidentity.ca

Make your Bathroom your Sanctuary

Visit our showroom today or call us at: 905 561 3521
bartonbathandfloor.com | [@bartonbathandfloor](https://www.instagram.com/bartonbathandfloor)

Organized Transitions

Your Move Made Simple...

DOWNSIZING? CLEARING AN ESTATE?

- Sorting & Organizing**
- Packing & Unpacking**
- Move Management**
- Auction Setup and Sale**
- Estate Clear Outs**

905.599.1816 | info@organizedtransitions.ca | www.organizedtransitions.ca

MAKEOVER

magic

PHOTOGRAPHY
JASON HARTOG & KELLY HORKOFF

THIS SEASON'S FAVOURITES
FROM YOUR LOCAL SHOPS



1 NEST

Pup Tent
We were delighted to discover these fun pup (and kitty) tents from Montreal's Wild & Loyal. Made from durable neutral or striped canvas, they come in three sizes and include a base mat.

171 Locke St. S., Unit 2, Hamilton
905.979.6378 | nesthamilton.com

2 YOUR HOME YOUR STORY

Pumpkins
Get ready for the season with owner Amanda's handmade pumpkins in urbane greys, blues, naturals and white. She uses Lake Erie driftwood for the stems. Simply gourd-geous! Available as singles or in multi-packs.

174 Brant Ave., Brantford
519.770.4663 | yourhomeyourstory.ca

3 GRAHAM AND BROOKS SALVAGE

Dough Bowls
John Parcher is a master of fab finds, and we've fallen for the rustic antique dough bowls he's brought in from Europe. Each is one-of-a-kind, shaped and worn by history. Fruit, baubles, greenery – there are many decorative possibilities.

371 Sherman Ave. N., Hamilton
905.928.1001 | gbsalvageco.com

4 HAMILTONS OF PELHAM

Garden Sculptures
These sculptures are made by the Shona people of Zimbabwe, who often describe their work as "revealing the beauty" within the stone. They say the material speaks to them as they work. A sculpture in the garden provides year-round beauty as the seasons change.

306 Canboro Rd., Ridgeville
289.897.7444 | hamiltonsofpeham.com

5 UNITED LUMBER

Fall Mugs
Get cozy with a mug of apple cider on a cool autumn evening. With four delightful phrases to choose from, they are perfect for tea, coffee and cider all day long.

333 Guelph St., Georgetown
905.873.8007 | unitedlumber.ca

6 BARNBOARDSTORE

Table
Every piece from the Barnboardstore is unique and crafted to last, such as this Ontario black walnut coffee table. With Luuka clasp-style legs from AltHomeCo in Dundas, it features a bow tie inlay.

1044 Cannon St. E., Unit C, Hamilton
647.667.2102 | barnboardstore.com



7



8



9

7 **OAKVILLE KITCHEN & BATH CENTRE**

Silestone

Silestone's *Sunlit Days* series is Cosentino's first carbon-neutral collection of quartz and engineered stone, inspired by the colours of the Mediterranean. The HybriQ technology commits to sustainability by reducing manufacturing emissions with reforestation projects. Colours include: Faro White, Cincel Grey, Arcilla Red, Cala Blue and Posidonia Green.

599 Third Line, Oakville
905.827.4611 | oakvillekitchencentre.com

8 **CIRCULERA**

Trays

These handy handcrafted trays will elevate your space. Order as shown or customize the size, shape, text, handles and material.

Toronto International Design Centre
6900 Airport Rd., Mississauga
905.678.4401 | circulera.ca

9 **PELLA WINDOWS & DOORS**

Pella Reserve

The design of this patio door offers uncompromised attention to detail. Narrow sightlines and expansive glass maximize natural light and exude contemporary style.

1195 North Service Rd. W., Oakville
905.827.1690 | pellabranch.com OH

LAPOINTE
INTERIOR DESIGN
& LANDSCAPE

FIND YOUR STYLE

LAPOINTEDESIGN.COM
905.730.4451
info@lapointedesign.com

RESIDENTIAL . COMMERCIAL . CONSULTING

TAKE US FOR GRANITE

905.387.8613 | www.takeusforgranite.ca
60 Lancing Drive, Unit 1, Hamilton

Never taken for granted, always Take Us For Granite.
Call us today to discover our custom marble, granite and quartz solutions.

68 years

Swiss Interiors
Furniture & Home Decor

905.844.3530
217 Lakeshore Rd. E., Oakville
www.swissinteriors.com

Four Floors of Furniture Showrooms
Proudly Supporting Canadian Manufacturers

good taste

PUMPKIN PIE *Milkshake*

This milkshake tastes like pumpkin pie in a glass – but without all the hard work! Move over pumpkin-spice lattes...



INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups vanilla ice cream
- ½ cup pumpkin purée
- 1 Tbsp pumpkin pie spice
- ¾ - 1 cup milk, depending on consistency
- Whipped cream, for garnish

PUMPKIN PIE SPICE

- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground ginger
- ½ tsp allspice
- ¼ tsp nutmeg

Combine all ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth. Garnish with whipped cream and enjoy! **OH**

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY
JENELLE MCCULLOCH

online Get more recipes at ourhomes.ca/blogrecipes



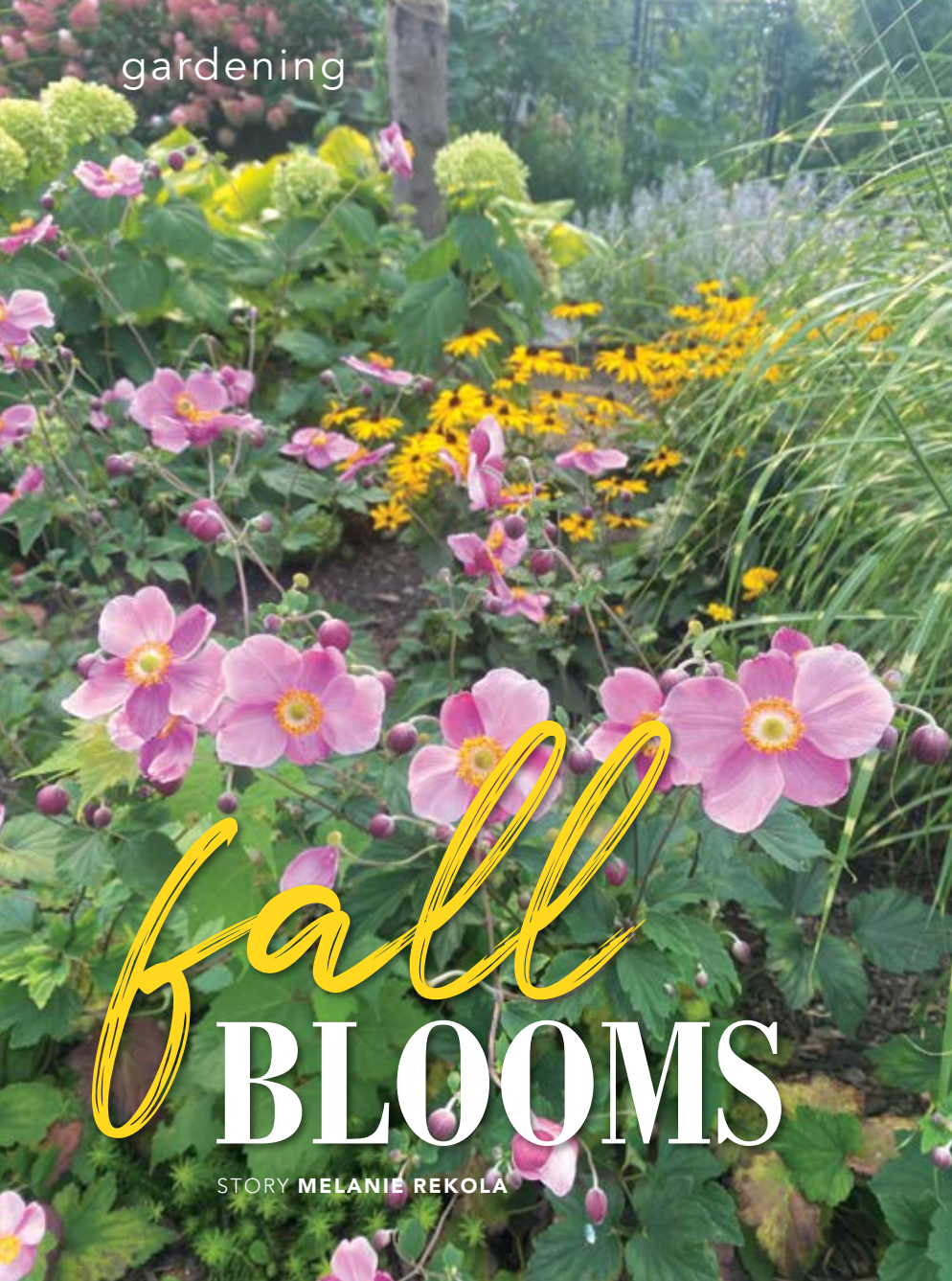
**DOWNSVIEW
KITCHENS**
AND FINE CUSTOM CABINETRY



Visit our website: www.downsviewkitchens.com



The Downsview cabinetry collection is custom crafted in North America and available through select kitchen design showrooms
DOWNSVIEW KITCHENS 2635 RENA ROAD, MISSISSAUGA, ON PHONE (905) 677-9354



fall BLOOMS

STORY MELANIE REKOLA

When we think of fall gardens, many of us often imagine ornamental grasses, the changing colour of leaves and perhaps some berries. Of course these are part of the beautiful autumn season but garden flowers should not be forgotten! Add some spice to your blooming borders and keep your flower show going right up until frost with these beauties.



NEW ENGLAND ASTER (SYMPHYOTRICHUM NOVAE-ANGLIAE)

One of the first fall flowers that comes to mind, New England asters are the backbone of many attractive fall borders. These reliable, native perennials form dense, fluffy mounds of white, purple, pink or blue flowers. Growing between 36 and 72 inches and requiring moist soil and part shade to sun, they're also extremely attractive to butterflies, particularly hungry monarchs looking for a meal along their fall migration path.



DENIM 'N LACE RUSSIAN SAGE (PEROVSKIA ATRIPLICIFOLIA)

The distinctive, lacy flower spikes of Russian sage can last for weeks, typically blooming at the end of the summer to early fall. I prefer this smaller 36-inch variety as it doesn't require staking. The beautiful amethyst-coloured blooms begin slowly, and the flower colour gets more brilliant as the small blooms fully open. Mass planting is the best way to enjoy its frothy purple spikes, and it needs full sun and well-draining soil to look its best. It is yet another pollinator favourite. You may be noticing a theme here.

Continued on page 38

arborwood

TREE SERVICE INC.

THE TREE CARE EXPERTS

Going to great heights to maintain the health & vitality of your trees!

Take advantage & prebook one of our limited discount spaces! Available January & February 2022!

The preservation of trees improves not only our quality of life, but also the lives of generations to come. Preserve trees - Improve life.

we love beautiful, healthy trees.

arborwood.ca

1.888.721.8882 | 905.681.9933

pruning | tree & shrub | fertilization | organic plant health care | dynamic support systems

insect & disease monitoring & treatment | hazardous limb & tree removal | arborist reports for pre & post construction

gardening



JAPANESE ANEMONE (ANEMONE X HYBRIDA)

Elegant Japanese anemone blossoms are a welcome treat to the late summer and fall garden. With pretty leaves and blossoms borne on tall, slender stems, the showy pink or white flowers come in abundance once the plant has had some years to establish. It's elegant in every stage – from tight round buds to spherical seed heads – and deserves a prominent place in the garden. Plant it in part shade to sun and give it enough moisture and you won't be disappointed. Like many of the other fall-blooming perennials, this one is also known to attract butterflies.



JOE-PYE WEED (EUTROCHIUM PURPUREUM)

Perennials don't get much tougher than Joe-Pye weed. This tall and rugged native Ontario plant can reach up to a towering seven feet, though there are some dwarf varieties including Baby Joe available. It can spread aggressively, so be mindful where you plant it. It produces handsome burgundy-green foliage and has large, showy heads of whitish-purple flowers in the late summer and fall. Butterflies and bees love these nectar-rich flowers.



BLACK-EYED SUSAN (RUDBECKIA HIRTA)

Likely one of the most popular wildflowers grown, native black-eyed Susans are a showstopper with their bright golden-yellow aura. These happy, daisy-like flower heads grow to about 36 inches, are drought-tolerant and require full sun. A very low-maintenance native perennial whose blooms make a long-lasting cut flower, these are also an excellent food flower for many hungry garden pollinators.



TOAD LILY (TRICYRTIS HIRTA)

Unique and delicate, common toad lily blossoms appear much later than most other shade-loving plants. Reaching 24 to 36 inches, these upright, intricate, orchid-like and speckled flowers will stop you in your tracks. There aren't many plants that flower like these in shady situations. If you have a shade garden and need some fall flowers, this is the plant for you!



STONECROP / SEDUM

These rugged plants are virtually indestructible and come in a wide variety of shapes, sizes and colours. Sedums have fleshy foliage that make them super drought tolerant. Plant them in a sunny spot and stand back in awe. It's the taller, upright varieties (growing 24 to 36 inches tall) that produce large flat heads of pink or red flowers through the late summer and fall. The nectar-rich blossoms attract all sorts of bees, butterflies and bird species. Some commonly seen fall-blooming varieties are sedum Autumn Joy and sedum Matrona but new varieties are popping up every year.



NIPPON DAISY (NIPPONANTHEMUM NIPPONICUM)

Sometimes called Montauk daisy, Nippon daisy is well-known for its late-season explosion of perky, white flowers. It grows from 18 to 36 inches and thrives in full sun. Nippon daisy blooms from August to frost as both the leaves and flowers are frost tolerant. The nectar-rich blooms will also lure colourful butterflies to your garden.

Most of these gorgeous, autumn-blooming lovelies are food-flowers for bees, butterflies and other pollinators. Isn't Mother Nature so clever, making these plants flower at exactly the time when many pollinators need them? Of course gardens are beautiful to look at but they are so much more than just good looks to a host of other creatures. Gardens are in fact beautiful, blooming ecosystems! OH

Melanie is a certified horticulturist and landscape designer.



INSPIRED BY NATURE



Serendipity SOY CANDLES

HAND POURED PURE SOY CANDLES.
250 scents and growing!

**NOW OPEN AT
OAKVILLE PLACE AND GEORGIAN MALL**

ONLINE-serendipitycandlefactory.com

STORE-27 Hurontario St., Collingwood

FACTORY-453 Hume St., Collingwood

GEORGETOWN MARKET PLACE-280 Guelph St., Georgetown

705.443.8621

serendipitycandlefactory@gmail.com



Transforming Backyards

Let us help you build your ideal backyard. Our product provides protection from UV rays and the intense summer heat. Natural Light Patio Covers use Acrylite panels, made from 100% acrylic guaranteed not to fade or discolour for 30 years. They can be configured to work in any setting, attached to homes, to cover decks and patios, or built as stand-alone covers detached from the house. They are permanent structures that stay in place year-round.

NATURAL LIGHT PATIO COVERS • TIMBERLITE PERGOLA • DECKS & FENCES • OUTDOOR STRUCTURES
NEW HOMES ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS • GARAGE & BARN • SPECIALTY PROJECTS



905.517.0461

www.vanamconstruction.com



GREAT DESIGNERS ARE ADAPTABLE. THEY HAVE TO BE BECAUSE EVERY PROJECT COMES WITH TWISTS AND TURNS. WITH THE ONSET OF COVID-19, ADAPTABILITY TOOK ON AN ENTIRELY NEW MEANING.

Continued on page 42

STORY **GINA MAKKAR**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

ALL IN THE *details*

Home renovations began when Tina helped transform the dated living room. Soft textures and patterns take centre stage for a relaxing yet sophisticated haven for entertaining. Custom draperies frame and soften the large window. The pièce de résistance is a much-loved painting by Toronto artist John Lennard.

Design became a dance of doing a beautiful job while protecting a client's safety. **Tina Pharand** of **Tina Pharand Interiors** sums up the design world after 2020 with one word: challenging. "It's about getting back to basics," she says. "Having great tradespeople makes all the difference."

Tina rapidly figured out how to make it all work, rising to the challenge with one of her latest Oakville projects. Located in the heart of town, Old Oakville is known for its unique blend of housing styles, from heritage homes to renovated residences. Mature, tree-lined streets and close proximity to the lake create a charming backdrop for tranquil living.

Homeowners Georgina and Bill – who have lived in the neighbourhood for 20 years – purchased their picturesque 1970s brick home 15 years ago. "We love the privacy of the

lot," says Georgina. As with most older homes, musings often turn to whether to relocate or renovate. The home's good bones and idyllic backdrop compelled the family to stay and let a renovation work its magic.

The couple turned to Tina, having worked with her on previous projects with beautiful results, including a redesign of their living room. As their boys became teenagers, the space was updated to reflect the family's growing and changing needs. Tina helped transition the more casual aesthetic with its oversize furnishings to an elegant yet comfortable space for living and entertaining. Toronto artist John Lennard's painting *Choir Boys* is one of the family's favourite elements. Relocated from another area of the home, it now serves as a dramatic focal point in the living room. *Continued on page 45*



“IT’S ABOUT GETTING BACK TO BASICS. HAVING GREAT TRADESPEOPLE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.”

– Tina Pharand



ABOVE & OPPOSITE: The kitchen's neutral, transitional style blends easily with newer design updates. The large footprint provides space for more formal built-in storage for glassware and entertaining staples, and leaves room for a morning essential: a coffee station. **RIGHT:** Neutral finishes in the dining area blend seamlessly with the updates in the living room.



“IT’S ALL IN THE DETAILS. MY LOVE AND PASSION FOR THIS FIELD IS OFF THE CHARTS.”



Decanters take centre stage on a Ralph Lauren chest in the whiskey room. A dark, moody hue beckons visitors to sink into the sumptuous leather sofa and relax for an afternoon tête-à-tête or nightcap.

During the past year, an upper-level renovation included new hardwood flooring and paint from **Hansen + Lübbers** to freshen the space. With the boys now grown and gone, the couple transformed the bedrooms to reflect a more suitable backdrop for adults and guests.

To create a new home office for Georgina, Tina converted an empty bedroom into a must-have space. “It’s feminine, calm and functional with a down-filled chair for relaxing or reading a book,” says Tina. “It’s my favourite room,” says Georgina. “It is serene and cosy, yet totally functional. Tina knows I love pearls so she found the beautiful

light fixture and then worked around that for inspiration.” The light fixture is from **Robertson Lighting & Bath**’s Aerin collection by Visual Comfort and highlights the silk champagne wallpapered ceiling with a soft, moody glow. A pair of French bookcases complement a century furniture desk from **Elizabeth Interiors**. A custom closet by California Closets organizes work essentials like printers and flip charts that are tucked out of sight when not in use. Custom gauzy drapes from **Custom Home Décor** are embellished with fringes from Samuel & Sons. “It’s dreamy,” says Tina. *Continued on page 46*



The tones and textures used throughout carry to the staircase, connecting the lower and upper levels. A soft runner adds texture and ties in the darker hues used in the whiskey room and living room. The office is Georgina's work haven.



The primary bedroom also received a makeover, starting with a beautiful chandelier that became the jewel of the retreat. Georgina loves Lillian August furnishings and special-ordered two blue, glass bedside tables with antique brass legs and hardware that now adorn the space. A plush velvet king-size bed offers total relaxation at the end of the day. A custom closet is a functional, beautiful addition. Hunter Douglas blackout shades and custom drapery crafted with Kravet fabric finish the room and create a darker backdrop for better sleep. An antique mirror-clad fireplace reflects an amber glow. A reading chaise overlooks the outdoor pool for a tranquil, serene place to relax.

Bill's whiskey room showcases his extensive collection of spirits. A Ralph Lauren chest from one of Tina's favourite Toronto consignment shops, **Elle & Eve**, serves as a bar and creates a beautiful vignette. *Continued on page 48*

GRAHAM & Brooks
HOME • GARDEN • COTTAGE

Unique furniture, accessories & collections for your home, garden & cottage, featuring re-purposed and renewed Vintage Canadian, Industrial & Rustic furniture
289.238.8618 • 43 Coates Drive, Dundas • grahamandbrooks.com

GRAHAM & BROOKS SALVAGE COMPANY
ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE, ANTIQUES & VINTAGE

A treasure trove of architectural artifacts, antiques, lighting, hardware, industrial components, signs, décor pieces and other oddities
905.928.1001 • 371 Sherman Ave N. Hamilton • gbsalvageco.com



Designing a home requires many things to consider. There's style, functionality, architectural details and space planning. A professionally trained eye can pull all these elements together to create a cohesive space with a timeless design that will last for many years to come. Give Anita and Kim a call today.

905.467.7433 • 905.580.0024
burlingtondesignstudio.ca
@burlingtondesignstudio



Consignment, or as Elle & Eve call it, “shopping with a conscience,” allows homeowners to create beautiful, unique spaces and have a positive impact on the environment. Farrow & Ball’s Railings on the walls with matching picture moulding add architectural detail and an air of masculinity. A dark green tufted leather sofa and nesting tables from **Cocoon Furnishings** create a cosy backdrop to sit and sip. A wool area rug and couture pillows from Kravet complete the space. “It’s all in the details,” says Tina. “My love and passion for this field is off the charts.”

From start to finish, Tina made the most of the space, allowing the finer features to shine and create an aesthetic that’s beautiful, functional and feels like home.

“I love working with Tina,” says Georgina. “She has a great eye for details and unique pieces. I feel like she totally gets our family and lifestyle, so she is very easy to work with. I also appreciate that she is very budget-conscious and strikes a balance between investment pieces and less-expensive pieces. She gently pushes me out of my comfort zone and is always prepared with options.” **OH**



The primary bedroom was made both beautiful and functional with a custom walk-in closet. Georgina loved and incorporated pretty blue Lillian August bedside tables that add a hint of colour against the soothing hues of the upholstered bed and cosy chaise.

Custom Restyled Vintage Furniture + Home Accents
30 Main St S, Waterford | 519.222.3505 | brusheddesigns.ca

H:OM ORGANIZING

Find the OM in your HOME

Let us help you get organized this Fall as we settle back into a routine.

Living in a clutter-free space brings peace and clarity to other aspects of life outside of the home.

@homorganizing

MEGAN ARTHURS 289.813.5155
info@homorganizing.ca | www.homorganizing.ca

LET IT RAIN

Roofing & Home Renovations

As heard on **NEWSTALK 1010**

Bruno & Christiane Levesque, owners

Roofing and Home Renovations

With 32 years experience providing quality services in Toronto, Mississauga, Etobicoke and the Greater Toronto Area, Let It Rain ensures your roof will withstand the harsh GTA climate.

We provide roofing and home renovation services to homeowners, architects and builders.

- ✓ Complete Roofing Systems
- ✓ Roof Insulation and Attic Upgrades
- ✓ Skylights, Sun Tunnels
- ✓ Eavestroughs, Soffit and Fascia
- ✓ Roof Repairs ✓ Ventilation Upgrades
- ✓ Home Renovations from Top to Bottom
- ✓ Financing Available

Phone 1-877-686-7246 for a **FREE ESTIMATE**

letitrain.ca

design ideas



Pet-Friendly BY DESIGN

STORY LOUIS DUNCAN-HE | PHOTOGRAPHY HEATHER DUNBAR

Dogs

Dogs are probably the most common pets in homes, because really, what's not to love? What other member of your family will greet you with the same level of vigour and excitement after simply checking the mail? However, from a design perspective, dogs come with plenty of challenges. Consider paw prints, drool, general stains, shedding of hair and furniture chewing. When selecting fabrics with a dog in mind, focus on performance, colour and pattern to visually camouflage as much as you can. Consider using a medium-to-darker-toned fabric (greys, earth tones or navy), a print or a subtle heathered texturing as these have natural camouflaging properties for your heavy-use pieces.

Continued on page 52

A like-new kitchen, without the price tag.

The smart way to a beautiful home.



Introducing the new way to modernize the look of your kitchen!

Using the same innovative painting process we use to revamp the exterior of your home, our on-site kitchen cabinet refinishing solution delivers durable factory-quality results in as little as a day! Don't settle for conventional painting. Choose Spray-Net - *the smart way to a beautiful home.*

SPRAY-NET.COM

289.780.0867



Homeowners face the challenge of finding ways to live in a space they want with the realities they face.

Yes, most of the beautiful homes we see online and in magazines are art-directed and styled. They're meant to be aspirational, but the realities of day-to-day living are not always captured – makeshift work-from-home stations, designing for toddlers, teenagers and of course, living with pets. Good design always stems from function. A home's design direction needs to be sustainable and stand up to how it's used. When designing a home with pets, work with their needs, not against them. Here are some tips and tactics to keep your space looking its best while still housing your favourite friends.



Louis Duncan-He, founder and principal of Louis Duncan-He Designs, is an award-winning Canadian designer.



Colour • Design • Flooring
Custom Window Treatments
Wallpaper • Designer Furniture • E-Designs

519.774.3863

interiordesignbyelise@gmail.com
www.interiordesignbyelise.ca





Birds, Lizards and Fish

For other pets like birds, lizards, fish or any type of creature that requires a cage or tank, don't try to work around them, work with them. Treat this as an opportunity to get creative and design with intent and purpose. A client's daughter wanted her songbird in the living room next to the piano, so we looked for a beautiful antique cage and painted it white to match the overall tone of the space. Having it hung with a custom chain next to the grand piano created a beautiful vignette. Fish tanks or aquariums can be beautiful as well, especially when integrated into millwork. If you are able to customize in any way, it's well worth the money.



When it comes to designing any space, it's easier to go with the flow and embrace the challenges, using them as a gateway to spark innovation and creativity. This is especially true when designing a home with pets. You can have a beautiful home with pets, it just takes a little planning, strategizing and thoughtful material selection. Pets are an integral part of our families because they often add the most important ingredient to designing a truly welcoming home – love. **OH**

Cats

Compared to dogs, cats don't usually make as much of an obvious mess, as they tend to be a little more agile and are more likely to be inside. But what they lack in brute strength and chaos, they more than make up for in the sheer carnage they can cause by tearing into your furniture with their claws. When designing for cats, focus on the texture and weave of the fabric as opposed to the hue (granted, darker colours tend to hide stains better). Cats love any type of fabric they can literally sink their claws into. Broader weaves, rattan or macrame are not your friends. Instead, opt for tighter and more condensed fabrics like velvet, suede, microfiber or other synthetics like acrylic, polyester or nylon. They will be harder to scratch without ample grip. Keep your cats away from the furniture by having a spray bottle handy – this will help to teach them their limits.

Get window treatments that truly fit your space



Our local window covering experts do it all for you! From design, to measurements to installation, they will be there every step of the way. Budget Blinds can help you find a solution to match your unique window treatment needs.

Learn more at [budgetblinds.com](https://www.budgetblinds.com)
Call for your free consultation:

Burlington
905-484-3372

[WWW.BUDGETBLINDS.COM/BURLINGTON](https://www.budgetblinds.com/burlington)

BUDGET
BLINDS

Style and service for every budget®





STORY **MELISSA NORTH**
PHOTOGRAPHY **KELLY HORKOFF**

SOLID AS A ROCK

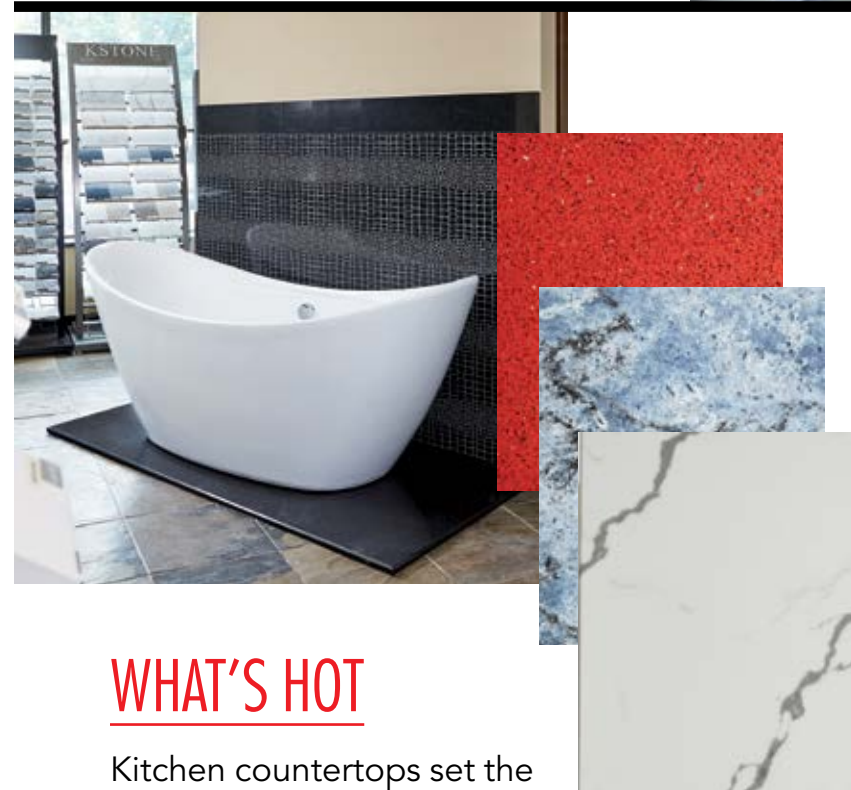
THE PLACE

Take Us For Granite, established by Ross Bommarito who was later joined by Ajay Jain, has been supplying custom solid surfaces to Hamilton and the surrounding area since 1990. Granite, marble, quartz or porcelain – they cut, fabricate and install to exacting specifications and are committed to providing quality materials and service.



THE STYLE

The showroom is packed with samples, but the real treasure here is office manager Jovianne Bommarito, Ross's daughter, who has been in the business for years, guiding customers through the process of selecting and purchasing their stone. Whether it's for kitchens, bathrooms, fireplaces or outdoor kitchens, Jovianne has advice for clientele on the best surface to suit their needs and budget.



WHAT'S HOT

Kitchen countertops set the tone for the rest of the room and are an important design decision. Granite is always in style, because when sealed it's scratch- and stain-resistant, easy to clean and impervious to heat. And because granite is a natural stone, each piece is unique. Hard-wearing quartz is also popular and Jovianne, who works with a lot of designers, says grey-veined white is the colour in vogue.

WHAT'S NEW

Take Us For Granite recently purchased a Robo SawJet stone cutting machine, which utilizes a water-jet cutting system, considerably enhancing their efficiency and accuracy. They are one of very few fabricators in Ontario to have one, and certainly the only one in the Hamilton region. Investing in the best technology available is just another way the company strives to serve their clients. **OH**



Get There:

60 Lancing Dr., Unit 1, Hamilton
905.387.8613 | takeusforgranite.ca

double take

SITTING pretty

RECREATE THIS LOOK IN YOUR OWN HOME.



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG | DESIGNER: ALISON HABERMEHL



Custom-made with your choice of fabric and wood stain.



PHOTO: ALEX LUKEY



- 1. **UTTERMOST:** Shore Birds Framed Prints
- 2. **CURREY & COMPANY:** Boreal Table Lamp
- 3. **BENJAMIN MOORE:** Paint in Violet Mist
- 4. **ROBERT ALLEN:** Sandakan Drapery Fabric in 512-Hyacinth
- 5. **LEXINGTON HOME BRANDS:** Tommy Bahama Lagoon Lamp Table
- 6. **LEXINGTON HOME BRANDS:** Barclay Butera Balboa Island Raffia Hall Chest in Marine Blue
- 7. **GRESHAM HOUSE:** Barbara Swivel Chair
- 8. **SURYA:** Yemaya Fringe Throw
- 9. **BUNGALOW 5:** Flower Temple Jar in Blue & White
- 10. **EASTERN ACCENTS:** Lagos Rain Square Accent Pillow **OH**

It's Your Home. Start Your Story.



When you collect things you love, things that are authentic to you, your home becomes your story.



Awarded Best 'HOME' Subscription box in Canada
Specializing in Birthday Box & Realtor
'Welcome Home' Closing Gifts...& much more

Your Home Your Story – a bespoke home décor store located at 174 Brant Ave, Brantford

519.770.4663 @yourhome.yourstory www.yourhomeyourstory.ca



We Did It

STORY **MELISSA NORTH**
PHOTOGRAPHY **KELLY HORKOFF**



ABOVE: Jason built in-wall niches, this one displaying their wedding invitation. **RIGHT:** The D'Antonio family: Jason and Theresa, Mirena (with Nica) and Luca. Theresa and her mom sewed the banquette cushion. The coffee table and skulls are souvenirs from Bali, Indonesia. **BELOW:** The entryway is stylish in its simplicity, putting the porcelain tile on show. **OPPOSITE:** The stunning great room features a 20-foot ceiling.



For most of us, the desire to build a house doesn't mean we want to *build it* ourselves. But for Jason D'Antonio, that's exactly what he wanted to do. Build a house, *himself*. "It's been a dream for the longest time," he explains. "Throughout all the extensive schooling that I've taken – as an architectural technician, a plumber, steam fitter, gas fitter, and now a secondary school teacher – it's a collaboration of everything that I've learned." Continued on page 61



Two black islands pack a visual punch in the sleek white kitchen. "We thought it might be overwhelming," says Jason, "but it turned out incredible." **TOP LEFT:** The butler's kitchen adds a tremendous amount of work and storage space, as well as another cooking zone. **LEFT:** The dining area opens to the covered patio, making the most of the conservation-area views.



“COMING TOGETHER AS A FAMILY UNIT GIVES ME THE GREATEST JOY.”
 – Jason D’Antonio

While this self-build may have been Jason’s ambition, he achieved it lockstep with his wife Theresa. The two make a formidable team. Both high school teachers and parents of Luca, 10, and Milena, 9, they survived the online learning of pandemic 2020 while constructing a remarkable home in just seven months.

They found the ideal location; a large lot backing onto the Eramosa Karst Conservation Area. They took down the old home and enlisted architectural design firm

Len Angelici Design Inc. to draw up plans and submit them to the city. By a stroke of good luck, the permit to build came through 18 hours before everything shut down.

This build was Jason’s opportunity to include all the features he wanted in a home and to challenge himself by trying new practices. As well, at over 4,500 square feet, it was important to get the flow and scale right.

An office and open-ended walk-in closet lie off the sleek white entryway, which leads

to a spacious great room with 20-foot ceilings overlooking the ravine. A floor-to-ceiling marble fireplace surround anchors the room, rivalling the view through the wall of windows and the attractive staircase and railing.

Adjacent to the great room is a bar with stunning glassed-in wine racks and a dining area. Perhaps the most remarkable room is the chef’s kitchen, primarily white with two large islands topped with quartz in a black marble pattern – a perfect contrast. *Continued on page 62*



Theresa and Jason share the same aesthetic, and designing their spaces came easily. “We didn’t use interior decorators,” Jason says. “We were warned by other people: Look you’ve got to get somebody to help you out. But we were confident; we felt comfortable.”

The palette they opted for is largely neutral and the style modern and minimalistic. Flooring is a combination of hand-scraped maple engineered hardwood and 24 by 48-inch white Italian porcelain tile with subtle grey veining. The walls are painted Benjamin Moore’s White Diamond, also a subtle grey, and the trim is Chantilly Lace, the same colour as the cabinets from Baresa Kitchens.

There’s much more in what you don’t see. The floors are heated. There are no bulkheads. “I absolutely hate bulkheads in other houses,” Jason explains. “I want 10-foot ceilings and no obstructions!” Ductwork runs from the

basement to the attic where it feeds the second-floor rooms from above. An expansive butler’s kitchen/pantry opens off a corner. And there is so much storage that Theresa can keep the counters clear, a personal joy.

The brains of the building are located downstairs in the furnace room, which is panelled and bright, with in-floor heating too. It’s a testament to his incredible organization. Individual manifolds control each fixture. Water lines run directly to each fixture. His “spider” is a work of art.

Just as much thought went into designing the upstairs level, which houses the children’s rooms, Jason and Theresa’s suite, a spare bedroom and a family games room. Jason built decorative niches in the hallway, a coffee bar and fireplace in their room, and a skylight in their walk-in closet. Their en suite is also black and white with heated floors, surround sound, a luxurious vessel tub and a shower



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: Theresa got creative with wallpaper and fittings in the powder room, while Jason installed his first wall-mounted toilet. “It was a little bit difficult,” he says. “I’m not going to lie!” The laundry room got a pop of colour, and stylish blue-and-grey encaustic-style porcelain tiles. The games room gets a lot of family use, with a large television, sound proofing, seven speakers and a fun feature wall made of plastic tiles. Theresa and Jason went with a traditional staircase, as opposed to floating, to keep Nico safe. Wallpaper around the wine rack helps the wall to stand out and echoes touches of gold found throughout the home.



Continued on page 64



The couple's bedroom and en suite bathroom give them a private space to start and finish each day. Theresa says the en suite is probably her favourite room in the house. Jason wanted it to be open concept without doors, hence the large walk-in shower accessible from either side, behind the tub. The contemporary floating vanity adds to the clean lines.



they've nicknamed "Jason's Carwash" for all the right reasons – multiple jets and rain heads and foot massaging pebble tiling. Jason did his own plumbing, but sourced everything including fixtures from **The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom**.

The D'Antonios' story isn't about extravagance, it's about vision and positivity. When Theresa first laid eyes on Jason, before she even met him, she told her friend, "I'm going to marry that man." When they suffered a financial setback 10 years ago, they resolved to do whatever it took to turn things around. And when Jason broke his back six years ago after falling 15 feet, he made his way back to good health.

They believe in chasing dreams and they value family life and family experiences. Their two favourite spots in the house are the games room, replete with popcorn maker and ping-pong table, and the 600-foot outdoor covered patio with fireplace and pizza maker. "Coming together as a family unit gives me the greatest joy," Jason says. "I just had to do this, before it was too late – I needed to prove to myself that I was physically able to do it." *Continued on page 66*

THE BOLD LOOK OF **KOHLER**

THE ENSUITE
Bath & Kitchen Showroom

Monday – Friday 8am-5pm | [f](#) [i](#) [@](#)Ensuite.Hamilton
1660 Upper Ottawa, Hamilton | 289.309.2284 | [ensuiteontario.com/hamilton](#)

Our showroom is open by appointment for in-person and virtual consultations – please contact us to book your appointment.

Your Complete Custom Decorating Store

Designing for Hamilton, Ancaster & Beyond Since 1989

- Custom Draperies, Custom Bedding
- Designer Fabrics – Over 10,000 Samples
- Upholstery & Custom Furniture
- Designer Wallpaper
- Home Accessories
- Design Staff & In-Home Consultation

Anne Smith
OWNER, DECORATOR

Nancy Bradley
DECORATOR

Buy the Yard INTERIORS

73 Wilson St. W, Unit 19
Ancaster Town Plaza
905-648-7979
[buytheyardinteriors.com](#)



Yes It's Acceptable To Stare.

Beautiful Looks And Premium Features.

- Multipoint Lock Security
- 70% Lower Energy Costs
- No Maintenance
- No Rot, No Cracking
- Factory Direct Prices
- Excellent Warranty



Visit Unitech's showroom or website.

Showroom: 260 Jevlan Drive, Woodbridge
[www.unitechdoors.com](#) 905.856.5290





Kenedy Stairs Inc.
CUSTOM STAIRCASES & RAILINGS

336 Green Rd, Stoney Creek
905.662.4949 | kenedystairs.com
 @kenedystairs kenedy stairs inc

CUSTOM SIZING AVAILABLE

Vinyl floor cloths in vintage, Williamsburg, William Morris, create your own mosaic and many more patterns. Several sizes, even custom sizing available. We have several in stock. *Stop in for a spell and check them out!*

The Kitchen Witch
 905.971.0830 • 116 King St W, Dundas
 thekitchenwitchdundas.ca

LOCAL SOURCE GUIDE

- Baresa Kitchens • Benjamin Moore • D'Antonio Plumbing • Decorative Dreams
- DEL Windows & Doors • The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom • Erindale Fireplace
- Gentek Canada • Goemans Appliances • Graham Sutherland Carpentry
- GTA Quartz and Granite Inc • Holland Custom Carpentry • Home Lighting
- JCM Construction • Kenedy Stairs Inc. • Knight & Day Security Inc. • Len Angelici Designs Inc.
- Paradise Contracting • Patene Building Supplies • Rivalda Tiles • Rona Inc.
- Roofmart • Sarana Tile • Stala Building Solutions • Venture Electric

"I hope they realize Mommy and Daddy did this so we can have enjoyable space together," says Theresa, who witnessed Jason pour his all into the build. During his 14-hour work days she made sure to bring the children to the job site every day. "They stood in the foundation when it was just a pile of mud. They were part of this, too." **OH**

TOP: The 600-foot covered patio overlooks an extensive backyard and the conservation area, providing a relaxing outdoor getaway space three seasons of the year. **RIGHT:** Theresa went with a white and gold arrow motif mosaic tile in Milena's en suite, but Milena chose the paint for her bedroom herself. "She came to the store and picked out her colour," says Theresa. "So did Luca."



289.237.9940 www.shadesofsummer.net

Shades of Summer
 landscaping and maintenance

DESIGN CREATE MAINTAIN



ROOM to GROW

STORY **MICHELLE BERWICK**
PHOTOGRAPHY **LARRY ARNAL**

The return of childhood: Prior to March 2020, our kids were being pushed to their limits. Full-time school, homework and tutoring after school, sports, music lessons, martial arts, birthday parties every weekend. Bam! The pandemic hit. Finding ourselves at home for weeks at a time, the need for whimsy and daydreaming became a thing again. So we're back to creating spaces for fun and creativity at home. Their bedrooms are a great place to start. Here are some of our favourite whimsical kids' rooms.



*Pretty
in Pink*

A bedroom that is just as bright and special as the little one who gets to call either one of these spaces their own.

Continued on page 70



LAKESIDE
ARCHITECTURE INC.

Exclusively dedicated to the design of luxury homes, cottages and boathouses.



James C. Pitropov, Principal Architect, OAA
647-226-9860 • pitropov_architecture@sympatico.ca

www.lakesidearchitecture.ca

urban cottage life style store



2 McBay Road, Brantford
519.720.6777 | info@urban-cottage.com



Create new joy
in your home.



BARNARD & SPEZIALE
THE INTERIOR DESIGN COMPANY

3390 South Service Road, Burlington | 905.634.2233
www.barnardspeziale.com

decorating



A bedroom fit for two. Sharing a bedroom can be a struggle, but if this were my room I'd be happy to share it!

Blue Heaven

This room is easy to accessorize with your child's favourite things. Blue is the perfect backdrop to add personality.



An outdoorsy mountain mural creates a serene and tranquil spot for growing up.



A themed element adds a personal touch. Here we brought a sophisticated nod to a nautical, cottage vibe through small accessories that can easily change out as tastes evolve.



You can have a ton of fun creating a special place for your little one to grow up. Playing with colours, textures, wall decals and décor will set the stage for creativity to run wild and dreams to become endless. **OH**

Michelle Berwick is an award-winning published designer and principal and creative founder of Michelle Berwick Design.

Shop here for fabulous furniture and decor on consignment



OPEN AND ACCEPTING FURNITURE CONSIGNMENTS

7 days a week



THE MILLIONAIRE'S DAUGHTER

Fabulous furniture on consignment



289.837.3800
427 SPEERS RD, OAKVILLE

905.543.8000
272 OTTAWA ST N, HAMILTON

905.503.9400
40 ENGELHARD DR, AURORA

THEMILLIONAIRESDAUGHTER.COM

in the kitchen

COOKIE CRUSH

THE BITE-SIZE HISTORY OF COOKIE JARS



STORY
JULES TORTI

Children and dogs have one superpower in common. Both have the uncanny ability to sniff out a cookie jar at 50 paces, even if the jar is located out of their field of vision.

Cookie jars, long synonymous with doting grandmothers in flour-dusted aprons, have found their place in nearly every kitchen, regardless of whether the cookies inside are from scratch or a package.

While millennials clamour to the romantic ideal of cottagecore, Gen Xers prominently display Star Wars stormtrooper and Death Star cookie jars alongside shiny espresso machines and living green walls.

From skulls to pineapples, vintage to Tuscan, cookie jars are nostalgic and timeless with a magnetic attraction. Andy Warhol fell prey to the captivating designs with more than 175 ceramic jars in his coveted collection. Just how many jars are acceptable for one kitchen counter? How does one choose between the vintage VW camper or smiling chihuahua? Kitsch features largely along with throwbacks to Smokey Bear, the Pillsbury Doughboy, Little Lulu and every Disney character you can recall.

Edible history traces the invention of biscuit jars (or barrels) to the 18th century and jolly old England. Glass, metal and stoneware

KURT S. ADLER INC.: I Love Lucy
"Chocolate Is A Girl's Best Friend" Cookie Jar



BIOWORLD CANADA INC.: Star Wars Boba Fett and Star Wars Darth Vader Limited Edition Sculpted Ceramic Cookie Jars

varieties evolved into more creative ceramic options. The designs began simplistically with floral embellishments or images of fruit and vegetables. With innovation, the jars took on the form of animals and popular characters. Post-war, companies decided to take a bite out of the growing popularity by incorporating advertising onto tins. Cookie tins and jars were becoming collectible, and for brands that had nothing to do with cookies – like Harley-Davidson or Coca-Cola – the tins were a surreptitious way to imprint.

With history comes controversy, as cookie jars were a popular outlet for stereotypical racial caricatures. McCoy Aunt Jemima jars issued by Quaker Oats in the 1940s remain highly sought-out Black memorabilia items by the public and museum collectors alike since the recent branding change to Pearl Milling Company.

McCoy Pottery of Roseville, Ohio, and American Bisque of West Virginia are touted as foundational companies in the cookie jar movement, with the earliest kitchenware design appearing in 1929 by another Ohio manufacturer: Brush Pottery Company. American Bisque designs are easily recognized as the company specialized in generic clowns, Dutch girls and boys, grannies and chefs.

Jump ahead several decades to the 80s and the innovative scheme by Kraft to market peanut butter jars that could be repurposed as cookie holders. The bear head-shaped glass jars topped with a plastic green lid (or red, for the crunchy-PB devout) are iconic, right down to their jaunty bowties. Whether the jars were filled to their brims with cookies or coins, both were an ideal investment. To boot, Kraft's classic three-ingredient cookies (1 egg, ½ cup of sugar and 1 cup of Kraft Smooth Peanut Butter) continues to provide an entry-level recipe for kids and newbies to attempt with a high-level of success.

Cookie jars are sentimental, purposeful and a whimsical way to showcase your interests and style. The options are so niche that they can be an ideal, unexpected housewarming gift. You can actually find a Mr. T-inspired cookie jar for your in-law who is a rabid A-Team fan. Don't forget to fill the jar with cookies for the ultimate surprise, though! **OH**



Vintage Coca-Cola Cookie Jar

Vintage American Bisque Pottery Co.
Smiling Cow Cookie Jar



Vintage McCoy
Raggedy Ann Cookie Jar

All vintage cookie jar images are courtesy of [etsy.com/ca/shop/TrinketsnTreasuresBC](https://www.etsy.com/ca/shop/TrinketsnTreasuresBC)

STONE ON THE GO

QUARTZ & CABINETS



QUARTZ KITCHEN COUNTERTOPS

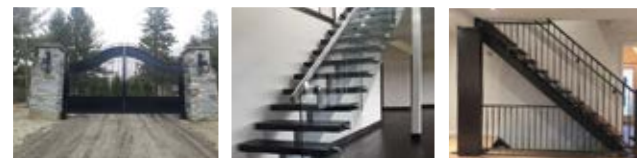
1170 Rymal Rd E Unit C-1, Hamilton
905.575.6882 stoneonthego.com



ENDEMAN'S

IRONCRAFT

CUSTOM FABRICATION



IRON STAIRS • SPIRAL STAIRS • DRIVEWAY GATES
INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR RAILINGS • ARCHITECTURAL IRON
CUSTOM WELDING

519.941.2876
info@endemansironcraft.com
www.endemansironcraft.com

Nicety's

THE GOURMET KITCHENWARE STORE

A most amazing knife



Slicing through the
crustiest of breads with ease



Crème Ikon by Wüsthof Germany



146 Lakeshore Rd E, Oakville
905.338.0275
www.nicety's.com

The Hottest Gig In Town REAL ESTATE AGENT

STORY **GEORGETTE MCCULLOCH** | ILLUSTRATION **SHEILA BRITTON**

Housing prices across Ontario are soaring. A recent Aviva Canada report found 31 per cent of Canadians are considering relocating as a result of the pandemic, with more than one third considering a move to a semi-rural or rural location. And that doesn't include the thousands of people who have already moved to greener pastures over the past year.

THE LATEST PASTIME on every street in Ontario is finding the answer to "How much did they get?" and then dreaming of upsizing or downsizing with a pocket full of dough. Imagine being a realtor in this crazy housing market.

Sherry Rioux, with the Rioux Baker Team at Clairwood Real Estate Corporation, has been a realtor for 16 years in the Southern Georgian Bay region, where home sales have reached historic levels and housing prices are at an all time high.

"Sellers have to be reminded that although we remain in a strong seller's market, we can't let greed overtake common sense," says Sherry. "Many sellers are doubling and tripling what they originally paid for their properties in a very short time. But sometimes we can easily lose sight of what is a "good and fair" offer. That can come back to bite you if you lose perspective and don't listen to the advice of an experienced, knowledgeable realtor. Sherry uses waterfront measurements, price per square foot, comparables and local real estate statistics to guide her sellers. "There are many ways to create a list price, and it takes experience, market knowledge and a bit of good luck!"

Home values in Windsor and Essex County barely budged for years until the onslaught of the pandemic. In June, the average price of a home jumped a whopping 38 per cent, and sales increased by almost seven per cent compared to a year ago.

Windsor's John Rauti, the top producer for 17 years at Remo Valente Real Estate, represents both local and out-of-town buyers.

"Most are buying in this region because prices are lower than where they're coming from," he says. He too has to temper the expectations of sellers. "My advice to sellers is simple: Price the home properly and accordingly. Do not let a hot market go to your head; you could price yourself out and pay for it later."

In Ottawa, Brent Conley of Royal LePage Team Realty says it's more strategic to list at equivalent market value to similar sales that have recently sold. "In some instances, it may motivate and spur activity and showings to list slightly below market value," he says. Brent says his buyers must be pre-approved so he knows what their top-dollar purchase power truly is. Ottawa's resale market is starting to stabilize after a busy spring. The average price of a residential home in July was \$645,426.

Buyers, of course, are still on edge, some forced to put most of their nest egg into the housing basket, yet getting out-bid for properties over and over again.

"We are experiencing a lot of buyer fatigue right now," says Sherry. "My team members and I have had clients who have submitted offers on four or five different properties and have lost out." That forced Sherry and her team to change their strategy. "In the beginning we would suggest that they put their best foot forward with the highest price they were prepared to pay and add in some representations and warranties to protect them," Sherry explains. "As you start to lose out on the bidding process you quickly turn your strategy to, 'If the next buyer gets this property for even one dollar more than you offered, will you be upset?"

If the answer is yes then that is not your number.' That means submitting the offer as clean as possible, meaning no conditions, no seller representations and warranties. I don't personally feel that this is the best way to represent buyers, but if you don't follow those rules, your buyers always lose out."

John urges his buyers to think long-term. "When you are interested in buying a specific home, take a look at the potential future value," he advises. "Do not look at the past or historical value. Remember the area comes into play as well. This can help you to make a proper offer and get the home!"

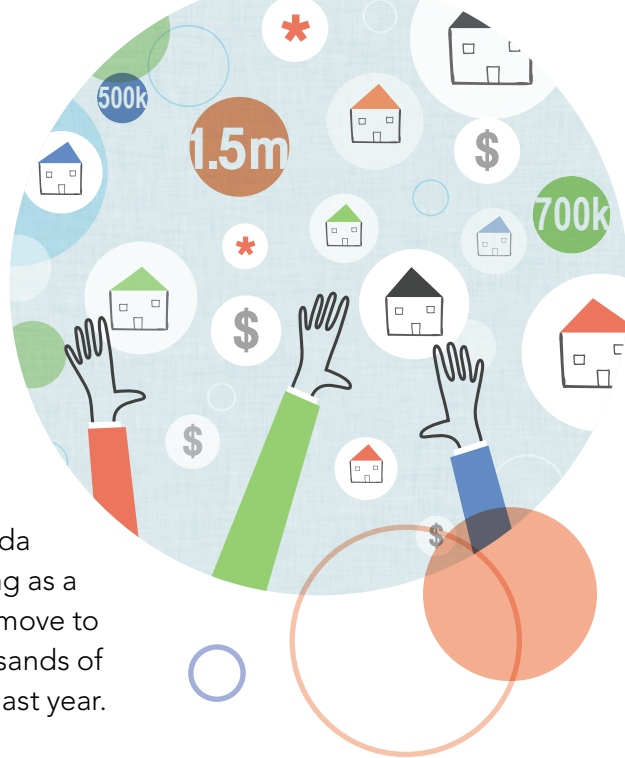
For these realtors, the current market is exhilarating, lucrative and frustrating.

John tells clients who have been pushed out of the market to cut frivolous spending and start saving, just like house hunters in expensive cities like Toronto and Ottawa have to do. "I tell them to start off in their price range and respect and take care of their home investment so it appreciates to its fullest potential," he says.

Brent says his biggest frustration is low inventory. "I can't satisfy expectations," he says. "I find this difficult to navigate as I truly want my clients to be happy and satisfied and to achieve their personal and financial goals."

Without a crystal ball, it's anyone's guess how long the red hot market will continue.

"Buyer fatigue is showing its true colours right now," says Sherry. "But I do expect to see a continued seller's market. With low interest rates and a strong demand to own in Southern Georgian Bay, I could see this continue well into 2023." **OH**



THEPICOTTEAM.COM



THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

MLS® 40096595 | \$5,975,000

Custom MOUNTAIN MASTERPIECE nestled at the end of a cul-de-sac backing onto 247' of wooded and private ravine area. Boasting over 9,500 sq. ft. finished interior space with 7 Bedrooms, 6 full Baths, 3 half-Baths and expansive outdoor entertaining areas. Two-sided woodburning fireplace in the Great Room and Gourmet Chef's Kitchen with a 5' x 16' island accommodating 10 people effortlessly. Lower level indoor Sauna, in ground Gunite pool, Games Room and TV/bar area + 3 car garage. The property is a labour of love and shows in the design of its natural surroundings.

TRUSTED ADVISORS TO THE CLIENTS WE SERVE IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS AND COLLINGWOOD

MLS® 40154664 | \$2,900,000

103 Barton Blvd, THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

MLS® 40088136 | \$795,000

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS
Lot 21 Woodland Park Rd

MLS® 40154610 | \$2,125,000

174 Aspen Way, THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

MLS® 40085837 | \$699,000

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS
147 Landry Lane

picot@rogers.com | 705-444-3452 | www.ThePicotTeam.com

Barb Picot* | Ron Picot* | Liz Jilon**

*Sales Representative | **Executive Assistant

Chestnut Park Real Estate Limited, Brokerage
393 First Street, Suite 100, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 1B3

This is not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract with a brokerage.

*CHESTNUT PARK is a registered trademark of PRP CP Holdings Inc., used under license by Chestnut Park Real Estate Limited, Brokerage

CHESTNUT PARK
REAL ESTATE LIMITED, BROKERAGE
CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

PICOTTEAM

LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE
COLLINGWOOD SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY 365

HISTORICAL *charm*

STORY **GINA MAKKAR**
PHOTOGRAPHY **KELLY HORKOFF**

Old homes radiate charm, and renovating requires careful planning to marry timeless character with modern convenience. Josh and Jessica Dorsch's home renovation added thoughtful updates while preserving the historical elements they fell in love with.

Continued on page 79



//////
New paint, window coverings and furniture revamped the formal living room while retaining the room's character. **INSET:** Jessica and Josh lived in their home for 10 years before renovating. "When we moved in we didn't know if this was the forever house," says Jessica. "We started looking at other places but we couldn't find anything comparable to the heart and character this house has."





“WE ARE BOTH OLD SOULS AND ARE NATURALLY DRAWN TO TRADITIONAL STYLES, BUT ALSO APPRECIATE CLEAN LINES AND THE FRESHNESS OF MODERN DESIGN.”

– Jessica Dorsch



Robert Armstrong & Natalie Kurjancic

The kitchen got a complete makeover, with new Shaker-style cabinets in Benjamin Moore’s Narragansett Green – a cross between teal and navy – offset by walls in Balboa Mist. The floor is porcelain tile from Eden Tile-It, laid in a herringbone pattern by Maxco Tiling. “It blew me away,” says Jessica of the kitchen. “I can’t believe there was ever a wall there. When we met Robert and Natalie (pictured upper right), we never looked back.” Aberdeen Interiors specializes in older homes, and frequently partners with Interiors by Natalie to ensure every detail is beautiful.

Hamilton natives and McMaster University alums, they were drawn to the 1930s Westdale home and its vintage features, from the weathered hardwood floors to the original doors and intricate plaster mouldings.

The couple held off on making major changes until they’d lived in the home and knew how they would use the space. They wanted to maintain the home’s authenticity and highlight elements that hadn’t been stripped away by previous renovations.

To restore its historical charm and add modern amenities, they were referred to **Robert Armstrong**, owner of **Aberdeen Interiors** and designer **Natalie Kurjancic**, of **Interiors by Natalie**. “We thought Aberdeen Interiors was a good first place to start interviewing potential contractors, but once we met Robert and Natalie, we never looked back,” says Jessica. “They both seemed to be as excited as we were to invest some love into this beautiful home, and they guided

us through the whole process of bringing the vision of our home to fruition with their extensive knowledge and expertise in design and home renovation.”

Natalie endeavoured to showcase the couple’s style while maintaining the timeless look and feel of the space. The project included a renovation of the upper-level bathroom. As with most older homes, bathrooms often involve demolition, and this one was no exception.

Multiple layers were stripped away and the floor was levelled to create balance. “Working with an imperfect old structure that has settled and moved requires a lot of forethought and preparation to make sure everything is done in a way that finishes look square and plumb and consistent in the space,” says Robert. Finishes like hexagonal tile were chosen to honour the home’s old-world aesthetic. Porcelain and quartz add a luxe touch to the spa-like retreat and provide durability. *Continued on page 80*



Built-in cabinetry provides lots of storage, while creating an area to display favourite items.

In the primary bedroom a custom wardrobe helps maximize storage, and the rest of the room received a refresh with furnishings and Philipsburg Blue by **Benjamin Moore** a timeless, moody hue.

On the main floor, opening a wall between the kitchen and dining room created a cohesive space without straying to a completely open-concept design. “We are both old souls and are naturally drawn to traditional styles, but also appreciate clean lines and the freshness of modern design,” says Jessica. “Natalie helped us find the perfect balance of a traditional design without being too stuffy.”

In the kitchen, the couple originally wanted baby blue until Natalie suggested something different – teal. “Jessica was completely open,” Natalie says. “It’s not something she would have settled with on her own but she’s ecstatic about it.” A herringbone floor, from **Eden Tile-It** and installed by **Maxco Tiling**, fresh white backsplash and quartz counters from **CAPA Granite** are the perfect complement. Simple globe lighting from **Home Lighting** lends a vintage vibe and updated appliances from **Peter Martin Appliances** complete the space. The kitchen cabinetry, the family room built-ins and bathroom vanity were crafted by **LG Woodworking**. It’s one of the couple’s favourite spaces and they look forward to hosting gatherings and Thanksgiving dinners.

Continued on page 82



The centrepiece of the family room is a Valor gas fireplace with an Erth Coverings natural stone-veneer surround. “It’s hard to pick a favourite room,” says Josh. “We cook, and go back and eat by the fire. It all just came together.” Natalie sourced new window coverings from Elaine Basaran of Home Advantage Interiors.





The dining room, adjacent to the kitchen, receives light from the front and back rooms, supplemented by pot lights on a dimmer switch. Jessica is a fan of ambient lighting. The original cabinet was updated with paint and bronze hardware to match the kitchen hardware.

A previous addition to the back of the home felt dark and dated with worn carpeting and insufficient lighting. New windows from **Arcana Windows & Doors** flood the space with light and hardwood from **Siatras Carpets and Flooring** was selected to complement the flooring throughout. A custom fireplace feature with a stone surround from **Sarana Tile** is a dramatic focal point, and integrated cabinetry and new furnishings create a cosy entertainment area. “We designed the room around the stone fireplace,” says Natalie, who selected custom Van Gogh pieces from **Lofty Ambitions** to achieve the right balance.

“Size and scale are paramount when working with older homes.” The room is a nod to “up north,” with its rugged stone fireplace and linear gas insert with birch logs from **Eco Efficiency Energy Systems**. It’s a favourite place to relax and cuddle with family pup Ella and watch Sunday football.

In the formal living room, a dark, dated decorative built-in bench and original glass cabinet were revitalized with paint. Thoughtful touches are everywhere, from the vintage hutch updated with colourful dinnerware to a floral tea set and pretty vases. Champagne bronze

Continued on page 84



Design your Everyday with Original Fine Art!



KEFI ART GALLERY

Kefi Art Gallery is a Premier Source for Original Contemporary Fine Art. We present a diversity of mediums, with a focus on Canadian and International emerging and established artists.

We will help you curate a special and unique collection for you to love, get inspired by, and look after for the next generation. Whether you’re in search of a unique gift or looking to elevate your office or home, we will provide you with the best art available on the art market!



Shop online at www.kefiartgallery.com

416-829-1939 | hello@kefiartgallery.com



ABERDEEN INTERIORS

GENERAL CONTRACTING
WITH SUPERIOR SERVICE



905 • 520 • 9177
www.aberdeeninteriors.ca

ABERDEEN PLUMBING

RELIABLE • LOCAL • EXPERTS



905 • 520 • 5992
www.aberdeenplumbing.ca

home & builder

hardware throughout from **Marathon Hardware** provides a soft, muted glow. A new front door from Arcana Windows & Doors was selected to look as though it has always been there. Once a hodgepodge, the staircase treads were redressed and refinished and new posts, handrails and a carpet runner from Siatras to complete the transformation.

The couple uses every inch of their much-loved new space. "Opening the kitchen and dining room space has been a real game changer. We love to cook for ourselves and others. Now, one of us doesn't have to be exiled in the kitchen while guests are in the other room. Instead, one or more can sit at the island and share a cocktail and conversation with the chef."

For Josh and Jessica, working with Robert and Natalie felt effortless. "It was clear from the very beginning that they were here to support us to achieve our vision of home," Jessica says. "They empowered us to play an active role in the design selections but also provided honest advice, which was invaluable to a project of this scope. The team regularly communicated with us throughout the entire process, which provided the transparency to keep us all on the same page, and was great peace of mind." **OH**



TOP RIGHT AND ABOVE: The upstairs bathroom received a dramatic renovation, transforming it into a bright and spacious retreat with a glass standing shower and separate soaker tub. **LEFT:** The primary bedroom is painted Benjamin Moore's Phillipsburg Blue. Two other bedrooms function as office space for Josh and Jessica.

INTERIORS BY NATALIE

NATALIE KURJANCIC Interior Decorator
905.745.1074 @interiors_by_natalie
nataliekurjancic@gmail.com
HAMILTON & SURROUNDING AREAS

Eden Tile-It

CARPET | TILE | HARDWOOD



4060 Fairview Street Burlington 905.632.8066 | 3727 Hwy # 6 Mount Hope 905.679.5669

www.fileit.ca

THE SOURCE FOR HOME COMFORT

- GAS FIREPLACES
- WOODSTOVES
- HEATING
- AIR CONDITIONING
- SALES & SERVICE

Offering the finest collection of quality wood and gas fireplace products...since 1975

316 Brock Road, Greenville (Dundas)
905.627.4147 • www.thesourceforhomecomfort.com



IT'S HERE.
Designer Consignment Curated.

Buy. Sell. Reimagine Furnishings & Decor.

www.ciculera.ca
Email Kara: hello@circulera.ca
@circulera_ca

MAXCO TILING

See more of our work in this issue's Feature Home, pg76

647.812.3887
maxcotiling.com
info@maxcotiling.com

Servicing Etobicoke, Mississauga, Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton

In collaboration with Van Martin Contracting



entertaining

Rörstrand: Swedish Grace Dinnerware



Wedgwood: Arris Collection

BRINGING FANCY BACK

It's time to celebrate with an elegant table. Pull out your best dishes, stemware and tabletop décor to dine in style. Don't forget to dress for the occasion!

SUBTLE SOPHISTICATION



Villeroy & Boch: Cellini Dinnerware & Victor Flatware

Rörstrand: Swedish Grace Gala Dinnerware

Wedgwood: Intaglio Dinnerware with Vera Wang Polished Gold Flatware

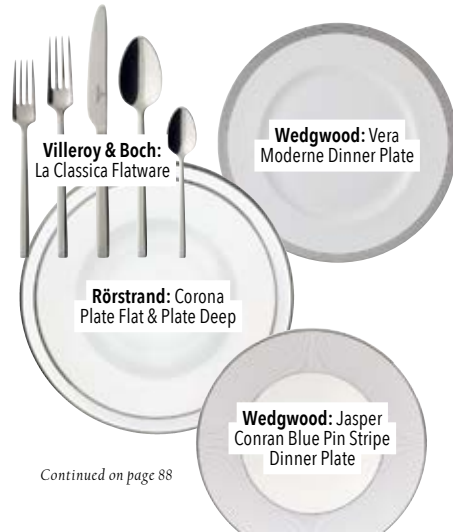
Wedgwood: Arris Collection



Villeroy & Boch: MetroChic Dinnerware with MetroChic d'Or Flatware & Allegorie Premium Glassware



Villeroy & Boch: Royal Dinnerware



Villeroy & Boch: La Classica Flatware

Wedgwood: Vera Moderne Dinner Plate

Rörstrand: Corona Plate Flat & Plate Deep

Wedgwood: Jasper Conran Blue Pin Stripe Dinner Plate

Continued on page 88

STICKLEY.

In Walnut Grove, Stickley has combined flowing lines inspired by modern design with moments of sophisticated handwork that beautifully showcase the furniture maker's art.

The most successful modern collection in Stickley history!



Stickley Furniture & the Best Value in Handmade Mattresses



Manderley FINE FURNITURE

545 Mount Pleasant Rd., Toronto, ON M4S 2M5

416-486-3045

www.manderleyfinefurniture.com

The Home of STICKLEY.

entertaining



Rörstrand: Ostindia Floris Plates

Wedgwood: Anthemion Blue Dinner & Salad Plate

Villeroy & Boch: MetroChic d'Or Flatware

Villeroy & Boch: Manufacture Rock Dinner Plate

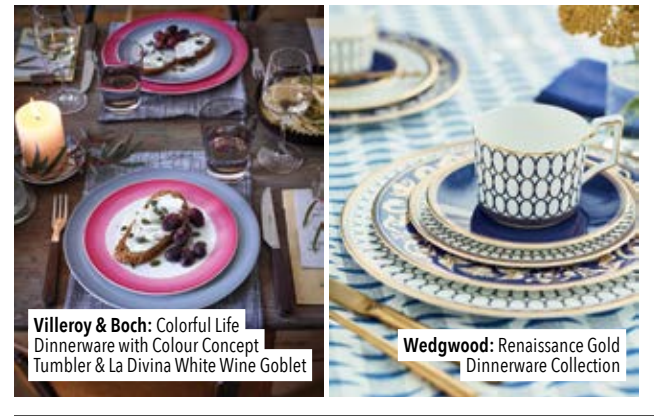


Wedgwood: Jasper Conran Chinoiserie Dinnerware Collection

BOLD GLAMOUR



Wedgwood: Prestige Hummingbird Dinnerware Collection



Villeroy & Boch: Colorful Life Dinnerware with Colour Concept Tumbler & La Divina White Wine Goblet

Wedgwood: Renaissance Gold Dinnerware Collection



AROMA
KITCHENS & BATHS INC.
Create Your Dream Look

25+ Years Experience
100% Canadian Made Cabinetry | Quality Craftsmanship
Custom Made Kitchen & Bathroom Cabinetry
Closet Systems | Entertainment Units | Basement Renovations
Full Renovations & More!



Visit Our 6,000 sq.ft. Design Centre: Units 2-3, 333 Wycroft Rd., Oakville
905.844.3332 | www.aromakitchens.ca | info@aromakitchens.ca

TRADITIONAL ELEGANCE



Wedgwood: Jasper Conran Platinum Dinnerware Collection



Wedgwood: Hibiscus Accent Dinner Plate

Wedgwood: Prestige Riverton Bread & Butter Plate

Wedgwood: Cornucopia Accent Dinner Plate

Wedgwood: Mythical Creatures Dinner Plate

Wedgwood: Vera Wang Duchesse Glassware Collection



Villeroy & Boch: Toy's Delight Royal Dinnerware with Boston Flatware & Opera Goblet



Wedgwood: Parkland Accent Plates



Villeroy & Boch: Audun Dinnerware

CUSTOM HOME DESIGNS



Jordan Station Design Co Inc.
3836 Main St, Unit 2 - 2/3 Jordan Station, ON
289.668.4588 | info@jordanstationdesignco.ca
www.jordanstationdesignco.ca

From contemporary to modern to classic farmhouse, we design them all. No matter your budget, we work with you and your builder to ensure we are designing a custom home specific to your needs and within your financial means.

Contact us today to set up a consultation or for more details about our services.

Architectural Design Studio



SERVICE centre

Local expertise helps you move forward
with your must-do list.



JOSHUA CREEK FURNITURE

Joshua Creek Furniture's 10,000 sq. ft. showroom carries Canadian-made, on-trend, customizable furnishings and hand-picked, unique home décor items at affordable prices. The store showcases a broad selection of deep-seated, feather-filled sofas and sectionals, rough-cut harvest tables, solid-wood bedroom sets, unique home office designs, boutique condo options and hundreds of fabrics and wood finishes.

THE DIFFERENCE

A bricks-and-mortar store, customers can sit, touch and feel furniture and take their time making the right choice. A hand-selected group of experienced designers and salespeople offer one-on-one consultations, plenty of take-home samples and house calls to ensure items fit the space and tie into a home's design.



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

**Samantha Hobbs, Crystal Ramage, Joe Levine,
Linda Johnston, Jim Hobbs & Quinn Caldwell**

WHAT'S IN STORE

A popular selection, the Yukon solid maple dining trestle table is custom built to any size with optional breadboard-end extensions. Made locally, choose the stain and ruff-cut, wire brush or smooth finish. The Madison Feathersoft Sofa is made in Canada and available in a variety of fabrics. It features feather-wrapped seating and feather-blend backs. It offers casual comfort and elegant appeal with sumptuous deep seating. It's also available in a condo-size sofa, chair, ottoman and as a sectional with many configuration options.



Continued on page 92



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

Michal J. Cerny

ABOUT MICHAL

Michal J. Cerny is the founder, president and CEO of Ambassador Fine Custom Homes Inc. and has two professional designations in construction. He has designed and built all aspects of homes – from floor plans and elevations to interior design. Some 65 per cent of the homes Ambassador builds have been designed by Michal. He has a wealth of knowledge in building science, excels at building structure and personally oversees the entire construction process.



TURN-KEY SERVICE

As a full-service design/build company, their combined expertise, commitment and integrity in the building process ensures that each Ambassador Fine Custom Home is designed to capture and express your lifestyle and personal values. Whether contemporary, traditional or transitional, homes are built to exceed the highest industrial standards with the confidence of working within strict budgets. It's a family investment to be passed on to generations to come.



TRENDING

We are seeing the switch from cooler colours and textures to warm and light. The move is towards all things cosy as we are spending more time at home these days.

"Paint like no other."



CUSTOMER TIP

Samples! We offer convenient sample-size containers in all Benjamin Moore's paint colours. It's a great way to help pick the perfect colour without buying a full gallon.

AFTICA DECOR & CAMDEN CARPET & INTERIORS

Welcome back! We're here to help with your flooring and painting projects. We offer a full line of carpet, hardwood, tile, laminate and more. Whether it's paint, stain or wallpaper we have the products and knowledge to get the job done.



Marion & Mike Urquhart

PHOTO: KELLY HORKOFF

AMBASSADOR HOMES

Ambassador Fine Custom Homes Inc. is a multi-award-winning design/build firm with 35 years of experience in multi-site project management and operations across North America. They have in-house engineers, architectural technicians, are PMP and PGSC certified and members of the Canadian Construction Association. Their fine custom homes and boutique custom renovations have been featured in magazines, newspapers and on television.





Lisette Amalfi

SERVICES

We offer personalized service with secure internet options for applications and document gathering. Or let's see each other in person. Your choice! We'll help you make a plan moving forward. It's your mortgage and you need to be in control of it and your future.



PHOTO: KELLY HORKOFF

"To find out what is different when working with a mortgage broker, use a mortgage broker. It just takes one call!"

CLIENTS SHOULD KNOW

Mortgage broker services are typically free with standard mortgage products and lenders. The lender we place you with will pay us a finder's fee, so it's a win-win. You receive all the support, education and guidance along with a long-term relationship with someone you just have to call or email. This is our only business.

MORTGAGE ALLIANCE GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE

I'm a hometown small-business owner working only in the best interest of my clients. We secure mortgages for all types of clients and their scenarios, from a typical mortgage, one designed for those struggling to pay debts, for self-employed business people with unique incomes and those with past credit concerns.

ORGANIZED TRANSITIONS

Organized Transitions is committed to making the process of organizing, downsizing, moving or clearing of an estate as simple as possible. Our team of professional organizers takes a compassionate approach while customizing a plan that meets the individual needs of each client.

SERVICES

We offer organizing, decluttering, staging, packing, unpacking and complete home set up, auction set up and sale, and estate clear outs. We promise to reduce the stress and make any transition as seamless as possible.



"We make it simple."

Jennifer Smith

PHOTO: KELLY HORKOFF

READER ADVICE

Start early and give yourself time.

Continued on page 96



Lorna Parcher

GRAHAM & BROOKS

At Graham & Brooks we like to blend old with new for a combination unique in the marketplace. By incorporating both in your home's décor, it encourages a welcome place that has a story to tell. Our vintage and antique furniture pieces are nestled next to new cushions, throws and décor pieces.

IN STORE

We have an eclectic mix, but the one thing we look for in our products is a quality that is hard to find today. Maybe it's a 50s dresser made of real wood or one of our German-made brushes for home keeping. We feature things that smell good, gifts for guys and babies, bedding and carpets – and you may find something completely unexpected.



PHOTO: KELLY HORKOFF

"We feel that your home should be a collection of things that you love. Make it personal."

Continued on page 98

INSPIRATION

Come by on a lovely autumn day and it could be you saying: "Remember when we went to that shop in Dundas and picked up the perfect cabinet for the hallway? It was such a perfect fall day and the leaves were changing?" Now it is part of your story.

The Unique Process

MEET . CONCEPT . DESIGN . SELECT . CONSTRUCT . INSPECT . ENJOY!



The Heart of the Home Working together to design, manufacture and install custom cabinetry, using your choice of fine and exotic wood, man-made materials and custom chosen finishes, expertly crafted to suit your lifestyle and needs...from start to finish. *Designed with you in mind*



UNIQUE
CUSTOM CABINETS + RENOVATIONS

9 Meadow Lane . Dundas ON
O: 905.627.2302 C: 905.570.9239
www.unicustomcabinets.com

Cabinetmaker
Tim Dagg



CABINETS | MILLWORK | SPACE PLANNING & DESIGN | PROJECT MANAGEMENT | CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

people & places

ACID



SILVER



GOLD

Jen Stokes, Peter de Pagter & Ava de Pagter



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

SERVICES

The lab, a first of its kind, is a new way to sell your precious metals. With Au Jewelry Exchange Lab, you'll know exactly how much your precious metals are worth based on our posted market rates and simple formula. There's no haggling or negotiation. We take the time to educate and empower you.



HOW IT WORKS

- Gather your gold and silver jewelry, silverware and coins.
- Book an appointment.
- We weigh and test your items for purity.
- We present you with an evaluation and purchase offer.



AU JEWELRY EXCHANGE LAB

If you've recently cleaned out your jewelry box, hutch or safety deposit box, chances are you found hidden gold and silver treasures. We all have pieces that collect dust. Perhaps you have items of value that you're not sure what to do with? We can help! Au Jewelry Exchange Lab is a precious metals service that evaluates and purchases your hidden treasures.

"Getting rid of things that no longer spark joy is a process. While all items are precious, there's a multitude of reasons why some pieces may no longer serve you, and that's okay. Letting go of things will help make space in your life for what's next. When you are ready, Au Jewelry Exchange Lab is here."

Continued on page 100

Your Drapery and Shade PROFESSIONALS



Fall
SAVINGS EVENT*
SEPT 1 — OCT 31
*Ask Associate for Details

Request a Consultation — In your Home*, our Showroom or Virtual
*some conditions apply

SHOWROOM HOURS: Mon-Fri 10-5. Appointment Preferred. Closed Weekends.

www.coverscanada.ca

Covers
Designers' EDGE
BLINDS | SHUTTERS | DRAPERY



Josette Giacalone
Certified Interior Decorator
& Drapery Consultant

shadeomatic

Appleby Crossing: 2500 Appleby Line, Burlington, ON L7L 0A2

Showroom 905-333-8121 • Email covers4@coverscanada.ca

Serving Burlington, Oakville, Hamilton, Ancaster, Stoney Creek and surrounding areas

TOP TIP

It is important to deal with a contractor with industry certification with an actual place of business that is licensed and insured.

SPECIALTY

Our customers love the peace of mind in dealing with a reputable company that is a one-stop shop for all their home renovation needs. There is no need to deal with a multitude of trades – we do it all. We are a proud member of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) and RenoMark. **OH**



"Exceeding industry standards and real warranties."

Bruno Levesque, President

PHOTO: JASON HARTOG



LET IT RAIN LTD. ROOFING AND HOME RENOVATIONS

We are the GTA's #1 choice for quality roofing and home renovations. We have a solid reputation backed by 32 years in business.

SEE OUR DIRECTORY FOR ALL CONTACT INFORMATION.



Sandhill cranes

PHOTO: NIGELEVES

AUTUMN'S AVIAN ACTION FADING INTO FALL

STORY **LYNNE RICHARDSON**

The crazy, hazy, not-so-lazy days of summer living are fading away, as are the hectic activities we pack into our short but sweet vacations. On the bird front, things are winding down as well. Some of us feel the urge to go south – the birds feel it too. But preparations are necessary, for us and the birds.

This is the time of year many birds disappear from your backyards, but they're not necessarily gone from the area. They need to lay low for a bit while they undergo a post-breeding moult of their now well-worn summer plumage in exchange for a new fall coat of feathers, fresh and strong for migration.

Fall is the time when birds of a feather flock together. As they prepare for their journey south, they instinctively know there's safety in numbers. You may start to notice hundreds of birds congregating, gathering on lines – or staging as ornithologists call it – in one area or another. These get-togethers can make for some captivating fall birdwatching.

Continued on page 104



Fall in love with *free time.*

Put down the duster and pick up your passion project.

A regular cleaning service from Merry Maids of Oakville, Milton and Hamilton allows more time spent doing what you love, and less time spent on household chores.



CUSTOMIZED
CLEANING PLANS
DESIGNED TO FIT
YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS
AND BUDGET.



100% SATISFACTION
GUARANTEE
ENSURING YOUR HOME
IS ALWAYS CLEANED
PROPERLY.



FREE, NO PRESSURE
CONSULTATIONS
SO YOU CAN HAVE
ALL YOUR QUESTIONS
ANSWERED.



PET FRIENDLY STAFF,
PRODUCTS
AND EQUIPMENT.

merry maids®

Locally owned and operated for over 40 years,
Merry Maids is proud to call our wonderful community home.

CONTACT US TO BOOK A CLEANING TODAY!

MAGICAL MURMURATIONS

First up is the often much-maligned starling. However you feel about these ubiquitous birds, starlings are the darlings of the sky in the fall. Hundreds come together pre-dusk and put on a spectacular air show known as a murmuration. The birds fly tightly together, creating balloons, blobs, whales and other shapes in the sky as they undulate fluidly through the air. Watching the murmurations is mesmerizing, as is their final dive down into their roost with a wonderful whoosh of their wings. You'll never diss a starling again after witnessing one of these exquisite performances. You can catch this awesome avian action each fall evening if you keep your eyes to the skies and peeled for flocks, or if you know of a roost site in woodlots or thick brushy areas, often in or near towns.



SWIRLING SWIFTS

In towns across much of Ontario the chimney swift – a compact little brown bird affectionately referred to as a “cigar with wings” – provides more evening entertainment. True to their name, these aerial insectivores nest in chimneys. Come fall, hundreds congregate over old buildings in the evening hours to swirl and twitter before diving en masse into a choice chimney for their nightly roost. The chimneys they choose are often those on our grand old century homes and buildings, enabling swift watchers to have an architectural as well as an avian experience. Nightly swift watches, which contribute scientific data to bird biologists, have become a thing in some towns, and these sweet birds need our help as, unfortunately for them, fewer and fewer suitable chimneys exist on our modern builds.

SWAMP SURPRISES

Out in the wetlands, yet another fall show is taking place. Great egrets – tall, elegant white waders with gorgeous breeding plumes – have increasingly graced us with their presence. In recent years their breeding range has extended north to the off-shore islands of Georgian Bay and Lake Huron. They're usually seen in singles during summer as they wander far and wide to forage for food. But in the fall, they fly in from all directions to wooded swamps at dusk, to roost safely for the night. It's a sight to behold in the soft twilight over a quiet swamp. These roosts are few and far between, so if you do come across one, you're in for an ethereal experience!



Great egrets



A SIEGE OF SANDHILLS

Finally, we can't forget our fields. They hold autumn wildlife wonders as well. Sandhill cranes, of elaborate courtship-dancing fame, have spread throughout Ontario in recent years. In the summer they are largely inconspicuous with their cryptic colouring as they keep to the wetlands to raise their young. But come fall, they congregate and take to harvested grain fields to glean through the chaff and stubble to bulk up for their late-fall migration. They can be seen by the twenties, fifties and even many hundreds in a field near you. But you need to give these fields a good look, as they can be hard to see despite their size. And keep your ears open, too. Cranes have very loud, far-reaching, distinctive, primitive, guttural calls – providing you with a strange musical, as well as a visual, treat. Plus, they don't save their famous fancy dance moves just for the springtime; sit and watch a while and you may get a sneak preview.

So don't lament those lovely summer days with an abundance of birds in your backyard. Get out, look up, look around and discover these wonderful fall phenomena of the avian kind. **OH**




FRANKRICCI
CUSTOM RENOVATIONS



Renovating or Remodelling? Let us help you achieve the rooms of your dreams. With our meticulous attention to detail and quality, you will love your home again!

CUSTOM HOME BUILDING & RENOVATIONS

905.902.3939

View our latest projects on 

spotlight



Matt DiPalma, Kim Melvin, Hannah Siemens, Frank DiPalma, Joanne DiPalma, Karen Bedard and Josie Tropea



THE APPROACH

With no-pressure sales and a welcoming approach, their highly-skilled team of interior decorators and designers remove the intimidation from in-store browsing. Staff are present from furniture selection and customization to room staging. "Anything you need, even with colour coordination and paint selection, we want to help," manager and owner Frank DiPalma Jr. says. In-home consultations are available to help customers design, size and purchase directly from the room they are redecorating, ensuring each customer is thrilled when their furniture arrives. Full-service delivery and set up is also available.

family
FIRST PHOTOGRAPHY
JOEL SMITH

THE PLACE

It is all about family at **The Furniture Gallery**. With 45 years of retailing in St. Catharines, Frank and Joanne DiPalma's family-owned and operated store has become the place to shop for unique furnishings and a home away from home for their loyal clientele. Their 23,000 sq. ft. showroom features the latest trends in high-quality furniture, art and accessories for every room of your home, all in a wide range of affordable price points. With more than 100 different settings showcasing bedrooms, dining rooms and living spaces, it is not difficult to find inspiration while shopping in the store.



THE TREND

Nobody wants to walk into another home and see their furniture sitting in the living room. Unique, customizable and comfortable are the key words in every purchase. Each piece of upholstered furniture can be customized in up to 500 fabrics and colours to suit each individual home. "We don't stock 100 pieces of the same sofa," Frank Jr. says. "Every item is unique, available and customizable for the individual customer."



NEW THIS SEASON

Bright and vibrant colours like rich oranges, reds and cobalt blues are making a bold statement in the showroom and catching the eye of those looking to switch out their neutral tones. Not ready to introduce bold colour just yet? Frank Jr. says black-and-white prints are also making a comeback for the coming season. **OH**

Get There

175 Dieppe Rd., St. Catharines
905.685.4819 | furnituregallery.com

cooking at home

Peanut Butter & Jelly SANDWICH COOKIES

Your favourite childhood sandwich just became your new favourite cookie. Perfect for after-school snacks, these PB & J cookies are your classic peanut butter cookie with a tangy raspberry filling. They'll bring back childhood memories and create new ones.

RECIPE AND PHOTOS **JENELLE MCCULLOCH**



HOW-TO

Prepare the raspberry filling. In a saucepan over medium heat, cook raspberries into a jam-like consistency. Press through a fine strainer to remove the seeds and return to the saucepan. Cook purée until thickened. Line a sheet pan with foil and spread the puree flat. Freeze for 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream the butter and sugars together. Add peanut butter and mix until combined. Add egg and vanilla and mix until combined. Add flour and baking powder and mix just until the dough comes together.

Remove the frozen raspberry puree from the freezer and cut into 12 squares. Take a golf-ball-size piece of dough and split it in half. Flatten one half of the dough and place the raspberry puree in the middle. Cover with the remaining dough and form into a ball, ensuring that all of the raspberry puree is covered. Place on baking sheet and score the top by gently pressing down on the cookie with a fork.

These cookies are quite big, so they will take a bit longer to cook. Bake for 15 minutes or until cookies begin to brown around the edges. **OH**

online Get more recipes at ourhomes.ca/blogrecipes

INGREDIENTS

Makes 12 Cookies

- 2 cups raspberries, fresh or frozen
- ½ cup unsalted butter, room temperature
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 large egg, room temperature
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- ¾ tsp baking powder



MOUNTAINEER MOVERS LTD.

Family owned and operated since 1978. Celebrating our 43rd Year in Business!

WE'LL MOVE MOUNTAINS FOR YOU

EST 1978 Family Owned & Operated

LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE

BAEUMLER APPROVED

CALL FOR ALL YOUR MOVING NEEDS
905.561.8880 | 1.800.263.4561
www.mountaineermovers.com

Ariaan (Harry) Mans Founder
Sarah, Wendy and Andrew Family Owners

AVAILABLE WHEN YOU ARE – LET'S TALK

For over 20 years we've been connecting Canadians with the best mortgages from the right brokers!

We have the technology to service all your needs from our home to yours.

Contact us with any mortgage questions!

Lisette Amalfi Mortgage Broker, License #13121

APPLY ONLINE: themortgageyouwant.com

GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE MORTGAGE ALLIANCE
OAC MORTGAGES TEAM

Direct: 905.529.1199
Toll Free: 877.529.1199
lamalfi@mortgagealliance.com
8 Sydenham Street, Dundas

HEAD OFFICE: 8 Sydenham St, Dundas L9H 2T4 | An independently owned and operated franchise of the Mortgage Alliance network.



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW YOU

Just like you we can't wait to have visitors. Come see our brand new boutique showroom in the old Post Office building, downtown Dundas.

NEW LOCATION 104 King St W Unit #3, Dundas ON
905.627.9763 | www.crodonkitchenandbath.com

Crodon Centre
kitchen | bath | renovation

MIRALIS THE ART OF THE KITCHEN
Your one-stop renovation destination proudly serving Stoney Creek, Hamilton, Ancaster, Dundas, Burlington, Waterdown, Brantford, Oakville and surrounding areas.



SECOND Chances

STORY **MELISSA NORTH**
PHOTOGRAPHY **KELLY HORKOFF**

THIS RUN-DOWN BUNGALOW HAD SEEN BETTER DAYS. BUT HARD WORK AND DREAMS TRANSFORMED IT INTO A HOME FOR BETTER DAYS AHEAD. Continued on page 113

ABOVE: Generosity at every turn! Eden Tile-It donated luxury vinyl plank flooring, backsplash subway tiles and bathroom tiling, and they're donating 50 per cent of 2021 in-house sales of their Memoirs hardwood line to Restorations Canada. **RIGHT:** Gibson Building Supplies got in on the act with shingles for the new roof while Urban Roofing & Consulting completed the installation.



"I wanted to make sure that each room we designed and sourced would be comfortable and welcoming," designer Christine Jurcic says. "I wanted to use my skills to help some way in my local community." Hamilton artist Elissa Barber donated artworks for the home because she loves what they are doing (kindly framed by Julian Brisbois of Sealed Art). **OPPOSITE:** "When I came out here I realized the extent of the renovation," says Shane Van Barneveld on his role as project manager. "I know how to renovate and I've been doing it for a long time – I didn't know any other way to help except to take the bull by the horns."



Shane Van Barneveld

It all began back in 2013 with a small group of women wondering what they could do locally about the issue of human trafficking. **Restorations Canada** was born from there, bringing support to survivors of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, with the ultimate goal of providing second-stage housing – a vital missing step between first-stage emergency shelters and eventual independent living.

Fast forward to 2019 when Restorations acquired the side-split house. Set on four acres of wooded land with walking trails, the location was ideal – but the home was uninhabitable. Executive Director Jennifer Lucking approached **Shane Van Barneveld** of **Shane Renovations**, who threw his heart and good will into the project.

"I know ugly things happen in Canada," Shane says, "but what I didn't realize was the extent of it, and right here in our own backyard. That was an eye-opener for me, and all the motivation I needed."

As project manager, Shane reached out to people in the trades seeking their help. "I never imagined it would be as easy as it was to get people here. The number of suppliers that donated material, the trades who donated their time and materials, other renovators who are in the same position as me, they just jumped on board. Suddenly we had a chance to do something together, and it was just awesome." *Continued on page 114*



"I know ugly things happen in Canada," Shane says, "but what I didn't realize was the extent of it, and right here in our own backyard. That was an eye-opener for me, and all the motivation I needed."



feature

The renovations to *Nancy's House*, as it is known, were extensive. The main level was completely gutted and required a lot of structural work to create an open-concept environment. **The Wright Kitchen** designed, built and installed a modern kitchen with island seating. **CAPA Granite** supplied and installed the countertop.

Upstairs, the three bedrooms were modified to make room for an additional powder room, which meant plumbing fixtures had to be moved. And on the lower level, once the wildlife had been evicted, another bathroom was updated, office space for staff added, along with a large den ideal for group sessions and programs.

And every step was completed by volunteers and donations. Ultimately, all of the plumbing, electrical and HVAC was updated. The interior boasts all new drywall, insulation, flooring, windows, fixtures and lights. Outside, everything but the brick is new.

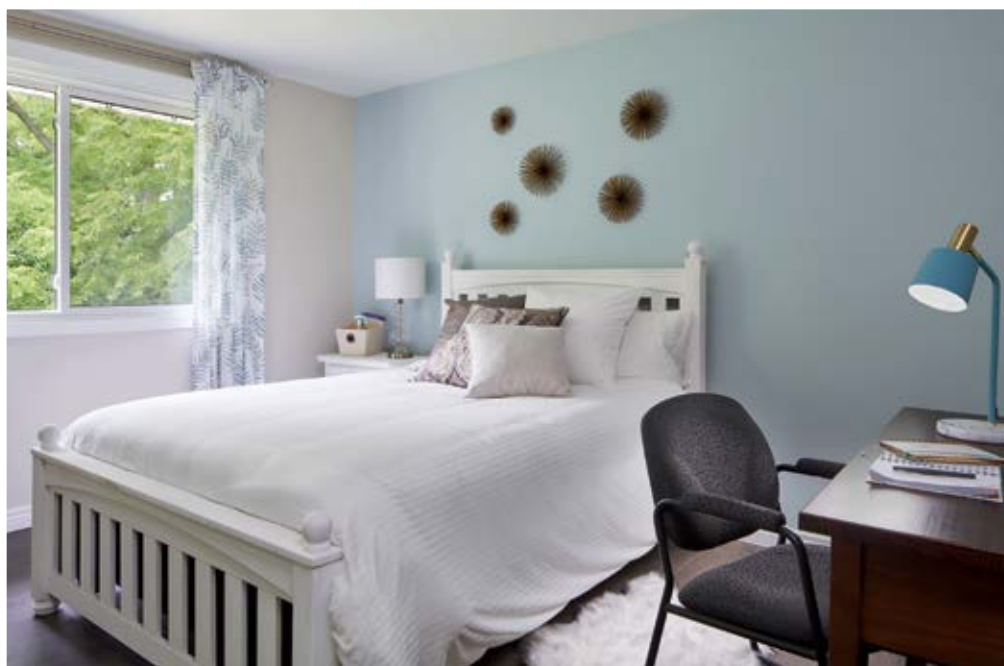
"People started hearing about it, and they were like: 'Hey, what do you need?'" Shane says. "I had one day where we had almost 15 roofers – guys drove two hours to work six hours on a roof and even at the end of the day they were asking 'what's next, what else do you need?' It was incredible!" *Continued on page 116*



The den is a great place to relax or hold meetings. **OPPOSITE:** One of the three bathrooms made possible with plumbing supplies donated by The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom and plumbing services by Guest Plumbing & Heating.



Fiorella Kuczma, Interim Executive Director of Restorations Canada, is excited for the home to welcome residents. "This has all been possible because of volunteers and donors – people who generously give," she says. Loop Recycled Products donated the paint for the house. Designer Jade Nella says they designed the bedrooms to give each woman a safe and cosy space using a combination of reclaimed and new items. "It was an amazing experience, and a way for me to help someone's daughter, mother or friend."



Nancy's House generated so much generosity because the issue of commercial child sexual exploitation is so horrific, and the need to address it so great. Many of the volunteers, Shane included, have daughters, making the peril feel real. And yet this is the first second-stage transitional home dedicated to the survivors of human trafficking in Halton and Hamilton.

"Long-term safe housing is so important to a survivor's healing process," explains Fiorella Kuczma, interim executive director of Restorations Canada. "It is a critical and essential form of housing that is often overlooked, underfunded and in low supply."

Continued on page 118

Imagine your home, **TOTALLY organized!**

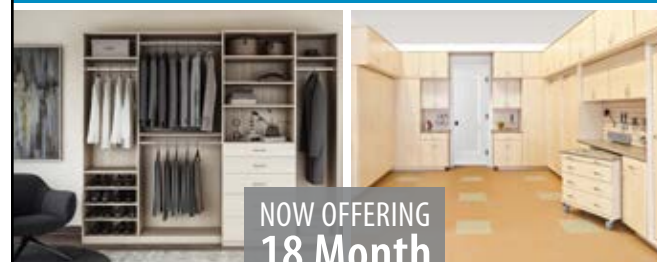
Custom Closets
Garage Cabinets
Home Offices
Pantry
Laundry Rooms
Hobby Rooms

Walk-in Closet



40% off
Plus FREE INSTALLATION

40% off any order of \$1000 or more, or 30% off any order of \$700-\$1000, on any complete custom Closet, Garage or Home Office unit. Not valid with any other offer. Free installation with any complete unit order of \$600 or more. With incoming order, at time of purchase only.



Bedroom Closet

Garage Cabinets

NOW OFFERING
18 Month Financing!

With approved credit. Call or ask your designer for details. Not available in all areas.



Home Office

Laundry Room

Closets byDesign

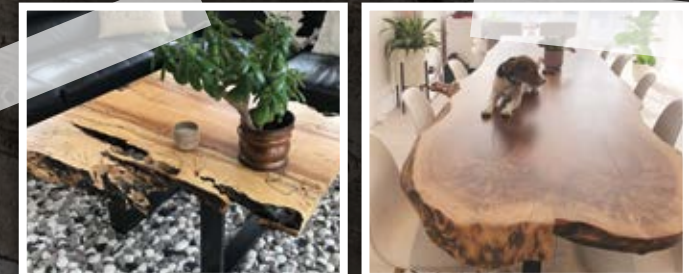
Call for a free in home design consultation and estimate

1-877-563-7799 OHM

www.closetsbydesign.ca Follow us on [social media icons]

Locally Owned and Operated. 2019 © All Rights Reserved. Closets by Design, Inc.

Leading supplier of barnboard, reclaimed wood, live edge and custom furniture



Barnboardstore
CUSTOM FURNITURE | WOOD SUPPLY

1044 Cannon St E, Unit C, Hamilton
hamilton@barnboardstore.com
barnboardstore.com @barnboardstore



LOCAL SOURCE GUIDE

- Acts of Grace Foundation
- AlphaEx • Ambrosio Construction & Renovations Inc. • Boffa Brothers Drywall Company • Bouma Design
- BudgetBin.ca • CAPA Granite
- Cedar Springs Landscape Group
- Combat Foam Insulation Inc.
- Eaton Canada • Eden Tile-It
- Elissa Barber • EMCO • The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom
- Fairway Building Supply • Ferrell Builders' Supply Ltd. • Genyk
- Gibson Building Supplies
- Graham Baker Electrical • Guest Plumbing & Heating • Heartwood Renovations • Jade Interior Design • Lennox Stairs and Wood Floors • Loop Recycled Products
- Modern Design Studio • Northern Clean Energy • Pitton Plumbing & Heating Inc. • Regional Doors & Hardware • Revisions Home Styling • SE Paint (Jimmy Nielson and Cindy Tambeau) • Seven Star Express Line • Shane Renovations
- The Wright Kitchen • Trillium Home Improvement Services
- Turkstra Lumber
- Urban Roofing & Consulting



Fiorella, herself a survivor, understands what it's like to heal from trauma and has worked tirelessly to acquire the government and community funding needed to staff *Nancy's House* for at least two years, without which the house cannot become a home. "We need to provide survivors with specialized services and the sense of community and connection that they will get here. Without having a home like this you end up having people feel displaced, isolated and segregated," she says. "The funding is the biggest piece, because it has to be stable. We never want to close the door on someone and say, 'Sorry, we've had to close up shop.'"

Now the house is ready to receive new residents. **Jade Nella** of **Jade Interior Design** and **Christine Jurcic** of **Revisions Home Styling** created welcoming, individualized spaces. **Cedar Springs Landscape Group** recently rejuvenated the gardens and installed a patio and a fabulous firepit. Hopefully by the time this goes to print, funding will be in place and the story won't just be about the outpouring of benevolence and humanity by so many in the housing industry and the community, it will be of new beginnings and wider vistas for some very worthy women.

To make a donation or for more information, visit restorationscanada.org **OH**



Cedar Springs Landscape Group gave the yard a fresh new look with a patio and a firepit. Out back the walking trails are very scenic, secluded and private, with lots of wildlife. Deer stop by every morning. "There's so much peace," says Fiorella. "I find it very healing." **ABOVE:** Space to feel at home in.



We create the smoothest, most enjoyable renovation experience possible for homeowners. We make it look easy for you.

790 Shaver Rd, Ancaster | 905.304.4009
www.shanerenovations.com



Renovations that restore **TRUST.**



- Real Estate Styling (Staging) of both Occupied & Vacant Homes
- Decorating/Designing/Redesigning/Re-modelling • 3-D Conceptual Drawings & Plans
- Upholstery • Art Selection & Placement • Millwork • Kitchen & Bathroom Design
- Fixture & Finish Selection • Window Treatments • Reupholstering • Lighting Strategies
- Project Management • Special Occasion Styling (holidays, parties, etc.)



905-961-7769
revisionshomestyling.com



YOUR HOME YOUR STORY

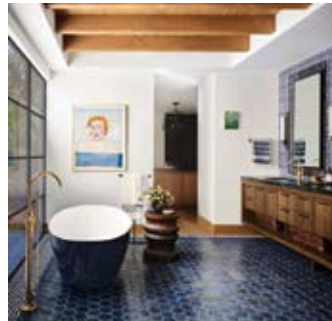
My name is Amanda. I am a wife of 19 years (Shiplap Shawn), mom of 3 (Kali 23, Ryley 18 and Hayden 14) and the founder/owner of the home decor store **Your Home Your Story** which turned one on February 22, 2021.

I met Shawn while working in a car parts factory in 1999. Shortly after we met I left the factory life and entered the retail world and shortly after that Shawn began working for a custom deck company where he became a certified carpenter.

As the kids got older Shawn and I began refreshing our 14-year-old Paris home. We loved the idea of turning our home into "our story". Through that process we realized how much we loved home décor/design and within a few short years the "Your Home Your Story" store was born. We both decided to take the leap and leave our careers to devote ourselves to our store. It was only a few short weeks after opening that Covid hit. Wow!! What a crazy first year! Let's just say pivoting has become second nature haha.

We recently bought a house/farmhouse in the country and will be moving in the fall. This will be a busy time as we are looking to renovate this house ourselves (one room at a time) and will be sharing the entire journey through social media platforms such as Instagram @yourhome.yourstory.

519.770.4663
yourhome.yourstory
yourhomeyourstory.ca
(Please see ad on pg 57)



BARTON BATH + FLOOR

Fall is approaching, and there's no better time to warm up your home with a cosy look! No matter how big or small the project, the friendly staff at **Barton Bath + Floor** are here to assist you in bringing your visions to life. Whether you're redoing your master bath, swapping out carpeting for hardwood, or simply changing up your kitchen faucet or sink – we've got an impressive selection of the newest products to choose from. If you see something we don't have in our showroom, we'll gladly order it in for you. We work with homeowners as well as contractors and designers to make sure your project is done with top quality products and the best brands – all while remaining on budget.

Barton Bath + Floor is a premier one-stop destination for bath, floor, and kitchen products. As a 3rd generation family-owned plumbing and flooring business, we've proudly been serving the Greater Hamilton Area since 1954.

Check out our website for a sample of the products we carry or stop by our showroom today and ask us how we can make your next remodel dream a reality – for less!

Our showroom is located at: 2440 Barton St E, Hamilton 905.561.3521
BartonBathAndFloor.com
For trades inquiries, contact Aaron Lamers directly at aaron@bartonbathandfloor.com
(Please see ad on pg 29)



PHOTO: JOEL SMITH

MELISSA REY – INTERIORS BY BETTER SHADE

Interiors By Better Shade is a local gem that has been serving the Niagara Region for over 65 years with quality products and services from uniquely styled window coverings to furniture and design.

We are now offering a new service to our clientele – an in-home consultation with our interior decorator Melissa Rey to help you professionally stage your home. Melissa has traveled the world, bringing her keen eye for design with her. Our customers can utilize her ability to create and coordinate between different design styles to reinvent their own homes.

Melissa uses her design experience to create a practical and attractive layout to bring form, function and design into the household or wherever you need a helpful hand to bring a space from ordinary to extraordinary.

Customers can book Melissa to come to their home and create a design layout that incorporates natural elements into their home, or even blending two unique home styles together as one as you downsize, upsize or alter your existing aesthetic.

Using her knowledge of fabric and style, Melissa can assist customers in finding the perfect pieces from our store of Canadian made furniture and accessories to provide the perfect balance of style and utility.

469 Glendale Ave, St. Catharines | 905.227.4555
interiorsbybettershade.com
@interiorsbybettershade
(Please see ads on pg 18, 19)



PROPERTY IDENTITY: WHO WE ARE

We develop company, place and property branding for: • Luxury Properties • High-End Retail • Vacation Rentals • Boutique Hotels • Property Development for Residential and Commercial Real Estate.

At **Property Identity**, we approach every project with a hands-on and ready to go attitude to help our clients achieve stellar results. Not only do we develop and elevate brands but we share our knowledge and tools so that our clients are equipped with industry insights and confidence to reach the desired outcomes and recognition their brand and company deserves.

Our strength lies in making brands and businesses healthier by leading with authenticity and our ability to help our clients find and tap into that energy. Energy that fuels growth, powers big ideas and breathes new life into the relationship between brand and consumers.

Our services include: • Brand Development (Brand Identity, Strategy, Logo, Rebranding) • Guest Experience • Property Styling (Interior + Exterior) • Operational Strategy + Training • Technology Implementation (Web Design, Booking Platform Set-up etc) + Training on how to utilize the technology • Property Commercial/Videos

We are not just another design company, we help you build a business you've always dreamt of. Your property deserves a story worth sharing.
propertyidentity.ca
info@propertyidentity.ca
416.902.9617
(Please see ad on pg 10)

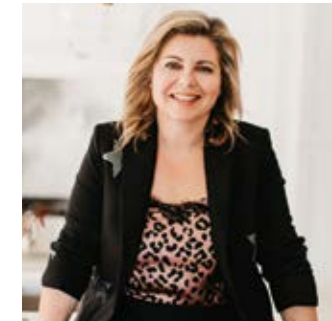


DOWNSVIEW KITCHENS

For over half a century **Downsview Kitchens** has strived to create masterfully designed and technologically advanced kitchen cabinetry. By recognizing that the artistry of the designers and workers is as central to the process as the state-of-the-art equipment, Downsview can create furnishings that are truly unique and endure the test of time. The result of this company philosophy is translated into bespoke creations that perfectly suit the preferences and tastes of the most discriminating clientele.

All Downsview products and finishes are thoroughly tested and must meet rigorous standards before they can be considered for introduction into the company product line. Striving to maintain the strict standards of quality that have helped Downsview achieve international acclaim, while at the same time increasing product availability, is one of the greatest challenges. However, automated computerized machinery has never taken priority over the hand of the craftsman. At Downsview, we take great pride in the design, workmanship and quality of our product. Throughout the various manufacturing processes, a concerted effort is made to ensure that our product conforms to rigid specifications. After installation, we continue to fully support the Downsview name by providing the best warranty in the business.

downsviewkitchens.com
905.677.9354
info@downsviewkitchens.com
(Please see ad on pg 35)



REVISIONS HOME STYLING

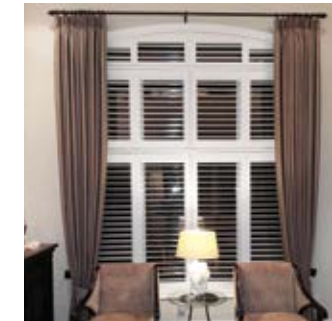
Christine Jurcic is the owner and lead creative brain behind **Revisions Home Styling**. As a Canadian Certified Staging Professional (CCSP)[®] and designated Vacant Staging Specialist (VSS)[™] working with top 1% Chairman Club Agents, Christine has a passion for all things planning, designing and decorating. But her career didn't start out in this creative field, rather in the more practical world of finance as part of her family's transport and logistics business.

But she always had that home styling love in her life, renovating many of her own personal homes, flipping investment properties and generally involving herself in real estate and design in any way possible.

After revamping so many homes together with her husband over the years, she began receiving inquiries from friends and family about decorating their spaces. Combined with her love of real estate in the Hamilton area and the growth of the community, Christine decided it was time to turn her talents into a career and she began using her creative flair in home styling to transform spaces for others.

As a busy mother of an active family of four, Christine understands the importance of balancing beauty, form and function, leaving her clients with unique, personalized spaces that suit their everyday life.

"I love to recommend stylish, classic but most important functional spaces to make my clients homes fit their lifestyle."
905.961.7769
revisionshomestyling.com
(Please see ad on pg 119)



SMART SHUTTER CANADA – YOUR LOCAL SHUTTER MANUFACTURER!

After ten years of manufacturing, we've seen it all. We are experts in our field and when everyone else can't, we can and when everyone else won't, we will! From bays to bows, patio doors to garden doors, and those tricky kitchen windows, we will design a shutter that is right for you.

We measure, make, and install, we do it all! Our unique design has the look and feel of a painted wood shutter with a hidden control rod and no midrail, giving you the clearest view possible. Save immediately on energy costs due to the excellent insulating value.

Our shutters come with a lifetime warranty against blistering, peeling, cracking, and warping. Add instant value to your home with custom California or Plantation Shutters from **Smart Shutter Canada!**

Also offering a variety of shades and blinds for all your window treatment needs!

Book a free in-home estimate today and SAVE!
Visit our Showroom: 70 Unsworth Dr, Unit 4-5, Hamilton 905.389.9800
smartshuttercanada.com
(Please see ad on pg 10)



2007 BURBANK DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA

Mesmerizing 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 1862 Heritage Farm Home with stone exterior, updated to perfection. 1998 Eastern Pine Log-Great room with 16' ceilings. Magazine worthy Arts & Craft décor and finish. Unprecedented extra wide, plus double deep lot with two road access points! Potential for future severance. Privacy galore. Backyard boasts a 20 ft x 40 ft, salt water pool. Also a garden oasis with ponds and room to roam. Gorgeous walkout balcony on second floor overlooks the mature yard. Attic loft with room for a future fifth bedroom plus bathroom. New roof in 2014, new furnace in 2016, new air conditioning in 2020. Driveway has room for 12 cars. Oversized front porch with eavestrough lighting. Interlocking stone on patio, walkway and pool area. Truly a must see.

Contact: James Hodgins, Broker of Record
Hodgins Realty Group
905.855.8700
jameshodgins.com
(Please see ad on pg 132)



KEFI ART GALLERY

Kefi Art Gallery is the Premier Source for Original Contemporary Fine Art. We represent Canadian and International artists, selling contemporary original paintings, photography and limited edition prints.

Kefi Art Gallery's owner Liza Zhurkovskaya specializes in Contemporary Canadian and International art. With a trained eye, extensive knowledge of art history, art trends, and the art market, she will curate a special and unique collection for you to love, get inspired by, and look after for the next generation.

Kefi Art Gallery acts as a liaison between the artists and collectors. Whether artists are emerging or established, all of them have been carefully selected by the gallery and we guarantee that all presented works are original high-quality works of art. We nurture the careers of our member artists, and when buying art from Kefi Art Gallery, expect the value of your works to gradually increase in the years to come.

Design your Everyday with Original Fine Art!

Browse our art collection online at kefiartgallery.com hello@kefiartgallery.com 416.829.1939

(Please see ad on pg 83)



INTERIOR DESIGN BY ELISE BY CARRILLO CARPETS

Elise is a Certified Interior Decorator with a background working in new construction with builders as well as model homes.

We are currently specializing in Full Room Design from start to finish, customizing your home designs with our trade only suppliers.

We also provide 3D Rendering and Layouts for all your renovation needs.

Your home is one of the most important spaces you spend time in. It's where you relax, hang out with family, cook and simply enjoy life.

Ensuring every room is exactly what you want, created to suit your needs and your lifestyle, is what **Interior Design By Elise** specializes in.

Elise also offers her services to offices, hotels, restaurants and stores. If you're looking to create a better workspace or attract more business, Elise understands how to make any space beautiful. Learn more about our services in Brantford and surrounding areas.

Contact Elise today for your consultation. Let Elise help you create and execute a vision for a renewed space that you'll be proud to show off and enjoy! From flooring choices to helping you best arrange your furniture, Elise has more than a decade of experience enhancing homes.

519.774.3863
interiordesignbyelise.ca



(Please see ad on pg 51)



COVERS CANADA – SHADE AND DRAPERY SPECIALISTS

With over 30 years of experience, we offer the area's widest selection of window treatments for every home and budget.

With a full range of products and manufacturers to choose from, you have the best of all worlds. We don't dabble in window coverings – it's our business.

Our Certified Interior Decorator will help you select the right mix of blinds, shades, shutters and drapery for your home. And we make it even simpler with professional measuring and installation.

We specialize in blending design with technology. We offer motorized shading solutions for any home or office. From the early stages of construction to final installation, our team will provide you with everything you need. Whether you require a single motorized shade or an entire networked system, we have the internal resources to ensure your project is done right.

If you're building and are considering motorized shades or drapery, contact us early in the process. We will guide you and your builder on the correct wiring before the walls are closed in.

Contact us for more information or to book a consultation in your home or office.

Appleby Crossing
2500 Appleby Line, Burlington
905.333.8121 | coverscanada.ca

(Please see ad on pg 99)



JORDAN STATION DESIGN CO INC – NIAGARA'S LEADING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FIRM

Founded in early 2019, **Jordan Station Design Co.** is an award-winning Architectural Design firm, located in the heart of the Niagara Region.

Our focus is on high-end residential development and we are dedicated to producing elite quality architectural design combined with sustainable and energy-efficient construction methods.

Our team is actively involved in all aspects of residential projects from initial consultation to final reveal. Our passion lies with a distinctive ability to adapt to all styles of design. We are always in pursuit of creating functional, efficient and beautiful architecture for our clients. Strong relationships with homeowners and their families, contractors, and professionals alike are what set us apart from the rest.

We are a team of passionate designers whose goal is to always bring our clients' visions to life through our creative solutions and vast design expertise. At JSDCo, we are dedicated to creating seamless and balanced designs and are at the forefront of design in the Niagara Region and surrounding areas.

To learn more about Jordan Station Design Co visit jordanstationdesignco.ca and follow us on

@jordanstationdesignco

(Please see ad on pg 89)



UNITED LUMBER HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE & UNITED TRUSS

The **United** family of over 250 employees is here to provide you with quality products, superb service, fair competitive prices and honest relationships with our customers. We are family owned and operated, serving the Barrie and Greater Toronto Area since 1974. With large 6 acre lumber yards to service any project, big or small, we have all your building supply needs. Our 3 locations in Barrie, Bolton and Georgetown have everything you need from paint, plumbing, electrical, hardware, home décor and much more! Competitive day-to-day pricing, with additional volume pricing discounts on larger projects, we are your one-stop shop. We'll load your materials for you and offer delivery as well when required.

United Truss was founded in 1997 to service our valued customers of **United Lumber** with complete roof truss packages for their building needs. In 2003 we built a new facility in Innisfil, Ontario to handle our growing business. Our experienced team of designers are committed to providing you the best possible solutions for both floor and roof design.

Barrie 705.726.8132
Bolton 905.857.6970
Georgetown 905.873.8007
Truss Plant 705.436.3425
social@unitedlumber.ca
unitedlumber.ca

(Please see ad on pg 101)



ENDEMAN'S IRONCRAFT LTD.

Custom ironwork is what we do. While some of that does include our signature pieces such as spiral stairs, driveway gates, and stair/railing systems, we also fabricate one-of-a-kind pieces that can be inspired from photos and drawings down to something sketched on a napkin.

Founded over 42 years ago by Harold Endeman and now owned by his son and grandson, Albert and Wade Endeman are proud of the niche market they have developed that extends beyond the local community. With many years making customer service a top priority, clients as far away as Huntsville, London, and Ottawa have sought out their services, knowing they will deliver what they need.

If you are thinking about a project involving iron, feel free to contact us to speak about your ideas and we will work with you to make your ideas come to life.

For further information including a portfolio of some of our work, check us out at endemansironcraft.com 519.941.2876

(Please see ad on pg 73)

LOOKING FOR A NEW WEBSITE?

We can help with that!



Let our in-house experts help you grow the online presence of your business.

OUR HOMES has a full-service digital agency

- WEB DESIGN
- SOCIAL MEDIA AD BUYS
- GOOGLE ADS

Contact media@ourhomes.ca

ourhomes

CELEBRATING LIFE AT HOME

WARM ROASTED ROOT-VEGGIE Salad

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY
JENELLE MCCULLOCH

Visit your local market or farm for the freshest ingredients to make this simple, rustic and warm roasted root-vegetable salad. The veggies sit atop a bed of farro, an ancient grain packed with protein and fibre.

INGREDIENTS

Serves 4

SALAD

Root vegetables such as beets, carrots, radishes and onions

Olive oil

1 Tbsp allspice

1 cup farro

Feta cheese, to garnish

Pumpkin seeds, to garnish

DRESSING

¼ cup olive oil

2 Tbsp balsamic vinegar

2 Tbsp honey

½ tsp each salt and pepper



DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400°F.

Clean vegetables and cut into similar sizes.

Toss with olive oil, allspice, salt and pepper.

Place on a baking sheet and roast for 25-30 minutes, adjusting the time to the size of your vegetables, until cooked through.

Meanwhile, cook farro to package directions.

To assemble, toss warm farro with a drizzle of dressing and place on a serving plate.

Top with warm roasted vegetables and remaining dressing.

Garnish with feta cheese and pumpkin seeds. **OH**

online

Get more recipes at ourhomes.ca/blogrecipes

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 above appear under the correct headings. To make a correction, or to have your business listed under more than one heading, please email marie.gallagher@ourhomes.ca or lisa.ormsby@ourhomes.ca. To have your business listed in our Home Resource Directory, call us to advertise at 905.399.0717 or 705-445-5065 x200.

ACCOMMODATIONS/ LODGING/RENTALS

Costa Rica Luxury Lifestyle, 17

ARBORICULTURE/ARBORIST

Arborwood Tree Service, 37

ARCHITECTS/ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN/ ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGISTS/ DRAFTSMEN & DESIGN

Jordan Station Design Co. Inc., 89, 122
Lakeside Architecture Inc., 67

ART/ARTISANS/ART GALLERIES/ STUDIOS/WORKSHOPS

Kefi Art Gallery, 83, 122
Nest, 20
Serendipity Soy Candle Factory, 39

AWNINGS/TENTS/SHELTERS

Van Am Construction, 39

BEDS & BEDDING/MATTRESSES/ SLEEP PRODUCTS

Covers Canada, 99, 122
Manderley Fine Furniture, 87

BRANDING/MARKETING

Property Identity, 29, 120

BUILDERS

Ambassador Fine Custom Homes Inc., 3
Ballance Design, 16
TRUBuild Custom Homes
& Renovations, 11

BUILDING/LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

United Lumber Home Hardware
Building Centre, 101, 123

CABINETS & MILLWORK/ CARPENTRY/FINE WOODWORKING/ CUSTOM FURNITURE

Barnboardstore.com, 117
Unique Custom Cabinets, 97

CHARITABLE/NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Habitat for Humanity, 127
Ontario Food for Kids, 101

CLEANING

Merry Maids of Oakville, Milton
& Hamilton, 103

CONSIGNMENT

Circulera, 85
The Millionaire's Daughter, 71

COUNTERTOPS

Stone On The Go, 73
Take Us for Granite, 33

EXTERIOR FINISHES/IMPROVEMENTS

Spray-Net, 51

FABRIC/UPHOLSTERY/CANVAS

Buy The Yard Interiors, 65

FENCING/DECKS/GATES

Endeman's Ironcraft Custom
Fabrication, 73, 123

FINANCIAL/INSURANCE/ MORTGAGE/INVESTING

Mortgage Alliance Golden Horseshoe, 109

FIREPLACES & STOVES/ACCESSORIES

The Source for Home Comfort, 85

FLOORING

Aftica Decor, 20
Barton Bath + Floor, 29, 120
Eden Tile-It, 85
Interior Design By Elise By
Carrillo Carpets, 51, 122
The Floor Shop, 131

FURNITURE & HOME DÉCOR/ ACCENTS/GIFTS/COLLECTIBLES

Brushed Designs, 49
Buy The Yard Interiors, 65
Circulera, 85
Cornerstone Home Interiors, 8&9
Country Charm Mennonite Furniture, 129
Dal's Home Furnishings, 21
Graham & Brooks, 47
Graham & Brooks Salvage Co., 47
Interiors by Better Shade, 18, 19, 120
Joshua Creek Trading Furniture
& Home Decor, 14
Manderley Fine Furniture, 87
Nest, 20

Swiss Interiors, 33

The Furniture Gallery, 2
The Kitchen Witch, 69
The Millionaire's Daughter, 71
Urban Cottage, 69
Your Home Your Story, 57, 120

HOME IMPROVEMENTS/ RENOVATIONS

Aberdeen Interiors, 83
Frank Ricci Custom Renovations, 105
Let It Rain: Roofing & Home
Renovations, 49
Shane Renovations, 119
TRUBuild Custom Homes
& Renovations, 11

INTERIOR DECORATING/INTERIOR DESIGN/HOME STAGING

Barnard & Speziale Interior Design, 69
Burlington Design Studio, 47
Interior Design By Elise By
Carrillo Carpets, 51, 122
Interiors by Natalie, 85
LaPointe Interior Design & Landscape, 33
Revisions Home Styling, 119, 121

IRON WORK/METAL WORK

Endeman's Ironcraft Custom
Fabrication, 73, 123

JEWELRY/METAL EXCHANGE

AU Jewellery Exchange Lab, 22

KITCHEN & BATH

Aroma Kitchens & Baths Inc., 89
Barton Bath + Floor, 29, 120
Bath Fitter – Hamilton, 6
Crodon Kitchen and Bath Centre, 109
Downsview Kitchens, 35, 121
Oakville Kitchen & Bath Centre, 12&13
The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom, 65
Unique Custom Cabinets, 97

KITCHENWARE/RESTAURANT SUPPLY

Nicetys, 73

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE/ LANDSCAPING/LAWN & GARDEN

LaPointe Interior Design & Landscape, 33
Shades of Summer Landscaping
and Maintenance, 67

MOVING & STORAGE

Mountaineer Movers Limited, 109
Organized Transitions, 29

ORGANIZATION/STORAGE

Closets by Design, 117
H:OM Organizing, 49

OUTDOOR FURNITURE/STRUCTURES

Ballance Design, 16
Van Am Construction, 39

PAINTING & DECORATING

Aftica Decor, 20
Spray-Net, 51

PLUMBING

Aberdeen Plumbing, 83
Barton Bath + Floor, 29, 120
Bath Fitter – Hamilton, 6

REAL ESTATE

Chestnut Park – The Picot Team, 75
Clairwood – Rioux Baker Real
Estate Team, 27
Coldwell Banker Community Professionals –
Vince Fracassi, 15
Hodgins Realty Group, 121, 132
RE/MAX Escarpment Realty –
Elena Cipriano, 23
Sam McDadi Real Estate, 25

ROOFING

Let It Rain: Roofing & Home
Renovations, 49

STAIRS/RAILINGS

Kenedy Stairs, 67

TILE

Barton Bath + Floor, 29, 120

Eden Tile-It, 85
Maxco Tiling, 85

WINDOW TREATMENTS

Aftica Decor, 20
Budget Blinds, 53
Buy The Yard Interiors, 65
Covers Canada, 99, 122
Interiors by Better Shade, 18, 19, 120
Salnek's Custom Window Treatments, 7
Smart Shutter Canada, 10, 121

WINDOWS & DOORS

Doorway Inc, 5
Pella Windows & Doors, 4
Unitech Doors Manufacturer Inc., 65

**every purchase
makes a difference**

ReStore
Habitat for Humanity Hamilton
285 Nash Rd N, Hamilton
the-hamilton-restore.myshopify.com



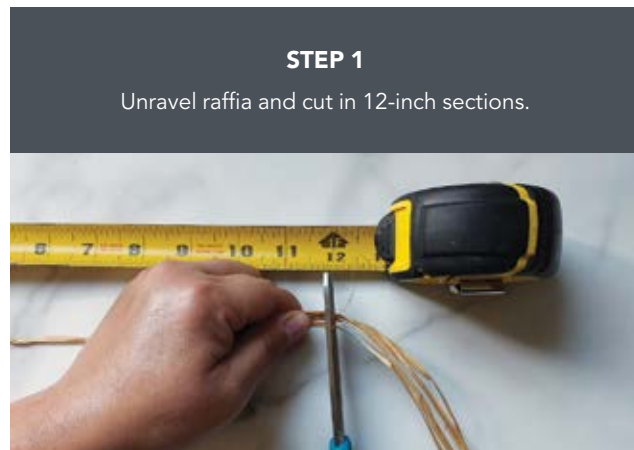
Raffia MIRROR

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY ERIN ROCHON

Natural elements are always on trend and add a feeling of calm and comfort to any space. Create this raffia mirror and bring that soothing feeling into your home and make a big impact in any room.

MATERIALS

- 14-inch round wire wreath frame
- 12-inch round mirror
- 2-3 raffia bundles
- Scissors
- Tape measure
- Mirror or construction adhesive



STEP 1

Unravel raffia and cut in 12-inch sections.

STEP 2

Take 3 or 4 strands of raffia, fold them in half. On the second-to-last ring on the wreath frame, make a lark's head knot by taking the folded raffia and placing the rounded end underneath the ring. Take the other ends of the raffia and put it through the rounded end to make a knot. Make sure to pull it tight. Repeat this process until the entire ring is filled with raffia without any gaps.



STEP 3

Move to the inside ring of the frame. Repeat step 2, attaching raffia using lark's head knots until the entire ring is filled.



STEP 4

Once your raffia completely fills both rings, apply mirror adhesive to the back of the mirror along the outer edge. Carefully place the mirror on the inside ring on top of the raffia. Flip upside down and add a few more drops of adhesive to ensure your mirror is properly attached. Follow adhesive instructions and drying times.

Once the adhesive has fully dried, find a great spot in your home to showcase this gorgeous raffia mirror for your friends and family. **OH**



COUNTRY CHARM
mennonite furniture

Visit our showroom at 220 Queen St. S., Streetsville, Mississauga

WWW.CCHARM.COM 905.542.9333





wonderful wicker

Wicker furniture is increasingly popular, whether made with natural rattan or newer synthetic materials. The particular weave of fibres is what gives wicker its timeless look. Not just for outdoor furnishings, bringing wicker inside is a design trend worth trying. These woven wonders add texture and a relaxed look throughout your home.



- 1. **UNIVERSAL FURNITURE:** Escape-Coastal Living Home Collection Headboard and Pull Up Bench
- 2. **ABBOTT:** Round Wall Mirrors
- 3. **CURREY & COMPANY:** Cape Verde Orb Chandelier
- 4. **SURYA:** Manning Pendant
- 5. **SURYA:** Dustin Sconce
- 6. **CURREY & COMPANY:** Saxan Rattan Chandelier
- 7. **MADE GOODS:** Tatum Upholstered Bar Stool
- 8. **POTTERY BARN:** Willow Wicker Charger Plate
- 9. **BOUCLAIR:** Rattan Soap Dispenser
- 10. **MADE GOODS:** Ismael Chair
- 11. **BOUCLAIR:** Glass and Rattan Table Lamp
- 12. **ABBOTT:** Rattan Handle Cheese Knives
- 13. **IKEA:** Snidad Basket
- 14. **MADE GOODS:** Sariah Coffee Table
- 15. **MERCANA:** Leona Natural Wicker Woven Mirrored Base Nesting Trays
- 16. **BOUCLAIR:** Ficus in Rattan Pot

The Floor Shop

Quality Wood Flooring . . . Since 1989

MISSISSAUGA

Tel: 905.803.0050 Fax: 905.803.0066
700 Dundas Street East

KINGSWAY

Tel: 416.234.0599 Fax: 416.234.9920
4195 Dundas Street West

LEASIDE

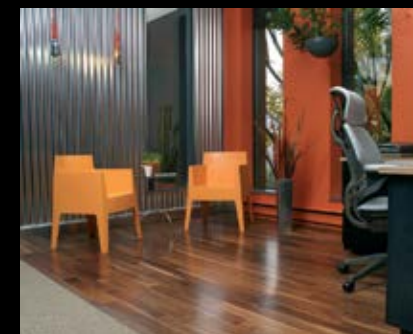
Tel: 416.421.8588 Fax: 416.421.5477
154 Wicksteed Ave

WOOD FLOORING SPECIALISTS

Hardwood Flooring lends character and charm to any room in your home or business and best of all—it never goes out of style, and it is simply beautiful! Wood flooring has gone far beyond classic styles of traditional wood-grains. In addition to beauty, our collection of hardwood flooring offers exciting possibilities in a variety of species; oak, maple, birch, beech, walnut, jatoba, hickory, American Cherry as well as colours, widths, finishes and so much more. Since 1989, The Floor Shop, now with three locations in the Greater Toronto Area offers you incredible floors that will last a lifetime.



The Floor Shop has also been featured on several episodes of 'Holmes on Homes', the highly revered award winning HGTV program with Mike Holmes. The Floor Shop—your wood flooring specialists for warmth, livability and character.



WWW.THEFLOORSHOP.COM



MERCIER

wood flooring

THINKING OF SELLING IN 2021?



Custom Estate Home On 1.85 Acre Ravine - \$7,850,000
On Perhaps South Mississauga's Most Distinguished Cul De Sac. 7210 Sq Ft +
Finished Walk-Out Lower Level. Hicks-Pettes Architectural + Renovation + Elevator
By David Small. Mesmerizing Interior Design By Tania Parkyn.



Credit River Sanctuary - \$3,688,800
Premium 103 X 193' Deep Lot W Your Own Private Dock On The River! Fitness
Enthusiast Dream! Spectacular Master Bedroom Retreat With Unobstructed
Sunset Views Of Credit River. Inspiring 4 Seasons Solarium + Custom Kitchen.



COMING SOON - \$1,500,000
Double width lot 110 x 160 rare opportunity! Enjoy current 2stry
home, pool & private park-like grounds or explore severance or
dream home development!



Exclusive \$2,495,000
Shows like a Magazine home! Original Farm house beautifully renovated + log
home addition in upscale enclave. Incredible private double lot with swimming
pool. Two road frontages offering potential severance opportunity.

CONTACT JAMES
905-855-8700
JHODGINS@JAMESHODGINS.COM



JAMES HODGINS
BROKER OF RECORD

HODGINSREALTYGROUP.COM

Not intended to solicit sellers or buyers currently under contract

