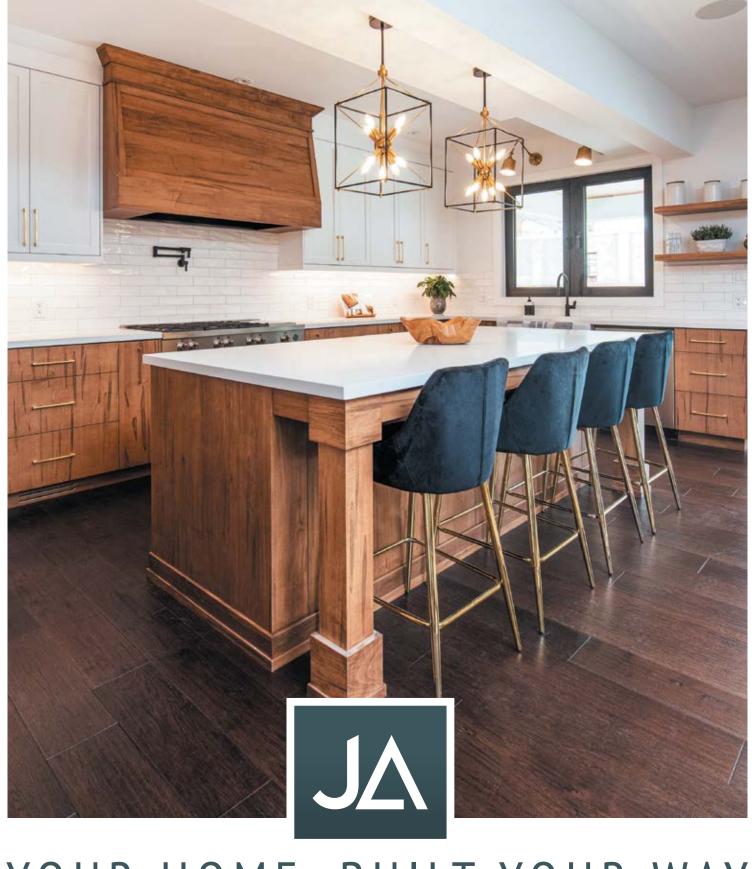


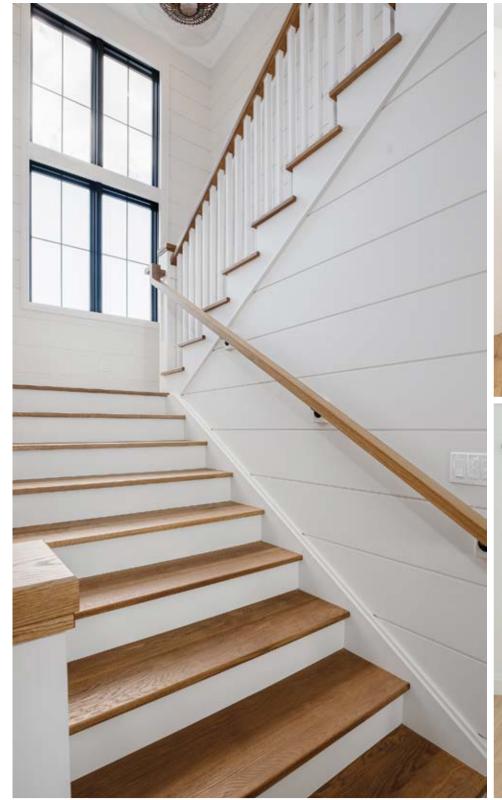
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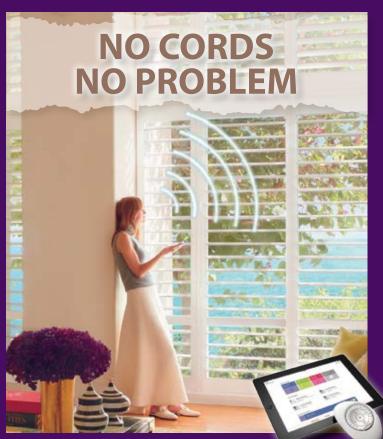
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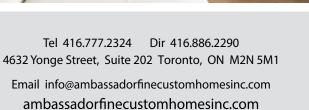
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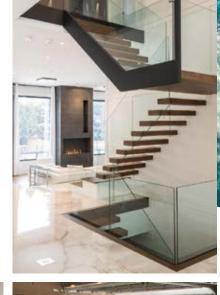
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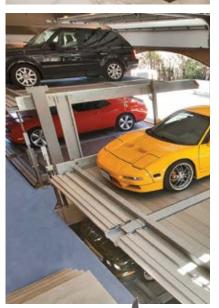


















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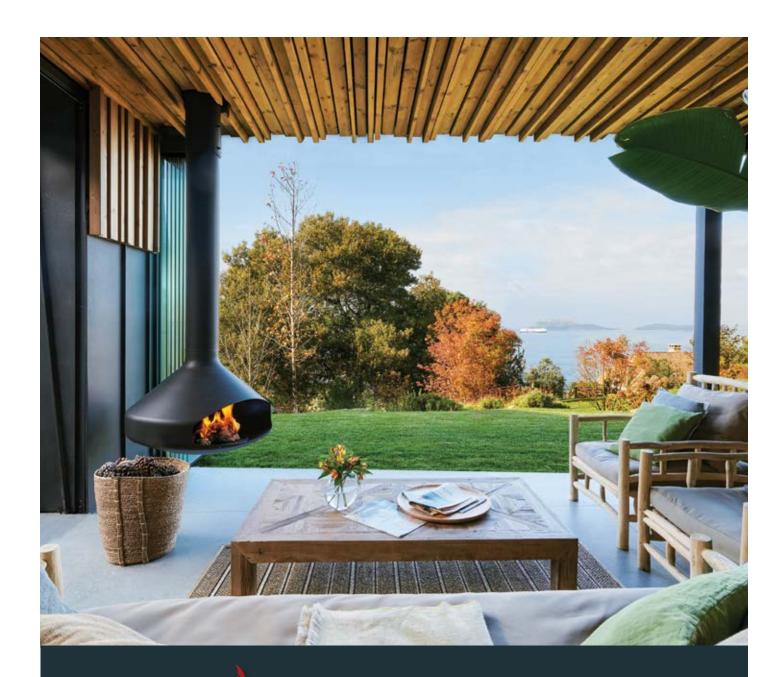














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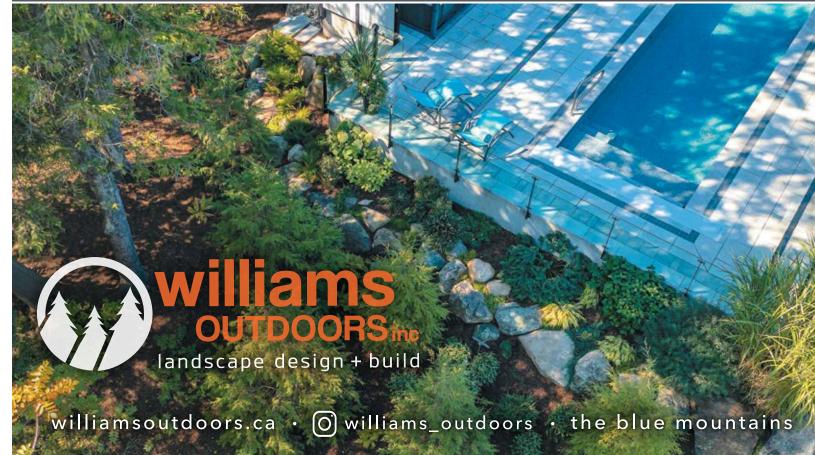


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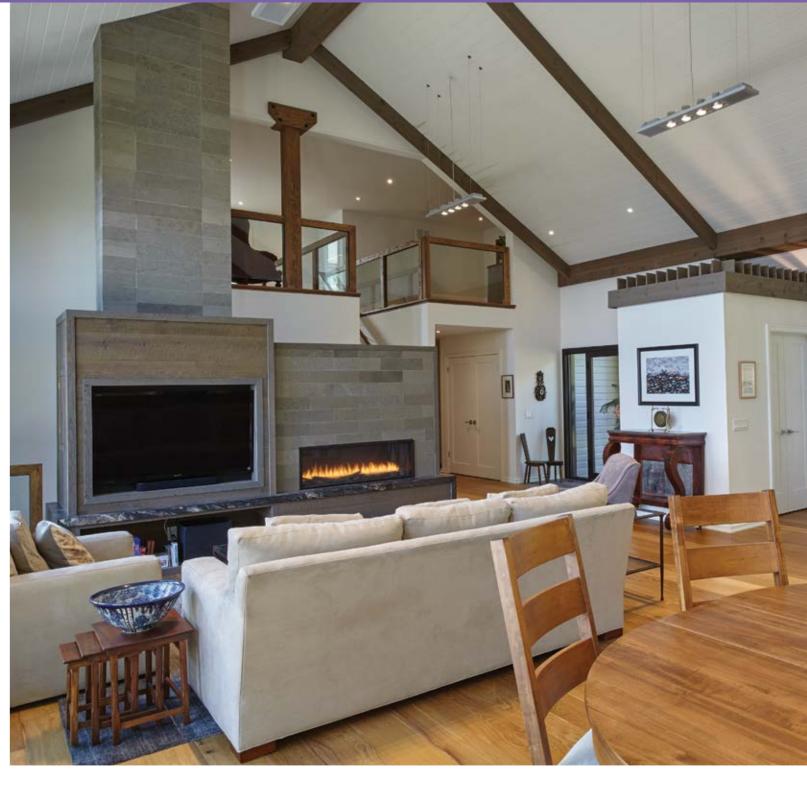














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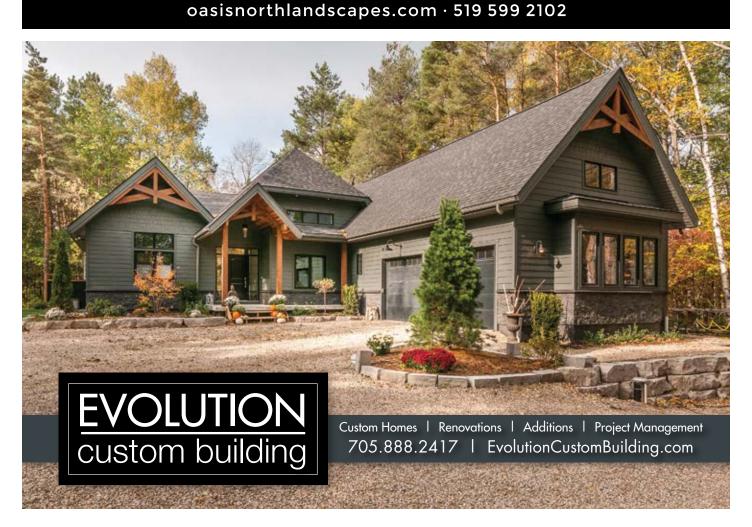
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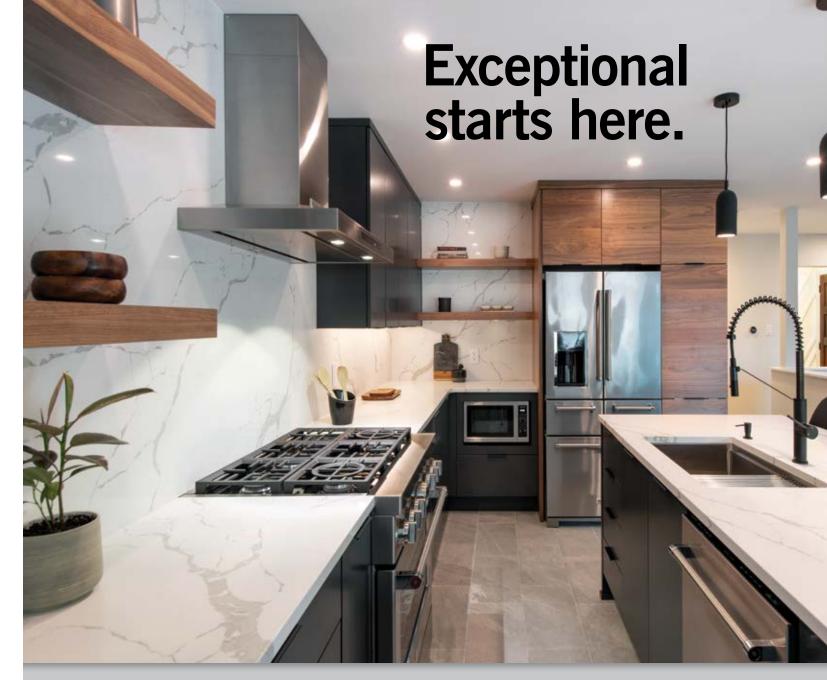
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editor's note



RECENTLY for the first time since March 2019. I have spent the time between flights dreaming about trips while gardening, cooking, walking, working, watching television, and generally filling my days – just like everyone else. I daydreamed of sandy beaches, hiking new terrain and shopping, dining and people-watching in some of the

world's best cities.

I GOT ON A PLANE

When I was asked by friends to visit England, I was apprehensive about stepping outside the routine I had fallen into over the past few years. But I went ahead and booked a flight to London, and in the back of my mind I was thinking I could always cancel, especially because of the chaos of travel these days. As the departure date grew closer, my attitude switched from apprehension to acceptance and then to excitement. It seems I was not alone. Many of my friends have either been to other countries or were making their way to the airport around

It was exciting to finally land at Heathrow Airport and then make my way to a village near Bath, which would be my base. My days were spent with friends, visiting gardens full of foxgloves, delphiniums, peonies and roses; day trips to London to enjoy the festivities around the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and touring historical houses, including The Holburne Museum, featured in the Netflix series Bridgerton as the home of Lady Danbury.

Stepping outside my routine has given me the reset I needed. I am now going to take full advantage of the summer, attending festivals, events, weddings and time with friends. I will turn off the television, put gas in the car and go wherever the warm weather takes me.

Enjoy your summer,

Sona Montin

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

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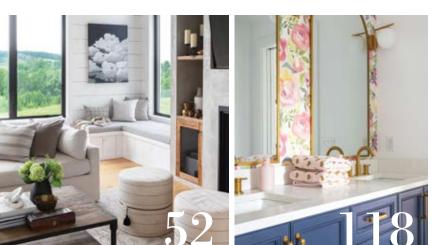
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ON THE COVER

Trusting their designer made great things happen inside this Creemore gem. Story, page 52. *Photography by Kerri Torrey.*





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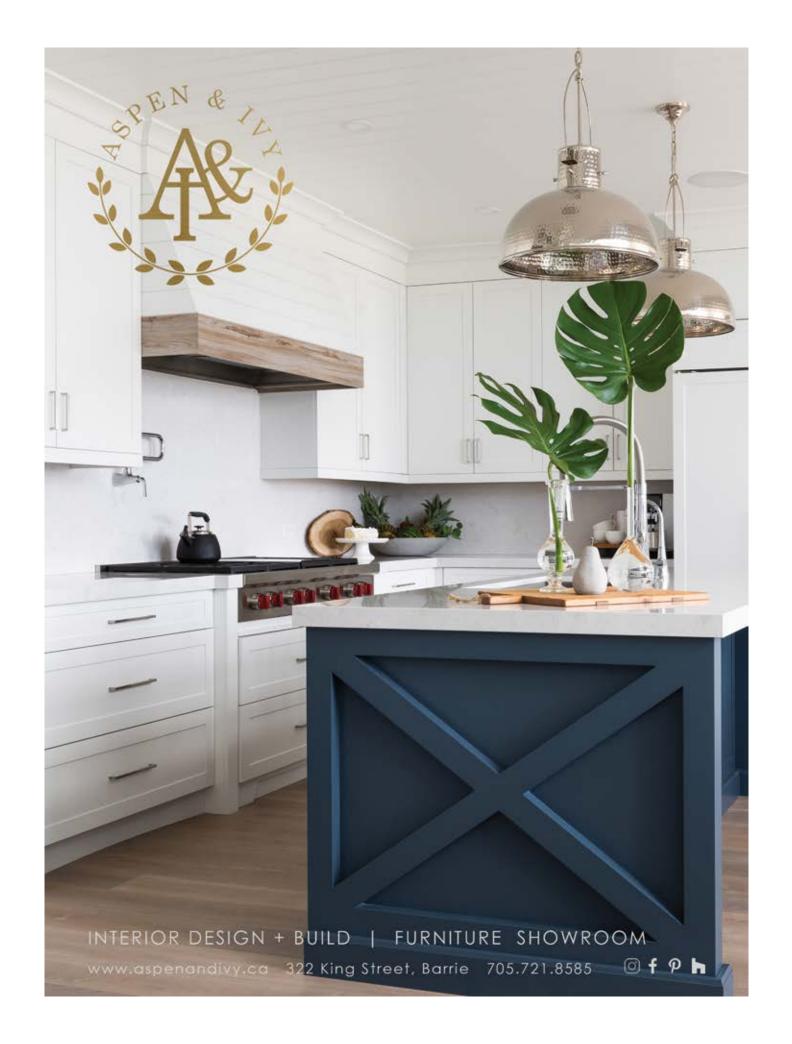
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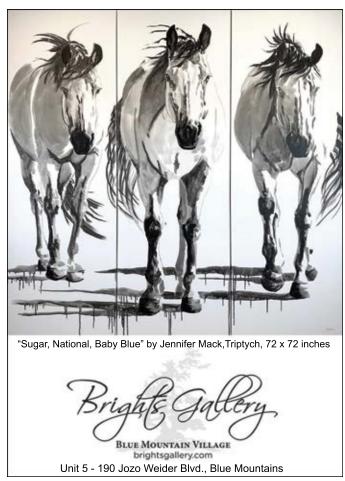
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publisher's note



POOLS AND PATIOS, BEACHES AND BARBECUES -

summer socializing is here! We've all been cocooned in our bubbles for too long. I think my husband and I have gotten a little too comfortable hanging out with just our cavapoo Beans!

I feel lucky to have constant contact with my hard-working colleagues, receiving around-the-clock emails, texts and phone calls to produce quarterly magazines as each season seems to whiz by.

In this summer edition of OUR HOMES, we visited dozens of people, including local builders, homeowners and retail shop owners. Retracing my steps to the four home features, we started with a very busy family in a gorgeous re-do tucked inside the cedars of Thornbury (page 68). They have an interesting generational story to tell. We then headed down the road to a serene waterfront dream build (page 148). Over to a farmhouse design in the rolling fields of Creemore (page 52) and finally an action-packed photo shoot at a young family's "tree street" home in Collingwood. Check out the gang in their 1976 Cadillac Eldorado (page 118).

We also highlight local business owners, shops and showrooms that have everything to make your summer complete. I have to remind myself just how social my workday is! It's my after-five-o'clock socializing that needs revisiting.

Whether you're still cocooning like me, or out partying in the sunshine, I hope you enjoy this BIG summer issue.

See you in the fall!

Simone

Simone Sterio-Risk, Associate Publisher simone.steriorisk@ourhomes.ca

P.S. Turn to page 47 for an exciting announcement from Royal Lepage Locations North and OUR HOMES.







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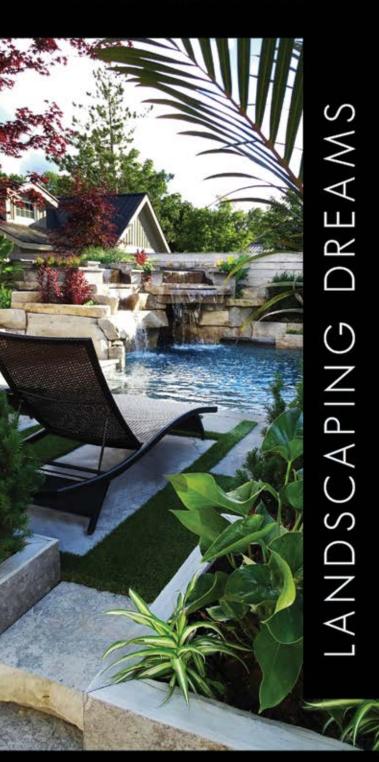
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advice



COOL HOUSE

Designer Tamarisk McNalty Stephens explores the principles of sustainable living.

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



FANS

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

PAINT

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

BEDDING

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

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









TILE

Porcelain or natural stone tiles generally provide cooler

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

WINDOWS

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



POTTERY BARN: Classic Belgian Flax Linen Rod Pocket Blackout Curtain in Dark Flax

WINDOW TREATMENTS

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

LANDSCAPING

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

APPLIANCES

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

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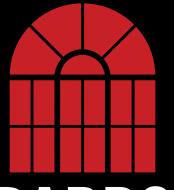
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Continued on page 42



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8





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ice cyeann SANDWICHES

You don't have to choose between brownies or ice cream. We've sandwiched them together for the ultimate dessert.

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY JENELLE MCCULLOCH

REAL ESTATE MARKET SNAPSHOT – Q2 2022 IN REVIEW

Our focus for this article, as usual, will be on the 3 key trading areas and types of homes with which we have the most expertise – re-sales of detached homes and residential condominiums in Blue Mountains. Collingwood and Clearview. 2022's 2nd quarter shows evidence of what we've all been experiencing anecdotally – a slowing in the overheated market of the past 2 years! Months of inventory moved from Q1's 1 month to 2, 3 & 5 months respectively for April, May & June. The pace of sales was on the increase in April & early May but slowed from Q1's 20 days on market (DOM) to 25 DOM in June. The average sale price decreased by 8.5% (was \$1,222,338 in Q1, now at \$1,117,892), and instead of most sales going over the asking price, the sales to list ratio sits right on the asking price. The parameters for "most sales" stayed static with most in the \$800,000 - \$1.3M price range, but the higher ranges lost some ground with only 16 sold over \$2M, 3 over \$3M, and 3 over \$4M. Notable is that Clearview led the way in high-end sales and was the only area to have an increase in the average sale price of its freehold homes.

HIGHS, LOWS & SPECIFICS (brackets show Q1 2022 values.)

COLLINGWOOD:

More condo sales, less freehold home sales, faster sales period for freeholds, sales generally at ask or below ask, average values increased only 1.2% for condos and decreased 9.6% for freeholds.

- The high sale was an almost 7,000 SF new home in the south end of Town for \$2,800,000 (4% over ask).
- The low sale (and only sale under \$500k) was a 1 bdrm, 1 bath 728 SF condo on Eighth St. for \$330,000 (2% over ask).
- There were 49 (40) condo sales, with an average of 13 (11) DOM, avg sale to list price ratio was 99.7% (104.9%), and the avg sale price was \$756,153 (\$747,142) up 1.2%.
- There were 86 (109) single family home sales with an average of 12 (20) DOM, avg sale to list price ratio was 100% (104.3%), and the avg sale price was \$1,050,548 (\$1,162,334) down 9.6%.

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS:

Less condo sales, less freehold home sales, homes selling more quickly, sales again generally at ask, average value decrease 6.8% for condos and almost 20% for freeholds.

- The high sale was a 13-year-old large waterfront stone home with 100' shoreline in Thornbury for \$5,000,000 (88% of ask).
- The low sales were 3 income units in the condo-hotels at Blue Mountain for \$236,000 to \$277,000, all selling just slightly under their asking
- There were 34 (53) condo sales, with an average of 27 (30) DOM, avg sale to list price ratio was again 100%, and the avg sale price was \$752,299 (\$807,057), down 6.8%.
- There were 50 (67) single family home sales, with an average of 18 (27) DOM, avg sale to list price ratio was again 100%, and the avg sale price was \$1,622,263 (\$2,024,833), down almost 20%.

CLEARVIEW:

Fewer sales, no change in DOM, sales have slipped to lower than ask. average value increase of over 24%

- The high sale was a 10-year-old hillton home of 5600+ SF on 49 acres just north of Creemore for \$4,275,000 (7% over ask).
- The low sale was a small home with commercial potential on a main corner in Stayner for \$500,000 (95% of ask).
- There were 48 (51) single family home sales, with an average again of 18 DOM, avg sale to list price ratio was 98.6% (100%), and the avg sale price was \$1,352,835 (\$1,084,345), up 24.7%.

For a detailed analysis of the property you wish to sell or buy, please contact us at your convenience. We are here to help you make an informed decision and to SAVE YOU TIME!



FEATURED LISTING

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cooking at home

Brownie

INGREDIENTS

1 cup cocoa powder

1 cup all-purpose flour

34 tsp baking powder

1 tsp salt

1 cup unsalted butter, melted

2 cups granulated sugar

3 eggs, room temperature

1 tsp vanilla extract

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350°F and line two 9x9-inch square pans with parchment paper.

In a medium bowl combine cocoa powder, all-purpose flour, baking powder and salt. Mix thoroughly and set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, combine melted butter and sugar. Whisk until combined. Whisk in eggs and vanilla extract. Fold in dry ingredients until just combined.

Split the brownie mixture between the two pans (about 2 cups of batter in each pan). The batter will be thick.

Take a piece of parchment paper and place it on top of the batter. Press the parchment into the batter to flatten the batter (this will help the batter bake evenly). Bake for 15 minutes.

Remove from oven, let cool and place in freezer until ready to use.







INGREDIENTS

1 ½ cups whipping cream

1 tsp vanilla

1 can (300ml) sweetened condensed milk

½ cup Dulce de Leche

INSTRUCTIONS

In the large bowl of a stand mixer or using a hand mixer, whip the cream until thick and fluffy. Add vanilla and continue to beat until stiff peaks form. Fold in the sweetened condensed milk.



Remove whole brownie from one pan.

Spread the filling evenly on top of the brownie still in the second pan.

Drizzle Dulce de Leche on top and swirl into the filling.

Place the other brownie on top and gently press down.

Freeze for approximately 6 hours.

Cut into rectangles and keep frozen until ready to eat. OH







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You know that feeling you get when you arrive at your vacation home. Whether you own, rent or visit as a guest, that sense of rest, relaxation and recreation is irresistible - and once you're there, you never want to leave. But it's not just the waterfront or wooded location that gives you the feels. The set-up and style of the home play an important role in how you socialize, entertain and enjoy it. Here are some design features you can incorporate in your home to create that vacation vibe. Continued on page 50

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Pay attention Now, add to flow

Entertaining is the name of the game in most vacation homes, which benefits from an open-concept floor plan connecting the kitchen, living room and dining area into one unified space. This communal layout allows family and friends to gather and spend time together, while still giving each other room to breathe.

But there's a catch-22: the space needs to be open, but also connected and cosy. How do you achieve balance between these seemingly conflicting characteristics?

Start with a consistent aesthetic. Echo materials and finishes in all connected living areas, such as continuous wood flooring, millwork and colour scheme. From designing many vacation homes I can attest this blurs the boundaries between rooms, making them appear larger and fresher, while allowing natural light, views and conversations to flow freely.

warmth and interest

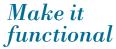
You can do this by organizing your space according to activity. The beauty of this design approach is the ability to customize the space to your hobbies and preferences, such as adding a charming banquette to host family meals and game night, a cosy reading corner to dig into a juicy book and an inviting conversation area in front of the fireplace. The aesthetic of each area should be consistent with the broader style of the space, but independent of the others with its own dedicated furnishings, accessories, light source and rug, to visually anchor each vignette.



Create a relaxed aesthetic

Vacation means rest and respite, relaxation and rejuvenation. For most of us, vacation time also signals a return to nature, which serves as not just the location but as inspiration.

Indeed, recent trends have shifted back to nature in a big way, with a more relaxed, organic palette of colours, materials and finishes. Colours tend to be less saturated, with gentler, more muted blues and earthy greens at the forefront this year. Meanwhile, materials and finishes are softer, with mattes and textural elements that are both touchable and visually warm. The same qualities resonate in fabrics and upholstery, which lean to linen, wool and blends, layered to bring more texture and softness to the space. Overlapping area rugs, pillows and throws are a great way to bring a comfortable, "collected" look while adding a cosy touch and small but mighty hits of colour.



Remember, the name of the game at your vacation home is "easy living." Daily cleaning and maintenance should be the last thing on your mind. To that end, seek out materials, fabrics and finishes that require little maintenance but offer good durability.

Keeping function and comfort in mind, scale back on your furnishings. This creates more room to move, while leaving fewer things to dust! When replacing old furniture or adding new

pieces, look for dual-purpose pieces that serve their primary function while doubling as storage.

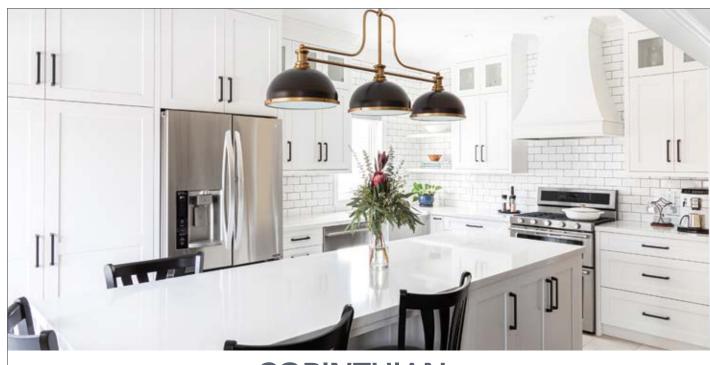
Achieving harmony between function and style can be challenging, but remember your vacation home is your great escape and ultimately, it should serve your every want and whim. Work with a professional designer to ensure it's a space that pulls you back, for all the right reasons. он

International Designer Laura Hay, Principal of LH Decor & Design Inc., brings over a decade of experience to her work in residential interiors in the GTA, Canada, United States and Bahamas.









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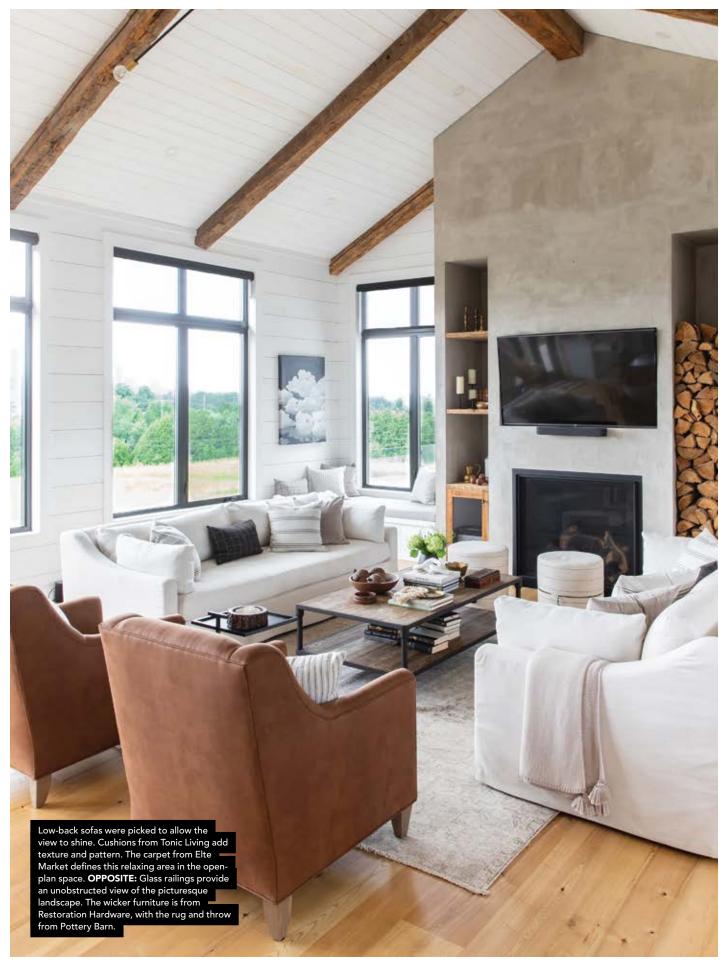
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LEFT: Karin Kolb relaxes after creating a warm and inviting interior for this home. ABOVE: Lush ferns and ivy from Kettlewells, lanterns and rough-edge stone steps all guide guests and family to the plank-style front door surrounded by windows. BELOW: Shiplap covers the walls of the mudroom. The bench was found on Etsy. The open shelves hold antique wood boxes sourced at Thornbury Antique Market.

DESIGNER KARIN KOLB OF
KARIN KOLB INTERIORS SAYS A
RECREATIONAL HOME IS A SPACE
FOR ENTERTAINING AND WEEKEND
LIVING. "THIS IS A PLACE YOU WANT
TO ESCAPE TO AND RELAX," SAYS
KARIN. "IT'S A RETREAT."

There is no better example of this than the project Karin aptly named *The Creemore Country Home* – a rustic farmhouse nestled in the rolling hills of Creemore.

The rural home was finished by a local contractor in 2020 and purchased as a recreational property by a family from the city. The deal was set to close on Dec. 11, 2020 and the family hoped to spend the holiday season in their new home.

Karin knew the clients through Devil's Glen Country Club and helped with some of the design at their previous ski chalet. At the time, they were consulting her about a renovation at their house in the city. That all got put on the backburner when they bought the beautiful property in Creemore and had to furnish it from top to bottom in a matter of weeks. Continued on page 57





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While Karin's specialty lies in construction and renovation, this became a fun challenge for her.

"It was such a pleasure working with my trusting, easy-going and quick-decision-making clients and I have to say the result is nothing short of fabulous," she says.

However, it is a big house and furnishing it in that time frame was no small feat and during a pandemic, no less. The clients told Karin they wanted the design to be low-key, but upscale, and after taking one step into the home, it's easy to understand why. Warm neutrals complement the colours, textures and finishes of the beautiful country home, highlighting the stunning landscape that surrounds it.

"We sourced and completed the furnishings at the height of the pandemic," Karin says. "Despite the fact that showrooms were closed, and we endured ongoing delays and delivery challenges, we managed. And the result is fantastic."

During the design process, the clients wanted Karin to always remember their family lifestyle. They needed everything to be dog-friendly for their beloved goldendoodle, and of course, designed for entertaining.

"We needed high-performance fabric," says Karin.

"Everything needed to be easy-wearing and laid back. We wanted good quality pieces that would last and stand up to teenagers, guests and the dog." Continued on page 58





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home & designer

So that was taken into consideration in every fabric chosen throughout the entire space. All furniture choices feature elements of high and low, mixing pieces from online retailers with sofas from Restoration Hardware.

"There was a lot of thought that went into each room, and every piece in each room," Karin explains.

When it came to accents, the homeowner's only rule was that she didn't want anything too fussy. "We wanted to be able to really live in it," the homeowner says.

So, Karin did just that, doing just enough to accent the space without making it too demanding. According to Karin, it was all about throw pillows and accent pillows – an idea that took her client awhile to warm up to.

"The client called me the pillow pusher," laughs Karin, remembering when some pillows arrived at the house and the client thought it was a mistake. They compromised, and in the bedrooms Karin chose long lumbarstyle pillows so it would be easy to make the beds in the morning.

"I did take a lot of their lifestyle into consideration, but in the end you need to trust your designer," Karin says. Continued on page 60





ABOVE: In the primary bedroom, floor lamps from Restoration Hardware are used for bedside lighting. The log bedside tables are from Etsy and the bed was sourced at Pottery Barn. Artwork is by Lori Foote. **LEFT:** A deep vessel tub sits on black-and-white tile and is surrounded by a subway-tiled wall. While soaking in the tub, the views that surround the home add to the relaxing atmosphere. **OPPOSITE:** The floating double vanity is made from wood that shows its saw marks and grain. Gold-framed mirrors are accented by black light fixtures, faucets and hardware.





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home & designer

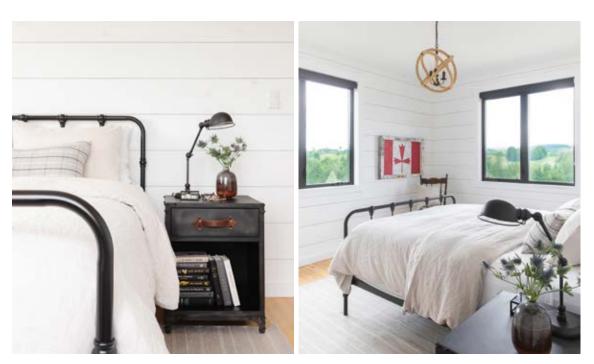
Along with fully outfitting the guest bedrooms, Karin also prioritized maximum seating in the family room with additional stools and open spaces, making it comfortable for entertaining.

"With recreational properties, you're always thinking about spaces for guests and entertaining. A lot of people think of them as a place to bring up old furniture from the city, but you need to treat them as you would your home in the city. Good quality mattresses, good quality furniture," Karin advises.

Even the patio acts like an extension of the living room, with ample seating pointed towards the spectacular view of the Creemore hills from their deck.

"My favourite part of the house really is the view," Karin says. Every decorating decision took that into account, right down to choosing sofas with low backs so they didn't block the window. Continued on page 62





ABOVE: Soft colours blend perfectly in the daughter's bedroom. FAR LEFT & LEFT: In the son's bedroom, black accents make another appearance with the lamp and side table from Restoration Hardware and the chair from Thornbury Antique Market. Artwork is from Mad River Driftwood Studio.









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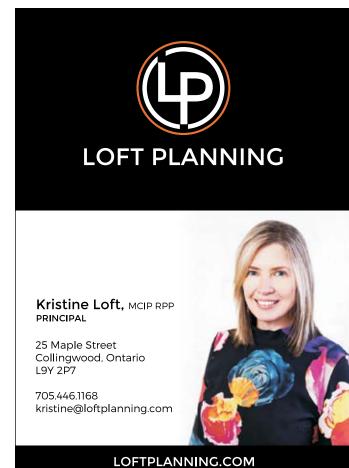
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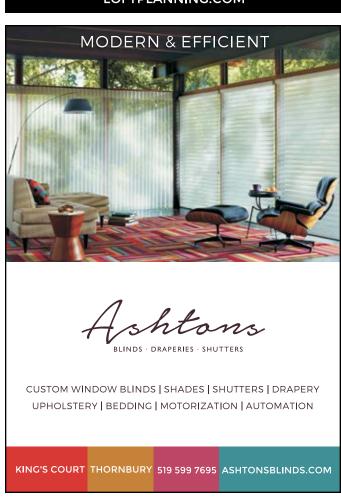


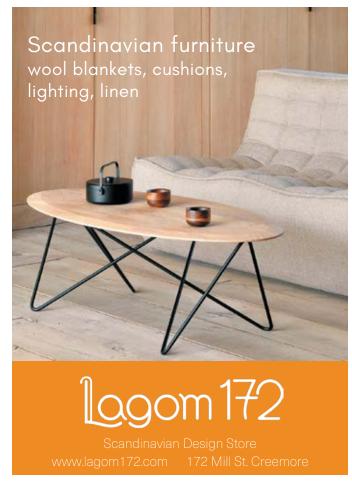
"GREAT THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU TRUST YOUR DESIGNER." -Karin Kolb

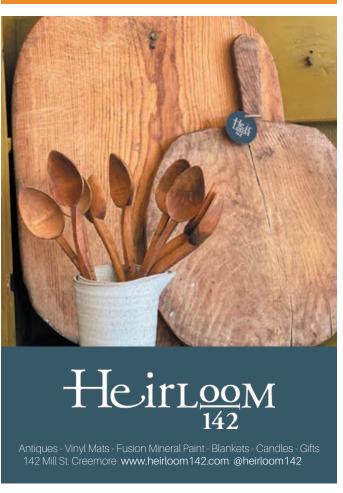
LEFT: In the family bathroom, the high-back farm sink has the unique addition of double goose-neck faucets. The shiplap wall follows the same lines of the subway tile in the shower. Encaustic tile on the floor reinforces the black-andwhite theme. **BELOW:** The laundry room makes wash day a treat. Custom cabinets with leather pulls, open shelving, a stacked washer-and-dryer duo and a deep sink help get the job done.











"We didn't want to obstruct the windows from any point in the living area. You don't want to see the furniture, you want to see that stunning view from their deck," she says.

Because of lingering COVID restrictions and ongoing lockdowns, the clients spent more time in their country cottage than anticipated, and they are so happy they enlisted Karin's help to really make it a place that feels like home.

"Every time I walk into that house, I am just floored at how gorgeous it is," says Karin. And the client agrees. At the end of the day, Karin says it really does come down to trusting your designer.

"Trust the process. We do this day in and day out," Karin says. "Great things happen when you trust your designer." OH



STORY MELANIE REKOLA

gardening

We work hard at making our gardens beautiful and it is downright disheartening when pests make our outdoor living spaces inhospitable or devour our hard-earned efforts. Luckily there are many natural, DIY methods to help!







Slugs

Spread crushed, cooked eggshells around plants that are susceptible to slug damage. The jagged edges of the shells deter slugs from reaching the plant. You'll also be enriching your soil at the same time.

Aphids

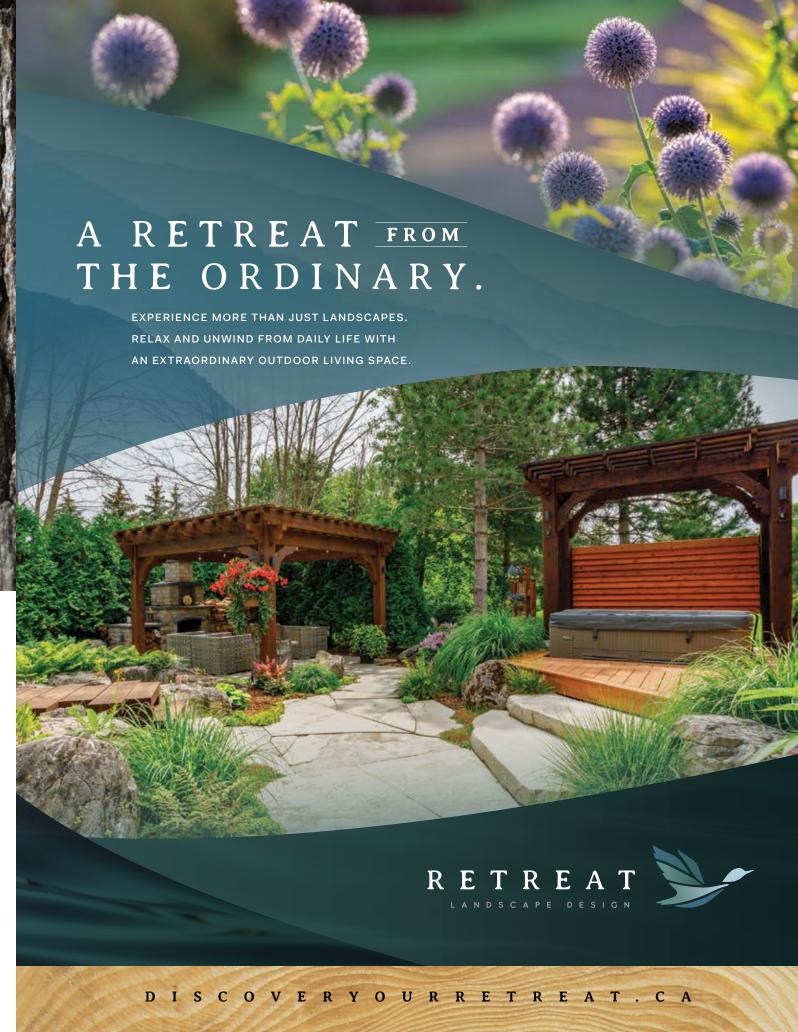
Make a concoction of a few drops of dish soap, one teaspoon of oil and one litre of water and add to a spray bottle. Spray the infected plant as needed. It also works on white fly and other common pests. Sometimes just a forceful spray of the garden hose works too! Aphids also love marigolds – so if aphids are feasting on your leafy greens in the veggie garden, plant marigolds as a trap plant to lure them away.

Squirrels

We must share our gardens with a host of wildlife so it's best to plant bulbs that squirrels don't enjoy eating, such as muscari, daffodils and allium instead of tasty tulips. Squirrels are notorious for digging up newly potted plants and bulbs. Sticking toothpicks or sticks into the soil surface helps to deter them.

Though cayenne pepper products are available to repel squirrels, they aren't a good option. They can cause them a lot of pain and even temporary blindness, so I recommend less harmful methods. Tuck in some pet hair around your favourite bulbs to discourage them instead.

Continued on page 66



gardening



Bunnies

Rabbits often eat the tender new wood of fruit trees and other tasty trees and shrubs in the dead of winter when there's nothing else for them. Make a temporary cage of chicken wire around these plants and keep in place for the winter months to protect them from bunny damage. In the veggie garden, chicken wire caging also works well.

Deer

Deer are infamous for quickly demolishing a garden. For a large property I suggest planting an easily accessible bed of their favourites (like cedar, hosta, roses and daylily) to entice them away from the ornamental areas. For small spaces, fencing works best.

Mosquitoes

Make sure you use the water in your rain barrels regularly as mosquitoes will make a breeding ground out of any standing water. Don't leave areas of standing water anywhere in your yard as mosquito larva can even live in very moist soil. Cedar trees do not attract mosquitoes but standing water does.

Certain strongly scented plants like citronella grass, mint, lavender, catnip and rosemary deter mosquitoes. By having them near your outdoor seating areas you can enjoy their captivating scents and natural repelling qualities.



Ticks

Many of the plants with heavy scents listed under mosquito repellents above can also repel ticks. Plant these at your garden perimeters to have fewer ticks in your yard.

Wasps

Often any yellow and black flying insect is mislabelled as a bee but usually they are wasps. Wasps are pollinators too and an important part of our ecosystem, but understandably you don't want them trying to eat your outdoor meal at the same time you are. Faux paper wasp nests work as a great deterrent - place them near your al fresco dining space for best results.

Raccoons, mice and rats

Keep meat scraps out of your compost so it's not as fragrant and attractive to these types of wildlife. Keep the ground around bird feeders free of old seed buildup too. Although it may seem like an easy fix, live traps and poisons are never the answer. Farther along the food chain, poisons keep on killing and predators that eat the poisoned prey also perish - like owls, cats and fox. Live trapping may seem humane but often those relocated animals suffer a slow death – not knowing where to find food, shelter and water and are driven out by the existing fauna in the new area.

Exotic pests, including red lily beetle, emerald ash borer, etc.

Due to climate change, many exotic insect pests are here to stay. Avoid planting their favourite food plants if you want a low maintenance garden. If you do find an invasive insect infestation, placing them in a bucket of soapy water is a quick, humane and hygienic method of dealing with them. OH

Melanie is a certified horticulturalist and landscape designer.











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LESLEY FISHER,
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AND THEIR THREE
DAUGHTERS,
GILLIAN, ALISON
AND FRANCES HAD
A SERENDIPITOUS
MOMENT WHEN
THE HOME THAT
ONCE BELONGED TO
LESLEY'S PARENTS
CAME UP FOR SALE.

TOP LEFT: A sheltered seating area was created between the original home and the addition, which Alice Fisher takes advantage of to enjoy some reading. **LEFT:** Flowers from Riverside Greenhouses and Grey Heron Garden Centre were positioned in the front garden, creating privacy and lushness. The garden and lawn are maintained by Fairways Lawn Care Services. **OPPOSITE:** In the breezeway that links the original home with the twostorey addition, Lesley repurposed an antique frame into a statement mirror, surrounded by artwork, antlers and interesting memorabilia. The carpet is from Loved You Madly.

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Alice and David Fisher, who owned the home for 27 years, sold it in 2010.

The family had spent many happy moments in the home, which was perfectly positioned on a quiet dead-end street, with easy access to the pristine shores of Georgian Bay and a short walk to Thornbury's downtown.

That's what propelled Peter and Lesley to buy the property. "We didn't have the heart to tear it down" Lesley says. "Peter and I decided to remodel the existing house and add a separate two-storey addition, adjoined by an expansive

breezeway linking the old structure to the new addition.

"We also made environmentally-friendly decisions with the remodel, including installing a steel roof over the existing shingles, which will never need to be replaced or go to the landfill."

With the help of builder **Caleb Higginson**, of **C. Higginson Construction Inc.** and architectural designer **Adam Vokes** of **Mountainside Design**, the addition was designed to complement the original home, while offering more space and modern attributes to serve as a full-time residence. *Continued on page* 73

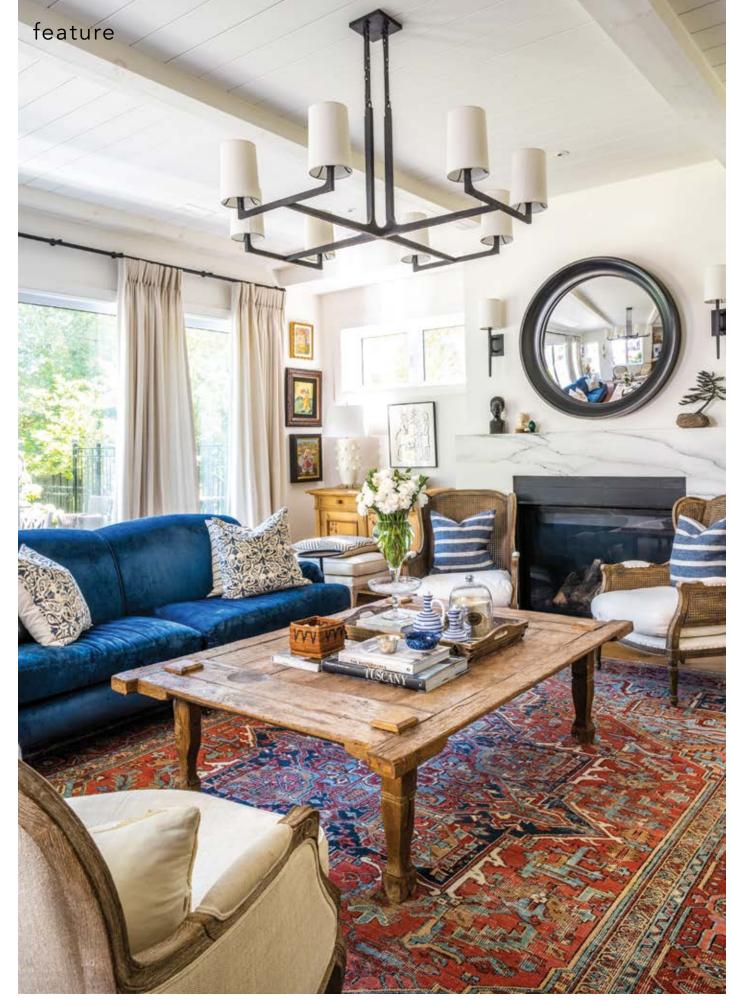
FAR LEFT: Sharing the space with the kitchen, the dining area is anchored by the original stone fireplace. North Star windows offer a view of the front garden. The interior of the home was painted Benjamin Moore Simply White by Frances Snelling Painting. **LEFT:** Iron work was inset into the door frame of the pantry. Cabinets were repurposed from the original home's cabinetry. **BELOW LEFT:** Wool blankets hanging from coat hooks make a colourful display and are handy to grab when heading outside on cooler nights. BELOW RIGHT: The kitchen cabinets were supplied by Nighthawk Valley Interiors. The marble counters were sourced from Stone City.







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OPPOSITE: In the living room, colourful seating surrounds a coffee table made from a door that came from Indonesia. The fireplace and heating and cooling were installed by Wipperman HVAC Design. Behind the blue sofa are doors leading directly to the rear garden. ABOVE: A landscape painting by Stanley Feldman hangs over a sofa in the living room. Down-filled cushions inject colour and pattern.

RIGHT: When Lesley tried to find the flooring to match the existing hardwood that came from Floorcrafters, she turned to Cedar Springs Millwork to make the perfect match.

Stairs and railings were constructed by Osprey Millworks.

BELOW: The upstairs laundry has encaustic tile from Ciot and cabinetry that was repurposed from the home's original kitchen. Cabinet hardware was found at Georgian Design Centre. Counters were sourced at Stone City.





As the designer and decorator of the project and with Peter's input, Lesley sourced materials for the addition to match the original home. What Lesley couldn't find she had custom-made, such as the white oak hardwood flooring, supplied by **Floorcrafters** and tailored for the renovation by **Cedar Springs Millwork**.

Lesley and Peter chose a neutral palette for the interior surfaces to create a canvas for the colourful collection of furnishings. With a modern-farmhouse style in mind, they went with shiplap walls and ceilings for a warm and rustic feel, complemented by contemporary details, like the kitchen island with white oak cabinets made by **Nighthawk Valley Interiors** and topped with an impressive marble slab from **Stone City**.

The addition includes a spacious living area on the main floor and a primary bedroom and guest room upstairs. Keeping sustainability in mind, the existing kitchen cabinets from the original home were repurposed as new cabinetry in the laundry room and pantry.

ontinued on page 74

feature



RE-UPHOLSTERING

DECORATIVE PIECE

AN OLD CHAIR OR

TRANSFORMING A

INTO A NEW USE."

- Lesley Fisher

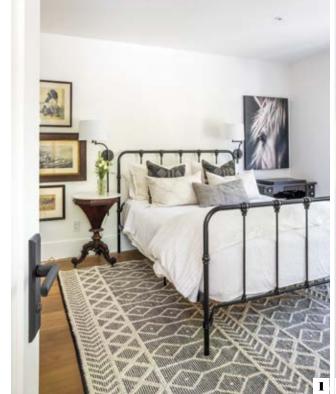
ABOVE: A bedroom on the main level has upholstered twin beds set against a shiplap feature wall. A pine chest does double duty as storage and night table. Matching wool blankets unite the bright colours in the room. Blinds for the home were supplied by Budget Blinds Oakville. TOP RIGHT: In the upper-level hallway, a bench sits beneath a painting by Willi Wildman just outside the primary bedroom. Interior doors for the home came from Desboro Doors.



Sustainability is Lesley and Peter's core value. Like so many homeowners, they understand how difficult it can be to part with belongings as tastes and lifestyles evolve, especially when those items offer many more years to be loved. This was the crux of the idea for **Loved You Madly**, a consignment shop Lesley founded in Thornbury, selling previously loved clothing, furniture, Tanglestone Jewellery and décor on behalf of clients. The store helps quality-made goods find a grateful new home.

"I have always prioritized the ability to repurpose, whether by re-upholstering an old chair or transforming a decorative piece into a new use," Lesley says. "Recently I repurposed a beautiful, antique frame from a painting that had come into Loved You Madly into a grand mirror, which is very impressive in our front hall."

Throughout the home, each room is adorned with one-of-a-kind furniture and décor. Many of the pieces are sentimental favourites, such as a portrait of Lesley in her youth living in Guyana and colourful knobs repurposed from previous bathroom cabinetry and purchased decades ago from MacKenzie-Childs. Other items, like a coffee table made from a wooden door from Indonesia, came from a consignor. The home also showcases the work of local artists, including Willi Wildman, Sue Tupy and other painters represented at Butter Gallery. Continued on page 76

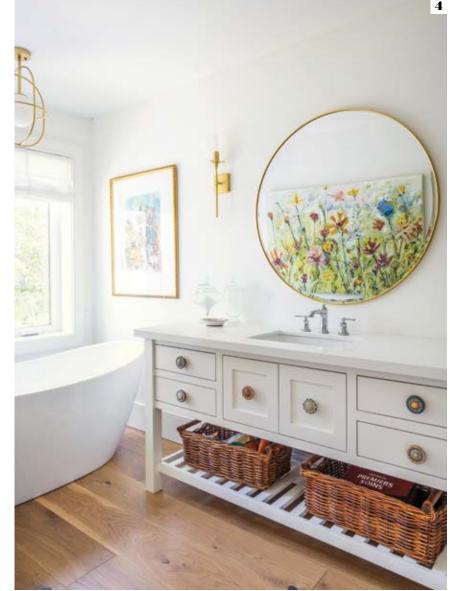




1. A black iron bed frame sets the colour palette for a bedroom on the upper level. Bedside lights are wall-mounted sconces. 2. The family bathroom has a pocket door to a bedroom and a door to the upper-level hallway. 3. In the primary bedroom, a comfortable chair sits by the large windows that overlook the rear garden. The painting is by Willi Wildman. 4. Nighthawk Valley Interiors made the custom vanity in the primary en suite. A Sue Tupy painting is reflected in the gold-framed mirror. 5. The primary upholstered bed is dressed in a Provence-style cotton quilt with coordinating pillows and shams. A pine armoire is used for clothing.









LEFT: Muskoka chairs surround a firepit in the rear garden. The home's standing seam roof was installed by Highland Metal Products. **BELOW:** In the addition, the expanse of windows captures the secluded view of the rear garden. One of the family's golden retriever pups, Colonel Mustard, enjoys exploring in the fenced area.

Adding expansive windows to the house opened the living space, providing both natural light and views of the secluded, scenic backyard and surrounding nature. The living room in the new addition was designed with direct access to the garden. A tasteful outdoor kitchen with a grill and counter was installed for the family to prepare meals and enjoy dining al fresco in the warm weather.

Continued on page 78















LEFT: A sectional wicker sofa sits at one end of the pool beside the charming pool house. ABOVE: A reed basket filled with boxwood sits under a table that holds flowering annuals in urns. BELOW: Lesley and Peter with the help of Nevin Metzger Landscape have created an oasis that centres around the 20-by-34-foot saltwater pool installed by Chris Juniper of C.J. Contracting & Snowplowing Ltd. and maintained by Reid Aquatics.

With the expertise of **Nevin Metzger Landscaping**, Peter and Lesley designed their dream backyard retreat, complete with an inground swimming pool. The layout features several spots for socializing and dining, including a firepit resembling an Indian kadai fire bowl, which sits on patio stones and is surrounded by comfortable Muskoka chairs.

In September 2019, after the renovations were complete, Peter, Lesley and the girls decided to permanently move into their newly redesigned home in Thornbury. The family is delighted with the move and are proud to have transformed their four-season retreat into a spacious, comfortable and permanent home. **OH**







Have you noticed?

There's a population explosion going on. It's happening in your backyards, across the fields, deep in the forests and along the lakeshores. It has nothing to do with the winter's pandemic lockdowns. It is simply part of the annual life cycle of the birds that have returned to our northern locales, to undertake their annual rituals of courting, nesting and raising their nestful of baby birds.

Birds arrive en masse during the migration month of May, often returning to the same neighbourhood they were raised in only a year or two before. They waste no time in getting down to the business of reproduction. They've travelled hundreds of miles to get to our backyards, with their bounty of bugs, which are emerging in huge eruptions, with timing that coincides with baby birds hatching out of their shells.

DAWN CHORUS

Male songbirds (perching birds) arrive first, a week or more ahead of the females. They use this time wisely, checking out potential nest sites for her to choose from. They quickly claim a territory and proceed to determinedly announce their dominion over it in full song. They find a favourite singing perch, often near the tip of a tree or shrub so their song carries through the open air. They start singing at dawn when the clear morning air also helps project their song. Get up at five in the early summertime, go to the woods and immerse yourself in their dawn chorus. Nature's symphony. Continued on page 82

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FEATHERING THE NEST

When the females arrive, their future suitors are ready and waiting for them, each enticing them into their territory with their finest songs and unique courtship displays, showing off their flight moves and displaying their fancy breeding plumage. Who can resist! Pair-bonds are quickly formed.

Nesting starts within a week or two after the birds find each other and pair up. The breeding season is short, especially if the pair want to raise more than one brood in the season, which increases the odds of baby bird survival and the replenishment of the species. Nest building begins in earnest, usually by the female, but frequently with help from the male. The simpler nests (Mourning Doves) take little more than a day or two to build; more intricate nests (Robin, Baltimore Oriole), a week or two.

HATCHLINGS

Eggs are laid and incubation ensues. Depending on the species, songbird incubation ranges from 10 to 20 days or so; quite a feat of fast work! Baby songbirds crack the eggs with a wee egg tooth, come out of their shells and face the world naked – featherless, helpless and not particularly cute! They can barely raise their bobbling heads and they struggle to open their baby beaks for the parent bird to stuff down a buggy protein snack. But this helpless-hatchling stage only lasts a quick three days or so.



NESTLINGS

By day four or so, the baby birds open their eyes, start sprouting feathers and the wee wings start growing out. They can hold their heads up steadily and compete with their sibling nestlings for the most bugs. The adults bring a constant supply of delectables to them from dawn to dusk, to satisfy their voracious appetites. The nestlings know the true meaning of "open wide" and their gapes are brightly coloured inside, giving the adults a big, bright target area to stuff breakfast down into.



FLEDGLINGS

In two or three short weeks, many nestling songbirds have progressed from nestlings to fledglings - the point at which they can fly. They've grown quickly to full adult size. Their flight feathers have formed and they're ready for takeoff. But first flights are often tricky. They may launch with vigour, but with no flying experience they may do a bit of a crash landing. And after such a landing, they may be reluctant to give it another try right away. This is when you are most likely to see baby robins, cardinals and other common backyard birds bobbing about your lawn, cowering under a shrub or sitting tightly together on a perch, looking abandoned and forlorn. Don't let that fool you.



YOU'RE NOT MY MOM!

Resist the urge to rescue one of these lost-looking babies. They don't need rescuing or human care. The parents are nearby, still actively feeding their scattered young while leaving them on their own for lengthening periods in an effort to encourage their full independence. Step back and observe the youngster to ensure it is okay and most importantly, give the parents a chance to show up. The fledglings still require their unique diet of a specific range of invertebrates to get them strong and airborne. Human-offered food is usually a poor substitute.

FLY, FLY AWAY

After a day or two of being grounded, parental care diminishes and it's time for the fledglings to make their own way in the world. They may still be sporting some traces of their natal plumage – spots on robins' breasts and the odd wayward downy feather poking out of their otherwise sleek coat of feathers, but these now-juvenile birds are babies no more. They fly off and fend for themselves for the rest of the summer, building their strength for their fall migration and their own continuing cycle of life. OH





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spotlight

Dive

PHOTOGRAPHY SARAH TACOMA

THE PLACE

Thornbury Clear Choice Pools & Spas has been the destination in the Town of the Blue Mountains for pools and hot tubs for more than 15 years. With a large expansion of their showroom recently completed, owners Preston and Sharon Owen welcome customers to view this beautiful new space that features eight hot tubs, an expanded selection of outdoor grills, pizza ovens, kayaks, coolers and standup paddleboards as well as the products and advice needed for clear, sparkling water in your pool or hot tub.



ACCOLADES

The conscientious and loyal service provided at Thornbury Clear Choice Pools & Spas has led to many awards. In the past year, Fox Pool awarded them the #1 World Dealer Award, a Top 10 Dealer Award and a service award for 15 years of superior customer service. Although the waiting list is long for pools in 2023, a suitable alternative might be a Great Lakes Swim Spa. To find out more, let the team in the showroom educate you about this innovative product.



OUTDOOR LIVING

No outdoor gathering is complete without food on the grill. The Clear Choice showroom has Kamado Joe ceramic slow-cooker grills that offer a selection of cooking surfaces to maximize the experience. Recently, Coyote Outdoor Grills has been added to the barbecue line-up. With their fire power, efficiency, quality construction, standard night lighting on all models and comprehensive warranty, a perfect cooking experience is a sure thing. If charcoal grilling is your preference, you will love the hibachi-styled charcoal grills from PK Grills. They also sell portable pizza ovens.





SERVICE The knowledge

The knowledgeable team can analyze water samples in the showroom and tell you what needs to be added to balance the water in your pool or hot tub. They will carefully explain how to add the right amount of balancers and what products can help with specific problems. Their service department professionals can assist with mechanical issues as well as weekly sanitizer checks. on









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IS IT TIME TO GIVE **AN UPGRADE?**

STORY CONNIE JESKE CRANE

Is there anything more lovely – for hosts and guests alike – than an easy-breezy catchup with friends over cocktails? Whether on a leafy backyard patio, cottage deck or in the kitchen, one thing is for sure – our inclination to entertain at home is one pandemicdriven trend that Canadians are continuing to embrace in 2022.

Yet even if you're itching to whip up a batch of your signature sangria, you may also be wanting to spruce things up a bit first. In the wake of a long pandemic, many of us have a pretty lacklustre collection of barware on our hands by now. Missing pieces. Glassware that's been put through the dishwasher too many times. Not to mention, how many of us are simply tired of our sameold pieces by now?

How to get that home bar ready for some celebrating? We asked two Ontario retailers about barware trends for 2022. Right off the bat, Andrea Hopson of Toronto's Hopson Grace, and Christine Bourne, owner of Maggie + Dix in Meaford, confirm there's demand. Both are seeing customers busily upgrading barware this year. Here's some inspiration to get your summer sipping off to a stylish start:

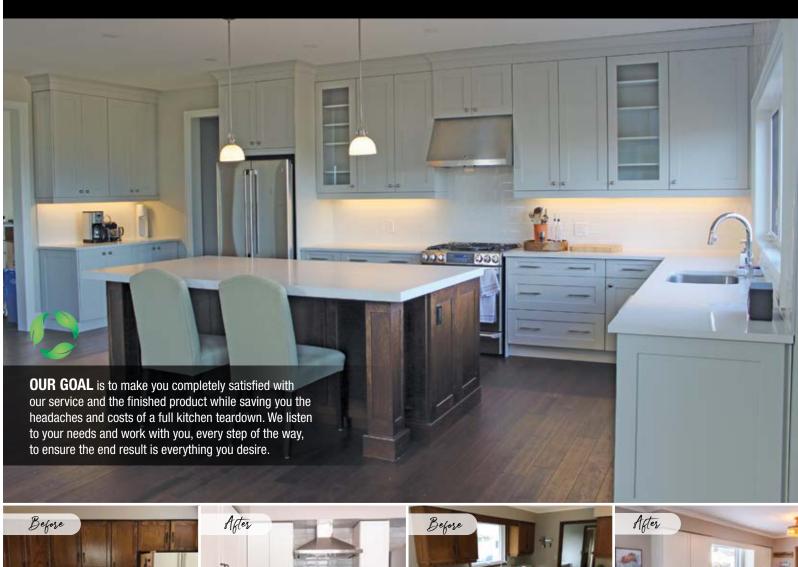
COLOUR MAKES A COMEBACK

As with home décor, barware is seeing a renewed embrace of colour in 2022. At Hopson Grace, Andrea sees colourful glassware "increasing in popularity as people become more comfortable with incorporating colour into their tablescape and into their life." Colourful glassware, she adds, "is a wonderful way to provide that pop without having to commit too heavily to new dinnerware or even new table linens." Among other options, Hopson Grace carries mouth-blown, unleaded crystal tumblers by German maker Dibbern in colours like azure, aqua, rose and amber. Also trending, says Andrea, is mixing colours rather than having glassware in one colour. "It allows people to be a little creative."

In Meaford, Christine says colour is part of her shop's general aesthetic. "I like a burst of colour." This year, among the on-trend choices at Maggie + Dix are made-in-France La Rochère "Bee" glasses in hues such as emerald, aubergine and blue. Christine also carries pink vintage-inspired glassware and pastel-toned floral patterned drink shakers. Continued on page 90



DIBBERN: Americano Tumblers











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entertaining

MULTI-PURPOSE PIECES

Both retailers have also noticed a shift towards multi-functional glassware. Christine says many of her customers "want something that's more all-purpose" - glasses for example, that work for wine but also for a cocktail.

Similarly, Andrea sees a trend towards universal wine glasses. "We're seeing this regardless of whether people are oriented to red wine, white wine, sweet wine or champagne." Her shop carries universal wine

glasses by two makers, Jancis Robinson and Zalto. She says such pieces are "considered absolutely suitable for every type of wine or beverage, including sparkling wine and champagne."

In addition, Andrea says lowballs, or double old-fashioned glasses, are trending - and again leveraged for versatility. "We've been fascinated to see that glasses of that shape and size are not only popular, of course, for water and cocktails, but even for wine." In this category, she says both thin, lightweight glassware and heavier, more traditional pieces made of non-leaded crystal are popular.

RICHARD BRENDON: The Jancis Collection SOPHIE ALLPORT:

ABBOTT: Glossy Trays in Teal

Christine sees brisk demand for "more hardware accessories, like nicer drink spoons and bar towels." Other popular choices, she says, include bottle stoppers, tablecloths, wine totes and

ACCESSORIES





PITCHERS

Whether used to serve cocktails, wine, infused water or mocktails, pitchers are another great way to add pizzazz. Christine, who carries various styles, including versions from La Rochère to match her shop's glassware, says pitchers are hugely popular.

Andrea has seen a shift from classic decanters towards carafes and decanters that are "beautifully organic and fluid in shape. They feel great in the hand. They're not heavy. They're easy and beautiful to handle."

BEAUTIFUL OUTDOOR LIVING PIECES

If you want to take the party outside, think about adding some fresh pieces here too. "I do well with the picnic baskets, picnic blankets and all of that melamine serveware." says Christine.

Acrylic pieces are also uber-hot this year. "We start to see people anticipate the summer months with a renewed interest in acrylic and shatter-free," Andrea says. With acrylic, she also notes how much offerings such as stemware and tumblers have evolved. "The designs and shapes are so beautiful now!"

Finally, Andrea says serving trays are another stylish must-have for outdoor living. "The ease of having that easy-to-wipe surface, whether with a tray that's all acrylic or made of a lightweight wood, makes it very easy and portable. Especially if you're loaded down with great drinks!" on





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1 Tbsp sugar*

INSTRUCTIONS

Combine all ingredients in a blender and mix unti smooth. Taste and add more lime and/ or sweetener.

Pour the mixture through a fine mesh strainer.

Serve over ice, Enjoy!



*May substitute other sweeteners for sugar or omit sugar altogether, depending on sweetness and ripeness of the fruit. Adjust to taste. OH

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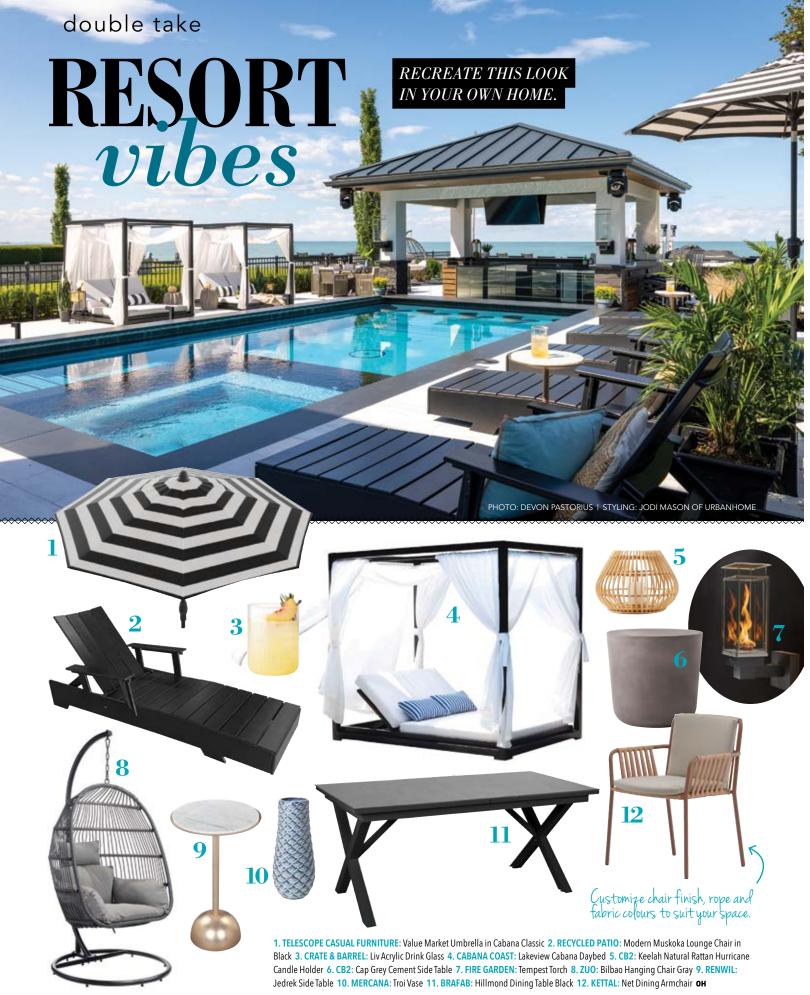


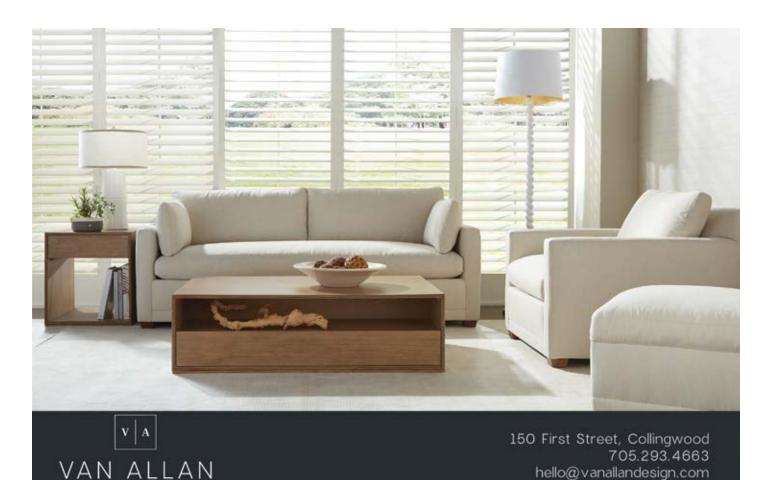
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Continued on page 98

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people & places

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Continued on page 100









people & places

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Bruce Eaton,
Business
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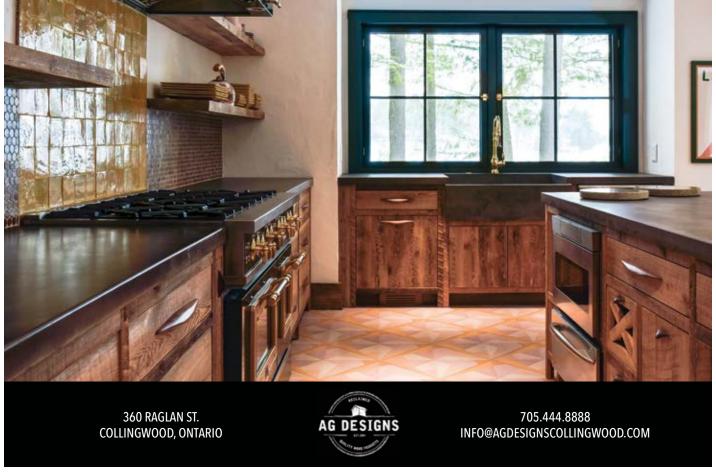
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Continued on page 102









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Luke Hartshorn & Kyle Leskinen, Installation

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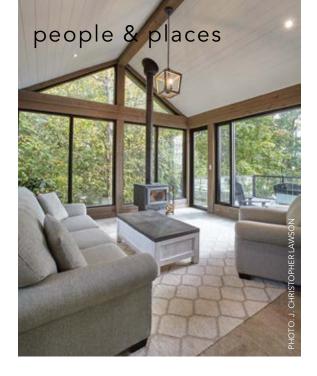


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CRAYON DESIGN

"We've been around since 1986," says Cheryl Krismer, Principal at Crayon Design. "I've been fortunate to have received several awards, including Designer of the Year in Ontario through ARIDO. We are technically strong, so challenging projects, including difficult sites, odd layouts or unique ideas are situations we rise to meet head-on. Sean is now the second-generation working in the family business, which also includes my husband John, a fine furniture maker who frequently worked on projects with us and always problem-solved with me when I needed to bounce ideas around. He now builds guitars."





SUMMER VACATION

I'm excited this year to be travelling again," says Cheryl. "I'm looking forward to a trip to Italy this fall that allows me to explore more creative outlets. I find ideas everywhere." он

SEE OUR DIRECTORY FOR ALL CONTACT INFORMATION.





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TWO ONTARIO DESIGNERS TALK ABOUT THE POTENTIAL UPSIDES

STORY CONNIE JESKE CRANE | ILLUSTRATION SHEILA BRITTON

IF YOU'RE ABOUT TO SPEND BIG ON A RENO, MOVE INTO YOUR DREAM HOME OR DO A MAJOR REFRESH, YOU MIGHT BE WONDERING, "COULD AN INTERIOR DESIGNER HELP ME OUT HERE?"

Continued on page 110



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real estate

In the past, designers weren't the go-to option for most homeowners, but things have really changed. According to IBISWorld statistics, Canada's interior designers have seen steady market growth in the last five years.

On the ground, Canadian designers confirm they're seeing this trend. "The whole thing has changed," says Ottawa-based Catherine Pulcine of CPI Interiors. "People are much more receptive to the idea that you would hire someone to help you." In the business for 30 years, Catherine attributes the shift to several factors, notably TV home décor shows. "The whole HGTV thing really brought the realm of interior decorators and designers into peoples' homes."

Curious about working with a designer? Wondering how your project might benefit? We talked to Catherine in Ottawa and also to Brittany Zazula of London-based Ben & Britt at Home. Here are the benefits they say a good interior designer can bring:

BETTER UTILIZATION OF YOUR SPACE

First off, Catherine says, "An interior designer has a very different perspective on the space. And when someone is living in a space or they've had something for a while, they only see it for what it is, they don't see it for what it could become." A designer, says Catherine, can take your wants and figure out how to make a space work better for you.

WELL-CHOSEN PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS

From contractors to furniture suppliers, designers have extensive contact lists, says Brittany, and can help clients make better purchasing decisions. "We know what's good and what's not." And designers also factor in a client's lifestyle, she adds. "What's practical? Do they have kids? What furniture is going to hold up against stains? Do they have pets? It's really about saving them in the long run on things they're going to use, that are practical, functional and still beautiful.

NO COSTLY MISTAKES

Purchases for your home can involve significant costs, says Catherine. Leveraging a designer's experience means you could prevent some expensive headaches. For example: "If you order a sofa and it doesn't fit or it's the wrong colour or you didn't choose the right style, and you didn't realize what size it was, chances are that you can't return it. So now you're stuck with it." A professional, she adds, can help you steer clear and thereby save money in the long run.

LOWER STRESS LEVELS

With more comprehensive jobs requiring lots of big-budget, tricky, in-the-minute decisions, Brittany says, "It really mentally helps to have an interior designer – the amount of stress that it removes! I mean people don't really realize how much stress they put on themselves."

HELP WITH PAINT CHIP WOES

Anyone who's struggled over umpteen swatches knows how difficult it is to choose paint colours that work. Yet a simple colour consult with a designer, says Catherine, can make all the difference to a project. "Most people think it's such a simple thing. But the colour of the paint makes a dramatic difference to the overall impression and the feel of the space." A professional, she says, can help you avoid colours that feel a bit "off" and create a space that feels put together.

COHESION

Finally, says Brittany, "The biggest thing we can do is tie the project together, unlike when a homeowner spends years picking out one piece here, one piece there and it's a hodgepodge." And Brittany also often sees the opposite case. "There are so many times I go into clients' homes and they have been sitting in an empty space for years. They can't make decisions and don't know where to start." A professional can get clients to the finish line – completely and cohesively, she says. "And a finished space equals a happy space!" OH



HERE ARE SOME TIPS FROM OUR DESIGNERS ON GETTING THE MOST FROM THE PROCESS:

Choose wisely – Check out potential interior designers' credentials, portfolios and talk to previous clients.

Do your financial homework -

Work out a budget for your project and understand how design costs will factor in.
(Some designers charge hourly, some have flat fees, etc.)

Gather visuals – Use Pinterest, magazines, Instagram, etc. to relay your expectations and aesthetic preferences.

Communicate – Good communication throughout a project is key. Choose a designer you like working with, ensure all household members have their say upfront and keep the lines of communication open.





design ideas



LEVEL UP your KITCHEN LIGHTING

Kitchen lighting is so much more than just a bulb to illuminate dark corners. Yes, it must be practical, but it should also be artistic, inspiring and a focal point in the space. From a designer's perspective, your lighting plan should integrate into the broader design with regards to functionality and aesthetics.

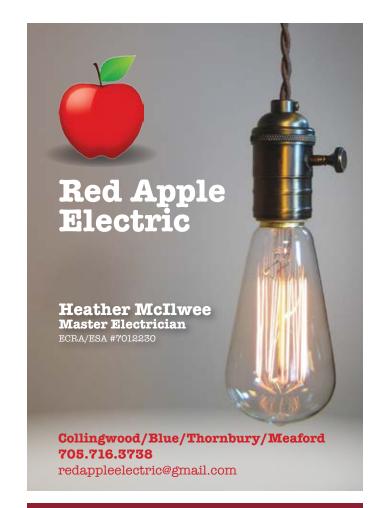
If you've engaged a designer for a kitchen renovation, communicate with them early on to ensure your goals for the space are baked into the overall plan. Here are some of my key items to note when lighting up your kitchen.

LIGHTING, 3 WAYS

In general, lighting falls into one of three categories: ambient lighting, task lighting and accent lighting.

Ambient light is the overall lighting in the room, commonly in the form of ceiling fixtures intended to illuminate the entire space. The kitchen demands brighter ambient lighting than you might otherwise opt for in a room like the den. In the kitchen, plan for more ambient light sources, such as pot lights that can be distributed evenly throughout, but have a minimal visual impact on the design.

Task lighting refers to focused lights that illuminate a specific area for a set purpose. As its name suggests, this type of lighting should correlate to your tasks, so I always evaluate the space based on my clients' activities and their location. Some areas that typically require concentrated lighting include above the island, countertops, cooking areas, sink and kitchen table – areas that are commonly used to prepare and eat meals. Also consider your secondary uses of the space. If you use part of your kitchen as a pantry, office, homework area or for hobbies, ensure your lighting plan accommodates each pursuit and pastime. Continued on page 114









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design ideas

Accent lighting is purely decorative and can be used to highlight notable features within your kitchen, or to act as focal points. For example, in-cabinet lighting can be a beautiful feature if you have glass cabinet doors, allowing you to highlight glassware, china or collections. Strategically placed wall sconces can draw attention to open shelving, frame the cooking area or highlight a beautiful backsplash. Even integrated appliance lighting can serve a function, while acting as an accent.

TIP: Task lighting and accent lighting should be on a separate switch from ambient lighting, allowing options for light and illumination in the kitchen. Remember to also add dimmers to easily adapt your lighting for your specific needs, whether it's preparing a meal, dining, entertaining or any one of the other things you do in your kitchen.







THE LOOK

While each type of lighting has a distinct job to do, the opportunity to add style into a space should never be wasted! When choosing lighting for your kitchen, always consider its aesthetic impact in terms of colour, shape and finish.

You'll want to ensure your lighting fixtures stand out, but still complement the kitchen's overall aesthetic. Is your space clean and contemporary? Then consider a more streamlined or minimal style of fixtures.

TIP: The technical side of your lighting is as important as its style. It always helps to have your fixture professionally mounted and be sure to consider the right height of each fixture within the context of the kitchen space. The general rule is to hang pendants three feet above a table or countertop or six feet above the floor.

As a final thought, consider your bulbs. Not only do they come in different intensities, they also come in different temperatures. A cool bulb is slightly blueish, while a warm bulb is yellowish.

At the end of the day, have some fun with your lighting. Your lighting should make a statement while adding that stylish key ingredient to your kitchen design. он

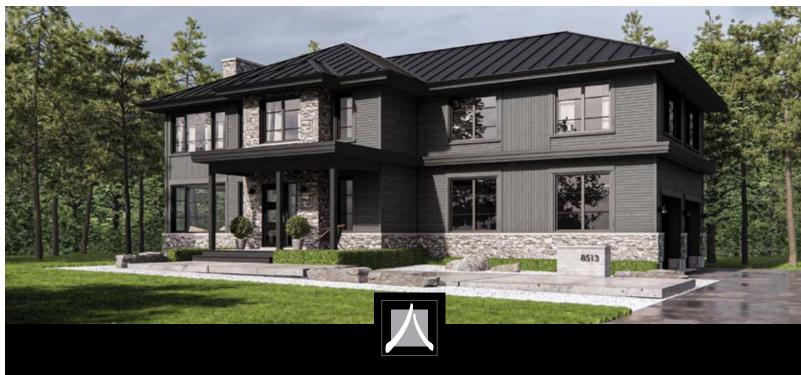
Jennifer Backstein is the creative director and principal designer for Jennifer



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STORY
LAURA BEATTIE
PHOTOGRAPHY
SANDY MACKAY
FLORALS
COLLINGWOOD
FLOWERS
& HOME DECOR

"We always had a cottage, and the kids never wanted to go home," Jordan explains. "Sometimes Scott would go back and forth and I would stay the whole summer, and they just loved the lifestyle." With three children at the time, the Flemings hoped for a home in a more cottage-like community where they could embrace their big family and their active lifestyles.

When they first moved to Collingwood, they purchased a four-bedroom home in the east end. Then they found out that they were expecting another baby and knew the home wouldn't be big enough.

Continued on page 120

LEFT: Summer is more fun with unicorns, especially when they are floating in the backyard pool. OPPOSITE: Jordan, Guinness, Porter, Savannah, Jolene, Blake and Scott are ready to take a drive in their 1976 Cadillac Eldorado. The black, standing-seam roof was installed by Sapphire Roofing with soffit, fascia and siding by 360 Exteriors. Building supplies came from Thornbury Home Hardware.

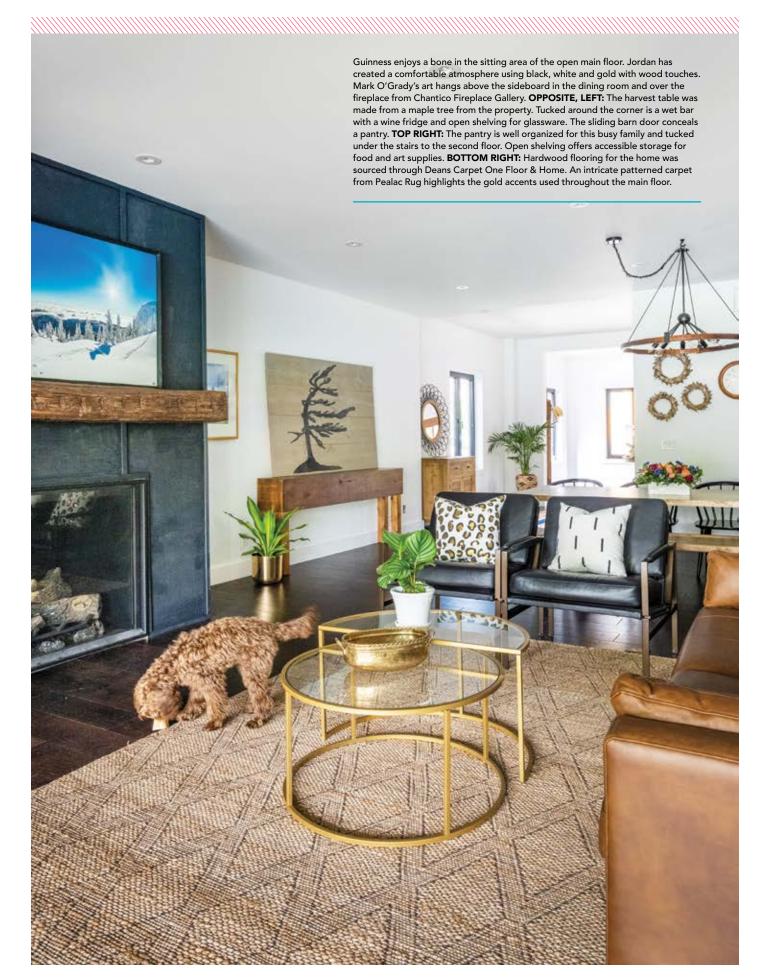






Purchasing this century home close to downtown was a step in the right direction, but they weren't sure if it would be their forever home or if it would become a flip project. It was only 1,200 square feet, but they loved the huge backyard and being on a street named after a tree. Ultimately, they decided to stay in this great location and build upon the existing home to make it fit their family.

Unfortunately, they had a hard time finding a builder to suit their needs and get to work quickly. This was also during the height of the pandemic when everything was trickier and more delayed. However, Scott had worked on five builds and two renovations when they were living in the city, so finally he said, "Listen, why don't we just build our own house?" That was the beginning of a whole new career. Continued on page 123







Working with local tradespeople, Scott and his team got to work. For this house, their must-have list included five bedrooms on the same floor for everyone to be close together. They've also completely opened the kitchen and living area with a large wood-and-marble island and a gorgeous space for the family to hang out. Large, black-framed windows around the home and sliding doors off the back deck allow for plenty of light and modernize the aesthetic. They've also built beautiful bathrooms, including two custom bathrooms for the girls and the boys, complete with fun wallpaper.

It was important to the Flemings to maintain the history of the home as well. When they had to take down some old trees on the property, the big maple tree in the backyard was milled to become their family's harvest dining table, and the half bath at the front entrance has a vanity made from wood taken from the original structure. The architecture and décor give a modern farmhouse aesthetic. The design incorporates heritage touches, natural wood and open, functional spaces combined with modern finishes, lighting and audio/visual installed by **Red Brick Group**. *Continued on page* 125

ABOVE: White and wood cabinets are united with gold hardware sourced at Georgian Design Centre. The pot filler over the six-burner cooktop is a time-saving addition for this busy family. **RIGHT:** Large pendant lights from Georgian Design Centre illuminate the island countertop. Electrical for the home was completed by Ridge & River Electric. **BELOW:** Jolene enjoys a large slice of juicy watermelon, which when served with mint lemonade makes a perfect combo on a hot summer's day.





home & builder



Jordan has been at the helm of choosing design and décor pieces for this house and sourced many $items\ through\ local\ businesses, including\ \textbf{Georgian}$ **Design Centre, Deans Carpet One Floor &** Home and Pealac Rug. It's clear she has a natural passion and eye in this field. Her colour scheme is black, white and gold mixed with natural wood. Warm natural wood tones fill the home through hardwood floors, cabinetry and vanities, and are modernized through gold and black hardware and lighting against primarily white walls. Fresh greenery brings colour and vitality to the home. Jordan works with local artists to decorate the walls. She recently purchased a piece of art from Kodie Orr Design, who uses a blend of wood and paint to make landscape pieces and is working with Mark O'Grady and his photography on wood. She also loves the photography of **North on Birch** Photography (Liz Gulledge). Continued on page 126

LEFT: The girls' bedrooms are joined by a bathroom with a blue vanity by Talon Millwork. The wallpaper behind the arched mirrors is a peel-and-stick product. Plumbing for the home was installed by Baymount Plumbing Ltd. **ABOVE:** Sweet dreams are guaranteed for Jolene as she falls asleep looking at the hand-painted rainbow. Her stuffed bunny is happy to rest its head on a magic mermaid sequined pillow. **BELOW:** Savannah's bedroom has a pale-pink desk with a furry unicorn chair. There is extra storage in the drawers built into the bed. Carpet in the girls' bedrooms was sourced and installed by Deans Carpet One Floor & Home.

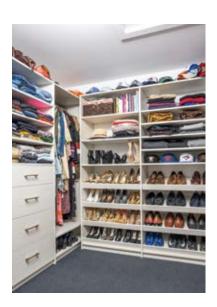




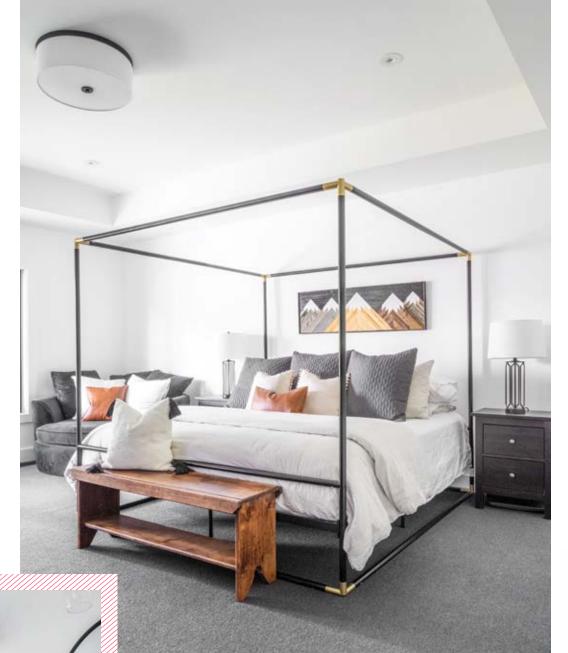


LEFT: In Blake's bedroom, a toy chest and a set of drawers sit under black-framed windows that can swing or tilt, manufactured by QFORT. **TOP:** The boys' bedrooms sit between a bathroom that has a wallpaper accent wall. The gold faucets, lighting and hardware are from Georgian Design Centre. Heating and cooling for the home was installed by Clearview Heating Air Conditioning & Supply. **ABOVE:** In Porter's room, his bed sits over a table and bench seating that is used for homework and Lego. A gallery wall in the family room features artwork by the children.

home & builder



ABOVE: A large walk-in closet in the primary suite has enough room for Jordan and Scott's well-organized wardrobes. RIGHT: In the primary bedroom, a sleek four-poster bed is made luxurious with an abundance of pillows and linen bedding. The artwork on the wall is by Kodie Orr Design. BELOW: The primary en suite's black accents add a sophisticated feel. The vessel tub is surrounded by windows, which were installed at a height to offer privacy.



When Scott decided to build this family home himself, a new career started to snowball. His aunt asked for help with her cottage in Huntsville, a local veterinarian hospital sought him out and more and more clients appeared. "This town needed another builder, let's be honest," he explains. Named after his wife Jordan Ashleigh Fleming, JA Custom Homes Inc. is now going into their second year. They've finished their own home as a complete build and are currently finishing two more. By the end of this year, they'll have four new builds completely done. JA Custom Homes prides themselves on only working with local tradespeople. It's important to Scott to work with local contractors on all of his builds and renovations. The company now has a home base office in the Arlington Building at 115 Hurontario St. In addition to any building needs within Simcoe County, they also help with the design and planning process.

Continued on page 12

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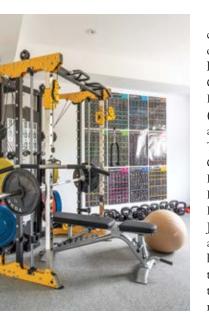
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home & builder



Now, Scott and Jordan, their four children (currently all under the age of 10), and an adorable dog, Guinness, live very full lives, embracing all that Collingwood has to offer. Scott is the Vice President of the Georgian Bay Rugby Club (he has a rich history with the sport), and all the kids play rugby and other sports. They are happy members of Osler Brook Golf Club, Toronto Ski Club, Shipyard Boxing and support the Collingwood Blues Junior A hockey team with 10 Founders seats at the Eddie Bush Arena. Jordan is also loving the Collingwood atmosphere of women supporting women both in business and in lifestyle. It's safe to say the Flemings dove headfirst into their new lives in Collingwood and are making a big splash. on



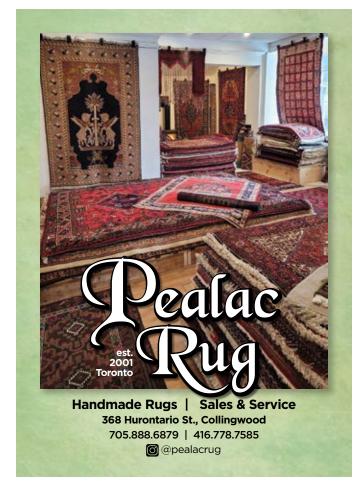




TOP RIGHT: For this large family, the second-floor laundry is a necessity. Cabinets are from Talon Millwork and offer ample storage. The encaustic tile floor is a playful addition. ABOVE: In the second-floor family room, the large sectional sofa is a comfortable spot for family movie nights. The artwork over the sofa is a close view of a toy truck by Mark O'Grady. TOP LEFT: A gym by the family room has all the essentials and space for productive workouts. LEFT: The mudroom is located on the main floor at the entrance to the garage. Each child has their own cubby and baskets keep sports gear, boots, shoes and rain jackets organized.



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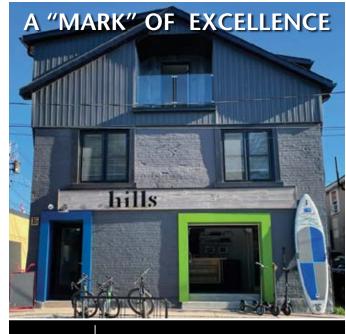






northern@sandyhamilton.ca







CONTRACTING

projects

MATERIALS

Plant pot or can

5, 48-inch long wooden dowels that measure 7/16-inch round

Saw to cut wood

Hot glue

220 sandpaper

Acrylic paint

Paintbrush



HOW-TO

Start by measuring the height of the pot from the bottom to the top.

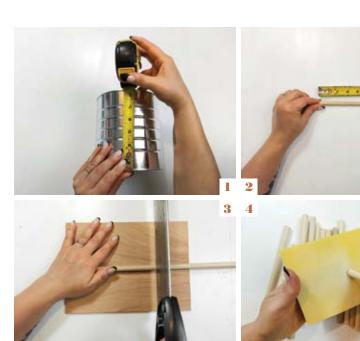
Next, take the pot's height measurement and use a saw to cut the dowel into even sections. Continue this step until you have enough dowels to go around the entire pot. If you don't have a saw, ask your local hardware store to cut them for you.

Sand the ends of each dowel, removing jagged edges for a smooth, even finish.

Glue dowels to the pot. To keep the dowels even, place the pot on a flat surface and attach the dowels using the surface as a guide. Continue to add one dowel at a time until the entire pot is covered.

Next, paint the pot. Once dry, apply another coat and let dry.

Finally, add some soil and your favourite plant and find a spot to showcase your creation. OH

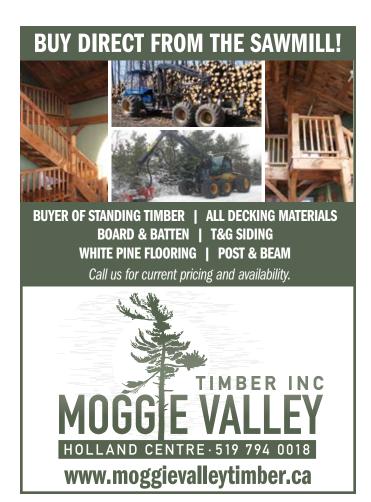


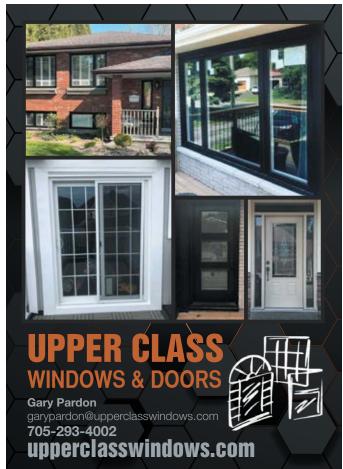


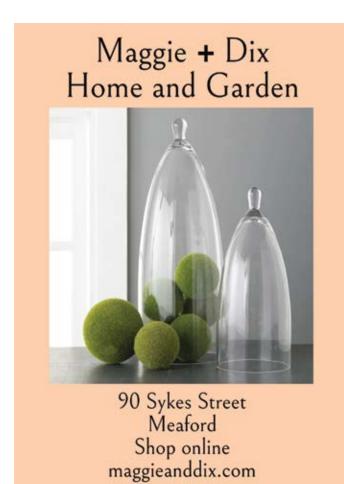




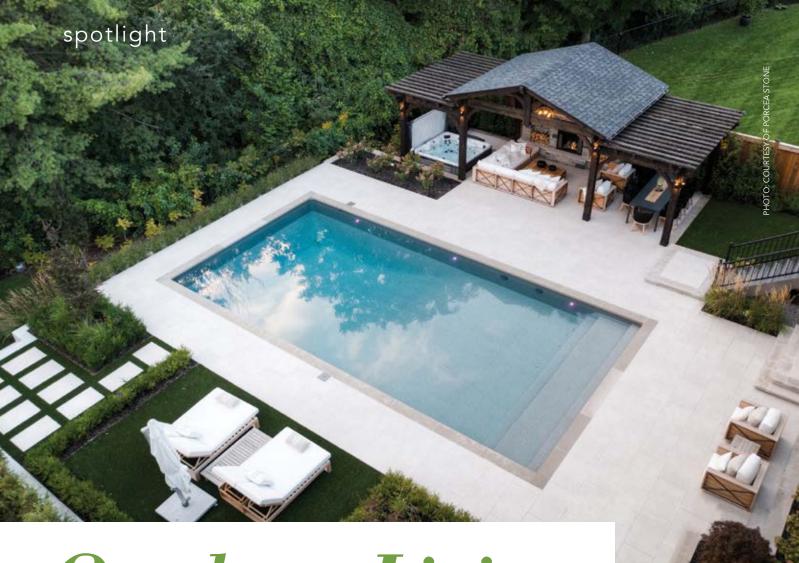












Outdoor Living
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THE PLACE

Twenty-five years ago, Pete Oosterhoff purchased almost five acres on Grey Road 2 near Highway 26, where he established Zwart's Topsoil. It was a one-man operation then, with one dump truck that delivered screened soil, mulch and aggregates. Today Zwart's Topsoil & Landscaping Supplies Ltd. employs 20 people and has a fleet of 12 trucks that deliver the staples of the business to loyal customers throughout Southern Georgian Bay. A landscape design and project management division, headed by experienced landscaper Michelle Venning, has been added to complement the vast product selection. Michelle and her team use the raw materials at Zwart's to create exceptional outdoor spaces.

INSPIRATION

Newly created, the retail outdoor showroom not only displays the large selection of pavers and other products available, it also has pods showing how many of the products will look once they are placed in a backyard design. These interactive displays show current trends in landscape design and offer ideas to the garden enthusiast who wants to "do it themselves." Firepits and pizza ovens make stylish appearances throughout the space and were added at the request of customers intent on creating outdoor areas that offer many levels of entertaining for friends and family.















ADVICE

True to the core of the business, the team at Zwart's is ready to help retail customers and landscapers find the best products for each project. They show clients how to use products, prepare their yards and, based on measurements, roughly how much product to order. Delivery is available or, if preferred, you can pick up what you need right at the yard.



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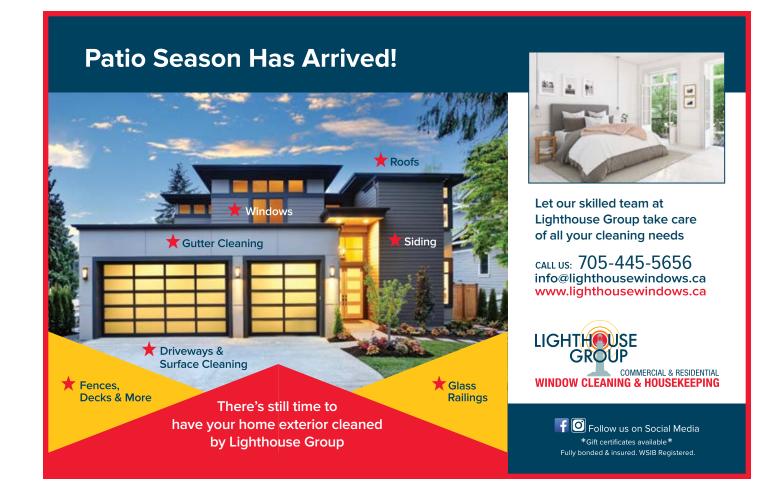


Is blue the new it colour? I say yes! This versatile hue comes in hundreds of shades and tones, from primary blue, barely-there baby blue, to Pantone's 2022 colour of the year – a bold, purplish periwinkle. Indeed, there's a variation of blue that goes with everything in every room. Here's why blue is my go-to hue in much of my own design work and where to incorporate it in your own home.

WHY THE DRAW TO BLUE?

This incredibly adaptable colour is a "shape-shifter," with a shade for every mood, making it a fixture in many different rooms, with varying results. Blue can range from energizing and relaxing to brooding, depending on its tone, temperature and vibrancy.

Continued on page 138





STORY **PATTI WILSON**PHOTOGRAPHY **MIKE CHAJECKI** & **JAMES C LEE**

BLUE

decorating



TEMPERATURE & MOOD

turquoise and other ocean-inspired

relaxation. They also pair well with

other bathroom staples such as

mirror and polished chrome and

complement crisp white casings,

fixtures and floors. This classic

palette boasts widespread appeal

and for good reason. The look is

fresh and clean, perfect for a spa-

Beyond temperature, colour

intensity can also influence the

mood of your space. A saturated

shade of blue will convey a very

different look and feel than a faded

version of the same. Barely-there

blues act as palette-cleansers,

which are essential for hectic

much-needed serenity when it's

lifestyles, delivering some

time to retreat.

inspired bathroom.

hues. The bathroom is the logical

choice for these cool colours, inspiring a sense of calmness and

Blue is thought to be a cool colour and it often is - but not always. Cool blues have green undertones, while warm blues have purple ones, such as denim or slate, which boast earthy, organic characteristics and are subtly warm. The "temperature" of your blue can dramatically impact the overall ambience of the room.

A warm blue is the perfect choice for cosy spaces, such as a living room, family room or den, giving some wonderful depth and drama. These shades of blue have a warmth and intimacy to them, which are conducive to the intimate activities taking place in these areas of the home. Depending on the desired atmosphere in your space, consider a moody, navy blue.

Meanwhile, on the cool side of the colour spectrum, you'll find greenish blues, such as aquamarine, HOW TO "DO" BLUE

That all depends on your space, your intended vibe and the blue you'll be using. But generally speaking, if blue is your dominant colour in the space, chances are it is a lighter, paler shade. In this case, blue acts as your backdrop, which you'll liven up with a

secondary colour and accent colour. Refer to the 60-30-10 rule when playing with colour proportion: 60 per cent of the space is reserved for the dominant hue, 30 per cent for the secondary and 10 per cent for the accent, which is usually a bolder choice.

If blue is your secondary or accent colour (or both), chances are you've selected something a little more daring, more vibrant or darker. A feature wall, a bank of cabinets, furniture and accessories are all impactful ways to incorporate your selection into a more neutral aesthetic.

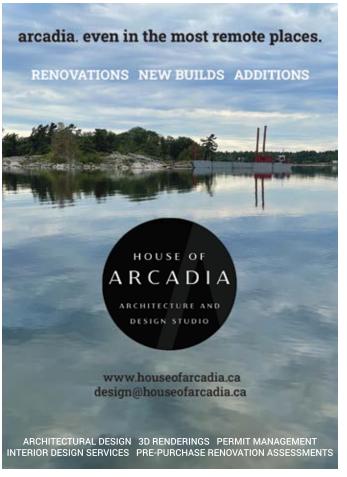
I've always enjoyed working with blues in my design work and in spite of the ever-changing trends I've seen come and go, this one seems to have endured them all with grace and a touch of drama. It remains at the forefront in 2022, inducing a sense of calm in a

world that can get crazy at times. Try it out in your home and see what it can do for you. OH



Patti Wilson, principal of award-winning Patti Wilson Design is known for creating stylish,

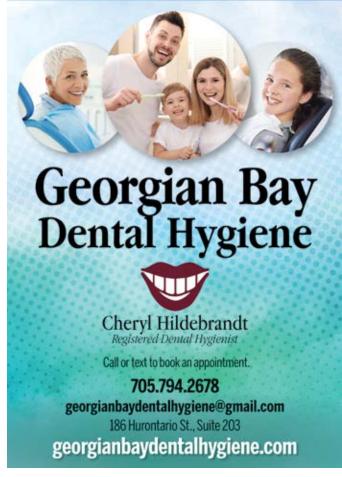














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(Please see ad on pg 109)



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(Please see ad on pg 27)



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After twenty-one years of operating a successful Persian rug business in Toronto, Nima and Virginia, along with their three children, have decided to move to their most favorite town in Ontario...Collingwood!

"My shop in East York was so loved. Saying 'goodbye' to our community there was not easy. However, our love and attraction for Collingwood was strong enough to pull us this way.

"We are so happy to call Collingwood 'home'," says Nima.

Nima has a Masters in Western Philosophy and Logic and a background in farming and curating rugs. He is often asked to be a presenter at Art Schools and related club and association events to share his knowledge of handcrafted Persian rugs and design. Virginia, originally from Mexico, is a professional cook that shares Nima's love for Persian rugs.

Pealac Rug specializes in hand-made Persian rugs, specifically tribal and nomadic Artisans products from various tribes in Persia (Iran).

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(Please see ad on pg 129)



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ROYAL LEPAGE IN TOUCH REALTY - THE CORY TEAM

There's no doubt about it, the real estate scene has been getting a lot of coverage lately.

Under the current system of blind bidding, potential homebuyers submit their offers BUT do not know the contents of competing bids. The law states that real estate brokerages who represent clients must disclose the number of written bids but NOT the substance of those

Under the new regulations, sellers would have the option to open the bidding process and make all offers transparent. That means the brokerages who represent them would disclose details of competing bids at the discretion of sellers. Regulations are set to change on April 1.

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trinket

Keep the look of your gorgeous summer blooms year-round with this floral imprinted tray. This DIY is not only easy to do, it's a functional tray for any room. Here are the steps and materials you need to make it.

Continued on page 146







crafty ideas



How To

Knead clay to soften, then roll it into a ball. Place on a large piece of plastic wrap.

Using a rolling pin or bottle, roll out the clay onto the plastic wrap. Continue to roll it until the clay is approximately one-quarter-inch thick and your desired length and width.

Plan where to place the flowers on the clay.

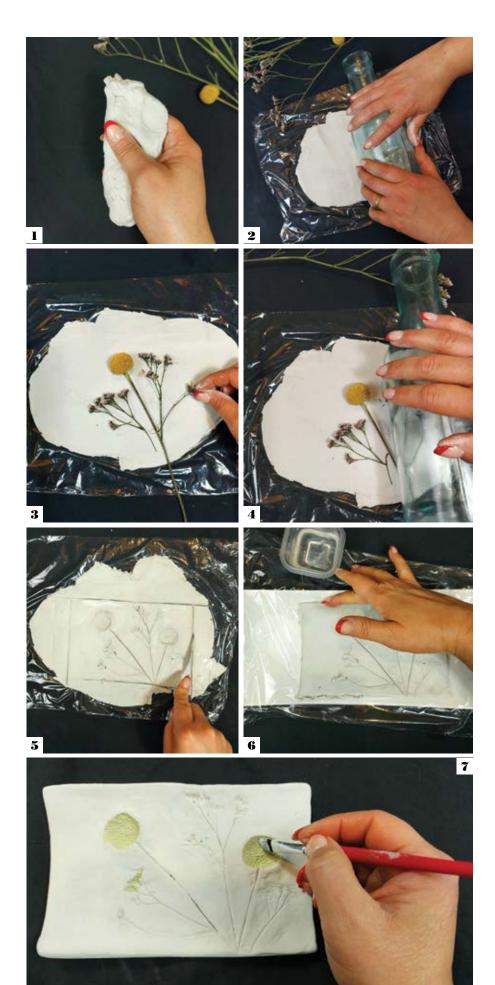
Push the flowers into the clay, then use the rolling pin to imprint the flowers. Remove flowers from clay.

Next, use the palette knife and ruler to cut a rectangle shape. Dab your finger in some water to help smooth out any rough areas or wrinkles in the clay.

Place the clay and the plastic wrap onto a small tray or plate to help take on the desired shape while it dries, approximately 24 hours.

Once it's completely dry, remove the plastic wrap and paint the tray in your favourite colours. To add some interest, paint the side of the tray and the floral imprints in different colours.

Now you have a beautiful tray to hold your trinkets! **o**H















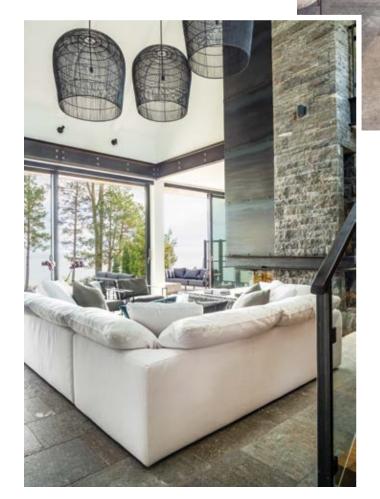
"It is by far and away the nicest location in Thornbury, says their builder, Scott Young of Scot-Build Development **Inc.** The home sits on a quiet road south of town with plenty of shoreline to enjoy a magnificent view of the bay. It's far enough away for the peace and tranquility one desires, but close enough to hike or bike or stroll to the village for dinner or a cup of coffee. The balance is just right.

"For many years, we had a more isolated 20 acres near Markdale," says Alec. "We are long-time members of the nearby Beaver Valley Ski Club and our daughter grew up skiing there. It was a great location for a more hectic, working period in our lives and we enjoyed it all." "As time went on, we felt we needed a compromise," adds Linda. "In retirement, we needed more amenities, easier access to the necessities and to be closer to friends who also gravitated closer to Thornbury. All of that and a place that was comfortable for all four seasons."

Alec and Linda looked around and eventually purchased a lot in a subdivision at Lora Bay. "It was lovely and offered much of what we were looking for," says Linda. "But Alec was not convinced and kept on searching for something else." That something was a very important element the first property did not offer. "Alec is a windsurfer and water access was most definitely something he wanted to have moving forward." The new property had it all and the decision was an easy one. Lora Bay was sold, the current location purchased and the plans were put in motion. Continued on page 153



OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT: A Japanese maple has been placed beside the path to the front door. Its delicate beauty is protected by the micro-climate created by the house, which includes the stone wall of the garage and the armour stone that surrounds the base of the tree. $\textbf{BOTTOM LEFT:} \ The \ combination \ of \ steel, \ stone, \ black$ siding and windows around the front entrance shows the attention to detail put into the design and build of this home. TOP RIGHT: Scott Young of Scot-Build Development Inc. was recommended to Alec and Linda by friends. They say it was a pleasure to work with Scott.





TOP LEFT: Linda Smith and Alec Lindsay sit by the water's edge, enjoying the peace and tranquility that surrounds and fills their home. ABOVE: The open treads of the walnut stairs and the glass railings offer clear sightlines to the upper hallway. The stone flooring was locally quarried and is 450-million years old. FAR **LEFT:** The living room area and the dining room are divided by the stone-andsteel, wood-burning fireplace that is open on three sides. The sofa from Restoration Hardware is ideally placed so that every seat has a view of the water. LEFT: In the front foyer, a walnut slat wall allows for light to come in from the waterside of the home to the front. The chandelier is from Elte.





Alec and Linda discovered a young architectural firm called blackLAB Architects Inc. and met Andrea **Kordos**, one of the firm's partners.

"We had a strong feeling about the kind of design we wanted before we started," Linda explains. It was an inclination for a more modern and elegant look than what they had enjoyed historically, but easy and casual. "We also required certain elements from the lot itself - privacy, a bright and airy sensibility and naturally to make as much of the view as possible."

Andrea delivered on all counts. "She maximized the lot and managed to give us everything we had imagined," Linda adds. Scott turned the plans into their magnificent forever home. "It is an amalgam of urban and rural elements that blend together seamlessly." It combines all that is contemporary, with a healthy and tasteful measure of warm traditional surfaces and textures. Continued on page 155

LEFT: A collection of vases from Nepal are displayed on the steel chimney breast. The fireplace is 26-feet high, and the base is made of the same stone used on the floor. Steel girders border the main living area of the 3,000 sq. ft. home. **BELOW:** The solid 10-foot walnut pocket door into the primary suite from the dining room can be closed when the couple entertains. Three massive sliding door units span the back of the home. The flooring inside was used for the outside patios, and when the doors are open it blurs the line between indoor and outdoor space.



Linda is preparing fresh, local strawberries. Cabinetry in the kitchen has flat panel fronts. The refrigerator was integrated to form a bank of cabinets.



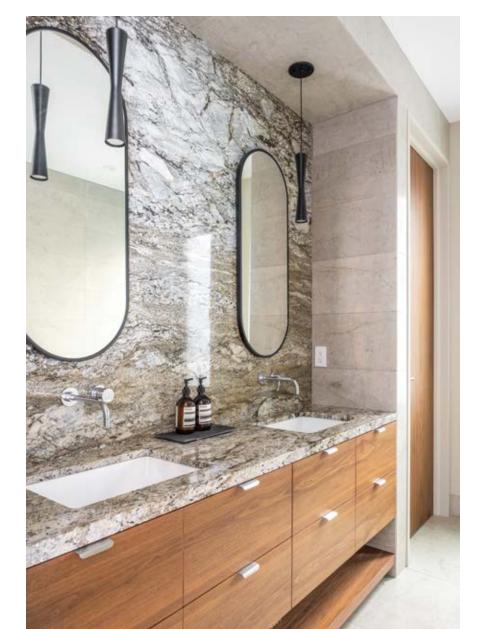
home & builder











"I believe it is the most detailed home we have ever built," says Scott. The particulars begin with locally quarried, 450-million-year-old stone that is riddled with an abundance of fossils. It was cut and milled for use both inside the home as flooring and outside as patio and walkway surfaces, in addition to the stonework on the 26-foot-high fireplace. "It is referred to as "Dolostone," says Alec. It is essentially what makes up the escarpment, and it basically brings the outside in for us, which also gave us a real sense of continuity." "It has been such a pleasure to work with Scott," they say. "He has a great design sense and is a meticulous craftsman." Continued on page 156

TOP LEFT: Stone tile lines the floor and one wall of the primary en suite. The windows are frosted for privacy in this tranquil space. **TOP MIDDLE:** The grain of the walnut flooring laid in a chevron pattern is the scene stealer in the contemporary primary bedroom. **TOP RIGHT:** A frosted window offers natural light in the primary closet. The walnut flooring continues from the bedroom into this space. LEFT:
The impressive wall of granite in the primary en suite continues to the countertop. The custom vanity maximizes storage with lots of drawers and an open shelf on the bottom. The solid walnut door leads to the water closet. **OPPOSITE:** The sound of the water when the doors are open is conducive to a relaxing and restful sleep. Window coverings for the home were supplied by Ashtons Blinds Draperies Shutters.

home & builder



STEEL THROUGHOUT WAS INSPIRED BY A TRIP TO LISBON AND A MUSEUM WE VISITED." -Linda Smith

"The use of glass and steel throughout was inspired by a trip to Lisbon and a museum we visited," Linda adds. The use of walnut brings the warmth and softness they had in mind to every aspect of the home. The flooring is walnut, cut and laid in a stunning chevron pattern. Ten-foot, solid-core walnut doors carry from one room to the next. Walnut slat walls and substantial walnut stair treads also offset the impressive glass rails and steel girders that border the main areas of the home. Designer Leah Simpson of Leah Simpson Design contributed fresh ideas for furniture layout and choices. "We also really appreciated our kitchen design from Corinthian Kitchen and Bath Studio," says Linda. "They understood the overall vision and created a space that slipped right into the rest of the design." "Not only is this home beautifully detailed," offers Scott, "It is extremely well built from beginning to end. It is essentially bulletproof." Continued on page 158

LEFT: Glass and steel railings allow for the transfer of light from the windows at the front of the home to the living area below. The 10-foot-high Egyptian door creates a juxtaposition to the modern interior. BELOW: The reverse of the slat walnut wall in the front foyer becomes the feature wall of the stairs.











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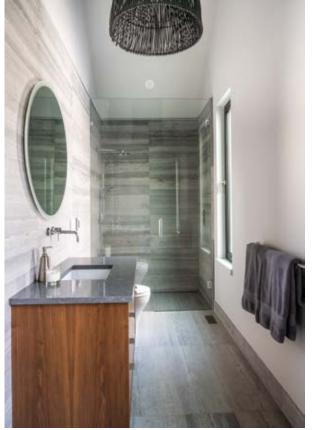


According to Alec, Robert Crigger of **RWC Landscape Design** brought the same kind of creativity and solid execution to the landscape around the structure. "He envisioned and delivered pretty creative solutions for us and presented the same kind of attention to detail we had come to expect."

Alec and Linda are skiers, cyclists and hikers and enjoy all manner of water activities. Alec bought a solid-floor inflatable Zodiac to explore the shoreline and make the most of their access to the bay. "This home, in this location, does it all for us," they say. "It is exactly as we had hoped it would be. Contemporary but totally comfortable. It is also eclectic. It is a repository for so many treasures we have collected from years of travel, from a 10-foot-high Egyptian door to unique black vases from Nepal."

It is a stunning home that truly does reflect the good taste and good intention with which it was designed and constructed by Scot-Build Development Inc. No detail or stone was left unturned. он





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ABOVE: On the second floor, a sliding door in the family room opens to a balcony overlooking Georgian Bay. The sectional sofa

is perfect for watching television. **RIGHT:** A guest bedroom on the second floor repeats the walnut flooring and the similar serene

the height for a similar pendant that hangs in the living area. Stone that

lines the curbless shower continues

atmosphere of the primary bedroom. FAR RIGHT: The vaulted ceiling in the guest bathroom has

on one wall and the floor.

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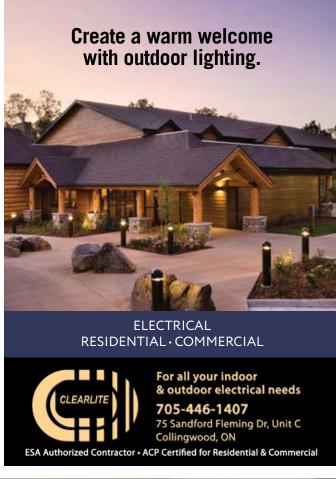
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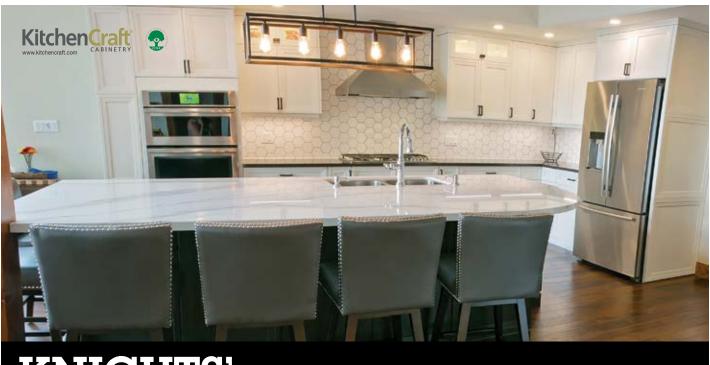
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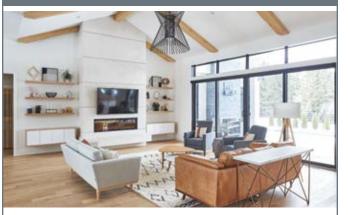
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1 cup carrots, shredded
1 red pepper, thinly sliced
2 cups black kale, shredded
½ cup peanuts, roasted
Handful cilantro
3 green onions, thinly sliced

THAI PEANUT DRESSING

1/4 cup peanut butter
3 Tbsp rice vinegar
2 Tbsp honey
2 Tbsp soy sauce
1 tsp sesame oil
2 cloves garlic, minced
Pinch of red chili flakes

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

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

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HELEN DU TOIT

executive and creative director, isn't surprised. At what other international film festival do industry professionals

PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY



OUR HOMES: What brought you to Southern Georgian Bay?

moved here in December 2020 took me on magical snowshoeing hikes through the escarpment and various local trails. After many warm-weather winters in Palm Springs, I was surprised to find myself so enchanted by a proper winter. Summers here were wildly different but equally blissful. Back in Toronto I found myself longing to return to Southern Georgian Bay for the lifestyle, connection to nature and friendly locals.

Clarksburg? Why do you love it?

Bull asked what I was really looking for, then brought me to see this century home. I knew

even before we entered that it was the one for me. I love the garden, the location near the river, the balance of history tastefully blended with modern renos, and the proximity to Good Grief Coffee! I was also lured by the idea of being immersed in a creative community in a town nicknamed "Artsburg."

OH: How did you become involved with the Blue Mountain Film Festival?

HdT: I got lucky! Film producer Dan Bekerman suggested me to Marni Moreau who was working on luring film and TV production to the region. She introduced me to Patti

Kendall, Andrew Siegwart and the BMVA team. They'd been collectively exploring the idea of launching a film festival. Years of experiences made me an unexpected candidate, so timing was serendipitous.

OH: What inspired you to accept the **Executive & Creative Director position?**

HdT: A combination of things: At its best, cinema is a compassion-generating machine that creates community. Most festival audiences can only take in up to 20 per cent of the films programmed. With a smaller but highly curated selection, the buzz builds and audiences bond – like the Telluride model where everyone buys a pass and sees as many films as possible, creating an intense shared experience. Nestled between the escarpment and Southern Georgian Bay, Blue already

has a built-in sense of intimacy. Add to that BMVA's experience as a great event producer and BMR's world-class facilities and you have the ideal spot for a truly intimate and immersive experience.

OH: How do you relax and unwind in Southern Georgian Bay?

HdT: Hiking with friends, river walks, and delicious bi-weekly vegetarian dinners made by my soul sister Allison Black, with music and atmosphere curated by my dear pal Nathan Morlando! Now that the festival has wrapped, I'll take up pottery or painting, and tennis or kayaking. I've already bought my ski pass to Blue Mountain for next winter. And Scandinave Spa is top of my "treat yourself" list.



OH: What are your favourite local restaurants and shops?

HdT: Morning java: Good Grief Pizza & lentil patties: Bruce Wine Bar Scones, bouquets and beautiful objects: Bread & Butter

Ice cream: PomPom in Thornbury or Hugo's in Clarksburg

Cheese: The Cheese Gallery

Furnishings: Loved You Madly, Thornbury Antique Market, Danfield Antiques and Art, and Clarksburg Antiques

Flowers: Dogwood Flower in Clarksburg Hardware: Hindle's, naturally!

Retro/Vintage Clothing: Clarksburghers and Loved You Madly

Galleries: The Clark, Marsh Street Gallery Markets: Sideroad Farm, Thornbury Farmers Market, Market on Marsh and Goldsmiths

OH: What would you tell a friend who has never been to Southern Georgian Bay about the area?

HdT: It's addictive. Spend a week here and you will find yourself house-hunting. OH











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finishing touch





1. RENWIL: Bruno Bookends 2. SURYA: Terra Pillow 3. RENWIL: Castelo Pillow 4. RENWIL: Teano Side Table & Magazine Holder 5. SIMONS: Concrete Disc Hook 6. INDIGO: A4 Spiral Notebook in Terrazzo Blush 7. NUEVO: Nani Sconce in Bubble Gum Terrazzo 8. NUEVO: Anora Pendant in Bubble Gum Terrazzo 9. SIMONS: Terrazzo-Print Shower Curtain 10. SIMONS: Terrazzo-Print Bath Mat 11. SIMONS: Terrazzo Printed Accessories 12. GEON TILE: Assorted Terrazzo Tile 13. CRATE & KIDS: Terrazzo Toddler Bedding 14. S'WELL: Pink Terrazzo Takeaway Mug 15. SUGARHOUSE CERAMIC CO.: Hand-Painted Terrazzo Mug in Speckle 16. IH CASADÉCOR: 9.5" Cutting Board Shape Ceramic Trivet 17. STYLE IN FORM: Anthology Honeycomb Coasters 18. ABBOTT: Luncheon Terrazzo Napkins 19. MADE GOODS: Janison Tray Set in White Mop Terrazzo 20. RENWIL: Tayla Table Lamp 21. MADE GOODS: Castiel Stool in Multi-Color/Light Grey Reinforced Terrazzo 22. SIMONS: Modern Terrazzo Kitchen Mat on



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FEATURED PROPERTIES



214 Russell St. Thornbury - MLS 40195327

.9 Acre riverside home on a quiet dead-end street, walking distance to downtown Thornbury. 4,463 sq feet, 5 bed, 5 bath with soaring ceilings, and floor to ceiling windows overlooking the Beaver River & forested areas beyond. 3 ensuite bedrooms, in-floor heat. An entertainer's dream, wet bar Individually-controlled speaker systems. Serene private outdoor space, saltwater pool with pool shed, shower, fenced-in yard. Create family memories for many years to come.



11 Beausoleil Lane #205 Blue Mountains - MLS 40261862

Enjoy Mountain House's resort-like 4 season lifestyle! Beautiful 3 bed loft, 2 bath condo minutes to Blue Mountain, backing onto a Nature Preserve with trails. Many upgrades from other units, 2 DEEDED PARKING SPOTS, cozy stone & timber gas fireplace, private terrace. Kitchen with quartz counters, induction cook top, 3-drawer refrigerator, wall oven, microwave, breakfast bar with room for seating. Year round with the Scandinavian-inspired Zephyr Springs oasis spa, year round heated outdoor pool, pool sized hot tub, sauna, fitness room and Après Lounge with fireplace all back-dropped by beautiful Blue Mountain.



Rare waterfront property in Thornbury, on coveted Bayview Ave! Enjoy stunning views

137 Bayview Ave. Thornbury - MLS 40278000

170 Springside Cres. Blue Mountains - MLS 40278393

4+1 Bed. 4.5 bath Blumont with over \$250,000 in upgrades! Enjoy the private back yard with its Loggia off of the Great Room and lower level walk-out backing onto the Monterra Golf Course. Views of Blue Mountain from the front of this Primont Chutes Elevation C model. Open, airy main level, Kitchen with WOLF & Sub-zero appliances and a large island. Vaulted Great Room, gas fireplace and oversized doors onto the Loggia. Quartz Counters, 2 en-suite bedrooms, amazing views of the ski hills. Finished Lower level with wet bar and Recreation room.



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WELCOME TO LORA BAY

LORABAYHOME.COM

The prestigious Golf Course community of Lora Bay features finely built homes, many of which overlook the bay. This four-season playground is minutes from the area's private ski hills, golf clubs and Downtown Thornbury. Our team leaders Steve and Marla Simon have lived here for 7 years and know everything there is to know about the Lora Bay lifestyle!



LoraBayWestRidge.com

\$1,695,000

Luxury former model home with a bright, open concept floor plan and modern finishes. Only five minutes to downtown Thornbury.



LoraBayWaterView.com

\$2,695,000

Custom 5 bed home backing onto the 4th fairway at Lora Bay Golf Course with Bay views & entertaining space.



LoraBayLuxury.com

\$3,200,000

7 bed, 5.5 bath custom built home, entirely fabricated using precast concrete panels a short walk to the bay.



LoraBayLot.com

\$739,000

Premium building lot with plenty of space to build your dream home!
Choose a builder and timeline that suits you.



LoraBayChalet.com

\$2,390,000

Spacious 5462sqft, 7 bed home, ideal for a big family, overlooking the 18th hole at the Lora Bay Golf Course.

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