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OUR HOMES is a registered trademark of OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC. OUR HOMES Wellington County Orangeville Caledon & Waterloo Region is published four times a year.

OUR HOMES is distributed to residents of Wellington County, Orangeville, Caledon & Waterloo Region via direct mail. Copies of OUR HOMES are available for free pick up at high traffic locations throughout the region. OUR HOMES is distributed throughout select B&Bs and hotels, and to select business leaders via direct mail.

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

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## Classic FURNITURE

PIECES YOUR KIDS WILL ACTUALLY WANT TO INHERIT.  
WHAT MAKES A CLASSIC PIECE OF FURNITURE?

Are you downsizing, rightsizing and considering selling or giving away your furniture? The reality is that some people don't want your "old stuff" no matter how much money you spent on it.

Whether your life is transitory or you want to complete a quick project, there's a tendency to buy inexpensive furniture that may, in a short time, wobble, peel or just fall apart in front of you, creating a throwaway mindset.

Furniture you want to keep is valuable, familiar, branded or easily recognizable icons of the 20th Century. Many are approaching the 100-year antique status. For example, two significant pieces from Poltrona Frau's collection, the Chester Sofa and the 1919 Armchair, seen in many James Bond films, are synonymous with status. The 1919 Armchair has been so successful that it's been reissued and reinterpreted with larger proportions to satisfy the modern-day notion of comfort. The more modest Thonet Coffee House Chair can still be seen in French bistro cafés. Good design lasts forever.



POLTRONA FRAU: Chester Sofa

THONET: Coffee House Chair



HERMAN MILLER:  
Eames Lounge Chair



POLTRONA FRAU:  
1919 Arm Chair



THONET:  
Tubular Steel  
Cantilever Chair

## Where Have You Seen Famous 20th Century Furniture Icons?

Modern furniture from the 1920s to 1940s and Mid-century Modern from 1933 to 1965 is widely popularized. We see pieces in architectural design magazines or celebrity interviews in the pages of GQ and Vogue. Cultural institutions such as New York's Museum of Modern Art and London's Victoria & Albert Museum have large exhibits displaying the perfect examples of modern-day aesthetics and good taste.

Also, popular television shows have embedded many of these pieces in our modern psyche. Notable examples include Breuer's Cantilever Chair and the Barcelona Chair by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, both on display in *Mad Men*'s stylish offices and lobbies. Who could forget the Mid-century modern Eames Lounge Chair in *Frasier*'s sleek modern apartment, elegant and separate from his father's old recliner?

## Why Are They Valuable?

Modern furniture is mobile and lightweight, designed for city residents in smaller urban homes. It's relevant for today's interiors, ensuring these pieces will keep their inheritance value for a very long time.

Manufacturers such as Knoll and Herman Miller employed Charles and Ray Eames, Marcel Breuer, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and others to design quality, mass-produced furniture, all while educating clients and the public on principles of good design. Retailers such as Design Within Reach sell prestigious brands direct to the consumer, making these pieces accessible and contributing to their popularity and status. They're also instrumental in introducing



KARTELL: Louis  
Ghost chair

HERMAN MILLER:  
Eames Aluminum  
Group Chair

the new 21st century classics, such as the Louis Ghost Chair by Philippe Starck or the LEM Piston Stool by Shin and Tomoko Azumi, to the world.

Unfortunately, many of these designs have been reproduced, knocked-off and made cheaply, spoiling the original design intent. However, this makes the original and authentic pieces more valuable. Authentic pieces are still produced by the original manufacturer, branded with copyright labels placed somewhere discreet. These pieces are Sotheby's-worthy and carry certificates of authenticity.

## How Can You Acquire Keepable Furniture?

- Buy on the installment plan.
- Buy via auction, consignment or internet.
- Buy one piece at a time – all good things are worth waiting for.

## The Benefits Of Buying Right The First Time:

- Going green for life is the new luxury.
- Recoup your investment and join the circular economy.
- Peace of mind, knowing your furniture won't end up in a garbage dump.

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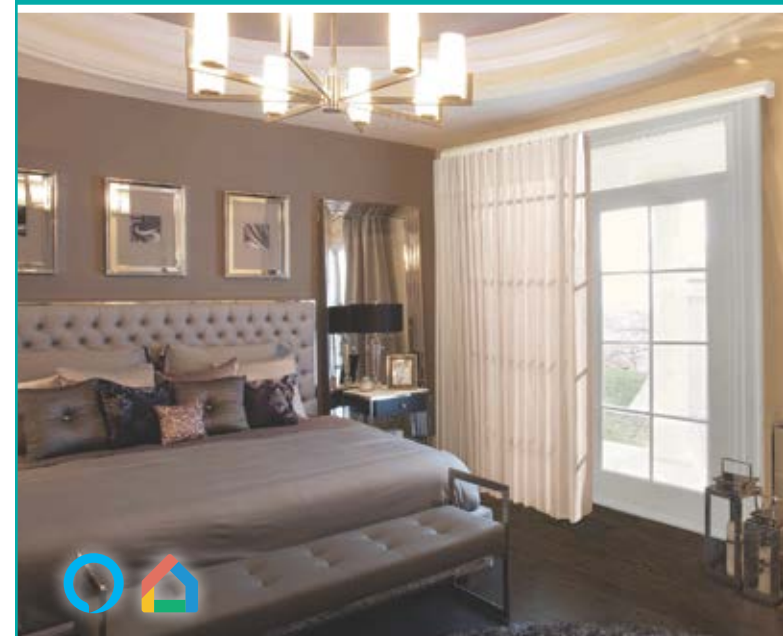
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RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY **JENELLE MCCULLOCH**

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- 4 cups water
- ½ cup granulated sugar or honey
- 1 Tbsp dried, food-grade lavender
- 1 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice

**DIRECTIONS**

In a saucepan over medium heat, combine 2 cups of water, sugar and lavender. Heat until sugar is dissolved. Turn off heat. Let steep for 30 minutes. Pour into a pitcher and add the remaining water and lemon juice. Stir, chill and enjoy. **OH**



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# ORANGE

## THE GREAT GARDEN GO-BETWEEN

STORY **MELANIE REKOLA**

Colour evokes emotion. Different colours lend a different look and feel to a space, and in a world where most gardeners opt for the popular pink and purple colour palette, the colour orange deserves another look. It certainly has a lot of punch and it may be just the zip and zing your garden needs.

### ORANGE POWER

Orange is a powerful colour with lots of attention-grabbing strength and energy. Used strategically, it highlights key areas of a yard, such as an out-of-the-way seating area or hidden path. Hot colours such as orange come to the forefront of vision while cool tones recede. Use orange hues to bring cosiness to an expansive space or use a combination of hot tones in the forefront with cool tones in the back to make a small space seem larger.

### CREATE HARMONY

A riot of different colours isn't the best approach for a harmonious garden composition. The best arrangements offer a restrained palette of melodious colour hues blending from one to the next, but often this is easier said than done. Commonly, the missing piece to the garden colour puzzle is a moderating tone between two others to either temper or highlight one or both. The zesty colour orange in all its shades and nuances specifically has an amazing colour-moderating effect in the garden. *Continued on page 34*



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COLOUR COMBOS

PURPLE AND ORANGE

Purple flowers abound in gardens everywhere, but too much purple can seem a bit dark and dreary. Adding orange makes cool blue and purple tones sing with vibrancy.

PINK AND ORANGE

Pink is another prevalent flower colour and can look tiresome on its own. Mixing in some orange transforms a pink palette into a gorgeous mix of sorbet colours that looks fresh and modern amidst green foliage. You can even see Mother Nature combining these colours in many blossoms sporting pink petals with orange centres, such as Coneflower and Cosmos.

RED/YELLOW/ORANGE

This is the hot colour combo for people who love vibrant colours. Red and yellow by themselves can look too “ketchup and mustard” stark for most tastes. Orange is the perfect go-between for these colours and especially because red + yellow = orange. These tones look great in full sun and add a hot, tropical vibe to any space.

ORANGE AND WHITE

Think of a creamsicle. I really love this fresh combination – it looks so right with the trending black, white and wood mix of outside materials. This is the colour combo for people afraid of colour.

MONOCHROME

Do you really, really love the colour orange? Try a mix of all kinds and shades together. By choosing just one colour in all its varieties, it will have maximum impact yet be really easy to find and achieve.

Orange is like a breath of fresh air. From bright tangerine to soft auburn there’s an orange hue for everyone. It is said that a change is as good as a rest and now more than ever we need to look forward to the future with renewed hope and positivity. It’s time to give orange – the colour of life, vigour and vitality – a try. **OH**



MELANIE’S PLANT PICKS

*Geum ‘Totally Tangerine’ – Avens*

This perennial has an abundance of tangerine coloured blossoms held high on airy stems. It flowers in spring, is outstanding and underused.

*Calendula – Pot Marigold*

This beautiful, sunny-orange annual plant is really easy to grow from seed outdoors and self-seeds for subsequent years too. Its petals are edible or can be used to make skin-healing salves due to its natural antifungal and antibacterial properties.

*Hemerocallis – Daylily*

There are so many varieties of orange daylily beyond the wild ones often known as “tiger lilies.” Daylilies have evolved and are often shorter with finer foliage and longer bloom periods. The flower buds on this perennial are edible. Two of my favourites are “Ruffled Apricot” and “Tiger Kitten.”

*Cosmos sulphureus ‘Cosmic Orange’*

Another amazing annual, Cosmos is so easy to grow from seed. This variety is covered by a profusion of two-inch carrot orange blooms that float above fresh fern-like foliage.

*Nasturtium ‘Troika Orange’*

Nasturtium is an old garden favourite. An edible annual, it thrives in poor, dry soil and is so easy to grow. This glorious orange variety is a high-performance bloomer with stunning white-streaked leaves. It’s semi-trailing and looks great at the front of a border or in planters.



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After



Before



Before



After



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PHOTO: MIKE CHAJECKI

# CREATING A cottage vibe



STORY **REBECCA HAY**

**IT'S COTTAGE SEASON.** Welcome to what is quite possibly my favourite time of the year. Nature is at its peak, colours are the most vibrant, and it's prime time for outdoor beauty. Canadians are more than willing to dive in, hoping to make the most of our short but sweet summers. I love cottage life and everything about it: the relaxed vibe, the casual atmosphere, that feeling of home.

Whether you're a weekend warrior with a summer retreat of your own to escape to, or you simply want to bring the cottage vibe into your home every day, here are some of my favourite ways to bring an easy-breezy cottage style to your interiors.

## COLOUR

Colour is key to achieving the right ambience in a space, and when it comes to the "cottage vibe," the ask is fairly specific. It has to be relaxing, comfortable and fresh. In one word: white. White walls and trim are crisp and clean, bringing structure to the rustic-chic cottage aesthetic. For window coverings, white sheers are a great choice. They offer privacy at night, and let the sunlight and views stream in by day.

For the colour you crave, look to nature for inspiration. Sky blue or lush, leafy greens are a popular choice, or red for a classic look. If you're looking for something with a more modern "pop," mix it up with hits of fuchsia or purple. Remember, less is more. Use colour in small doses for things like pillows and accessories. *Continued on page 38*





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## design ideas



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

### DESIGNER TIP

Details like tongue-and-groove panelling, shiplap, beadboard and wainscoting can create a relaxed atmosphere with the added bonus of durability. You'll thank yourself when wiping away those sticky ice-cream fingerprints with ease.

## LARGE FURNITURE

Large-scale furniture is inviting, which is exactly what the cottage vibe is all about. For instance, a big sectional sofa invites everyone to flop down and put their feet up. If you don't have room for a large sectional, consider adding small ottomans or poufs to welcome guests to kick back, relax and tune out for a while.



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

## NATURAL MATERIALS

The cottage look loves wood. Think vintage or rustic finishes for an instant earthy flair. Wood is solid and grounding. A dining table, accent chair, bowl or art – nothing evokes lakeside living like a well-loved piece of wood furniture.

Continue the trend of organic materials by using natural fabrics such as cotton, linen and wool, paired with woven furniture and accessories, like rattan and bamboo. These are all casual and comfortable choices because they wear well and contribute to a relaxed vibe. Bonus: they are environmentally friendly options too.



PHOTO: MIKE CHAJECKI

## ACCESSORIES

Regardless of the style you've committed to for your space, remember that the design is all in the details. Something as simple as sunhats hanging on a wall can create a unique look that leaves a memorable impression. Funky fabrics, fresh greenery and bright, airy spaces help to bring the outdoors in.

### DESIGNER TIP

Looking for unique furniture finds, but on a budget? Shop garage sales, estate sales and second-hand stores for vintage treasures. They're a hot-spot for well-made pieces that can make a great style statement. Whether restored to its original glory or updated with modern upholstery and paint, you can bring new life to an old piece of furniture. From a bigger perspective, the more we can upcycle old furniture, the less our environmental impact.

Ultimately, the cottage vibe is all about being comfortable and welcoming company to feel at home. As they say, "mi casa es su casa," right? That sentiment is about the atmosphere, the food and drinks, and that free feeling that keeps you coming back and leaves you with good memories to last until next summer rolls around. You don't need a far-off retreat or 30-degree days to enjoy cool cottage style. **OH**

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# Blueberry HAND PIES

RECIPE AND PHOTOS **JENELLE MCCULLOCH**

Handheld blueberry pies are perfect for on-the-go summer days – made with a flaky crust filled with a fresh and warm blueberry filling.

## INGREDIENTS

### CRUST

2 ½ cups flour  
2 Tbsp sugar  
½ tsp salt  
1 cup cold butter, cubed  
½ cup cold water

### FILLING

2 cups blueberries  
¼ cup granulated sugar  
1 Tbsp cornstarch  
3 Tbsp water  
1 tsp orange zest

### OTHER

1 egg

## CRUST

Add flour, sugar and salt to a large bowl and mix until combined.

Cut in butter with a pastry blender or two knives until the mixture resembles coarse sand and butter is pea size.

While mixing, slowly add cold water a tablespoon at a time until the dough comes together.

Do not overwork dough. Turn dough out onto a floured surface and knead until combined.

Form dough into a disk, wrap with plastic and place in fridge for at least one hour to rest.

## FILLING

In a saucepan over medium heat, combine 1 cup of blueberries and sugar. Cook until juices are released, about 5-10 minutes.

Combine cornstarch and water and add to blueberries. Cook for an additional 5 minutes until thickened.

Remove from heat and add remaining 1 cup of blueberries and orange zest. Cool until ready to use.

## ASSEMBLE

Preheat the oven to 400°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Beat egg with a splash of water to make a wash, set aside.

Roll out pie crust to ⅛-inch thickness.

Using a round pastry cutter, cut circles of dough.

To assemble, place a tablespoon of filling onto a dough round, brush the perimeter with egg wash and place a second round on top. (You can also cut top into strips or braid the strips.)

With a fork, press the two pieces together around the perimeter.

Score the top of each pie and brush with egg wash.

Place pies on a baking sheet and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until pies are golden brown. **OH**



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# family-friendly RENO

STORY **MERRILYN PATTERSON**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

With two young babies at home, Jessica was not at all interested in buying a home. Her husband Brad convinced her to look at a property in the south end of Guelph. Brad says it felt like home on the drive-by before the walk-through. Jessica conceded, and is now as passionate about the location as Brad.

The Wylde moved in with two baby girls, Jade and Jordyn, a Great Dane, and a cat. It was going to be a trying year, living in the basement without a kitchen throughout a major renovation that started in June. The goal was to be living upstairs by Christmas. *Continued on page 47*



**ABOVE:** A double door replaces the original single door. The intent was to create a grand entry. The gold handles foreshadow Jessica's glamorous detailing inside. Savery Bell Masonry did brick work and repairs on exterior windows and doors. **LEFT:** Moving the staircase allows natural light to filter into the open-concept living space. **OPPOSITE:** "The solarium has a serene, peaceful vibe in all seasons," Jessica says. It is a gathering space for friends and a playroom for Jade and Jordyn.





**ABOVE:** An elegant table setting for a special family gathering. **RIGHT:** A sleek black-and-white powder room off the front entry. **BELOW:** Originally designed for entertaining, the family now has meals in the dining room to encourage conversation without television.



Jessica posted Facebook photos of the home they were selling. **Josh Bellamy**, a builder in the Guelph area, saw that they intended to renovate their new home, and he reached out to Brad. Brad and Josh had met previously in the real estate industry, and after considering three quotes from builders, the couple chose **Bellamy Custom Homes** to renovate their new home. “We chose Josh because he is professional, honest and approachable,” says Jessica. “You need someone you can trust who will offer overall good value for your investment.”

Brad drew the original design for the renovation, as his educational background includes architecture. The house was gutted to the studs and work began on the new design, which included a 585 sq. ft. addition to the second floor, relocation of the kitchen, moving and opening the staircase, and opening the solarium to the kitchen. *Continued on page 48*



**ABOVE:** The living room exudes the same Zen-like quality as the solarium. Open to the kitchen, it provides a relaxing place for the family. **LEFT:** Jessica, Jo Jo, Jade and Brad pose for a family photo, happy to be living upstairs now!





Jessica calls the new kitchen “the nest egg of our vision.” All of the main floor rooms are connected. The kitchen includes a bar and an entertainment centre.

The original home was traditional with small, dark, separate rooms. The Wylde’s vision included an open-concept kitchen, living room and sunroom. The staircase was removed to create extra space. The new layout features a separate, formal dining room, mudroom, powder room and office – all pivoting from a reconfigured main hall entry. The sunroom was existing but needed updating and was separated from the rest of the house by a small entryway. **Northfield Trim & Door** supplied all eight-foot solid doors, mouldings and trim.

The original house had two large bedrooms. Now there are two master-size kids’ bedrooms and a separate hallway to a third bedroom, which is the luxurious master suite. The original four-piece bathroom was relocated down the hall. Jade and Jordyn each have their own bathroom now, which will be handy when they are teenagers.

Josh says renovating with a family in residence is tricky. “You must be mindful at all times that you conduct all work in a manner that will disrupt the family as little as possible,” he says. “In July, we took the entire roof off – it was open to the sky!”

The Wylde’s love to entertain. The new kitchen design has a work triangle that accommodates two cooks, children and seating for family

and guests to gather while food is being prepared. Jessica wanted a home that was stylish but functional for a young family.

In the kitchen, finishes were chosen for their beauty and elegance, but also for their durability. Jessica chose sleek black and white for the colour scheme, but wanted a touch of elegance, so she opted for glamorous champagne gold pulls for the cabinetry. The gold accent carries throughout the house in light fixtures and other accent pieces. Countertops in the kitchen and bathrooms are quartz by **Stone Innovation Inc.** Sculpted white tiles from **Sarmazian Brothers Flooring** on backsplashes soften the linear modern look.

The kitchen opens into both the living room and solarium, which is the children’s playroom – one of the features that attracted the couple to the house. It’s filled with light and has wonderful views of the private gardens in all seasons. Furniture in this room and others has a warm, neutral theme to add a serene, welcoming and cohesive balance. Jessica did all of the decorating in the home, but she says, “**Linda from Accents for Living** helped source furniture and lighting and helped us select paint colours as well.” *Continued on page 50*



“IN JULY, WE TOOK THE ENTIRE ROOF OFF – IT WAS OPEN TO THE SKY!” – JOSH BELLAMY



**TOP:** The kitchen was designed for Jessica, who loves to cook. “Brad’s the entertainer,” she adds. **ABOVE:** Josh Bellamy of Bellamy Homes is proud of the beautiful renovation. **LEFT:** A functional, elegant home office is located off the foyer.





In the master bedroom, a beautiful crystal chandelier graces the vaulted ceiling



**Century Stair Systems** installed the newly positioned staircase with custom newel posts and wrought iron pickets. The stairs lead to the transformed second floor. Jade's room reflects her love of rabbits. Younger sister Jordyn's room has floral accents and a vaulted ceiling.

In the master bedroom there's a tranquil space for the couple to unwind at the end of frenetic days. Its bank of floor-to-ceiling windows (**Ventralux Window and Door Systems**) overlooks the mature, treed, quiet court. The room is spacious, featuring a cosy gas fire by **Mantels Plus** and a his-and-her walk-in closet with barn door. Vaulted ceilings in the room provide the perfect setting for an elegant crystal chandelier.

The en suite is a showstopper with stunning black marble tiles and a freestanding soaker tub with champagne bronze fixtures from Multi Kitchen and Bath. *Continued on page 52*

**TOP LEFT:** Light shines through a transom window in the stunning master en suite. "It's like a piece of art that changes with the seasons," says Jessica.

**ABOVE:** A neutral palette adds to the tranquil vibe in the master bedroom. **LEFT:** Josh designed and made this chic sliding barn door to the his-and-her closet in the master bedroom.



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**TOP:** Jade's room is decorated with soft tones and bunnies. **ABOVE LEFT:** "Sweet Jo Jo" bedding in Jordyn's crib echoes Jordyn's nickname. **ABOVE:** The main floor location makes laundry a breeze.

The Wylde family did indeed celebrate Christmas in their elegant, family-functional home thanks to Bellamy Custom Homes, whose team completed the job on schedule. Jessica reflects as she self-isolates with her children at the time of writing: "I am grateful to have this beautiful house. It's a great space to raise children – home is your safe place!" **OH**



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# clutter BUSTING

TIPS FROM A  
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STAGER ON  
ORGANIZING  
YOUR HOME  
BEFORE A SALE

STORY **CONNIE JESKE CRANE**

When you're living in your home, storage goals are simple. It's all about attractively corralling your family's shoes, homework, jackets and – ouch! – stray LEGO pieces. But when you're selling, says Kristyn Pereira, lead stylist and account manager for home staging company Well Dressed Home, there's a twist.

"We look at resale value, and all our recommendations are potentially to make the seller more money." When it comes to organizing your home before a sale, Kristyn says things become stylized and not terribly realistic. "Nobody actually lives like that so it's kind of creating this facade." You're striving, she says, to create clean, fresh spaces buyers can imagine themselves living in.

Decluttering and staging is a lot of work, Kristyn admits, but she says it can really pay off. "It all comes down to your photographs," she says. "Because when people are shopping they're scrolling through photos that their realtor sent them, or they're on realtor.ca. And when those photos stand out, that's the house they want to go and look at. You'll see that a staged house is going to get more showings because people get excited looking at this beautiful space."

**THE FOLLOWING ARE KRISTYN'S INDUSTRY-TESTED TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR HOUSE READY FOR THE MARKET.**



## DO A WALK-THROUGH

Moving is a good time to start purging and looking at what you really need and what you are actually using. With her clients, Kristyn likes to start by doing a walk-through of the entire house. "It's usually an hour-and-a-half to two hours and we go through every nook and cranny." She recommends looking at everything with fresh eyes to decide what needs reorganizing or purging to create that sublime first impression for buyers.

## DO A CLEAR-OUT

Cull, and once done, Kristyn recommends a couple options. You can neatly store excess belongings on-site. "If you have an unfinished basement, garage or storage room, as long as those spaces are fairly organized, then it's OK to load those spaces up."

Alternatively, if you live in a condo or have a lot of clutter, off-site storage can work too. Kristyn uses a company called Second Closet, which will pick up and store homeowners' belongings and return them after the sale.

## RESTYLE YOUR CLOSETS

With closets and cupboards, ensure they have some negative space. Kristyn says, "If the closets and cupboards are overflowing, buyers think, 'If you don't have enough space, then we're not going to have enough space.'"

## UPGRADE YOUR CLOTHES HANGERS

Weed out those skinny wire hangers from your closets – "They're very distracting to the eye," says Kristyn. For a beautiful, clean look, make sure your coat hangers are all matching. *Continued on page 56*

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**MAKE USE OF BINS**

Bins and baskets are great for attractively organizing items on closet shelves and bookcases. Colour co-ordinate and even add labels to lend extra style, says Kristyn. “It gets people excited to see those types of things.”



**STYLE KIDS' ROOMS**

With kids' rooms, Kristyn suggests creating a dream and using a light hand with décor: “Sometimes we'll put a little stuffed animal on a bed or add a cute piece of art,” she says, suggesting you can style bookshelves with items like piggy banks and a few books, and place cute toy storage bins on the floor.



**CONSIDER YOUR TARGET MARKET**

Finally, unlike with your personal décor, when you're decluttering and staging for sale, Kristyn says you should stay away from anything too trendy when it comes to colours, furniture and styling. “Most of the time we want to be in the mainstream area because that's where most people are.” **OH**



**PARE BACK IN THE BATHROOM AND KITCHEN**

Remove clutter and keep surfaces clear in both of these important areas. For example, in the bathroom, Kristyn says, “With shampoos and conditioners it looks very messy to keep them in the shower itself – so we usually ask sellers to put them in a basket and store the basket in a cupboard.”



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I would also like to acknowledge the sacrifices our children and especially our seniors have made during these difficult times, and a special thank you goes out to them as well.

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spotlight



STORY JANET WHITE BARDWELL

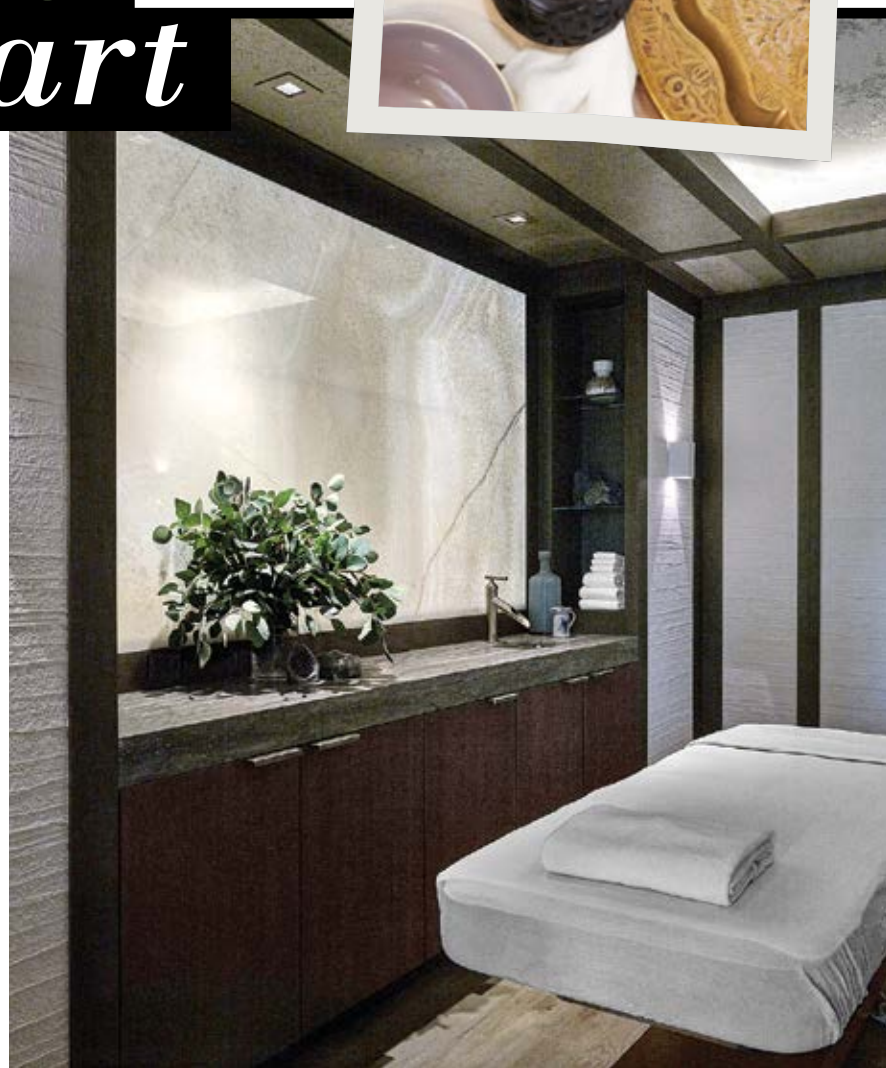
# DESIGNING *with heart*

## THE PLACE

For two decades Alison Habermehl has owned and operated **Habermehl Design Group** (HDG) in Waterloo, providing design services to clients in the Tri-Cities area and beyond. In a previous career, Alison worked in her community helping people get back on their feet. It was time for a change that would allow her to combine her expertise in helping people with her passion for design – and Habermehl Design Group was born. “After getting the education I needed, I was given the opportunity to design a community-effort café,” Alison says. “Since then, my team and I have created an impressive collection of high-end projects studiously tailored to meet our clients’ needs and desires.”

## THE STYLE

Alison describes HDG’s signature style as “creative, liveable and modern.”



## TRENDING

Alison says customization has become a focus as we crave individualism in a world of “cut-and-paste” design. “Interior design and everything under that umbrella is more personal than ever,” she says. “It is not just about a style but about how it makes you feel and how it supports your life. We are sourcing products more than ever that are tailored for each client.”

## DESIGN SERVICES

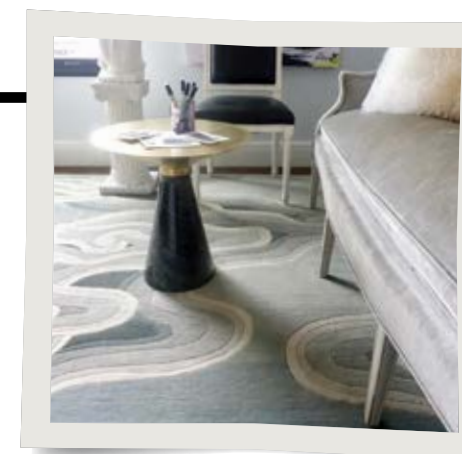
A turnkey design firm, HDG guides clients toward confidently expressing their creativity while monitoring critical budget decisions throughout the process. “We achieve the perfect balance between personal needs and the practicality of technical design,” says Alison, “so our clients can celebrate their success and the space they call home.”



## COMING SOON

Building on the firm’s reputation for consistently striking a fine balance between style and function, HDG has created Designing Back, an elegant and purposeful program with true social impact. Designing Back aligns HDG’s two core philosophies: comfortable luxury and giving back. “Designing Back harnesses the power of our relationship with our clients to make a difference in two significant

ways,” says Alison. “First, 100 per cent of Designing Back Virtual Consultation proceeds are donated to local charities. Second, any materials, furniture and items no longer needed as a result of a project will be donated to Habitat for Humanity and similar local programs that help those in need.”



## Get in Touch

519.954.4128  
habermehldesigngroup.com







STORY **PHYLLIS LUI**  
**AND ALEEM KASSAM**

PHOTO: PROVOKE STUDIOS

Summer's sun-soaked mornings, long evenings and warm temperatures are a golden opportunity to maximize your home's square footage. Consider how much of your property's space goes unused during long Canadian winters – balconies and patios, front, back and side yards, pool areas, barbecue hot spots, cabanas and secret siesta hideaways. Summer is prime time to discover the full potential of your great outdoors. Expand your living space beyond its four walls, and live larger than you thought possible – without ever leaving the comfort of home.

**HERE ARE SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE TRIED-AND-TRUE DESIGNER TIPS FOR AN OUTDOOR LIVING AREA TO RIVAL ANY INTERIOR.**

## **AL FRESCO ROOMS**

When addressing your outdoor living area, whether it's a patio, balcony or sprawling backyard, always consider your outdoor living area as an extension of your interiors. Assess al fresco rooms in a manner that respects the interior aesthetic and bridges the gap between indoors and out.

Consider your outdoor living space an oasis, an escape, and an opportunity to fulfill functions and aesthetic approaches that may not be possible year-round in your home.

Create some pops and wow factors, where possible.

The next step is to determine the biggest and most important function of your outdoor area. Is it for cooking, dining, lounging or entertaining? This will inform the layout of the space. In some cases, such as a balcony setting, consider seating and lounging as the main outdoor function. For larger patios, you may wish to expand to cooking and dining opportunities. Regardless of the size or scope of the design, always start with the largest function and work from the ground up.

*Continued on page 62*

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outdoor living

SMALL BUT SWEET

Condos and townhomes require a special touch, thanks to their small size and often urban locale. A favourite trick is using artificial grass or turf. This is an easy and low-maintenance way to bring some greenery into an otherwise drab space.

Whether you prefer the hands-off appeal of artificial greens or you like the real deal, always try to incorporate some greenery into the design. Combine a variety of pots and planters with lush greenery and plants. Great designs often feature a combination of solutions, such as artificial hedges to create privacy screening, while mixing in potted herbs that are not only beautiful, but delicious too.

DESIGNER FIND

Interlocking wood tiles for balcony and patio floors are also a great way to get that deck feeling, covering what may be unsightly, original flooring, but helping with drainage as well.

For small condo balconies, try to source dual-purpose pieces. For instance, an outdoor chair with an ottoman can be placed together to create a lounger, or pulled apart for additional seating. Remember: Flexibility is key.



Don't be afraid to treat your outdoor areas as you would your indoor living room. This can be achieved with the wide array of "in-out" accessories and furnishings available on the market, from outdoor-rated plush cushions and rugs, to candles, lanterns and art.



COLOUR SCHEME

When selecting your style and colour scheme, your outdoor living areas should echo your interiors, but don't be afraid to take it a little further. If you're limited to neutrals in your interiors, consider punching up the exterior with a splash of colour.

In most cases, vibrant and fresh colours will adapt best to the outdoors. We love citrusy oranges, lime greens, golden yellows or ocean-inspired aquas – all colours found in nature, which is the ultimate designer muse.

ON TREND

This summer a continuing trend will be the addition of fire features into outdoor living areas, which take you from day to night whether cosied up by yourself, with family or your closest friends. A multitude of styles are available, but the most functional ones incorporate a panelled top surface, which lets you go from firepit to coffee table on demand.

Always take a balanced approach when designing a home from the inside to the outside. It has to have harmony and flow, but don't be afraid to experiment and be bold. Not only will you maximize your space outdoors, you'll make the most of your time spent there, too. **OH**



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# Larger *than* Life

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Scott and Lisa’s ranch feels like a farm in the Amercian Midwest – with real cowboys, longhorn cattle and horses, and a larger-than-life pioneer-style log house. But it’s right here, in our own corner of country heaven. *Continued on page 68*

STORY **MERRILYN PATTERSON** | PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**







**LISA AND SCOTT** have travelled extensively over the years. Lisa trains and barrel races horses in rodeos across North America. Scott farms crops and raises a herd of longhorn cattle for market. The couple realized they were happiest and most at home when they were either visiting friends or vacationing in a log home. Their dream was to build one of their own.

A 107-acre country property very close to their family farm near Erin came up for sale in 2015. They'd had their eye on it for years and scored the winning bid. Lisa had watched several episodes of the HGTV show *Timber Kings* and was in awe of the featured homes. After doing some research, she and Scott decided to contract the British Columbia Company to build their expansive western red cedar log ranch.

They sent drawings of the rough perimeter design using Timber Kings' online design tool. The log structures on the property include a 6,975 sq. ft. home, a barn for the horses and a trophy room.

Timber Kings custom-cut and numbered the logs as the buildings were erected in B.C. They were then disassembled, transported to Erin, and reassembled, log by log.

Scott and Lisa made all the big picture design decisions together from a distance, and were grateful to the team at **Pioneer Log Homes/ Timber Kings** for their intuitive and seamless support throughout the build. However, they relied on local suppliers for their expertise and craftsmanship for the interior design. **Pete O'Donnell** of **O'Donnell Contracting** was the general contractor and oversaw the day-to-day work on the project. **Arthur's Fuel** was contracted to install the HVAC system.

On the home's main floor, Lisa wanted an open-concept space where family and friends could gather in one large, informal setting. There are six stools at the kitchen island and six more at the bar area. All specialty doors and mouldings were sourced from and installed by **Barclay Trim and Mouldings**.

Lisa says **Carol, Frank** and **Gabriel Meyer** from **Meyer Wood Design Inc.** offered invaluable help with the design, colour choices, finishes and major planning stages of the great room. Carol explains the colour scheme: "We took direction from the clients who wanted a greyish brown cabinet colour to complement the darker knots in their hickory wood flooring and we felt it important to tie in the grey and brown stone cooktop mantel."

*Continued on page 70*



**ABOVE:** The first glimpse from the entryway of the western red cedar logs. **RIGHT:** Although expansive, the great room is cosy with the stone fireplace and comfortable seating areas. **OPPOSITE:** The "Family Tree"—an entire western red cedar at the heart of the main house—was chosen especially for the family by Pioneer Log Homes. It grounds the main house design and supports the vaulted ceiling and roof.







Hickory cabinets in the kitchen deliver exceptional performance and complement the overall look. Choosing the right hardware was very important to Lisa. Meyers recommended forged iron and Lisa selected the perfect fit.

The laundry room, powder room, en suite and main baths were all done in a simple shaker style, like the kitchen. Lisa and Scott wanted a different feel to these rooms, so Meyer Wood switched direction and crafted a dark maple and a simple, yet dark rustic look. **Mark Kraemer** from **MK Tile** tiled all walls, floors and backsplashes.

Scott and Lisa foresee the ranch as their forever home, so they've situated the master bedroom suite on the main floor. In keeping with the log theme, the master bed, tables and chairs are custom-designed in western red cedar.

The master en suite stars a bespoke stone walk-in shower. "I wanted it to look like the ruin of a silo," says Lisa. A copper freestanding tub, two copper sinks with a vanity and a chipped mirror finish the farmhouse look. Lisa chose accents that "weren't too perfect." All plumbing fixtures were sourced from **The Plumber's Wife**. *Continued on page 72*



**TOP LEFT:** A grey-and-brown stone cooking mantel, a chopping block countertop, hickory cabinetry and pine flooring all add to the kitchen's rustic design. **ABOVE:** A western-style bar is ready for evening cocktails after a day on the ranch. **LEFT:** An extension of the island allows for more seating close to the dining table when the house is full of guests.





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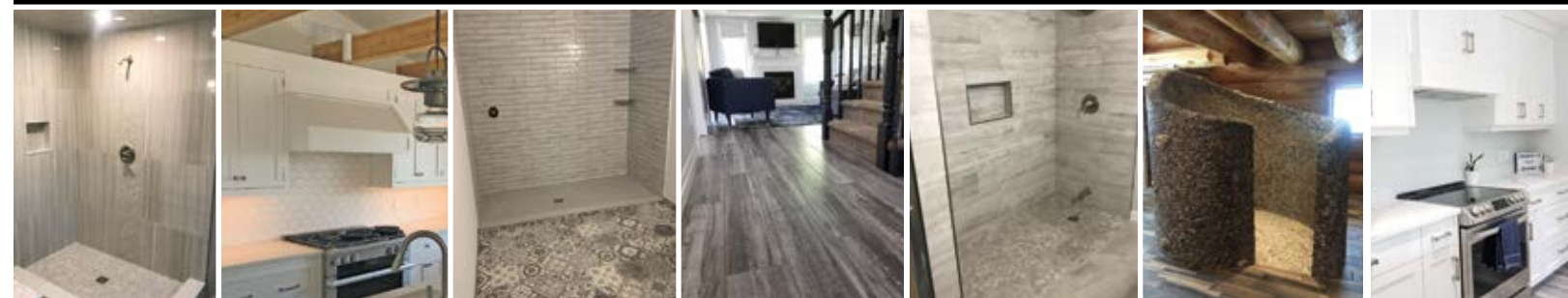
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The copper soaker tub stars in this section of the master en suite. Lisa selected the “not quite perfect” mirror to add interest. **BELOW:** Aging in place was a factor in the overall design. Lisa wanted an accessible shower, just in case. The bespoke masterpiece was crafted by Mark Kraemer of MK Tile from stone recovered during the excavation.



There are two more bedrooms upstairs in the main house, each with a full bath. Scott and Lisa’s youngest daughter and son-in-law visit from Oklahoma. They have a large private space even if there are large gatherings downstairs.

Lisa’s pride and joy is the horse barn. It was home to three horses at the time of photography: Katie, Sodapop and Naughty. Six stalls, a rehab area, a six-horse exerciser and a cold water spa (to keep the horses’ leg muscles in perfect condition), define the barn layout. Three extra stalls are used to quarantine or care for injured or sick horses. A heated indoor riding arena is at the centre of the building – a 110 by 275-foot space for Lisa to train her horses. Their oldest daughter, son-in-law and grandson, who live nearby, often use the facility, too. *Continued on page 74*



**TOP LEFT:** A guest room for family and grandchildren is located on the second floor of the main house. **LEFT:** The log theme continues in the master bedroom with a custom log bedframe and tables.



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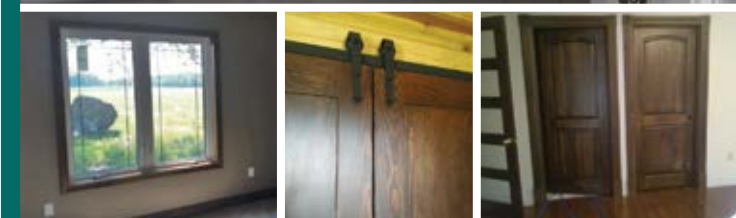
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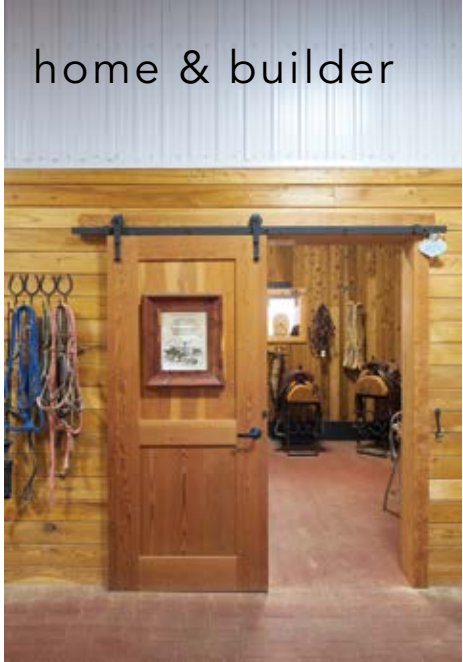
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**ABOVE:** The tidy tack room has everything needed to saddle up for the barrel race. **TOP RIGHT:** Trophies, ribbons and family memorabilia are proudly displayed in the trophy room, which is also used for family gatherings and parties. **BELOW:** Naughty, Sodapop and Katie expect a treat from Lisa after posing for the camera.



A bunkie in the barn is a cosy stopover for friends who visit from the U.S. They can put up their horses and have a good sleep. The trophy room is a testament to the awards and trophies won by individual family members and their cherished

horses. The walls are covered with photos, memorabilia and medals that speak to a love of horses, riding and family. The pioneer log ranch is a lifetime dream come true for Scott and Lisa and they are grateful to the local community of tradespeople who helped them build it. **OH**



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# INDOOR gardening

STORY **CONNIE JESKE CRANE**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **TERRA GREENHOUSES**  
AND **PLANT COLLECTIVE**

## 4 TRENDY WAYS TO EMBRACE PLANT PARENTING

If there’s one thing that energizes homeowners today and adds a final flourish to modern interiors, it’s the humble houseplant.

In Milton, Phil DiFlorio, store manager of TERRA Greenhouses’ Milton Garden Centre confirms this plant parenting trend is a real thing in Ontario. “Houseplants in general really have had a big resurgence, which is great to see,” he says, adding it seems to be an all-ages obsession. “We’re seeing such a range of general age groups that are purchasing again. It really is quite diverse.”

Why all this love? Besides their visual pop and nod to a natural, eco-minded aesthetic, the documented benefits plant lovers see extend to the psychological. Did you know that tending potted plants can actually enhance our sense of well-being?

For enthusiasts and those looking to embrace plant parenting in a bigger way, here’s a look at some standout trends for 2020.



Succulent Arrangements

### FUN FACT

Besides green, you can find succulents in all colours of the rainbow – from pink, red, purple and orange to yellow and blue.

### SUCCULENTS

If you thought succulents have had their day, think again. “The succulent trend is still very much alive and very strong,” says Phil. “Just when we think it might begin to slow down a little bit, it just keeps going. I think the big part with that is the low care and smaller sizes as well.” Added to that, succulents come in a fascinating kaleidoscope of styles. Contemporary presentations involve grouping succulents together and including a good variety of different shapes, textures and colours, Phil says. As for care tips, beyond bright indirect sunlight, he stresses you should allow them to “dry out between watering, because they can get rot on them pretty quickly.”

Continued on page 78



Aloe



FOR SALE

### 35 MANRESA COURT

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FOR SALE

### 115 DAWN AVENUE

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FOR SALE

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Discover timeless luxury in one of Guelph’s finest neighbourhoods. This impressive custom built home sits on a meticulously manicured property in the charming Old University neighbourhood. With just over 3,800 sq.ft. of expertly designed space, this home provides ample room for living, working and entertaining. The classic yet contemporary kitchen, which features custom cabinetry and Calacatta marble countertops, is open to the adjoining dining and living area. Listed by Aaron Zuccala | Here to Help, Sales Representative (519-821-3600).



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green living



Monstera

Snake Plant

Fiddle Leaf Fig

TRENDY TROPICALS

As for all that dramatic tropical greenery we've come to associate with millennial style – Fiddle Leaf Figs, the large “Swiss cheese” leaves of the Monstera, tall-spiked Snake Plants, palms – it all continues to fly off shelves, says Phil. “Cordeline is another one that's quite popular for us, mainly because it adds some nice pinks and reds, so they're a nice option for people looking for a punch of colour.” Tropicals often need a bit of care and attention, so there's no mystery around why one in particular, the Snake Plant, is a huge favourite. “For people who are new to tropicals or who want low care and low maintenance, they're a great fit because they're very hard to kill,” Phil says. “Snake Plants can dry out for a good amount of time and they don't really need a lot of light.”

FUN FACT

The Snake Plant has several common nicknames inspired by its long pointy leaves, including Mother-in-Law's Tongue and Devil's Tongue.



Fern

FERNS

From Boston ferns to Maidenhair ferns and funky new favourites like Crispy Wave ferns, Phil says ferns continue to be a hot-ticket item. “Even being a solid green plant, there's just the texture and the leaf shape and combinations,” he says. “They just have a whole interest on their own.”

FUN FACT

The Victorian era had its own fern craze, which saw them become all the rage as houseplants and fern motifs popped up everywhere from tea sets to clothing.



Boston Fern



ACCESSORIES

Beyond choosing plants, part of the fun is completing your investment with accessories and books on plant care. Topping the list are stylish plant pots. As Phil says, customers today want “the complete package.” Choose the perfect bowl, tiny four-inch pot or massive glazed ceramic floor planter and you can turn that simple potted plant into a stunning – and lasting – décor piece for your home. **OH**



Snake Plant

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# COOL summer projects HOT ADVICE FROM THESE EXPERTS

PHOTOGRAPHY JASON HARTOG



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#### AT HOME

**Favourite Room:**

**Corrina:** On the deck when it's nice outside. **Jeff:** The family room. **Summer Plans:** Camping. **Water Sport:** **Corrina:** Paddleboarding. **Jeff:** Canoeing.

#### AT WORK

**Recent Project:** The

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#### AT WORK

**Unique Project:** Rustic underground mine shaft leading to a refined wine cellar with backlit onyx countertops, a dazzling chandelier and tabletop fireplace.

#### AT HOME

**Dream Vacation:**

**Danielle:** Destination family wedding in Jamaica. **Martina:** Next stop, Scotland. **Mireille:** Sea-Dooing on Georgian Bay. **Aiden:** Driving through Portugal.

Continued on page 82



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AT HOME

**Adding Comfort:**

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AT WORK

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Continued on page 84



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people

#### AT HOME

**Who's On The Grill:** I do the barbecuing – on the smoker. **Summer Salad:** Potato.

#### AT WORK

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## JORDAN KIRBY & JESSE GRIN

Rockhaven Homes

Rockhaven designs, engineers, budgets and builds custom homes. Our clients say they are beyond happy and that we are friendly, courteous, knowledgeable and attentive. Meet our site manager, Jordan Kirby. We completed the Architecture – Construction Engineering Technology program at Conestoga College together. After working with us on projects over the past eight years, Jordan has been promoted to site manager, running two-to-four jobs at a time.

### AT WORK

#### Why Rockhaven Homes:

We care. Our unique design-and-build process minimizes stress and maximizes the enjoyment of building a dream home. We are creative. With our experience, we solve problems to help our clients create their dream home. We customize. Each client is unique, and we match the dream to the dollars.

### AT HOME

**Vacation Plans:** **Jordan:** Fishing and camping trips. **Jesse:** Canoe trips and camping with my wife and two girls. **On The Grill:** **Jordan:** Steak and wings. **Jesse:** Smoked ribs and wings. **Outdoor Activity:** **Jordan:** Hunting and fishing. **Jesse:** Fishing with family and friends.

*Continued on page 88*

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people

NATASHA JONKER,  
MARGARET JANSSEN,  
PAUL JANSSEN & TIM JANSSEN



JDC Custom Homes

At JDC we are a full-service construction and design team, with a process that is second-to-none when dealing with the clients. JDC can take care of consulting, designing, building, and managing your addition, custom home or renovation.

AT HOME

**Missed Most: Natasha:**

Seeing family and friends.

**Margaret:** Hugs and visits with our children and grandson. **Paul:** I'm with Margaret on this one, family comes first!

**Dream Summer Vacation: Natasha:**

Aruba with my hubby. **Margaret:** Fiji or Maldives. **Paul:** Southern Europe.

**Tim:** Surfing in either Barbados or California.

AT WORK

**COVID Changes:** We have self-check sign-in sheets for staff, trades and clients, social distancing and regular cleaning. **TOP TIP:** Get two or three prices but base your decision on the ability to have a good relationship rather than pricing alone. Get a detailed contract.

Continued on page 90

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AT HOME

**Ice Cream Flavour:** Gord: Chapman’s Praline. **Caroline:** Ginger from Mapleton’s Organic Dairy. **Favourite Room:** Gord: Living room. **Caroline:** Kitchen, because it’s the hub. **Vacation Plans:** Anything outdoors!

AT WORK

**Trending:** Light-colour hardwoods, sisal carpets and patchwork or geometric patterns for tiles. **Recent Project:** Two fantastic modern bathrooms in a log home. **Virtual Consultations:** Send us your wish list and we’ll send back options to choose from.

Continued on page 92



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people

# ANGELA BERRIMAN

RE/MAX Real Estate Centre Inc.

My business is all about the clients. Getting to know them, their needs and desires, then helping them find the home of their dreams or sell their current home. My slogan is “Working for you” and that is exactly what I do, whether viewing 50 homes to find the right one or getting “down and dirty” assisting with cleaning, painting, staging or packing.

IT'S ALL ABOUT MY CLIENTS.



## AT HOME

**Relaxing Spot:** In the summer on my deck, enjoying the sounds of the birds and the smell of freshly cut grass – maybe even a beverage in my hand. **Home Style:** I’m living in a two-storey townhome but building a bungalow. **Summer Cocktail:** I am a keto fan so a vodka soda with lime please!

## AT WORK

**Selling Tips:** Clean, clean, clean, inside and don’t forget the yard. Depersonalize and declutter. Help buyers see the bones of the property. **Why Centre Wellington:** CW is a friendly place to be. We welcome everyone and have the most unique shops in the province. We have top restaurants and many patios.

Continued on page 94



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AT WORK

**COVID Changes:** Getting material has been much different with lineups and shortages. We are washing our hands, wearing masks and being cautious when working in homes. **Recent Project:** An addition in Puslinch will be an absolute stunner once complete.

AT HOME

**Summer Drink: Brandon:** Cold beer. **Jason:** Cold Bud Light on a warm day. **Outdoor Activity:** **Brandon:** Fishing and a weekend at the cottage. **Jason:** Yardwork. **What's In The Back Of Your Truck? Brandon:** What isn't? It's usually a tool disaster. **Jason:** Tools, ladder, vacuum, trailer hitch.

BRANDON  
LASBY  
& JASON  
MITCHELL

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No project is too big or too small. We work with local trades, specializing in decks and outdoor carpentry work in the summer months. Using insight and knowledge gained from you in the design phase, ML Quality Contracting will provide the best experience in the construction phase, and ultimately the best results for you. **OH**



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94 | ourhomes SUMMER 2020



double take



# BOLD & botanical

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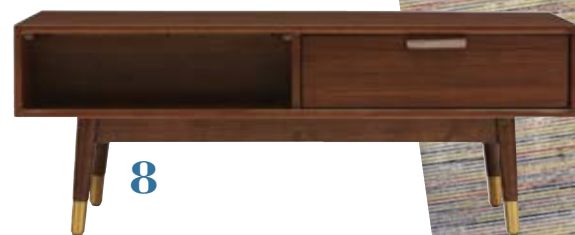
PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

- 1. A-STREET PRINTS: Hoppet Folk Black Scandinavian Wallpaper & Shiloh Navy Botanical Wallpaper
- 2. SUNPAN: Hanna Lounge Chair in Giotto Olive
- 3. RENWIL: Aspen Accent Table
- 4. IKEA: Aläng Floor Lamp
- 5. TAPIS RUGS & CARPET: Oxford Ribbed Rug
- 6. KAVUUS: Finley Sofa in Tusk White
- 7. CRATE & BARREL: Astrid Pillow
- 8. STRUCTUBE: Grayson Walnut Veneer Coffee Table

6



7



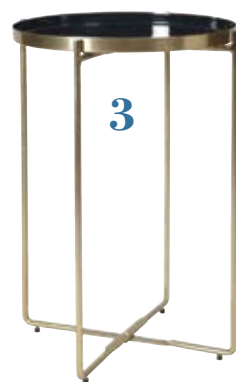
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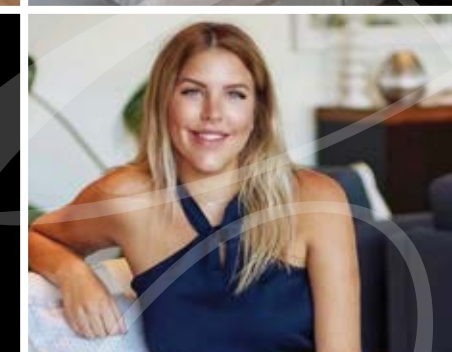
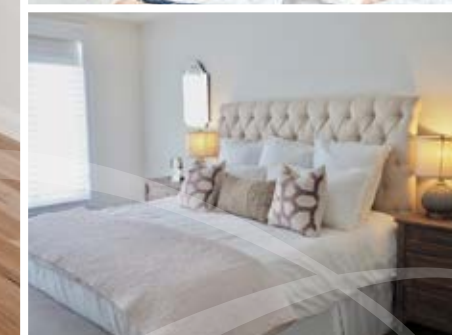
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**andra arnold**



spotlight



PHOTOGRAPHY JASON HARTOG

# DECORATING *extravaganza*



Nicole Vandersluis  
and Kim Ryder

## THE EXPERIENCE

Be prepared to spend some time in the large open showroom at **HomeBasics** in Fergus. Specializing in home décor and furniture, they feature whimsical and colourful vignettes showcasing items to suit all home styles – from modern, traditional and shabby chic to the popular farmhouse look. You'll be encouraged by owners Kim Ryder and Nicole Vandersluis to sit on sofas and they will help you select treasures for your home or gift-giving. If you don't find exactly what you're looking for in the store, they'll be quick to source larger furniture pieces from the Signature Line by Ashley Furniture. You'll be treated to a relaxing shopping experience with valuable advice.

## HOW IT STARTED

With a solid background in retail furnishings, Kim and Nicole saw an

opportunity to provide affordable furniture and artful accents in their home town of Fergus. They found the perfect location in the downtown core and opened their doors in January 2019. The store has quickly become a go-to place for town residents and visitors alike.

## PRODUCTS

There is an eclectic mix of kitchen essentials, artwork, accent lighting, area rugs and mirrors. Small pieces of furniture like occasional tables, funky benches and counter stools in a variety of designs provide several choices. Sofas and sectionals in styles on trend can be purchased in-store or sourced from the Ashley catalogue. Bed linens, bath towels, shower curtains, clocks, candles, tableware, and a fun collection of vintage signs and wood-framed sayings round out the home décor extravaganza.



## WHAT'S NEW

During the pandemic, Kim and Nicole created **HomeBasics Express**, an online selection of items that you'll find in-store. Visit [homebasicsinc.com](http://homebasicsinc.com) and click on the category you're

shopping for – giftware, housewares or décor. You can shop safely from home and enjoy either curbside pick-up or free delivery within the Fergus/Elora area (Homebasics Express items only).



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**519.843.2757** [homebasicsinc.com](http://homebasicsinc.com) OH





## AEONIC KITCHENS

**Aeonic Kitchens** is a custom cabinetry business, just minutes outside of Listowel. Our growing team brings creativity and experience to every project, from kitchens to vanities to mudrooms and more. Recently H<sup>2</sup> Custom Woodworks & JWood Kitchen and Bath merged to form Aeonic Kitchens, allowing us to combine resources and provide even more services to our growing clientele. From design to installation, we are actively involved every step of the way. With 20 years of combined experience, we provide an enriching and enlightening experience for every customer that leaves them with a quality, functional living space that mirrors their lifestyle.

Many changes are happening at Aeonic Kitchens in 2020. We are developing new, higher quality standards for production and building a new showroom and website. However, our main priority is still you, our clients. We take pride in providing quality service from start to finish. Please feel free to stop by at **6606 Line 87, Listowel, ON** to see the latest styles and colours you can choose from for your personalized space.

**Check out our new website at [aeonickitchens.com](http://aeonickitchens.com) to see some examples of our work from recent years. Open 8am-5pm Mon-Fri, and Saturday by appointment only. Contact us for a free quote today: 519.472.0326 [aeonickitchens.com](http://aeonickitchens.com) Follow us on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/aeonickitchens) [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/aeonickitchens) to see our current projects** (Please see ad on pg 31)



## CANOPY FARMS LTD.

Are you as passionate about the outdoors as we are? As a member of Landscape Ontario, **Canopy Farms Ltd.** is committed to providing high quality workmanship throughout the Fergus, Guelph, Orangeville and Caledon areas.

Dealing with multiple contractors for your outdoor and indoor projects can be time consuming and troublesome. We offer a unique combination to the landscape and construction industry.

Owners Marie Paxton and Kevin Heywood offer separate strengths to the business.

Marie's experience of being a trained landscape designer and horticulturist for the past 16 years, along with her passion for natural landscapes and sustainability, brings a unique experience to every size of outdoor landscape project. She specializes in natural design projects. This includes ponds, pondless waterfalls, conservation plantings, and natural stonework. We offer maintenance packages of all sizes for finished projects and existing landscapes.

Kevin is a licensed carpenter with a background in renovations, framing and landscape construction. Our projects range from fences and decks to gazebos, sheds and garages, custom renovations and additions as well as retaining walls, walkways and patios. This broad range of skills allows our customers to deal with one contractor for all their outdoor and indoor projects. **519.710.0170 [kevin.canopyfarms@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.canopyfarms@gmail.com) [canopyfarmslandscaping.ca](http://canopyfarmslandscaping.ca)** (Please see ad on pg 77)



## COVERS CANADA – SHADE AND DRAPERY SPECIALISTS

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## HABERMEHL DESIGN GROUP

With over 20 years of interior design experience, the team at **Habermehl Design Group** is passionate about creating a home that tells our clients' story.

Our expertise is listening, understanding and executing the specific needs of our clients.

We believe in sustainability and sourcing quality materials and furnishings that support the lifestyles of busy families and career focused professionals.

We understand that design is personal and we offer thoughtful and creative solutions not readily available.

Life is about balance and so is a well designed home. We know the needs of hard working people who also enjoy a life of travel, entertaining and down time. Each of our projects is a deeply personal reflection of the people who call it home.

**For more information please call us at 519.954.4128 or visit our website: [habermehldesigngroup.com](http://habermehldesigngroup.com)** (Please see ad on pg 18)

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Whether you are looking for ideas for your new build or renovation, Christine can help! She creates 2D, 3D floor plans and mood boards to help you visualize your space and help you with your desired style – all at an affordable price. No matter if your style is traditional, contemporary, rustic or industrial, Christine will work closely with you to find the suitable elements that will enhance your living space. She truly believes that our surroundings affect our mood and well-being.

Christine Annis is a passionate Interior Stylist, Design Consultant and Stager, based in her hometown of Listowel, ON, where she has built her dream home and is raising her family. She received her Diploma for Interior Design from The Interior Design Institute of Canada in 2016 and has developed her emerging business, **Christine's Designs**, over the past few years. Christine's love for interior design couples with her passion to care for others. For the past 25 years, she has worked as a nurse in Listowel. She is committed to her patients, her family and her clients.

**Contact Christine today!**  
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(Please see ad on pg 37)



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Now with the launch of our NEW E-Commerce website, it's even easier to find the pieces you want for your home. Browse through, fabrics, leathers, woods and hardware on line, pick the ones you want and we will send you a quote so you can purchase your custom piece right from your living room. We will also be happy to drop off or mail you any samples you require  
259 Woodlawn Rd W, Guelph  
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originalhomefurniture.com  
(Please see ad on pg 15)



## N-HANCE WATERLOO

**N-Hance Waterloo** is a new franchise locally owned and operated by Al and Barb Vodicka who also own N-Hance Kitchener and **N-Hance Guelph** covering the Tri-Cities and surrounding areas. Coat of Many Colours Quality Kitchens Inc. (featured in the Winter edition) has been operating successfully as Spray it! for over 10 years. We have merged our business into an established franchise that offered what we did, but a whole lot more, allowing us to grow our business.

We offer wood refinishing done right! Whether it's a solid colour change or a wood stain renewal, a wood floor refinishing or a railing/stairs needing to be stained, we can help you with your home reno projects!

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(Please see ad on pg 91)



## KURTZ MILLWORKS

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At Kurtz Millworks our Victorian woodwork designs are sourced from authentic historic moulding samples and original millwork catalogues from the late 1800's. Our lumber is carefully selected and kiln-dried. We use only the best materials in all of our high quality products.

We specialize in custom matching your original wood moulding samples or scale drawings. Whether you are restoring a century home, or adding character and charm to your newer home, our products are sure to satisfy.

Products range from solid wood baseboard and casings, cabinets, Victorian gingerbread trim and screen doors to crown mouldings, fireplace mantles, entry and interior doors and hardware and tin ceilings.

For over 27 years, our customers have come to know and trust us as "The Old Home Experts". Visit the showroom and idea centre to see our product line on display to have a one-on-one consultation with our experts who will help bring your dream project to life.  
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kurtzmillworks.com  
(Please see ad on pg 55)



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## BARCLAY TRIM & MOULDINGS

**Barclay Trim & Mouldings** has been established for 29 years, in the growing town of Grand Valley, ON.

Owner and operator Dean Young is renowned for specializing in wood creations that range from designing reclaimed country kitchens to modern mouldings and doors. Dean brings a background in all types of construction buildson prestigious homes across Ontario.

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30 William St., Grand Valley, [barclaytrim.com](http://barclaytrim.com)

*(Please see ad on pg 73)*



## AMG STUDIOS

**AMG Studios** is grateful to our strong network of top-tier designers, builders, and architects who invited us to support their recent projects while facing the dilemmas of COVID19 – this wealth of interactions during a time of acute challenges has presented numerous opportunities to refine the safest and most effective consultative experience possible. The experiences shared with clients and designers through video conferencing have introduced new methods of collaboration while simultaneously removing barriers of travel time and cost, effectively opening our elevated services to a larger market. Within the studio, eliminating wait times and crowds, ensuring higher levels of cleanliness and comfort, and providing individual attention have created an environment that is far more welcoming, reassuring, and personal than our big box competitors can deliver. Our commitment to continue refining this approach will allow us to always exceed the expectations of our partners and clientele in the (new/future/emerging) retail landscape.

**At time of writing, our studio is reserved for appointments on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and open to walk-in traffic on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. We welcome appointment requests by phone 519.763.3264 and email [info@amgstudios.ca](mailto:info@amgstudios.ca). We look forward to offering our support for your next project. [amgstudios.ca](http://amgstudios.ca)**

*(Please see ad on pg 119)*



## ORANGEVILLE BUILDING SUPPLY & GUELPH BUILDING SUPPLY

If you are looking to do some home renovations or if you need to spice up your landscaping, **Orangeville Building Supply and Guelph Building Supply** is where it's at. We have been serving the Orangeville area for 29 years and have been serving the Guelph area for 16 years. We offer almost everything you need for your home renovations to your decking supplies to your interlocking needs at a competitive price. We offer a large selection of natural stones and flagstone to add that professional touch to your landscape project. If you are planning a project and are in the area, come on in and talk to one of our friendly and knowledgeable staff, they will be more than happy to help you get started on your indoor or outdoor project. We value our customers and strive to please them. Our customers and service are # 1. Give us a call, send an email or visit one of our locations to see all we have to offer.

**Orangeville Building Supply**  
205164 County Rd 109  
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**519.942.3900**  
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500 Maltby Rd, Guelph  
[gbs1@bellnet.ca](mailto:gbs1@bellnet.ca)  
**519.787.0400**  
[orangevillebuildingsupply.ca](http://orangevillebuildingsupply.ca)

*(Please see ad on pg 55)*



## GEORGE'S WINDOWS & DOORS

For over 25 years, **George's Windows & Doors** has built a reputation for delivering quality and value to residents of Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge and surrounding areas. Homeowners trust us to deliver the finest energy efficient window and door systems in the business, backed by a lifetime warranty and expertly installed by skilled professionals.

Replacing old windows and doors means big savings on heating and cooling bills. With energy costs on the rise, now is the perfect time to replace old windows and doors and use the money you'll save to increase your home's efficiency, add beauty and build equity.

George's professional home improvement services also includes renovations and remodelling. Add a sliding door where there was once a window, create an impressive front entry with a stunning door and new masonry or renovate a basement complete with egress windows (yes...we do that too). We are home construction experts and can provide you with a host of solutions and ideas that will improve your home's value and give you a new pride of ownership.

Sean Haight, the new owner, is a home builder and carpenter by trade. He continues the tradition of quality workmanship with fair and reasonable pricing.

*(Please see ad on pg 113)*



## DAN CLAYTON HOMES – HILLSIDE TOWNS

**Dan Clayton Homes** is proud to present **Hillside Towns**, a new collection of 28 spacious freehold townhomes in Guelph, located just moments away from both urban amenities and scenic green space.

The Hillside Towns have been thoughtfully designed to optimize your living experience in over 1,750 sq. ft. of space, with large open-concept layouts, soaring nine-foot ceilings, customizable finishes and exceptional quality. Have it all with nearby access to a beautiful trail network leading to Riverside Park and Guelph Lake, while also being minutes away from the restaurants, shopping, and entertainment of Guelph's unique downtown.

Whether you are a first-time homeowner or in search of a larger townhome space with a move-in ready option and no condo fees, Hillside Towns has all you're looking for. Dan Clayton is a hands-on builder, so you can be assured that your investment and your unique needs will be managed with respect, professionalism and in a timely manner.

Now selling Phase 2. Check out the designs at [danclaytonhomes.ca](http://danclaytonhomes.ca) or call us to book an appointment to view in person.

**519.830.3797**  
**[dan@danclaytonhomes.ca](mailto:dan@danclaytonhomes.ca)**  
**[guelphcustomhomes.ca](mailto:guelphcustomhomes.ca)**

*(Please see ad on pg 97)*



## PARAGON KITCHENS

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*(Please see ad on pg 37)*



The sleek dining set paired with a rustic chandelier and plaid accent pillows speaks to the modern farmhouse design.



# OFF-SEASON *serenity*



STORY **JANET WHITE BARDWELL**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **TARA WEST**

For professional athletes and their families, finding a private, calm place away from the game – and an escape from the demands of constant travel and public life – is not just a luxury, it's a necessity.

Shortly after an Ontario born-and-raised National Hockey League player and his wife purchased a country estate in the Kitchener/Waterloo area, they reached out to **Sandi Duclos**, owner of **Sandi Loreen Duclos Interiors**, to use her talented touch to transform their new house into a relaxed, serene modern-farmhouse-style home where they could enjoy the off-season with family and friends.

The couple, who spend 10 months of the year in a different province, knew that finding the right designer who could understand their vision and confidently manage the project with hands-off homeowners would be a game changer.

*Continued on page 108*



A large round mirror and console table provide a welcoming vignette and add balance to the spacious entryway. **TOP RIGHT:** Sandi's curated choice of lighting and accent pieces meld seamlessly to create warmth and mirror the homeowners' organic sense of style.





Textured pillows and contoured lines lend an air of serenity and comfort. **BELOW:** Dark wood built-ins and a matching fireplace mantel provide visual interest and storage while highlighting the stonework. **RIGHT:** Lighting is a story in the house. In the dining room a rustic candle chandelier gives a nod to the farmhouse look, while softening the modern furniture.



Sandi – who has owned her design firm for more than 20 years and also works as a designer of interior and exterior living spaces at furniture manufacturer **Hauser** – was more than up to the task and considered the request both an honour and a challenge. An honour because her mother was a huge NHL fan and would have been thrilled that she was helping to make a hockey player and his family comfortable in their home, and a challenge because modern farmhouse style was not quite in her design wheelhouse. “My style is more classic, so this was an interesting challenge for me, which I enjoyed.”

The homeowners were happy with the house itself; the bones are solid and it features the natural yet refined finishes that reflect their organic, understated style. Light beams through large windows at perfect spots throughout the day to set the scene for warmth. But the house did not feel like home. “They had some furniture in place but were unhappy because the house did not feel complete,” says Sandi. “My objective was to make the space feel like home for them by bringing in finishing pieces.”

Sandi began her styling transformation on the spacious and open-concept main level.



This is a warm and cosy spot for a night in or for entertaining friends and family. **BELOW RIGHT:** Sandi placed potted plants in strategic places to bring the outdoors in, adding colour to the neutral palette.

While it is wonderful to have a lot of space to work with, homeowners can often feel the home does not seem “finished,” she says. Her finishing process began with enhancing the gorgeous wood entry door and large front entryway with a hallway vignette that complemented the scale of the space. A sizeable console from Restoration Hardware offered an anchoring base, and a large round mirror and side lamps with textured rope accents, both from **Accents for Living**, provided a rustic simplicity that created the casually luxurious welcome the homeowners were looking for.

Sandi emphasizes the importance of vignettes when pulling in and grounding large spaces. “To make big spaces feel more intimate the key is to create vignettes in the right spots that invite warmth and interest.”

Decor items and lamps from **Cornerstone Home Interiors** add warmth and casual elegance to the living and dining rooms and complement the homeowners’ existing furniture. Comfy sofa cushions and a throw blanket with natural chunky texture from **The Art of Home** provide visual appeal.

In the dining room, a neutral grey area rug from **Alexanian Carpet & Flooring** frames the existing dining table and chairs and creates a welcoming home base for comfortable gatherings and meals with family and friends. Florals by **Pink Poppi** bring the outdoors inside and complete the natural atmosphere. *Continued on page 111*





*“FOR THE TWO MONTHS THEY SPEND ON THIS ESTATE I WANTED TO ENSURE THEY HAD A HAPPY PLACE TO UNWIND, RECHARGE AND FEEL AT HOME.”*

White cabinetry in the kitchen is warmed by the island's earthy countertop and the basket weave on the bar stools.



**TOP LEFT:** Another stunning light fixture – a modern treatment this time juxtaposed with relaxed slip-covered chairs and a traditional pedestal table. **ABOVE:** The open-concept kitchen/living room transitions seamlessly and makes for easy family living. **FAR LEFT:** The smell of fresh-baked pastries calls the family to breakfast. **LEFT:** The white kitchen cabinetry sets a clean and serene backdrop for efficient food prep and easy traffic flow.

Transitioning into the main-level master suite, this casual farmhouse style with a modern twist evolves seamlessly into romantic luxe. Sandi admits that while the entire project was a pleasure, the process of creating the master bedroom stands out as a favourite.

**Brody Enterprises Inc.** created a fresh neutral backdrop by applying **Benjamin Moore** Ballet White to the large bedroom. The homeowners, while not on site during the transformation, were involved in the choices and there was a fluid back-and-forth with Sandi in the decision-making process. When she provided the homeowners with choices, the designer often correctly predicted what they would choose, until it came to the master suite. “When deciding on the chairs

in the master bedroom, I gave them a number of choices and I assumed they would go with a more relaxed option that was reflected in the rest of the home. But they chose pieces that were more classic and formal. It shocked me – and they look really great.”

That choice sparked a style reminiscent of old Hollywood, and the contrast of the formal chairs against the snuggle-worthy bed linens from Accents for Living and textured wool area rug from Alexanian Carpet & Flooring created a unique version of casually glamorous. The result equally encourages a pair of heels as much as it does a comfy robe. A tufted ottoman and reindeer hide just steps away invite an intimate fireside chat.

*Continued on page 112*



feature



The master bathroom exudes spa-like serenity. Stone tiles on the wall blend with farmhouse accents in the rest of the house. **RIGHT:** Contemporary lines in this cased vanity in the master bedroom are a sleek contrast to more rustic choices in the rest of the house. **BELOW:** A tin pot with greenery lends a playful, rustic touch in the en suite. **BELOW RIGHT:** An authentic hide on the floor adds a touch of sultry glam.



As all designers and home décor enthusiasts know, effective lighting can shift any room from stark to serene. Sandi had the bedroom rewired by **Electrically Speaking Inc.** to allow two stunning chandeliers to hang from the ceiling on either side of the bed, creating a dramatic and sultry atmosphere. “These are very high-end pieces and they frame the bed beautifully,” she says.

*Continued on page 114*



*From Boring Walls To Beautiful Spaces*  
BY KATI BUJNA

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**FAR LEFT:** The master bedroom required custom bedside tables and large accent pieces to suit the scale of the room. **LEFT:** Designer Sandi Duclos made this family retreat the oasis they imagined. **BELOW:** A large ottoman by the fire in the master suite invites a late-night chat or quiet read.



Custom pieces played an important role in bringing Sandi’s vision to life. The bedroom itself was so large that finding pieces that would be the correct scale for the size of the room was essential. Custom bedside dressers from **Chervin Kitchen & Bath**, and a custom oversize bedroom mirror from **Framing & Art Centre Waterloo** create a feeling of warmth and luxe coziness in this sizable space.

The homeowners were so delighted with Sandi’s work that they have subsequently hired her for several projects, including decorating their home for the holidays, and designing the couple’s (first!) nursery.

“Every job has an emotional connection; it always goes far beyond the design portion,” says Sandi. “For 10 months of the year this couple lives a very busy and public life. For the two months they spend on this estate I wanted to ensure they had a happy place to unwind, recharge and feel at home.” **OH**

*A tufted ottoman and reindeer hide just steps away invite an intimate fireside chat.*



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# MULTI-PLANT HANGER

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THAT MAKES IT EASY TO  
GROW HERBS OR DISPLAY  
FLOWERS.*

PROJECT **DAWN MCCONNELL**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **TARA CHATTELL**



- MATERIALS**

  - 3 round cork trivets
  - Paper for template
  - Heavy card stock
  - 1 spool of cord
  - 1 metal ring
  - 3 small plant pots
  - 3 flowering plants or herbs
- TOOLS**

  - Scissors
  - Pencil
  - Utility knife
  - Glue
  - Small drill bit
  - Drill



**HOW-TO**

Start by creating a paper template to use for cutting and drilling your trivets. On a piece of paper, draw a circle 1 inch smaller in diameter than your trivet and cut it out. In the centre of your paper circle, draw another circle 1 inch smaller in diameter than the mouth of your plant pot and cut it out. Fold your paper template in half twice, then unfold. These fold lines will indicate where to drill the holes in your trivets.

Place your paper template in the centre of a cork trivet and trace around the smaller, inside circle. Cut out the circle using the utility knife. Repeat with the remaining two trivets.

Stack trivets and place your paper template on the centre of the top trivet. On the outer edge, using the fold lines as a guide, drill four evenly spaced holes in the trivets.

Next, make some extra circles out of heavy card stock, which will be glued to the bottom of each trivet for more stability. To do this, place your paper template onto your card stock and trace and cut three more circles. Glue these to the bottom of each trivet.



Now you're ready to attach your trivets with cord. Cut 2 pieces of cord into 8 foot lengths, fold in half and loop through your metal ring, making a knot. Now you will have four strands hanging from the ring.

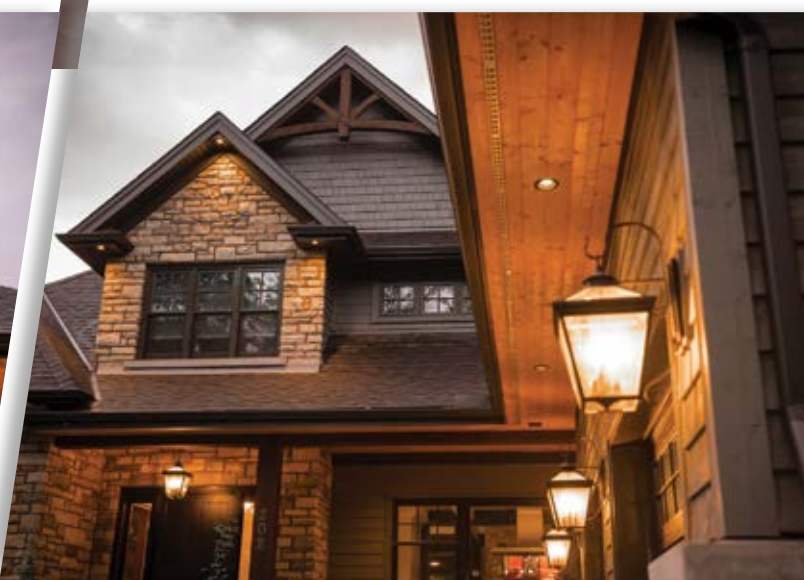
Thread the cord through the holes of the first trivet, then wrap the cord over the edge and thread through the holes again for adjustable stability.

Place the second trivet on the cord 12 inches from the first trivet and repeat threading. Do the same with the last trivet, leaving enough cord to tie a knot.

Adjust and level trivets. Apply glue into the holes to secure cords and let dry.

Gather the bottom cords, tie a knot and trim if desired.

Plant flowers or herbs in planters. Add planters to trivets and hang! **OH**



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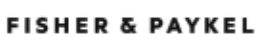
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# East Coast SHRIMP ROLLS

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY  
JENELLE MCCULLOCH

Inspired by the East Coast lifestyle, this roll features chunks of shrimp tossed in a homemade dressing and stuffed into a toasted bun.



## INGREDIENTS

(Makes 4 Rolls)

### HOMEMADE MAYO

- 1 egg
- 1 Tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp white wine vinegar
- 1 cup neutral oil (canola or grapeseed)

### SANDWICH

- 20 raw shrimp
- 1 Tbsp chives, finely chopped
- 1 shallot, finely chopped
- ¼ cup homemade mayo
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Lettuce
- Buns

## DIRECTIONS

### HOMEMADE MAYO

In a food processor or blender combine egg, Dijon mustard and vinegar. Pulse to combine while slowly adding oil until mayo is thick and emulsified.

### SANDWICH

Steam shrimp for 5 minutes or until cooked through. Cut into small chunks.

Combine shrimp, chives, shallot and mayo and mix. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

To assemble, slice open buns and toast in a pan over medium-high heat.

Add filling and lettuce to the bun. Enjoy! **OH**



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