



Teri Venner, owner; Beverley Dixon, associate; Wendy Davis, interior designer/associate; Wendy Burnett, manager; Lynn Goode, associate; Jenn Hnatko, interior designer/associate.



LAKE SIDE and LOVING IT

STORY **ANNETTE MCLEOD**
PHOTOGRAPHY **STEPHANIE BROWN**

THE PLACE: Luke's For Home has been a staple on Port Perry's Queen Street since 1976 when then-owners Wayne and Carolyn Luke first began adorning the space with treasures found through their antique-picking hobby. Teri Venner, who had been buying for and managing the store for several years prior, bought the store with her husband Ron in 2005. It has become one of the town's signature spots, known for its country store atmosphere and wide variety of goods from greeting cards to sofas. "Luke's is a friendly, casual shopping experience," Teri says. "Our staff allow people to go at an unhurried pace with no pressure, checking in just to make sure customers are taken care of and to offer assistance." It's a wonderful place to browse, with samples to nibble, cookbooks to peruse, staff designers to consult and gorgeous vignettes staged to offer an abundance of ideas for your own space.

THE STYLE: "Our style is eclectic and cottagey with hits of drama here and there," Teri says. "We pride ourselves on finding whatever you're looking for. We have a request book, and (store manager) Wendy and I love searching for that certain something our clients have been trying to find, whether at shows or in showrooms." From hilarious cottage signs to gold, spikey, decorative orbs for the walls, there's something for every taste and season; the staff put together a charming cottage room in the summer that becomes a cosy lodge in the fall and winter.

WHAT'S HOT: "The latest trend we've embraced is definitely Urban Farmhouse," Teri says. "Tin pendant lights, large 'farm fresh' signs, metal and wood stools, industrial wall units like the new X-frame shelf, all add a touch of 'fixer-upper' to any décor. We work with cottages from Stony Lake to Lake of Bays. There's no more wood panelling and plump, brown furniture – it's white and fresh, light and airy." Teri says Ruff Sawn custom maple furniture has proven a huge hit with clients seeking Canadian-made large-scale pieces.

FAVOURITES: They include touches of texture, like driftwood tables, and interesting wall art that go beyond traditional paintings, including a pair of whimsical flying pigs. "If it's different, we're interested, and so are our clients!" Teri says. They're also excited about a new line of cheese trays, wine racks and candle holders made from wine casks in Niagara and stained with wine and bourbon. "They make unique gifts and are excitingly different," she says.

WHERE: 207 Queen St., Port Perry
905.985.3011 | lukesforhome.com **OH**

