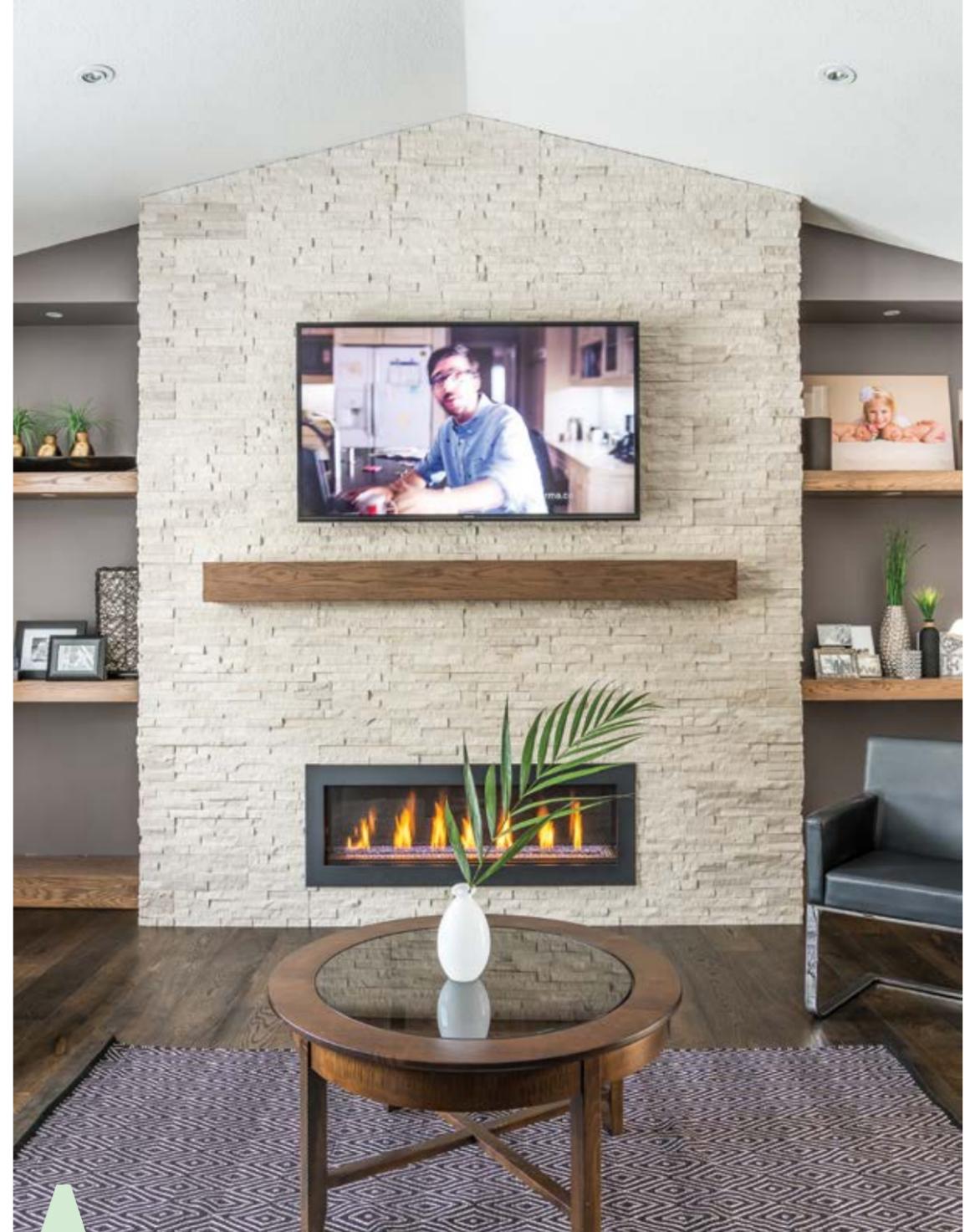




STRONG Roots

STORY JENNIFER MCGUIRE | PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY | STAGING HOUSE RULES DESIGN SHOP

Most of us had a little picture in our heads as children, of what our someday, grown-up life might look like. The job we might have, the person we might marry, the children we might raise.



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And somehow, that picture gets forgotten a little over time. Life, financial responsibilities, styles... everything can change if you're not careful.

But Julie and Jeff Holland have been careful.

When this young couple from Durham decided to build a home along the Saugeen River, they took children into consideration. Not just their own three little ones, but even, on some level, the children they had once been. When Jeff was a child, he had always pictured himself living on the water. "With big windows, so that when people walked in the front door, the first thing they would see would be the water," he says. And thanks to **Candue Homes** (as well as a real dedication to the vision he and wife Julie shared), that picture became a reality. *Continued on page 38*

➤ A natural focal point in the gathering area is the sleek modern fireplace set in floor-to-ceiling stacked stone with a mid-tone stained timber mantel. The light stone is accentuated by Benjamin Moore's Arctic Seal (CSP-15), the darker accent colour that flanks both sides. The symmetrical floating timber shelves are highlighted by the integrated pot lighting by **Dingwall Electric**.

➤ The large window displays a view to the expansive backyard and the river beyond. Sofa, chairs and tables are sourced from **House Rules Design Shop**.



« A classic white U-shaped kitchen and large island (Barzotti Woodworking Ltd.) was thoughtfully designed with functionality top of mind. Beautiful and subtle quartz countertops from **The Old Barn** and simple white subway tile complete the timeless aesthetic.

Stepping in the front door of their newly constructed home feels like walking into a spa getaway. The soothing, calm grey walls and floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace (House Rules Design Shop) give the impression of artless ease and welcome; as though the Holland family is always waiting for family to drop in with a smile, a hug and a cup of tea. Which is exactly what Julie had in mind when she and Jeff chose to build on the river where she grew up, a hometown girl from Durham.

The two met in Jeff's hometown of Ottawa in their 20s, living there for the first six years of their relationship. Once they decided to settle down and have a family, their thoughts turned to the Grey-Bruce area, where, as Jeff notes, "everyone is always nice, always genuinely happy to see you. A quick trip to the bank feels like a social outing."

The couple built their first home in Hanover, and discovered they loved the process of working with a builder to individualize their space. But that first home didn't feel like a perfect fit. Jeff lovingly called their first experience with building a home themselves a "guinea pig" project, and admits, "we had no idea what we were doing, but we learned a lot."

When the Hollands, who have three children under six, decided to buy a piece of property along the winding Saugeen River in 2015, their first experience building provided a lot of information about what they wanted in a forever home. *Continued on page 40*

« Homeowners Julie and Jeff Holland at their kitchen island – the definite hub of their open-concept, main-level living space.

» Wide plank hardwood flooring from Twelve Oaks Flooring extends throughout much of the main level living space, which contributes to the open and spacious feeling. A convenient entrance off the kitchen leads to the screened-in porch and deck at the back of the house for easy access to the grill, entertaining and watching the kids as they play.





« A fun and playful child's room offers the space for imaginations to flourish. Window coverings from **Cuneo Interiors Carpet One Floor & Home** provide privacy and the ability to darken the room during afternoon naptime.

They bought the land from **Don Tremble**, owner of Candue Homes. As they moved towards beginning construction the following spring, the couple worked closely with Don and the design firm he recommended to the couple, Darryl Regimbal of DR Designs, to customize their bungalow. Jeff says they must have revised their plans at least 13 times with Darryl and Don, but the end result was worth it. Both Julie and Jeff had their own vision of what was important to them. Julie wanted all four bedrooms on one side of the house so their kids could be close. Jeff was wise enough to have piping installed in the basement for a future wet bar "when the kids are older and we get to be grown-ups again," as Julie points out. Those two visions were executed in perfect harmony.

While Jeff's favourite room is the hyper-functional eat-in kitchen, designed with Julie's big extended family in mind, Julie, a stay-at-home mom, appreciates having a full service laundry room not only on the main floor, but just outside her bedroom.

The well-designed mudroom contains the mess and chaos. Separate hooks, shelving, and cubby holes for all members of the family blend form and function in a way only busy parents can truly appreciate. *Continued on page 44*

« The kids' bathroom was designed with the future in mind as a pocket door separates the bathing and toiletry area from the double vanity wash-up space – so everyone can get ready at once.

» The Holland's have their fair share of laundry in a house with three young children. A main floor laundry is conveniently located between all four main level bedrooms. Built-in cabinetry provides ample storage for extra towels and linens.



« The principal suite is flooded in natural light and has a lovely view to the river. Benjamin Moore's Cement Gray (2112-60) creates a soothing and welcoming retreat.

» The Hollands turned to Heather Smilie of House Rules Design Shop for assistance selecting a complementary scheme for the tiles in the large glass shower in the en suite. Sleek chrome fixtures and hardware complete the look and accent the double basin grey vanity.



feature

Hopkins Trim and Carpentry installed the trim throughout the home and also created this custom built-in unit to contain the necessary seasonal wear that accompanies life in Canada. The mudroom is located just inside the garage, and so, whether coming or going, family members can quickly and easily stay organized with these individualized cubby units.



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« The screened-in porch by **Wilson Solutions** is the perfect blend of indoor and outdoor living. Protected from the rain, the bugs and the beating sun, this room is a welcome extension to the Hollands' home and is complete with ceiling fan and potlights. Whether entertaining family and friends or simply enjoying the view on a quiet summer evening at home, this room is bound to see plenty of use in the years to come.

⤴ A subtle and classic grey stone from **Shouldice Designer Stone** (installed by **Bross Masonry**) is accented by black windows and doors from Golden Windows. The crisp, linear architectural details are softened by landscaping and plantings by **RWC Landscape Design**.

The beauty of the Hollands' home? It's not meant to be a showpiece. It's meant to be the sort of home their children will grow up in. A home where their family will always visit, whether to have a chat around the centre island in the kitchen, or watch the sunset on the screened-in patio overlooking the river.

When Jeff and Julie were working on their plans for their home, really considering what they wanted, it all came down to this: they wanted a place where their children would be comfortable for years to come. Where family and friends would always feel welcome to come sit and watch the river any season of the year.

They both got the home they wanted as kids. What more can you ask for? **OH**

LOCAL SOURCE GUIDE

- Bross Masonry • Candue Homes • Clayton Brophy Painting
- Cuneo Interiors Carpet One Floor & Home • D.C. Overhead Doors Inc. • Dingwall Electric • Dennis Lorenz Roofing • Gary Voisin Flooring • Hopkins Trim & Carpentry • House Rules Design Shop • JT Excavating Inc. • Pratt Plumbing & Heating
- RWC Landscape Design • Shouldice Designer Stone • The Old Barn • Wilson Solutions

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