



The Palileo's open concept kitchen and dining area in soft warm tones provides a lovely gathering space for the small family. An oversized island doubles as additional seating and as a spacious food prep area. **OPPOSITE LEFT:** Custom cabinetry from Van Dolder's Kitchen and Bath showcases the couple's crystal and stemware in glass cabinets alongside ample storage. **CENTRE TOP:** LEEANNE and builder Dan Burrows discuss the home's plans. **CENTRE BOTTOM:** An adorable snowman adorns the sweeping front garden on a blustery Bruce County winter's day. **RIGHT:** Visible from both the lower and upper floors, the foyer welcomes guests into the home. The expansive window is the perfect size for the couple's large Christmas wreath.

GOING COUNTRY & LOVING IT

BY JIM FOX // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

DEVIN AND LEEANNE PALILEO are excited to begin their new family life in a customized home built in a scenic country setting. Off Highway 6, past the charming Wayside Chapel north of Owen Sound, they've discovered peace and contentment in the midst of a beautiful maple forest.

For Devin, who grew up in Brampton, and LEEANNE, whose previous home was located in Owen Sound, the couple's new country getaway is a welcome change from the hustle and bustle of the city.

Holding her bright-eyed infant, Summer Anne, LEEANNE smiles as she describes the thrill of country living. "I just love the quiet. I love listening to the wind in the trees. I love the sound of crickets when I fall asleep. It's so nice to fall asleep to the sound of tree frogs rather than the sound of a neighbour's dog barking or the hum of a highway nearby."

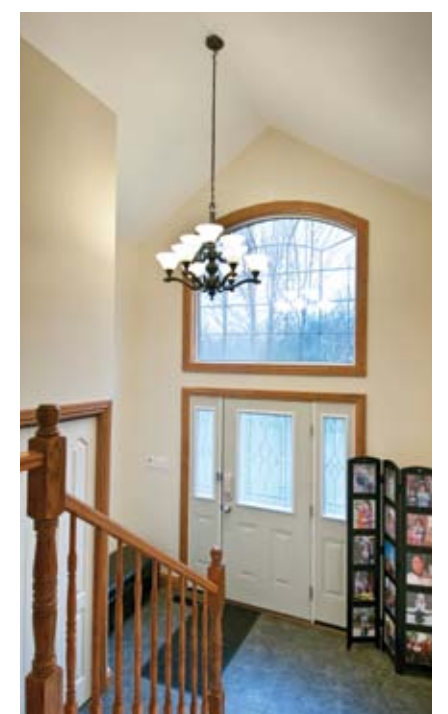
It helps that LEEANNE grew up in the area. "I grew up here and I love it," she says. "You can cross-country ski in the winter and bike in the summer."

The Palileos' love of the outdoors is reflected in the interior colour palette and wood finishings of their custom-built home. From the modern oak kitchen cabinetry to the natural bamboo flooring and earthy wall shades, their home conveys a warm, inviting ambience.

The best part: all these natural tones are bathed in natural light, which floods the main floor from ample glazing. The melding of home and nature begins at the entranceway with its cathedral ceiling illuminated by the large window above the main foyer. Nature is truly a constant guest in the Palileos' home.

To help the family realize its dream of country living the Palileos enlisted the help of family friends in the construction business. LEEANNE's father, who lives on the property next door, has known the firm of **Ken Burrows & Son** for years. **Dan Burrows**, who has taken on the family contracting business, is a carpenter by trade with years of experience as a builder.

Dan's approach to home construction is a co-operative one. He acknowledges that homeowners have to be economical and build to a budget, which he is happy to do. *Continued on page 36*





TOP LEFT: The sunken living room showcases the couple's passion for music in a central location for entertaining guests and each other. **TOP RIGHT:** A solid wood banister separates the kitchen and living space without sacrificing the open concept design of the home. **RIGHT:** The kitchen island is equipped with a sizable overhang to accommodate extra guests during parties and also works as a breakfast and snacking area.

This worked well for the Palileos because, along with the couple's desire for a country aesthetic, their approach to construction was a practical one. In the building phase, the Palileos, like most homeowners, were budget conscious. Working with Burrows allowed them to have Leeanne's father and uncle complete much of the finishing work once the framing and drywall were complete.

Dan Burrows smiles as he shares his thoughts on building. "I love the challenge of a new build. I enjoy working with customers to create an overall design of what they want in a home. I've worked with set plans as well as different architects to come up with a final result that everyone's happy with. Sometimes people bring me a picture or a drawing and we go from there."



Dan continues, "I work from the ground up, making sure the building suits the particular property. I have a reliable team of local trades people that I've worked with for years so the work gets done efficiently and well. Along with my wife we have seven full-time employees. I guess you could truly call us a family business."

Leeanne adds, "Dan is very detail-orientated. Because of his extensive experience he sees things others might miss. He suggested changes to the initial design like the relocation of the steps to the sunken living area that we're very happy with. It allows for a much better flow for people traffic."

The Palileos also changed the kitchen layout. Its original footprint was an L-shaped space. This change allows for more open access to both the dining room and the living area. It suits the homeowners' lifestyle because they often have relatives stay over and the kitchen becomes a focal point for large social gatherings.

Van Dolder's Kitchen and Bath of Owen Sound completed the kitchen. Open to the large dining area and the sunken living room, the food preparation space is anchored by a spacious island with a breakfast bar that provides a comfortable social setting for guests.

Continued on page 38

TOP LEFT: The cosy home theatre on the lower level has been claimed by Devin as a "spousal avoidance area," however the children's toys and Disney artwork tell the true tale of this family space. **TOP RIGHT:** The bar area, complete with John Deere leather stools, full fridge and popcorn machine, is a great gathering spot. **LEFT:** The second upstairs bathroom is fully equipped with bath and shower and features modern colours and a stylish mirror.

home & builder

Down the hall from the main gathering space, opposite the nursery and guest bedroom, is the large master bedroom with a custom en suite bath in natural colours. Sliding doors on the southern exposure open onto a private deck, which looks out on a tranquil stand of maples.

Leeanne Palileo treasures her private outdoor space. “I love the quiet of the deck. I often sit out here and read in the stillness of nature.”

Other custom touches Leeanne enjoys about her new home are the nine-foot ceilings in the basement, which allow more room for overhead ductwork and make for an airy living space.

Devin’s favourite downstairs room is the custom home theatre with surround sound, which, like the rest of the home he wired himself. It also doubles as a video gaming room when younger relatives come to visit.

In keeping with the homeowners’ eye for practicality, the lower floor is equipped with a large walk-in closet for outdoor clothing and easy access to the spacious garage.

So, whether relaxing in the midst of nature on their private deck or kicking back in their custom home cinema, the Palileos can thank family friend Dan Burrows for creating an affordable country home for their young family to enjoy. **OH**



The master bedroom, with its private deck, is a quiet sanctuary for the couple to reconnect after a long day working and raising their daughter. **BELOW:** This spacious en suite in calming green adjoins the master bedroom. **BELOW LEFT:** One of the most delightful features of the home, the nursery, offers bright colours and adorable characters in a comfortable and calming setting.



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