



# Leading by Example

STORY **ADRIENNE BROWN**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**  
FLOWERS **HIWAY FLOWERS**

When people are building new homes, they often look to examples of other new builds or renovations to see what works and what doesn't. That's why **Jeremy** and **Christine Weber** are willing to try new things every time they renovate a home – which is often.

*Continued on page 38*

**LEFT:** A barnboard wall in the living room sets the tone in this modern rustic home in Elmira. **ABOVE:** The masterminds behind the home, owners Jeremy and Christine Weber.





Jeremy's father, Robert, founded **RMW Exteriors Inc.** in Elmira 30 years ago. The company has grown since then and is now an industry-leading provider of siding, windows and doors, as well as larger projects: from exterior home remodelling to custom home building.

Always up for trying new things so he can speak confidently about them to his customers, Jeremy's own home projects often end up testing new styles, approaches or systems. This one is no different.

The Webers bought this Elmira home in 2014 and immediately started their renovations. First, they stripped the entire home down to "nothing" and updated all the heating, electrical and plumbing. "We literally tore the whole roof off," says Jeremy.

They built an addition in 2015 and installed a **Smart Home Comfort** home automation

**TOP:** The open kitchen-dining space walks out to the covered back deck. **TOP RIGHT:** This chalkboard keeps track of the family's day-to-day to-dos, or is used for favourite quotes, lyrics and reminders. **RIGHT:** Jeremy and Christine designed this kitchen with functionality for a family as top priority. **OPPOSITE, TOP:** Christine has a passion for home design and décor, which is immediately evident. **BOTTOM:** Curb appeal to the max: Jeremy completely redid the home's exterior to bring it up to current style.



system, something they hadn't yet tried in a home – and they're very happy with it, so they now feel comfortable recommending it to clients. Originally about 1,450 square feet, the Webers added another 1,500 square feet, plus an 1,100 sq. ft. garage, basically tripling the footprint of the home. Their new garage has an extra door at the back of the house, so they have a convenient pass-through. This was something they had done in a previous renovation and loved.

RMW Exteriors Inc. replaced all the windows, doors, siding, timbers and basically everything on the outside of the home, save for

the landscaping, which Jeremy trusted to the very capable hands at **St. Jacobs Country Gardens & Landscape Nursery**. Nearby **Rainmaker Landscape Sprinkler Systems** installed sprinklers to keep everything healthy and green and **Horizon Coatings** finished the wood for the home's exterior.

Christine and Jeremy say they make a great pair when it comes to completing a home: he takes care of all of the exterior work and she covers all of the interior decorating. "Christine should definitely open a decorating business!" Jeremy says. *Continued on page 40*





home & builder

**BELOW LEFT:** Tucked in the back of the basement, the Webers incorporated an extensive home gym. **BELOW RIGHT:** Games galore! This basement was made for entertaining and parties, from the games tables and televisions to the rustic bar. **BOTTOM LEFT:** This sweet girl's bedroom has built-in storage and just the right amount of frill. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The same neutral scheme decorated differently makes this bedroom in the kids' wing work for a young boy.

In terms of layout and plan, it's a joint effort between RMW Exteriors, **Craig Frede Design** and **RPM Construction Ltd.**, says Jeremy. He drew up the concept he had in mind for the home and then the team sat together to tweak what he'd come up with to bring it to where it is today.

"We were trying to do things to be able to show customers what could be done," says Jeremy. "It's not necessarily the perfect house, but it's practical and it was designed with family in mind."

One side of the home consists of two separate areas: the kids' wing – bedrooms and a bathroom down a hallway with its own door that can be closed off – and a 930 sq. ft. master suite, which includes the laundry room, a music space, bedroom, en suite plus dressing and closet space, all closed off by sliding barn doors.

"From a design point of view, I think a lot of people want to be able to do that," says Jeremy of the closed-off kids' wing.

The beautiful en suite also has a first: a steam shower. "I recommend



that to every customer now, if they like hot tubs or saunas," says Jeremy. "Especially when you pair it with the heated floor and the bench!" adds Christine. They sourced the glass for the shower and their mirrors from **St. Jacobs Glass Systems Inc.**

**Dave Scholten Flooring** installed new carpets and tile flooring across the home. **French's Drywall** put up new walls.

A calm, rustic style continues throughout the whole home. "We tried to keep that modern feeling with a touch of rustic," says Christine, who picked a number of furniture pieces from **Snider Brothers Furniture** (now **Chervin Furniture and Mattress**) in Elmira.

The main living area is very open-concept, with the kitchen, dining area and family room all in one space. They are separated into distinct zones, thanks to Christine's flair for décor, and the dining room walks out to the back deck, which is an equally fantastic entertaining space. Not only does the covered porch area have an outdoor kitchen with built-in barbecue, but it also features a large hot tub, which has its own convenient entrance from the master suite.

"This home was designed to please everyone and give that home feeling," says Christine. "It's so comfortable and it really feels like a home."

*Continued on page 42*



**TOP LEFT:** A casual conversation set, fireplace and TV combine for an easygoing space between the games room and kids' play space. **RIGHT:** An outdoor kitchen with all the bells and whistles means the homeowners can eat and entertain al fresco all summer long. **ABOVE:** This hot tub can be accessed from the main back doors off the kitchen, as well as the master suite.





**ABOVE:** The master walk-in closet is tucked behind the bed, with access from either side. **LEFT:** Christine and Jeremy both play piano, so it was important to incorporate their baby grand in a prominent space in their home. **BOTTOM:** A soaker tub is the centrepiece in the master bath. It's flanked by his-and-hers sinks.

RPM Construction built and installed the kitchen cabinets and the countertops, which were sourced through **Stonex Granite & Quartz Inc.** The new appliances were purchased from **KW Appliance Plus** and Christine picked most of her light fixtures at **The Lighting Shoppe.**

In the basement, the couple built an 800 sq. ft. home gym. It is complemented by a large games room complete with a wet bar and a rec area for toys, games and television.

Jeremy knew exactly who he wanted to help with the technical and functional aspects of finishing off his home. He called on **Grand River Insulation**, electrician **Cody Gleeson** of **Gleeson Electric Inc.**, **Richmond Heating and Air** and **Kastl & Zuch Plumbing & Heating Ltd.** for their expertise.

However, the Webers are moving on to another project now. Building and renovating is their passion and they're always trying new things. "We would like to do something in French-country style," they say. They've previously tried their hand at Cape Cod style with some modern flair, and this home is definitely more rustic. They're up for trying something different once more! **OH**





**Summer is For Sangria**  
So Why Are You Cleaning?

Give yourself the week off and let us take care of your house cleaning.

BOOK REGULAR SERVICE TODAY AND  
**SAVE \$100\***

**519-836-3330**  
**merrymaidsguelph.ca**

\*Save up to \$20 on each of your first 5 regular house cleanings. Some conditions may apply. Contact Merry Maids of Guelph for full details.



**Stonex**  
GRANITE & QUARTZ INC.



<b>WOODSTOCK</b> 226.289.2975 980 Juliana Dr. N4B 1B9	<b>CAMBRIDGE</b> 519.249.1900 650 Jamieson Pkwy N3C 0A5	<b>STONEY CREEK</b> 905.643.9982 791 South Service Rd. L8E 5Z2
--	--	---

**WWW.STONEX.CA**



**RPM**  
CONSTRUCTION LTD.

**519.669.1217**  
22 Second Street, Elmira ON



We Offer You Complete Customer Satisfaction.  
We Demand Attention To Detail, Constructing Your Project With Dedication,  
Quality, Honesty & First Class Workmanship.

RENOVATIONS • ADDITIONS • KITCHENS • BATHROOMS • DECKS • WINDOWS • DOORS • GARAGES • COTTAGES • CUSTOM HOMES

**rpmconstructionltd@yahoo.com | www.rpmconstructionltd.com**