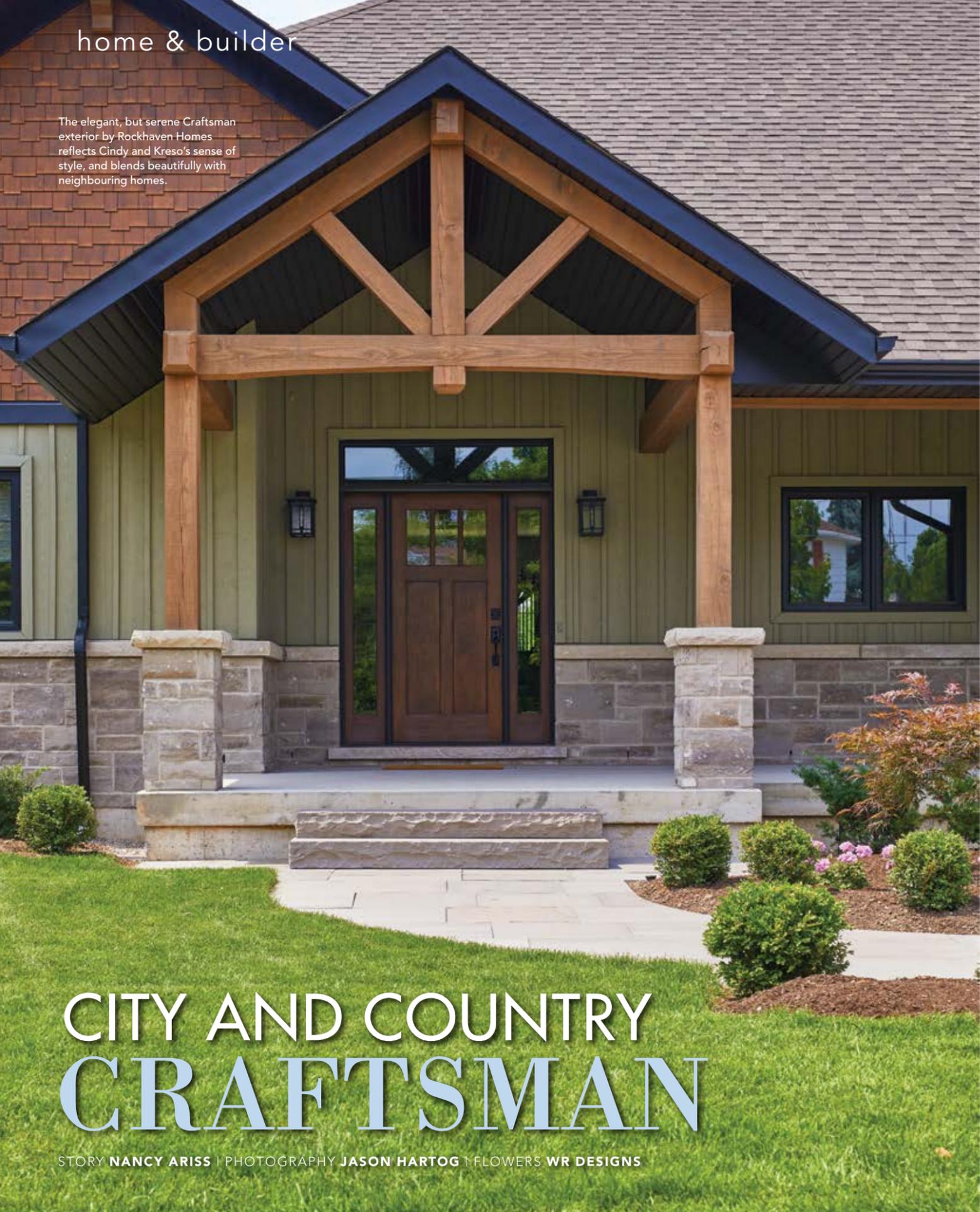


The elegant, but serene Craftsman exterior by Rockhaven Homes reflects Cindy and Kreso's sense of style, and blends beautifully with neighbouring homes.



CITY AND COUNTRY CRAFTSMAN

STORY NANCY ARISS | PHOTOGRAPHY JASON HARTOG | FLOWERS WR DESIGNS



Cindy and Kreso, avid cyclists, biked through the streets of Halton Hills, searching for the right property for their new home. They envisioned a location with the convenience of the city balanced with the tranquility of the countryside. They were on a daily ride when they found exactly what they were looking for.

In fact, they admired the design of two homes on one street, set on the top of a ravine. They found out that **Rockhaven Homes** had built both. Soon afterwards, they had their first meeting with the owners of the company, **Albert** and **Jesse Grin**. Everything was coming together.

Cindy says the property posed challenges that would have been far more daunting without Rockhaven's expertise. They removed a decrepit 1950s bungalow and had to secure many permits and approvals from the Credit Valley Conservation Authority before building could start. Some of those approvals even dictated the boundaries of the stunning landscape design (**Christopher Campbell Landscape Architects**).

Continued on page 91



TOP: Spectacular landscaping designed by Christopher Campbell Landscape Architects artfully mixes boulders, rocks and plantings with staggered stone stairways leading to the upper deck and lower stone patio, which the owners refer to as "the dance floor." **ABOVE:** Homeowner Cindy relaxes in the living room gazing at the treetop views through a stunning floor-to-ceiling wall of windows.

“This house is really easy to live in,” Cindy says, “we love our home and plan to stay here.”



ABOVE: A spacious foyer with a handy wooden bench for donning or removing sports shoes is practical and welcoming. **BELOW:** Cindy chose a neutral palette for the living room to let the outdoor views play the starring role. **OPPOSITE:** A glass coffee table with gold detailing brings out the sheen in the living room artwork and sectional sofa.

Cindy wanted a subtle but elegant footprint for their home that blended with other homes in the neighbourhood. She got that with the simple lines of the Craftsman exterior that combines stone, brick and board and batten.

Inside, an expansive foyer opens onto an open-concept kitchen/dining room and a great room with floor-to-ceiling windows by Dashwood Windows & Doors that offer show-stopping views of the ravine from the tops of the trees. Cindy says they see lots of wildlife – deer, coyotes, squirrels and birds.

Cindy's taste in décor is simple and elegant. She chose a classic grey, white and black colour scheme that wouldn't detract from the view from the windows – a park-like setting in the middle of the city. It is calm and serene.

The home is both beautiful and functional. There is a very active family that comes and goes. A long wooden bench with ample space to comfortably slip into your shoes for daily cycling trips is right at the front door. A three-piece bathroom and home office completes the main floor. *Continued on page 92*





A large open dining area divides the open concept kitchen/living/dining area. **ABOVE:** Dark cabinetry from AyA Kitchens contrasts against a white subway tile backsplash. Open shelving adds warmth. **BELOW RIGHT:** Cindy is still hunting for artwork but says her philosophy is that "art should be fun!"



To the left of the dining area is the great room where the family likes to play board games, read books or just hang out by the glowing light of the fireplace from **Bast Home Comfort**. The hardwood flooring was supplied by **Carpet Barn**. It is a cohesive anchor to the open space and helps to bring the outside in. High, vaulted ceilings create drama in the room and accentuate the luscious vista.

Cindy enjoys preparing dinners and entertaining in the kitchen area while still being able to chat with guests in the great room and dining area. A large working island is surrounded by spacious kitchen cabinets from **AyA Kitchens** along with a walk-in pantry.

Light fixtures by **Watts Current** fit perfectly with the home's style, and hardware by **Northfield Trim and Door Inc.** adds a modern black finish. The entryway to the three-vehicle garage, powder and laundry rooms are located just off the kitchen. It was a necessity to have a vast garage space to accommodate Kreso's business. Designer **Rob Vanderwoerd** of **Vanderwoerd Drafting and Design** managed to discretely add this space without detracting from the home's charm.

The stairway leading up to the loft master bedroom and lower level was installed by **Stairworks**. Cindy explains that the stairway is wider than a standard staircase, so they can carry bikes up from the basement with ease. She adds that this is an example of how



Showstopping views of the verdant hillside are the focal point from all rooms in the house. **ABOVE:** The handsome oak and wrought-iron staircase by Stairworks leads to the loft master suite upstairs and the lower floor walkout downstairs. The stairs are wider than standard to make it easy to manoeuvre bikes.

Rockhaven advised regarding considerations they wouldn't otherwise have thought of.

The master bedroom has his-and-her closet space on either side of the spacious room with a stunning view of the back gardens. After rugged days of cycling, the couple enjoy the luxury of an oversize shower in their en suite. The granite countertops by **Stone Innovation Inc.** and gleaming tiles by **Ceramic Decor** complete the soothing spa-like space.

Two more bedrooms divided by a lounging space are found in the basement, which has a spectacular walkout to the gardens. A daughter lives at home and Cindy jokes that "she may never leave." Understandable, as there's all she'll ever want or need in that space - her spacious bedroom, a comfy sitting area and a pretty bathroom. *Continued on page 96*



A minimalist range hood, oversize cabinet pulls and a sliding barn door make this kitchen a standout.

Paragon KITCHENS

We are kitchen obsessed!

paragonkitchens.com

MIRALIS



Custom residence in Caledon.


Rockhaven
Homes

CUSTOM ~ CREATIVE ~ CARING

Come visit us at
WWW.ROCKHAVENHOMES.CA

📞 905.873.1582 ✉️ Albert@RockhavenHomes.ca



ABOVE: The spa-like master en suite is a soothing retreat after a long bike ride. **TOP RIGHT:** A window in the main floor laundry room makes weekly chores a little brighter. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The charming master bedroom is a serene and subtle space.

“This house is really easy to live in,” Cindy says. “The Rockhaven team were friendly, courteous, knowledgeable and attentive. Our home was finished on time and on budget. In fact, it finished two days early! Albert knows the rules and the people. We were so relieved that he shepherded us seamlessly through the processes. We love our home and plan to stay here.”

Rockhaven has equally positive things to

say about these special clients. Albert credits Cindy and Kreso’s strong decision-making ability as one of the strengths that helped them get the house built on time.

The synergy between client and builder resulted in the perfect home for Cindy and Kreso. They moved into their new home in November of last year and now enjoy the convenience of the city and the tranquility of a country-like setting. **OH**

**OVER
2 MILLION
SQ. FT. OF IN-STOCK
FLOORING BARGAINS**

*Prices So Low,
Just take it and Go!*

**U-\$AVE WHOLESALE
FLOORING**

1248 VICTORIA ST. N, KITCHENER
519-585-1500
www.usaveflooring.ca

STAIRWORKS
MANUFACTURERS OF INTERIOR WOODEN STAIRS & RAILINGS

Bespoke Stairs,
Railings, & Wood
Specialties

- Excellence in Quality & Service
- Award Winning Unique Designs
- Onsite Estimates

“Aiding the World in their Ups and Downs”

519.823.1921
295 Southgate Dr. Unit #8, Guelph, Ontario
www.stairworks.ca

IT'S NOT
HOW MUCH
SPACE YOU
HAVE, IT'S
HOW YOU
USE IT.

TALK TO A
PROFESSIONAL

SUSAN TAYLOR
ARIDO IDC NCIDQ CERTIFIED
1 416 709 4725
SUSAN@SUSANTAYLORDESIGN.COM

SUSAN TAYLOR INTERIOR DESIGN

Enhance Your Exterior Décor & Comfort with
SHADE PLUS

Awnings • Patio Covers • Drop Shades • Railings

SHADE PLUS
519-846-2509

We offer many options for shade including patio covers & enclosures so you can enjoy your outdoor living space. We install top quality retractable awnings which you can add a motor, wind sensor or drop shade. We offer a lifetime warranty on all installations.

www.shadeplus.ca