

RENO- GREAT

Sometimes a refresh is all that's needed to give a home a new lease on life. And sometimes nothing but a full-scale renovation will do. In the case of these homeowners, the time had come for option two.



STORY **NANCY BELGUE** | PHOTOGRAPHY **MAX WEDGE**



Enter designer **Richard Pursel** from **Lionheart Collection**, **Jerry Kavanaugh** of **Architectural Design Associates** and **Gino Piccioni** of **Timberland Homes** – the team of meticulous professionals charged with the task of creating a new look for this beloved family home.

A close friend, Richard had worked with these homeowners often over the years to help create the warm yet stylish environment these generous-hearted people wanted for their growing family. This time, though, it was a different story. “Walls were coming down, windows were being moved, ceilings were being raised,” Richard recalls. “This time we were going structural.” *Continued on page 30*

ABOVE: The beautiful grey-washed hardwood flooring throughout the home is by Rose City Tile. Note the porcelain tile and brass inlay at the stair landing.

LEFT: Designer Richard Pursel of Lionheart Collection.

OPPOSITE: The limestone fireplace in the great room was original, but reinvented with aged brass sconces and a fireplace by Forest Glade Fireplaces.



THE RHINO HEAD SCULPTURE MAKES A HUGE STATEMENT AND IS AN UNEXPECTED FOCAL POINT.

home & designer

The lighting fixtures throughout the home are exquisitely designed as well as energy efficient. The interlocking circle pattern is a design detail that is repeated throughout the home.



Situated in a perfect riverside location, the home was built in 2004 and although it had served the family well, lifestyles and tastes change. As Richard's design took shape, opening up and reconfiguring the main floor assumed a prominent part in the couple's goals. The final floor plan took a figurative and literal sledgehammer to the back wall. The door to the new covered patio was relocated, a double-sided fireplace was added and the kitchen was completely redesigned

with two functional islands and tons of storage space. New windows were installed to maximize the all-important water view while the wall between the family room and great room was removed to create the desired open-concept floor plan. When all was said and done the new space was bright, airy and completely reinvented.

The new contemporary feel cried out for the décor to be reimagined as well. Richard and the homeowners came up with a look that

is "sophisticated comfort" – subtle shades of warm grey, cream and white embellished with metallic, organic and touches of glimmer for interest and originality.

The magic starts in the double-height foyer, which has a dramatic barrel ceiling complete with trompe l'oeil plaster relief work. The iron, twig-inspired chandelier lends a wonderful organic touch to the space while painted panelling and custom millwork completely transform the original entrance.

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ABOVE: The kitchen by Cremasco Fine Cabinetry is the focal point of the home. Quartz countertops are from Roma Tile. Appliances are from Reis Appliance Ltd. Faucets are from EMCO Windsor. **TOP RIGHT:** Richard chose brass accents to give both warmth and style to the reinvented kitchen. **RIGHT:** The seating area, with furniture from Lionheart, is a perfect spot for reading and whiling away an afternoon.



ABOVE: Spring florals bring light and life to a room. **RIGHT:** Custom millwork, wainscoting and panelling throughout the home gives the space a sense of strength and structure. **BELOW:** The brass screen was a clever way to create the feeling of an open concept while maintaining a slightly formal division of space.



The dining room is used more than ever before now that it no longer feels cut off from the rest of the house. Farrow & Ball paint, unique cabinet hardware, polished wood and porcelain details culminate to create a spectacular room. **RIGHT:** Seating is elegant and airy.



In the living room, the couple's existing sofas were repurposed and reupholstered with down-filled cushions in Belgian linen. To achieve a restful symmetry, Richard bracketed each sofa with oversize console tables and added a honed-marble coffee table to draw attention to the towering limestone fireplace. The simplicity of the design as well as the understated elegance of the materials conspires to give the room a welcoming formality.

The multipurpose family room is where the family spends most of its time. The fireplace, television, built-in storage, sink-in soft sectional and chairs provide total comfort for sophisticated open-plan living.

Originally, the dining room was a formal room that was somewhat isolated from the rest of the home. To make the room more open and

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LEFT: The formal gardens are spectacular. **BELOW:** The elegant outdoor patio furniture is also from Lionheart. **OPPOSITE, TOP:** The rear of the home showcases the magnitude of the new design. New windows and doors (Loewen Windows) flood the home with light and maximize the spectacular water views. **BOTTOM:** The pool overlooks the water. It is the perfect place for a warm afternoon.

inviting, yet maintain a sense of separation, Richard devised an ingenious solution. A hall wall was replaced with a custom metal interlocking circle pattern “screen” that is actually a 700-pound art installation. Painted panelling, custom built-in china storage, a walnut table and silk drapery all come together to create an elegant atmosphere.

In the newly renovated kitchen, functional and beautiful double islands make meal preparation an absolute pleasure – as do the chef’s quality appliances. The custom-made antique brass range hood and exquisite lighting fixtures add interesting designer touches. The adjacent casual eating area with views out over the water is where the family gathers to enjoy time together and what waterfront living is all about. From the kitchen, a clever walk-through pantry leads to a laundry area, completing the updated functionality of this suite of rooms.

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LEFT: The master bedroom is restful and elegant. The interlocking circle motif pops up again on the headboard. **BELOW:** Shutters are a witty touch for window coverings in the master bathroom.

The homeowners recently added a much-needed lanai that capitalizes seamlessly on the newly built double-sided fireplace installed in the family room. An overhead heating unit makes the room comfortable in three seasons while custom outdoor fully-upholstered furniture conveniently remains outside all year long. The functionality and comfort of the lanai is further enhanced by the use of motorized screens, which keep the elements out and the expansive view intact.

The homeowners are in love with their new space. As for Richard, he knows that these homeowners never rest on their laurels. As pleased as they are, there is always a new design idea to excite them. “They are true design aficionados,” he says. “They are an absolute joy to work with and I cannot wait until our next collaboration.” **OH**



NOTICE THE INTERLOCKING PATTERN THAT IS ONE OF THE TOUCHSTONES OF THE OVERALL DESIGN IN THE MARBLE AND BRASS WALL DETAIL.



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