

WINTER 2013

STYLE ■ COMFORT ■ IDEAS ■ REAL ESTATE

# ourhomes

G R E Y   &   B R U C E   C O U N T I E S

## ONE WITH *nature* IN LION'S HEAD

LOCAL  
KITCHEN &  
BATH PROS

*plus*

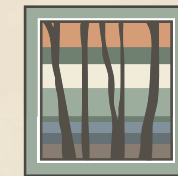
YUMMY CHOCOLATE BARK  
DESIGNER GIFT WRAPPING  
WINTER FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

COUNTRYSIDE  
HOLIDAY HOME



PHASE 3 NOW SELLING!

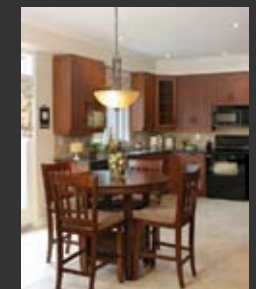
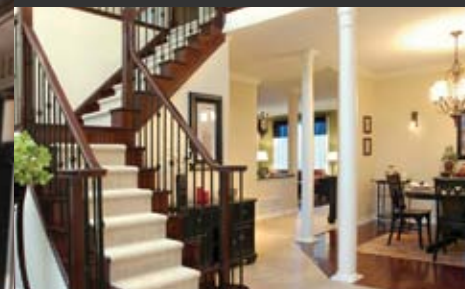
Not just a back yard...



## MOUNTAINCROFT

by Grandview Homes

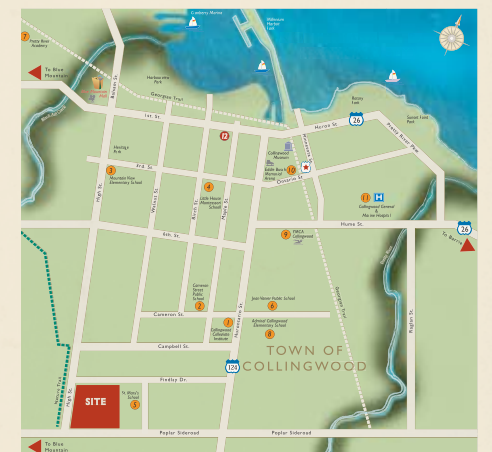
*Announcing the Grand opening of Phase III in the Mountaincroft community with a great selection of 83 crescent lots featuring all fully detached craftsman inspired homes, several backing onto greenspace.*



Grandview Homes has a long history of providing quality homes since the 1990's to families in the Collingwood, Innisfil and Barrie area. Known for customer service and a commitment to providing excellent value, Grandview Homes has a solid reputation as a quality builder. All homes come with 9' ceiling packages, oak staircase, choice of 3 exterior finishes and other great amenities... all standard. Prices start in the \$250's.



**GRANDVIEW HOMES**  
UPGRADE... TO A HIGHER STANDARD



For more information, call toll-free 1-866-775-0333 or visit [www.grandviewhomescollingwood.com](http://www.grandviewhomescollingwood.com)  
In person, come see us on the corner of Poplar Sideroad and Clark just east of High St., Collingwood.



DESIGN/BUILD LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION  
[john@rocksolidlandscapes.ca](mailto:john@rocksolidlandscapes.ca)  
**519.379.1772**  
**rocksolidlandscapes.ca**

[landscapeontario.com](http://landscapeontario.com)  
Green for Life!





*The Largest Independent Real Estate Brokerage In Grey/Bruce County*

WILFRED McINTEE & CO. LTD., Brokerage  
PO Box 929, 181 High Street, Southampton, ON N0H 2L0  
Bus: (519) 797-5500 Fax: (519) 797-3214  
www.mcintee.ca



myhomes.360photo.ca/7561

**WATERFRONT \$549,900 109 Sunset Blvd., Georgian Bluffs.** Exceptional executive 4 B.R. WATERFRONT bungalow in great location. High eff. gas furnace 2008, updated kitchen cabinetry, newer carpet & flooring. Potential for a B&B or Granny Suite.



myhomes.360photo.ca/6694

**RIVER FRONT \$559,900 620 Side Rd 18/19, Saugeen Shores.** Custom built executive home on 1.59 acres of beautiful Riverfront. Features 4 b.r., 3 baths, oak hardwood flrs, propane furnace; central air; 32'x40' shop w/heated floor. Over 3000 sq. ft.



myhomes.360photo.ca/6890

**WATERFRONT \$739,900 46 Miramichi Bay Rd., Saugeen Shores.** Beautiful executive 4 B.R. home w/ breathtaking views of Lake Huron. Hardwd flrs, 3 f/ places, formal DR, newer kitch w/dining open to lg family rm w/walkout. 2 garden sheds & Art Studio.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7560

**AFFORDABLE CONDO \$259,900 307-221 Adelaide St. S., Southampton.** Chantry Place Condominium. Near shops & sand beach; quality kitchen cabinets & s.s. appliances; granite counter tops; natural gas heat & a/c; hardwood flrs. Storage unit; sunset roof patio; fit/ social rm.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7116

**4 BEDROOM EXECUTIVE HOME \$539,900 488 Sunset Blvd., Port Elgin.** Ledge rock exterior w/encasement windows. Hardwd flr in L.R., D.R. & kitchen. Main flr master w/5 pc luxury ensuite, 2 walk-in closets, + 2 lg B.R.'s & 2 B.R.'s on 2nd flr, built-in gas f/place, landscaped gardens.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7184

**WATERFRONT BUNGALOW \$ 449,900 140 North Shore Road, Saugeen Shores.** 3 B.R. brick bungalow on landscaped lot. New shingles; w/gas fireplace; formal D.R.; large kitchen; w/patio doors to deck; 2 bathrooms; many newer windows; 4 decks; detached garage. Great value.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7381

**BUNGALOW IN FANTASTIC LOCATION \$369,900 62 Huron Street S., Southampton.** 4 B.R. home near sand beach and downtown. Family room w/gas fireplace & stone mantle; hardwood floors in living/dining room; spacious kitchen with dining area.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7406

**EXECUTIVE TOWNHOUSE VILLA \$339,900 538 Creekwood Dr., Southampton.** Executive 3 B.R. Open concept & state of the art kitchen. Master B.R. w/4pc ensuite & 2nd BR on main level. 2nd fl. has a private office. Appliances are included. Unspoiled basement.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7441

**QUIET CRES. CLOSE TO BEACH \$369,900 44 Archibald Place, Southampton.** 4 bed side split on oversized treed lot. Hardwood floors in living/dining room; renovated 5pc bath, sand point irrigation system, new natural gas furnace & central air. Many upgrades. Close to beach.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7453

**HOME ON PRIVATE OASIS \$417,900 295 Peel Street, Southampton.** 3 Bed, 3 baths, 2 storey on private oasis. Hardwood flooring. Cust. kitchen w/built-in appliances, Jenn-air range w/BBQ. Rec.rm. Fenced, landscaped backyard, w/waterfall, fire pit & award winning gardens.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7547

**DESIRED SOUTHAMPTON LOCATION \$409,900 242 Summerhill Rd., Southampton.** Quality built, 2 storey, 1700 sq. ft. home located in Southampton. 3 B.R., 2.5 bath, master has lge ensuite. Pine floors & wood fireplace on main level. Walkout from finished lower level to private rear yard.



myhomes.360photo.ca/7530

**CLOSE TO BEACH \$399,900 40-46 Beach Road, Southampton.** 2 cottages, one lot. 3 min. to sand beach & complete privacy. 2nd cottage is newly renovated - new found., flrs, kitchen, bath & walls. New deck off B.R., add. deck between cottages. Excellent location for rental.

# DO YOU DREAM IN SINGLES OR TOWNHOMES?



SUMMERSIDE  
PORT ELGIN

## MOVE IN 30 DAYS!



WELCOME TO PORT ELGIN'S PERFECT FAMILY COMMUNITY. CHOOSE YOUR DREAM – THE WINDS CONDOMINIUM TOWNHOMES WITH LUXURIOUS DESIGNS AND GOURMET EAT-IN KITCHENS OR ENERGY STAR CERTIFIED SINGLE DETACHED HOMES WITH ELEGANT ARCHITECTURE AND EXQUISITE FINISHES.

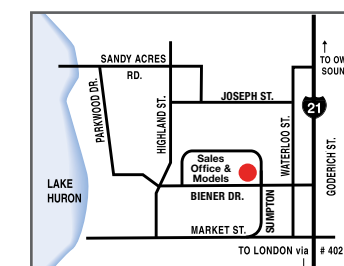
## FROM THE \$210's\*



MODEL HOME  
VALLEYVIEW  
2,513 SQ.FT.

ENERGY STAR® certified Bungalow, Raised Bungalow and Two-Storey designs built with elegant Masters and Craftsman inspired architecture, boasting an exquisite range of contemporary features and finishes.

COME AND DISCOVER A DREAM FAMILY LIFESTYLE IN SUMMERSIDE.



VISIT OUR  
SALES CENTRE  
TODAY!

**HOURS:**  
Mon – Thurs 1-6 p.m.  
Fri – Sun 12-5 p.m.  
469 Biener Drive



CAMBRIDGE | COLLINGWOOD | FERGUS | GUELPH | KITCHENER | MEAFORD | OWEN SOUND | PORT ELGIN | PUSLINCH | THORNBURY

reidsheritagehomes.com

View these properties (and others) at [www.haroldfenlon.ca](http://www.haroldfenlon.ca)

The ENERGY STAR® mark is administered and promoted in Canada by Natural Resources Canada. \*Prices and specifications subject to change without notice. See Sales Representative for more details. E.&O.E. November, 2012



Big. Small. Intricate. Simple.  
Bring us any idea and  
we'll bring it to life.

Customized fine  
woodworking by

**L-M Woodcraft**

KITCHEN | BEDROOMS | BATH  
Mount Forest Ontario 519.323.3715



*We make your dreams a reality*



672 Welham Rd, Barrie, ON | 1.855.727.0096 | [www.dipietradesign.com](http://www.dipietradesign.com)

CANADIAN OWNED AND OPERATED

**Di Pietra Design**

THE COUNTERTOP SPECIALISTS  
Custom Fabrication Slab & Tile

**More than granite countertops**

Di Pietra Design has over 25 years of experience in the stone industry. You can hand select your slabs at our warehouse and we will create your dream kitchen, bathroom and spas for you.

*Merry*  
**CHRISTMAS!**



*Little's...Come Back to Comfort*



L A Z B O Y  
ComfortStudio

*Little's* FURNITURE LTD.

183 Goderich St., PORT ELGIN, ON | 519 832 9085 | [www.littlesfurniture.ca](http://www.littlesfurniture.ca)

**49<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary  
1963 - 2012

**INVERLYN LAKE**  
ESTATES

**Active Lifestyle Community**

**Low Condo/Maintenance Fee**

- Just steps from the sandy shore of Lake Huron
- Lawn cut and driveway plowed
- Private 90 acres woodland
- 8km of trails
- Trail access to Ainsdale Golf Course
- 6,000 sq. ft. clubhouse
- Salt water pool & putting green
- 23 acre private inland lake

*Cottage Now ... Retirement Later*

**Kincardine**

**519-396-5531 | [inverlyn@bmts.com](mailto:inverlyn@bmts.com)**  
**[www.inverlynlakeestates.com](http://www.inverlynlakeestates.com)**





Driveways • Patios • Decks  
Docks • Pathways • Steps

**Broken Concrete?  
Broken Asphalt?  
WE HAVE THE SOLUTION!**



BEFORE



AFTER

**many many applications**



**Rubber Paving is affordable, beautiful and durable.  
Improved traction, comfort & snow removal.  
Unlimited "No Questions Asked" 5 year Guarantee  
Our surface won't crack!**

**Our estimates are always friendly and FREE call  
Grubb & Gutscher today!**

**1-800-206-6097  
EnviroPaving.com**

**ourhomes**  
STYLE • COMFORT • IDEAS • REAL ESTATE

**PUBLISHER/PRESIDENT** DAVID LOOPSTRA  
david@ourhomesmagazine.com

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** GEORGETTE MCCULLOCH  
editor@ourhomesmagazine.com

**MANAGING EDITOR** SHELBY HILSON  
shelby@ourhomesmagazine.com

**ART DIRECTOR** TARA CHATTELL  
tara@ourhomesmagazine.com

**ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR** GEORGIE DONAIS  
gdonais@ourhomesmagazine.com

**PRODUCTION DIRECTOR** LYNN DERRICK  
lynn@ourhomesmagazine.com

**PRODUCTION MANAGER** KELLY DONALDSON  
kellyd@ourhomesmagazine.com

**GENERAL & FRANCHISE MANAGER** CHANDY A. RATTEE  
chandy@ourhomesmagazine.com

**ACCOUNTING** DONNA DUGGAN  
705.445.5065 Ext. 201, donna@ourhomesmagazine.com

**DISTRIBUTION** ALLAN FAWCETT  
519.986.2599

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Tara Chattell, Bohdan Chreptak, Heather Cook, Maria DaSilva, Laurel Fortin, Bonnie Fox, Shelby Hilson, Scott Hunter, Sandy MacKay, Melanie Macleod-Vallins, Deborah Masters, Stephanie Redmond, William Shelley, Yanic Simard

**MARKETING & ADVERTISING SALES**

**Grey & Bruce Counties**

BETTY ANN FAWCETT 519.986.2599  
bettyann@ourhomesmagazine.com

OUR HOMES is a registered trademark of  
OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC.

OUR HOMES Grey & Bruce counties is published 4 times a year  
by OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC.

**ourhomes**  
OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC.

OUR HOMES is distributed to residents of Grey & Bruce Counties and to cottagers via direct mail. Copies of OUR HOMES are available for free pick up at high traffic locations throughout the region. Copies of OUR HOMES are also sent via direct mail to members of select ski clubs in the region. OUR HOMES is distributed throughout select B&Bs and hotels, and to select business leaders via direct mail.

Advertisements and the content, including photos, of advertisements published within OUR HOMES magazine are supplied solely by the advertiser and neither the publisher nor OUR HOMES Media Group Inc accept responsibility for opinions expressed in advertisements or for copyright issues with regards to photos, advertising copy and advertisements, nor shall they be held liable thereby. By act of reading this publication, all advertisers and readers agree to indemnify and hold harmless both OUR HOMES Media Group Inc., and the publisher thereby.  
Copyright © 2012 OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. All rights reserved.  
Reproduction without permission is prohibited.  
Canada Post agreement number: 41692020

OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. is a proud member of the Owen Sound and District Chamber of Commerce.

Please send all letters and/or feedback to  
OUR HOMES Magazine, 279 Ste. Marie St., Collingwood, Ontario, Canada L9Y 3K6.  
Or email us at editor@ourhomesmagazine.com.

All letters received are subject to editing for grammar and length.  
Please return all undeliverable Canadian addresses to 279 Ste. Marie St., Collingwood, ON L9Y 3K6

**For franchise inquiries please visit**

www.ourhomesmagazine.com

Or call: Suzanne Strong at 519.538.4528  
e-mail to franchise@ourhomesmagazine.com



**BUILT  
RIGHT.  
BUILT  
BY YORK.**

We care  
about your air.

**AIRTECH  
MECHANICAL**

HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • VENTILATION SYSTEMS  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

**519-934-3358**  
117064 Grey Rd.3, Keady [www.air-tech.ca](http://www.air-tech.ca)



**Y  
O  
R  
K**

There's something for  
everyone in our

**Christmas  
Wonderland**

Featuring

*Favourite Holiday Collectibles*  
from...

**Fontanini Nativities  
Bradford Exchange  
Charming Tails  
Also...Trees, Wreaths,  
Garland, Ribbons  
and Lights!**

**Daily 1/2 Price Specials**



*Christmas Splendour begins here...*

**THE FYRE PLACE  
& PATIO SHOP**

Hwy 6 & 21 Owen Sound (Springmount)

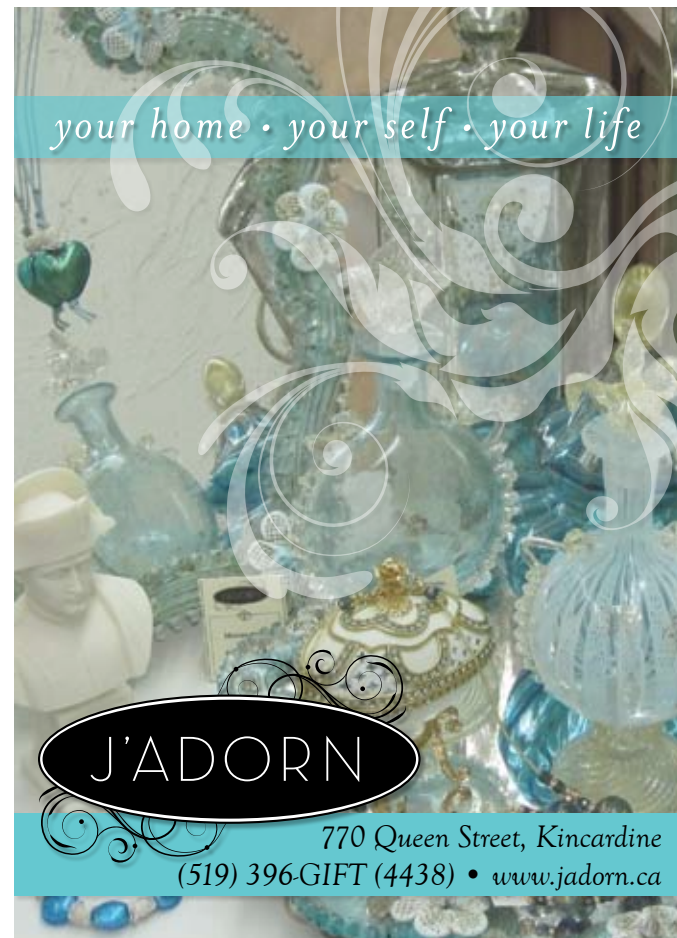
*Since 1973*

**519.371.2963**

[www.thefyreplace.com](http://www.thefyreplace.com)



your home • your self • your life



**J'ADORN**

770 Queen Street, Kincardine  
(519) 396-GIFT (4438) • [www.jadorn.ca](http://www.jadorn.ca)

## editor's note



### I HAD HIGH HOPES

for this year, or rather, this age. Being a mid-December baby my age conveniently corresponds with the calendar year, so as 2012 comes to an end, so too does my 27th year.

From a young age certain numbers have always stuck out in my mind: 17, 21, 27 (I'll let you know the last three when I win the lottery). To me, these are milestone ages where certain plans fall into place. At 17 I went to university and started my independent life. While 21

I spent an amazing summer in California, met one of my closest friends and fell for the love of my life.

Two out of three... not bad! Naturally, I started making plans for 27, setting it up to be the best year yet, but it has become evident that many of my plans will not come to fruition; not this year anyway.

I have wallowed a bit in my disappointment, even been kind of hard on myself, but looking back and thinking about what this year DID bring, I realize that 27 has brought many great lessons and experiences apart from my plans – just as 17 and 21 did. I have certainly found the truth in the saying, “Life is what happens when you’re busy making plans.”

So my resolution for 2013? To stop making so many plans and let life happen to me! (That sounds like a plan, doesn't it?) Sometimes what you get is better than what you hoped for... and sometimes it isn't, but there is something to take from everything.

One of the many privileges of my job is that I get to meet so many local families, homeowners and business owners, rummage through their stories and learn from their own choices and experiences. In this issue, you'll meet George Benes, a builder who grew up in communist Czechoslovakia where he had to create much out of very little and choose his supplies wisely. Little did he know that the lessons of his past would lead him to start a successful eco-home building company here in Grey Bruce. Check out his stunning forest home on page 20.

As OUR HOMES Grey and Bruce Counties celebrates its sixth anniversary, I'd love to hear your stories of how our magazine has affected you. Has it inspired you? Taught you any valuable lessons? What would you like to see more of, or less of, in the New Year? Just as my reflections on the past year will affect the next, and George Benes' past experiences have shaped his career, your feedback will help us make this magazine better each issue.

Here's to taking life as it comes and a fun-filled winter!

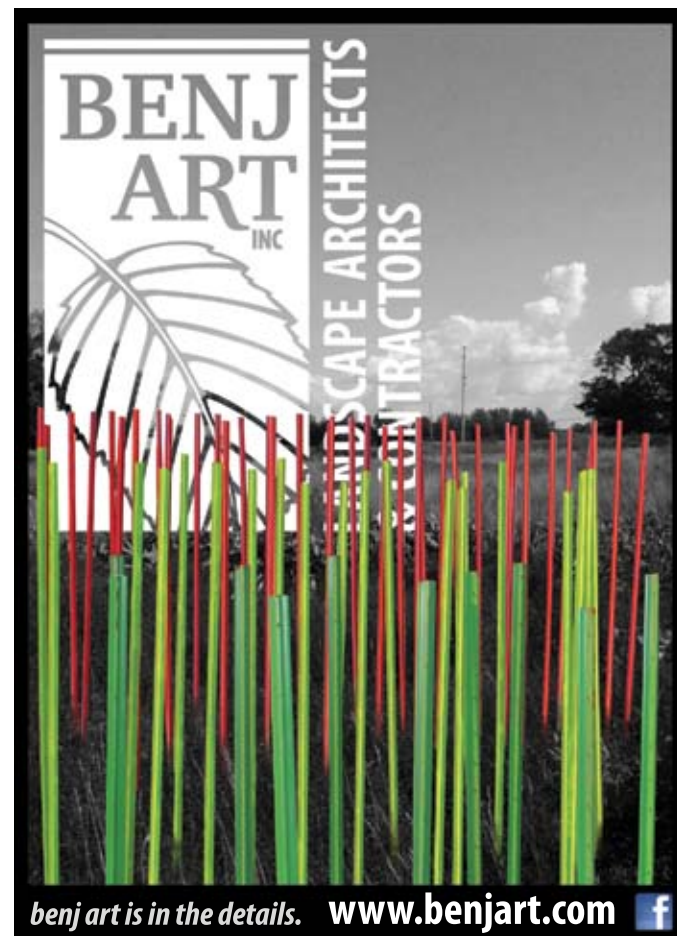
Yours truly,

*Shelby*

Shelby Hilson, Managing Editor  
[shelby@ourhomesmagazine.com](mailto:shelby@ourhomesmagazine.com)

Follow us @OurHomesMag

**BENJ ART** INC. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS & CONTRACTORS



benj art is in the details. [www.benjart.com](http://www.benjart.com)



The quality you want... more affordable than you think.

**HANOVER**  
KITCHEN & BATH GALLERY

492 10TH ST. HANOVER | 1-888-385-6660  
[HANOVERCABINETS.COM](http://HANOVERCABINETS.COM)



dream design build

**Freeburn**  
Fine Homes

CALL FOR A quote and consultation

Working with you to create your dream home

519.385.0845 [freeburnfinehomes.com](http://freeburnfinehomes.com)



# contents

## winter



16

### ON THE COVER

North Green Living Story, page 20.  
Photography by Sandy MacKay.



30

## departments

EDITOR'S NOTE	10
ADVICE Trends For The New Year	14
STYLE PICKS Cosy Home	16
COMFORT ZONE Country Charm	30
PEOPLE Kitchen & Bath Experts	44
HOME RESOURCE DIRECTORY	52
FINISHING TOUCH Wrap It Up	54

## features

HOME & BUILDER All Natural In Lion's Head	20
DESIGN IDEAS Canuck Style	32
FEATURE HOME Christmas Cheer	34
DECORATING Winter Fresh Flowers	40
COOKING AT HOME Chocolate Delights	50



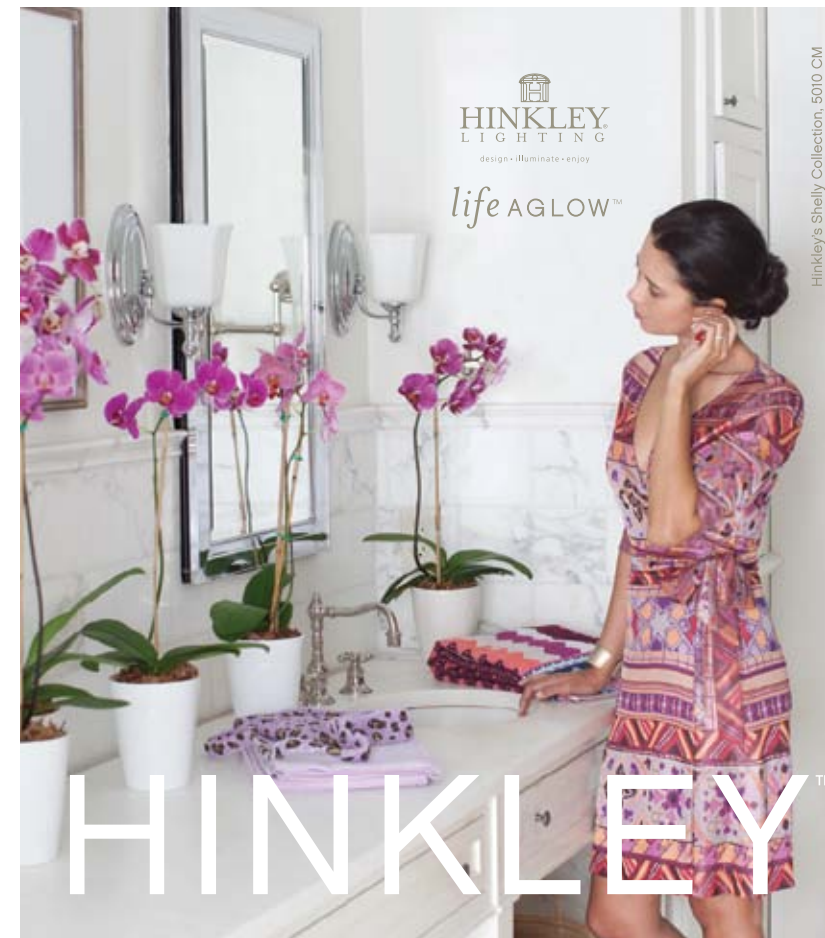
20



50



34



HINKLEY™

Hinkley's Shelly Collection, 5010 CM

Living  
**LIGHTING**  
Where solutions come to light.

installations and electrical contracting

Come in and visit our  
knowledgeable staff at  
1209 16th Street, Owen Sound  
**519.371.5645**  
livinglighting62@bellnet.ca  
livinglighting.com



Your Landscape Professionals

www.groundeffectsinc.ca - 519.364.5151





Designer Stephanie Redmond answers your questions.

# TRENDING *forward* RAW & INDUSTRIAL IN 2013

With watermelons and popsicles a distant memory, it's time to forecast the upcoming trends for 2013. Ironically, when I look at the number "2013," I think of space travel and futuristic design. Maybe we're not quite there, but we are definitely heavy on industrial style – metals, glass and a whole lot of technology and innovation. Have designers been drawing inspiration from manufacturing plants? Not sure. But we will certainly be able to decorate our homes to look like one.

## METALS

Hot rolled, cold rolled, powder coated, you name it; steel is an unbreakable trend. Tables, chairs, tiles; the industrial trend is becoming more refined than factory, but the presence of steel will be huge.

Another metal that will continue to make its comeback is brushed brass. Not the shiny kind. That disappeared after the financial crisis in the 80s. Brass evokes quality and timelessness. Cabinet hardware, faucets, lighting; brushed nickel hasn't gone by the wayside, but we now have a serious contender.

## WOOD

Completely contradicting what we'll be seeing in paints, woods are appearing softer, muted and grey-washed. We'll see a lot of smooth looking oak in the market, wide planks, very Belgian in feel. From flooring to furniture, this natural aesthetic will make the jump from high-end to mainstream.

## CONCRETE

Concrete flooring, faux wallpaper and products (yes, there are concrete lights out there!) are just some of what we'll be seeing. The wallpaper is fascinating because the optical illusion that it's concrete or another material, is so realistic you literally have to go and touch the paper to see if it's the real deal.

## WALL COVERINGS

Poor old paint may just not be enough anymore. Glass, leather, metals and wallpaper are just some of the wall cladding we'll see in the upcoming year. Using back-painted glass panels in a shower creates a completely seamless wall leaving you with

a translucent feel and no grout lines. Leather tiles will also become more popular as a wall material (and floor, actually) adding richness and texture to an otherwise drab piece of drywall. It's becoming available in several patterns and colours, taking the place of wallpaper for a slightly more luxurious effect.

## COLOUR

For the colour enthusiasts out there, it's definitely your year! With this natural base of wood, glass and metal, colour will be hot and anything goes. It may just be a pop of colour, but the pop is definitely more dramatic – more of a go big or go home approach. Admittedly, after so many beige years, it's uplifting.

## TECHNOLOGY

Trending forward we have to touch on technology. We've seen USB outlets added to regular power outlets and thermostats that teach themselves your schedule and that you can adjust from your phone. I can't wait to see what comes next but I know it will make our lives easier and of course, more stylish! **OH**



PIXEL CUSHIONS BY BEV HISEY



THE NEST LEARNING THERMOSTAT



USB WALL PLATE CHARGER BY RCA



THE FOCAL POINT OF A ROOM ISN'T ALWAYS A PIECE OF FURNITURE.



ELEVATE YOUR DÉCOR

LEVOLOR

Accordia™ Cellular Shades. The perfect place to begin your decorating journey.

GET INSPIRED @  
LEVOLOR.CA

Cuneo Interiors

CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME

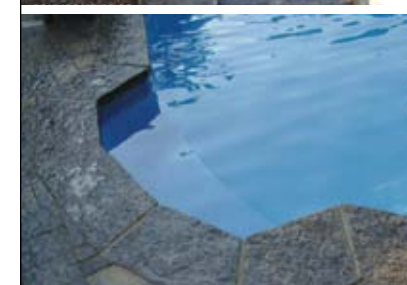
Decorating Excellence Since 1948

873 10th St., Hanover, ON  
519-364-1303

207 Durham St., Walkerton, ON  
519-881-2170

www.cuneointeriors.com  
800-265-1172

Create a little paradise in your own backyard...



Stamped Concrete | Interlocking Stone | Retaining Walls | Natural Stone | Sodding | Fencing

Rintoul's Leisurescapes

POOLS • HOT TUBS • BACKYARD LIVING

689 10th St. W., Owen Sound – 519-376-5858 | 371 Goderich St., Port Elgin – 519-832-5858

Whether updating your backyard or starting from scratch... we can help you make it happen. The sky is the limit when it comes to creating your dream backyard! Whether you want to spend quality time with the family in your new pool or soak away the day's stress in the hot tub, Rintoul's can design and custom install for any landscape orientation and budget.

www.rintouls.ca



*"The ache for home lives in all of us. The safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned."*  
— Maya Angelou

Bring some warmth and style into your home this season with these new local finds.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX



2

## THE HARVEST ROOM

### (2) Wreath

Find the perfect wreath for any season and style, or join one of the Harvest Room's workshops at its new event centre and make your own. A full magnolia wreath is stunning on its own, but could also be dressed up with some ribbons, pinecones, feathers and whatever your home desires.

341411 Con. 2 NDR

Hanover

519.364.6555

[www.theharvestroom.ca](http://www.theharvestroom.ca)



3

## SURROUNDINGS OF MILD MAY

### (3) Mugs

Enjoy a local cup of java in a local mug handmade by Pavlo Pottery in Rockton. Each mug is crafted on the potter's wheel and decorated with a clay medallion, hand-carved in soft stone and plaster. Available in brown and blue with different medallion designs. Microwave and dishwasher safe.

58 Elora St.

Mildmay

519.367.2636

[www.surroundingsmildmay.ca](http://www.surroundingsmildmay.ca)

Continued on page 18

1



## MACDONALD'S BRANDSOURCE FURNITURE & APPLIANCES

### (1) Upcycle Ottoman

Relax and put your feet up this season.

These fun, stylish ottomans are each unique, upholstered with repurposed, fair-trade coffee bags featuring the logos and markings that identify the original goods.

206518 Hwy. 26 E.

Meaford

519.538.1620

[www.macdonaldsfurniture.com](http://www.macdonaldsfurniture.com)

**KitchenAid**  
FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE.

SERVING THE AREA FOR OVER 60 YEARS

**SQUARE DEAL NEIL'S**  
TV AND APPLIANCES

**SALES & SERVICE • NEW & USED**  
Hwy 21, Southampton 519-797-3905  
[sinclairtv@bmts.com](mailto:sinclairtv@bmts.com) [www.squaredealneils.ca](http://www.squaredealneils.ca)  
Large enough to serve you, small enough to care!

*Let us help you fulfill your dreams!*

**NAPOLEON**  
QUALITY FIREPLACES

**THE FYRE PLACE & PATIO SHOP**  
Hwy 6 & 21 Owen Sound (Springmount)

Since 1973  
**519.371.2963**  
[www.thefyreplace.com](http://www.thefyreplace.com)



#### BRANCHING OUT

##### (4) Wine Holder

Wow your holiday guests with a one-of-a-kind wine holder, handcrafted from stone and steel by Rob Oosthoek. Branching Out creations include glass-topped tables, bars, railings and more, all at reasonable prices. Custom work is welcomed.

Hanover

519.378.5215

[www.branchingoutonline.com](http://www.branchingoutonline.com)



4

#### THEN & NOW CONSIGNMENT AND HOME DÉCOR

##### (5) Chair

What's old is new again at Then & Now. This natural oak chair was reupholstered in an elegant black fabric with a bold white aster print for a fresh, contemporary look. It's just a small hint at the treasures you'll find.

6 Toronto St. S.

Markdale

519.986.1888

[www.thenandnowconsignment.com](http://www.thenandnowconsignment.com)



5

#### THE FYRE PLACE & PATIO SHOP

##### (6) Napoleon Gas Fireplace

The new Manhattan™ direct-vent gas fireplace is proof that modern style can be warm. It features a sophisticated, clean-face front and a sparkling Topaz Crystalline™ ember bed with built-in adjustable flame/heat control.

717861 Hwy. 6

Springmount

519.371.2963

[www.thefyreplace.com](http://www.thefyreplace.com) OH

6



Bring a little warmth  
& style into your home.



Come visit our cozy showroom located at  
13 Toronto Street North in Markdale  
to see our beautiful display models and accessories available.

Sales, installations & service | Wett Certified Technicians on staff  
519-986-2112 [mountaintopchimneysweep.ca](http://mountaintopchimneysweep.ca)



LOCAL PEOPLE.  
BEST PRODUCTS.  
BEST SERVICE.

Proudly serving Grey & Bruce for 25 years

519.934.2690

800.665.5942

[www.georgianbaywindowanddoor.com](http://www.georgianbaywindowanddoor.com)



# naturally NORTH

BY WILLIAM SHELLEY // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY



**LEFT:** A contemporary branch-like chandelier anchors the open kitchen-dining space. It's the first thing you see when you walk in the front door, and the one thing homeowner Nancy Watson "just had to have." **ABOVE:** Named "The Watson," the home naturally blends with its forested surroundings north of Lion's Head. **RIGHT:** The front entranceway features a contrast of natural elements, including a bench handcrafted by builder and homeowner George Benes.

The dolostone cliffs and clear waters of the Bruce Peninsula make it one of Ontario's iconic landscapes. Something about the confluence of rock, water and trees – that contrast of colour and texture – will always enthrall. The presence of the Bruce Trail, several nature reserves, and a national park drive home the fact that this is part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Thankfully, much of the coastline is protected from overdevelopment but if there are going to be new houses here, **North Green Living, Inc.** should be the company to build them.

**George Benes**, founder and owner of North Green Living, can't say enough about the beauty that surrounds the home he shares with his wife and design partner, **Nancy Watson**, on three forested acres north of Lion's Head. "It's a privilege to work here," he says. The talented couple recently completed this house, which also serves as the model home for the

*Continued on page 23*







company. They've dubbed it "The Watson," and it's an impressive build with the rustic touches of a cottage married with a minimalist design.

Rarely does a house seem to spring so naturally from its landscape. With local stone and wood and an abundance of large windows, the 2,363 sq. ft. house – slab-on-grade, one-and-a-half storeys, with three bedrooms, two full bathrooms, a powder room and open-concept floor plan – seems a part of its surroundings rather than an intruder. This is the result of North Green Living's attention to detail and philosophy of sustainability and low-impact building.

George and Nancy don't plan to build off-grid homes, though they do have plans for solar arrays, either on the roof of The Watson or on the ground nearby, to supplement the high-efficiency fireplace insert and radiant in-floor heating throughout. The carefully considered materials are the key to the home's sustainability. The lightweight "lifetime" steel roof is 60 per cent recycled pop cans, plus zinc and sand grit. The dormers and upper exterior siding are cedar milled locally at [Liverance Home Building Centre](#). "As much as we could, we used local materials," says Nancy. "All the stone except for the kitchen wall is local, and all the wood with the exception of the interior doors is reclaimed barnboard."

An elemental marriage of stone and wood, this house – like the peninsula itself – has many stories to tell. George and Nancy source their reclaimed barnboard from Andy Bowman of [The Rustic Wood Company](#) in Chatsworth. The Watson maximizes the utility and beauty of this irreplaceable old-growth hemlock cut so long ago by pioneer sawyers. The main open staircase, interior trim detailing and window frames, as well as the interior and exterior beams, are all barnboard. The upstairs floor

*Continued on page 24*

**CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:** (1) Brimming with colourful personality, thanks to Nancy's textile talent, the living room takes full advantage of the natural beauty outdoors. (2) Nancy created a fitting holiday centrepiece out of fresh greenery, birch branches and pomegranates. (3) A sliding barn door opens to a pantry and helps tie the open space together. (4) The high-efficiency fireplace insert from The Fyre Place & Patio Shop is surrounded by a rare shore stone that's no longer quarried. (5) Nancy and George comfortably at home.







**LEFT & ABOVE:** Nancy and George awake to spectacular views of their acreage each morning and can continue to enjoy them from a cosy sitting area outfitted with a reclaimed wood sofa and coffee table. **ABOVE LEFT:** One of two spare bedrooms on the upper level, which features a colourful reading nook and lots of natural light.

is also barnboard, cut into quarter-inch tongue and groove, sanded and sealed, then glued and nailed into two-inch concrete with sleepers. So the floor is not only solid and soundproof, but also quiet. "On a regular wood floor after some years," says George, "the nails will start to squeak when you walk." Not this floor. To fill in the knotholes, George and Nancy took dead branches from hemlock trees on their property, cured and cut them, then sanded and glued them into the holes. This floor is a masterpiece of heritage restoration.

The downstairs floor, kitchen and bathroom countertop, shower surrounds, sills, side patio and front porch stone are all from **Owen Sound Ledgerock Ltd.** in Wiarton. An interesting study in contrasts greets you upon entering the home, where the floor is Ledgerock polished Eramosa (vein cut) and the wall a much rougher shore stone. *Continued on page 26*



For the **LOVE** of  
**CANADIAN**  
FURNITURE

**Over 80% of our  
furniture is crafted  
by Canadians**




**PALLISER®**






**Smitty's**  
FineFurniture.com

**HANOVER SHOWROOM 170-3rd St. | 519-364-3800**



Est. 1958  
**LEDGEROCK**  
NATURAL STONE PRODUCTS

**Nothing compares to natural stone**  
for traditional design elegance or contemporary style. Our unique Canadian limestone allows it to be the perfect design choice for all your architectural needs.  
Imagine it, we can help you build it.

ERAMOSA MARBLE • ALGONQUIN LIMESTONE • HOPE BAY LIMESTONE • MARA LIMESTONE • SENESUN LIMESTONE • INDIANA LIMESTONE

P.O. BOX 445 • RR#5 • LEDGEROCK ROAD • OWEN SOUND • ONTARIO • N4K5P7 • 1-866-877-5704 • WWW.LEDGEROCK.COM



## SOURCE GUIDE

Advantage Insulation, Amp Pro Electrical Services Ltd., Forest Soul Custom Carpentry, Liverance Home Building Centre, Living Lighting, North Green Living, Inc., Owen Sound Ledgerrock Ltd., Peninsula Out Of Doors, Scott's Home Hardware, The Fyre Place & Patio Shop, The Rustic Wood Company Inc., Tyndall's Haulage



The master en suite takes the term spa-like to a new level. A reclaimed wood vanity is paired with modern sinks and faucets; a glassed-in shower sports a stone wall and a loose pebble floor with wooden slats for standing.



This shore stone, that composes the façade as well as interior accent walls and the magnificent centerpiece hearth and chimney (fireplace from [The Fyre Place & Patio Shop](#)), is a rare type that is no longer quarried. George found it while digging out the foundation of an old cottage he was renovating for a client at nearby Barrow Bay. "We hauled it all here and power-washed it many, many times – it was all covered in clay," says Nancy. Examined closely, each stone reveals fossil textures that could never be imitated synthetically.

All the interior detailing, décor and furniture is innovative and unique. Two of the bathrooms feature vintage cabinets and hardware while the gallery-worthy dining area chandelier, created by Brothers Dressler in Toronto, is made of reclaimed walnut and bolts. A vintage Lebanese fish mosaic adorns the main floor bathroom wall, while a pillow made by Nancy out of a multi-coloured patchwork of leather samples, tops a living

room bench built by George. He also made the eye-catching reclaimed wood sofa in the master bedroom, which sports old copper pipe for legs and orange cushions – more of Nancy's handiwork.

Since his apprenticeship in Communist Czechoslovakia where he was born, George Benes has always made the most of the resources around him. "It wasn't like today, when you can buy everything," he says. "If you wanted to build something under communism, you had to think about it. You had a long list of what you needed, but you could get only two things. So you had to figure it out, because there was nothing in the market!" After coming to Canada in 2000, George built houses for large-scale developments in London. Today, he prefers to design and build one house at a time, with a smaller footprint, out of durable and beautiful materials. Proudly indicating The Watson, he says, "This is a house for the generations." **OH**



# MacGregor Enterprises

H O M E S

**Superior Construction resulting in Low-Cost Living**

ICF Foundation  
SIP Construction  
R50 Ceilings

**Two Executive Homes currently under construction on the Lake.**

Visit [inverlynlakeestates.com](http://inverlynlakeestates.com) to see what's NEW for Spring 2013

## OPEN HOUSE

Sat., Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, 10am - 4pm, 207 Carloway Trail

Find us at Inverlyn Lake Estates  
Adult Lifestyle Community in Kincardine  
**email - [inverlyn@bmts.com](mailto:inverlyn@bmts.com)**  
*...on the shores of Lake Huron*



LANDSCAPE  
DESIGN  
GIVEAWAY

HUTTEN.CA 519.376.9364


Hutten & Co  
LANDSCAPING



For over 10 years we've been designing and creating beautiful landscapes in Grey and Bruce Counties. Now we're helping *you* get started on *your* dream project!  
"LIKE US" on [facebook.com/HuttenLandscaping](https://www.facebook.com/HuttenLandscaping) and **ENTER TO WIN** a Landscape Design Package valued at **\$1500.00!** Contest ends March 1st 2013.










**Woodlands**  
the trails are at your doorstep

New Wooded Subdivision, Close to the Lake in Port Elgin, Ont.



1 235 WELLINGTON ST. PORT ELGIN, ONT.  
519-389-2045  
[WWW.SNYDERDEVELOPMENT.COM](http://WWW.SNYDERDEVELOPMENT.COM)

**SNYDER**  
DEVELOPMENT  
CUSTOM BUILT HOMES IN  
NEW WOODED SUBDIVISION

*Wishes Do Come True*  
with your generous help

**Paige's Wish:**  
A kid-sized playhouse with cups and saucers to have her friends for tea.




Follow This Wish Story  
at [www.ChildrensWish.ca](http://www.ChildrensWish.ca)  
DONATE TODAY

Children's Wish

*Branching Out* with  
Custom Blacksmithing  
Waterfalls & Garden Art  
Unique Home Decor  
Gates & Railings  
—Original Designs—  
—Free Estimates—  
519-378-5215



[www.branchingoutonline.com](http://www.branchingoutonline.com)




email: [branchingoutonline@mail.com](mailto:branchingoutonline@mail.com)

*Located on the Beautiful Bruce Peninsula*



*Home / Cottage Design & Build  
We welcome challenging renovations*

*Gord  
Lawson  
Contracting*

[www.gordlawsoncontracting.com](http://www.gordlawsoncontracting.com) 519-795-7514

*Country Charmers*

**Farmer? Skier? Both?**  
This 100 acre property has all the features to accomodate.  
Wonderfully restored and updated two-and-a-half storey brick farmhouse sits on this gently rolling 100 acre farm. Excellent hay and pasture with good fencing on approximately 70 acres. Maple bush, natural pond and another pond site beside the lawn! Two storey timberframe barn, older drive shed and a two car garage round out this rare offering. This 1903 farmhouse boasts hardwood floors throughout the main floor and restored tin ceiling in open concept kitchen! Just two minutes from the Beaver Valley Ski Club.  
T.R.E.B. MLS #X2475967







**Windchime**  
Realty Ltd. Brokerage

Donald B. Jack BROKER OF RECORD  
[donaldbjack@gmail.com](mailto:donaldbjack@gmail.com) | 519-924-1717  
[www.windchimerealty.com](http://www.windchimerealty.com)





# FOREVER furniture

BY SHELBY HILSON // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX



Xena and Rusty

**THE PLACE:** Part of the charm at **Country Charm Mennonite Furniture** is the experience of shopping in a refurbished 1800s barn, which beautifully showcases an extensive collection of quality, solid-wood furniture. “We wanted to start a business based on ethics and integrity,” says storeowner Wayne Datema. “So, we sourced out builders we would be proud to represent; ones that offer superb craftsmanship and have the same ideals as ourselves. Our Mennonite builders stand for many of the things that we hope to stand for in our business ethics. Their simplified life and dedication to their craft mean a lot to us.”

**THE STYLE:** Timeless traditional style is a recurrent theme throughout the two-floor showroom, but contemporary and

modern pieces are in the mix, and customers are definitely not limited by what they see. Country Charm offers custom furniture “built to your specifications to fit your needs, style and space,” says Datema. “We are unique because we can offer stained or painted finishes of your choice, or do colour matches, since we do the finishing right here on the premises.”

**WHAT’S HOT:** On trend with bringing the outdoors in, are furniture pieces with a live edge (the outer edge of the tree), with bark and without. Tables with metal bases are also hot items as more people lean toward an industrial look at home.

**SEASONAL:** You’ll find much more than just furniture at Country Charm. There’s a host of home décor items that would make

great holiday and hostess gifts. Choose from a wide selection of chandeliers, soy and beeswax candles, wall art, Italian dinnerware, Polish glassware and a gorgeous quilt line from Quebec.

**FAVOURITES:** Datema cites table and chair sets as his personal favourite “because that is the area that families gather and memories are made.” He also mentions a line of rustic furniture made from beams of old barns or buildings, which bear the original markings in the wood. Xena and Rusty, the furry four-legged staff, have been greeting customers for many years and it goes without saying, they are also part of the charm.

**GET THERE:** 317680 Hwy. 6 & 10, Rockford 519.376.4434, [www.ccharm.com](http://www.ccharm.com) OH





**Canadian Colour Scheme**  
(Benjamin Moore)

2092-30 Boston Brick

509 Cypress Green

CC-90 Natural Linen

# COMPLETELY CANADIAN

Whether you're from Canada or not, it's hard for anyone not to be inspired by the True North and its beautiful elements, which we are lucky enough to find in our own backyard, the great outdoors.

## Here are my three favourite ways to incorporate our heritage into our homes.

1. THE USE OF FABRIC: Add Canadian character and charm to your home with the simple use of textiles

**Plaid Upholstery:** Whether it be gingham, tartan, or tattersall, this popular pattern consisting of several crossed horizontal and vertical lines (usually in two or more colours) speaks directly to the essence of Canadian settlers. My favourite way to incorporate it in décor is with upholstery. I personally prefer it in smaller doses, such as for sofa pillows or dining room seats, however a club chair completely covered looks amazing as well.

**Cosy Throws:** Curling up on the sofa on a cold winter's day wouldn't be the same without one of these. Here are my three favourite classics:

- **Point Blanket:** It wouldn't be right if I didn't start with this iconic blanket by The Bay – this wool Point blanket dates back to the 18th century and used to be traded. It continues to be a number one seller and is sold exclusively by The Hudson's Bay Company.
- **Faux Fur:** Fox, mink or coyote – these Canadian creature-mimicked furs can be the perfect Canuck-inspired addition to your space for added comfort and even luxuriousness.
- **Matelassé:** Meaning quilted, padded or cushioned, and normally referring to hand-quilted textiles. It is meant to mimic the style of hand-stitched Marseilles, a type of quilt made in Provence, France. Incorporating these fabrics into your décor can be the subtle hint of pattern and texture you're looking for.

2. THE USE OF WOOD: Nothing warms up a space quite like the use of natural wood.

**Walls:** I particularly like walls sheltered in large, real-wood planks. Douglas fir or cedar – both known for their distinctive grain patterns and tight knots – are each suitable choices when it comes to selecting the type of wood to use.

**Accessories:** Dress up the inside or the surrounding area of your fireplace with logs of wood – even without the use of fire, this actually does create a feeling of warmth too.

3. THE ADDITION OF ANTIQUES: If the northern vibe is the look, an old piece of Canadian history is most definitely calling. Usually an item made of wood, such as an old sled, pair of skis or a rocking chair will feel the most rustic and true to the heritage.

My tips for antique hunting:

- Do your research before heading out – know what you are looking for.
- Bring with you a magnifying glass to check for dates, signatures, imperfections.
- Touch, smell and handle the piece. Get familiar with what you're looking to buy before you buy it. If you have any doubts, don't be afraid to ask questions. **OH**



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY TV

Glamwood:  
Nero Tile from  
Stone Tile Inc.

Woodgrain fabric:  
Cinnabar from  
Robert Allen

Subway Paintable  
Wallpaper from  
Graham & Brown

Point Blanket  
by The Hudson's  
Bay Company

If you're looking for another option next to the real thing, there are many imposter materials that mimic the natural look and feel of wood.



**JUST GOT THE UTILITY BILL**

Many smart homeowners no longer dread receiving their monthly bills. That's because they made the switch to WaterFurnace geothermal heating and cooling technology. So relax, and take control over those utility bills.

**NORTHERN HEATING & VENTILATION**  
Collingwood • Markdale • Owen Sound  
705-444-2736 • 519-986-3307 • 800-661-5796  
www.northerngeothermal.net • northernheating@everus.ca

Tom Ramage, President

**WaterFurnace**  
Smarter from the Ground Up™

*The Dual Services from Building Plans to Paint Swatches!*

**CHRISTIE CONTRACTING**  
Custom Builder  
"Quality Workmanship" "Let us quote your dream kitchen"

NEW HOMES & COTTAGES  
RENOVATIONS  
ADDITIONS  
CUSTOM KITCHENS

A FULL INTERIOR DECORATING SERVICE PROVIDED FOR ALL ASPECTS OF BUILDING

**Derek Christie**  
General Contractor  
d.christie@bmts.com

Office: 519.934.0031  
Fax: 519.934.1288  
Cell: 519.374.1575

**Diva Decor**  
spicing up your space  
Robyn Christie  
decorating consultant

Let us  
"Deck your Halls"

Call today to book our  
Holiday Decorating Services.

142 Mill Street,  
Tara, Ontario  
direct: 519.374.1579  
www.diva-decor.ca

**LAZBOY ComfortStudio**

**BRANDSOURCE**  
**Macdonald's Furniture & Appliances**

**206518 Hwy. 26 E, MEAFORD**  
**519-538-1620 • 800-265-3172**

**www.macdonaldsfurniture.com**

STORE HOURS: Mon. - Sat. 9 am - 5:30 pm • Fri. 9 am - 8:00 pm • Sun. 11 am - 4 pm

SCAN ME





Russ Smith and Kathy Galbraith's traditional country home exudes warmth and comfort at every turn. The living room opens to both the kitchen and dining room, and offers a cosy space to watch the snow fall. **OPPOSITE:** Robyn Christie of Diva Decor helped Kathy decorate her home for the Chantry Island Chambettes Christmas Home Tour.

# ruralROOTS

BY LAUREL FORTIN // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOHDAN CHREPTAK

Down a lane of maple trees planted on Christmas Day in 1878, Kathy Galbraith and Russ Smith's new bungalow glows warmly in the crisp air. Set a few dozen yards in front of the property's 1870-built barn and to the side of a large blacksmith shop from the same era, the modern home stands at the edge of 200 acres of rolling pastureland and bush, with views of the community's old stone schoolhouse and a neighbouring white stallion in his paddock.

The couple had been living in Port Elgin where they run the seasonal 200-site **Kenorus Campground and RV Resort Inc.** In 2011, they decided to build themselves a home in the country east of Southampton where they would have their own getting-away-from-it-all feeling all year round. While they host campers from May to October, Kathy and Russ look forward to the quiet winter months when they are able to reconnect with friends and family and host holiday gatherings in their beautiful new home.

For the 2012 holiday season, they also welcomed the community to

tour the house as one of the stops on the **Chantry Island Chambettes Christmas Home Tour**. As a showcase of newly built homes in the area, the tour pairs homeowners with local designers to set the stage for Christmas. Kathy and Russ were paired with **Robyn Christie of Diva Decor** in Tara.

Robyn says working with Kathy was inspiring. "We had a lot of fun bringing the outside in, using a lot of real cedar and twigs." Kathy cut much of the festive greenery herself from the property's bush lot. "We like spruce and pine, but we use a lot of cedar for scent and there are fewer needles to clean up," she says. "I cut branches that are green and full and have seeds on them. I also like to use twigs, such as black walnut, which have a nice sheen on them; red-stick dogwood as well." Robyn describes the finished look as beautifully rustic with a bit of bling. "Holiday decorating is so unique and personal," she says. "Everyone's tastes and traditions are different and it's a joy to reflect those things when helping clients decorate." *Continued on page 36*





## feature

Aside from stunning holiday decorations, tour-goers also saw the wonderful work of architectural designer **Daniel R. Murawsky** of **Murawsky Design & Drafting** who designed the home. Murawsky worked with Kathy to locate the kitchen, by **Pear Tree Cabinets**, on the rear perimeter of the house where two windows bring ample light in to inspire cooking and baking. Windows throughout the home are by **Georgian Bay Window & Door**; appliances from **Square Deal Neil's TV & Appliances** in Southampton; granite counters from **The Old Barn Polished Stone Creations** in Hanover.

Builder **Brian Snyder** of **Snyder Development** in Port Elgin brought the plans to life. "Brian was marvellous to work with," says Kathy. "He was very particular about materials and how the house was built." The design called for decorative beams across the main living area, but upon receiving the wood, Snyder felt that the beams weren't of sufficient quality. Rather than delay the build, he suggested that the couple keep the ceilings bare. The result is an airiness in the space that draws the eyes to the outdoor views of the barn and fields, as well as to the numerous antique and heirloom pieces throughout the home.



The guest room, frequented by Kathy's mother, shares a Jack-and-Jill bathroom with the couple's daughter's room. Each vanity is separated by a shower room. **BELOW:** Robyn Christie of Diva Decor touches up the decorations outside.



A gourmet kitchen boasts the latest in appliances and finishes. The uniquely shaped island maximizes both counter space and floor space, and features a raised counter at bar height – ideal for entertaining. **ABOVE:** One of the homeowners' three cats gets cosy beneath the Christmas tree. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Set for a holiday feast, the dining room takes centre stage.



"I like to blend old and new," says Kathy. The heirloom dining room hutch and sideboard, for example, are paired with a new dining table. "We're lovers of wood. I don't feel like you have to have wood all in the same colour. Our style is more rustic, very relaxed."

A wood-burning fireplace heats the great room, creating ambience and augmenting the warmth from the property's geothermal heating system (**Ron Nickason Plumbing & Heating Ltd.**). With dark hardwood throughout the house (**Bruce County Flooring & Interiors Inc.**) the home is very unified. The trim work is also consistent in an antique white shade to match the kitchen cabinetry. The master bedroom features a coffered ceiling and a second, much smaller Christmas tree. Kathy and Russ luxuriate in their master en

suite with a walk-in tiled shower, a pair of vessel sinks and a new claw-foot tub.

The couple's daughter has a lovely lilac and green room adjacent to the Jack-and-Jill bathroom she shares with the guest room – regularly used by Kathy's mother.

Outside the home, Brian Snyder had great suggestions to incorporate the textures and styles Kathy wanted – board and batten adorns the majority of the home with several sections in stone and wood shakes on the upper decorative dormers. Most of the windows have shutters for visual interest. Above the bay window in the master bedroom they installed a copper roof, which has already begun to oxidize and darken. It will continue to change colour as the house ages. *Continued on page 38*



## SOURCE GUIDE

Ace Electric, Alps Creek Woodworking, Bruce County Flooring & Interiors Inc., Dave Zister Roofing, Diva Decor, Georgian Bay Window & Door, Georgian Timberworks, Murawsky Design & Drafting, Pear Tree Cabinets, Ron Nickason Plumbing & Heating Ltd., Snyder Development, Southampton Market, Square Deal Neil's TV & Appliances, STM Designs, The Old Barn Polished Stone Creations, Chimney Sweep's Stove Parlour, Tin Man Aluminum Co.



## feature



Neighbours across the road are hobby historians who know the area and have kept records of the property, says Kathy. That is how the couple learned the farmstead was settled by the Sang family and the original house burned in the 1970s. "It was important to us to know where we were living – information like that tends to be lost unless somebody records it. We find things in the barn all the time – old tools and horse equipment." She has put several items on display around the house – a wooden sled

sits atop the well lid in the yard, horse collars add interest to the garage entry; maple sap buckets, filled with seasonal cuttings or greenery, line the deck. "The house is lovely," says Kathy, "but the magnificent structures on our property are the barns. They were built with no tractors, just animals and people, and they're still standing."

This season, Kathy and Russ look forward to sharing their home, old and new, with community, family and friends. **OH**

Holiday cheer is evident throughout the home, even in the master bedroom and en suite. Kathy made a mini Christmas tree and Robyn brought in a few of her favourite Santas from her personal collection.



*A smooth build from start to finish.*

We can build on the lot of your choice.  
Don't have a lot? We have lots available in Durham on the Saugeen River.  
Other building lots available as well.  
Call us to inquire.

**CANDUE HOMES**

519-369-5051  
homes@canduehomes.com  
www.canduehomes.com

Don Susan

**DJ's**  
handcrafted  
SOLID WOOD  
**FURNITURE**  
MANUFACTURING SINCE 1989

**WROXETER SHOWROOM**  
R.R.#2 - 43195 AMBERLEY RD  
**519.335.3228**  
Mon-Thurs 8:00am to 5:00pm  
Fri 8:00am to 9:00pm  
Sat & Sun 10:00am to 4:00pm

**HANOVER SHOWROOM**  
805 - 10th STREET  
**519.506.3228**  
Mon-Thurs 9:30am to 5:30pm  
Fri 9:30am to 8:00pm  
Sat & Sun 10:00am to 4:00pm

www.djsfurniture.ca

A TOUCH OF ELEGANCE

SILHOUETTE Window Shadings

**MANUFACTURER'S REBATE\***  
\*See this participating dealer for details

THE HOLIDAY HOME MAKEOVER EVENT  
Makeover your home this holiday season with Hunter Douglas window fashions.  
Silhouette® window shadings play with light and give your home that special holiday sparkle.  
From November 12<sup>th</sup> to December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012<sup>th</sup>, receive \$40 for each Silhouette® window shadings purchased.  
\*\*Not valid on previously placed orders.

**HunterDouglas**

**Décor DESIGN**

Call Cindy Gardiner at 519.371.2121  
Showroom now open at Springmount Timbr-Mart. (Directly across from Drive-in Theatre.)  
decordesign.ca

"We are so pleased with our new kitchen and cannot thank you enough for all of your help in planning, choosing cabinets and installation."

**Pear Tree Cabinets**

162 Wallace Ave., N., Listowel  
**519.291.6612**  
Call for an appointment!  
**peartrecabinets.com**





# WINTER *fresh*

BY HEATHER COOK &  
MELANIE MACLEOD-VALLINS  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

Fresh flowers are not just for spring or summer, they can bring life into your home all year long. Take a cue from the colours outdoors – fluffy white snow and seasonal greenery – then add a pop of something bold that suits your décor. Let these beautiful arrangements inspire you... OH



The Municipality of  
**Grey Highlands**  
*The place for all seasons!*

www.greyhighlands.ca

**HUTCHINSON  
AUTOMOTIVE**

Come in and check out our wide variety of certified pre-owned vehicles. We also offer many services as an OK Tire Dealer – Tires, Repairs, Alignments, Brakes, Oil Changes – a full service repair shop. A dealer for a wide range of tire manufacturers. Trailer hitches and accessories for most vehicles, all at the right price. Celebrating 25 years of service.

774495 Hwy #10 Markdale  
519.924.2022  
www.hutchauto.com

**M'CANN  
WATER SYSTEMS**

Over 30 years experience in the water industry. We specialize in: Well Pumps, Well Maintenance, Water Softeners, Iron Filters, UV Disinfection Systems, Reverse Osmosis Systems, Well Flow Test. Chalet/Cottage-Water maintenance. Call us for your complete water system installation or service.

519 986 4743  
www.mccannwatersystems.ca

**FLESHERTON/MARKDALE  
HOME HARDWARE**

Markdale and Flesherton Home Hardware for all your paint, plumbing, electrical, hardware, housewares and outdoor needs. With friendly knowledgeable service for 25 years. If we don't stock it, just ask.

Markdale 519-986-3011  
markdalehomehardware.ca

Flesherton 519-924-2430  
fleshertonhomehardware.ca

**PEEK THRU  
MY WINDOW**

For a simply charming shopping experience! Wander through our three delightful shops, PEEK THRU MY WINDOW, FANCY THAT and THE COUNTY LINE, to find that special gift, a great outfit for the weekend or a really neat fashion accessory that you simply can't live without.

17 Toronto St.  
Markdale  
519.986.4119

**CENTRE GREY  
BUILDING SUPPLIES**

Your one stop home building and improvement store. We carry lumber, insulation, plumbing, electrical, panelling, roofing, handtools, paint, windows and doors. Free delivery and estimates.

74 Lorne St., Markdale  
519.986.2641  
1.800.461.7093

**FLESHERTON  
STORAGE**

Flesherton Storage offers a secure, 25 unit indoor facility. Units are available in two sizes. 10'x 20' and 6' x 10'. You store. You lock! Your unit is accessible to you 24/7! Road entrance to the north of the Village Greens Cafe. (former Delphi Centre) See us on Facebook. E-mail us at fleshertonstorage@gmail.com.

Lagoon Rd.  
519.373.6821  
fleshertonstorage.ca

**SUSAN'S  
DELI & TREATS**

Susan's Deli has more to offer than our large variety of deli meats, cheeses and yummy sweet treats. Call to order your party platters and gift baskets. Come in for Light Lunches or take-out, coffee with a sweet treat, a variety of German and Dutch Products, and Swiss Vitamins available here as well! Open Monday to Saturday

15 Main Street  
Markdale  
519.986.3133

**THEN & NOW**

Let us help you find that perfect nostalgic Christmas gift. Decorate your home or cottage economically with old and new, something different, something fun and unique. Every purchase has a story. Why send things to the dump sites when someone else would love a new treasure to enjoy so come and visit John and Joe at

**THEN & NOW**  
*Consignment & Home Décor*

6 Toronto Street S.  
Markdale  
519.986.1888



## &gt;&gt; SOURCE IT

A MISCELLANY OF THE NEW,  
NEAT, UNIQUE, AND FABULOUS IN  
GREY AND BRUCE COUNTIES

**"WE CARE ABOUT YOUR AIR"**

It's hard to believe that Air-Tech Mechanical has been at its new location, just north of Keady, for 10 years now! A lot has changed over the years and things are busier than ever. We are lucky to have a strong, committed, knowledgeable staff that help to keep us well organized and on track of what needs to be done on a daily basis.

We continue to serve our customers' needs, praising the old and welcoming the new, covering a large territory including all of Grey and Bruce Counties. At Air-Tech we can help you with all your heating, air conditioning and ventilation needs from large commercial jobs to smaller residential ones, plus preventive maintenance and 24/7 customer service.

We are also the authorized YORK dealer for this area and pride ourselves with our commitment to York for the past 25 years. Although this is our main manufacturer for the product we sell, we also service other equipment and regularly install such things as Fujitsu, Mitsubishi, Greentek, Lifebreath, Triangle Tube, GeoFinity and Continental.

Check out our new revised website for more info on HVAC systems, our company and the services we provide. [www.air-tech.ca](http://www.air-tech.ca) or give us a call at 519.934.3358 (Please see ad on page 9)

**PEEK THRU MY WINDOW - YOU GET THREE STORES - AND ONE STOP!**

Our friendly staff welcomes you to come and browse our stores, for a simply charming shopping experience:



**Peek Thru My Window:** Come in to view our selection of quilts, pottery, home décor ideas for entertaining and gift buying.

Check out jewellery, and our locally made jams, and pepper jellies and laugh out loud greeting cards.

**Fancy That:** Winter deliveries are here. Smart, stylish solutions for everything to keep you warm and cozy!

Plenty of colours in our large variety of fashionable coats, vests, gloves and mitts, leisure wear and boots for the winter months.

**County Line:** As the days get colder and there is that "nip in the air!"

Time to change into wonderfully soft and cozy sweaters.

We offer you comfortable yet classic lifestyle clothing for everyday, work, special occasions or that weekend away!

Come on in and let us keep you looking fresh and fun for the upcoming season.

17 Toronto Street South, Markdale, ON  
519.986.4119 (Please see ad on page 41)



If you could see the  
air in your home,  
you'd hold your breath.



The air that you breathe in your home  
is filled with contaminants, such as  
mould, mildew and odours caused by  
excess moisture and humidity.

**The E-Z Breathe Ventilation System**

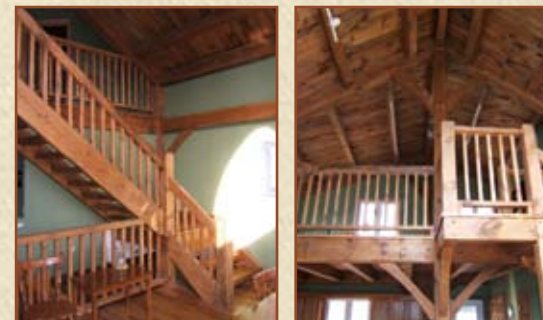
- Expels stale, polluted air and pet odour
- Rids your home of damaging moisture
- Replenishes your home with dry, clean air
- Eliminates condensation on windows.



**We Fix Leaky Basements and More!**

Our estimates are always friendly and FREE call  
**Grubb & Gutscher today!**

**1-888-799-5211**  
**basement-boss.ca**

**BUY DIRECT FROM THE SAWMILL!**

- ALL DECKING MATERIALS
- BOARD & BATTEN ■ POST & BEAM
- WHITE PINE FLOORING ■ T&G SIDING

High Quality: White Pine, Red Pine, Cedar, Hemlock  
1" Boards - 2" Dimension; 4" and 6" Squares

SALE - 1"x 8" pine boards 40 cents a linear foot

CALL FOR QUOTE

**MOGGIE VALLEY TIMBER INC.**

RR#1 Holland Centre, ON

**519-794-0018**

[www.moggievalleytimber.com](http://www.moggievalleytimber.com)

Mon - Thurs - 7:30am to 5:30pm

Friday - 7:30am to 12:30pm



*A little temptation ...*  
*from those who spend their lives trying to avoid it.*



Furniture to match your  
look and needs.  
Let us design and build  
for your home.

**Country Charm**  
Mennonite Furniture

17 George St, Caledon **519-927-1789**  
Hwy 6 & 10, Owen Sound **519-376-4434**  
[www.ccharm.com](http://www.ccharm.com)

Bedrooms Buffets & Hutches Chairs & Rockers Tables Home Office



View full PDFs of  
**OUR HOMES**  
free magazine for  
on your mobile  
devices!

Discover local talent.

Meet stylish homeowners.

Find local homes related  
businesses in your neighbourhood.

View **OUR HOMES** across the province.

PLUS enter contests and  
enjoy web exclusive articles.

All at [www.ourhomesmagazine.com](http://www.ourhomesmagazine.com)

**ourhomes**  
STYLE • COMFORT • IDEAS • REAL ESTATE



people

# KITCHEN & BATH *smarts*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

Sure, winter is a beautiful season, if you're warm and cosy, admiring it from inside your home. 'Tis the season for enjoying our indoor space, cooking hearty meals for friends and family and taking nice relaxing baths. These two rooms, the kitchen and bathroom, see a lot of action through the chilly months, so we're introducing you to local kitchen and bath experts who can help you create the rooms you've always wanted.



## ◀ Bryan Duncan & John Carscadden

**Exquisite Wood Designs Inc.**

**WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR COMPANY?** We focus on unique custom kitchens. Nothing we do is standard. No two projects are the same.

**WHAT'S HOT IN KITCHEN & BATHROOM DESIGN?** Crisp horizontal lines, minimal clutter and hidden appliances. Quartz or steel backsplashes are also hot right now.

**WHAT SHOULD HOMEOWNERS CONSIDER WHEN RENOVATING A KITCHEN?** Homeowners should look at the entire house and how it flows into the kitchen, not just in terms of style, but function as well.

**FAVOURITE KITCHEN FEATURES:** Built-in microwave drawers and refrigerator drawers.

*Continued on page 46*



## DETAILS THAT GET NOTICED

*Exquisite*  
*Wood Design Inc.*  
*Your custom Kitchen specialist!*

1980 20th St. East, Owen Sound  
519.370.0808  
[www.ewdesigns.ca](http://www.ewdesigns.ca)

Get the free mobile app at  
<http://gettag.mobi>







### ◀ Ted and Reay Hunter The Old Barn Polished Stone Creations

**WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR COMPANY?** We are a family run, 100 per cent custom shop. We stock over 40 colours in full slab, so our customers don't always have to travel to Toronto to choose their countertop.

**COUNTERTOP TRENDS:** Exotic granite has been big this year. Bold patterns mean a one-of-a-kind countertop. In quartz, subtle patterns for modern kitchens seem to be in demand.

**WHAT DON'T MOST PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT GRANITE?** It's more affordable than you think and it's a great way to bring new life to tired kitchens. Upgrade to granite in your existing kitchen and you'll be amazed at the transformation.



### Karen Thomson ▶

#### Hanover Kitchen & Bath Gallery

**SPECIALTY:** Patience! The ability to gently guide clients out of their comfort zone and out of the box.

**WHAT SHOULD HOMEOWNERS CONSIDER WHEN RENOVATING A BATHROOM?** They should consider the function of the room, must-haves versus wants, and the budget.

**DESIGN TRENDS:** In the kitchen, ease of operation - having items accessible at your fingertips - is very desirable. In the bathroom, having a separate tub and shower creates the feeling of a spa-like retreat.

**FAVOURITE NEW PRODUCT:** Delta In2ition® detachable hand shower, which can run separately from the shower head or simultaneously with it. It keeps the design clean, uncluttered and cuts costs.

*Continued on page 48*

WELCOME TO

# West Grey

www.westgrey.com



AIR CONDITIONING • WATER SYSTEMS • FIREPLACES

**519-369-3411**

### PRATT PLUMBING & HEATING

- Heating
- Air Conditioning
- Water Systems

We deliver satisfaction with a smile and pride ourselves on offering the highest value on all the products we service & install.

At Pratt's Plumbing and Heating, you can rest assured that you will be well taken care of before & more importantly after the service!

R.R. # 4  
Durham, Ontario  
519-369-3411



### ECKHARDTS' FLORAL TREASURES

Serving Durham, Flesherton and surrounding area for 25 years.

David & Darlene welcome you to view their creative selection of home décor, unique gifts, jewelry and exceptional selection of fresh flowers for weddings, sympathy & YOU!

127 Garafraxa St. N., Durham  
519-369-6815  
14 Toronto St., Flesherton  
519-924-0444



### RON TORRY PAINTING & DECORATING LTD.

Specializing in Interior and Exterior Painting and Wallpaper hanging.

With over 34 years of painting experience, Ron Torry can help you make colour choices you'll love for years to come.



R.R. #1  
Markdale  
519-986-3026



### THE HARVEST TABLE

"A harvest of home accents and decor." Accented with antiques, we offer a variety of home decor, jewelry, a children's section with shoes and toys.

Bridal registry available.

Store hours: Tues - Fri 10 to 5 & Sat 10 to 4



144 Garafraxa St. North,  
Durham, north of the lights  
519-369-6167



### CUSTOM SODA PREP AND PAINT

Refinishing log homes, wood siding and decks, brick cleaning  
Hot and cold pressure washing  
Media blasting including baking soda, crushed glass, walnut shell, corn cob grit, aluminium oxide, sand etc.

Wood staining using SANSIN stains, Sherwin Williams, Wood Plus

**Free delivery on Sansin products ordered before March 30/13.**

Springmount Business Park  
Owen Sound  
Office: 519-363-2999  
Jim's Cell: 519-378-3590  
www.customsoda.ca



### TEMPTATIONS

Nestled in the heart of Hanover enjoy a small town experience with urban style.

Ladies...we carry a full range of fashions for you and your home.

Main Floor - Home Decor  
Upper Level - Fashion & Accessories.

*Temptations*  
fashion accessories  
**Temptations**  
GIFTS & HOME DECOR

332 10th Street, Hanover  
519-364-1819  
www.temptationshanover.com



### OLD OVEN BAKERY

We specialize in freshly baked breads and yummy treats.

Our cream puffs are famous for their real whipped cream filling and our croissants will make you think of Paris.

Come in and warm up with our homemade soup and fair trade coffee.

Open Tuesday through Saturday 8am to 5pm. Friday until 6pm.

162 Garafraxa St.,  
Durham  
519-369-6815



### CANDLES DELIGHT

Come in to view our huge selection of unique wedding accessories.

Guest Books  
Cake Knives  
Candle Holders  
Vases & Frames of crystal, silver, and gold.

Let us help you put those finishing touches to your special day.

Candles Delight carries a unique variety of gifts and collectables for all of your gift giving ideas!

254 10th Street  
Hanover  
519-364-4456





## ◀ Stacey Hill

### Artery

**SPECIALTY:** Bathrooms and plumbing  
**TELL US ABOUT ARTERY:** I was an art director and my husband Sean Crawford is a plumber, so this business is where our two worlds collide (in a good way). Sean is also pretty design-savvy, which I think our customers appreciate. Along with fixtures for your bathroom or kitchen, we also offer decorative accessories and linens in the store.

**WHAT'S HOT IN BATHROOM DESIGN?** Natural elements - bathroom designs that are clean, modern and white with some textural elements such as wooden stools and mirrors, baskets or textured linens to warm up the space.

**WHAT ARE THE LATEST MUST-HAVES?** Wall-mounted toilets and basin faucets.

**FAVOURITE NEW PRODUCT:** The new Amaze freestanding tub by Neptune. It's acrylic but unlike most acrylic tubs, there are no visible seams or edges.

## Kelly VanDolder ▶

### VanDolder's Kitchen and Bath

**WHY CHOOSE VANDOLDER'S?** We've been in business for almost 40 years and boast a creative team of design graduates and veterans who provide the best in space planning and home design.

**WHAT'S HOT IN KITCHEN DESIGN?** Using a combination of finishes, such as planning the main kitchen area in one colour and the island in a complementary colour, or having the base cabinets different from the uppers.

**LATEST BATHROOM MUST-HAVE:** A handheld shower head and slide bar. The removable hand shower makes cleaning easy and the adjustable feature with the slide bar accommodates different heights.

**FAVOURITE NEW PRODUCT:** Formica's new IdealEdge™ for laminate countertops, which features two profiles where all edges can be profiled the same. It's also an affordable alternative. **OH**



# REAL ESTATE TALK SHOW

WITH HOST  
**JON MEYER**  
 SATURDAY 9 am



**A SPOTLIGHT ON REAL ESTATE IN GREY AND BRUCE COUNTIES**

**560CFOS**  
 THE OLDIES YOU WANT, THE INFO YOU NEED.  
[www.560CFOS.ca](http://www.560CFOS.ca)

Brought to you by:



*august skies*  
 home décor ♦ etc.

Gifts, Décor & More...all year round.

661 Goderich St., Port Elgin | 519-389-3388

Did you know you can find  
**OUR HOMES**  
 in the following markets?

Barrie . Calgary AB . Grey Bruce . Hamilton . Kitchener/Waterloo .  
 London . Mississauga . Muskoka . Oakville/Burlington .  
 Ottawa . Peterborough . Sault Ste. Marie & Algoma .  
 Southern Georgian Bay . Vaughan .  
 Wellington County/Orangeville/Caledon . Windsor .  
 \*And coming soon: Durham Region

You can own  
**OUR HOMES** too!

Be your own boss, put your network to work for you, provide the very best advertising solutions in your community, and build equity in your very own business.

Each regional OUR HOMES magazine features **local** content, **local** homes, **local** style, **local** builders, **local** trades, and **local** stores.

View any regional magazine at [www.ourhomesmagazine.com](http://www.ourhomesmagazine.com)

Join our happy and successful team and create maximum value for your advertisers and readers.

Visit [www.ourhomesmagazine.com](http://www.ourhomesmagazine.com)  
 & click on franchise opportunities. Or call  
 Suzanne Strong, VP Franchising

519.538.4528 • [franchise@ourhomesmagazine.com](mailto:franchise@ourhomesmagazine.com)



STYLE • COMFORT • IDEAS • REAL ESTATE  
**ourhomes**  
 Creating value, creating opportunities



# ALMOND GINGER CHOCOLATE BARK

+ *lots of topping variations*

BY MARIA DASILVA // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT HUNTER



## ALMOND GINGER CHOCOLATE BARK

(Makes: about 20 pieces)

1 lb (450 g) dark chocolate, chopped

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup toasted whole almonds, coarsely chopped

$\frac{2}{3}$  cup candied ginger, thinly sliced

- Melt chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a pot of gently simmering water, stirring often until smooth.
- Stir in about one third of each of the almonds and candied ginger. Pour mixture onto parchment paper-lined baking sheet and gently spread with the back of a spoon until about an even scant  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (1 cm) thickness.
- Sprinkle with remaining almonds and candied ginger.
- Refrigerate until solid, about 20 minutes. Break or cut into pieces.
- The bark will keep refrigerated in an airtight container for about 1 week.
- For gift giving, package as desired.

Every year about this time, as the mercury drops and the days get shorter, my mind naturally turns to the fast-approaching holiday season. And one of my favourite holiday traditions is poring over cookbooks looking for inspiration for this year's homemade gifts from my kitchen. Nothing is sweeter than stirring, swirling and baking up tasty treats to wrap and deliver to friends, family, co-workers, teachers and other special folks in my life. While the cookies, candies and breads I bake may vary from year to year, a staple gift from my kitchen is chocolate bark. It's appealing because of its simplicity and opportunity for variations. Plus, it's chocolate – and who doesn't love the gift of chocolate?

There are few ingredients involved, so I like to splurge a little and choose the best chocolate I can find. Dark chocolate is my favourite base for bark – its rich, deep flavour complements the roasted nuts and sweet fruits that dot the surface. But milk chocolate and white chocolate (or perhaps all three!) work wonderfully as well. As for the nuts and fruit, anything goes. Peanuts, cashews, pecans, pistachios, hazelnuts, apricots, cranberries, raisins, cookie bits, candy pieces, pretzels, marshmallows – you get the point! Stick to three toppings at most so that each flavour gets a chance to shine without getting muddled in the mix.

For this year's bark, I'm going with the combination of dark chocolate, almonds and candied ginger – a little bit toasty, a little bit spicy and perfectly decadent. Happy holidays!

### VARIATION:

Pistachio Cranberry  
Apricot Swirl Bark – Melt separately 10 oz. (280 g) dark chocolate and 6 oz. (170 g) white chocolate. Stir one third of each:  $\frac{2}{3}$  cup roasted shelled pistachios,  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup dried apricots, quartered and  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup dried cranberries into the melted dark chocolate. Spread onto baking sheet. Drizzle with melted white chocolate. Use toothpick, skewer, or back of knife to swirl the chocolates together. Sprinkle with remaining pistachios, apricots and cranberries. Continue as recipe above. **OH**

**The Rusty Star**  
Solid Wood Mennonite Furniture  
& Country Home Decor  
(519) 922-2010  
E:therustystar@live.com  
W: www.therustystar.ca



**13 000 sq ft showroom**  
Specializing in custom wood designs  
LOCATED AT GREY RD. #4 MAXWELL  
Hours: Mon-Fri: 9:00 am - 5:30 pm  
Sat: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (Closed Sundays)

**MAC TAYLOR**  
CORPORATION

— Septic Systems —  
Conventional & Advanced Treatment Systems

Lot Preparation • Gravel • Driveways

*Over 30 years Experience!*

RR#3 Holland Centre, ON N0H 1R0 **519 794-2380**  
www.mactaylor.com  
email: info@mactaylor.com Fax **519 794-3701**

**Advertise in our Spring Issue & get noticed!**

Give **YOUR BUSINESS** the benefit of premium exposure to **100,000+** targeted readership!

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES & SALES, PLEASE CONTACT:  
**Betty Ann Fawcett**  
**519.986.2599**  
bettyann@ourhomesmagazine.com

**ourhomes**  
MAGAZINE

**Pilkington**  
ROOF TRUSS  
Al Pilkington  
Owner/Operator

Engineered Roof & Floor Systems  
Residential • Agricultural • Commercial

519.794.3524 Holland Centre cell 519.372.8835

**Hidden Pasture Farm**

**Pastured Pork**  
**Naturally Raised**  
**Limited Quantities Available!**

www.hiddenpasturefarm.com  
clark@hiddenpasturefarm.com  
519-375-2041, Markdale, ON  
f CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

**MOVING YOUR WORLD!**

• Local, National, Worldwide Moving  
• Competitive Pricing, Professional Service  
• Temperature Controlled Warehouse  
• On Site Storage "U Can"  
• Public Self Storage



**JOHN THOMPSON MOVERS**  
*The Area's Premier Moving Company For Over 45 Years*  
519-376-7613 johnthompsonmovers@jtmovers.com 1-800-567-5354



directory

OUR HOMES attracts the area’s finest businesses to advertise in our pages. Since our first issue, more than 400 companies have utilized our unparalleled distribution and coffee-table appeal to market their products and services. Now we’re making it easier than ever for you, our readers, to become educated as you plan your home- and real estate-related purchasing decisions. The listings below are organized alphabetically by industry.

**APPLIANCES**  
MACDONALDS BRANDSOURCE  
FURNITURE & APPLIANCES Pg 33  
SQUARE DEAL NEIL'S TV & APPLIANCES Pg 17

**ART/ARTISANS/ART GALLERIES,  
STUDIO & WORKSHOPS**  
BRANCHING OUT ON LINE Pg 29

**AUTOMOBILE SALES & SERVICE**  
HUTCHISON AUTOMOTIVE/OK TIRE Pg 41

**BUILDERS**  
CANDUE HOMES Pg 39  
CHRISTIE CONTRACTING Pg 33  
FREEBURN FINE HOMES Pg 11  
GORD LAWSON CONTRACTING Pg 28  
SNYDER DEVELOPMENT Pg 28

**BUILDING/LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES**  
CENTRE GREY BUILDING SUPPLIES Pg 41  
FLESHERTON/MARKDALE HOME  
HARDWARE Pg 41  
MOGGIE VALLEY TIMBER INC. Pg 43

**CABINETS & MILLWORK/  
FINE WOODWORKING**  
EXQUISITE WOOD DESIGN Pg 45  
L-M WOODCRAFT Pg 6  
PEAR TREE CABINETS Pg 39  
TOPNOTCH FURNITURE Pg 56

**CLOTHING/JEWELRY/ACCESSORIES**  
PEEK THRU MY WINDOW Pg 41, 42  
TEMPTATIONS - FASHION ACCESSORIES Pg 47

**COUNTERTOPS/GRANITE  
& STONE**  
DI PIETRA DESIGN Pg 7  
THE OLD BARN Pg 53

**DESIGNERS & ARCHITECTS**  
BENJ ART INC. - LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTS & CONTRACTORS Pg 10  
DÉCOR DESIGN Pg 39  
MURAWSKY DESIGN & DRAFTING Pg 53

**EXCAVATING/SITE PREP/SEPTIC**  
GROUND-UP CONTRACTING Pg 55  
MAC TAYLOR CORPORATION Pg 51

**FIREPLACES & STOVES/  
HEATING & COOLING**  
AIR TECH MECHANICAL Pg 9, 42  
MOUNTAIN TOP CHIMNEY SWEEP Pg 19  
NORTHERN HEATING & VENTILATION Pg 33  
PRATT'S PLUMBING & HEATING Pg 47  
THE FYRE PLACE & PATIO SHOP Pg 17

**FLOORING, STAIRS & TRIM**  
CUNEO INTERIORS LTD. Pg 15

L-M WOODCRAFT Pg 6  
MOGGIE VALLEY TIMBER INC. Pg 43

**FLORISTS**  
ECKHARDTS' FLORAL TREASURES Pg 47

**FOOD/DRINK/CATERING**  
HIDDEN PASTURE FARM Pg 51  
OLD OVEN BAKERY Pg 47  
SUSAN'S DELI & TREATS Pg 41

**FURNITURE & HOME DÉCOR**  
COUNTRY CHARM Pg 43  
DJ'S FURNITURE Pg 39  
J'ADORN Pg 10  
LITTLE'S FURNITURE Pg 6  
MACDONALDS BRANDSOURCE  
FURNITURE & APPLIANCES Pg 33  
SMITTY'S FINE FURNITURE Pg 25  
THE RUSTY STAR Pg 51  
THEN & NOW, CONSIGNMENT & HOME  
DECOR Pg 41  
TOPNOTCH FURNITURE Pg 56

**GEO THERMAL**  
NORTHERN HEATING & VENTILATION Pg 33

**HOME DÉCOR/GIFTS/COLLECTIBLES**  
AUGUST SKIES HOME DECOR ETC Pg 49  
CANDLES DELIGHT Pg 47  
ECKHARDTS' FLORAL TREASURES Pg 47  
INSIDE IDEAS Pg 53  
PEEK THRU MY WINDOW Pg 41, 42  
TEMPTATIONS - GIFTS & HOME DECOR Pg 47  
THE FYREPLACE & PATIO SHOP Pg 9  
THE HARVEST ROOM Pg 53  
THE HARVEST TABLE Pg 47

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
GORD LAWSON CONTRACTING Pg 28  
GRUBB & GUTSCHER  
- BASEMENT BOSS Pg 42  
GRUBB & GUTSCHER  
- ENVIRO PAVING Pg 8

**INTERIOR DESIGN**  
DIVA DECOR Pg 33

**KITCHEN AND BATH**  
EXQUISITE WOOD DESIGN Pg 45  
HANOVER KITCHEN & BATH GALLERY Pg 11  
PEAR TREE CABINETS Pg 39

**LANDSCAPING/LAWN & GARDEN**  
BENJ ART INC. - LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTS & CONTRACTORS Pg 10  
GROUND EFFECTS LANDSCAPES Pg 13  
GROUND-UP CONTRACTING Pg 55  
HUTTEN & CO LANDSCAPING Pg 27  
ROCKSOLID LANDSCAPES Pg 2

**LIGHTING & ELECTRICAL**  
LIVING LIGHTING - OWEN SOUND Pg 13

**MEDIA**  
BAYSHORE BROADCASTING Pg 49

**MOVING**  
JOHN THOMPSON MOVERS Pg 51

**NEW HOME COMMUNITIES**  
GRANDVIEW HOMES Pg 3  
INVERLYN LAKE ESTATES Pg 7  
MACGREGOR HOMES Pg 27  
SNYDER DEVELOPMENT Pg 28  
SUMMERSIDE - REID'S HERITAGE HOMES  
Pg 5

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**  
CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION Pg 29

**OUTDOOR FURNITURE**  
THE FYRE PLACE & PATIO SHOP Pg 9

**PAINTING & DECORATING**  
CUNEO INTERIORS LTD. Pg 15  
RON TORRY PAINTING & DECORATING Pg 47

**PAINTING, PRIMING, BLASTING  
& SANDING**  
CUSTOM SODA PREP AND PAINT Pg 47

**PLUMBING**  
PRATT'S PLUMBING & HEATING Pg 47

**REAL ESTATE**  
WILFRED MCINTEE & CO - HAROLD FENLON Pg 4  
WINDCHIME REALTY LTD. BROKERAGE Pg 29

**ROOFING**  
PILKINGTON ROOF TRUSS Pg 51

**SPAS, HOT TUBS & SAUNAS**  
RINTOUL'S LEISURESCAPES Pg 15

**STONE PRODUCTS**  
LEDGEROCK Pg 25

**STORAGE/RENTAL SPACE**  
FLESHERTON STORAGE Pg 41

**WATER TREATMENT**  
MCCANN WATER SYSTEMS Pg 41

**WINDOW FASHIONS**  
CUNEO INTERIORS LTD. Pg 15  
DÉCOR DESIGN Pg 39  
INSIDE IDEAS Pg 53

**WINDOWS & DOORS**  
GEORGIAN BAY WINDOW & DOOR Pg 19

A TOUCH OF ELEGANCE



PIROUETTE®  
Window Shades

MANUFACTURER'S  
REBATE  
MIN. **\$200\***

\*See this participating dealer for details



THE HOLIDAY  
HOME MAKEOVER EVENT

Makeover your home this holiday season with Hunter Douglas window fashions. Pirouette® window shades play with light and give your home that special holiday sparkle. From September 1st to December 19th, 2012, ask us how you can receive a minimum of \$200 in Hunter Douglas manufacturer's rebates.


**HunterDouglas**

**Inside Ideas**

BLINDS - FABRIC - DRAPERY

Gail Slocombe  
829 2nd Avenue East, Owen Sound  
519-371-6926  
Largest Showroom in the Area

The Harvest Room



The Harvest Room Special Events and Learning Centre


**Winter Workshops**

519.881.7972    [www.theharvestroom.ca](http://www.theharvestroom.ca)


Check out our online calendar for workshop details

**THE OLD BARN**

**POLISHED STONE CREATIONS**



**Your local source for  
Granite, Marble and Quartz  
Counter Tops**



173480 Mulock Road  
between Durham and Hanover  
**theoldbarngranite.ca** **519-369-1710**

**MURAWSKY  
DESIGN & DRAFTING**

Residential design & consultation



**Proud to be  
associated with  
this month's  
ourhomes  
Feature Home**

Custom homes & cottages  
Additions & renovations

Saugeen Shores (Port Elgin), ON  
**519-389-9225**  
[dan@murawskydesign.com](mailto:dan@murawskydesign.com)  
[www.murawskydesign.com](http://www.murawskydesign.com)

**M**

MURAWSKY  
AND Design  
DRAFTING

OUR HOMES is committed to ensuring the businesses above appear under the correct headings. To make a correction, or to have your business listed under more than one heading, please email us at [bettyann@ourhomesmagazine.com](mailto:bettyann@ourhomesmagazine.com). To have your business listed in our Home Resource Directory, call us to advertise at 519.986.2599.



finishing touch

# WRAPPED UP *in style*

BY DEBORAH MASTERS // PHOTOGRAPHY BY TARA CHATELL

A beautifully wrapped gift won't go unnoticed. A little thought and creativity can go a long way in making a loved one feel special and cared for.

Designer Deborah Masters wows us with gift-wrapping inspiration in three stunning designs.

## 1. GLAMOUR GIRL

Try an elegant colour palette of black, white and silver. Deborah used a black, corrugated gift bag to wrap a gift, covered it in lace paper and glammed it up with a jewelled ribbon, a light aqua ribbon and a silver bird.

## 2. NATURE LOVER

Venture out to your backyard to find some fresh greenery, like boxwood, to add to your wrapping. Deborah found some mini pinecones, a moss basket and some sticky-back cork paper at a local craft shop. She wrote the lucky recipient's name in chalk against a recycled piece of corrugated black paper.

## 3. CHIC CHICK

Using scrapbooking paper means you don't have to buy a whole roll and can personalize each gift. Playing off the gold in the design, Deborah chose beautiful gold and copper ribbons, added a few sticky jewels to the paper and topped off the gifts with embellished clip birds. **OH**



online

For more gift-wrapping inspiration visit  
[www.ourhomesmagazine.com/wrapping](http://www.ourhomesmagazine.com/wrapping)



Before



After

# GROUND-UP CONTRACTING

Whether you are looking for a better way to **clear land**, or **landscape mulch for your garden**, or anything in between, you can count on us to supply you with professional, courteous, and informed service.

**Are you a landscaper or a nursery? Call for more information about our mulch dealer network.**

**235332 Conc. 2C R.R.#1 Williamsford | 519.794.2842**



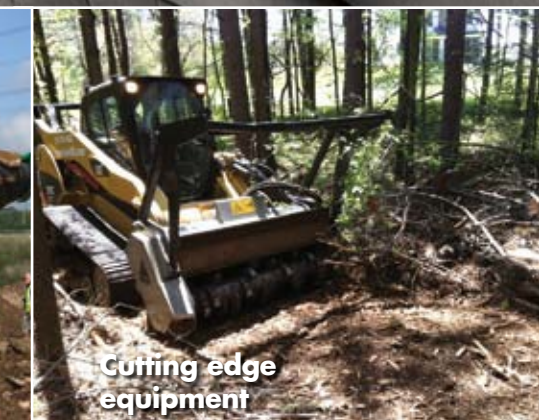
**The Benefits of  
Mulching and Grinding**

Environmentally friendly since it breaks apart wood and allows it to start decomposing almost immediately. No burning, chipping or extra manpower required. All nutrients returned to the soil. Selective mulching lets you keep the trees you want. Grinding waste results in HUGE landfill cost savings.



**When it comes to our business,  
we offer powerful resources...**

Eco Friendly Land Clearing, Waste Wood Recycling Programs  
Mulch Sales, Custom Mulch Production and Grinding  
Stump Processing and Custom Screening  
Trail Creation, Retaining Walls  
Site Prep for Building Lots and Sub-Divisions  
Land Fill Diversion, Stump Grinding, Woodlot Thinning  
Demolition



**Cutting edge  
equipment**

Our mulching head and MTL combination lets us mulch up brush, scrub, dead trees and much more.

**We produce composts, enhanced topsoil, pH balanced triple mix, shredded pine bark mulch, cedar mulch, and coloured mulch in red, black and brown.**

**[groundupcontracting.ca](http://groundupcontracting.ca)**



# *Topnotch* furniture **Solid Wood Classics**



*Topnotch*  
furniture

Dining | Bedroom | Living Room | Other Custom Furniture

**It's a Tradition** of style and quality that you can depend on. When you purchase heirloom furniture, you can rest assured that you've invested in the finest classic solid wood furniture. It's built with care from premium woods and finished for maximum beauty and durability. And what's more...your custom ordered piece is built for you...and your children.



***Visit our showroom, discuss your needs with us and we'll be delighted to create the furniture you need for your home!***

Showroom Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5:30; Sat 9-3 | #89446 Huron Road 30, 1 km north of Hwy 87 on Fordwich Line

**[www.topnotchfurniture.com](http://www.topnotchfurniture.com) | 519.335.3213**