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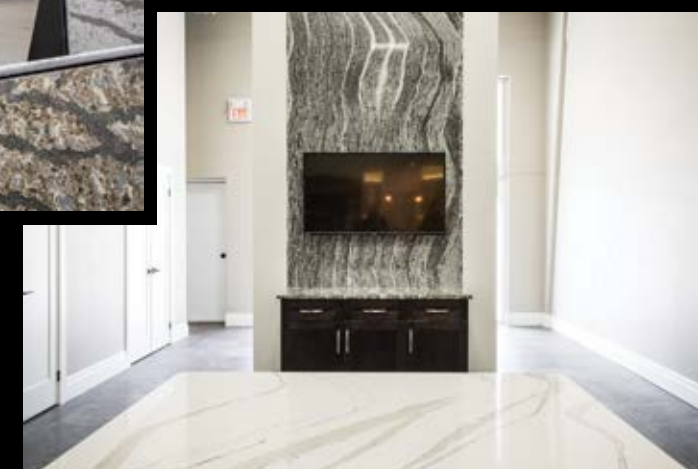
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Me and my son Rennon

**"PEOPLE DON'T KNOW WHY THEY FEEL THE WAY THEY FEEL,** but it's actually all been orchestrated" says iconic British designer Ilse Crawford when speaking about enhancing the human condition through the thoughtful and mindful design of space. Ilse goes on to say that "design is not just a 'look' – it affects how we feel and how we behave." As an interior design professional I could not agree more: it's one of the reasons I chose to pursue a career in the world of design.

This concept is beautifully illustrated in the features we bring to you this season. The care, thought and attention to detail that went into every aspect of the design of the new Chapman House Residential Hospice of Grey Bruce in Owen Sound all return to the primary objective of enhancing the well-being of families and their loved ones during a difficult time in life.

Gord and Linda Cooke's Southampton cottage (which happens to be one of the most energy efficient homes in Canada) boasts an indoor air quality that optimizes the well-being of its occupants and has resulted in guests having the best night's sleep they've ever had. This is timely as the research between adequate sleep and our overall physical, mental and emotional health is just beginning to weave its way into mainstream culture.

Finally, the driving force for Eric and Courtney Hopkins in the design of their new home was the desire to create a space that was light and bright. Of course, there are no shortage of studies that correlate the positive impact of natural sunlight on human well-being and happiness.

Design is much more than a certain look or of-the-moment aesthetic: design is a tool that can be used to impact lives in a positive way, and as Ilse says, "to leave the world a better place."

Enjoy,

*Tamarisk McNalty Stephens*

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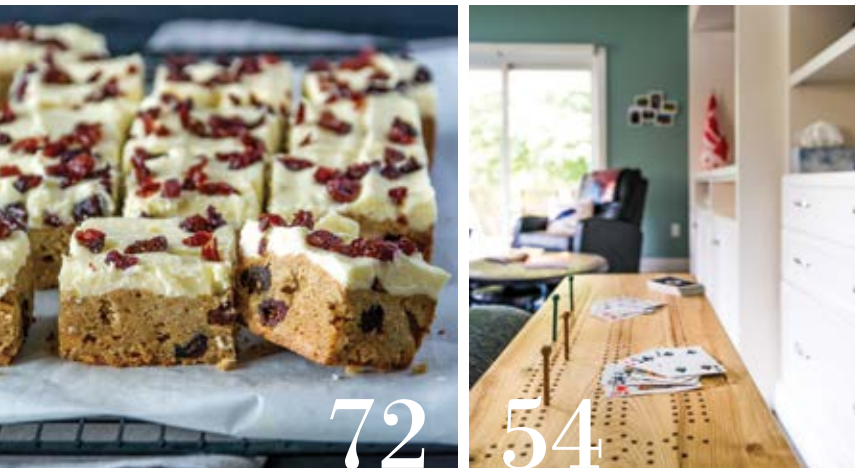
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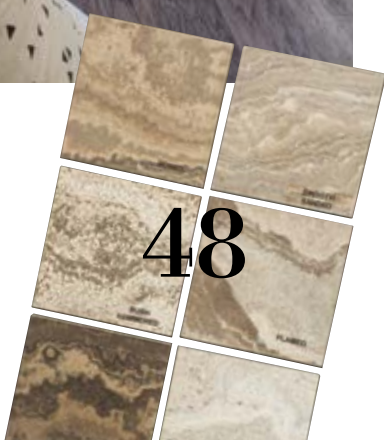
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### ON THE COVER

A living wall graces the communal kitchen in the new Hospice in Grey-Bruce. Story, page 76.  
Photography by Sandy MacKay.



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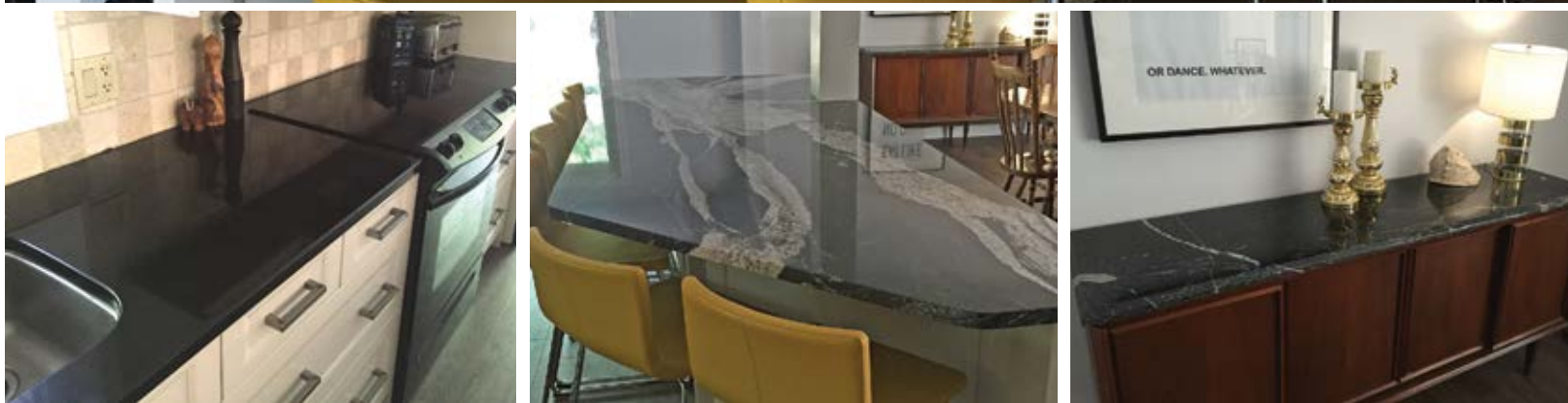
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## advice



# AREA RUGS

Interior Designer **Dolores Pian** shares her ideas.

Back in the 50s, 60s and 70s, families were very proud of their luxurious wall-to-wall carpeting, and in some cases, installed it up the wall. Slowly, wood plank flooring became the norm. In came the area rug.

Hard surface floors, whether stone, wood or laminate, can use an area rug to help define a space, mute noisy footsteps, camouflage worn or uneven floors or add warmth and cosiness to a space.

## EVOLUTION OF CARPET

Carpet design is a huge industry and area rugs especially are a great way to add a bold statement, a splash of colour or a large pattern. While neutrals still dominate area rug purchases, more people are picking modern designs and brighter colours. Even traditional Persian motifs are getting a colour refresh.

Once furniture is placed on a rug, the rug pops enough to give your room some panache. Michael Pourvakil, owner of Toronto's Weavers Art, believes floors are a room's fifth wall, and another place to enjoy visual luxury.

Creative Matters, another Canadian company, designs custom area rugs for the rich and famous worldwide. Known for practical products with vibrant hues, they use as many

as 50 different yarn colours for each unique rug.

Not only are carpets tufted and woven, they can be printed with the use of tiny ink jets. For example, Pantone, known for their colour matching, is using its ink-printing knowledge to produce playful and emotional colour combinations for the floor.

FLOR, a carpet-tile manufacturer, took their office products and recoloured and restyled them for the residential market. You can cut, mix or match any shape or size you need.

## MATERIAL POSSIBILITIES

### NATURAL FIBRE

**Natural fibres singe and are naturally fire resistant, and include:**

**Wool:** From sheep. Luxurious and durable. Fibre traits reduce visible soil. Hard wearing.

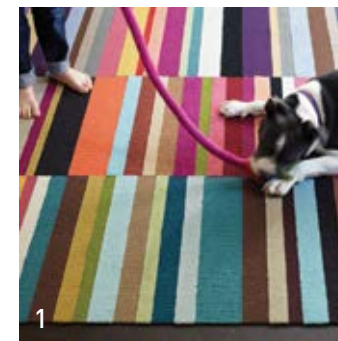
**Silk:** From the silk worm's cocoon. It has a sensual sheen and soft feel.

**Jute / Sisal:** Plant fibre. Has a strong, rough texture. Stains easily. Can turn mouldy when wet.

**Cotton:** Comes from a plant seed-pod. Stains easily. Not long wearing.

### SYNTHETIC FIBRE

**Synthetic fibres can melt or burn and include:**



**Nylon:** A petroleum product. The hardest wearing and best looking of all the artificial fibres. Great appearance retention and wears well. Better resistance to crushing and matting. Great for high-traffic areas. Easy to clean.

**Art Silk / Bamboo / Silk Viscose:** Made of cellulose, which is a synonym for rayon. Crushes easily. Does not wear well. Difficult to get stains out.

**Olefin / Acrylic / Polyester:** Petroleum products. Resist fading. Chemical, moisture and stain resistant but crush easily. Low appearance retention.

## PRACTICALLY SPEAKING

**When selecting a carpet, focus on:**

Appearance or newness retention.

Retention of original colour and texture.

Fibre properties, yarn characteristics, finishes and construction features.

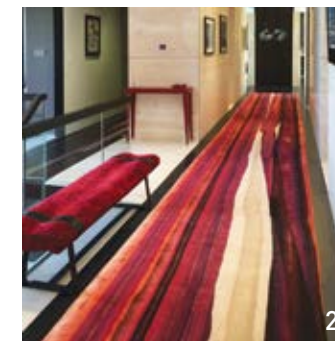
Anticipated traffic levels.

## CARPET CARE

**Rotate:** Balding will occur over high traffic areas, so turn rugs periodically or flip where possible.

**Vacuum Regularly:** Sand and dirt can act as micro blades sawing away at fibres, so vacuum regularly.

**Pad:** Using an under pad makes carpets soft and cushy, prevents slipping and sliding and protects



the underside of the carpet, allowing sand and dirt to filter to the under pad and not scratch your floor.

**Pets:** Our four-legged furry friends can have accidents. Protect with a carpet sealant.

**Beverages / Food:** The worst offenders are red wine and blueberries. The 10-second rule does not apply. Send carpet to be cleaned, you'll be glad you did.

## DESIGN TIPS

Choose your rug before you've chosen fabrics for your drapes and sofa. It's difficult and nearly impossible to find an area rug to coordinate with an existing colour scheme.

Let the carpet reveal your ideal colour scheme. Use carpet colours to pick your fabrics and paints.

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR CARPETS?

Look for intelligent rugs that can detect your fall and then call for help.

Net-works by Interface recycles fishing nets from the Philippines to create carpet tiles, providing work for small fishing villages and cleaning up their beaches.

Know that area rugs are now the fifth wall of your room, lying under your feet – there to make your feet and your visual senses happy! **OH**

1. FLOR: Parallel Reality Carpet Tiles
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- 3 & 4. ORIENTAL WEAVERS: Pantone Universe Prismatic Rugs
5. WEAVERS ART: Cliffs & Clouds Rug

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# WARM HUES OF AUTUMN

Discover local gift ideas, décor pieces and home updates for fall entertaining and holiday preparations.

PHOTOGRAPHY SARAH TACOMA



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Continued on page 24



7



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# FEELING BLUE

## 5+ REASONS TO LOVE NAVY

BY YANIC SIMARD



Wondering why navy blue is such a perennial favourite? There are more reasons to love it now than ever (trust me, it will fit in perfectly with your dream 2018 colour schemes), but for now here are my top five, along with many great ways to use this true-blue hue in your own home.

**1 Navy is Versatile.** Navy is a rich hue and a steadfast neutral at the same time, which makes it a savvy colour choice for those who are weary of simple grey – it will cooperate with other hues, but brings a little personality of its own. Also, while navy will never be the “new black,” it is a great stand-in for pitch shades, which can sometimes feel a little harsh against the cheerful colours that are popular today, like soft pinks and leaf greens.

*Try This:* Use navy blue for investment pieces that you want to endure through years of colour trends, like a great sofa – it can mix with changing accent hues, so you can evolve your look over time. It’s also a great colour to use tone-on-tone, so if you aren’t colour-confident, feel free to partner navy with diverse blue shades for a foolproof scheme.



GRESHAM HOUSE: Shelter Sofa with Tuxedo Arm

**2 Navy is Liveable.** I find clients are often a little shy about using a dark colour on the walls. Some crave the dramatic look, but are scared it won’t feel liveable. However, dark navy shades feel as natural as the dusk skyline, so they won’t grow tiresome – just make sure to include some visual breaks with light accents like white door trim, breezy curtains, pale upholstery and art.

*Try this:* Whether you have a colourful palette that needs a calming hue to tie elements together, or want to add drama to a neutral palette, try a rich navy paint like Benjamin Moore’s Delft from their new Century Collection, in an au courant matte finish. For a subtler, greyed-out shade, try Celestine Blue, which is a bit off-navy but brings a similar regal air. *Continued on page 28*



Cobalt

Celestine Blue

Delft



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**TRY MIXING DIFFERING BLUE SHADES – ESPECIALLY IN RICH MATERIALS LIKE NAVY LEATHER.**



Photo: Courtesy of Benjamin Moore.  
Wall Colour: Cobalt.



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design ideas

**3 Navy is Architectural.** Looking for a way to accent architectural elements? Navy makes a perfect pop colour for doors, kitchen cabinets, niches or high ceilings – it calls a bit of attention to such features but lets your other accents be the true star.

*Try this:* Paint a cool half-wall treatment (all over or just an accent wall) up to about 54 inches, and leave the upper half white or off-white. Use this line or a bit higher as a centre point for some framed photos, to break up the look a little more. Now you’ve got an architectural look that retains an open and breezy eyeline, so the space feels enriched but not overwhelmed.



WEST ELM:  
Rauschenberg  
Scoop-Back Chair



FIRECLAY TILE: Abyss Glazed Thin Brick



SURYA: Cotton Velvet  
Pillow in Navy



**FOR A SOPHISTICATED SCHEME, ADD NAVY ELEMENTS IN INTERESTING TEXTURES.**

JAIPUR LIVING: Gramercy By Kate Spade  
New York in Dark Navy Leopard Ikot

**4 Navy is Textural.** Well, to be fair, this one isn’t exactly true – navy as a colour can’t add any texture to a space. BUT, it is great for playing up the texture of surfaces it’s used on. From polished backsplash tiles to rugged stair runners, the demure nature of navy helps bring the textures of a surface to life – especially since its murky depths will set off glossy highlights.

*Try this:* For a sophisticated scheme, add navy elements in interesting textures such as glossy subway tiles, velvet cushions or draperies, woolen throw blankets, lacquered bentwood chairs, sumptuous leathers, sisal carpets and expressive contemporary paintings.

**BLUR THE COLOUR LINES WITH AN “OFF-NAVY,” LIKE THIS MYSTERIOUS PURPLE-BLUE SHADE.**

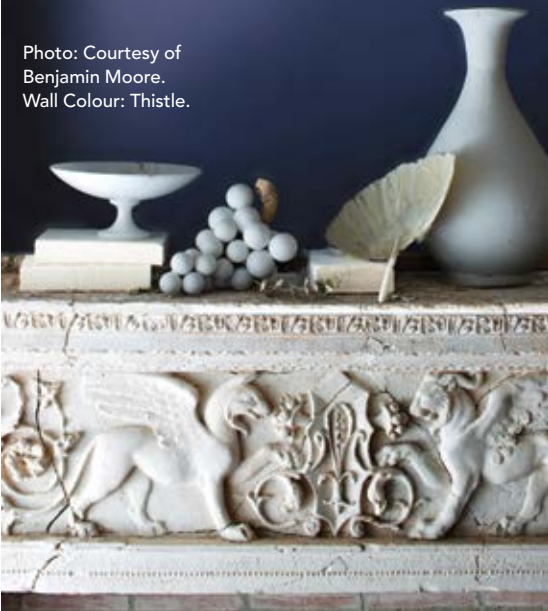


Photo: Courtesy of Benjamin Moore.  
Wall Colour: Thistle.

**5 Navy is Mysterious.** It’s almost 2018, why limit yourself to a strict, pure navy hue? Nebulous, space-inspired hues are huge right now – rich purple Shadow is even Benjamin Moore’s current Colour of the Year – so consider using a warm off-navy indigo shade for even more inky interest.

*Try this:* Use a crossover blue-purple shade like Benjamin Moore’s Thistle or Larkspur Seed to create a mysterious air in an intimate space (like a dining room or den), and let your guests debate whether it reminds them of blackberries or lilacs. **OH**



Larkspur Seed

Thistle



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# Stay Awhile

STORY **TAMARISK MCNALTY STEPHENS**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**



A soft and serene colour palette is anchored by the medium grey hickory floors and Benjamin Moore's Silver Satin OC-26, which flows throughout the home.



This well-established neighbourhood in Hanover is not the place you would expect to discover a brand new build. But standing stately and sure with timeless tradition, **Courtney** and **Eric Hopkins'** two-storey home is settling into the surrounding landscape.

The property backs onto the public trail system and blends the tranquility of country scenery with the proximity to amenities offered by living in town. When speaking of the lot, Courtney says "We're so fortunate and it's not something we'll likely find again." She, along with husband Eric and their two daughters, Macie, 7, and Lilah, 4, can easily hop on the trails for walks and bike rides during the summer months, winding their way along the meandering Saugeen River and throughout town.

The home's symmetrical façade with double gables and welcoming central veranda has been finished in a combination of stucco and stone (**Shouldice Designer Stone, KWP Masonry**), and is smartly punctuated with large, black windows from Golden Windows Ltd. This balance of traditional and modern elements is a theme throughout the home: mixing old and new,

combining refined finishes such as chrome light fixtures (**Hanover Home Hardware Building Centre, Dingwall Electric**) with more rustic elements like driftwood.

Courtney and Eric are no strangers to building, renovating and moving as this is the couple's third build together (with multiple renovations prior). Eric was the general contractor for the build, as he operates **Eric Hopkins Limited**, a multi-crew residential trim and framing company, while Courtney, who offers consultations through her company **Stay Awhile Decorating & Design**, made all of the finish selections. Being willing and able to put their skills to use on personal projects has allowed them to refine their preferences along the way, learn what they'd do differently and then re-invest their knowledge, skills and earnings into the next project. *Continued on page 33*



A grand central staircase pulls out the darker tones found in the flooring. **LEFT:** The shape of the arch top transom above the front door is repeated in the vaulted ceiling of the central covered entrance.



Courtney and Eric Hopkins with their daughters Lilah and Macie in the family living room.





Simple shaker cabinet fronts, functional and beautiful corner display units, a slight arc feature in the kick plate, and panels with trim and crown moulding that take the cabinetry to the ceiling are details that create a classic and timeless kitchen.



This house marks a culmination of lessons learned. The primary focus this time around was to ensure the space was light and bright, and they were mindful to limit design elements that would interrupt natural light flooding the space. Courtney and Eric worked with friend **Neil Watson** of **Watson Designs** to perfect the floor plans and design of the 2,500 sq. ft. home.

Just inside the front door, a soaring, sun-drenched two-storey foyer is anchored by a suitably scaled staircase that is over four-feet wide (Century Stairs Systems Inc.). A main floor office is conveniently located to the right of the entrance, a favourite spot for the girls to play when Eric is at his desk.

The light greys, creams and whites help achieve the bright space the couple envisioned, while also being suitable for life with kids. Courtney explains that she knew she didn't want a white kitchen as she had previously spent too much time wiping down cupboards from fingerprints and the wear of day-to-day living. They opted for grey cabinetry (Barzotti Woodworking Ltd.) and topped it off with a granite countertop from long-time friend **Reay Hunter** of **The Old Barn Polished Stone Creations**.

*Continued on page 35*

**TOP LEFT:** The nature of granite provides a beautiful, one-of-a-kind countertop. The subdued hues of this selection fit right in with the colour palette. **TOP RIGHT:** Lilah and Macie enjoy a slice of pie at a pint-size table for two. **RIGHT:** Trim, doors and mudroom bench supplied by North Pole Trim & Supplies Ltd. and installed by Eric Hopkins Limited.





Courtney says that she wants things “pretty, yet functional” and enjoys the process of finding and transforming furnishings with a fresh coat of paint. The dining table and chairs have been painted and distressed so the wear of everyday living just adds more character and charm.



After battling with footprints and every speck of dust on dark engineered flooring in a previous build, this time they opted for a much more forgiving medium grey engineered hickory.

A linear gas fireplace (Wilson Plumbing Services) with white, dry-stacked stone surround is the focal point of the living area, although the window grouping with a lovely landscape view is also a great feature of the space. In the winter months the family tends to cocoon in the lower-level family room, a perfect place to watch TV and stay cosy.

*Continued on page 36*

**FAR LEFT:** Natural light reflects in the mirrors of the vanity to brighten a small powder room. **LEFT:** The tall, coffered ceiling is a nice detail in Eric's office while the double doors with frosted glass allow the light to filter through to continue the open, airy feeling.



The living room is outfitted for comfort and conversation with a large sofa and a pair of classic rolled arm chairs. The mix of materials creates a soft, cosy and welcoming ambience.





The second level is the more personal zone of the home. At the top of the stairs is a double-door entrance to the principal suite – complete with an organized closet from **Wilson Solutions** – and en suite with double vanity, corner soaker tub and tile shower (**Cuneo Interiors Ltd.**) with glass enclosure. The two gables at the front of the home have been reserved for the girls’ rooms, each featuring a vaulted ceiling and large oval top window. A laundry room is conveniently located amidst the bedrooms where most of the washing is generated. There is also a playfully decorated bathroom for the girls and a spare bedroom when guests land for the night.

*Continued on page 40*

**TOP LEFT:** The double vanity in the principal en suite offers plenty of storage. **LEFT:** A harmonious unit: the quartz tub deck continues into the shower as a bench while the grey subway tile ties the bath and shower together nicely. **TOP RIGHT:** The king size bed is balanced by a pair of windows placed the perfect distance apart. **RIGHT:** When going for a monochromatic scheme, keep it interesting with a variety of textures and materials.





# Stay Awhile

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Kim Longman Photography

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feature



**TOP LEFT:** Neutral materials and finishes allow for fun and colourful accents that can be easily changed as the girls grow. **TOP RIGHT:** Courtney was lucky to find the child-size pink vintage kitchen set on an online swap shop. **LEFT:** Mixing old and new: Macie's bed is a vintage family heirloom. **ABOVE LEFT:** A small space is maximized in the laundry room with storage, hanging for delicates, and a surface for folding and sorting. **ABOVE RIGHT:** A quaint vignette in the laundry room.



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Due to busy schedules in the summer months, they decided to create their own backyard oasis with an in-ground swimming pool (**Clark Pools & Spas**), privacy fence (**Built Wright Fencing**) and plenty of space to entertain. “We keep the pool nice and warm, the girls swim for hours and we’ve been enjoying the water almost daily,” Courtney says.

It’s a lovely home on a desirable property – a great place to raise their daughters and host family and friends (who chuckle at the notion of the couple staying in one place for any length of time). However, they don’t intend to take on another project any time soon. As self-professed homebodies, Courtney and Eric look forward to enjoying the home they’ve created with Macie and Lilah, and this time, they might just stay awhile. **OH**



**ABOVE:** A big flat screen, large linear fireplace and built-in shelves create the focal point of the lower level living area, ready for cosy fall and winter nights. **LEFT:** Outside, the greys are combined with accents of red and yellow. **BOTTOM:** Tamarisk and Courtney chat by the pool where there are multiple seating and lounge areas. A gas fire pit makes sitting out in the evening enjoyable well into the fall.



SOURCE GUIDE

- Barzotti Woodworking Ltd. • Carnegie Heat & Cool • Built Wright Fencing • Candue Homes • Century Stairs Systems Inc. • Chalmers Aluminum Ltd • Clark Pools & Spas • Cuneo Interiors Ltd. • D.C Overhead Door • Dennis Lorenz Roofing • Dingwall Electric • Eric Hopkins Limited • Hanover Home Hardware • Hopkins Unlimited • J&M Precision Painting • JT Excavating Inc. • KWP Masonry • Lahn Home Solutions • North Pole Trim & Supplies Ltd. • River’s Edge Garden Centre • Sears • Shouldice Designer Stone • Stay Awhile Decorating & Design • Struyk Energy Systems Ltd. • The Old Barn Polished Stone Creations • Watson Designs • Wilson Plumbing Services • Wilson Solutions



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# YUCK-FREE kitchen composting

STORY **TAIGAN DANCE**

Many of us are guilty. With good intentions of using the green bin or compost, we've caught ourselves tossing food scraps and leftovers into the garbage. For some of us it's not worth the stench or grime involved in scraping the remnants into the green bin in an age of efficiency and busy lives; it seems easier to toss it all into the garbage.

But, it is fairly easy and worthwhile to live a greener life. While composting and green bin use isn't always pretty, it may soon become mandatory by municipalities. To help make this job easier, here are some products and tips to help make your green bin experience more bearable, less of a choice and more of a routine.

## Products

**A. BioBag:** These bin liners are designed for 35-litre containers and are highly breathable, made of biodegradable plastic and ideal for kitchen waste. BioBag products have a very high penetration barrier against bacteria, viruses, spores and mould.

**B. Compost Pail Charcoal Filter:** The charcoal filters in these Canadian-made pails absorb odours.

**C. Greenlid:** No leaks, no smells. This Canadian-made compostable bin boasts that it is leak-resistant.

**D. Waste Management Odour Disposer:** Using plant-based ingredients safe for kids and pets, this spray rapidly eliminates odour-causing bacteria.

**E. Ecolife Odour Blaster:** Eliminates odours instead of masking them.

## Preventative measures:

**1** To avoid those smelly liquids often found beneath your biodegradable kitchen-catcher, layer newspaper inside the bag to soak up any liquids or smells. You can also line the bin with newspaper or egg cartons to catch any spills from holes in the plastic.

**2** Use a smaller bin that is easy to access in your kitchen. The more frequently this bin is emptied, the less likely odours will consume your kitchen. Be sure to wash your small bin after emptying with warm, soapy water.

**3** To prevent a gag-reflex-worthy encounter with pests and bugs, it is best to avoid tossing expired meats or meat scraps in the bin too early in the week. Wrap your meat scraps in newspaper and store them in the freezer until collection day.

**4** In the winter, to keep your outdoor bin from freezing, try spraying the lid lightly with cooking oil.

**5** In the summer, it is best to keep your bins out of direct sunlight, either in the garage or in a well-shaded area. The warmth from sun exposure causes moisture and makes the matter start to decompose and cause odours.

## Problem solving:

**6** Use natural cleaners in the bin to get rid of unwanted odours or pests. Sprinkling baking soda, spraying the bin lid with vinegar or cleaning with lemon juice are all appropriate ways to clean your bin without the use of harsh chemicals.

**7** Eliminate odours by spraying the bin with a solution made of 50 per cent water and 50 per cent vinegar.

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EFFORTS TO REDUCE  
YOUR WASTE PRODUCTION.  
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TIPS MAKE YEAR-ROUND  
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PHOTO: COURTESY LEE VALLEY

PHOTO: COURTESY OF GREENLID



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# Sweet Dreams

DESIGNER JO ALCORN TURNS A DRAB BEDROOM INTO A DREAMY SPACE.

STORY **JO ALCORN**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**



A wall treatment using great trim products from Metrie adds interest and dimension.

**ALWAYS MAKE YOUR BEDROOM A PRIORITY. IT'S THE FIRST THING YOU SEE IN THE MORNING, AND THE LAST ROOM YOU CURL UP IN AT NIGHT. MAKE IT A PLACE THAT BRINGS YOU JOY.**

While there was nothing wrong functionally with this bedroom, it really lacked inspiration, detail and personality. My goal was to fill up this large space with items that brought it to life, and add detailing that would make it a show stopper in this home.

To start, I always recommend a colour that you love; choose one that gives you a serene, relaxing feel and that speaks to you personally. The walls in this space are painted Wickham Gray by Benjamin Moore. It is the base that started to bring this room to life.

*Continued on page 46*




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» The most common request when working on a bedroom remodel is to create a serene, relaxing atmosphere. A fireplace is the perfect addition to a bedroom setting, but wood is messy and gas is expensive to install. A great option is an electric unit. They are easy to install and extremely affordable. This unit is a Dimplex unit.



A custom build-up was created for the mantel using products that match the existing crown moulding. Artwork and accessories pull it all together.

The curtains add a pop of colour.

» Now to dress the bed. This is where you can have some serious fun with patterns, colour and texture. We started with crisp white sheets, pillows and pillow cases and topped it off with a subtle duvet cover. I used pillows from the Jo Alcorn Collection to incorporate the exact texture and finishing touches that are perfect for this room.

Adding this bench from Bouclair to the end of the bed provides the perfect place to pile the decorative pillows and throw at night when turning in.




The side tables are all white and topped with elegant lamps with a touch of gold.



The head board and bed are from the Jo Alcorn Collection.







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spotlight

# SOLID *as a* ROCK

STORY TAMARISK MCNALTY STEPHENS  
PHOTOGRAPHY SARAH TACOMA

Tom Stobbe with his children  
Sean Stobbe and Lisa Potter.



**THE PLACE:** Nearly 60 years ago brothers Harold and Ralph Stobbe, contractors in the Owen Sound region, were having difficulty finding a local source for stone window sills. Taking it upon themselves to find a solution, they discovered some local stone, opened a quarry and Ledgerrock got its start. Over the years, **Owen Sound Ledgerrock Limited** has grown in scale and production (they currently employ about 150 people locally), but remains a family owned-and-operated business. Harold's

children, Lynda Grimoldby and Tom Stobbe are the owners and work alongside various members of their families.

**THE GOODS:** Ledgerrock extracts a variety of stones, including the popular Eramosa marble, from its three quarries located in Owen Sound, Wiarton and Hope Bay. From quarry to production, Ledgerrock supplies a broad range of products, including landscape materials (such as pavers, flagstone, steps and

armour stone), a variety of stone masonry cladding options (full bed and veneer), floor and wall tiles, as well as countertops. They also import Indiana limestone, which is a softer stone to be used for carving custom architectural details, such as columns, trims and mouldings, door and window surrounds and sills and headers. Their work is found on some of the most luxurious and prestigious homes and commercial buildings throughout Canada, the United States and overseas.



**THE PROCESS:** Although the quarries operate from approximately April through to October, Owen Sound Ledgerrock is a year-round business. All materials from the quarry are put to use with net-zero waste as the stone remnants are crushed and used for gravel. All of the water utilized in the quarry extraction process is rainwater that is harvested and stored for cutting as required. In production, each slab is inspected, graded and assigned to particular uses depending upon the current orders and project requirements.

**THE STYLE:** Clients desire a style with the beauty and longevity of natural stone. The variety of cuts and finishes available allows a stone to be selected to suit a project, whether modern or traditional. Finishes include flamed, honed, polished, bush hammered and sandblasted. Ledgerrock also does restorative work on historical buildings. In-house CADD technicians utilize software to draw historical stone details to exacting dimensions and then send the drawing to a machine in production that carves a perfect replica.

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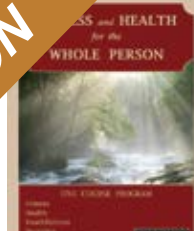
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# INVESTING

STORY **MEHREEN SHAHID**  
ILLUSTRATION **SHEILA BRITTON**

It's hot and it's only getting hotter. No, not the weather, the real-estate investment market. That means buying a home and renting it out. Analysts and agents alike believe real-estate investment remains a positive venture.

A growing population – and in some cases provincial legislation – are pushing people to rural municipalities to invest in real estate. There are plenty of opportunities.

“Everywhere you look, there is opportunity for investment,” says Ettore Cardarelli, president of the Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA). “For anyone who wants to go that route, in my mind, it's better sooner than later.”

He says continuing and past trends indicate the housing market will remain strong.

Experts agree it's generally a great idea because of market potential and a high rate of return.

According to research by the Real Estate Investment Network (REIN), flourishing markets in Ontario include Hamilton, the Tech Triangle (Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge), Barrie, Milton, Orillia and Scarborough.

“We take into account 12 economic fundamentals of a region, including transportation, accessibility, lifestyle, current pricing and property supply to uncover the truth about markets,” says REIN

President Don Campbell.

In today's market, says Campbell, it is critical that investors are patient and are only buying properties where revenues outstrip operating expenses, including the mortgage. As well, given the anticipated increase in utility prices, investors should ensure the tenant bears that cost.

Properties that are ground-oriented will have the highest rate of increase in value and demand over the next five years, he says. Condos will also do well, but without an associated increase in land costs, the actual values will not go up much.

Adding to that, Hamilton-based real estate agent Erwin Szeto says, “One pragmatic recommendation I would give is to purchase a property with an accessory suite or with a legal basement apartment. If one has an aggressive savings plan, live in the unit that rents for less. Or, if you live near a post-secondary school, rent out rooms to students.” In Ontario, those investment opportunities can be found in Windsor, London, Guelph, Owen Sound, York Region, Toronto, Oakville-Burlington-Mississauga, Peterborough, Ottawa and Niagara Falls.

Another option, he says, includes investing strategically by charging above-market rent and giving the tenant the option to purchase the investment property at a set future price.

But it's not just Ontario that's lucrative for real-estate investment.

REIN also lists Victoria and New Westminster in British Columbia, and Edmonton and Calgary in Alberta as places to invest.

“In B.C., when the government stepped in

a year ago, foreign buyers decided they will avoid the tax and buy outside the cities,” says Campbell. “Our government (in Ontario) has done the same thing. They put in a foreign tax, but only in the Greater Toronto and Golden Horseshoe areas. It won't take long for people to realize it's okay for them to go to Woodstock or Orillia or further out, because the tax doesn't apply there.”

Whether you invest in commercial or residential properties, mind the basics of the business, says Shannon Murree, a Barrie-based Re/Max Chay Realty sales representative. “You really need to know what your goals are, your risk tolerance, your investment capacity and how much time you have to invest,” she says.

And don't look at it as a quick get-rich scheme, think of it as a slow and steady, long-term strategy.

Remember not to buy with emotion, but to do an in-depth analysis of the market.

Look at trends published in studies done by investment networks and heed advice given by experts in the field, such as realtors with an expertise in investment, property managers, accountants and real-estate lawyers, says Murree.

A good way of going about determining potential in a market, she advises, is to educate oneself and to learn details of the fundamental economic factors in the area, such as jobs, rate of development, incoming new investments and numbers around population growth and other factors for a comprehensive and useful analysis.

And remember, Murree says, to “learn from others who have achieved success and truly walk-the-walk and talk-the-talk.” **OH**



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3

The house is built with recycled Ontario brick from a 110-year-old church. Gord says that the yellow brick helps the custom build fit in with the older homes in the neighbourhood. The driveway is made of pervious concrete, which allows water to run through the stone and out either side of the raised property.



4

The single glycol solar panel on the roof conducts energy to a heat pump in the mechanical room, which heats water before sending it to the floor and showers. The solar shingles generate more than enough electricity for the home over the course of a year and are an alternative to the typical Photo Voltaic (PV) panels in widespread use today.

5

At the front door, a LEED platinum plaque shines proudly. A LEED certification is awarded by the Canada Green Building Council, and stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The platinum level is the highest rating on the LEED scale.

6

The exterior of the home is protected with what Gord calls the "Gore-Tex of building." The DuPont Tyvek Building Envelope is a full weather barrier system that ensures the house is kept safe from those strong Lake Huron winds, keeps water out but allows the home to breathe and dry out. The insulation levels of the main walls in the home have a thermal resistance level (R-Value) of R48 and the attic is R70. The single biggest waste of energy in homes is unwanted air leakage through holes in walls and attics. Derek worked very hard to ensure this home has minimal unwanted air leaks and the result is the most airtight house known in Canada with 0.19 ACH (air changes per hour) at 50 Pascals (Pa), as measured by a blower door test.

*Continued on page 56*

# THE LEEDING EDGE

STORY **TAIGAN DANCE**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**

Southampton has always felt like home for **Gord Cooke** and his family. As an engineering consultant, and president of **Building Knowledge Canada Inc.**, Gord travels a lot for work – training, educating and lecturing about the importance of improving air quality and building energy-efficient homes.

Practicing what he preaches, Gord and his wife Linda started planning a custom cottage on an empty lot between Southampton's downtown core, the river and the shore. Local third generation builder **Derek Seaman** of **Seaman & Sons Builders** was the couple's first call. Gord had worked with the Seaman family for many years and knew they were familiar with the kind of R-2000 home he was looking to build. R-2000 homes are described by Natural Resources Canada as the "best-in-class energy-efficient homes that include high levels of insulation, clean air features and measures to help protect the environment."

Together, Derek, with architectural designer **John Peirson**, and the Cookes, set out to build a net-zero home (a home that only uses as much energy as it generates on site) with many sustainability features sure to provide a cosy, quiet retreat for family and friends.

## HERE ARE 20 IMPRESSIVE FACTS ABOUT THIS LEED CERTIFIED HOME:

1

Gord Cooke travels North America to speak at conferences with builders and provide on-site training sessions. When Linda and Gord are in Southampton, they enjoy entertaining friends and family and spending quality time with their grandson, Oliver, 2.

2

Derek Seaman has been framing homes since he was 13 years old, and, after graduating with a business degree from the University of Guelph, has been running the family business since 2002. Seaman & Sons Builders has been operating in Southampton since 1954. It is their impeccable attention to detail and commitment to learning the newest technologies and practices that sets them apart in their field.



Gord Cooke and Derek Seaman





**7** The flooring on the main level is an acid-washed epoxy-coated recycled slag concrete (**Extreme Linings and Coatings**) and is heated by solar-preheated circulating water. The beautiful blues in the flooring are reflected on the walls in the main living area, which are painted in the colour Pacific from the ECO Collection at **RONA Southampton**, which is all recycled paint and continues the marine theme the couple were hoping to achieve.

**8** A commissioned piece of stained glass welcomes people through the front door. Gord and Linda asked a local artist **Paul Villani** (who has since retired) to incorporate all of the themes they enjoy about the area into a transom for their new cottage – including the Chantry Island lighthouse and Southampton shoreline.

Since it is a secondary home, it is handy for Gord to be able to monitor and adjust the heat in the house through apps on his phone that are connected to the water heater and thermostat.



**9** All of the lighting in the cottage is 100 per cent LED, with fixtures from **BJS Electric**. Visitors are shocked at how quiet the appliances are, an added bonus of the high efficiency, top performing Energy Star qualified kitchen fixtures. A zero VOC (volatile organic compound) finish was used on the kitchen cabinets (The Bamco Group), instead of the oil-based lacquer that can be found on most kitchen cabinets.

All of the glasses on this shelf were found in the sand during excavation and construction. Upon researching the lightbulb, Gord discovered that manufacturing was halted on this particular model in the 1940s – incredible that it is still intact!



**10** All of the windows (Armor Windows & Doors) are triple-glazed, designed to optimize the solar gains and losses related to heating and cooling the home. The south-facing windows have a higher solar gain coating to draw heat in during cooler months and the overhangs on these windows keep the heat out during warmer months, reducing the overall energy usage. North and east-facing windows are coated to minimize winter radiant heat losses and the west windows minimize solar gain. Window coverings from Blinds-to-Go.

**11** A cosy and welcoming living area walks out onto the back patio. The furniture in the living room was purchased from **Smitty's Fine Furniture** with TVs from **Square Deal Neil's TV & Appliances** and audio visual by **Advanced Technologies**.

Continued on page 58





**12** The Vetrazzo blue slab countertop in the main bathroom is made of recycled glass. A recirculation loop in the mechanical room ensures that water is not wasted waiting for warm water to wash hands at the sink. It does so by “trickling a little bit of hot water periodically so when you turn on the tap, hot water comes immediately,” Gord says.

**13** All of the toilets are dual flush, ultra low-flow and are flushed with rainwater that is collected in a 4,000-litre cistern underground in the backyard. The water in the eight-by-four foot cistern is collected from downspouts from the roof and is also used to irrigate the property as needed.



**14**

This is an H<sub>2</sub>Okinetic Delta showerhead. It sprays water in larger droplets that retain heat better. Water is sprayed in a wave pattern to give the user the illusion it uses more water than it actually does, while simultaneously spraying air, which helps maintain the pressure of a regular showerhead.



**15** Both bedrooms on the main floor feature custom built-ins for efficient storage. Gord says, “we’ve had people tell us they’ve never had a better night’s sleep than in this house.” He credits this to the fresh air he has running directly to each bedroom. In order to ventilate the air-tight house and still receive the benefits of air circulation from ventilation, a heat recovery ventilator (HRV) was installed to bring fresh air inside without having to open any windows. Fresh, cold air from outside comes through a duct across a heat exchange core to a high efficiency HEPA filter, and is warmed before delivering a little bit of fresh air to every bedroom. In the opposite direction, on the other side of the filter, exhaust air from the bathrooms and kitchen is passed across the other side of the heat exchange core, “the whole system recovers 85 per cent of waste heat,” Gord says. The furniture in the second floor bedroom was sourced from **Crate Designs Ltd.** *Continued on page 60*

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**16** A sloped ceiling with exposed pine beams defines the 600 square foot upper level of the cottage. The coffee table in the sitting area is made from a slice of an oak trunk that was taken down at the Cookes' primary residence.



**17** Insulated storage and crawl space areas run the length of the living area upstairs (carpet from **Paul Eagleson Furniture Carpets & Bedding**). Behind one door is a playroom space that Gord finished for his grandson, Oliver. This upper-level floor acts as a guest space and bedroom for visitors.



**18** A small mechanical room is tucked away off the laundry room at the front of the house – and inside is where all the magic happens. The high-tech mechanics of this net-zero home really don't need that much space (**Bridge Plumbing & Heating**).

**19** Gord collaborated with other industry professionals to develop an app called *Construction Instruction* that is used by over 120,000 builders. It was designed for on-site learning for builders and tradespeople with videos that explain the technology behind energy-efficient builds.

INSULATION LEVELS	
Attic	R70
Main walls	R48
Windows	U=0.15 (R 6.7)
Under floor slab	R30
Concrete slab edge and frost wall	R30

**20** Gord explains that he has been solving mould issues in basements for years. Rather than include a basement, Gord and Linda opted for a slab on grade to avoid the complications that often occur with water damage (a significant issue for homes in Southampton). Around the back of the home, an outdoor entertaining area with furnishings from **Martin's Home Hardware** is anchored by an Ontario brick outdoor fireplace by **JR Masonry**. The surrounding landscape work was completed by **Ground Effects Landscapes**. OH



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people

# HOME COMFORTS

As the days get shorter and the nights get cooler, local professionals share tips to keep you cosy.



PHOTOGRAPHY SARAH TACOMA

## ROB WEPPLER *Air-Tech Mechanical*

**Tell us about Air-Tech Mechanical:** Rob Wepler first started as a general labourer almost 30 years ago. He went on to complete trade school as a sheet metal journeyman and became a co-owner in 1992. Over the years Rob has also obtained his refrigeration and gas licences. Air-Tech Mechanical has operated from its current location in Keady since 2002, when Rob and his wife Erin became sole owners. They are happy to say that many customers from long ago are still valued as a big part of their business today.

**Please explain your services:** Air-Tech works on both residential and commercial projects, including furnaces, heat pumps, fireplaces, air conditioning, ventilation, indoor air quality, ductwork and stainless steel fabrication, as well as restaurant exhaust systems. As an HRAI (Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada) certified contractor, they can also assist customers with the new Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) rebate program.

**Please explain the benefits of a heat recovery ventilator (HRV) system?** An HRV is legally required in new builds as homes are being built so air tight. Fresh air is necessary to help with humidity and mildew that gets produced and trapped in the home. If you have a space that is showing signs of condensation, an HRV will help bring fresh air in and damp air out and provide a noticeable difference.

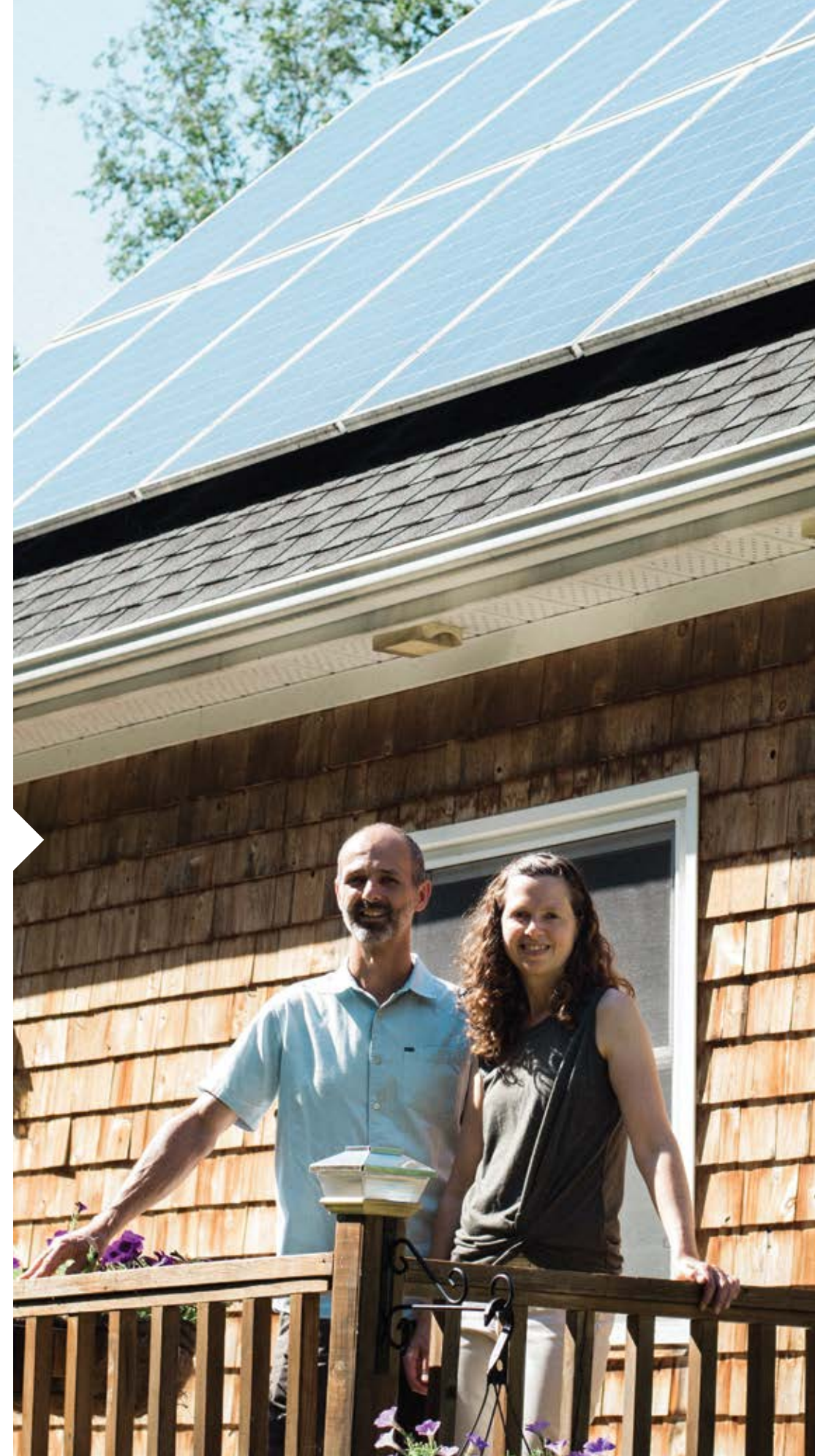
## ROB & JOY BLACK *Blackline Power*

**What are the greatest benefits of installing solar?** It is an amazing feeling knowing that your property is being powered by a clean energy source – the sun – that is 150-million kilometres away. Closer to earth, having a predictable electricity bill that is insulated from rising costs for 40-plus years is also a strong motivation.

**Tell us about this project:** The Maunders, owners of this home, moved to Grey-Bruce last year. As they have electric heat and are environmentally-minded, they were eager to investigate solar. Blackline installed a 10 kilowatt net metering system shortly after they moved in. Our clients are our greatest resource and happy to talk about their solar projects.

**If someone is interested in solar power, where should they begin?** Give us a call or email. We are trained industry professionals and have been installing solar since 2010 for homeowners, farmers, businesses and municipalities. Owner Rob Black is one of only 25 NABCEP-certified (North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners) installers in Canada, which is the highest accreditation available. We also have one of the most experienced installation teams in Ontario.

*Continued on page 64*







**ZIGGY KLAUS, MORT RAPP & TOM RAMAGE**  
*Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc.*

**You have a new member of the family:** We are pleased to welcome Air Star Mechanical to the Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating family. This recent acquisition, along with Northern Heating and Classical Gas four years ago, has enabled us to become one of the area's largest full-service mechanical contractors. Our team consists of TSSA (Technical Standards & Safety Authority) licenced natural gas, oil burner, liquid propane, refrigeration and sheet metal technicians, as well as plumbers and apprentices.

**What services do you offer?** Sales, installation and service for all types of forced air systems, including propane, natural gas and

geothermal; hydronic heating systems, including boilers and in-floor heat; cooling systems such as central air conditioning, ventilation and roof-top units; and complete plumbing services, including water treatment, well pumps, pressure systems and camera service.

**What do you recommend as the most efficient form of heating in Grey-Bruce?** We work directly with homeowners to select the most efficient heating for their particular home as it depends upon a variety of factors, including the design and layout, the square footage, the site and location, budget, etc.



**PAUL WILSON**  
*The Fyre Place & Patio Shop*

**What services do you provide?** We provide quality sales, service and installation of natural gas, propane, wood, wood pellet and electric fireplaces, stoves and inserts in Grey and Bruce counties. We also sell patio furniture in season and rattan furniture all year long. When the Patio Shop is off season, we open our Christmas Wonderland for the remaining months.

**Annual fireplace maintenance tips for homeowners?** Maintaining your heating appliances should be performed by a licenced contractor annually. We service what we sell,

and are often called upon to service products installed by others. Homeowners can perform general duties that will help with performance and life of the unit, such as keeping glass clean and dusting control areas.

**What are the benefits of a wood pellet stove?** Wood pellet stoves are becoming popular for home heating. Compared to a wood stove, the most noticeable benefit is the consistent value of heat. Homeowners looking at pellet stoves should be somewhat handy, as there are routine cleanings that will need to be done by the homeowner. *Continued on page 66*





**NYK KIMBALL, CHRIS MACKENZIE & DUSTIN MCARTHUR**  
*South-Port Mechanical Geothermal Inc.*

**Tell us about your company:** For over 20 years, South-Port Mechanical/Geothermal Inc. has been providing quality heating and cooling solutions and service for homes and businesses. From the time you walk through our door until the time we walk out of yours, South-Port will install, guarantee and service every aspect of your project, keeping your system up to date and running smoothly. Don't forget to ask us about our fast, fair and friendly financing options and available rebates.

**What are the benefits of geothermal?** Geothermal takes advantage

of the natural heating and cooling capacity of the earth (on property you own) by drawing upon a resource that is essentially free. A great benefit is that a geothermal system effortlessly maintains a steady ambient room temperature when compared to other sources.

**Advice for preparing your system for fall and winter:** During those cold winter nights, your heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system becomes the most valuable commodity in your home. Have your system inspected in the fall to best prepare it for the demands of winter.



**PAUL SUTTER**  
*Warton Home Hardware  
Building Centre*

**Tell us about the services you provide:** As a home dealer, we offer the home installation program for products we sell. The most popular items for installs are home and garage packages, decks, fences, roofing, windows and doors. We schedule the best contractors (who are all fully insured) for each install – and guarantee both the materials and the installation.

**What tips do you have for upgrading windows?** There are a variety of window styles available and some are more efficient than others. We advise our customers of the differences so they are fully informed

when making decisions. They can also see different window options on display in our Warton Home Design Centre. It is important to note that great installers make all of the difference.

**What should homeowners look for when selecting exterior doors?** If a new door is in your plans, the selection of glass styles is almost unlimited to suit your taste and the style of your home. Similar to windows, there are quality differences to consider and again, professional installation is key to ensure years of carefree service. *Continued on page 68*





PHOTO: BONNIE FOX

**GREG, CHARLIE & TOM MACDONALD**  
*Macdonald's BrandSource Home Furnishings*

**Tells us about your family business:** Macdonald's was founded in 1953 by current owner Greg Macdonald's father and uncle. Over the years the business has been passed down to the second generation. And today the third generation, Tom and Tara Macdonald, are heavily involved. Doing business in a small town means we treat every customer like family.

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**What are top sellers this season?** La-Z-Boy sofas are always popular, but customers are particularly excited about this year's fall designs. Also, sectionals draw a lot of interest because we have so many to choose from. And many people come by just to see our latest wall art to complete their new room design. *Continued on page 70*

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**Tell us about your company:** Chantico Fireplace Gallery specializes in the full installation of gas and wood-burning fireplaces, including indoor and outdoor fireplaces, kitchen islands, barbecues and fire pits. We’ve recently opened a divisional store west of Meaford on Highway 26 called Tintean, which specializes in offering quality-valued wood and gas burning fireplaces and stoves.

**What trends are you seeing in the design of fireplaces in the home?** Multi-sided fireplaces as well as outdoor fireplaces and fire pits are all very popular. At Chantico, we offer the entire package: we design customized, one-of-a-kind fireplaces and fireboxes, including the focal

wall and related elements. In some cases the fireplace can be structural, therefore it’s important to hire experts that can determine the proper sizing to create a desirable aesthetic as well as proper function.

**A fireplace can be a big investment. What advice do you have for homeowners?** We once read a real estate article that stated that homes with fireplaces sold for five per cent higher than those without and that a fireplace was the second most desirable feature in the sale of a home (double car garage being the first). That being said, the ambience of a burning fireplace is priceless. **OH**

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JENELLE MCCULLOCH



**THIS DESSERT STARTS WITH  
A COOKIE-LIKE LAYER FILLED  
WITH WHITE CHOCOLATE  
CHUNKS AND CRANBERRIES  
AND IS FINISHED WITH A FLUFFY  
CREAM CHEESE FROSTING!**



## BARS

### INGREDIENTS

2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 cups brown sugar  
2 large eggs  
1 cup butter, melted  
2 tsp vanilla extract  
½ tsp salt

½ cup white chocolate, chopped  
½ cup dried cranberries and a handful for garnish

### DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a 9-by-9-inch baking pan with parchment paper.
- In a large mixing bowl and using an electric mixer, beat together melted butter and brown sugar until smooth.
- Add eggs and vanilla extract. Beat until smooth, then slowly add flour and salt and mix well.
- Add white chocolate and cranberries and, on low, mix until incorporated.
- Pour batter into pan and bake for 20-25 minutes until set in the middle.
- Remove from oven and let cool on rack.

## FROSTING

### INGREDIENTS

1 8-ounce package cream cheese  
1 cup butter, softened  
2-3 cups icing sugar  
1 tsp orange zest

### DIRECTIONS

- While the bars are baking, with an electric mixer, beat together butter and cream cheese until fluffy.
- Add icing sugar 1 cup at a time until reaching desired sweetness. Stir in orange zest.
- Top cooled bars with an even layer of frosting and garnish with extra cranberries. **OH**



online

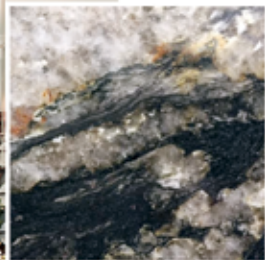
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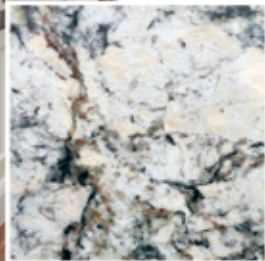
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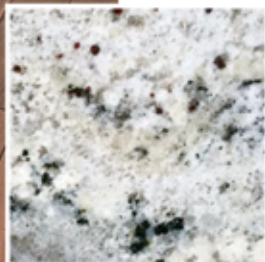
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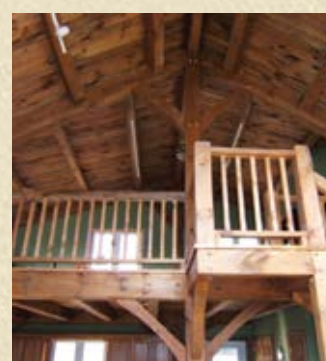
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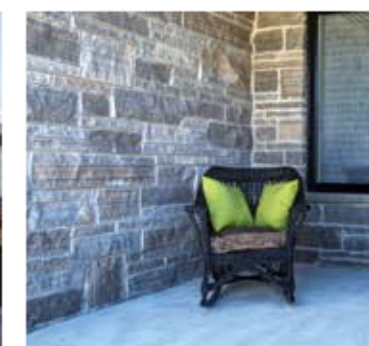
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# WHERE THE SUN STANDS STILL

STORY **SARAH SLOAN**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**

Comfort, safety and dignity. These three simple yet powerful words were and continue to be the pillars used in both the design and function of Chapman House Residential Hospice of Grey Bruce in Owen Sound. Those three words characterize the foundation of Chapman House, from its palliative care to the way in which its volunteer staff are administered.



It was stressed from the very early stages of its design (only three years ago), that the 18,700 sq. ft. hospice was to emulate a residential experience as much as possible, explains architect **Grant Diemert**, of **G.M. Diemert Architect Inc.**

That concept is reflected upon arrival. It's a beautiful stone building (general contractor **JP Commercial Contractors Inc.**), but its design runs so much deeper than what meets the eye.

Diemert says the design of the building was dictated to a certain degree by the site on which it sits. Its triangular shape was determined mostly by its axis; the line which runs from the street out front to a niche in the Family Room at the back of the building.

"This particular property presented the opportunity to orient the building to the winter solstice," Diemert explains. The vestibule – the first point on the axis – reveals a curved donor wall that leads to the main hall.

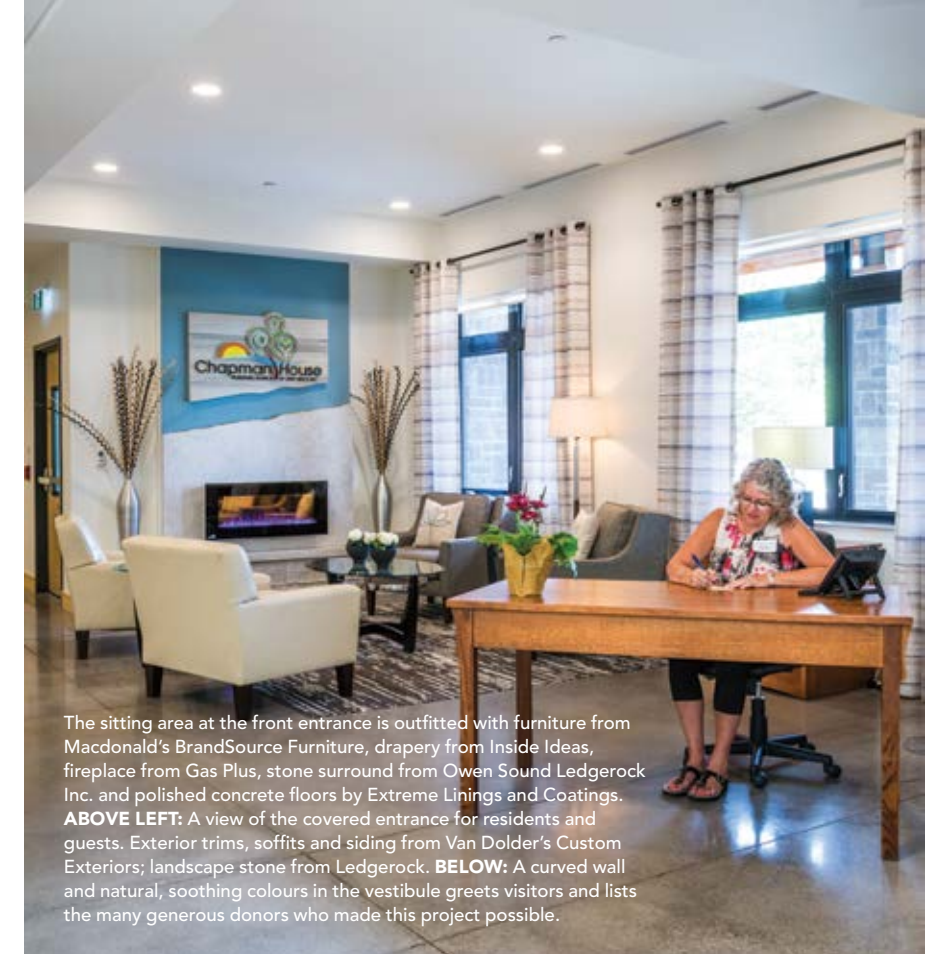
"From that point on, you can't walk on its axis, except for short distances here and there," says **Wendy Bye**, the project's Interior Decorator.

"The architecture actually reflects a journey, if you care to interpret it that way," adds Diemert. "Significant spaces and functions occur along the central axis: the protective canopy at the exterior vehicle crossing, the entrance vestibule, the kitchen within a double height space lit with clerestory windows, a skylight feature, the nursing station, an empty niche and finally, the family room with its culminating box bay window."

A journey through the building's corridors channels one back and forth across the axis to spaces such as the residential rooms or the quiet rooms where families can gather.

Bye compares these spaces to eddy points at a river's edge, causing one to turn or pivot back out onto the path. "Every time you make a turn, you find a calming spot," she explains.

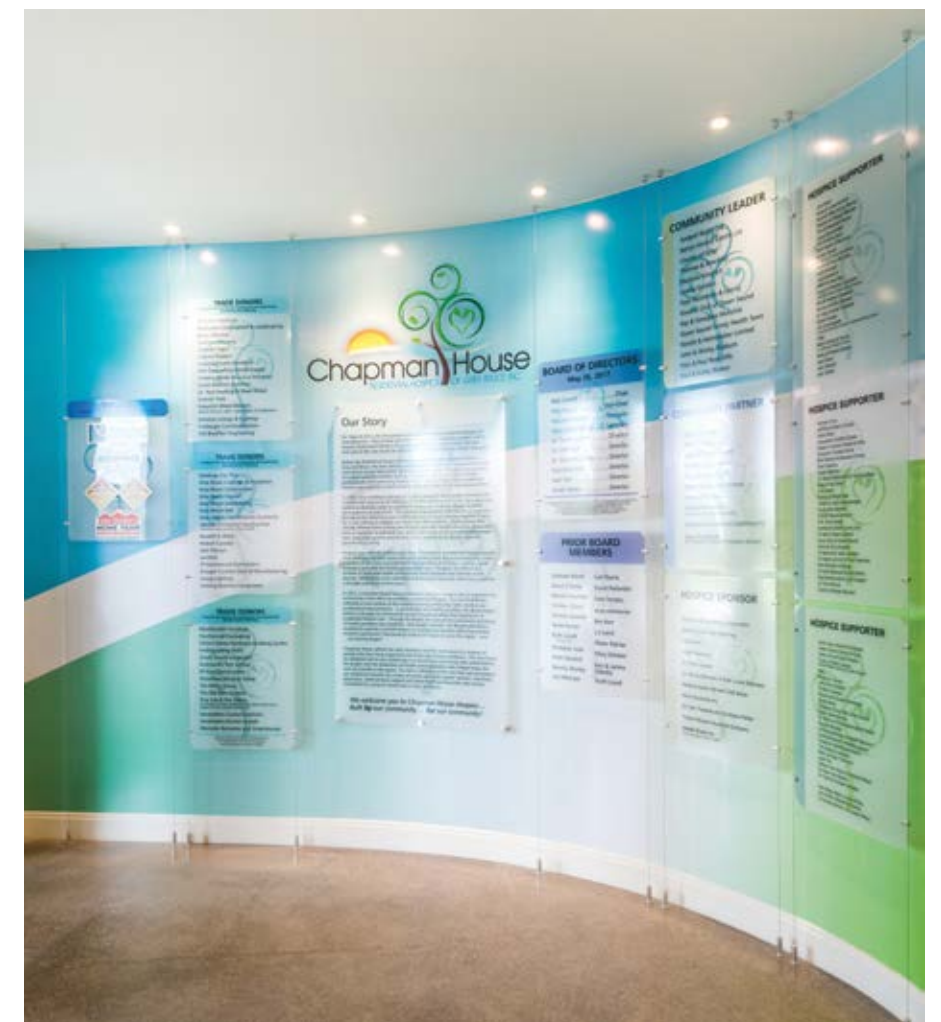
*Continued on page 78*



The sitting area at the front entrance is outfitted with furniture from Macdonald's BrandSource Furniture, drapery from Inside Ideas, fireplace from Gas Plus, stone surround from Owen Sound Ledgerrock Inc. and polished concrete floors by Extreme Linings and Coatings. **ABOVE LEFT:** A view of the covered entrance for residents and guests. Exterior trims, soffits and siding from Van Dolder's Custom Exteriors; landscape stone from Ledgerrock. **BELOW:** A curved wall and natural, soothing colours in the vestibule greets visitors and lists the many generous donors who made this project possible.



The welcoming and symmetrical façade of Chapman House provides a sense of balance and harmony that is aesthetically pleasing and calming to the senses. The stone cladding is from Shouldice Designer Stone.







The two-storey living green wall and the large seasonal clock (designed and made by Stephen Hogbin) are symbolic features in the kitchen area. Kitchen Cook Becky Weller and volunteer Betty Fellows tidy and prepare for mealtime. Extreme Linings and Coatings added the glossy finish to the concrete floors. **TOP RIGHT:** The work of local artists will be showcased and periodically rotated thanks to the Owen Sound Artists' Co-op. **BELOW RIGHT:** The two-tone kitchen cabinetry was made by Exquisite Wood Designs Inc. with countertops from The Old Barn. **FAR RIGHT:** A casual and homey feel in the dining area with table and chairs from Country Charm.



The first example of an eddy point can be found in the main hall of Chapman House, aptly named for the family behind Canada's largest independent ice-cream maker, which generously donated \$1 million towards the project. Bye's vision saw that people could find tranquility in the kitchen with its beautiful floor-to-ceiling living wall that functions as a bio-filter.

Stone counters in earth tones sit atop the large island in the atrium kitchen café. The

cabinetry is a mix of blonde and dark woods and a pop of colour comes from the blue tiled backsplash, mimicking the colour of the water around the Scenic city.

"The kitchen acts as the focal point for the community of the building and it must be part of the initial experience and impression of the facility," Diemert says.

As with many homes, the kitchen is where people congregate and it was the designer's hope this space is one where strangers come

together and find comfort in one another while at the hospice and in the difficult days ahead.

A dining and sitting room are located to the right of the kitchen, serene in design with cool blues and soft beiges. Close by, local art lines the wall adjacent to the hospice's classroom – a space Betty Boice, Manager of Resident and Family Care, hopes will be the hub for excellence in hospice palliative training for the community as well as an integral component in the hospice's outreach program.

*Continued on page 80*







From there, wide, angled corridors filtered by natural light, lead to the first of the nine resident rooms (only eight of which are funded).

Both Diemert and Bye toured other hospices in Ontario to understand the technical requirements of such a building.

“The tall order provided to designers, Wendy and myself in particular, is that it’s a highly-charged environment; very emotional. And if you think about it, it may be the last building these people are ever going to go in,” explains Diemert.

Bye decorated each room to provide the comforts of home for those staying in their final days. Each bed is adorned with a beautiful, handcrafted quilt. The colours on the walls are calming in nature and every detail, big and small reflects that calmness. Each room has soft, dimmable lighting. Roll out patio doors allow residents to be outside and take in the beauty of the hospice’s surroundings.

With this in mind, Diemert referred to the importance of two walls that he fought to have built on either side of the hospice. He admits they hold very little function other than to pay homage to the concept “paradise is a walled garden.”

“Culturally the solstice, the notion of paradise, and the relationship to public and private, are cultural things that persist in buildings and our behaviour all the time,” he explains. “I felt it was important to heighten that; you’re in another realm; you’ve stepped through that threshold.”

Another addition to each of the residents’ rooms is a separate bedroom that accommodates loved ones with closet space and storage to hang their personal belongings. Moreover, floating shelves allow space for each resident to display special memorabilia and precious photographs.

“We wanted to make the space feel as comfortable as possible for families too,” says Bye. “It’s their experience that they carry forward.” *Continued on page 82*

**TOP:** Every resident room is equipped with a completely accessible washroom. Vanity cabinet from Van Dolder’s Kitchen and Bath. **FAR LEFT:** Shelving across from each resident bed provides a place for precious items from home and loved ones to be carefully displayed. **LEFT:** Each resident room provides a separate, restful bedroom so a family member can stay close by in comfort.



Subtle architectural details and different paint colours (Grey Bruce Paint & Décor) create visual interest around the bed. A large sliding door allows the bed to be rolled directly onto the patio outside. **BELOW:** Each resident can enjoy fresh air, lovely gardens and a calming landscape view. Garden beds and plantings provide beauty and enjoyment around the building (Westside Nurseries & Greenhouses Ltd.).





feature

Three other examples of eddy points in the winding journey through the hospice can be found in the Quiet Room, the Family Room and the Kids' Room – special spaces where families can gather and gain a sense of normality during a time far from it. The Quiet Room, for example, is very non-traditional in shape. Its angled wall reinforces Bye's metaphor about providing a calm feeling before continuing the journey through the hospice.

Throughout the hospice, doorways are wide enough to accommodate beds if residents wish to be wheeled throughout the facility. For instance, the Kids' Room provides ample space for a resident to be wheeled in to visit with young members of their family as they play in the brightly-coloured space, complete with an animal-themed mural. The room has toys, craft stations, game consoles and a reading nook. *Continued on page 84*



**ABOVE:** A cosy corner of the Kids' Room is adorned with an animal-inspired landscape mural painted by Mary Cordell. **LEFT:** Games, toys and activities are available for young family members in a cheerfully decorated children's space (modular wall light from Living Lighting). **BELOW:** Custom-framed animal artwork by grade one students from St. Basil's school adds a creative and personal touch.



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Each room is equipped with its own ventilation system. Although the building functions electrically and mechanically like a hospital, the rooms reflect the comforts of home instead.

“That was the purpose,” Diemert explains.

Other hospices Diemert and Bye toured were designed to look like houses, and he says they had to keep in mind that a hospice is not a house.

“There is a special set of criteria and medical problems that come along with this process,” he remarks. Both the architectural and interior designs were rendered a number of times along the way, incorporating the donated products as they came forward throughout the process.

“Really everything we looked at, we did so as a wonderful gift,” says Bye. “The building was built without government funding, relying solely on donations. We took ideas from others, but we wanted to make sure our ideas worked best with our space, our community and our residents.” *Continued on page 86*

**TOP LEFT:** The ambience of comfort and peace is created in the Family Room with a fireplace, soothing colours, and décor that references nature. **TOP RIGHT:** Furniture from Macdonald’s BrandSource Home Furnishings and art and accessories from Décor Design and barebitch create the Quiet Room, a place of refuge for residents and family members. **RIGHT:** Chapman’s keeps the freezer in the Family Room generously stocked with ice cream treats.



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The Nursing Station and Family Room are examples of spaces that follow the light-filtering axis, along with rooms on the second level of the hospice.

Those rooms include two meeting rooms – a public meeting room and the boardroom. Windows on either side of the boardroom allow a view into the front of the hospice and the nursing station – bridging the public to the private.

“The windows are deliberate,” says Bye. “It reminds the board, I hope, of their overall responsibility.” **OH**

**TOP:** Light spills in and the living wall ascends through to the second floor. **RIGHT:** Registered Nurse Edythe Oberle charting and making rounds from the Hub of the Nursing Station.



## CHAPMAN HOUSE SOURCE GUIDE

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Wendy Bye, Interior Decorator	Heartwood Home
Owen Sound Artists' Co-op	Hewett & Milne Ltd.
barebitch	The Home Depot Owen Sound
Benedict Electrical	Inside Ideas
Bluewater Construction & Landscaping Ltd.	John Thompson Movers
Bruce Telecom	Jonsteel
Clemore Masonry	JP Commercial Contractors
Concept Signs & Marketing	Krueger Custom Steel & Machining
CounterToppers	Locking Business Furnishings
Country Charm	Living Lighting
Creative Blinds	Macdonald's BrandSource Home Furnishings
CRS Contractors Rental Supply	MacDonnell Excavating
Décor Design	Meaford Factory Outlet
DJ Peat Roofing & Sheet Metal Ltd.	Miller's Home Hardware Building Centre
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Grey Bruce Paint and Décor	Westside Nurseries & Greenhouses Ltd.

*Please note: Chapman House is so grateful for the many, many donations that were made to make the space possible. For a complete listing of donors and trades, please visit [greybrucehospice.com](http://greybrucehospice.com).*





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Metal ruler

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Felt pads

A computer image of your choosing (we've used images from The Graphics Fairy). Visit [ourhomes.ca/mag/trivets](http://ourhomes.ca/mag/trivets) for image links.

### How-To:

- Cut your wood into five-inch squares, or whatever size that's right for you. Sand wood squares until smooth and round off the sharp edges and corners.
- If you'd like to give your wood a paint wash, like we've done with ours, do so now and allow to dry overnight before transferring your image.
- Using your X-Acto knife, ruler and self-healing mat, measure and cut your wax paper to 8.5-inches-by-11-inches. The more precisely you cut your wax paper, the better the chance it will feed through your printer.
- Adjust your computer image to the appropriate size for your piece of wood. You'll also need to reverse the image before printing, so that it's facing the right way once transferred to the wood.
- Print your image onto the wax paper. If your wax paper has only one waxy side, be sure to load the paper correctly so that the image prints on that side. It may take a few attempts to get it to print properly, so it doesn't hurt to have a few extra pieces of cut wax paper.
- Acting quickly and carefully, place the wax paper, wet side down, onto your piece of wood. Be very careful not to let it move once it's touched the wood or it will smear. Take your card and run it over the wax paper. Carefully pull the wax paper off of the wood.
- Attach four felt pads in the corners, on the bottom side. Voilà! Your wood trivet is complete and ready to protect your table with style. **OH**

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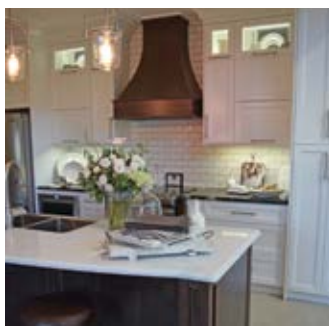
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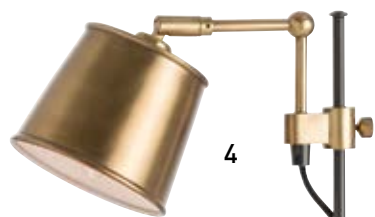
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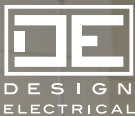
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