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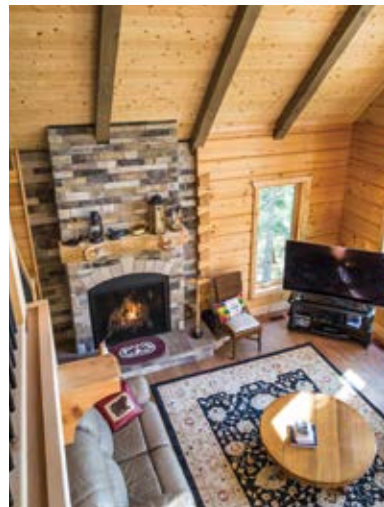
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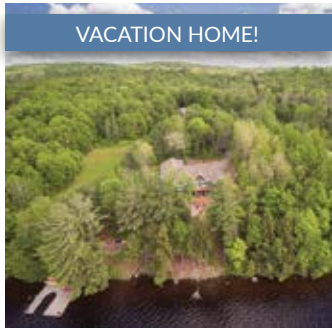
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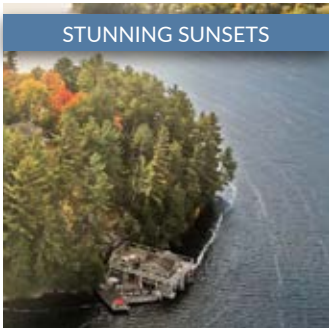
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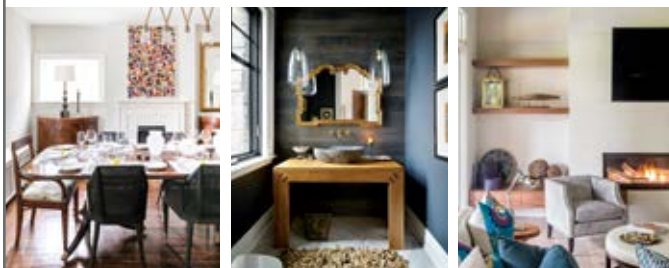


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editor's note



PHOTO BY LORI FRANCIZYK

THE BIG ONE THAT GOT AWAY usually refers to fish.

For underwater loggers it means sunken treasure, large waterlogged trees that escaped log drivers when they sank out of sight in lakes and rivers a century or more ago.

While preparing the People story for this edition of OUR HOMES, I met two underwater loggers, Dianne Hoegler and Jedson Smuck. Their Muskoka company, Deep Water Wood Products, has been salvaging ancient hardwood logs from lake bottoms and turning them into flooring, furniture and charcuterie boards for more than 10 years. Some of the wood they've recovered came from trees that were hundreds of years old when felled by hand and hauled by horses or oxen in the 1800s. The trees had grown slowly, under a thick canopy of surrounding forest, producing wood with vivid colours, patterns and textures not found in recently-harvested wood. We don't grow them like that any more.

Underwater logging has come a long way since I first encountered it years ago on Vancouver Island. I watched two avid scuba divers use a jet boat and a skidder to harvest hemlock, fir and spruce from a small, shallow lake near Telegraph Cove. Originally felled years before, the timbers got away from loggers when they sank out of reach. The divers took turns descending into the lake. While one wrapped a choker around a submerged log, the other skipped the boat. When the chokerman diver surfaced and gave the all-clear, the skipper took up the slack in the haul line and poured on the gas to pull the log free from the lake bottom. Sometimes it took several attempts, pulling at different angles, to free the wooden behemoths. These loggers didn't make a lot of money. I suspect their love of diving was their greater incentive.

The business is much more sophisticated these days. Hoegler and Smuck use side-scan sonar and recovery boats with winches to gently pull sunken old-growth logs to the surface. They operate a sawmill and kiln. In addition to flooring, they supply dimensional lumber, architectural beams, trim and mouldings – all the while recovering a valuable resource while avoiding cutting today's forests. Sustainability is the catch of the day.

Walter Franczyk

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ON THE COVER

Innovative design makes this cottage fit in a hard spot. Story page 36. Photography by Sandy MacKay



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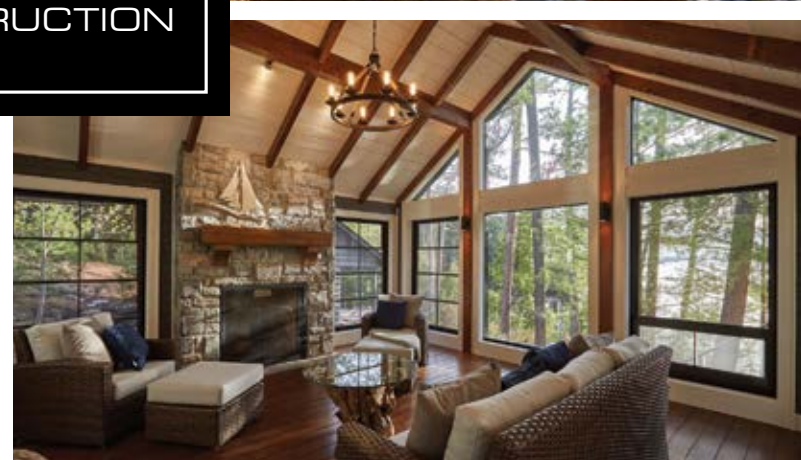
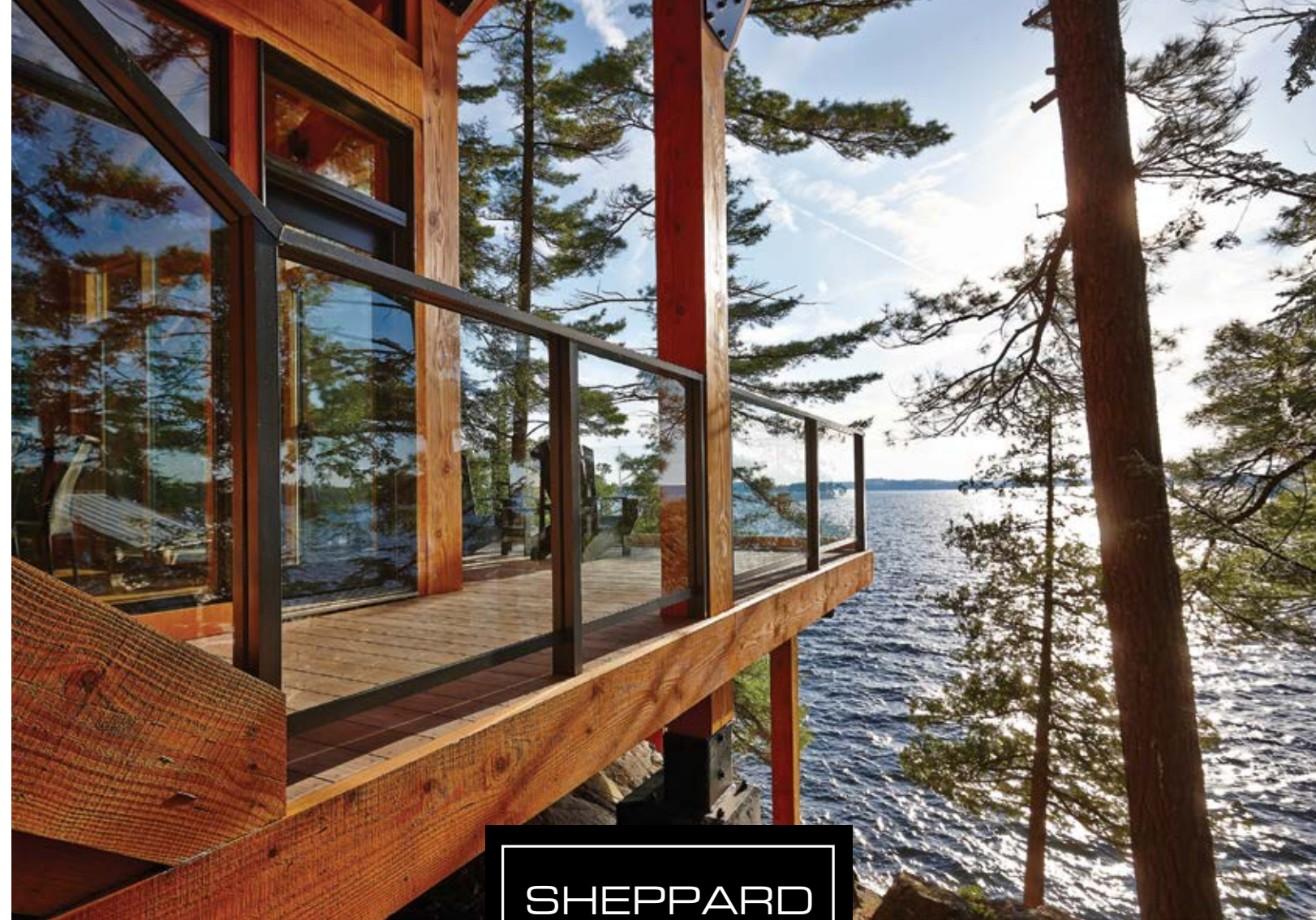
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NIGHT LIGHTS

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

First impressions matter, whether it's a single family bungalow or a condominium building. Outdoor lighting can improve curb appeal, welcome you home and make you feel safe and secure.

Because lighting choices and applications are limitless, you need a well-thought-out plan to help beautify your outdoor living space.

LIGHTING STRATEGY

What is your outdoor personality? To determine that, you'll need to ask:

What do I love most about my yard, patio or balcony?

When and how will I be using my outdoor space?

When and where is security lighting most important?

Do I need help? Can a professional help me achieve my objectives?

Lighting up your yard, garden, deck or patio is a great way to extend the square footage of your living space. It adds ambience to your home, promotes enjoyment and maximizes your entertainment space, adding to your personal style, comfort and convenience.

Strategic placement of fixtures can enhance the architecture and the use of your space. Here are some options:

Up-lighting – lights from below to create a focal point in the landscape

Wall washing – general illumination

Silhouetting – dramatizes an interesting shaped object

Step lighting – illuminates stairways and walkways

Path lighting – enhances landscaping elements such as flower beds, shrubbery and borders while safely illuminating pathways

Deck and patio lighting – provides safety and accent lighting



BEFORE YOU INVEST

What you need to know before purchasing and installing outdoor light fixtures:

Not all light fixtures can be used outdoors. Check the safety rating for damp or wet locations.

FEISS: Hilo 12-Light Outdoor Chandelier



Hire a qualified electrician. Outdoor lighting requires special attention and fixtures can be located in hard-to-reach places. You only want to do this once, safely and according to the Ontario Building Code.

Buy quality, long-lasting finishes.

Quality housing protects the light and is more resistant to the elements, so fixtures last longer with little to no maintenance.

Colour temperature. Do you want cool or warm light? Selecting the correct lamp can dramatically change the look and feel of your outdoor space.

HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

Be kind to the night sky and your neighbours by directing lights downward, use low glare fixtures and place motion sensors on essential outdoor lamps. Turn lights off when not in use.

NEW, NOTABLE & SOMETHING SPECIAL

Today's technology lets you have more fun outdoors both night and day, with clever and charming items such as:

Portable LED lanterns with wireless speakers. Great for condos and other areas where no electrical outlets are available. The Uma Sound Lantern by Design Within Reach (DWR) has a dimmable light with a speaker.

Chandeliers for that extra bit of panache. Feiss makes an explosive orb chandelier that adds elegance to any outdoor dining area.

Mobile lighting in the form of wireless globes, cube tables and other pieces of furniture. They are cordless and rechargeable with a colour rotation to suit your mood or occasion. DWR makes a variety of globes that are waterproof and glow in a variety of colours.

String lights in a variety of shapes and sizes and price points set a festive mood for patios and balconies.

LED candles come pretty close to the real thing.

P.S. PREPARE FOR WINTER

I know it's summer, but don't forget to prepare for winter. Check bulbs and replace them with LED bulbs, clean fixtures and adjust timers. You can still enjoy the winter landscapes while cosy inside.

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Continued on page 28



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cooking at home

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY
JENELLE MCCULLOCH



GRILLED
CHEESE
minis

The grilled cheese sandwich has been around since the inventions of processed cheese and sliced bread. For your next party or luncheon, here are three elevated takes on everyone’s favourite sandwich. After all, it’s what’s inside that counts.

TO ASSEMBLE

1 baguette, sliced

Butter

Choice of filling

Slice baguette into an even number of pieces. Butter one side of each piece.

Place slices butter side down in a frying pan over medium heat.

Fill each sandwich with toppings outlined in the recipes to follow. Top with a second slice of baguette, butter-side up.

Cook until bottom slice is golden brown, flip and repeat.

1. Peach & Candied Bacon Filling

Gouda cheese, sliced

1 or 2 fresh peaches, thinly sliced

Candied bacon (see below)

Dijon marmalade (see below)

Arugula

Fresh sage, lightly fried

CANDIED BACON

¼ cup brown sugar

⅓ cup maple syrup

Black pepper

1 pound thick sliced bacon

Preheat oven to 400°F, line a baking sheet with aluminum foil and top with a wire rack.

In a small bowl combine brown sugar, maple syrup and pepper.

Lay bacon slices on wire rack, brush with sugar mixture, flip and brush other side.

Bake for 10-15 minutes, flip slices over and continue to bake until crisp and caramelized.

DIJON MARMALADE

1 Tbsp Dijon mustard

1 Tbsp marmalade

Black pepper

Combine Dijon mustard and marmalade. Season with black pepper.

2. Fig & Onion Filling

Brie cheese, sliced

Fig caramelized onions (see below)

Arugula

FIG CARAMELIZED ONIONS

1 Tbsp olive oil

1 cup white onion, thinly sliced

2 figs, diced

Splash of balsamic vinegar

Salt & pepper

In a pan over medium heat, add olive oil and onions. Slowly cook onions until golden brown, about 20 minutes.

Once caramelized, add diced figs and a splash of balsamic vinegar. Allow the vinegar to deglaze the bottom of the pan and scrape up all of the bits on the pan.

Season with salt and pepper and set aside to cool.

3. Spinach Walnut Pesto Filling

Gorgonzola cheese, sliced

Spinach pesto (see below)

Dried cranberries

SPINACH PESTO

Heaping handful of fresh spinach

Handful of fresh basil

½ cup walnuts

¼ cup parmesan cheese, grated

2 cloves garlic

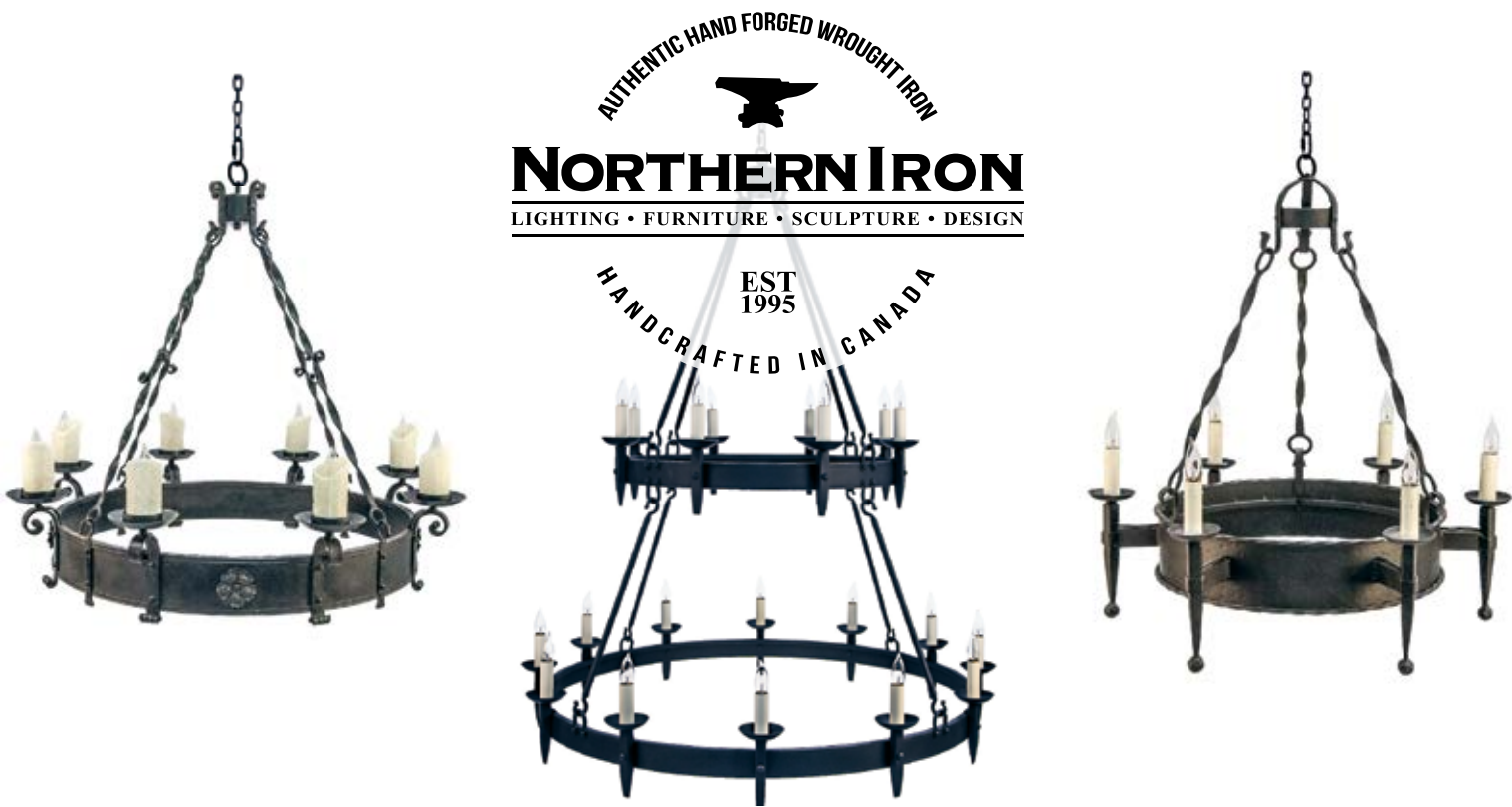
2 Tbsp olive oil

Salt and pepper

In a food processor, add spinach, basil, walnuts, parmesan and garlic.

Turn processor on and slowly add olive oil. Process until smooth

Season with salt and pepper to taste. **OH**



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HOW TO CREATE THE BEST STREET PARTY EVER

STORY **CONNIE JESKE CRANE**

It's a simple yet powerful concept – an entire block whooping it up in the middle of the road. For a few hours, traffic and regular routines are swapped out for barbecue grills, coolers full of beverages, road hockey and glow-stick wielding kids. As the daylight fades, new friendships have already begun to form.

Street parties are deeply embedded in Canadian culture. In Toronto's Annex neighbourhood, for example, Walmer Road residents recently toasted their 30th annual party, complete with dancing and tug of war.

Similarly, in the east end, many streets, mine included, have long-standing party traditions. With side benefits like increased safety and community spirit, these parties also tend to be keenly envied by everyone else. I can't count how often I've heard, "Wow, I wish we had a street party!"

So does your street want in on the party action? It's actually surprisingly doable – and so worthwhile. We consulted several successful party organizers in Toronto's east end and got recommendations for would-be planners.

Continued on page 34



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Define your goals

Are you aiming to build community and inclusivity, or make memories for the neighbourhood kids? A clear vision helps guide planning decisions and also adds a sense of purpose to your event. Katharine Harrison, who launched a hugely successful event on her street 20 years ago, says she sought to build a safe and caring community after her son, now 21, was born with a disability. Over the years, she says, “The street became so social and so safe.”

A few streets over, Rob Torr, Steph Graham and Theresa Bailie dreamed of an alternative car-free Halloween celebration. Now in its 10th year, their spooky-safe street event draws 300-plus kids.

Do lots of consultation and communication

Will we have a small potluck or line cooks? Activities? Do we block off the street or gather in a backyard? What’s the best date? When starting up, Harrison recommends consulting neighbours on key aspects: “If you want the most people and participation, that’s what you need to do.”

Then, keep everyone in the loop with a Save the Date. The week before, send specifics about food, parking, kids’ activities, etc.



Arrange permits

If you want to block off traffic, check in early with your municipality about permit fees, barricades or other requirements. For her street’s October event, Bailie says, “I begin permit applications in January or February so that there is a placeholder date for Transportation Services each year... I also need to reach out to other city divisions for approval with the waste collection plan, safety plan, fire plan, sound amplification (if applicable). We also need to provide general liability insurance as part of the road closure permit application process.”

With these extras, Torr warns, “It is not a cheap endeavour.”

Cover costs

After designing your event, Harrison suggests agreeing on a per-household donation to cover agreed-upon items. And don’t forget to check with your municipality – some have funding available. Burlington for example, waives street closure fees and offers funding up to \$300 for block events like hockey and movie nights.

Share the workload

Having a fearless leader is great, Harrison says, “But you also need people to recognize that not everything can be done by one person.” She suggests a steering committee and planning meetings. Then, for the actual party, delegate. With her day-long extravaganza, Harrison says, “Every family had to participate” with tasks ranging from running kids’ activities to clean-up crew.

Pass on knowledge

Harrison says she’s now backed away from a leadership role. “My kid is 21. I might be there on the evening to eat but chances are I’m doing something else later,” she says. But not before she wrote up a project plan. Ultimately, while events may ebb and flow, passing on your knowledge makes it much more likely that the event you started might just live on for decades. **OH**



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TRANQUILITY on the rock

STORY **WALTER FRANCZYK**
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**



Laurie and Mark Murray went back to the drawing board when they learned that rock work for their new cottage would cost too many thousands of dollars. “The excavating was way too expensive,” says Mark. “We scrapped those ideas and started again,” says Laurie.

They began planning anew with builder **Peter Smith**, owner of **Peter Smith Construction**, whom they met at a cottage show in Toronto. Based in Huntsville, Smith knew exactly where their property was situated, on a granite hill overlooking the Deerhurst Highlands Golf Course. He came to the site and proposed ideas that made their goals possible. “We wanted a lot of windows” says Mark. “We wanted a southern exposure and the view of the golf course.” Smith redesigned the house with the front entrance on the north side of the home, a move that significantly cut excavation costs. “That way we didn’t have to take off all of the rock, only half of it,” says Mark. *Continued on page 39*

ABOVE: A central stairway with oak treads accesses all three levels of Laurie and Mark Murray’s cottage. **RIGHT:** The south-facing exterior deck and Muskoka room catch the sun’s afternoon warmth. **OPPOSITE:** Burning wood takes the chill off the screened Muskoka room, where Rock Solid Masonry installed the flagstone floor. The Fireplace King supplied the wood heat.



PHOTO: TRACY FOWLER, FAMILY TREE PHOTOGRAPHY

Hanging lanterns with Edison bulbs, supplied by Muskoka Lighting & Electric, illuminate the large food preparation area, topped with Caesarstone from Di Pietra Design.



TOP LEFT: In a corner of the kitchen, a door leads to the Muskoka room. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Smith Construction transformed storage space into a convenient kitchen pantry. **RIGHT:** Stools at the kitchen island provide spectator space for meal preparations.



Smith's redesign also provided more living space. "We originally didn't have a basement but the way Peter's guys did it, we got the extra room," says Laurie. "We got a bedroom and a bathroom and a sitting room down there. It worked out beautifully."

The Murrays own and operate a Whitby business that repairs and services computers, networks and point-of-sale equipment. They've always liked Huntsville and Deerhurst Resort where they'd bring their four children for week-long holidays. When Deerhurst held a lottery for cottage lots, Mark won the chance to buy a property. After viewing the site, he and Laurie

bought two other adjacent lots – land on which they could build a home of their own design. "We wanted something unique," says Laurie.

Smith helped revise their design to suit the shape of the lot. "It was a beautiful spot with great views front and back so ultimately, it was where the house had to go," he says. "Between the Murrays, **Jennifer Pink** and myself, we were able to design it to all work nicely in the space we had." Pink, **Design Interiors** owner and design consultant, who helped the owners make countless detailed decisions about the project, was a godsend, says Laurie. *Continued on page 40*



The four-bedroom home was finished last summer, just in time for the wedding of their eldest daughter Tanya and her fiancé Michael. They married at Deerhurst and had their wedding photos taken at the new cottage. One of them shows the newlyweds in a swooning embrace atop the high granite outcrop at the front of the cottage.

Just inside the home's main entrance, a floor of wire-sawn, flamed flagstone, installed by **Nate Gill** and **Carson Fowler** from **Rock Solid Masonry**, exudes solidity. Oak hardwood sheaths floors throughout the home's main living area and bedrooms.

As envisioned, the panelled great room, painted in Benjamin Moore's Sea Salt from **Wilson's The Paint Store**, overlooks the golf course through high windows that catch the sunrise and sunset. Thick wooden arches intersect the cathedral ceiling and a stone-faced fireplace by **The Fireplace King** invites gatherings at the room's centre. Illuminating the great room and living room, large, black Hubbardton Forge chandeliers were supplied and installed by **Muskoka Lighting & Electric**, which also wired the home and installed video, audio and security systems. **Window Quilt Muskoka** supplied window shades throughout the home. *Continued on page 43*



TOP LEFT: The great room fireplace, flanked by panelled walls, creates an inviting place for family gatherings. **FAR LEFT:** A games table with comfy chairs overlooking the front yard occupies one end of the great room. **LEFT:** Just visiting, Cooper, a vigilant Jack Russell terrier, makes himself at home. **ABOVE:** Matching red wardrobes flank the flagstone floor at the home's front entrance.



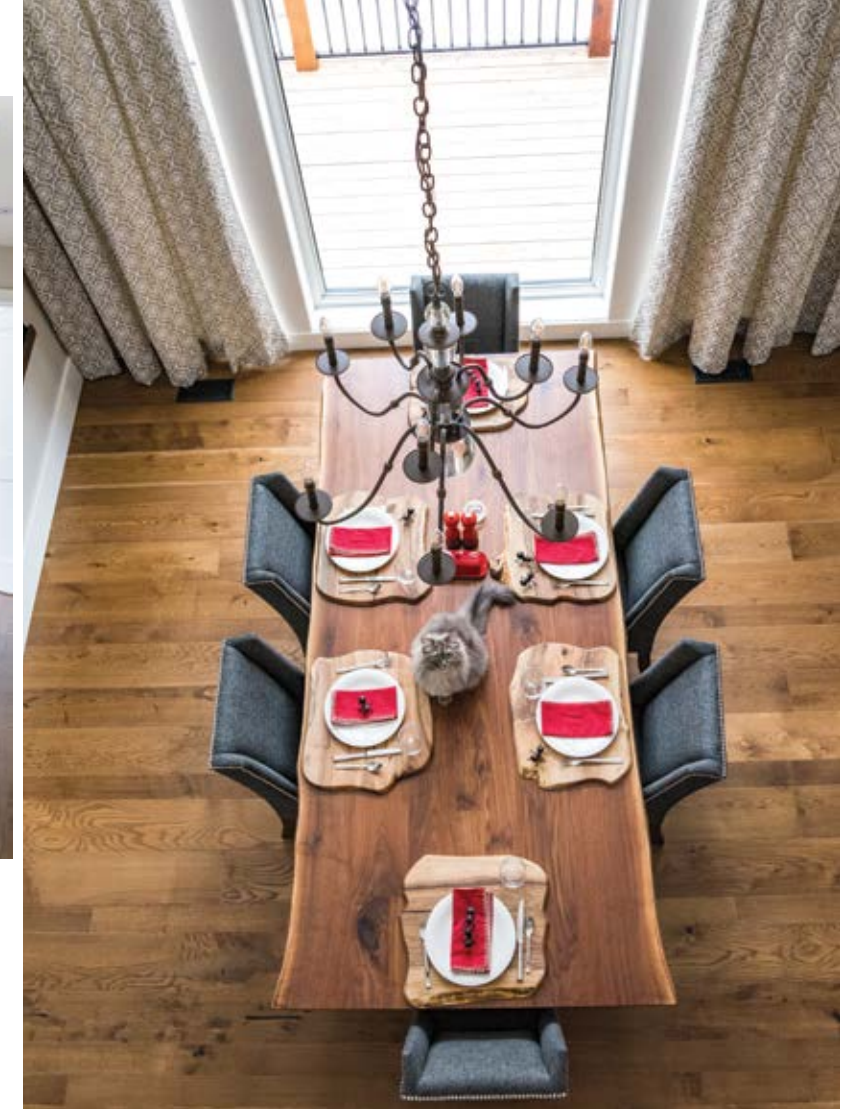
A unique combination of wooden ceiling arches, hand-forged chandeliers and custom-made drapes creates comfort in the great room.



Metal sculpted ants are the best kind to have indoors.



ABOVE: Upstairs, a subtly curved floor creates a balcony over the main floor living space. **RIGHT:** Viewed from the upstairs balcony, Winnie, a visiting cat, commands the dinner table. Living Wood Design created the live edge wooden placemats. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** A sliding barn door opens from the dining room to the great room. **OPPOSITE:** Through soaring windows, natural light bathes the live-edge walnut dinner table.



All About Kitchens in Huntsville furnished cabinetry for the kitchen where **Di Pietra Design** supplied and installed Caesarstone counters in a light, subtly-patterned design called Calacatta Nuvo. Mark insisted on a six-burner gas stove with a grill and two ovens for this kitchen. “He’s a really good cook,” says Laurie. “I do all the cooking,” Mark says. “I like to see happy faces. I like to see them happy and full. Good food makes people happy.” Smith Construction enhanced the kitchen with a pantry built in a space originally planned as a storage closet. Smith also built a pocket to recess the refrigerator. “They really did a lot for us,” says Mark.

A live-edge, black walnut table, its top laminated and machined by KJP Select Hardwoods, then shaped, sanded and installed on a laminated poplar base by Smith Construction, furnishes the dining room. High arched windows overlook the wooded south side of the property while a dining room wall displays family photos in three tiers.

A second-floor balcony provides a birds-eye view of the dining room and the forest outside. The upper floor contains three bedrooms, including the master bedroom with its en suite and walk-in closet. Builders installed a pocket door to make more room for the shower and extended an exterior wall to create space for a tub. Outside, they installed decorative beams to make that extension an integral part of the design. Custom-made outdoor gas lamps flank the garage doors.

Smith says he’s very proud of the home. “We build for clients with a wide range of budgets and I enjoy all the projects, but when we get to take things to the next level of finishes and quality of workmanship, it’s very satisfying,” he says. “I don’t get much time on the tools anymore, but it still makes me happy to inspire our crew to do their best work and see it all come together.” **Thermo Seal Insulation Systems**, specialists in blown-in fiberglass insulation, ensured the house stays warm in winter and cool throughout the sultry summer days. *Continued on page 44*



Laurie and Mark are happy with the builder and quality of workmanship. “His crew go above and beyond,” says Laurie. “They just did such a good job and they were very friendly.” She and Mark visited the building site often and crews would always take the time to explain what they were doing and why. Visitors and guests are impressed with the new home. “We get a lot of compliments,” says Mark.

Smith says he has a great bunch of sub-trades that he always enjoys working with. “It makes my life easier when I know I can count on my subs to care for the project as much as I do and be there when we need them.”

The Murrays themselves were the best part of the project, he says. “I always do my best to maintain good client relationships, but with Laurie and Mark it wasn’t much like work. They were available whenever we needed them for site visits, made decisions quickly and truly appreciated everyone’s hard work and craftsmanship throughout the project.” *Continued on page 46*



A small, plush moose relaxes in the master bedroom where large windows reveal a high panoramic view of the surrounding forest. **BOTTOM LEFT:** White panelled walls surround the stairwell.



A front loading washer and dryer equip the laundry room.



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Laurie says it was always a dream to have a place up north where they could go and relax and get a break from the rapid pace of running a business. “It’s great for us because we can leave the chaos from work and come up here. It’s so peaceful. We don’t have a lot of neighbours and we can just de-stress.”

Marks says they often drive up on a Friday afternoon, stay until Sunday afternoon or Monday morning and return south refreshed and ready to get back to work. His favourite space in the house is the screened Muskoka room. “I can go out there and listen to a Blue Jays game. It’s relaxing.” The couple plan to eventually make their cottage their full-time home. “I love it,” says Mark. “It’s very, very quiet.” **OH**

RIGHT: The flagstone floor provides a durable and easy-to-clean entrance in the mudroom. **BELOW:** A cushioned bench and windows that open to the dining room await visitors at the entrance of the Murray family cottage.



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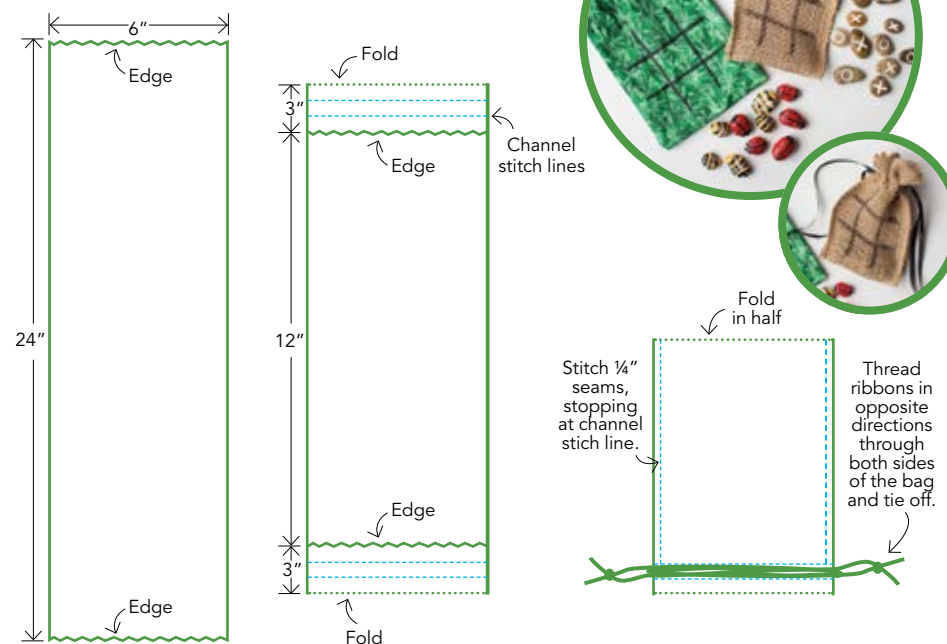
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10 small flat stones
Acrylic paint (in colours noted below)
Fine paintbrush
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Black marker

NATURAL

Using white paint, mark five stones with an X and five with an O. When dry, coat with Mod Podge to seal.

BUGS

Paint five stones red and five yellow.

When dry, on red stones using black, paint each end, and a stripe down the middle and add spots.

On yellow stones using black, paint stripes around the stone and a wider stripe at one end for a head.

When dry, add two white dots for eyes on all stones.

Coat with Mod Podge to seal.

Drawstring Bag

Material, six-inches wide by 24-inches long (we used burlap ribbon and fabric)

Ribbon, 2 lengths, 18-inches each

Thread (we matched our material)

Scissors

Safety pin or bobby pin

To stitch a channel for the drawstring, fold 3-inches in from each end of the material. Stitch two seams at each end, at 1-inch and 2-inches from the folds.

Fold material in half, right side in. Stitch each edge with a ¼-inch seam, stop 2 inches from the top of the bag to leave the stitched channels open. Turn right side out.

Attach the first ribbon to a safety pin or bobby pin and thread it between the stitched channel on the front of the bag and out, then thread back through the channel on the back. Knot the ends of the ribbon together to make a loop. Repeat with second ribbon, starting from the opposite channel opening. You should be able to pull the knotted ribbons and draw in both sides of your bag.

Using a black marker, draw a grid on the drawstring bag with two vertical lines and two horizontal lines as your game board. **OH**

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decorating

GOLDEN STATE *style*

STORY **TAMARISK MCNALTY STEPHENS**

California has always been trending in the world of design, but the coveted west-coast style is having a moment.

The interior of a California home reflects a certain reverence for the vast and diverse landscapes found within the state, which include the redwood forests, cliffs along the Pacific Ocean, countless sandy beaches, Red Rock Canyon, Joshua Tree National Park in the Mojave Desert or Lake Tahoe – just to name a few. The connection to the outdoors is a central tenet in creating a space that aligns with the style of the Golden State.

With approximately 300 days of sunshine, Californians are well known for enjoying the out-of-doors and are recognized for being early adopters of sustainable initiatives and organic lifestyles. This connection to the landscape means that interior living environments often naturally extend to terraces and spaces that meld the worlds of indoor and outdoor living.

Inspired and influenced by the landscape, California style can be described as casual, relaxed and organic while also reflecting a deliberate less-is-more approach to obtain a look of curated minimalism. However, this simplistic approach is combined with the thoughtful layering of textures and a keen attention to natural and artificial lighting, which creates a warm and inviting space.

PALETTE

To create this look in your own home, begin with a soft, neutral backdrop in a muted palette of whites and ivories for walls and ceilings to make the space feel bright, fresh and airy. Try Benjamin Moore's Steam (AF-15), White Down (CC-50) or Deep In Thought (AF-30). A plaster finish would be a welcome, warm element that references the Spanish influence of the Adobe architectural style.

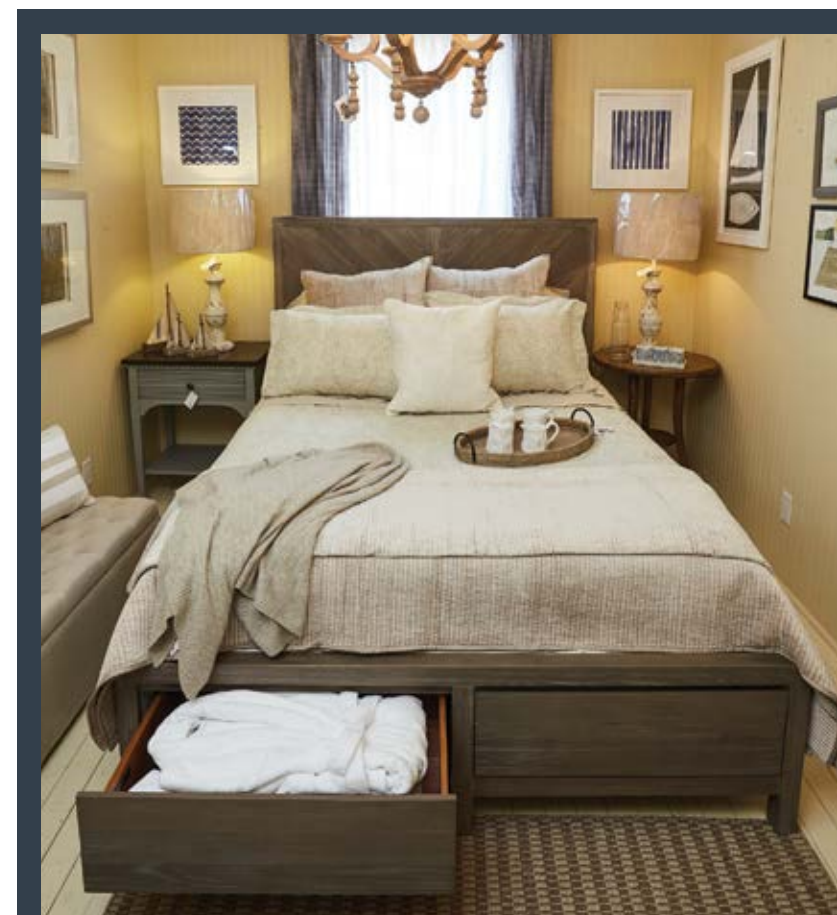


TEXTURE

Add in layers of natural textures such as heavy sisal and jute with softer elements such as a light cotton Turkish throw and breezy linen draperies. Natural, wire brushed and white-washed woods, worn leather, wrought iron and many handmade artisan elements such as woven baskets and imperfect pottery are also common design details.

Bohemian touches like patterned tiles and textiles such as vintage Moroccan rugs, Turkish kilims, Navajo weaving or African mud cloth can add a focal statement piece while anchoring the space with a splash of colour and another layer of visual interest.

Continued on page 52



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decorating



11



12



13



14



FURNISHINGS

Another common design statement is created by carefully selecting furniture that is practical in nature and beautifully simple in form. As a mecca of mid-century modern design, the influence of this movement is evident in the clean lines and modern forms that have become synonymous with Californian style (think Palm Springs, home to Modernism Week, which is devoted to celebrating and fostering an appreciation for mid-century design and architecture.)

GREENERY

Bring the natural world indoors with lots of greenery through house plants. Try an oversize fig tree, a rubber tree, which are surprisingly easy to care for, cacti, or native botanicals to add the fresh feeling of Mother Nature in your living space. Integrating natural elements such as driftwood and other treasures found along the shore is another common way to accessorize the home.

16



18



19



20



WALL ART

Art that is simple in form and appropriately scaled in tones reminiscent of the sand, ocean and desert landscapes complete the look. Adorn the walls with simple line drawings, textural woven wall hangings or paintings of native plants and animals to create a design aesthetic consistent with California style. **OH**

15



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Using the program website, applicants can find a participating contractor in their area, who will submit the application for the client, including all necessary documentation, and install energy efficient products in the house.

A rebate cheque will be sent to the client once the work has been completed and proof of purchase has been submitted.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, starting at the beginning of the year. More information is available at greenon.ca.

ONTARIO HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Conserve energy and save some money. If you are planning a renovation, this program is for you. But don't start your renovation until you pre-qualify for the program, which includes a mandatory energy assessment.

Union Gas and Enbridge deliver this program for their customers in partnership with the Ontario government and Save On Energy. Homeowners can get up to \$5,000 back by installing two or more eligible

measures. Some of the energy assessment costs will be reimbursed.

Homeowners can use an online tool at ohcep.ca to find a participating energy advisor to help complete the application and project.

ONTARIO RENOVATES PROGRAM

This program offers seniors and others funding for urgent repairs, such as roofing, structural plumbing, septic systems and fire safety. Money is also available for accessibility modifications, such as ramps, handrails and chair and bath lifts for persons with disabilities and seniors to allow them to "age in place."

Counties and municipalities that participate in the Investment in Affordable Housing for Ontario program deliver the funding to its residents. Funding comes from the federal and provincial governments.

Check with your municipality for the status of the program in your area.

HOME AND VEHICLE MODIFICATION PROGRAM

Established by the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services and offered through the March of Dimes Canada, this program provides funding for basic home and/or vehicle modifications for Ontarians with impairment, enabling them to continue living in their homes, avoid job loss and participate in their communities.

Applicants must be permanent Ontario residents and have an impairment caused by bodily injury, birth defect or illness that is ongoing and/or recurring and is expected to last one year or more. Applicants must demonstrate that the impairment impedes mobility and results in substantial restriction in activities of daily living.

The program provides up to \$15,000 lifetime maximum for home modifications, and/or up to \$15,000 every 10 years for vehicle modifications.

Other eligibility criteria are available on March of Dimes' website at marchofdimes.ca.

HOME ADAPTATIONS FOR SENIORS' INDEPENDENCE (HASI) PROGRAM ON-RESERVE

Aboriginal Peoples living on-reserve can apply to receive a loan of up to \$10,000, which can be forgiven if the occupant continues to live in the residence for six months after the modifications.

On-reserve seniors in northern or remote areas may receive an additional 25 per cent in funding. Eligibility states that on-reserve applicants must be 65 or older, be experiencing difficulty with daily activities due to aging, and have a total household income at or below a specified limit.

The loan money should be directed toward adaptations, such as handrails, easy-to-reach work and storage areas in the kitchen, and walk-in showers with grab bars.

MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS

Many municipalities offer grants and incentives for first-time homebuyers and for homeowners who are improving their secondary (granny) suites.

Contact your municipality for information. **OH**



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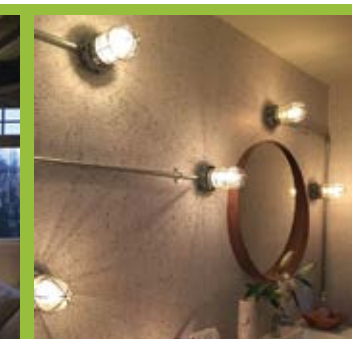
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TWIG'S NEW DIGS

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY **WALTER FRANCZYK**

THE PLACE: Three years ago, Robin Keeler bought a two-storey building in need of tender loving care and moved **Twig** from its original location near the Bala Bay Inn to downtown Bala. “We renovated it, found a number of surprises along the way, most of them not good,” Keeler says. “We managed to get the building back to where we wanted it to be and we’re really proud of what we’ve done with that.” Her 1,000 sq. ft. store offers fun finishing touches and accents that fit easily into any cottage theme.

THE PRODUCTS: The store carries lanterns, candles, unique hostess gifts, baskets, tabletop linens and wool throws from a wide variety of local, Canadian and international suppliers. “I go to the gift shows, like most retailers, but I sort of have a rule,” she says. “If I wouldn’t have it in my own cottage or in my own home, I don’t buy it. I feel very personally attached to most pieces in the store.” Her sister Mary Lou Dodd crafts whimsical, papier-mâché sculptures. Her wooden hearts and crosses with Scripture verses are gifts for special occasions.



THE STYLE: “I always say you can never have too many lanterns and too many candles,” says Keeler. “Lanterns and candles are a big part of what we’re all about at Twig. We often have people come in who have just built their cottage or home up here and they’re looking for the pieces to pull it all together. I like to think we can really satisfy that kind of customer.”

FAVOURITES: “If I don’t love it, I’m not buying it,” she says. “So, I really like most pieces here. Lanterns are my thing. I love candlelight and I love lanterns.”

WHAT’S POPULAR: Neutrals are important now, Keeler says. “People want that sense of calm in their home and their cottage and neutrals really do that. They’re very soothing, easy to live with, and you can also add pops of colour if you want to brighten things up.” Black and white is the theme colour combination at Twig. But the store also carries neutrals, sand tones, wood tones and everything in between.

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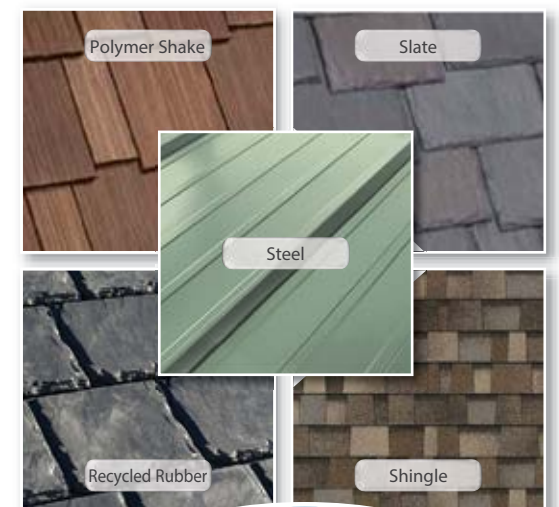


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Eastern INFLUENCE

STORY **WALTER FRANCYK**
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**



When Ted and Carol Purvis flew home from Japan, Ted cradled a carving of a Samurai warrior in his lap.

Carol carried home inspirations that would define the look of their surroundings for years.

"I've been to the Orient and I like their style," says Carol. "I like the lines." A Far Eastern motif with delicate porcelain vases and plates, intricate wood carvings and Asian screens, graced their former Huntsville home. When they downsized their living space, sold their big home and moved into a two-bedroom townhouse, they brought the oriental ambience with them. Perched on a hall table, that Samurai swordsman guards their front entrance.

Continued on page 63



LEFT: Reminiscent of Ted's extensive work travel, a red metal biplane angles across a den wall. **ABOVE:** A Samurai warrior sculpture, carried home from Japan, stands sentry in the front hall. **OPPOSITE:** Woven chairs from Veranda bookend a hutch in Ted and Carol Purvis's Huntsville townhouse.



Sleek, metal barstools complement the dark wooden cabinetry and stainless steel kitchen appliances.



Kuda Furniture & Homewares supplied the table and chairs, a matching hutch and side table for the open-concept dining space.

Asian inspiration blends with Muskoka country style.

Ted credits the look of their new home to Carol and her penchant for decorating. “It’s a natural thing for her,” he says. Before retirement, Ted worked as a national sales trainer for the office products division of Canon and Panasonic. His work took him to the Tokyo area where he and Carol celebrated

their 25th wedding anniversary.

Carol describes the style of their home as casual, modern living. She honed a flair for interior design while running a large showroom with 10 different galleries for Enesco Canada giftware products in Mississauga for 25 years. The couple had a condominium at Grandview

Resort on Fairy Lake for a few years but 11 years ago moved to Huntsville, where their daughter Tammy Purvis-Ford lives. “We love the area,” says Carol. “It fit in so well with what we wanted,” Ted agrees. Their daughter Cara Kuittinen lives in Horning Mills and works where Carol did at Enesco. *Continued on page 64*

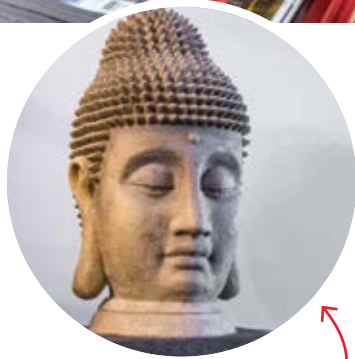
Since moving north Carol has been employed at **Veranda**, a furniture and home décor store, initially in Huntsville and more recently in Bracebridge where the store moved and expanded.

When Ted and Carol decided their three-level Huntsville house no longer suited them, **Kayley Spalding**, a realtor with **Coldwell Banker Thompson Real Estate Brokerage**, found them their new home. The one-level townhouse has sunset views on one of

the highest hills in Huntsville, close to shopping, services and all the conveniences of town living.

“We looked around at various styles and this was attractive because it was new,” says Ted. Everything about the home, the open-concept design, en suite and walk-in closet appealed to them, says Carol. “The one level was the attraction,” says Ted. “It fit in well with our lifestyle and it fit in well with looking ahead to our future. We’re very happy.” *Continued on page 66*

BELOW LEFT: A rustic, red country table supports a collection of blue and white Chinese ceramics. **BELOW:** Red accessories and décor enliven the 1,475 sq. ft. townhouse. **OPPOSITE:** A reversible screen, adorned with Japanese imagery, softens one corner of the living room.



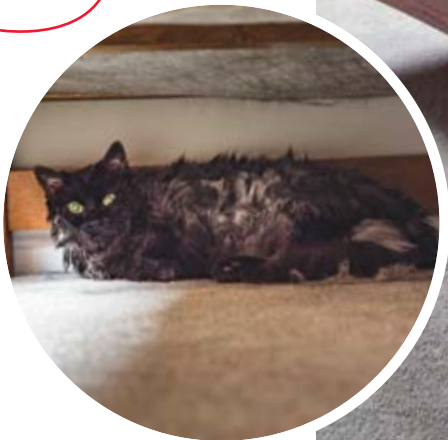
A Buddha bust occupies a prominent place.



Stone pillars flank the front veranda and the same stone skirts the house front. Just inside the veranda is Carol's favourite room, the den, furnished with arm chairs, cherished mementoes and a large screen television. "It's cosy," Carol says. "It's a good room for two people to enjoy." On the den wall hangs a large metal sculpture of a red biplane, a reminder of Ted's extensive work travels that spanned the country from Newfoundland to Vancouver.

Many of the home furnishings – wicker chairs in the dining room, lamps, arm chairs and tables in the living room, came from Veranda. Potlights illuminate the galley kitchen, its central island, stainless steel appliances and rich brown cabinetry. A dinner table and chairs, with matching buffet and side table from Kuda Furniture & Homewares, furnishes the space between the kitchen and living room. A door from the living room opens to

an exterior deck, rimmed with tempered glass railings and a view the couple often enjoys. "Sunsets are beautiful here," says Carol. The backyard panorama overlooks Chartwell's Muskoka Traditions Retirement Residence. "We call it the chalet, it looks like Whistler or Banff on a good winter day," says Ted. "It looks beautiful." A staircase descends from the deck to the back yard, landscaped by **Sandhill Nursery**. *Continued on page 68*



A kitty pillow and Shadow, the family's 12-year-old black cat.



A mission-style bed, draped with a Veranda bedspread, promises tranquil comfort in the master bedroom. **TOP LEFT:** Decorative birdhouses are gifts from the couple's daughters.

HONEY HARBOUR
WATERFRONT VIEWS
GEORGIAN BAY

A scenic view of a waterfront with a large evergreen tree in the foreground and a body of water in the background. A deck with four chairs is visible in the foreground.

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The logo for The Hive, featuring a stylized 'H' made of three horizontal bars.A modern kitchen with a long white countertop, stainless steel appliances, and wooden cabinets.

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The logo for Caesarstone, featuring the word "caesarstone" in a stylized font.A dining room with a wooden table, white chairs, and a large window with a view of the outdoors.

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Decorative waterfowl seem right at home in the en suite.

Their master bedroom contains a large collection of decorative birdhouses – gifts from their children over many years. A mission-style bed with matching dressers and night stands complete this quiet sanctuary where the couple's 12-year-old black cat Shadow watches warily from her lair below the bed. The en suite has a glass-walled shower and freestanding oval bathtub. In the second bathroom the shower stall is equipped with a bench.

Mornings are Carol's favourite time of day at home. "When I get up and go to the kitchen for breakfast it's nice and cheery," she says.

Ted describes the workmanship that built the home as impressive. "The design is quite appealing," he says. He has several favourite spots in the home including the den, dining space, living room and exterior deck. "We take advantage of all of the rooms," he says. Good neighbours, many of them retired, and some of whom they knew before moving here, help make the community a great place to live. "We've met some fine people since we've moved here," Ted says. **OH**



ABOVE: The en suite glass-walled shower has a built-in bench.

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STORY **YANIC SIMARD**

We know some things we shop for will be a passing fancy – like a “millennial pink” pillow or a glitzy brass bauble. However, some pieces in your home should absolutely be approached as an investment, and if chosen well can become a true heirloom, weathering decades of use and shifts in style.



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Sanger Small Chandelier



A ROOM-MAKING RUG

While too often rugs end up being an afterthought, if chosen properly they will and should anchor and elevate the look of an entire room. Rugs can also last for generations, if selected in a quality material, tight weave and a timeless style. Traditionally, patterned rugs can feel very hip and trendy when mixed with contrasting styles of furnishings, but you also know they'll stand the test of time, as these styles have already endured for centuries. Just expect to pay as much for a long-lasting rug as you would a good sofa, and in some cases, depending on size, even more.

LOOK FOR: Wool in a tight weave.

TIP: Bend the rug on a diagonal to make sure there isn't excess empty space between the rows of fibres for soil to gather.



THE RUG COMPANY: Amritsar 403

A STATEMENT CHANDELIER

Individual pendant lights may not be worth moving from home to home, but a grand chandelier is forever. Plus, it can be enjoyed from all angles and makes a natural focal point, so it's worth investing a bit to get something that stands up to all the extra attention. For the best long-term investment, choose a handcrafted one-of-a-kind piece, or look for a style that has lasted for at least 15 years (such as a French mid-century period crystal chandelier), to avoid passing fads.

LOOK FOR: Honest finishes like smoked glass or bronze, rather than faux finishes like gold-plate.

TIP: Choose one with an adjustable cord or chain, so it can be rehung in a taller or lower space later. *Continued on page 72*



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design ideas

A STRONG BUT SOFT
LEATHER SOFA

A good sofa needs to do a lot: be comfortable, look good, survive spills and indulge naps. This is definitely not a place to cut corners in any home. A quality leather sofa in a natural, supple material, will only grow more beautiful with age as the material develops a patina over decades of use. The best thing about a comfortable sofa? It can start as the central feature of your first home, and eventually move to a den or study in a future space – but you'll always have that one place you love to lounge.

LOOK FOR: Timeless natural shades like tan or soft grey.

TIP: Choose a simple and understated style that's truly comfortable, and then customize with beautiful one-of-a-kind vintage pillows. Think Hermès scarves turned into pillows.



LIGNE ROSET: Nils Sofa



TRIBUTE GOODS:
"Fleur de Montagne"
Hermès Silk Scarf Pillow

TRIBUTE GOODS: "Galop Chromatique"
Hermès Silk Scarf Pillow

TRIBUTE GOODS: "Marcelina" Gray
Hermès Silk Scarf Pillow

TRIBUTE GOODS: "Marcelina" Plum
Hermès Silk Scarf Pillow

AN ORNATE MIRROR

Like Modern? New Traditionalist? Art Deco? No matter your preference, you can find a beautiful mirror that adds style to your walls, while also being functional and doubling the visual size of a room. Ultimately while the frame will add flair, it's a quality piece of glass that will make a true heirloom, so look for one without the subtle ripples and warps that you often find in flimsier mirrors.

LOOK FOR: Clear, flawless glass.

TIP: A traditional mirrored frame with bevels and facets will be the most timeless.



RESTORATION HARDWARE:
Louis Philippe Gilt Lener Mirror

THE ART SHOPPE:
Nero Mirror

A PAIR OF CHAIRS

Whether you host massive family gatherings or intimate dinners, every home probably needs at least two great one-of-a-kind vintage chairs. While mixing and contrasting your furniture gives great creative results, having at least one matching pair gives lots of options: they can be part of a living room set, serve as end chairs anchoring a dining table, or be broken up to give differing rooms a sense of continuity.

LOOK FOR: Sturdy construction – good bones can be reupholstered later.

TIP: Seek out reputable manufacturers that have perfected just a few classic models over years, as these are proven to stand the test of time. **OH**



THE ART SHOPPE: Velvet Bergère Chair

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PHOTOGRAPHY **WALTER FRANCZYK**



WENDY PRINGLE, OWNER
Cordell Carpet

Tell us about your store: Named after previous owner Brad Cordell Sales, Cordell Carpet has been in business for about 40 years. Wendy Pringle worked here almost 12 years when Sales decided to retire. "I purchased it from him," she says. "We offer all interior decorating services for homes and cottages." Products include the full line of Benjamin Moore paints, upscale tiles and carpeting from four different companies. As a One Mannington dealer, the store supplies and installs laminate, luxury vinyl plank flooring, vinyl sheet flooring and hardwood. It offers custom Hunter-Douglas blinds, in-home colour consultations and measurements for flooring projects.

Why do people shop here? "The customer service," she says. "It's nice to have a store like this in a small town. When people come up from the city, they don't have to bring everything up from the city. We offer personal customer service. Everybody that comes through the door doesn't necessarily buy something, but maybe they're coming here for help or with questions about their renovations."

What do you enjoy about this work? "Meeting all kinds of different people," she says. "There's never a dull moment. There's always something going on. It's exciting to get involved in some of the big projects in the area and meet newcomers."

EMILY KEOWN
MANAGER & FLORIST
LINDA BOOTHBY
OWNER
Dwight Garden Centre

Tell us about your business: This full-service garden centre has added cut flowers to its growing selection of gifts, home décor and women's fashions. "We carry everything from herbs and vegetables to annuals, perennials, shrubs and large calibre trees," says Boothby. "We have all the mulches, soils, compost and a good selection of organic plants." Garden tools, hoses, birdseed and feeders are also available and the store delivers mulch, soil and triple-mix. "We do full-service property maintenance for a lot of the local cottagers."

What's new? "We're now a full-service floral shop," says Keown, who supplies wedding flowers, table centrepieces and mason jar arrangements. "We just thought there was a need in the area and we fulfilled it," she says. "House plants have become a really big thing as well as succulents for home décor." The shop offers tropical plants and terrarium workshops. "We have all the stuff to put together your own terrarium with the succulents, the soil, the pots, the dirt and stones."

What do you enjoy about your business? "People have a passion for creating a beautiful home or cottage environment. I think it's a pretty exciting business to be in because it makes everybody happy," says Boothby. "We have a great rapport with local cottagers and locals who have supported us from day one."

Continued on page 76





LAUREN PATCHETT
OWNER
WITH GEORGIA
The Hive

Tell us about your business: “We are a cottage and home décor store,” says Patchett. “We also sell clothing, household goods and giftware. We specialize in things that would translate at home and at the cottage. We do furniture, tapestries, textiles, wall hangings – anything to furnish a modern, but rustic space. The store has been a store for over 35 years, but it’s changed over the last four years.”

How did you get started? “I worked at a very similar store in Burlington,” says Patchett. “As a teenager, I worked in this building for the previous gentleman. It was like a cottagey, folky store. It was my summer job.” After graduating from school, she got an opportunity to lease the premises. “It evolved,” she says. “We expanded into food our second year and then we added a spa in our third year. We just keep growing. It’s great.”

What keeps you at this business? “The people on Georgian Bay, Patchett explains. “It’s a great atmosphere up here. People are laid back. Our main focus is supplying people who enjoy and thrive and live on Georgian Bay. It’s a big part of our business.”



MARK STEPHENSON, ROB MARKHAM,
OWEN MAYVILLE & TONYA JOHNSTON
United Lumber Home Hardware Building Centre

Tell us about United Lumber Home Hardware Building Centre: We are family owned and operated, serving the Barrie and Greater Toronto Area since 1974. With over 250 employees, we provide you with quality products, superb service and fair competitive prices. Along with our three retail locations in Barrie, Bolton and Georgetown we also have United Truss, a modern roof truss manufacturing facility in Innisfil.

What products and services are available to builders and homeowners in Muskoka? As a Home Hardware Building Centre, we carry a wide range of products from everyday building materials for any size job to anything you may need to make your house a home. Our philosophy is to carry what people need and have the ability to source the more obscure items. We also specialize in providing design and engineering solutions for large/complex

builds that require roof trusses and engineered wood solutions.
What’s your specialty? We have a proven track record of providing material to thousands of homes, and getting the job done right. Between United Lumber and United Truss we have a full professional sales and design team to help you with your design and build process.

Continued on page 78



PAIGE GROOMES
OWNER
Paige Elizabeth Interiors

Tell us about your service: “I offer full service interior design – residential, commercial and hospitality – anything from renovations to permit drawings for new builds, renovations and alterations,” says Groomes. “I do basic decorating as well.” She also offers virtual interior design, an online service for people in remote locations or on a tight budget. “I put together a virtual package that is all digitally based and will specify furniture, lighting, colours.”

What makes you good at this job? “I’m very personable and I get to know everybody that I work with,” says Groomes. A Sheridan

College design graduate, she worked for a registered designer for three years and has qualified to write the Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) exams. “I think people enjoy working with me because they feel comfortable,” she says. “They can tell me about their life and what they like and I always incorporate that. For the most part, they trust me.”

What do you enjoy about this work? “I enjoy everything about it,” she says. “It’s fun – being able to create something beautiful for somebody. It makes me happy. I can’t imagine not doing it.”

Continued on page 80

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Tell us about your business: As the most northern franchise in Canada, Budget Blinds of Muskoka provides custom window treatments, everything from outside shutters and shades to sun control blinds and draperies, something for everybody and from a variety of suppliers. “We have 140 different companies that we can deal with,” says McNabb. “We supply and install. We don’t have a retail outlet. We do everything by home or cottage consultation.”

What got you started? “I used to be in the furnishings business,” says the former owner of Simply Cottage. “Window Coverings was a niche

in Muskoka that wasn’t really being covered. There wasn’t anybody in the middle market doing it,” she says. “We have every type of product for every budget. We have everything you can imagine in blinds and window coverings, draperies as well.”

What do you enjoy about this work? “I enjoy the people,” she says. “I like to go out to cottages and give people suggestions and help them pick the perfect thing for them. It’s just fun. I like to be out and about, to see some great cottages and meet some great people.”

Continued on page 82

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What is your company all about? We are a family owned and operated business that recovers first growth timbers sunk in the great lakes during the early logging days in Ontario. We mill, kiln dry and create exquisite wood products and flooring from this unique, incredible quality wood.

What inspired you to get into this venture? “My family has owned an island in Georgian Bay for over 40 years,” says Smuck. “We had come across and researched these sunken logs. With some ingenuity, we came up with an effective method to salvage these to create a beautiful and

eco-friendly product.” This wood is far superior to current wood grains, without the sacrifice of standing forests.

What do you enjoy most about your work? “We enjoy the fact that we can work together as a family,” he says. “Our 18-year-old son works part time in our wood shop and delivering products. Our 16-year-old son was recently scuba certified and will join our dive team soon. Our niece, who is a journalist, works as our social media consultant. We also really enjoy providing people with an environmentally-friendly product that tells a story of Ontario’s rich logging history.”

Continued on page 84



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MIKE MATTUCCI &
SUSAN MATTUCCI

OWNERS
Lockside Trading Company

What's new with your business? Lockside Trading Company now has a second location in downtown Haliburton. The new store is just as exceptional as the original Young's Point location, now celebrating its 31st anniversary as a multi-award winning retailer, says Mike Mattucci. "Both locations are in constant change year-round, offering a multitude of choices from quality furniture, home décor and unique lighting to window treatments, giftware, casual clothing and more. We specialize in Canadian and North American-made furniture."

What services do you offer? Lockside offers a successful interior design service, covering everything for homes, cottages and commercial spaces. "With our dedicated staff and quality products, we cater to customers on any budget, in any location, with any look and style," Mattucci says. This interior design service is complimentary when purchasing furniture. "We have all your design needs under one roof, including in-store and on-site consultations, room layouts, colour and fabric selections," he says. "It is a service that works with the customer, giving direction and confidence while creating a living space that they dream of inside or outside their home. Lockside is more than just shopping. It's a destination." **OH**



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STORY **LEE-ANN CHOQUETTE**
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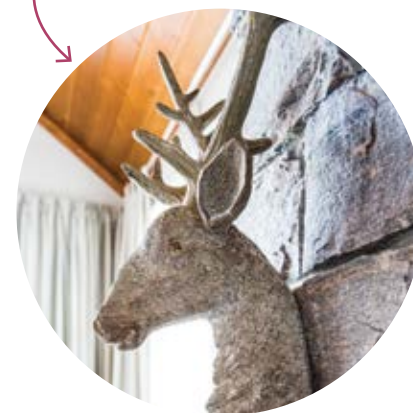


A moment of serendipity can make a good plan perfect. In 2010, long-time Durham Region residents Helen and Brian set their retirement countdown clock to 2014. As part of their plan, they wanted to buy a cottage. “We had never heard of Haliburton before,” says Helen.

They first came to the area to check out a lot on Lorraine Lake. While the property was not the right spot for them, they were impressed with the area. “It was a sunny, November day in 2011, we drove into Haliburton Village, got ourselves a coffee, sat at Head Lake and said, ‘Why don’t we look here,’” Helen recounts.

Helen and Brian hooked up with Haliburton’s **Century 21 Granite Realty Group Ltd.** team **Susanne James** and **Andy Mosher**. “Being close to town was important to us,” says Helen. In March 2012, Helen and Brian took possession of a 900 sq. ft. cottage on Long Lake. They were eight minutes from the stores and services Haliburton offers, and they could boat to adjoining Miskwabi Lake. *Continued on page 90*

An antlered deer
levels a stony stare.



Kirk Bull Masonry built the stone fireplace in the great room of this new Haliburton lake house.
OPPOSITE: Front windows of Helen and Brian’s new home overlook Long Lake.

“WE LOOKED AND WE COULD NOT FIND A BETTER SPOT THAN WHAT WE HAD ON LONG LAKE.”

Lockside Trading Company supplied most of the home's new furnishings, including the Robin Bruce sofa in the living room.





As their retirement approached, the couple determined they did not need both a home and a cottage. They faced a big decision. Where would they live? “We wanted to be on the water,” says Brian. “We looked and we could not find a better spot than what we had on Long Lake.” However, the cottage was too small to accommodate them, two daughters, their sons-in-law and grandchildren.

Reluctant to tear the small cottage down, they considered several options, including renovating or rebuilding. They concocted another option – give the cottage away. “Our old cottage is right over there,” says Helen as she points out the kitchen window and across the road. A friend moved the cottage to his property in late spring 2016.

After polling the locals, Helen and Brian hired Haliburton’s **Shane Sisson**, owner of **Ronald S. Sisson Builders**, to construct their permanent home on the property. “We met and I showed them my cottage and they said that was what they wanted,” says Sisson. **Jodanne Aggett**, a designer with **Haliburton Timber Mart**, drew building plans for the new home. The couple chose an open-concept floor plan, a larger kitchen and separate living spaces for themselves and their family.

Construction of the 1,556 sq. ft. per floor bungalow with a walkout basement began in May, 2016. Haliburton Timber Mart provided hardware and building supplies. Brian and Helen moved in seven months later. “Shane and his team were excellent to work with,” says Brian. *Continued on page 92*



Natural light brightens food prep areas.



The central kitchen island contains a wine and beverage fridge. Quartz Craft Countertops supplied the countertops while South Bruce Flooring furnished the maple flooring. **OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT:** Cabico manufactured the white, maple cabinetry for the kitchen. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Kirk Bull Masonry installed kitchen subway tiles and the arabesque backsplash.



A wormy maple dinner table, supplied by Lockside Trading Company, can extend to seat a dozen diners.

In August last year, Helen and Brian teamed up with designer Sam Lamont to come up with a look for their home. “We wanted something different; the whole main floor is a fresh start,” says Helen. “I could not have done this without her. We love what she has done for us. We came out of the 80s.” Lamont, owner of Lamont Lifestyle Interiors, created a décor plan inspired by the view. It is family friendly, mindful that this is a home, not a temporary place to visit. “All of these pale, silvery natural colours – the silvers, the greys, the sands and the bone colours – do not stop the eye,” says Lamont. “Your eye moves right through it and

out to the view. Then it comes back in and assesses all the beautiful textures and goes, ‘Oh this is a beautiful place.’” Walls are painted in a soft neutral tone, **Benjamin Moore’s** Collingwood, from **Cordell Carpet**. At the heart of the home is a great room. The living room owes its grandeur to an 18-foot cathedral ceiling, finished with pine. A massive, arched top window lets light pour in and draws eyes outside to beautiful lakeside views. Cosy ambience is enhanced with the granite stonework by **Kirk Bull Masonry**. The custom masonry surrounds a fireplace, supplied by **Walker’s Heating & Cooling**

Systems. An oversize sofa, swivel chairs and ottomans invite guests to sit and relax. In the dining room, four large sliding glass doors open up to a large, pressure-treated cedar, wrap-around deck. Built with their large family in mind, the dining area has lots of room for gatherings and special occasions. The dining room table can expand to seat 12 people. Stylish, functional and comfortable furniture for the great room area is from **Lockside Trading Company**. A fixture in Young’s Point for 31 years, Lockside Trading opened a Haliburton furniture store last year.

Continued on page 94

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In the sleek modern kitchen, brushed nickel pulls adorn white maple cabinets, pot drawers and the pantry. Counters extend from one side of the kitchen to the other and a large island serves as a preparation and sitting area. All worktops are by **Quartz Craft Countertops**. New stainless steel appliances include a propane cooktop, double-wall ovens and a bar fridge. The white, glass tile backsplash, installed by Kirk Bull, keeps the space bright. A decorative, modern arabesque tile behind the stovetop adds a touch of elegance.

The master bedroom en suite has a walk-in shower, freestanding tub, heated towel bars for Brian and heated floors. Also upstairs is a main floor laundry room in the guest bathroom. The main level, basement and stairs are clad with custom maple hardwood flooring by South Bruce Flooring. “We wanted to buy as Canadian as possible. That was important to us,” says Helen.

Downstairs is for the kids when they come, she says. There are two bedrooms, a laundry, family room, and bathroom. “We need our space and they need theirs,” Helen says. Walker’s Heating & Cooling Systems provided energy-efficient heating and climate control throughout the home.

Outside, the home is clad with a light grey Cape Cod-style siding, accented with cedar shakes and granite stone. There is also a two-car garage and a bunkie. **Hawk River Construction Ltd.** completed the landscaping. The company replaced the rickety stairs leading down to the dock with custom-built granite steps, walkways and gardens. Modern, interlocking brick and granite stairs to the home’s entrances give the space a contemporary look.

Loving their new lifestyle, Helen and Brian have found everything they wanted in a place. “When we open the door we love it. It is calm, warm, peaceful, comfortable, cosy and bright,” says Helen. After a few years of hard work, they agree it’s time to do the “retired” activities like playing in the mud kitchen with the grand-babies and building a treehouse. “I think this year, we will have more time,” smiles Brian. **OH**



Daughter Chris, a graphic artist, created the inspirational pillow as a gift for her parents.

Beautiful art and wooden furnishings make entering the home a warm and inviting experience.



SOURCE GUIDE

- Century 21 Granite Realty Group Ltd. • Cordell Carpet • Emmerson Lumber Limited • Haliburton Timber Mart • Hawk River Construction Ltd. • Kirk Bull Masonry • R.G. Griffin Plumbing • Ronald S. Sisson Builders • Lamont Lifestyle Interiors • Lockside Trading Company • McKee Security & Audio Systems • Quartz Craft Countertops • Sharp Electric • Twohey Home • The Gallery on the Lake • Up River Trading Co. • Walker’s Heating & Cooling Systems

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STORY **MELANIE REKOLA**

The addition of a fabulous outdoor structure enhances a backyard garden by providing an architectural destination to enjoy with family and friends. Garden structures firmly underpin and contrast the relaxed shapes of plants, thus providing valuable focal points.

Not only do garden structures provide functional requirements such as shade, shelter and privacy, they also enhance the landscape by adding opportunity to express one's individual personality and style.

Garden structures have countless uses – anything from saunas and yoga rooms to complete outdoor kitchens with fireplaces, pizza ovens and home theatres. They also come in many different shapes, forms and combinations. Let's take a closer look.

Cabana: A cabana (sometimes called a pool house) is basically a miniature house that usually shares architectural style with the existing home. They typically hold the pool equipment and have plumbing, electrical and fixtures just like any house, and can serve a multitude of functions in the backyard. Pool houses are the epitome of luxury and can even be equipped with glass walls and pocket doors that can open up fully for the summer months. They sometimes are designed with a pavilion or pergola attached to create a unique structure that maximizes outdoor living space.

Pergola: A pergola is an outdoor structure that consists of posts or columns and an open "roofing" grid of beams and rafters. Often rustic and made of wood (though sometimes modern and metal) these offer aesthetic value and a feeling of walls and ceiling. They provide some sun protection by way of light filtration but not any real protection from rain and other adverse weather. An option is to build it with a louvered cover system that can open and shut as needed, offering maximum versatility. They can be freestanding or attached to the home, depending on the structure and rooflines with pillars added to the posts if appropriate for the space.

Continued on page 98



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Arbour: An arbour is similar to a pergola, but on a smaller scale. Both arbours and pergolas can provide support for climbing plants, adding a lovely lush effect. Arbours can frame a view when placed alone or added in succession to provide a gorgeous tunnel effect.

Pavilion: A pavilion is an open-air structure with a solid roof. They generally don't have walls but are sometimes enclosed on one or two sides for privacy or wind shelter. A wonderful function of having a solid roof is that these spaces are protected from the elements so there's no need to store outdoor cushions or apply furniture coverings. These spaces are ideal as outdoor living rooms complete with plush sofas, toss pillows and, of course, a freestanding fireplace.

Gazebo: Similar to a pavilion and offering many of the same functional benefits, a gazebo has a solid roof and no walls but with one key difference – they are always octagonal in shape. These fit in well to country settings but in a modern application they often look awkward.

TIP: Sometimes prefabricated metal and cloth canopy structures (typically sold by big box stores) are also called gazebos. Though these are tempting because of their price point, they are a temporary solution and will require frequent replacement.



Greenhouse: Perhaps these buildings are self-explanatory but couldn't you just imagine a gorgeous glass greenhouse in your backyard filled with lavish plants and a swanky little seating set ready for afternoon tea or an evening glass of vino? As these are prefabricated, there is no need for architectural design, though proper placement is crucial. Buyers beware – permits may also apply!

Though a landscape designer can provide concept plan and inspirational photos as the starting point for outdoor structure design, most will require a technical draftsman to blend detailing with local building code requirements. This can be accomplished

through some combination of a Landscape Architect/Engineer/Builder/Architectural Technologist. Designing an outdoor structure is a process and a specialty field – larger structures will require building permits and zoning permissions.

As the illustrious Benjamin Franklin once said, “The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of low price is forgotten.” The application of this phrase to outbuilding construction is no exception. Be forewarned – great tradespeople are in short supply and many good builders are already fully booked a whole year in advance. Take your time to find the construction company that's right for you and be prepared to wait for the perfect end result. **OH**

Melanie is a landscape designer and a certified horticulturalist.



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SPRING TIME IS Pond Time!

BASS AVAILABLE AFTER JULY 1

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12FT POWDER COATED WINDMILLS for smaller ponds

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COMPLETE WITH AIRLINE, AIRSTONE

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BUY BOTH AERATOR & LIGHTS AND SAVE!

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NETS
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T: 705.349.1485 E: kelly.hall@ourhomes.ca

Continued on page 102



NORMERICA

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Our decades of experience coupled with our expert in-house design team allow us to offer a high level of customization and design flexibility – a key advantage of timber frame construction. In fact, most of our customers begin with one of our designs as inspiration, but truly custom-design a home to meet their own unique tastes. Customization is the new standard at Normerica.

Over the years, thousands of discerning customers have trusted us with their vision – most of those coming to us from referrals. We believe that's due to our ironclad commitment to service excellence, and our ability to offer timeless designs that deliver integrity, harmony and warmth.

Whether we're designing a simple addition to a family home or a 50,000 square foot Olympic facility, we bring the same care and attention to detail to everything we do. No matter your project, you can be confident that Normerica will help bring your dream to life.

1.800.361.7449 | normerica.com
info@normerica.com

(Please see ad on pg 115)



GEORGIAN SPRINKLERS: A YARD BOYS COMPANY

Georgian Sprinklers is the premier irrigation system supplier in the Southern Georgian Bay area and Muskoka.

We have designed hundreds of systems for properties ranging in size from a modest residential lawn to a multi-acre country estate.

Our customers tell us that they want to take full advantage of the active, outdoor year-round lifestyle that the area offers. But they also tell us they want to have a well-maintained home including a lush, green lawn. That is what Georgian Sprinklers delivers.

To make that happen, we will consult with you and then design and install an irrigation system that meets your unique lawn and garden needs. Our technicians are highly trained and we use only the best components. Once installed, we will carefully explain the operation of the system.

We will also be happy to maintain your system from Spring start-up to Fall shut-down.

Call or email us for a free estimate or visit our website for more information:
Georgiansprinklers.com
705.428.4608
Sales@georgiansprinklers.com

(Please see ad on pg 29)



LIVING LIGHTING PARRY SOUND

Living Lighting Parry Sound is not only your one-stop source for all your lighting needs but offers full design and layout services. We apply our knowledge and experience to help guide clients through any application, from small jobs to full home lighting schemes.

Newly located in Northern Living Kitchen and Bath, Living Lighting Parry Sound offers the Parry Sound, Georgian Bay and Muskoka area with a wide range of quality brand name lighting, lamp and fan products to suit your home or cottage style. From rustic Muskoka lighting, to clean and modern, to sparkly glam, you will certainly find fixtures to fit your home or cottage décor.

Our services not only cover the aesthetics of your lighting scheme; we carry multiple lines for task lighting, under cabinet lighting and recessed lighting that we can help you plan for. Being a part of the Living Lighting brand allows us to offer the largest selection and the best pricing. Bring in your plans or ideas and we will be sure to brighten your day. Living Lighting Parry Sound, where solutions come to light.

Package pricing and delivery available, visit in store for details. **Living Lighting Parry Sound and Northern Living Kitchen and Bath located at:**
6 Designers Lane, Seguin
705.746.8686
northernliving.ca

(Please see ad on pg 29)



KNOWLES PLUMBING

As Vinyl Café's late, great Stuart McLean once told his audience: "There are only two seasons in Muskoka according to **Knowles Plumbing**: Water on, and water off!"

For more than 60 years, this family-owned business has been taking care of Muskoka's water needs. Knowles Plumbing's solid reputation for service in homes and cottages is known across Muskoka Lakes. From Port Carling and Rosseau to Bracebridge, Huntsville, and Gravenhurst, it is the place to go for repair, mobile and in-house service...plus that odd little plumbing part that's available nowhere but here!

Over the years, the firm has grown into Muskoka's premier bath and plumbing centre. Its showroom in the heart of Bracebridge displays a wide selection of unique bath and kitchen fixtures, from elegant soaker tubs, to spa-like showers, faucets, vanities, kitchen sinks, water filters, treatment systems, parts, and more. Knowles Plumbing's products range from basic to high-end – a selection the company can stand behind. Experts offer design advice – helping cottagers and homeowners bring their dream baths and kitchens to life!

Drop into Knowles Plumbing's showroom or visit online anytime. Reliable service is only a phone call away.
279 Manitoba St, Bracebridge
705.645.2671
KnowlesPlumbing.com
@MuskokaBath

(Please see ad on pg 69)



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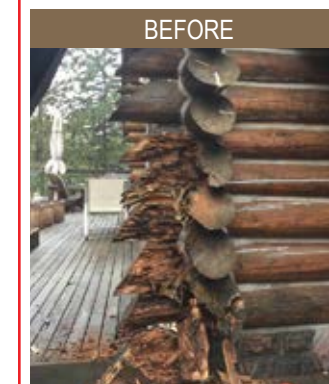
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6 Wakefield Street, Parry Sound, ON
705.774.8860
brooklacekitchenandbath.ca

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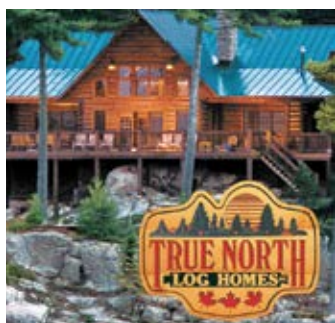


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- 2017 "Global Innovation Finalist"
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View Our All New Website
truenorthloghomes.com
800.661.1628 | Follow us on:



(Please see ad on pg 111)



PRO POOL TABLE SERVICES – 25 FRESH COLOURS!

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Pool is such a great game, in that age, skill or size has nothing to do with the fun for everyone. It's one of the few games that can cross generations. We're servicing existing tables and installing new pool tables not just in basements, but in dining rooms, great rooms, garages and boathouses. Anywhere family and friends can get together and play a few games of pool rain or shine and any time of year.

Pro Pool Table Services will come to your home or cottage and re-cloth your pool table in one of 25 fresh colours, to match your indoor décor with greys or earth tones, match the outdoors with green, blue or golden, or simply add a pop of colour to your games room with red.

And if you want to bring your table up from your home in the city, move a used table from another town or install a new pool table of your choice, we've got it all covered.

1.888.242.8494
propooltableservices.com
(Please see ad on pg 69)

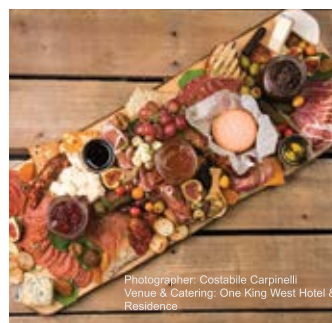


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The **United** family of over 250 employees is here to provide you with quality products, superb service, fair competitive prices and honest relationships with our customers. We are family owned and operated, serving the Barrie and Greater Toronto Area since 1974. With large 6 acre lumber yards to service any project, big or small, we have all your building supply needs. Our 3 locations in Barrie, Bolton and Georgetown have everything you need from paint, plumbing, electrical, hardware, home décor and much more! Competitive day-to-day pricing, with additional volume pricing discounts on larger projects, we are your one-stop shop. We'll load your materials for you and offer delivery as well when required.

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Barrie 705.726.8132
Bolton 905.857.6970
Georgetown 905.873.8007
Truss Plant 705.436.3425
social@unitedlumber.ca
unitedlumber.ca
(Please see ad on pg 83)



DEEP WATER WOOD

There is a different kind of buried treasure hidden beneath the waves of Ontario's lakes. It is not silver or gold but century-old timber.

Deep Water Wood, a Muskoka-based carpentry company, has been salvaging timber since 2006, converting it into hardwood and pine flooring. They work alongside cabinetmakers to produce custom cabinetry, furniture and wine racks. For the perfect dinner party conversation piece, Deep Water Wood creates unique charcuterie boards in a variety of shapes and sizes.

Each product is a piece of living history. In the 19th century, timber was rolled into the lakes to float downstream where it was then processed at a mill. Lighter logs floated but the denser ones sank.

"Many of our logs still have the original stamps on them," said Jedson Smuck, the company's president. "We often cut those out and inlay them into our products. It's about preserving the history and giving the objects authenticity."

Deep Water Wood products are carried across the province at wineries, boutique hotels, restaurants and home furnishing stores.

For a complete list of retailers, please visit deepwaterwood.com
(Please see ad on pg 49)

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- 2. ART MAISON: 39x39 Painting Stripes
- 3. RIOBEL: Momenti Floor-Mount Tub
Filler with Hand Shower in Brushed Nickel
- 4. MAAX: Louie 5829 Soaker Bathtub
in White
- 5. RENWIL: Birman Mirror
- 6. CUTLER KITCHEN & BATH: Urban
Collection Vanity in Daybreak
- 7. RIOBEL: Momenti 8" Lavatory Faucet in Brushed
Nickel
- 8. CIOT: Statuary White Glazed
Porcelain Tile
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108 | ourhomes EARLY SUMMER 2018

good taste

watermelon FROSÉ

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY
JENELLE MCCULLOCH

online Get more recipes at
ourhomes.ca/mag/cook

INGREDIENTS

Makes 4 to 6 servings

5 cups watermelon,
cubed and frozen

½ cup
granulated sugar

½ cup water

1 750ml bottle
of rosé wine

½ cup vodka

Fresh mint

DIRECTIONS

Core and cube a large watermelon. Place cubes on a baking sheet and freeze.

Meanwhile, combine sugar and water in a saucepan. Simmer until sugar is dissolved, creating a simple syrup.

Just before serving, add all ingredients to a blender, adding ½ cup of wine at a time. Pulse until smooth. Garnish with mint and serve.

If you're strapped for time, make frosé ahead of time and store in the freezer until ready to serve. **OH**

The frosé (rhymes with okay) is the hottest drink of summer. This wine-based frozen slushie gets its flavour from watermelon, the season's most popular fruit. Perfect for the patio or around the pool.

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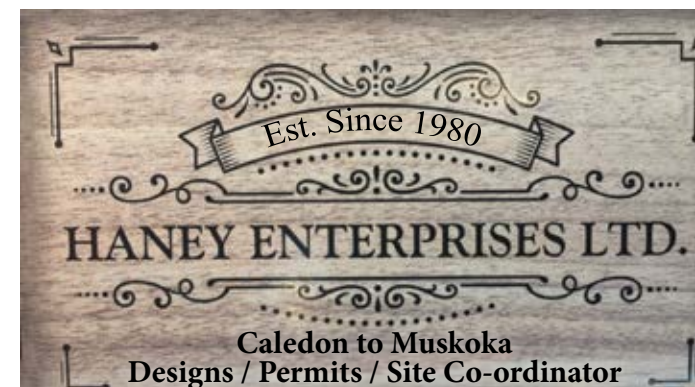
finishing touch



EVERYONE *into the* POOL

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finishing touch



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2. VIVERE: Brazilian Style Single Hammock in Salsa 3. ABBOTT: Small Jungle Leaf Hurricane
4. PIER 1 IMPORTS: Wooden Seahorse Serving Board 5. SILK PLANT HOME DÉCOR & MORE: Areca Palm 6. PIER 1 IMPORTS: Flamingo Inflatable Beverage Float 7. THE BEACH GLASS: Floating Acrylic Beverage Holder in Teal Tides 8. DEDON: Leaf Collection Beach Chair in Seagrass 9. BLOMUS: Stainless Steel Gel Burning Outdoor Garden Torch 10. PIER 1 IMPORTS: Vivid Aluminum Tumblers
11. PIER 1 IMPORTS: Parrot Ceramic Pitcher
12. SAFAVIEH: Deltana Indoor/Outdoor Bar Stool in Beige 13. SAFAVIEH: Monterey Outdoor Bar Table in Teak Look 14. SIMONS MAISON: Sorbet Stripe Beach Towel
15. ABBOTT: Luncheon Tropical Leaves Napkins
16. PIER 1 IMPORTS: Safari Jungle Party Melamine Salad Plates 17. SWIMLINE: Giant Flamingo Pool Float 18. SWIMLINE: Pineapple Pool Float OH



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