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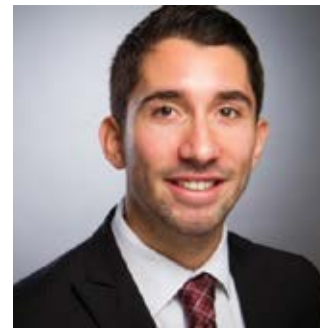


OUR HOMES SPECIAL ADVERTISING FEATURE

HEATING & COOLING

Preparing Your Furnace for Winter

by Morgan Charlebois, Reliance Holmes Heating & Cooling



Having a broken furnace midway through the winter is one of the biggest realities Canadians have to face. Furnaces always break down on the coldest day of the year just like ACs break down on the hottest day of the year. This summer is a great example of how these appliances can break down when met with extreme weather. Our goal with this article is to help you prevent a crisis this winter, save money, increase comfort in the home, and cash in on available rebates.

Preventative maintenance

The best piece of advice anyone can give you is to maintain your equipment regularly. Many companies offer a maintenance package for less than \$10 per month. This could be the difference between being prepared for the replacement and being completely surprised by a breakdown resulting in high repair costs. Best of all, proper maintenance will maintain the efficiency of your furnace, improve its longevity, and keep your utility bills under control. Maintaining your equipment will also give you the warning signs of a cracked heat exchanger which may result in carbon monoxide being released in the home.

The Silver Lining

You have done the maintenance; you may even do it religiously every year. This year the technical expert has advised your furnace is getting old and it is not as efficient as it used to be, and it will be more cost

effective for you to replace it. Of course you are not surprised, but the news is not what you were hoping for. There is a silver lining. Not only will you be upgrading the equipment to be more reliable, safe, and efficient, you will also be upgrading the comfort in your home. The new furnace and air conditioner systems are designed to deliver two key benefits – comfort and savings. The new motors are designed to run all the time, circulating the air while balancing the temperature on each floor in the home – all while saving on utility costs. The government is offering rebates with every replacement. Do not let the raising hydro costs ruin your Christmas.

*Let's face it,
a furnace always
breaks down on
the coldest day
of the year just
like an AC breaks
on the hottest
day of the year.*



Consideration

When replacing your furnace, there are several factors to consider. First, always, always, always use a licensed contractor. The equipment being used is only as good as the technicians installing it. Not only does it affect efficiency, it also affects breakdowns and lifespan of the furnace. Second, ensure the brand is well known and reliable - the last thing you want is to invest in a system that is prone to problems. Third, always check the warranty. The manufacturers mostly offer a 10-year parts warranty. The parts

are inexpensive to replace. The labour warranty is what you really want because, just like cars, are the most expensive part of your repairs.

If you are ever unsure, or looking to replace your aging furnace, please contact me. Reliance Holmes Heating & Cooling offers free, no obligation, and no pressure in-home consultations. This way, we find the right furnace and air conditioner system that is right for you, your home and your budget.



*Morgan Charlebois has been
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AS THE LEAVES START TO CHANGE COLOURS AND A new season (pumpkin spiced everything) begins, I am sad to say this is the last editor's note that I will be writing for OUR HOMES. After over three years at OUR HOMES – The City of Ottawa, it is a hard decision to leave such an amazing publication.

It has been an absolute joy to work with so many talented people. Local business owners and employees make those snowy winter days warm when they welcome you with a smile and those summer days cool when they welcome you with a cold drink!

There are many people who work on making this magazine the very best. Those in head office, editors, designers and many others, have been awesome to work with over the years and have taught me something new every issue. I won't forget the lessons I've learned and the support you have given me. Thank you.

Freelancers who live in the Ottawa region produce all of the amazing photography and stories you see and read inside our pages. I will miss shoot days and chat ups over coffee as we go from one location to another exploring the city. You really are the very best, not just freelancers for the magazine but friends as well!

I have been lucky enough to work with two publishers who have both inspired me in so many ways. Beth is the strongest woman I think I

have ever met and is a role model for me and many others, especially her daughter and granddaughters! I know Beth will continue to take this magazine from strength to strength with every issue and I cannot wait to see it continue to grow.

To you dear reader: this magazine would not be around if it wasn't for you and your loyalty to the publication. It brightens up our day when we hear stories about how you love the magazine, or how you found a local company through the magazine. Thank you for turning our pages!

So, I am signing off for the last time. Enjoy this Ottawa packed issue of OUR HOMES and many more to come. Happy reading!

Sarah Hoy, Managing Editor
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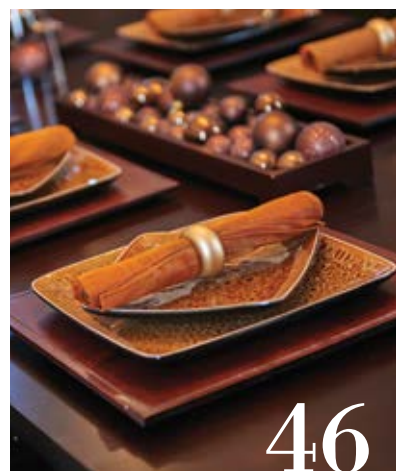
THE ORIGINAL
RADIANT GAS FIREPLACE

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Photography by Jessica Deeks.



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Georgette's door

HEARING FROM OUR READERS IS THE MOST

gratifying aspect of my role as publisher of OUR HOMES The City of Ottawa. This feedback is the reason I enjoy having a booth at all the home shows. It will also be exciting to have Sarah Richardson from HGTV on stage at the Ottawa Fall Home Show. We had a chance to chat with her about her visit to Ottawa. See pages 40 and 41 to see what she has to share with us about home fashion this season.

I also enjoy participating in the Rust-Oleum Paint Ultimate Upcycle Challenge, presented again at the show. The auction of upcycled items will support the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Ottawa and #StuStrong campaign with The Ottawa Hospital Foundation. It is a joy to explore the creative side I never knew I had and support a good cause.

That's why I was so excited to hear from a reader, Georgette. She contacted me to say she was inspired by my submission to the Upcycle Challenge at the Renovation Show in January. I had submitted a jewelry display board made out of an old door, shown here. Georgette was kind enough to send me a picture showing the door she painstakingly designed, which is fabulous. I am so impressed!

In closing, I have to say a sad farewell to our editor Sarah Hoy. When I purchased the magazine almost three years ago, Sarah was the person I counted on to help me get my bearings from day to day. Since then I've had the pleasure of congratulating her on her marriage and then welcoming her beautiful daughter Emily into her life. It has been fun working with Sarah and her talent will be sadly missed. The whole OUR HOMES team wishes Sarah a brilliant future.

Beth Charbonneau

Beth Charbonneau, *Publisher*
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advice



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

LOWER LEVELS

NOT THE DUNGEONS THEY USED TO BE

Gone are the days of low-ceilinged unfinished basements that smell of mould and mildew; meagre places to do laundry and store sports gear and Christmas decorations.

Now that fixer-uppers in some cities are going for a million dollars or more, spending \$100,000 to \$150,000 doesn't sound unreasonable to reclaim existing space. Basement renos are a lot cheaper than an addition and much easier than an attic.

In posh neighbourhoods with historical designation and height restrictions, contractors are now digging deep to create spaces three or four levels below ground, so that they can house bowling alleys, Olympic-size pools – you name it, just dig it. Called “iceberg” architecture, what you see above ground is just the tip of what lies below.

For regular folks, the new-found square footage becomes a fantasy space. When all the necessary rooms for daily living are accounted for above ground, the basement becomes a space where your imagination can run wild.

That's when I dub basements “The Lower Level Retreat.” With a shift in name comes a shift in thinking about the space and its possibilities and functions.

These spaces can house entertainment centres with large 50- to 60-inch televisions, sizes that would normally dominate a regular living area.

For the practically minded, extra storage room is always welcome and if you're going to have a laundry room, then why not add a little panache. The ultimate home office can double as a guest room when grandma and grandpa come to visit.

Other leisure lair spaces include wine cellars, spa retreats that double as doggie grooming centres with heated floors, therapeutic pools for athletic injuries or music studios. The possibilities are endless.

How do you design a livable, lovable space that feels warm and cosy? Let's start with the basics:

Planning

Open plan seems to work best. If you need to enclose spaces for privacy, then make the walls moveable, to enclose or open a space as required.

Building

Ideally, a finished eight-foot ceiling suits everyone best. Remember that recessed pot lights, flooring and under-floor infrastructure all reduce available height.

PHOTO: MIRO ZAGNELI

1

2

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5

Custom cabinetry keeps wires hidden but accessible.

Doors with a clean profile complete the look.

Make sure to address structural issues and all possible moisture issues. Hire a contractor who knows all about basements.

I prefer to add radiant floor heat. If not the whole floor, then in the washroom or spa area. When your tootsies are warm, then the rest of you will feel warm, cosy and pampered.

Lighting

The trick is to find light fixtures and bulbs that spread light in all directions, filling surfaces with light and minimizing harsh shadows to help decrease the cave-like effect.

Choose a warm colour temperature of 2700 kelvin (K) or 3000K. Bluish light of 4000K is cool and will feel fridge-like and not somewhere you'd like to hang out, especially in the winter.

Use different sources of lighting throughout the space such as lamps and LED strips in built-in shelving.

Décor & Design

Raise sofas and other large pieces of furniture off of the floor. Your eye travels underneath furniture on raised legs, keeping the look light and airy.

Use lighter colours and textures as a focal point for emphasis and drama.

Don't place a television over a fireplace. Together they are visually overwhelming.

Flooring

Make sure to use a modular flooring system. Should water damage occur, pieces can be popped out of place and new product installed easily. Large rolled goods such as carpet or linoleum should be avoided. When wet, mould and mildew occur.

I've had a lot of success with carpet tile over plywood. Carpet tile acts as an insulator. It's removable, easily cleaned and easily re-installed.

Your options for flooring are: porcelain or marble tile, or vinyl or laminate planks. Engineered hardwood is debatable, but plank flooring is your best bet.

Fixing up the basement will add much happiness to you and your home. What is your Lower Level Fantasy? **OH**

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ART Attack

STORY SARAH HOY | PHOTOGRAPHY LYNDA GRAVELINE

Ottawa is full of artists and galleries that showcase art from the city and across Canada. These pieces may inspire your home décor.



2

1 OTTAWA ART GALLERY

Golden Field 2014

This oil and wax landscape is by Ottawa Artist Barbara Gamble. This gallery lets you rent art. It's a perfect way to figure out what works in your home.

Arts Court, 2 Daly Ave., Ottawa
613.233.8699 | ottawaartgallery.ca

2 CUBE GALLERY

Trop Jane

This sculpture from well known artist Joe Fafard, is an investment piece that will be the talk of many conversations for years to come.

1285 Wellington St. W., Ottawa
613.728.1750 | cubegallery.ca

3 KOYMAN GALLERIES

Orcas & Driftboat

Orcas and Canada go hand in hand. The acrylic painting is by local artist John Orcacik and is bound to make you dream of ocean adventures.

1771 St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa
613.526.1562 | koymangalleries.com

4 WALL SPACE

Red & Ochre Sunset

A beautiful, warm acrylic piece by Erica Hawkes will welcome visitors on a cool fall evening.

358 Richmond Rd., Ottawa
613.729.0003 | wallspacegallery.ca

5 WALLACK GALLERIES

Backlit After Snow

A 65 by 57-inch acrylic painting by David Alexander could be the ideal statement piece for your abode.

225 Bank St., Ottawa
613.235.4339 | wallackgalleries.com

6 GALLERY 3

The Wanderer 2

This mixed media piece by Marc Nerbonne is uniquely round. It will certainly command attention in any room.

1281b Wellington St. W., Ottawa
613.728.1281 | gallery3.ca OH



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4



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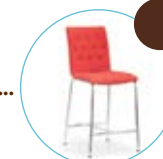
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“Having draperies properly fitted makes a huge visual difference.”

DRAMATIC INDULGENCES

If you never indulge, you won't truly love anything in your space. Basing the design around one or two splurge pieces will give a visual centre and draw attention from the “save” pieces. An eye-catching light (like a stunning mini-chandelier pendant) is a great place to splurge, as it's a natural draw for the eye that can be enjoyed from all angles.

SECRET DEALS

Trading off the splurges with smart save pieces is just good business. Avoid cheap substitutes that will look fake or break down quickly; choose inexpensive classics instead. Try plain, white porcelain subway tile for a timeless look in baths and kitchens, minimalist vanity cabinets from big box stores (you can always customize with a great faucet), and mismatched pillows from off-price resellers or vintage shops.



FEEL THE LUXURY

Your eyes aren't the only way you connect with your space; a millionaire's interior is a feast for all senses, especially touch. Plush materials will give both physical and visual texture, so include elements like wool throw blankets, shearling or Mongolian fur pillows, velvets, linens or heavy jute. Treat yourself to an irresistibly-scented candle from an aspirational store. Layering on accents like these builds up a feeling of wealth and can be done over time.

GROW ACCUSTOMED

There are some areas where it's worth it to invest in custom details. Having draperies properly fitted (especially a full wall floor-to-ceiling) makes a huge visual difference versus letting them drag or hang short, so consider splurging on custom panels or having packaged curtains hemmed.

BE A BOSS

A millionaire isn't shy about getting their way. Know what you want in your décor and make sure to be upfront with contractors or installers to get the details right (like installing flooring in a chevron pattern to add style). Don't be afraid to buck trends and make a personal statement. After all, it's you who should love your home the most – you've earned it. **OH**

IT JUST LOOKS EXPENSIVE

STORY YANIC SIMARD | PHOTOGRAPHY GILLIAN JACKSON

A FRESH START

No matter your design past, you can start fresh with the ultimate haute palette: clean shades of white and grey. Using one all-over colour to treat your walls, trim and ceiling gives that sleek Parisian air, connects your spaces and helps visually erase any imperfections. Try CIL's faintly grey Dove White (10BB 83/020), or Crisp Linen White (61YY 89/040) for a trendy yet classic hint-of-cream look.



INHERIT CULTURE

A millionaire's estate isn't built in a day and it usually carries a sense of history. Vintage items contrast the sharpness of new finds, so look to vintage shops for great deals on pieces with some worn-in character. Try an old wooden chair as a bedside table or a salvaged sideboard as a vanity or storage cabinet. Mix heirlooms and old books into shelving displays to play history against the now.

THINK BIG

A few statement pieces can do a lot more talking than an extensive collection of clutter. Choose upgrades like oversize lampshades, large frames (with wide matting) or big, art-student canvases or prints, vast rugs (in plain Berber to balance the budget). Extend your trim (like baseboards or window trim) by adding strips of plain half-round or quarter-round to the edges to create the illusion of rich elaborate moulding. Then skip the small knick-knacks that bring down the look.

INVEST IN METALS

Combining elements of gold or warm brass with elements of silver and crisp aluminum gives a hint of Art Deco appeal (think Great Gatsby) and lets you add drama without committing to any one trend. Add metallic candle sticks, picture frames, dining chairs (great for indoor/outdoor flexibility), lamps, side tables and/or sculptural objets.

Plush materials, like velvets, add physical and visual texture.



PHOTO: BRANDON BARRE

Craving that never-look-at-the-price-tag style? The look of luxe is actually more about high-end taste than unlimited money, and with a few guiding principles anyone can get millionaire décor – even on a “first job” budget. Read on for my favourite tips for living the design high life.

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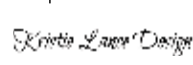
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ALL IN GOOD TIME

STORY **HEATHER WRIGHT**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JESSICA DEEKS**



There is a distance to travel down the long driveway leading up to Celine and Paul Maisonneuve’s grand bungalow in Plantagenet, which is appropriate. You need time to fully digest the stunning visual of this elegant home, perched confidently on the bank of the Ottawa River.

The beautiful outdoor landscaping sets the scene for this home. From the moment you turn down the driveway you are in awe of the scenery.



A chain downspout directs water from the eavestrough.



The expansive three bedroom bungalow, with banks upon banks of windows (**Dalmen Windows and Doors**) that frame the river views is aptly referred to as Celine and Paul’s “dream home.” Its idyllic presence with rolling hills, water access and gentle breezes suggests a resort-like atmosphere, where you’d want to press the pause button and simply relax and enjoy.

That’s in part why they created such an inviting outdoor space, with a spacious, two-tiered deck, attractive interlock (**Guy Robert Landscape & Design**) and dramatic stone stairways flanking either side of the house. Paul’s company **Maize Siding & Eavestroughing Inc.**, installed a product called longboard on the underside of the top deck, an aluminum imitation wood that really gives the sitting area outside a warmer feel. They spend a great deal of time outside, and it’s easy to see why. *Continued on page 32*



In 2007, Celine and Paul bought this land and started building a few years later, working with contractor **U&I Builders Ltd.** They moved in in May of 2015. The design for this sophisticated home was conceived in an unpretentious way, over years of affable discussions between Celine and Paul, sharing bottles of wine and sketching their ideas collectively on the backs of envelopes.

“We talked about the house for four or five years, and agreed on almost everything,” says Paul.

While Celine tackled many of the interior colour decisions, Paul

decided on many of the exterior colours and features, including a chic chain downspout from the eavestroughing.

“We didn’t like the look of pipe for the downspout,” says Paul. With the help of his eavestroughing company they installed this stylish alternative.

This house is a study in angles and lines, and there is hardly a space that isn’t part of the cohesive design. But as Celine explains, the details of design can be overwhelming, especially if you are naturally reluctant to make decisions, as she admits she is. *Continued on page 34*

ABOVE: The living area overlooks the lake through large glass windows. **TOP RIGHT:** The powder room adds a touch of luxury. **RIGHT:** The laundry room is perfectly outfitted to help with the family’s needs.





And then you add to that the pressure that this is the “dream home” that they’ve been essentially envisioning in their mind’s eye over many years. It’s hard to translate that vision into a physical structure. To alleviate that stress, Celine and Paul were not shy about enlisting the help of others, making the design process truly collaborative. Their designer daughter frequently offered her input and they hired design consultants Sheridan Interiors, Kitchens & Bath.

“They say it takes a village to raise a child,” says Celine. “For us, it took a village to raise this house.”

And the layers of detail in this design are significant. Extra wide baseboards and trim (designed by Sheridan Interiors and millwork by [House of Fine Carpentry](#)) draw the eye and suggest definition of space; a towering,

Continued on page 36



The house was a team effort. “They say it takes a village to raise a child, for us, it took a village to raise this house,” says homeowner, Celine. **OPPOSITE:** The large open kitchen is bright and functional, with practical built-ins.



ABOVE: The couple opted for an indoor grill in their sunroom similar to what restaurants use so they could achieve those authentic grill flavours all year-round.
RIGHT: The spacious open-concept main floor houses the staircase leading to the basement.



sleek built-in bench in the entryway and smart built-in shelving in the great room (millwork by House of Fine Carpentry and designed by Sheridan Interiors) show how the design details stack on top of each other for eye-popping effect.

One of the most interesting details is the coffered ceiling (House of Fine Carpentry) in the main living area, which Paul and Celine used to create the sense of extra height and visual texture, by angling the ceiling and brushing the top portion with colour for contrast.

The open floor plan spreads out through the dining room, large kitchen (House of Fine Carpentry) and a sunny great room. The layout was meant to get “as much river view as possible,” according to Celine, and makes total use of the abundant natural light that floods the space. The colour palette throughout hints of greys and soft blues that draw and disperse warmth. The rich hardwood flooring (**Tapis Richard Ranger Carpet Inc.**) throughout much of the house plays a key supportive role in tying the thematic threads of style together.

RIGHT: A light and spacious place to store clothes.
BELOW: The master bedroom boasts a two sided, see-through fireplace.



Light fixtures (**Multi Luminaire**) are strategically placed throughout the home to create visual interest at just the right spots. The shapes shift from room to room, from hard angles, squares and rectangles to rounded fixtures. All are decidedly linear and contribute to the svelte geometry that permeates the space.

In the master bedroom, the two sided, see-through fireplace (**Romantic Fireplaces & BBQs**) is viewed from the bed and from the whirlpool tub (**Mondeau**). The wide insert also lets the light flow from the windows, again offering river vistas. As in other rooms, in the bedroom says Celine, “All the focus is on the river.”

Another jewel is the sunroom that provides sweeping water views on multiple sides. *Continued on page 38*



feature

The large walk-out basement is everything the homeowners want and need, including a man cave with large projection screen, and a comfortable seating area.



“We spent a lot of time designing what was to be an outdoor space,” she says. “We originally wanted an indoor barbecue but that wasn’t going to work, so we went for an indoor grill (**MCL Hospitality Ltd.**), similar to what restaurants use.” That means authentic grill flavours delivered to their table, no matter the weather outdoors. The sunroom also has a personal connection, with cute seaside décor treasures, a nod to Celine’s Acadian heritage.

The walk-out basement is an excellent example of how to define

space with purpose through décor without physically separating it. Some highlights include a man cave area with a projection T.V. (**SONXPLUS Technologies**) and stone fireplace (Romantic Fireplaces & BBQs), a pretty ladies lounge and a stone-fronted bar. The space is large, but intimate all at the same time.

Each square inch of Paul and Celine’s home was clearly planned with attention to what the experience should be for the viewer at each vantage point, indoors and out. **OH**



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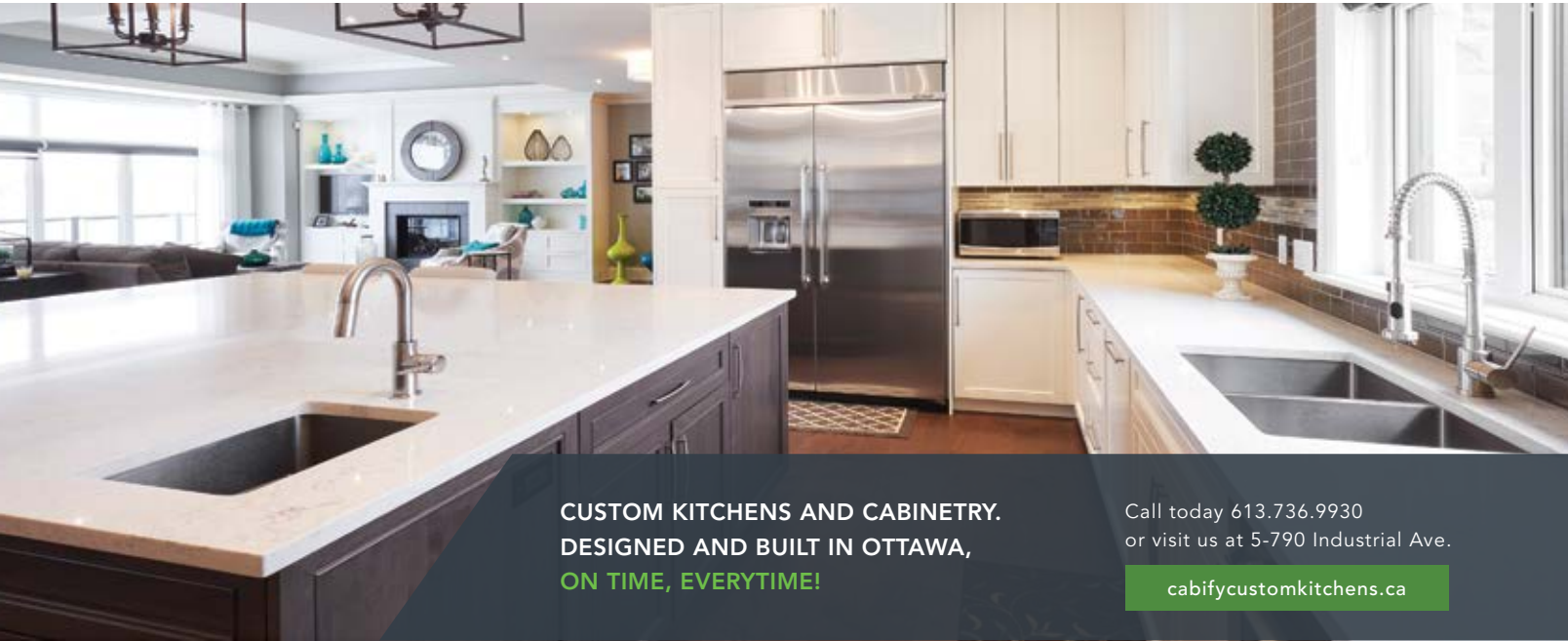
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It's

Sarah's House

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The Ottawa Fall Home Show is just around the corner and TV's Sarah Richardson will take the stage to speak to Ottawa audiences. We had the chance to catch up with the interior design star who is famous for *Sarah's House*, and *Design Inc.*, prior to the show to find out about her time in Ottawa and her top tips.

Can you give us a sneak peek into what you will be talking about at the Fall Home Show?

I'm coming to Ottawa to share inspiration, tips, insights and advice for renovating and decorating. I like to present a variety of solutions that can help homeowners, whether they are tackling a large renovation or build project, or embarking on a smaller scale decorating adventure. No matter how big or small the project, I think there's always an opportunity to make a positive change in your interior so I like to encourage everyone to get hands on at home.

Are you excited to be back in Ottawa?

Of course! I love the opportunity to visit Ottawa, though my trips never seem to be long enough.

What do you like about the Fall Home Show?

I find the attendees of the show are so enthusiastic and excited about design, and that always makes for a wonderful presentation when you feel that your message is well received and interesting to your audience. Last year was a very rewarding experience for me as the crowd was fantastic and made me feel so welcome and happy to be in our nation's capital. One of the elements I love most about my job as a TV host is that I feel I can help guide homeowners through their projects by sharing knowledge and inspiration that will help them navigate their projects with success. I think the Home & Garden show offers something for everyone, so I'm happy to be involved again!

What are some of the top trends for Fall/Winter 2016?

Weathered woods, natural materials and a Scandinavian approach to mixing old and new together continues to be popular. I think pieces that tell a story of having lived a previous life are well-suited to the demands of modern living and furnishings made of solid materials can stand the test of time. I think most homeowners gravitate towards a casual, comfortable lifestyle with a few special touches that bring the rooms to life, and this can be done in any style that appeals to you. Whether it's streamlined

mid-century style, easy traditional elegance, or a touch of bohemian pattern and colour, there are trends to suit every taste and style!

If we were to renovate any room in the house, what should it be and why?

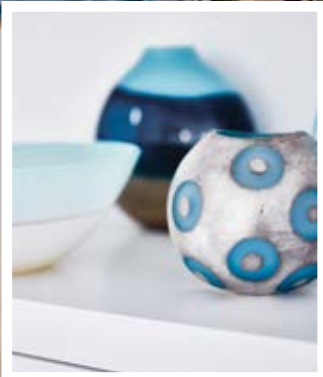
There's no one right answer to that question as the right path is somewhat relative depending on the state of the house. Everyone will say that the kitchen and baths will deliver the best ROI, and I certainly concur with that plan since the kitchen and baths will not only help increase the value of the home but will also deliver years of enjoyment. I think it's best to start by looking at your budget and think about what the best use of your resources is. Instead of just renovating one room and blowing the entire budget, you may prefer to sprinkle the dollars evenly throughout the home and make small upgrades in every room that will deliver great results.

How do we make our homes look magazine worthy?

My trick is to use a camera or phone and take photos of the room(s) from every angle. It's amazing how a photo will help you see what's working (and more importantly, not working) in the room. The first step to making anything look camera ready is to EDIT! Our homes accumulate a lot of clutter over the years and it's amazing how much of it is not really needed. I follow the William Morris principle from over a 100 years ago, which I think is brilliant... "Have nothing in your homes that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful"...wiser words were never spoken.

What are your top styling tips that anyone can incorporate into their home?

Here are two tricks for foolproof styling: **1** Group all like things together. If you have some ceramic accessories, some glass, some metal and some wood, your vignettes may look a bit jumbled and not edited. Try making little styled vignettes using all the items of a single material and it will create a cohesive and edited effect. Also make sure that you have a variety of heights and shapes in your styling so all the items aren't the same shape and height and volume. **2** To make the curation process of putting a room together as easy as possible, try working with a monochromatic palette. I generally use a pale neutral for all the big pieces (like upholstery), and then interject personality and fun through the accents. I tend to select a single colour for a room (like blue, or green) and layer monochromatic patterns into the scheme. You can incorporate various tones of a single colour to keep it interesting!





Serge Bellavance



30 YEARS YOUNG

STORY **SARAH HOY** | PHOTOGRAPHY **JESSICA DEEKS**



BACK IN THE 80s: If you’ve worked with kitchen or bath contractors around the city, you’ve probably heard of **Urban Quarry**. “In 1986 it all started with a dream for owner Laurent Bellavance [as Marble Unlimited],” says son Serge Bellavance, current Sales & Marketing Director/Owner. “At that time, the company only manufactured synthetic marble for bathroom applications. It was in 2010, after a number of developments, changes and exclusive stockists, that Marble Unlimited rebranded to Urban Quarry. Today, Urban Quarry continues to thrive under the leadership of Laurent, his wife Monique (Accounting) and their two children – Mireille (Administrative Manager/Owner) and me, plus a skilled team of over 65 employees.”

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS: This year is a milestone for Urban Quarry. Says Serge: “Urban Quarry celebrates 30 wonderful years partnering with Ottawa’s professional



trades and relocated to 2717 Stevenage Dr., building its largest and most inspirational showroom and Cambria Quartz fabrication plant to date.”

SPARKLING SHOWROOM: Located in the east end of Ottawa, Urban Quarry boasts a new showroom with endless inspirations for kitchens, bathrooms and commercial spaces. You can’t miss the amazing stone landscape on the wall behind reception as you walk in. Look for the Peace Tower and other Ottawa skyline favourites. “We officially opened our showroom on May 26th with a roaring 20s-themed grand opening event.”

WORKING WITH INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS: Urban Quarry is a B2B company, meaning it does not sell directly to the public. However, says Serge, “our products are available through



many local kitchen and bath dealers and industry professionals. Urban Quarry partners with industry professionals who offer exceptional value to customers.”

TRENDS: If you are in the depths of a renovation you may be considering what is on-trend right now. “People are more and more educated on different products when it comes to their kitchen renovations and seek low-maintenance and durable materials that will last a lifetime,” Serge explains. “That being said, our exclusive, premium Cambria quartz surfaces are what is trending. With over 130 designs, the most exceptional selection in the world, all of the designs share the same price, making it that much easier for homeowners to change their mind and experiment as they plan, without compromising their budget.”

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STORY **HEATHER WRIGHT**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JESSICA DEEKS**

SMART SPACES

The homeowners love the streamlined look of the built-in appliances.

In a small home, there is emphasis on clever storage to create more home and enhance livability. When your space is large, as it is in Jason and Cindy Allen's 3,600 sq. ft. Stittsville home, the aim of organizing available space is different. It's about altering perception to make your design more fluid and offering efficiencies that simplify your life. In this thoughtful home, everything has its place, literally.



The open flow of the living area and kitchen creates a space for the whole family to enjoy. **LEFT:** Jason Allen, homeowner and owner of Tailored Living of Ottawa.

Jason and Cindy, and their two children Mackenzie, 11, and Colton, 10, have busy lives typical of many suburban families, which Jason in part credits for his appreciation and need for organized space. As the owner of custom storage solution company **Tailored Living of Ottawa**, he brings his work home with him every day. And as this home reveals, organization is not simply about having tidy closets; it's also about enmeshing storage solutions into the overall design, as well as creating a supportive backdrop to really appreciate the other design elements.

The family moved from a large acreage property to this Tamarack home in 2012. While they favour the amenities and neighbourhood vibe

that village living in Stittsville provides, they also like green space and privacy, which can be a tall order when it comes to higher density living.

In terms of creating a private sanctuary, the Allens have taken some obvious steps, like lush landscaping (**Fallowfield Tree Farm, Richmond Nursery**), elegant interlock (**Davis Landscape & Design**) and pool (**Pool Builders**).

Moving inside, there are subtle design elements that feed into the décor but also create a sense of physical separation, although the Allens are very much fused within the family-friendly community of Jackson Trails, like wide slatted California shutters (**Westboro Flooring & Decor Inc**) on the windows (**Jeld-Wen Windows & Doors**) and an

ornate half-moon (**Glass Expression**) insert on the front door, which quietly adds colour and texture to the space, while placing a layer between the family and the world outside.

There is an acute awareness of wide-open space and of directed vision towards certain key décor and design elements; focal points pop, like chunky, luxe light fixtures on the main floor (**The Electrical & Plumbing Store**) and a slick fireplace with stainless-steel trim and broken glass insert (**The Fireplace Center & Patio Shop**).

Mindful of the overall design of the wide-open kitchen, and sensitive to the symmetrical sightline that the space provides, the Allens created space within a space with built-in appliances.

Continued on page 51

The large dining area is ideal for family gatherings. **OPPOSITE:** The table is set for Thanksgiving dinner.



“We’d always wanted built-in appliances,” explains Jason. “We knew that the kitchen is one room that you really get your value back. We liked the more streamlined look of built-in appliances.”

The sizeable Jenn-Air refrigerator (all appliances from **Universal Appliances**) blends innocuously into the rest of the cabinetry (**Muskoka Cabinet Company**) lending a seamless appeal to the design. Another clever stow-away item: the hood fan on the island cooktop, which rises out of the counter when needed. The island, Jason says, is a major hub for their busy family.

Another smart feature is the small beverage fridge that sits in the butler’s pantry, just off the kitchen, which frees up space in the main fridge.

It’s really interesting when design is innovative, not just for its aesthetic appeal, but when it evolves usage and presentation. Take the sizeable walk-in pantry, for example.

Unlike a typical pantry, says Jason “you’ve got room on the shelves. It really makes the pantry work.”

Specifically, Jason (**Tailored Living, Ottawa**) added sliding baskets in the pantry that work well to house irregular shaped items. “It’s where you put objects that don’t stack well,” he explains. “You’ve always got to be moving things around. But with sliding baskets, you’ve got easy access. It’s a clean, easy-to-use solution.” *Continued on page 52*



This chandelier adds sparkle to the dining room.

little details add
personality in this home.

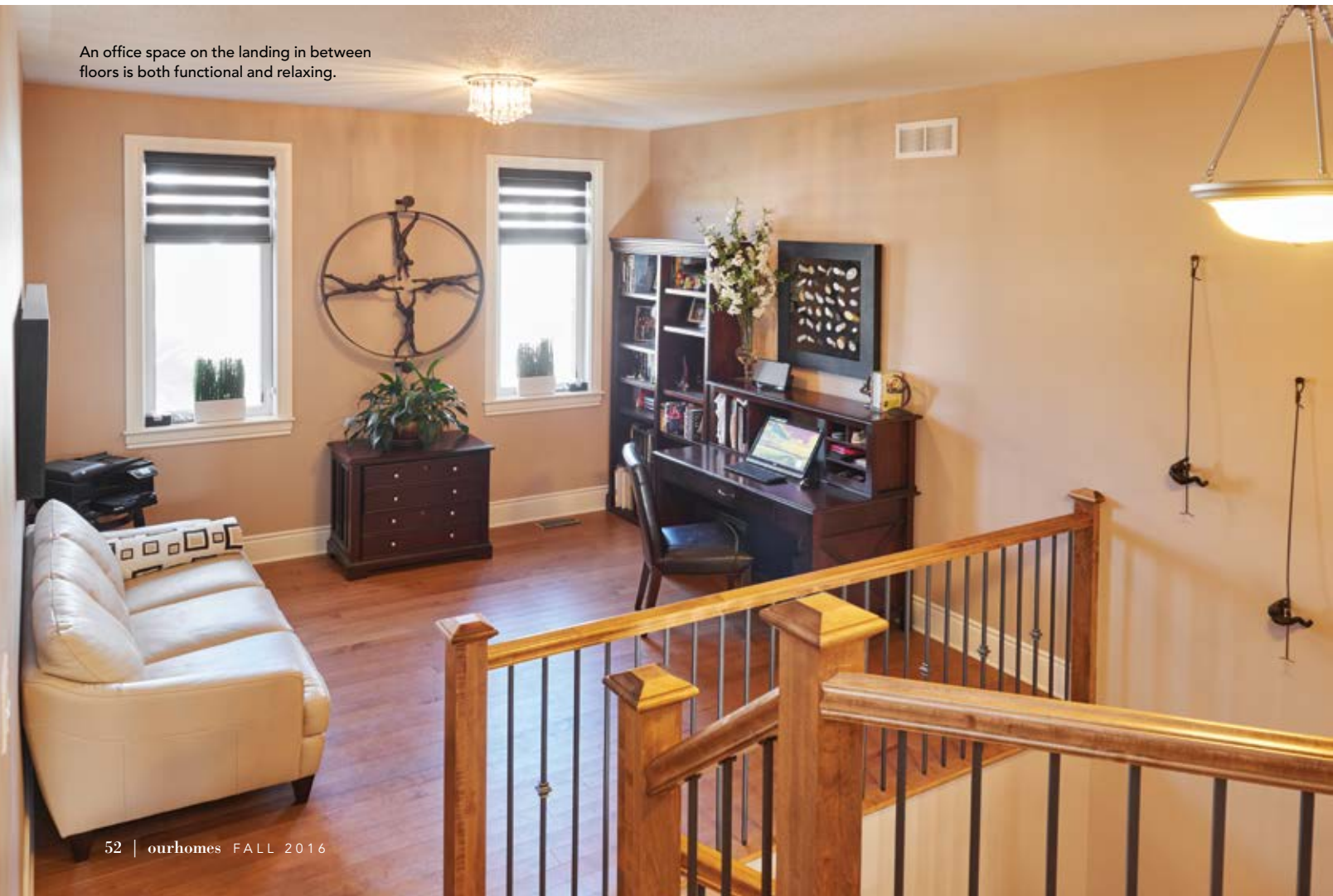


This is yet another instance where the concept of organization plays a subtle role in support to the overall design. It's not just that tidiness and organization help keep an area clean; it helps promote the clean lines that define the décor elements that encapsulate the space. Even in the pantry, you've got stylish cabinetry with hard angled hardware (**Richelieu Hardware**), that make this utilitarian space pleasant to use and look at; it also keeps the design consistent with the elements present elsewhere in the home, proving a point: just because something is enclosed in a storage space doesn't mean that you need to sacrifice style.

Jason paid particular attention to storage and design opportunities in his sizeable garage, which is a very commonly overlooked area of living space in a home. Creating garages that are coveted living spaces is something that Jason's company specializes in.

Of special interest is the quartzite hybrid polymer decorative chip flooring, which is not only stylish and offers a visual so pleasing that you'd expect to see it within the heart of the home, it is highly functional. *Continued on page 54*

An office space on the landing in between floors is both functional and relaxing.



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The fusion of fashion and function continues up to the master bedroom, where their walk-in closet is decked out with another custom storage solution. In addition to the usual storage suspects, like jewelry drawers, storage drawers for socks, valet rods, built-in hampers and pull-out tie racks, what really makes this space sing is the elevated detail to visual design, like upgraded moulding and attention to the colour palette, so that it ties in with the rest of the neutrals in the home.

Continued on page 56

A warm master bedroom is complimented with an open, organised walk-in closet, which boasts a custom design for storage.





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(Please see ads on pg 9, 65)



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An impressive list of satisfied customers agree, our team of professionals make the transformation of your kitchen or bath a pleasurable experience. **Call 613.860.1404 to book your free in home consultation and visit us at kitchendynamics.ca**

(Please see ad on pg 57)



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cauldronkitchen.ca
(Please see ad on pg 63)



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WCMCI Fire Safety supports residential rental property owners by conducting annual fire inspections for insurance reasons.

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(Please see ad on pg 63)

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THE RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

STORY **JARED KEEN**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JESSICA DEEKS**



Kristy Brayton, Customer Experience Coordinator

Since arriving in Ottawa in 1996, Cardel Homes has become a fan favourite in new home builders. Customer Experience Coordinator Kristy Brayton tells us why Cardel is popular in the city.

What sets Cardel apart from other new home builders? It really comes down to the personalized customer experience we provide. We work with clients every step of the way to design a home that's uniquely theirs. But crafting that home is just one component of the customer experience. The relationships we build with each client helps to ensure satisfaction long after we hand over the keys.

What does a Cardel customer relationship look like? It starts with our commitment to an honest, transparent process. Our team educates customers through every stage, whether they're first-time buyers or home-savvy market veterans. Keeping clients excited is very important to us. We're in continuous contact throughout the design process, framing, inspections and beyond – photographing milestones for keepsakes, conducting personal walk-throughs and making sure each customer is an expert on their new home by possession day.



Community Sales Consultants
Lynne Feitag and Jennifer Dean.



Dave Sutcliffe, PDI Warranty Technician, Cynthia Gustafson, Warranty Service Coordinator & Scott Popowicz, Construction Site Supervisor.

Is possession day the grand finale? Possession day is a huge milestone, but it doesn't end there. We make sure customers are in good hands with our Service & Warranty team, which provides post-possession support and guides homeowners through maintenance during the entire warranty period, including the one-year inspection. Part of that guidance includes sending seasonal tips to help owners maintain their home in tip-top shape as well as a comprehensive homeowner's manual that covers every detail, right down to the kitchen sink.

How does Cardel measure success? Awards and accolades are always nice, but they're not our focus. When the client knows everyone by name, that's how we really know we're doing a good job. We love hearing from our families and continually seek input to improve our processes. Thanks to that input, after 20 years in Ottawa, we've honed a customer experience that's second to none, and the letters we get from happy homeowners are a testament to that. Last week, Janet C. wrote, "I really cannot express in words how thankful we are. Everyone we dealt with were perfect for their jobs!" It's that kind of feedback that tells us we're doing things right.



Jenny Black, Design Consultant and Lindsay Pasch, Design Centre Manager

Beyond an industry-leading experience, what can customers expect from Cardel? In short, a home they adore in a community they love. "Built for Real Life" is our mantra, and nobody gets today's families better than we do. We know how important it is to have easy access to everything you need, from groceries and essentials to services and recreation. That's why we're so selective about the communities we develop and build in. That real-life approach is built into every detail, from layouts that encourage connections to floor plans that make home life a breeze. It's all designed with busy lives in mind.

Who should consider Cardel? Whether you're first-time buyers entering the market, professionals moving up or empty-nesters downsizing to a low-maintenance lifestyle, there's a Cardel for you. We offer a full collection of single-family homes, condos and townhomes in great neighbourhoods all over Ottawa, with seasonal promotions and quick possessions that remove the wait. It's all part of our commitment to customers – and that's been our focus since day one. **OH**

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weeding out THE GARDEN MYTHS

STORY AND PHOTOS MELANIE REKOLA

As a landscape designer and certified horticulturalist, I come across a lot of misconceptions when it comes to gardening.

Myth 1: *Cedar trees attract mosquitoes*

Reality: In nature, cedar grows in moist soil, which mosquitoes adore. It's not actually the cedar that attracts them, though mosquitoes are attracted to shaded environments of any type.

Myth 2: *Garden lines have to be curvaceous*

Reality: Some spaces don't have the room to accommodate the serpentine lines loved by many. Sometimes straight lines just work better and can be equally striking.

Myth 3: *Existing garden soil needs cultivation*

Reality: Cultivation of the earth around existing perennials and shrubs breaks their vital hair roots, thus injuring the plant.

Myth 4: *Gardens are a lot of work*

Reality: Start gardens with a thick layer of good quality soil with additional bonemeal supplement. Spread a good layer of mulch yearly to retard weeds and keep moisture in. Do this and a garden will need little weeding and may never need fertilization or supplemental watering after establishment. How's that for low maintenance?

Myth 5: *Vegetable gardens are an eyesore*

Reality: Veggie garden placement counts. Raised planter boxes add definition and look great flanking a path. Edibles such as leaf lettuce have lovely foliage and many food plants sport pretty blossoms.

Myth 6: *Containers are only for annuals*

Reality: Many trees and shrubs can live in pots for years. They need less care and watering plus offer a bigger bang for your buck than a typical annual display. For example, a \$20 Curly Willow shrub can survive for years in a large pot, has amazing form and makes a bold statement. Compare that with what you spend on annual displays.

Myth 7: *Trees stop growing*

Reality: Trees don't reach a certain height then suddenly stop growing. Some trees do have shorter or slimmer habits that suit smaller spaces.

Myth 8: *Bees sting unprovoked*

Reality: Flowering plant materials are fine poolside choices. Just because you have more skin showing does not make your chances of being stung any greater, though flailing around wildly will increase the likelihood! Stay calm and learn to enjoy and respect bees.

Myth 9: *Overwatering isn't harmful*

Reality: All new plantings require water to establish, yet overwatering quickly drowns plants. Stick your finger in the soil. If you feel moisture, don't water. Plant roots require gaseous exchange for survival and need to dry out a bit between waterings to accommodate this.

Myth 10: *Vines are bad for intact brickwork and woodwork*

Reality: Current studies show vines such as ivy act as a thermal blanket, warming up walls by 15 per cent in cold weather and offer a cooling effect in hot weather by 36 per cent. Plus they look gorgeous! But take care to keep vines out of windows and soffits.

Myth 11: *Landscape designers are landscape architects or garden designers*

Reality: Landscape designers approach design as a whole, including pool, patios and outdoor living spaces, trees and gardens, lighting and even outdoor furniture and accessories. Think of us as exterior designers. OH

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So Saucy HERITAGE CHILI SAUCE

RECIPE AND PHOTOS **PAT CROCKER**

Homemade chili sauce complements eggs any style and bacon or sausage meats like no other condiment.

I especially like to have a pint on hand for the one or two occasions when we serve a huge country breakfast to guests who have come out from the city for the weekend. Nothing communicates the simple country pleasures like the first meal of the day cooked in cast iron skillets and grills, over a wood stove. If you get beyond breakfast, this heritage chili sauce also tops meatloaf and lends the hint of cinnamon and spice to skillet dinners and roast beef or chicken at Sunday dinners.

If you like your chili sauce with some heat, add fresh or dried hot cayenne pepper (crushed or chopped) or hot sauce to taste.



INGREDIENTS (Makes 9 pint jars)

12 cups heritage tomatoes, skinned, seeded and chopped, with juices (from about 7-½ lbs. whole heritage tomatoes)

4 cups paste tomatoes, skinned, seeded and chopped, with juices (from about 2-½ lbs. whole paste tomatoes)

8 large onions, chopped

5 red bell peppers, chopped

4 stalks celery, chopped

¼ apple, chopped

2 cups white wine vinegar

1 cup granulated sugar

1 cup lightly packed brown sugar

3 Tbsp salt

1 Tbsp whole mustard seeds, crushed

1-½ tsp ground cinnamon

1 tsp ground cloves

½ tsp ground ginger

pinch chili powder, or to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

- In a Maslin pan or large, heavy pan, combine tomatoes, onions, peppers, celery, apple, vinegar, granulated and brown sugar, salt and mustard seeds. Bring to a boil over high heat, stirring constantly. Reduce heat and boil gently, stirring occasionally for 1-½ hours until sauce begins to thicken. Add cinnamon, cloves, ginger and chili powder. Boil gently, stirring frequently for about 30 minutes, or until thickened and sauce begins to mound on a spoon.
- Meanwhile, in a large stockpot or canning kettle, cover nine, one-pint (2 cup) jars with water and bring to a simmer. Cover and turn off heat. In a shallow pan, arrange the lids, lifter, funnel and tongs and pour boiling water over and set aside.
- Using tongs, lift hot jars one at a time out of the pot. Fill with hot chili sauce, leaving a ½-inch headspace. Run a thin nonmetallic utensil around the inside of the jar to allow air to escape. Add more hot chili if necessary, to leave a ½-inch headspace. Wipe rims, top with flat lids and screw on metal rings (do not over tighten rings). Return jar to the hot water bath and continue to fill remaining jars. Cover the pot and bring the water to a full rolling boil over high heat. Keep water boiling for 20 minutes.
- Remove pot lid, turn off the heat and wait five minutes before removing jars to a towel or rack to cool completely. Check seals, label and store in a cool place for up to one year.

Pat Crocker is a Culinary Herbalist, writing and growing herbs in Grey County. She is the author of 18 cookbooks.

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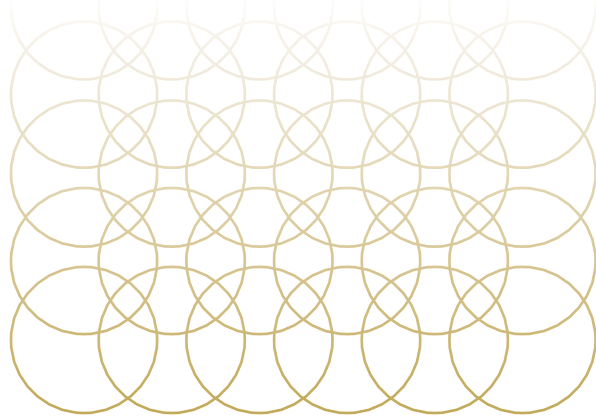
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living with GOLD

The golden rays of summer sunlight streaming through our windows to brighten our interiors are slowly fading away. It's the time of year to capture every bit of light, so our interiors continue to glow until our sunny summer appears once again.



STORY & ROOM DESIGN **JACKIE GLASS**
ROOM PHOTOGRAPHY **PAUL CHMIELOWIEC**



My Jackie Glass Inc. design team creates spaces that look sunny, bright and airy all year-round. Generating light in a space is key to how comfortable and happy a room can make our family and guests. Think about how a dark sky at night can be cold and ominous but when the stars are twinkling bright, the dark universe comes alive and makes us

feel happy and amazed. We want to linger and enjoy every little twinkle, no matter the size.

The smallest hint of sparkle can instantly bring a room to life. Every room in the house, whether light or dark, can benefit from a little shine. From the bathroom to the kitchen, when you add reflective elements to a space, it is suddenly transformed and becomes an attractive room you want to live in.

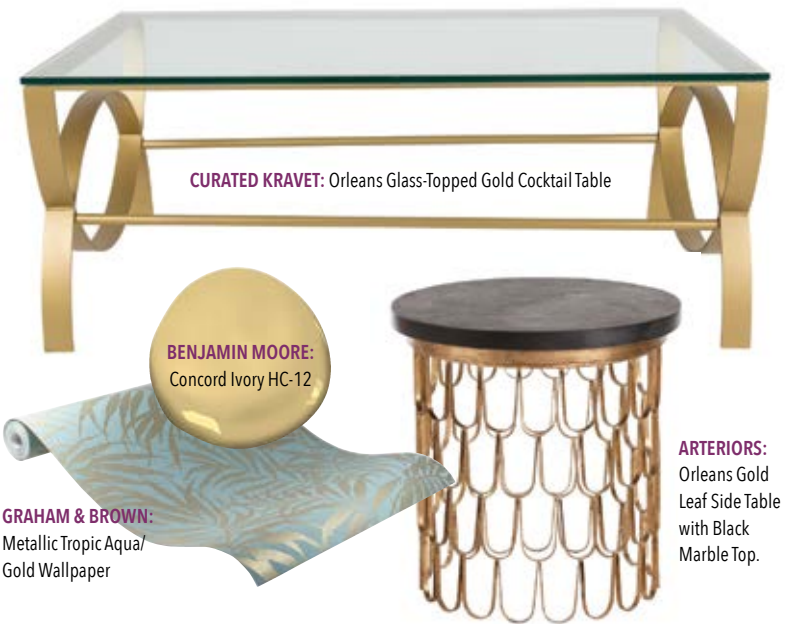
Both artificial and natural light from light fixtures and windows brighten every room. Reflective metals, glass and mirror accents will enhance these light sources and bounce reflected light around the room, adding life and personality.

For me, I love to maximize and capture light in a room with reflective gilded decorative elements that feature either decadent polished or demure matte finishes. Whether you fancy gold leaf or polished brass for a touch of glam or prefer champagne gold, rose gold or aged brass for a more classic look, they'll all elevate your décor with the Midas touch.

« Pairing golden tones with dark wood and dark neutral colours like royal blue or the rich purple velvet chairs (as shown here in my client's living room) makes a regal statement in an otherwise traditional room. Set against walls and draperies in whispery golden tones, gilded accents like the lamps, cocktail tables and mirrors truly make the room sparkle and draw the eye toward the light and around the room.



» In the lovely dining room, adjacent to the living room, an elegant chandelier with matching wall sconces adds light to the space in more ways than one. The room sparkles even when the lights are turned off with the lighting's soft champagne-gold finish. Notice how the art captures the golden tones of the light fixtures while capturing the colour palette of the living/dining room to complete the space.



» Use golden accents in small doses so they don't compete but rather complete the space. Even the smallest touches of shine, whether matte or polished in golden, brassy or rosy tones, will add a golden glint you can't ignore.



« If you want to make a truly stunning statement in a room, introduce large objects like a glass-top table with a gold base or a large work of art or sculpture in an entrance hall or living room. Chandeliers, floor lamps, walls and draperies in warm golden hues will set off any neutral palette and satisfy our need for brilliant beams of sunlight to warm our souls, brighten our days and lift our spirits until the return of summer's sunbeams. **OH**

good taste



ROOT VEGETABLE GRATIN

RECIPE AND PHOTOS **JENELLE MCCULLOCH**

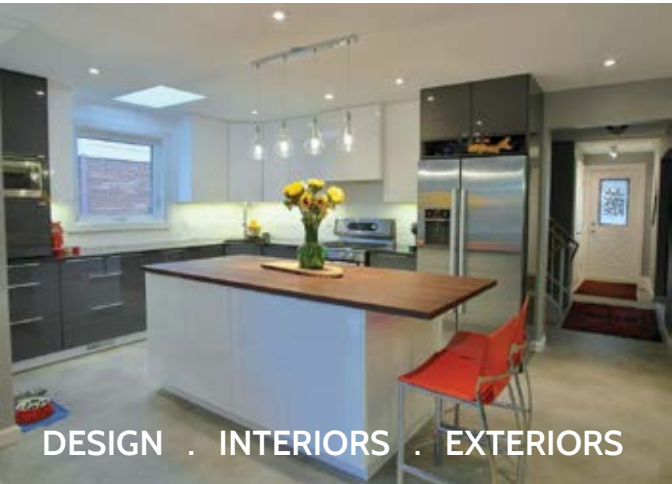
Switch up your traditional side dish for this super easy root vegetable gratin, bursting with fresh herbs and warm, comforting colours.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 large white baking potato, thinly sliced
- 1 large sweet potato, thinly sliced
- 2 beets, peeled, thinly sliced
- 1 large apple, thinly sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, sliced
- A few sprigs fresh thyme, stems removed
- A few sprigs fresh oregano, stems removed
- 1 Tbsp butter
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- Salt & pepper to taste
- ¾ cup goat cheese

INSTRUCTIONS

- Preheat oven to 375°F. Slice root vegetables and apple to a thickness of about ¼ of an inch. I recommend using a mandoline.
- Place vegetables in a large bowl and toss with olive oil, herbs, salt and pepper.
- Rub the bottom and sides of a two-quart casserole dish with butter. Layer the vegetables, apple and garlic, fanning them out as you go while dropping dollops of goat cheese between the layers.
- Cover casserole dish with aluminum foil and bake for one hour. Remove foil and continue to bake uncovered for another 20-35 minutes or until vegetable tops turn golden. **OH**



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NAPOLEON: *Linear Patioflame.* Many media options to choose from. Stand it alone or install in a built-in custom application as shown here.

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» **PALOFORM:** *Bol Carten Fire Pit.* Choose from river rocks or lava rocks.



» **ELDORADO STONE:** *Marbella Artisan Fire Bowl.* Choose from a smooth, honed or textured travertine surface. Four colour options available.



» **CABANACOAST:** *Monaco Outdoor Fire Pit.* Available in Sherwin-Williams Dark Rum or Dove. Stone options include clear pebble fireglass, brown pebble fireglass, diamond fireglass or blue fireglass.



» **PALOFORM:** *Caldera Corten Fire Pit.* Choose from river rocks or lava rocks.



» **AMERICAN FYRE DESIGNS:** *French Barrel Oak Cosmopolitan Round Firetable.* Features a reclaimed wood-style table top.



PALOFORM: *Fold Fire Table.* Available in black, graphite or white powder coat. Choose from lava rocks or glass.



» **HEARTH PRODUCTS CONTROLS:** *Tempe Copper Fire Bowl.* Also has a fire and water option. Many media options to choose from. **OH**



DEKKO CONCRETE: *Alea Firepit.* Rock options include slate or ivory river rock, black lava rock or bronze glass. Six colour options to choose from.



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DIY STENCILED LOG-SLICE CHARGERS

STORY AND PHOTOS **TARA CHATTELL**

Add a touch of rustic glam to your table and wow your guests with these pretty gold-stenciled chargers, made from salvaged logs.



TOOLS & MATERIALS:

Log slices, as many as you would like to make in your set, approximately 18 inches in diameter, 2-3 inches thick

Water-based wood stain, colour of your choice

Clean rag, for staining slices

Stencil(s) of your choice

Circular shape for tracing, such as a paint can or large plastic lid

Temporary spray adhesive

Gold acrylic craft paint

Foam paintbrush, for stenciling

Water or sink, for rinsing stencil

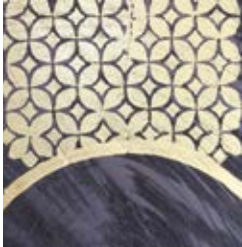
Dry cloth, for drying stencil

Clear, water-based wood finish

Large paintbrush, for applying wood finish

online

For a how-to on cutting your own log slices visit ourhomes.ca/mag/slices



HOW-TO:

Step 1 – Stain

- Using a clean cloth, apply wood stain to the slices according to directions on the product. I found that the wood really absorbs the stain, so I had a better outcome pouring the stain directly onto the wood in small batches and rubbing it in with a cloth. I used two coats of stain. Allow to dry according to product directions or overnight.

Step 2 – Stencil

- Set a circular shape (I used a paint can) in the centre of your first wood slice. With a foam paintbrush, trace around the shape with gold paint, creating a circle on your wood. You will be stenciling between this circle and the outer edge of the wood slice. Remove shape and allow the painted gold circle to dry to the touch. Wipe excess paint off the shape. Repeat with remaining slices.

- Spray temporary adhesive onto the underside of the stencil and place it on the wood where you'd like to begin stenciling. With the foam paintbrush, dab gold paint onto the stencil sparingly to help limit paint bleeding. Lift the stencil and allow area to dry to the touch, about 3-5 minutes, to prevent smudging when stenciling the adjacent area. Rinse and dry stencil, and re-apply adhesive as needed. Repeat this step, matching up your pattern as you go, until the entire outside rim of the wood slice is covered. Repeat with remaining slices.

Step 3 – Apply Finish

- Allow the gold paint to dry thoroughly, according to product directions.
- Apply clear wood finish to the top and sides of the wood slices. Allow to dry according to directions on the product. **OH**



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