



Sunlight floods through the windows opposite the front door of John and Tina Saundercook's open-concept abode by **Mason Homes**, welcoming and inviting you to enjoy the view of Lake Ontario, just a short walk away.

Newly retired, John and Tina moved to Port Hope this fall to be closer to their children and grandchildren. They were drawn to Port Hope "because it's a nice quiet town, close but not too close to Cobourg's big box stores, and not far from Toronto where I grew up," says John. "We like the small town atmosphere. The people are very friendly, and it's nice to walk the waterfront. I walk it every day."

Their 1,800 sq. ft. bungalow with 65 ft. frontage "is big enough for two people and occasional guests, but easy for a retired couple to maintain," he says. They plan to make this their final home, and have incorporated specific features to increase the comfort of their golden years. Kitchen and bathroom counters and toilets raised several inches higher than standard reduce the need for bending, and sinks are inset for easy cleaning.

The nine foot ceilings throughout the main living areas and cathedral ceilings in the grand room give the house an open, airy feeling complemented by Oyster walls beautifully drywalled by **Doug McKenzie** from **Doug McKenzie Drywall Inc.** Natural tile with beach buff grout floors in the foyer accentuate the beautiful espresso hardwood flooring throughout the rest of the home, by Irving Carpet One in Barrie.

John's man cave is just left of the front entrance, where he can relax in style, reading or watching his virtually wire-free Smart TV and Sonos Sound System from **Showtime TV & Stereo** in Cobourg.

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LET THE SUN *shine in*

BY ALEXANDRIA BARKER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAY ROBINSON

ABOVE: A view of the lake and sunlight flooding through windows at the peak of the cathedral ceiling make this kitchen Tina's favourite room, whether she's preparing food or researching recipes on the nearby computer station.
RIGHT: Just steps from the kitchen, this cosy living room features a gas fireplace to keep things comfy.



A guest bedroom on the right accesses the main bathroom through a second door, effectively converting it into a private en suite bathroom when company comes to visit. The main bathroom features bone mosaic-tile flooring in the shower, and a comfort height, slow-close toilet.

The brick and siding were sourced locally, and the garage doors are from **The Overhead Door Company of Peterborough**.

It's easy to see why the kitchen is Tina's favourite part of the house. It has plenty of sun, a view of the lake, a walkout to an expansive deck, and it's fully decked out with a sleek stainless steel gas stove, refrigerator with lower level freezer, overhead microwave and dishwasher. Shaker Maple Fume kitchen cabinets that match the floors are accented by Colonial Gold flecked counters.

The kitchen appliances and washer and dryer are from Sears, and the water softener from **Culligan Water Conditioning** of Peterborough.

"I love my gas stove," says Tina, perched on a stool from Port Hope's **The New Oak Tree**. A computer desk nestled in the corner affords easy access to recipes, while staying plugged in to whatever is going on in the kitchen and living room.

The best part is, it's just steps away from a generous deck with plexiglass railings, permitting a full view of the lake. Here, John points out the trains in the distance he enjoys watching, which remind him of his father and grandfather, who worked for the railway.

Tina and John both make good use of the living room, where even on

the coldest days, the gas fireplace creates a warm, cosy atmosphere. They love to travel, and have adorned their walls with an impressive array of paintings and photographs commemorating past trips to Paris, Italy and Istanbul. And now, to honour their new community, they've included Doors of Port Hope prints from **Ganaraska Art & Framing** in Port Hope.

In their stunning main bedroom, Tina opened California shutters from **Vosburgh Home Décor** in Port Hope to let the sun stream in, pausing to enjoy the view of the lake, which spans the entire southern side of the house. One of her favourite features, she says, is a spacious walk-in closet by **Chris McKeown of Top Shelf Closet & Design** in Port Hope. The other is a luxurious, extra-deep soaker tub. *Continued on page 28*

TOP LEFT: A separate formal dining room is situated adjacent to the kitchen for entertainment ease. **TOP RIGHT:** This man cave is John's preferred spot to enjoy his Smart TV or quietly read. **ABOVE:** Tina and John Saundercook look forward to creating many happy memories in their new home.

feature



This luxurious soaker tub is Tina Saundercook's favourite aspect of the master bedroom. **TOP LEFT:** The main bathroom's raised toilet and counters were incorporated to enhance comfort as the couple age. **BOTTOM LEFT:** This master bedroom features a beautiful view of the lake, which spans the south side of the home.

"I love my bathtub, I'm in it every day," she says smiling. The en suite bathroom floor is tiled in Banff Light Grey, which matches the bathtub, and the cabinets are crisp white. The shower boasts a frameless glass front provided by **Lindsay Glass and Window Ltd.** and a shower seat finished in marble. Light fixtures and electrical work throughout the home are by **Mariposa Electric** in Lindsay, and plumbing is by **Roger's Plumbing Service** in Lindsay.

Tina enjoys the convenience of her main-floor laundry room near the bedroom, where cupboards from Cobourg **Canadian Tire** make organization a breeze.

Embracing their new home and eager to give back, the couple have already become active volunteers in their new community. Tina looks forward to volunteering at the Port Hope Capitol Theatre, and John is a board member of Horses Help Canada, a non-profit organization working with youths at Maple Crescent Farm. Now that spring has arrived, they look forward to exploring all their beautiful new hometown has to offer. **OH**

LOCAL SOURCE GUIDE

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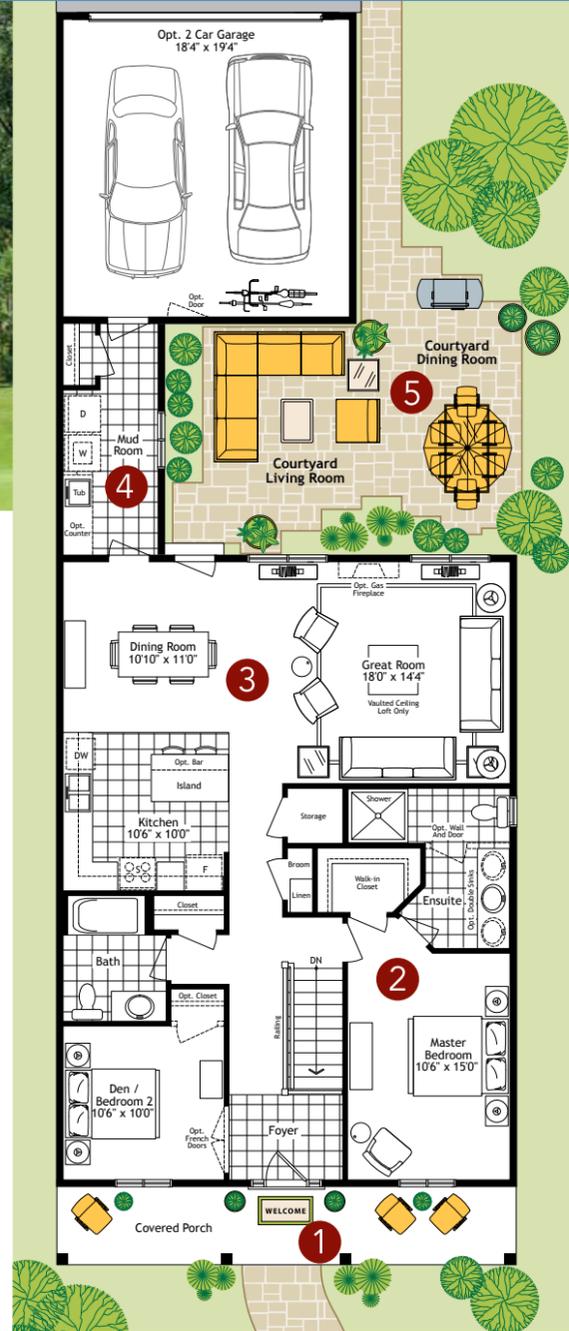
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