



DESIGNING YOUR DIGS

PHOTOS **WALTER FRANCZYK**

Home specialists make living spaces more beautiful, indoors and outside, all year-round.

DEBBIE SKINKLE

President, AyA Kitchen Designs

What services do you offer? With superior cabinetry and countertops, in-house design professionals and expert installation, AyA works with individual homeowners and some of the area's largest builders to create the best possible kitchens. "We provide standards that exceed most other cabinet manufacturers and we offer a large variety of styles and storage solutions for today's modern builder and most discriminating homeowner," says Debbie.

What's in store for kitchens? AyA's décor centre offers an expansive selection of cabinetry and countertop samples, ranging from a wide array of cabinet styles, wood, stains, paints and hand finishes to plastic laminates, granite, marble and quartz countertops. The showroom houses a variety of displays illustrating different kitchen styles, accessories and storage ideas. "Whether your style is classic, contemporary, urban or vintage, we have something for you," says Debbie. She encourages people planning a new home or renovation to drop by the showroom. "Our team is waiting to help you through each step of the process to make the kitchen of your dreams become a reality."

MATTHEW LOGAN

Owner, Logan Tree Experts

Why hire a professional arborist?

Arboriculture is an unregulated trade, which means that there's no mandatory requirements to work in the industry. Since arboriculture is a very dangerous trade, home and cottage owners need to ensure that the people who work on their trees are fully insured, professional and competent to perform this highly skilled job.

What services does Logan Tree Experts

provide? We are a full-service tree-care company servicing the entire Peterborough and Kawartha region including Port Hope, Port Perry, Brighton, Cobourg, Haliburton, Minden and all points in between. We do planting, pruning, removals, consultations and reports. If it has to do with trees, we are the experts.

Why do you do this? My wife Tracy and I saw an opportunity and a need to provide quality tree care with a focus on customer service. We wanted to offer our clients quality, professional workmanship while educating them and the public about trees and their proper care.

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DAN STANFORD

Founder, Cabinetree

What's unique about Cabinetree? Cabinetree has been built from day one, almost 30 years ago, to create cabinets, efficiently allowing clients to get the best possible value for their money. The use of advanced manufacturing and dedicated local craftsmen to create these efficiencies has been augmented in recent years by a team of talented designers who can create beautiful spaces.

Why manufacture locally? In our world, custom widths of cabinets are standard, which removes the need to waste space by using fillers. Making a cabinet to fill your unique space the right way is second nature to us and something we never tire of. Manufacturing artistry has seen a steady improvement of our facility and equipment to a world-class level, allowing us to build custom product for standard prices. We have fully integrated our design software into our manufacturing process so that what you see on the screen is really what you end up seeing in your home.

KEN MONK & CATHY MONK

Owners, Chemong Chimney Ltd.

What do you offer? Chemong Chimney carries wood, gas, propane and pellet fireplaces. It specializes in fireplace facing. "We do all of our own framing and finishes, with in-house staff, to complete the fireplaces," says Ken. The company employs trained and certified wood and gas fireplace installers as well as a licensed mason and his crew.

What's in store? "We have a large selection of working fireplaces on display, as well as many fireplace finishes. Our helpful staff will answer any of your questions," says Ken, who does all in-house estimates. "I go to every customer's home and have a no-charge consultation to go over the customer's wishes, wants and needs."

How did you get started? For 10 years, Ken was employed by Rehill Building Supplies where he helped customers with their fireplace needs, installations and repairs. While working six days a week and on weekends he expanded his knowledge in the field. "That's how I came to learn and love the business," says Ken. Cathy and Ken opened Chemong Chimney Ltd. just over 23 years ago. **OH**

