SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY



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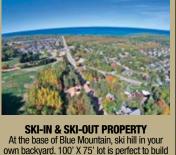
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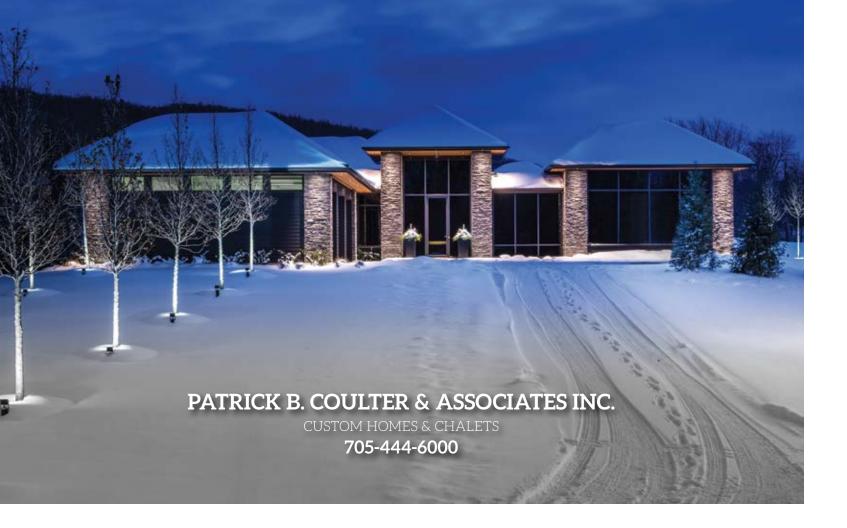
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109 Georgian Bay Lane Blue Mountains

6 ★ 4/1

4,840 Total FT2



122 Maryward Crescent Blue Mountains

4 ★3/1 3,980 Total FT²



100 George McRae Road Blue Mountains

4 ★ 3/1

4,260 Total FT²

BUILDING LOT IN GREAT LOCATION



Lot 5 Arrowhead Road

Blue Mountains **Building Lot**



118 Courchevel Crescent Blue Mountains

5 ★ 3/1 3,667 Total FT²



Blue Mountains

4 ★ 3 3,042 Total FT²



107 Scotts Court



PEAKS RIDGE

Lot 7 George McRae Road Blue Mountains

Building Lot

49+ ACRE COUNTRY ESTATE

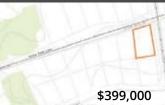


3672 124 County Road

Clearview

5 ♣ 4/1 4,542 Total FT²





100 Stone Zack Lane Blue Mountains

Building Lot





Lot 25 Maryward Crescent Blue Mountains

Building Lot

GEORGIAN BAY CLUB



105 Stone Zack Lane **Blue Mountains**

4 4,610 Total FT² 4,610 Total FT²

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Blue Mountains

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2 12 2,240 Total FT²

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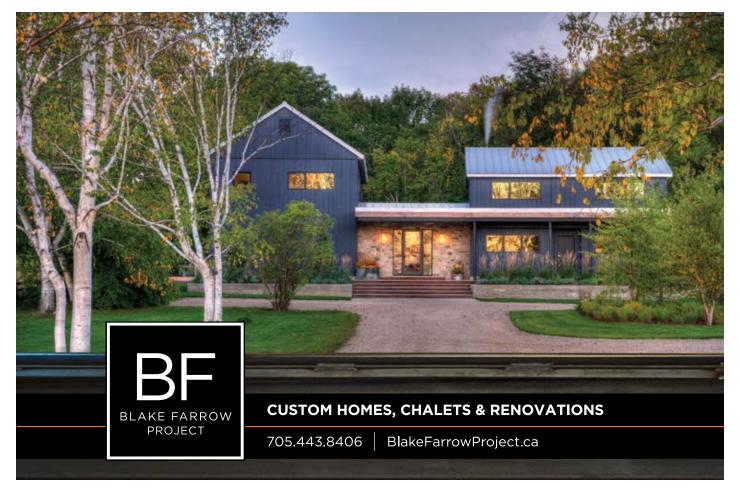


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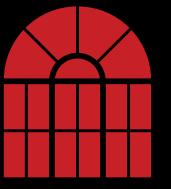
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690 Kahshe Lake, Gravenhurst

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MY TIME IN A TRAILER, is coming to an end. I couldn't be more relieved. I've been living in a trailer on my property while my house is being built.

I use to love watching YouTube videos about living in a tiny home or camper. The bloggers make it seem so easy, fun, freeing and a little romantic. It all sounds lovely. In practise, it is not.

For me, the first two months were spent without hydro and, therefore, internet. I became very friendly with a sweet gal in the hydro office in Barrie. I would call a couple of times a week to see if and when my electricity would be hooked up. We also chatted about what she was watching on Netflix. I did have a generator, kindly lent to me by a good friend, who also taught me how to work everything in my trailer. Oh I forgot to tell you, I had never camped or stayed in a trailer before! When hydro was finally connected, my happiness was right up there with having my three beautiful children... ok, not quite, but close!

Photographing the homes for this issue was a joy. We bring you a historic stunner with many beautifully preserved varieties of wood, two townhomes in the same complex that each show distinctive decorating styles, and a renovated home with a fantastic view. I walked through all of these homes, envisioning what it will be like to be in my finished home, with my three dogs and one old cat. Being in these lovely places kept me positive as I went home to my small, cold trailer.

When I do move into my house (hopefully soon) and the trailer heads on down the

driveway to a new owner, I will not be sad to see it go. I'll stand and watch it leave and then stretch out on my sofa watching Netflix in my warm, beautiful home.

Sona Montin

Sara Martin, Managing Editor sara.martin@ourhomes.ca

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ON THE COVER

Designer Catherine Staples decorates for the Collingwood Holiday House Tour. Story, page 110. Photography by Jason Hartog.

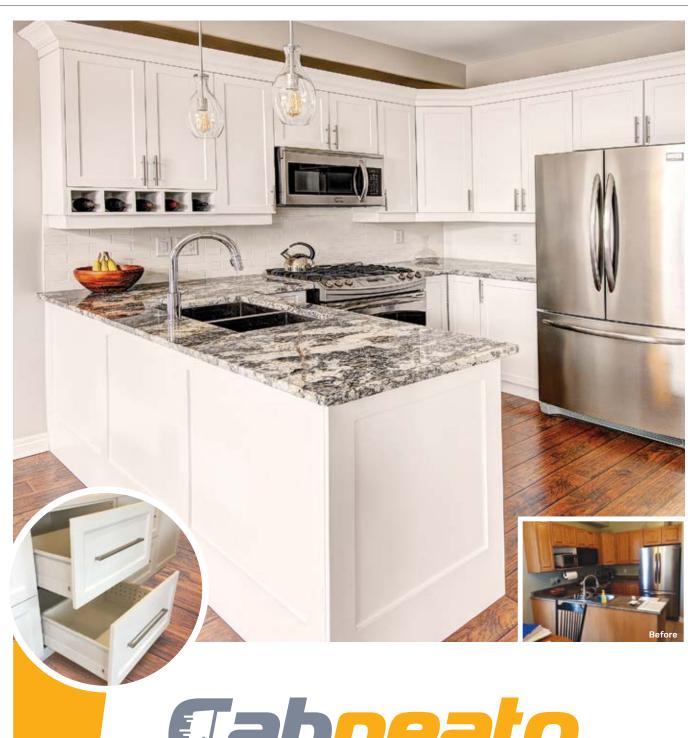


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Simone Sterio and celebrity designer Sarah Richardson at Macdonald's Furniture and Appliances.

I ATTEND MANY WORK-RELATED EVENTS.

At first, when stepping back into publishing, it felt like a necessary obligation – shop openings, galleries, home shows, local fundraisers, Chamber and BIA meetings, association dinners, seminars, workshops and town meetings! It's what I *had* to do. But, over the years, my feelings have shifted and I've come to the realization it's what I *want* to do.

Whether it's a few hours a few evenings a week, or volunteering all year-round, I'm listening and learning (and talking – I like to talk) about what's happening in our region.

I meet many of the magazine's loyal partners this way, but I realize now it's not only for business, it's for connectedness, which is important for my health and happiness. As a new resident said to me the other day, "our community is so vibrant."

In this Fall/Holiday edition, we bring you a mix of new and familiar faces in our local People section on page 88. Our Style Picks (page 36) highlight local products for you to check out before you start your Christmas shopping.

And if more holiday inspiration is what you're after, turn to the Holiday House Tour on page 112 where we applaud members of our community for joining in to support and fundraise for The Canadian Shelter Foundation and many other local charities. OUR HOMES is a proud partner and sponsor of this annual event, put on by Royal LePage Locations North.

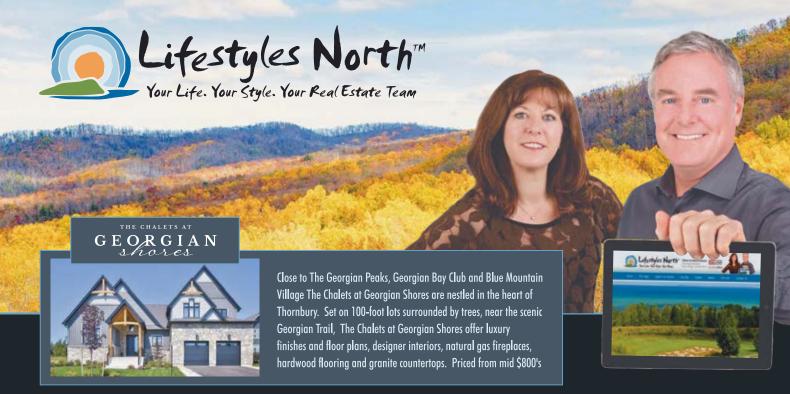
There may still be a few tickets left for this action-packed day! See page 77 for details.

As always, we let you peek inside local homes and bring you exclusive recipes and ideas for your home.

We"ll be back in January when the snow flies but more likely, I'll bump into you at an event first!



Simone Sterio-Risk, Associate Publisher simone.steriorisk@ourhomes.ca





Stunning views of the Thornbury harbour and Georgian Bay from this spacious updated 4 bedroom 3½ bath condo at Riverwalk.

GeorgianBayView.ca



Must See! Prime waterfront in the heart of Georgian Bay. This 80' fully serviced lot with cottage is a short walk to Thornbury!

LakeDriveView.com



A short walk to Alpine Ski Club with room for entertaining family and friends. Features 3 bedrooms and soaring cathedral ceilings. WalkToAlpine.com



Stunning Jack Arnold designed French Country Estate! Set back on Brewsters Lake, this spectacular property is the ideal private getaway. ChateauLakeview.com



Built by premier area builder, the house features an open concept main floor, great room, gas fireplace, high ceilings and lots of natural light.

LoraBayWestRidge.com



Imagine relaxing in a hot tub after a day on the slopes, watching the fireworks over the scenic vista of Blue Mountain. Walk2Blue.com



This spacious 5 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home in Wasaga Sands is set on a ¾ acre estate lot and features quiet rural surroundings.
WasagaBeachHome.com



This traditional chalet is walking distance to Craigleith Ski Club. Entertain family & friends or relax apres ski. CraigleithSkiChalet.com



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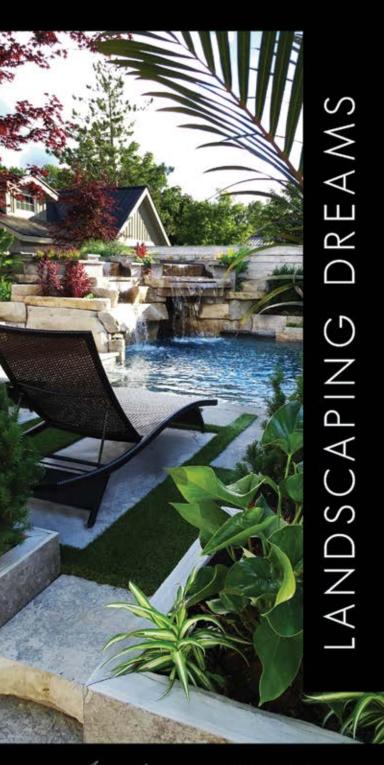
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What kind of surface fits your lifestyle? Is it easy to maintain? What is your budget? Digging deep into these questions will get you closer to the right solution for you.

POPULAR CHOICES

While there are a variety of materials, we'll review the most popular choices:

NATURAL STONE: Including granite, marble and soapstone. Stone is mined from the earth. Granite is granular with sparkle. Marble has its flamboyant veining while soapstone has a matte finish and old-world charm. Granite and marble are porous and must be sealed regularly to prevent staining and moisture retention. Soapstone feels soft but is durable and doesn't stain. It should be sealed with mineral oil.

MAN MADE: As seen in plastic laminate, quartz and large format ceramic tile.

Plastic laminate is perfect for the budget conscious. Known under brand names such as Arborite, Formica or Wilson Art, it is hard plastic sheeting glued to plywood. It comes in a variety of designs from plain to fanciful. Sinks and faucets must over mount and have a water-tight seal, otherwise water will leak and will warp or rot the plywood. The edging and backsplash can be made in one piece. Countertops are available from most fabricators and large box hardware stores.



ARBORITE: Topografik Clay

Quartz is a mix of natural quartz, resins and colouring agents. Common brands include Cambria, Corian Quartz, Ceasarstone and Silestone. They can imitate the pattern of stone or come in various colours to reflect your unique décor. It is non-porous, does not require a sealant and is low maintenance. Since it is a resin mix, you cannot put a hot pot directly on the counter. You must use a trivet.



Large format tiles

are non-porous, ceramic-slab tiles. Brands such as Laminam by Stone Tile come in a standard size of 64-by-128 and a half-inch thick.





MATTE OR SHINY FINISH

Shiny surfaces can cause extreme glare and eye strain and because of that, matte surfaces are gaining in popularity. Historically, designers have been big fans of matte surfaces for a soft, sophisticated look that minimizes fingerprints and smudges.

COST

Costs for counters can vary wildly. With quartz in particular, cost is affected by the quality of the quartz stone being used, the method of manufacturing (some use fillers such as sand), country of origin and photo reproduction quality of the pattern. Ask for a specification sheet outlining all the ingredients to know what you are buying.

Other expenses include installation fees, location of the project, thickness of material, edge details and the number of cut-outs required. Generally, 90 per cent of your cost is designated to labour and 10 per cent to raw material.

Large format tiles are comparable to quartz. Granite, marble, soapstone and basic quartz are now similar in price.

FOOD SAFETY

When preparing food on counters, always use a separate cutting board and clean up with a mixture of vinegar and water to disinfect the counter.

NEW AND NOTABLE

DuPont's Corian is now offering a charging surface that can power up your devices wirelessly. A transmitter is embedded under the counter. Just plug a charging ring into your device, place it on the counter and recharge your battery.



Now that we've cleared up your countertop questions, have you gone from confused to enthused? on

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the warmth \(\sqrt{\THIN}

PHOTOGRAPHY BONNIE FOX

It's getting cold outside. Stay inside and create warmth throughout your home.









6

CLERKSON'S HOME STORE

Ruas

If you think you can't find the right carpet for your home, Surya has over 65,000 hand-loomed wool carpets to choose from. So now there are no excuses, go and find the right rug to warm your toes.

85 Hurontario St., Collingwood 705.445.1988 | clerksons.com

2 COLLINGWOOD CARVER

Custom Carving

Let your imagination fly! Have a custom carving created for you or stop by and choose from any number of large carvings that live outside and will welcome your friends and family to your home.

Grey Rd. 21, The Blue Mountains 705.606.6537 Instagram.com/collingwoodcarver

BAYWOOD DESIGNS

Chalk Paint

A colour found in Venetian palaces and Vietnamese temples, Primer Red by Annie Sloan is just one of the many colours used by Baywood Designs' Lindsay Herbert to transform furniture with her custom finishes.

164 Clark St., Clarksburg 519.599.5444 | baywooddesigns.com

4 KILBY GALLERY

Art

This 44-by-60-inch acrylic on canvas is based on a scene near Kimbercote, and is titled *The Conversation*. You can almost hear the ravens cawing to each other.

201 Marsh St., Clarksburg 519.372.7971 donkilby.com

6 KETTLEWELLS

Butcher Block

This vintage German butcher's block is a sturdy base to toss together salad or stuffing. Its original patina has been preserved and adds to its rustic charm. The large bowl and vintage Hungarian grain sack help make the work easy.

4537 County Rd. 124, Collingwood 705.445.7066 elainekettlewell.com

6 FAD INC. (FARROW ARCARO DESIGN)

Faux Fur Blanket

Check out these faux fur blankets, shearling upholstery and warm textiles trending for fall. We love them and know you will too.

51 Hurontario St., Collingwood 705.444.8330 | farrowarcarodesign.ca

Continued on page 38

ourhomes FALL/HOLIDAY 2018 | 37

linear fires are so inviting and on-trend.







GEORGIAN DESIGN CENTRE

Fireplace

The flame on this 74-inch electric fireplace has the look of a true wood-burning fireplace but without the huge installation. Just mount it on a wall, plug it in and enjoy immediate heat and ambience.

84 High St., Collingwood 705.444.2100 | georgiandesigncentre.ca

MACDONALD'S FURNITURE AND **APPLIANCES**

Sofa

With so many sectionals to choose from, head to Macdonald's to test out the best one to curl up on. This Canadian-made beauty is called the Cuddler.

206518 Hwy. 26 E., Meaford 519.538.1620 | macdonaldsfurniture.com

LAGOM 142

Trays

A simple wrought-iron base lets the interchangeable trays take centre stage. Choose from a variety of glass, mirror or wood in many colours and patterns. Soy-base candles have scents that evoke regions of Canada.

142 Mill St. Creemore 705.520.0142 | heirloom142.com **0H**



Create an oasis with a beautifully-crafted bedroom suite.





Meaford 800-265-3172 macdonaldsfurniture.com



LIVE INSPIRED



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This beautiful chalet is move in ready, everything you need for year round enjoyment! Views of the ski hills and the water, access to Georgian Bay. Offered at **\$2,295,000**



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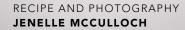
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Coffee TONIC

Don't wait for this coffee trend to hit your local spot. The Coffee Tonic is refreshing and light, while still delivering your daily dose of caffeine. The idea originates in Sweden, yet has made noise throughout many large cities, and now in your own kitchen.



INGREDIENTS

lce

Tonic water

Espresso or cold brew coffee

Garnish: Citrus fruits and rosemary sprig or maraschino cherries and pomegranate syrup

DIRECTIONS

Fill a glass with ice and top with tonic water until about an inch from the rim.

Slowly pour in espresso or cold brew coffee so that it floats on top.

Serve with a squeeze of fresh citrus and a sprig of rosemary to brighten it up. Or, for a deeper complexity, garnish with maraschino cherries and pomegranate syrup. **OH**

Get more recipes at ourhomes.ca/mag/cook









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design ideas

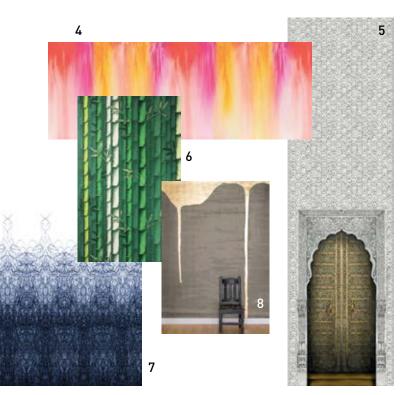
10 WAYS TO GO





STORY YANIC SIMARD

In interior design, choosing the right scale is always important – and sometimes bigger really is better! Here are my top 10 ways in the home to consider going BIG with your décor choices to create a strong statement and a generous sense of luxury.



Light Fixtures

Oversize lights add big drama and character to elevate the look of an entire space. This is especially true when you mix the scale of a grand chandelier with a modern shape to create an unexpected effect.

For a sense of balance, try a large pendant fixture with an airy form that includes a lot of clear glass or negative space, like an angular fixture. The silhouette is can't-miss-it big, but the look isn't overwhelming.

Floor lamps with a 24-inch shade or larger match the scale of a large piece of furniture like a bed or sofa, giving the whole grouping a sense of weight. Using simple drum or cone shades in a solid neutral colour makes sure the look is strong but not too heavy.

1. ZANEEN: 39-inch Willy 100 Suspension Light in Black 2. TROY LIGHTING: Uni in Tide Pool Bronze 3. MOOOI: Random Light in White

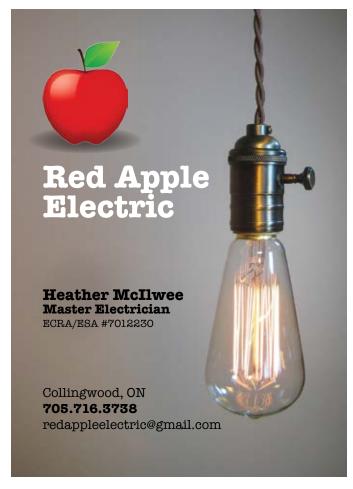
Patterns & Papers

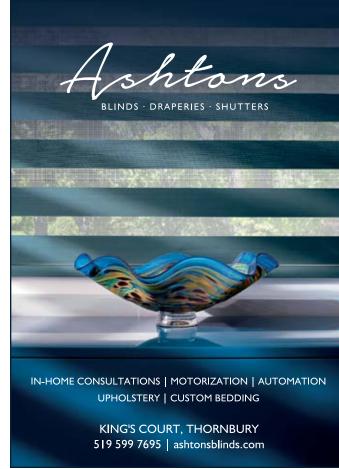
In the digital era the options for patterns and even custom prints are virtually endless. Rather than playing it safe, consider using a paper or wallcovering with a large-scale pattern, one that you can see without having to stare at a wall up close.

Love a wallpaper with a large print but don't want to overwhelm the room? Such a wall covering is perfect for a single accent wall, paired with neutral paint for the remaining, creating a dramatic focal point in a balanced way.

When choosing a large-scale print for wall coverings, Jook for ones with light backgrounds that can be matched to a nearby wall colour. This helps create a seamless effect and a sense of depth, which avoids visually shrinking the room.

4. ROLLOUT: Colourinky Wallpaper 5. COLE & SON: Bahia Wallpaper 6. OSBORNE & LITTLE: Bamboo W7025-01 Wallpaper 7. ROLLOUT: Ballpoint Pen Wallpaper 8. CALICO WALLPAPER: Satori Mountain Wallpaper Continued on page 44









design ideas

Seating

Seating is definitely an area where quality should not be ignored for the sake of quantity. It is often better to have fewer bar stools or dining chairs in a generous size that people will truly want to use.

Regardless of the size of the seat you choose, a person needs 24 to 30 inches of width to dine comfortably. Choosing wide seats (24 inches or more) ensures each guest has enough space reserved, while giving your island or table a rich, filled-in look.

In a living or family room, use a wide, plush sectional sofa to create a comfortable environment for day-to-day lounging. Even in a small space, a large sofa will make a room feel grand, and you'll be able to fit in a few extra quests when entertaining.



Art & Mirrors

Scale is never more important than when talking about wall art after all, it's hard to make a statement if you can't even see the piece.

Gallery walls have been a trend for nearly a decade, and they have their place, but there's also a beautiful simplicity to a singular large-scale canvas or photo print. Choose a piece that takes up at least 60 per cent of the available wall height to make a grand statement and a true focal point.

To capture the eye and also double the apparent size of the space, choose an oversize mirror hung prominently on the wall. A circular shape will add some softness to the room, perfect for a bedroom, living room or dressing suite.



Kitchen Islands

With eat-in kitchens being ever more popular, many are choosing islands much deeper than the typical 30 to 42 inches. A large scale makes your island a standout visual feature as well as a central hub.

To allow for both diners and a home chef to coexist in harmony, consider an island that's 48- to 60-inches deep, with seating on two or three sides to allow for natural conversation. With a truly comfortable island, you might not need a separate breakfast nook at all.

To suit the scale of a feature island, consider a marble or quartz counter with rich veining. Keep in mind that large-scale veins won't show well on a small sample, so you'll want to visit a quality showroom to see larger slabs and get the full picture. OH





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Scott Young 705 888 2759 scot-build@hotmail.com







STORY MELANIE REKOLA

Fire is fascinating. Our human ancestors used fire to stay warm, cook food and keep predators at bay. It is also believed that human socialization began while huddled around the hearth.



Adding cosy warmth and ambience to modern-day al fresco areas, the outdoor fireplace often serves as a design anchor at the centre of an outdoor living space. The fire also offers a place where people can relax and unwind together even when there's a chill in the air.

Here's a primer on how to bring fire and style to your outdoor space.

SELECT A STYLE

Freestanding Fireplaces: Adding a more formal or modern touch, these large, built-in fireplaces are simply gorgeous. They also offer opportunity for trendy, integral wood storage boxes, hearths, mantels and sometimes even a spot for an outdoor television. Some prefabricated models are offered but most often these

are custom built and faced using a wide range of natural and/ or manmade materials, including brick veneer and natural stone. Typical chimney and venting requirements for wood-burning units are dictated by strict local building regulation, making natural gas the fuel of choice due to less stringent zoning requirements. As with most things custom-made, freestanding fireplaces often come with a hefty price tag.

Fire Pits: The original open fire feature, these range wildly in design and price tag. They can be pre-fab or custom, simple or extravagant. At their most basic, a humble campfire dug into the ground and lined with stone boulders might work for some, while others may choose a high-end, custom fire feature that doubles as a dining table. Continued on page 48





gardening



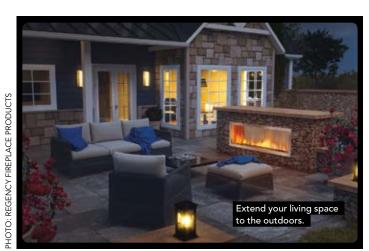
Fire tables are brilliant — they can be used where space is limited, and you can take them with you if you move.

Fire Tables: Perfect for tight spaces and easy on the bank account, fire tables are all the rage. Often fueled by propane and available in an assortment of styles, they are brilliant in the sense that they are also moveable, meaning you can also take them with you when you move.

PICK A FUEL

Wood: Wood burning fireplaces look and smell like a real campfire. To some, the odour part can be looked at as either a pro or a con! They give off lots of toe-warming heat and their fire light is nice and bright. On the negative side it takes time to build and prepare a roaring fire. They can be messy and sometimes require extra cleaning and maintenance. Wood burning fire features are also dictated by stringent local guidelines and some residential areas don't allow them at all. Yearly permits may also apply.

Natural Gas: Natural gas is a guick way to enjoy a fireside evening. They are user-friendly, easy to maintain and offer a good heat source so long as they are rated at the proper output. Unfortunately they can be expensive to run and often the fire light is barely detectible until the sun is completely out of sight.





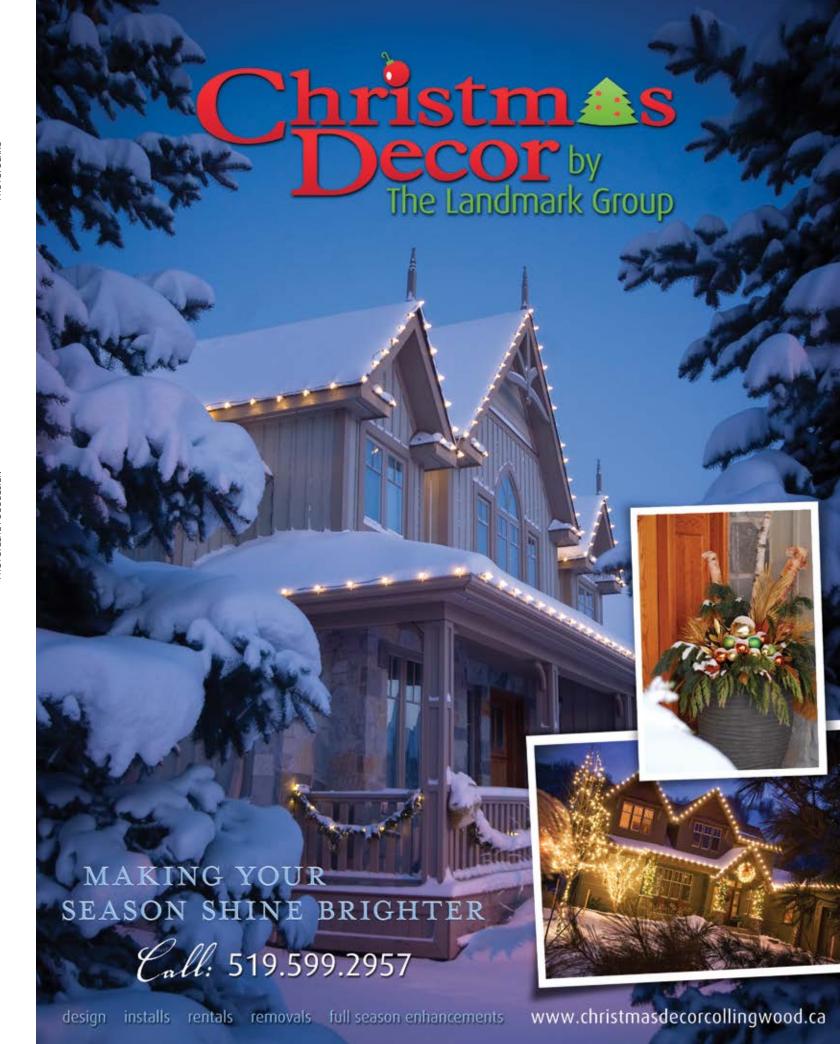
Propane: Also quick and efficient, propane fire features are great for those impromptu mid-week date nights or quick drinks with friends. Yes, this fuel source is costly but on the flip side the firelight is quite obvious even during daytime hours. Though they do give off some heat, they are more for ambience rather than actual heating. They also can be a bit smelly.

Gel Fuel: Clean burning with no smoke and very little odour, these also require no ventilation and can be placed anywhere. Though they offer real flames, there is not much associated heat.

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Fire – though very beautiful – can be very dangerous and precautionary measures must be addressed. Never place a fire feature too close to a wall or other combustible surfaces or on a raw wooden deck. Fireproof surfaces are best for placement and include stone, concrete or tile. Be vigilant to situate them away from overhead tree branches as over time this will damage the tree and could also start a fire.

Interestingly, science suggests that the mesmerizing flicker of the television is very similar to the flicker of firelight and is likely one of the reasons why TV is so addictive. Knowing this, perhaps you'll choose to sit outside and enjoy some thought-provoking conversations alongside the fire more often. OH





2018 MARKET SNAPSHOT - 3rd QUARTER IN REVIEW

Following are excerpts from the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA) on the Resale Housing Market Forecast.

- Sales will not return to the peak reached in 2017 but economic and demographic factors will enable gradual improvement in provincial activity.
- Ontario economy will grow approx. 2% in 2018/19; population growth continues from people moving into the province with new arrivals primarily in the 24 – 34 age bracket.
- Numbers of home sales will rebound by 6.2% in 2019 with home prices increasing by 5% as the sales mix begins to normalize and market balance becomes firmer.
- The severe listing shortage has abated although supply is still limited, so the market is still marginally tilted in favour of Sellers.

Worth considering is the economic impact of MLS Home Sales in Canada...excerpts of a report by Altus Group Oct. 2017 states:

- Home sales employ lawyers, appraisers, insurers, REALTORS®, lenders, and surveyors & provide taxes/fees to governments.
- Home sales also activate the purchase of appliances, furnishings, renovations (avg. \$67K per ON housing transaction) & subsequent job retention/creation (est. \$98K ON jobs/yr).

HIGHS, LOWS & SPECIFICS

We continue to focus where we specialize - residential single-family homes and condos in the WESTERN DISTRICT of Southern Georgian Bay, in particular The Blue Mountains, Collingwood and the areas of Clearview near Collingwood and Blue. In general, we have more inventory than in Q2 and less of it selling, and average sale values are down.

COLLINGWOOD:

- The high sale was a 3,570 sq.ft. home with 75' waterfront for \$2,230,000.
- The low sale was an east-side condo townhome for \$195,000.
- Condos: Q3 2018 (vs Q2 2018): 85 new listings, 69 sold (66 listings, 67 sold); avg. Days On Market (DOM) 45 (27); avg sale to list price 96% (99%); avg. sale price \$416,186 (\$424,515) — down approx. 2%.
- Single Family Homes: Q3 2018 (vs Q2 2018): 157 new listings, 84 sold (61 listings, 86 sold); avg DOM 91 (27); avg sale to list price 97.3% (98.3%); avg sale price \$551,287 (\$580,012) – down approx. 5%.

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS:

- The high sale was a 25 acre exec home with Bay views for \$3.25M.
- The low sale was a 1 bdrm. condo in the Grand Georgian for \$190,000.
- Condos: Q3 2018 (vs Q2 2018): 50 new listings, 30 sold (39 listings, 36 sold); avg DOM 56 (54); avg sale to list price 96.1% (97.8%); average sale price \$374,838 (\$357,072) – up approx. 5%.
- Single Family Homes: Q3 2018 (vs Q2 2018): 83 new listings, 39 sold

(66 listings, 45 sold); avg DOM 166 (43); avg sale to list price 97% (98%); avg sale price \$839,133 (\$888,245) — down approx. 6%

CLEARVIEW:

- The high sale was a 91 acre exec home on 10th Concession for \$2,745,000.
- The low sale was a tiny bungalow on Highway 124 for \$185,000.
- Single Family Homes: Q3 2018 (vs Q2 2018): 60 new listings, 26 sold. (45 listings, 36 sold); avg DOM 50 (65); avg sale to list price 97.1% (98.1%); avg. sale price \$508,612 (\$555,042) — down approx. 9%.

WHAT'S NEW?*

- Amy's Espresso Bar and Bakery on Highway 26 in the ESSO plaza in
- CHORAL WORKS classical choir will present the entire MESSIAH in downtown Collingwood, complete with orchestra and professional soloists, Nov. 30 @ 7:30pm & Dec. 1 @ 2pm, tickets \$30.
- Fabricca opening in Thornbury formerly Sisi on Main.
- 1858 Caesar Bar in Collingwood beside the Gayety Theatre.
- A new décor & design store, Nest, will be opening soon beside Blink Evewear on Hurontario at Hume Street.
- Homme Femme has opened in Collingwood between First and Second on Hurontario.
- "Fallicious" in the Blue Mountain Village has begun.
- *Thanks to Julie Card & MyCollingwood.ca!

For a detailed analysis of the property you wish to sell or buy, please contact us at your convenience. We are here to help you make an informed decision and to SAVE YOU TIME!





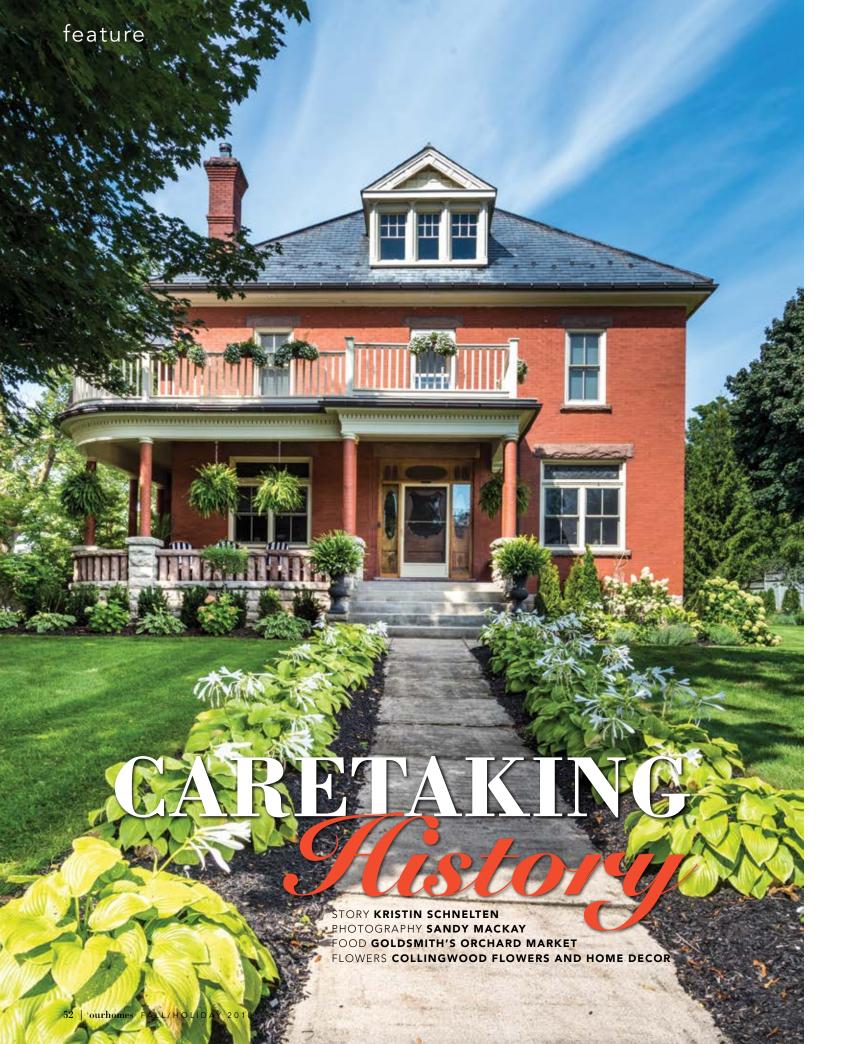


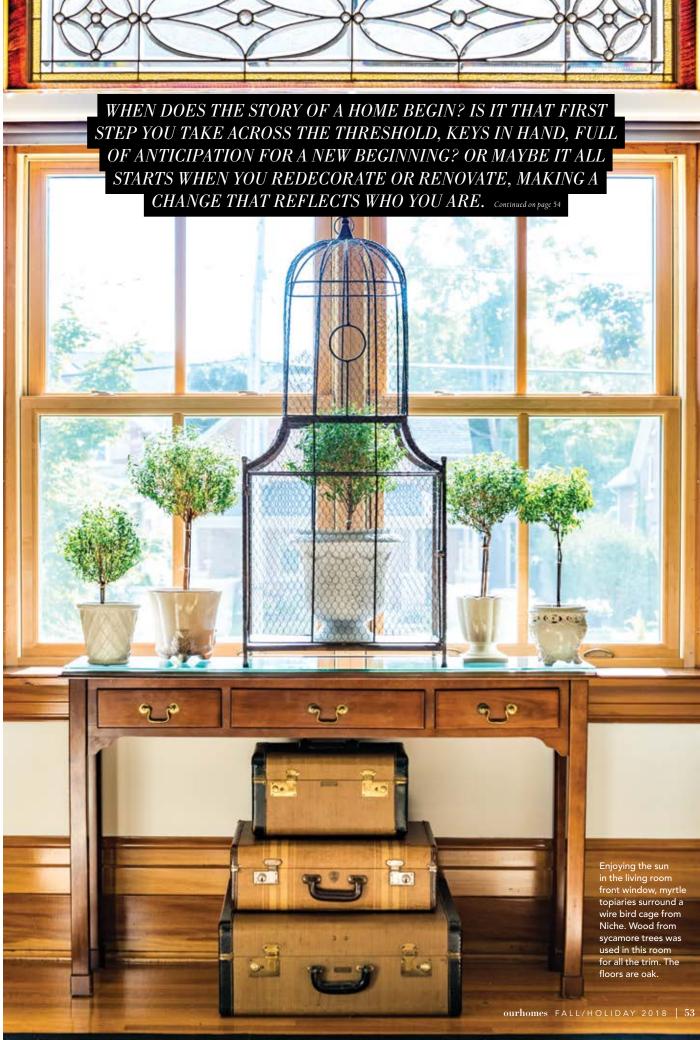
Jane Moysey, Broker - (705) 888-1982 jane@janemoysey.com Lorraine McDonald, Sales Representative – (705) 444-4216 lorrainemcdonald@rogers.com

Note: These statistics are compiled using data from the MLS system of the Southern Georgian Bay Association of Realtors and are believed to be reliable

www.ianeandlorraine.ca









For Pat and Denise Hall, the story of their Thornbury home began long before their closing date. In fact, it began before they, or even their grandparents, were born. This tale commenced in 1904, when a man named Mathias Snetsinger set out to build a new home for his family, making choices in the process that would truly stand the test of time.

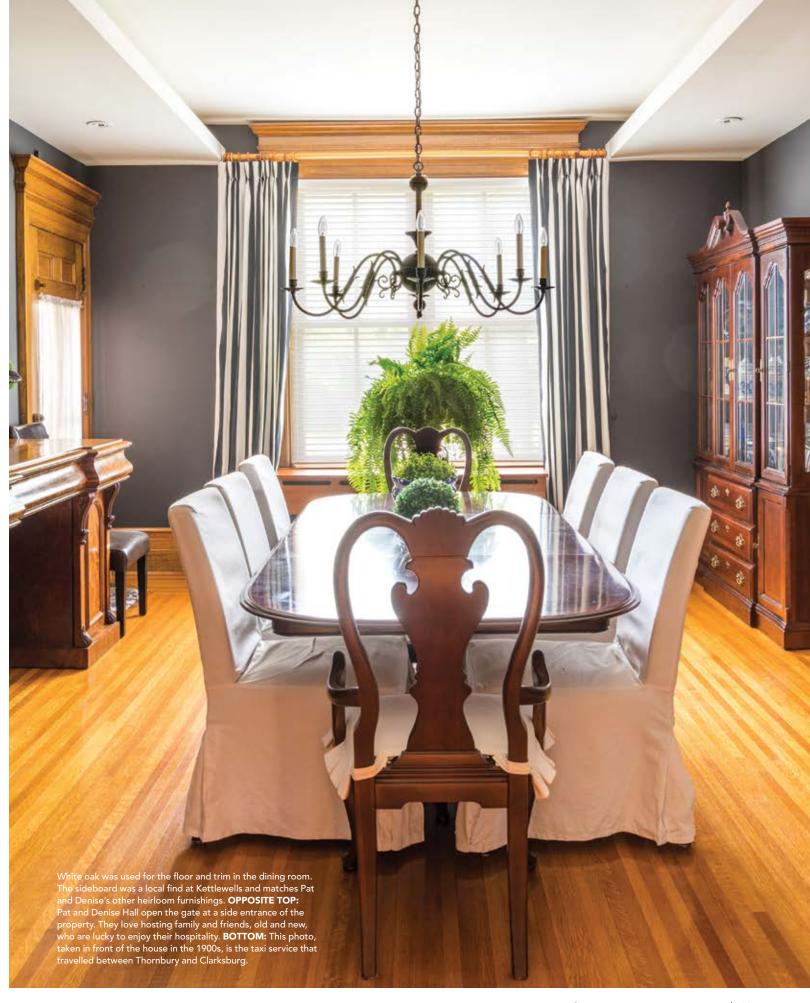
Snetsinger, a prominent local businessman, councilor and eventual mayor of Thornbury, opted for the best – the best design, best materials, best craftsmen. And each of his decisions is apparent today in this stately masterpiece.

Beyond the imposing size, strong lines and grand placement from the street, the most striking aspect of this home is its woodwork. Beginning with the four-inch thick front door, framed by wide, deep-set sidelights and transom, leading into the broad staircase and panelled hall, Snetsinger utilized wood to make a bold statement. Every room in the house, from the den, living and dining rooms, to each bedroom, features a different species of wood (some of them quite rare) from around the world. Each door and column, every inch

Continued on page 56

"Some houses have other focal points, but in this house, it's all about the wood."





ourhomes FALL/HOLIDAY 2018 | 55

feature

of trim, is heavy, solid and clear of knots.

The series of homeowners that followed Snetsinger evidently appreciated and preserved his choices. "It doesn't look as though a single child has lived here," says Pat, "There's only one nick, on just one door, in all the woodwork."

Pat made this observation during their first year in the house, as he renovated the kitchen, three bathrooms and mudroom. Denise recalls her husband making repeated discoveries of precision carpentry along the way, saying, "Pat

would call to me from one room or another, saying, 'You have to come see this! Can you believe they made this cut with a hand saw?" "

The couple is continually overwhelmed with the talent, love and craftsmanship that went into their home's construction. "It's a thrill for us to live here," Denise declares. "Some houses have other focal points, but in this house, it's all about the wood. There's something about natural wood. It's alive, and it brings such an energy into wherever it is."

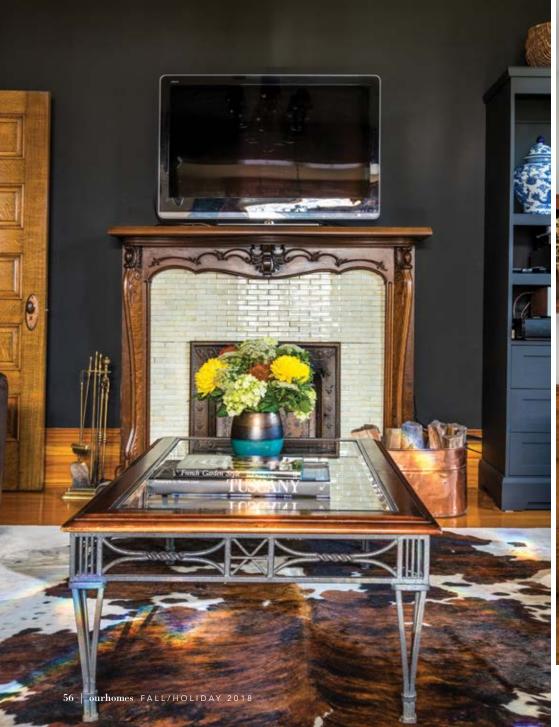
"When you live in a home like this, you're

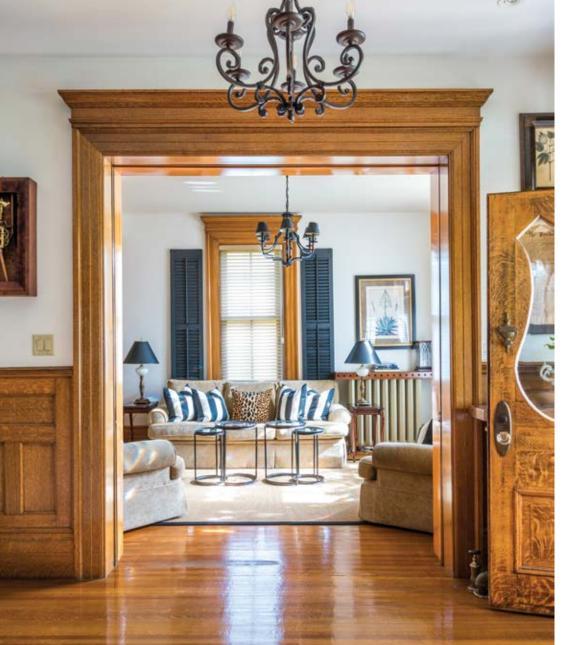
very aware that you don't own the house. You're just a caretaker, looking after it for the next generation," says Denise.

Part of that job is caring for the artifacts passed on with the keys. In an antique leather bag, tucked away for safekeeping, Denise keeps the photos that came with the house of the Snetsinger family, the home at various times through its history, and a particularly cherished print of Snetsinger standing in the dining room, surrounded by carpenters and the working tools of their trade.

Continued on page 59

BOTTOM LEFT: In the study, firewood is waiting for a cool night to light a fire and enjoy some down time. Black Cherry was used for the trim in this room. A large blue and white ginger jar is part of an impressive collection. BELOW: Looking into the living room, painted in Benjamin Moore's Cloud White, from the front door, the oak flooring looks exactly as it did when first laid in 1806. The shutters add a touch of texture and are a nod to Denise's love of France. **BELOW RIGHT:** A cherished photo of former Thornbury Mayor and builder of the home, Mathias Snetsinger, standing in the dining room of the home surrounded by tradesmen and carpenters. It is unbelievable to think that building this home was done without today's modern power tools.

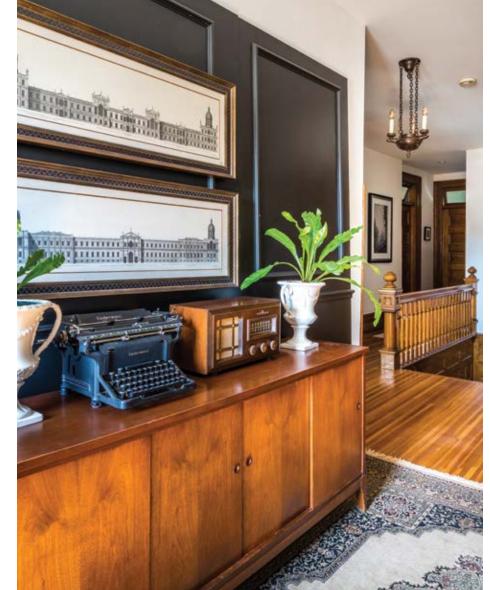




















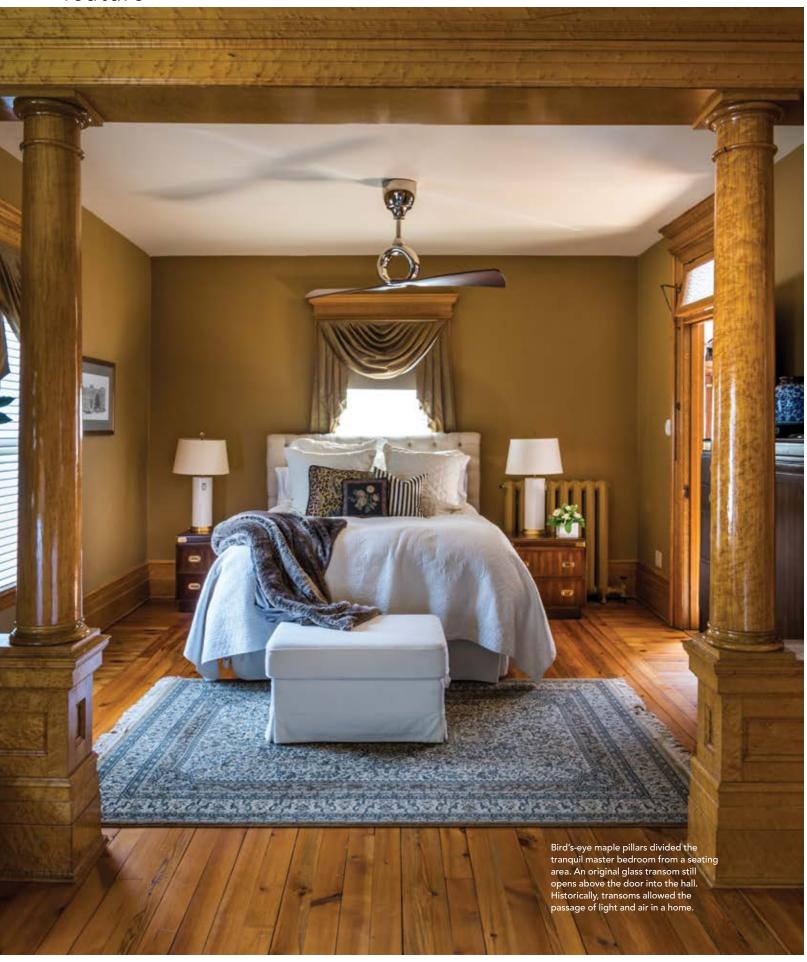
Conscious of the home's value to the community, the couple's updates were designed to modernize while maintaining the house's history. Decorating choices were part of this effort. They worked with **Deborah Masters** to select paint colours and **Nancy Driscoll** of **Fresh Designs** for window coverings, all intended to complement and highlight the woodwork.

Although the majority of the renovations were undertaken by Pat, who for decades remodeled washrooms through his company JP Hall, the couple chose Rob Perry of Riverside Custom Cabinets to construct the cabinetry in the kitchen, bathrooms and mudroom.

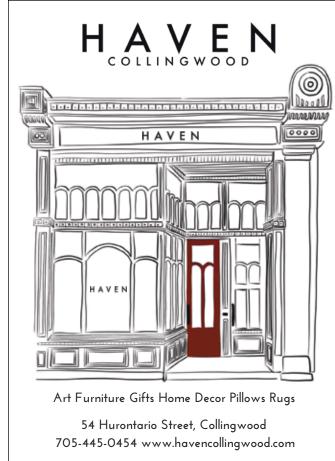
The couple furnished the home with many antiques including a sideboard in the dining room from **Kettlewells**. This is the first home in the area for Pat and Denise, but they were fortunate to have an established circle of friends. Pat had been visiting Thornbury

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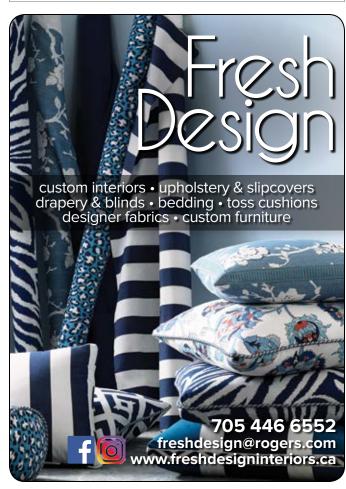
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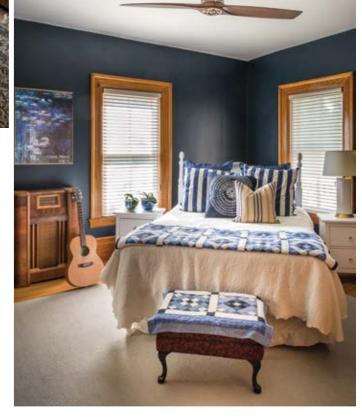


LEFT: An impressive armoire in a guest bedroom was bought with the house. Its pristine finish reflects light in the room. **BELOW:** Another masterful renovation by Pat, the freestanding sink keeps the space open and airy and basket-weave tile in the shower extends throughout the room. The walk-in shower has a large rainhead. **BOTTOM:** A guest bedroom painted Polo Blue by Benjamin Moore is home to a radio restored by Pat almost



since his early 20s, when he would come year-round to play in the outdoors, skiing all winter and windsurfing in summer. As Denise joined him on his trips north, she fell in love with the area as well and the past three decades have been filled with regular family vacations to the Blue Mountains. When they made the decision to leave the Toronto area in 2016, the couple's first and only choice for a new home was Thornbury.

"I always admired this house as I drove by," remembers Pat as he stands back to study the quality of the 113-year-old masonry. He notes the hairline thickness and mechanical precision of the mortar, the lack of even the slightest sag or crack. Imagining the stone masons achieving such a feat with nothing but a string for a level, he declares, "It really is a work of art." он











TOOLS & MATERIALS

Clear glass candlesticks or glassware Waxed paper Container for mixing Elmer's Glue-All Food colouring Stir sticks Water Paintbrush

DIRECTIONS

Cover work area with waxed paper. In a mixing container, add 1 tablespoon of Elmer's glue and 4-6 drops of food colouring to achieve your desired colour. Mix well. Add ½ teaspoon of water, mix well.

Paint the outside of your glassware. Let dry. For a deeper colour, apply a second coat after the first coat has dried.

If you are painting plates or trays, apply mixture to the backs of items only (where food will not come in contact with the colouring). This finish is not washable. Spot clean with a damp cloth. **OH**

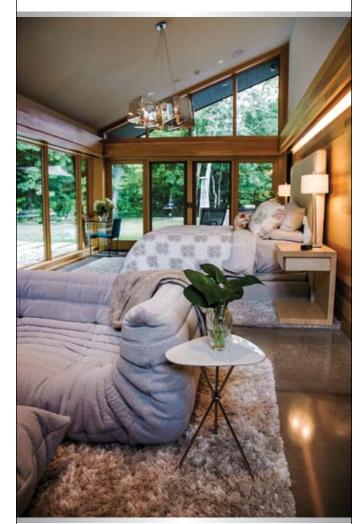


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MAKES 12

PEANUT COOKIES

INGREDIENTS

1 ¼ cups all-purpose flour

1 tsp baking soda

½ tsp salt

½ cup unsalted butter, softened

½ cup creamy peanut butter 34 cup packed brown sugar

1/4 cup granulated sugar

1 large egg

1 tsp vanilla extract

1/4 cup peanuts, chopped

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a bowl, mix together flour, baking soda and salt. Set aside.

Using a stand mixer, cream together butter and peanut butter. Add brown and granulated sugars and beat until light and fluffy. Add egg and vanilla. Mix to combine.

Turn the mixer to low and add flour mixture in batches. Stir in peanuts.

Scoop dough using a tablespoon and place on a lined baking sheet, leaving about an inch in between. Bake 10-12 minutes and set on a rack to cool.



INGREDIENTS

6 oz. white chocolate, roughly chopped

2 oz. heavy cream

1/4 cup creamy peanut butter

DIRECTIONS

Place white chocolate and cream in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave for 1-2 minutes, stirring every 20 seconds until melted and smooth. Let cool until ganache is firm.

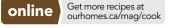
Place ganache in the bowl of a stand mixer and add peanut butter. Whip on high until light and double in size.

ASSEMBLE COOKIE SANDWICHES

Spread a tablespoon of ganache onto the bottom of a cookie and sandwich with a second cookie. Repeat.

If desired, dip in melted chocolate and top with crushed peanuts. OH









Custom built home in an exclusive enclave of only 38 homes. This 4,200 square foot home offers 6 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms, including two main floor masters with ensuites. Open concept main floor has an upgraded gourmet kitchen, large windows showcasing mature trees in the spacious backyard, hickory floors and large stone fireplace. Basement is completely finished with a large family room, bedroom, full bathroom and storage area. This home includes a state of the art security system, oversized double car garage, large deck off the dining area and top of the line appliances and mechanical system. Home is part of the Blue Mountain Village Association allowing its owners access to the on-call shuttle service to the ski hill, the Village and other amenities at Blue Mountain. Call today for your personal tour of this fine home!

Offered for sale for \$1,249,000









downtown Thornbury, this 3100 square foot custom home has plenty to offer. The perfect blend of a chalet style home with all the amenities of in-town living. Post and beam accents with tongue and groove ceiling in the living/dining and kitchen areas creates an inviting living space. Open concept layout allows for everyone to be part of the experience when entertaining. 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths and a large family room, ideal for a family as well as a weekend retreat. Spacious back yard has a private, covered deck with a walk out from the master bedroom. Direct access to the Georgian Trail. Oversized double attached garage houses two vehicles plus space for "toys" as well! This truly is a home that offers the very best of living in the Georgian Triangle.

Offered for sale for \$1,019,000



Engel & Völkers Collingwood Muskoka Real Estate Brokerage

JOHN KIRBY

Sales Representative & Advisor Cell: 705-441-0117 Email: john.kirby@rogers.com

TOP RANK LIVING

Two townhomes in Collingwood's coveted Admiral's Gate get very different, yet inspirational, looks.











ICONIC DESIGN

LOUIS COTE has spent decades dressing clients from around the world in fur. A trusted stylist, Louis makes sure his clients stay warm, cosy and looking fabulous all winter long. Fashion and interior design go hand in hand. While working at Holt Renfrew and Hudson's Bay Company, Louis also studied interior design at The International Academy of Design. He has curated homes in Toronto, across Ontario and as far away as California. Louis's partner Jack Cantwell, an oil and gas executive, sold a Grand Victorian home in Petrolia, west of London, Ontario, and purchased a four-season weekend home at Admiral's Gate in Collingwood, giving Louis free reign on the interior design. Louis brought some of the best pieces from the Victorian estate to their townhome. He has created a timeless yet fun living space in one of Southern Georgian Bay's most coveted waterfront developments. Continued on page 70

TOP: Louis Cote stands in the dining room. Louis layered an iron candelabra over an antler chandelier. The large French mirror enhances the space. FAR LEFT: A tool and die mould sits atop a red garage cabinet in the front foyer. LEFT: An exquisite, antique roll-top desk, an onyx mantel clock and a period portrait take over a corner in the living room.

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feature

OUR HOMES: What was it about this property that made you say "gotta have it?"

LOUIS COTE: We call it "The Hamptons on Georgian Bay Complex." Admiral's Gate has a fabulous view of the bay, it's close to downtown Collingwood and Thornbury, and all the great restaurants and shopping. We can enjoy every outdoor activity you can imagine in every season.

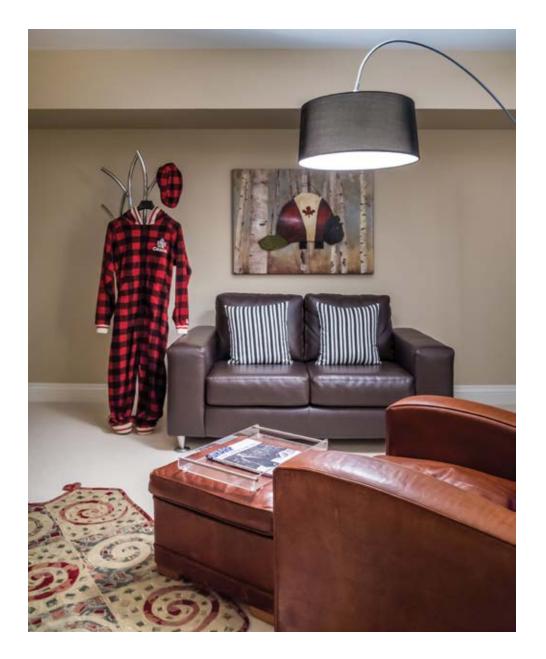






OH: How did you approach the interior design of this townhouse? What was your vision and where did you start?

LC: It started when Jack sold the Grand Victorian, which was full of large classical period furniture, which worked with the architecture here at Admiral's Gate. I had fun with it, mixing modern furniture with grand classics, antique engravings, bronzes and heavy woods. I also threw in a little "Canadiana country."



ABOVE: The lower level is for guests, and this bedroom has a seating area for relaxing after a busy day of shopping in Collingwood. A Sheila Fox beaver found a new spot hanging in front of a painting of birches. A coat tree holds a buffalo check jumpsuit and newsboy hat. ABOVE RIGHT: An oversize neo-classical bust sits on a wooden column at the bottom of the stairs to the lower level. RIGHT: Fur trappers' hats hang from an antler hat rack in the hallway. OPPOSITE, TOP: A black Schonbek crystal chandelier and an ethanol concrete block fireplace set the mood in the library. On the wall is an old Italian engraving from the 1800s called La Via Appia. LEFT: Louis topped a surgical cabinet with a live-edge wooden top. A favourite piece of Art Deco art by Tamara de Lempicka hangs above. **FAR LEFT:** The bedroom is decorated in iconic Hudson's Bay Company bedding. The classical lamps were converted from gas. Jack's twin sister died at an early age. In her memory, her silver cup sits on the bedside table.





OH: What did you bring with you and what's new?

LC: The modern furniture is new but most of the furnishings are decorative finds from travel, antique hunts or Jack's Victorian, including the black Schonbek chandelier, sconces, lantern and framed engravings from Italy in the library. We also have works by local artists, including Sheila Fox and Heather Cook.

OH: What were the easy fixes and what were the challenges?

LC: The original design choices and finishes worked, especially the classic millwork and original mouldings. I added contrast with paint, especially in the kitchen where we had the cabinets and island refinished by **Cabneato** in **Benjamin Moore**'s heritage colours. I also updated the fireplace and added new lighting.

OH: How would you describe your personal design style?

LC: My design style is eclectic and worldly. I make sure each space I work on has balance and proportion. Each room I design is crisp and fresh. This space has some heavy pieces so it's important not to crowd the rooms. There is nothing wrong with some blank walls and empty corners. It's important to never "gild the lily." OH Continued on page 72

feature





TOP: The layers that Joan creates in her design are highlighted in the living room. The gas fireplace by Chantico Fireplace Gallery is the focal point of this comfortable area. Window shutters from Kettlewells frame the water view. The artwork is by Grace Alfonso. The walls are painted Collingwood and the trim throughout is Silver Satin, both by Benjamin Moore. LEFT: Joan with her daughter, Jen Riley and granddaughter Lucy, both visiting from Vancouver. BELOW LEFT: At the front entrance, French country arm chairs flank an iron, marble-topped console table. Willowhill Design worked with Joan to choose the wall colours throughout the home. BELOW RIGHT: In a courtyard off the master bedroom, the stone walls are a perfect backdrop for the wrought-iron seating and containers that are full of lavender, ivy, boxwood and ferns, all designed by Elaine Kettlewell of Kettlewells.

Joie de Vivre

French country design and decorating.
While visiting friends at a townhome in Admiral's Gate Joan fell in love with the development and wanted in. It happened fast. She and husband Ian Fleming purchased a unit. They renovated and decorated from top to bottom. Joan tells OUR HOMES about the magnificent transformation.

Continued on page 74





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OUR HOMES: What was it about this property that made you decide to buy it?

JOAN RILEY: We were thinking about where to have a home when Ian retires. Ian's family had been long-time members at Georgian Peaks Club and my son Conrad is the head pro at OslerBrook Golf and Country Club. In May of 2017 our friends at Admiral's Gate told us there was a unit for sale, but it wasn't listed yet. We looked at it at Ilam on a Saturday morning, returned to Toronto and signed the deal by 6pm that night. We just love the view looking out at the water and being the end unit it gave us so much light. I could see right away how it would look when it was renovated.

TOP: A new design and a new colour for the cabinets opened up the kitchen. The laminate flooring from Dean's Carpet One Floor & Home was laid over the dark original hardwood. The island stools are from At Home Interiors. Corbels from Kettlewells support the overhang of the Caesarstone counters in Raw Concrete. RIGHT: Surrounded by light and a view to the water, the dining area can seat the whole family when they visit. The dining table was found at Kettlewells and refinished by Elaine Kettlewell. Joan found the slipcovered end chairs at Leuk.







OH: The style is French country. Why do you love that look?

JR: I have always loved the shabby chic, cottage look and that is the base of my design style. My husband and I love France and we have travelled there many times and it is always inspiring to be there. So that French influence, combined with the shabby chic, equals French country for me. It's always a challenge when we are in France because I always see items I love. I collect champagne glasses and silver buckets.

OH: Do you and your husband work as a team when it comes to design in your home?

JR: My husband trusts me 100 per cent. He is a help with moving furniture and hanging art. I move furniture a lot! I consult with Ian on large items. If he does come with me, especially to Kettlewells, he gets quite excited about finding things he knows will work.

OH: What local businesses have you supported?

JR: Mike Synott of Georgian Granite
Works handled the renovation and was on
the same wave-length as me and went that
extra mile. Dean's Carpet One Floor &
Home team handled all the flooring and
blinds, going above and beyond to get it right.
Elaine Kettlewell of Kettlewells and her
wonderful architectural find helped create
our look, while Laurie Severn and Pierre
Armengol of Heirloom 142 would always
happily deliver furnishings and rugs to put
in place. Roger Tomlinson at Chantico
Fireplace Gallery helped us create a
beautiful fireplace.

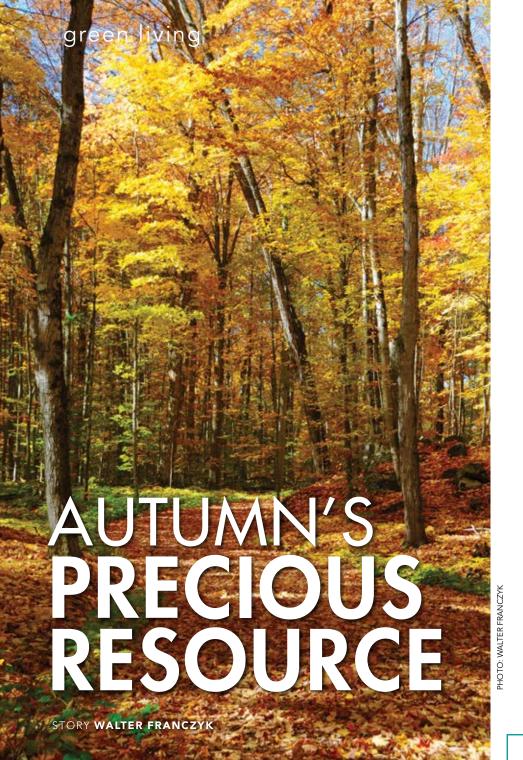


ABOVE LEFT: The wall shelf from Heirloom 142 has handy hooks and lots of room to display special photos and momentoes over the free-standing tub in the master bathroom. **ABOVE RIGHT:** The chaise lounge in the master bedroom is a family heirloom and a perfect spot to enjoy the fresh air from the courtyard. A floor lamp from At Home Interiors lights this corner when the sun goes down.

OH: Do you feel that the townhome is finished?

JR: No, I feel that it is always an evolving space and that doesn't bother us. I am seeing wonderful items all the time and can always fit them somewhere. In fact the other day I bought a large wicker basket, with wheels at Haven Home & Gift in Collingwood. My daughter-in-law saw my basket and went out and bought the smaller one. This is a place for our families to come, enjoy the pool, the trails, the golf course and family time in one location. OH

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RAKING LEAVES AND BAGGING THEM FOR PICKUP AT THE CURB IS A SIMPLE WAY OF RIDDING THE YARD **OF AUTUMN'S ANNUAL BOUNTY. BUT IT'S ENVIRONMENTALLY** UNFRIENDLY.

Especially for those who drive somewhere to collect or buy compost for the garden. Hauling away leaves and carting home compost needlessly burns fossil fuels.

Better solutions can be found right at home. A mature deciduous tree sheds hundreds of thousands, perhaps as many as a half million, leaves every fall. Year after year, this colourful descent adds tonnes of organic matter to the environment. It's a plentiful and renewable natural resource. Here are five ideas for dealing with leaves.

GIVE THEM AWAY

If you don't want the leaves that fall in your yard, you can offer them to a neighbour. This overture might be unwelcome or redundant if most of your leaves have already blown onto your neighbour's property. But it's worth a try. An avid gardener next door just might accept the offer. Some gardeners admit to supplementing their own leaf harvest by cruising residential subdivisions and taking the large paper bags full of leaves left at the curb for yard waste collection.

LEAVING THEM

Leaves are beneficial in yards and gardens. They serve as habitat for salamanders and insects. Completely removing them deprives soil of nutrients that percolate into the ground if leaves are left to rot naturally. But if you want to leave the leaves, it's best to leave them in wooded areas and beneath shrubs. If you want leaves to remain on the lawn, it's best to shred them with a lawnmower or place them in a big garbage bin and chop them up with a weed-whacker, before spreading them on the grass. If left un-shredded on the lawn, leaves will trap moisture, block sunshine and create bare patches in spring that will require more yard work to repair. Continued on page 78





green living





MULCHING

Adding leaf mulch around the base of trees and shrubs and atop perennial beds provides many benefits. Leaf mulch improves soil fertility. It inhibits the growth of weeds and prevents evaporation of moisture. It helps to protect plant roots, keeps soil warmer in winter and cooler in summer, and reduces soil erosion. It's welcoming to earthworms that aerate the soil and help release nutrients. Dried leaves can be chopped into mulch with a lawnmower. If trees and plants have been previously mulched, remove the old material. A new layer of three to four inches of shredded leaves can be added around trees and shrubs. Two to three inches will suffice for perennial beds. Mulch will reduce the need for watering, weeding and

TILLING

With a lawnmower, leaves can be shredded into pieces and tilled into the garden, where they improve soil quality. Leaves will increase organic matter, allow soil to hold more moisture and make it easier to till. Leaves add carbon, calcium, nitrogen, magnesium, potassium, phosphorous, iron and manganese to the soil. Decomposition is required to release these nutrients over time, but in the long run, they will enhance soil fertility. Scientists at Rutgers University in New Jersey found that due to the high carbon content of leaves, little of their organic nitrogen will be immediately available to flowers and vegetables, so some additional nitrogen fertilizer will be needed.

COMPOSTING

Composting leaves will turn them into an organic, nutrient-rich soil conditioner. Composting bins can be bought at garden supply centres or hardware stores, but it's easy to make one. Wooden shipping skids, turned on their sides and attached at the corners, will serve nicely. It's best to leave one side open or hinged to allow easy access. Chicken wire, rolled and fastened into a three-foot diameter bin, will also work. Composting works best when three parts brown material, such as leaves, are layered and mixed with one part green material grass clippings, vegetable peels, tea bags, coffee grounds, cut flowers or manure. Keep the pile moist. Turning it weekly will speed decomposition and prevent odours. After a few months, the pile will break down into a dark, valuable soil supplement that helps aerate and feed garden soil. Spread about a half-inch layer of compost over the entire garden. When transplanting, add compost to the soil surrounding plants. OH











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spotlight



WHERE DOVES FLY

These warm woollen throws will look perfect draped on a sofa or the end of bed.

THE PLACE: Twenty-three years ago, entrepreneur and retail dynamo Tricia Jeffery opened **Dovetail Interiors** in Creemore. Then, 11 years ago, the building at 21 Hurontario St. in Nottawa went up for sale. Tricia visualized creating a one-stop shop for your home. She's done just that in this 7,000 sq. ft. emporium. It's a showcase of beautiful furniture, oversized art, bedding, accessories, women's clothing and a full interior design service.

THE STYLE: Furniture and accessories have a relaxed, urban style. There are sofas, coffee tables and pillows in the right colour palette for every room.

The groupings are so beautifully displayed, you'll find yourself wanting it all for your home. Head upstairs to find the perfect duvet cover or bed frame, side table or lamp. Tricia's loyal staff – some have been with her for more than 10 years – are there to assist with any questions and help in any way.



THE WARES: It's all about creating a home you'll love and want to spend time in with family and friends. Discover the right essential oils, glassware, tea towels, hostess gifts, luxurious bath towels and warm and woolly tartan throws. There's a separate building devoted to Christmas and another building dedicated to clothing, outerwear and shoes, everything you need to fit your lifestyle.

what's hot: Custom design. The experts at Dovetail Interiors will create computerized drawings of your room layouts, help you pick the right colour scheme and outfit your home with Canadian-made furniture. Make that change you crave a reality.



BOXING DAY: On December 26th, head to one of the buildings for a curated selection of "Tricia's Favourite Things" – 100 items that Tricia is excited to share with her customers, new and old.

GET THERE:

4206 Simcoe County Rd. 124, Nottawa 705.445.0660 | dovetailinteriors.ca он



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Twine Wrapped

PROJECT AND PHOTOGRAPHY TARA CHATTELL



TREES

Use nature's neutrals and add a romantic touch to make these seasonal handmade trees.



How-To

1. Start a small spiral with twine and secure it together with hot glue.

TREES

Materials:

Jute twine

Tools:

Scissors

Foam cones

Hot glue gun

- 2. Glue the spiral to the tip of the
- 3. Wind twine around the cone, dotting with glue every few inches.
- 4. Finish by cutting the twine, leaving a few inches to glue to the underside of the cone.

















FLOWER

Materials:

Burlap wire ribbon Lace Cotton muslin **Brooch**

How-To:

1. Cut an equal length of burlap wire ribbon and lace. The longer the length, the larger the flower will be.

Tools:

Scissors

Wire cutters

Hot glue gun

- 2. Cut a scalloped pattern along one edge of the ribbon, removing the wire off the scalloped edge and set aside to use in step 5.
- 3. At one end of the ribbon, expose a few inches of wire and wind it tightly around the end of the ribbon to prevent it from sliding.
- 4. On the opposite end of the ribbon, begin to push the burlap fabric along the wire so that it starts to gather. Once you're happy with the amount of gather, finish by cutting the wire and winding a few inches of exposed wire around the ribbon to secure.
- 5. Using the other length of wire, begin weaving it along the top edge of the lace. Once through the lace, secure one end by winding wire tightly around the lace. Gather the lace so that it is the same length as your burlap ribbon, and secure the other end. Clip the excess wire.
- 6. Using pieces of excess wire, attach the ends of the ribbon and lace together and secure them at two or three more points along their gathered edge.
- On a flat surface, lay your lace and ribbon in a spiral shape to form a flower.
- 8. Lay two pieces of muslin fabric on top of each other and cut a circle slightly larger than your flower. Scallop the edge.
- 9. Separate the two muslin pieces and fray the edges. Layer them offset and glue together in the centre.
- 10.Glue your ribbon flower to the muslin pieces. Place a brooch in the centre of your flower and glue. Attach your finished flower to your tree with some more hot glue.



CRYSTAL GARLAND

Materials:

Thin wire Crystal beads

Tools:

Wire cutters Hot glue gun

How-To:

- 1. Cut two long lengths of thin wire and twist together at one end.
- 2. String a bead on one of the wires and twist the two wires together.
- 3. Continue adding beads and twisting until you have a garland long enough to wrap three times around your tree.
- 4. Apply a dot of hot glue to one end of your wire garland and pierce it into the foam near the top of the tree.
- 5. Wind the garland around the tree, add a dot of hot glue to the end of your wire garland and pierce near the base.



LACE **GARLAND**

Materials: Lace

Tools: Hot glue gun

How-To:

- 1. Hot alue the end of the lace near the top of the twine tree.
- 2. Wrap the lace around the tree as many times as you like and then hot glue the lace near the base of your tree. Trim the excess lace. OH

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Ruba Dub Dub CHOOSING THE RIGHT TUB



I am a huge fan of the showering experience. However, when I was expecting my first child and suffering shin splints, I found a soothing bath something I couldn't get through the night without. When you need to get clean quick, a shower is hands-down the way to go. If, however, you find yourself with more than a few minutes, running yourself a bath can be a rewarding and comforting personal experience. Picking the right tub for you is important.

Continued on page 86



STORY CYNTHIA SODA











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decorating

STYLES

Bathtub manufacturers today offer a large assortment of styles, shapes and design features to coordinate with any taste and budget. While the most popular pin-worthy tubs are typically vessel freestanding or claw-foot, there are a multitude of options available to suit your needs. For those with limited square footage, a tub-shower combination or three-wall alcove design would be the most common tub style to maximize space. In standard-built homes, we've all seen the drop-in tub, made of enamel-coated cast iron, that sits fitted inside a framed enclosure. A more seamless alternative to the drop-in would be an undermount tub, which essentially is the same concept as an undermount vanity sink, only for your bathing pleasure.

FAVOURITES

One great resource is Victoria + Albert with tubs crafted from the brand's signature Englishcast composition, a unique blend of a naturally white material that is rich in volcanic limestone and high-performance resins, hand-finished to create a glossy white coating with excellent stain resistance. They also offer a choice of trending colour options. Since the material is solid all the way through, internal scratches simply polish away. In our latest bathroom remodel, I can personally speak for the quality of a Victoria + Albert tub. For us, with four little ones who enjoy splashing around in mom and dad's bathroom, the Eldon tub was the perfect fit. Wanting to have luxe European-modern style and not having to worry about clean up behind the tub was the dilemma. The Eldon appears completely freestanding from the front, but its back-to-wall design makes it perfect for busy families with style.



The best of both worlds. Get the modern style of a freestandoing vessel tub, with the practicality of an enclosed tub.

NATIVE TRAILS: Avalon 62 NativeStone Freestanding Soaking Tub in Ash NATIVE TRAILS: Santorini Freestanding Copper Soaking Bathtub in Polished Copper

MATERIAL

The material that a tub is made from is also an important consideration for your investment in relaxation and comfort. The least expensive and lightweight options available are generally acrylic or fibreglass. The aforementioned cast iron is made by pouring molten iron into a mold, then smoothing and coating it with a thick layer of enamel. Possibly the most durable tub available, the finish is resistant to chipping, scratching and denting, as well as most types of chemicals. The cast iron option keeps bathing waters warm for a long period of time and although rewarding, they are one of the most challenging tubs to bring up a flight of stairs. If you're looking for something unique, you may consider a couture tub made of copper, enameled steel or even carved of stone or wood

BELLS & WHISTLES

A quiet soak is not the only appeal of the tub experience so some amenities may be important to research. Jets, in-line heaters, chromatherapy, music, air-only jets, or sit in your very own champagne and soak with micro-bubble effervescent jets.

TEST DRIVE IT

Not all bathtubs are created equal. Depending on the features you choose, prices range from the hundreds to the tens of thousands. One of the most important things you can do as a consumer is take a test drive - that's right, go and physically sit in the tub you plan to invest in to make sure you like the fit and depth. After all, the bathtub can be more than just a beautiful piece of sculpture in your bathroom, you can, you know, use it. on

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coming HOME

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PHOTOGRAPHY BONNIE FOX

LIFE **Dream Trip:** Our camp on Lake Superior. Red or White: Red. Cold Remedy: Meredith's Ginger Elixir. Fav Holiday Side Dish: Raclette. New Year's Eve: A quiet night-time snowshoe with my wife and dogs.

WORK

Hot Item: Floorté
Titan, ideally engineered for
this climate and usage. Colour
Trend: Concrete/grey. Showroom:
Updated with a huge selection
of new samples. Splurge On:
Plush carpet, area rugs, rustic
wood flooring and large
format tile.

JOHN MEALEY PRESIDENT/OWNER

The Flooring Place Inc.

The Flooring Place was established in 1993 and changed ownership in 2017. While open to the public, the focus is designers and contractors seeking a turnkey solution. A revolutionary approach to job coordination and execution has helped the business achieve 40 per cent growth in the past year. Staff are a friendly bunch that love to help people achieve their vision.

LIFE

Dream Trip: In unison...
Italy. Red or White: Red for
Paul. Gin for George. Fav Holiday
Side Dish: Turkey for Paul and pasta
for George. New Year Hopes:
Another grandchild for George,
and hopefully the trip to
Italy for Paul.

BEST
UPDATES:
Kitchen and
bathroom,
flooring and
paint.

GEORGE DIGIROLAMO & PAUL COLUCCI

OWNERS

G. Colucci and Sons Ltd.

G. Colucci and Sons Ltd. is a family owned business that has been renovating and building for the past 50 years in the GTA. They are now bringing their attention to detail to Southern Georgian Bay. One of their projects is a top-to-bottom renovation of a three-bedroom, two-and-a-half bathroom condo and it is a testament to the skill and quality clients can expect.

WORK

Life-changing New

Products: Smart home technology and automation.

Design Trends: LED lighting.

Home Splurge: Appliances that take cooking to the next level.



Continued on page 90



WORK

Popular Item: Oversize
art print posters. Top
Service: Beautiful frames
for every piece of art we see.
Quick Update: Change the
mat board. Colour Trends:
Neutrals with a sliver
of colour.

MARGOT NICOLSON-TROTT

OWNER

Georgian Frame Gallery

Update your art. With hundreds of frames and mat boards to choose from, Georgian Frame Gallery can make that favourite painting POP again. From an old master to your child's first masterpiece, make sure the art on your wall looks its best.

LIFE

Dream Trip:

Mediterranean cruise. **Dog or Cat:** My dog Brigadoon is at
the store every day. **Cold Remedy:**My grandfather, the doctor, always
said scotch! **Holiday Dinner Fav:**Pumpkin cheesecake. **Coffee or Tea:** Coffee in the morning
and Earl Grey in the
afternoon.

Continued on page 92





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o f



aluminum or

olive wood.

MIKE MILLARD & **VENECIA BAUTISTA**

OWNERS

Millard Bautista Designs

Millard Bautista Designs is a family-owned business with over 20 years of experience in the industry, specializing in custom interior woodwork, kitchens, built-in cabinetry and wood furniture. Working with homeowners, general contractors, architects and designers, they build, design and install every project they create.

WORK

Favourite Wood: Strong, beautiful, locally-sourced walnut. Current Project: A 1964 Airstream. Finishes: Clear matte finishes from Osmo and Rubio Monocoat. **Productivity Tool:** Coffee maker for Venecia. Felder Sliding table saw for Mike.



Perseverance and hard work. Quality over quantity.

LIFE

Red or White: White for Venecia. Cold beer for Mike. Dog or Cat: Dog. Wallpaper or Paint: Paint. Dream Vacation: Surfing in Barbados or the Dominican Republic. Holiday Side Dish: Cranberry sauce. New Year's Plans: Cross-country skiing

in the moonlight.

Continued on page 94



f



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CATHIE LEE

CO-OWNER

Haven Home & Gift

Haven started as a dream that turned into reality this past summer when Cathie Lee and Janice Gardiner opened their business in the heart of Collingwood's historic downtown. Haven celebrates the beautiful Southern Georgian Bay community by creating quality handcrafted items that are unique to the area and offering customers a variety of local and Canadian-made products.

Dream Trip:
European River Cruise.
Dog or Cat: My dog
Murphy. Wallpaper or Paint:
Paint. Fav Holiday Side Dish:
Sweet potatoes. New Year's
Resolution: Spend more
time with family
and friends.

Continued on page 96





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WORK

Trendy Now:
Living Libations.
Quick Update: Joyful
Rejuvenation Facial. Up and
Coming: RMS makeup.
High-end: Royal Rose
CoQ10 Serum.

KAREN LANG

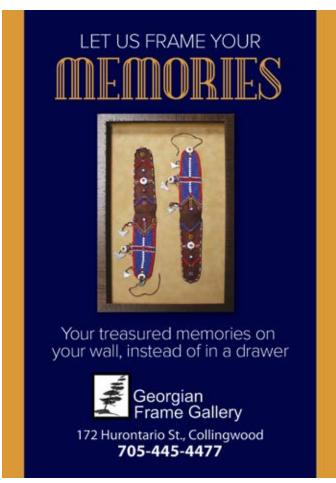
Seed

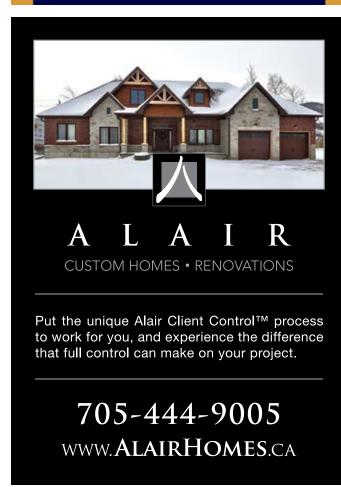
Seed is a destination for holistic facials and a retail store that is the exclusive source in the region for Living Libations products, which are made from the purest organic, wild-crafted essential oils available internationally. Living Libations serums nourish all three layers of the skin to revive complexions and protect against seasonal elements while outdoors or on the ski slopes.

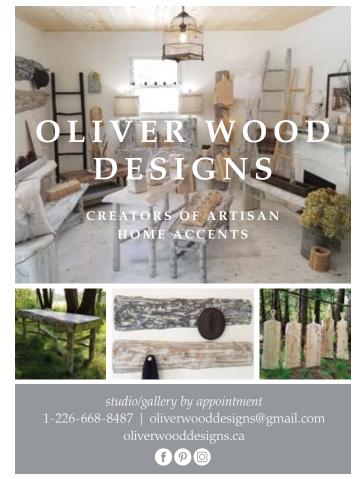
LIFE

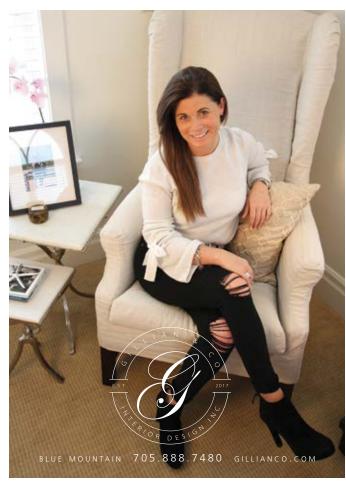
Dream Trip: Spain or
Portugal. Red or White: Red.
Dog or Cat: Dog. Fav Holiday
Side Dish: Mashed potatoes.
Cold Remedy: Essential
Oils. Coffee or Tea:
Bulletproof coffee.

Continued on page 98









LIFE

Red or White: Red. Dream Trip: A safari in South Africa or Italy. **Dog** or Cat: Of course dog... or dogs Storm and Bella. Cold Remedy: Suck it up! Fav Holiday Side Dish: Gravy.

CANDIS MCDONNELL

OWNER

Niche

Looking for a gift or something for your own home? Niche has a wonderful collection of home décor and furnishings. Smart Furniture is a space-saving line of contemporary pieces available exclusively at Niche that can be accessorized with pillows, art, vases and other accent pieces.

WORK

Hot Item: Smart Furniture. Quick Update: Preserved boxwood and art. High-end Option: Beautiful large Indonesian mirror with a wood frame. Wallpaper or Paint: Paint... but

maybe both.

TRENDING: Blue/Grey and real wood accents.











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Van Dolder's Custom Exteriors

Van Dolder's Home Team Custom Exteriors invites you to visit their second, family constructed, 18,000 sq. ft. village-style showroom on Mountain Road. Experience some of the best quality windows, doors, siding, decking, awnings, garage doors and finishing touches up close, installed and in use. Tim Van Dolder is leading the Collingwood team and looks forward to your visit.



WORK

Hot Items: Sagiper Vinyl siding and soffit, Ghostwood barn board. High-end Item: Big Foot tilt and turn windows and doors. Long Board metal siding. Beach House vinyl cedar shakes.

New Product: Facade

garage doors.

LASTING
COLOUR
TRENDS:
Blacks and dark
greys.

LIFE

Dream Trip: Anywhere hot and sunny with my wife and two boys. Red or White: Either, but local.

Cold Remedy: My wife's cure to a short cold is saline rinse. Fav Holiday Side
Dish: Turnip, believe it or not. New Year's Plans: Home with family and friends – games, snacks, drinks and a countdown. OH

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everything that accompanies it.

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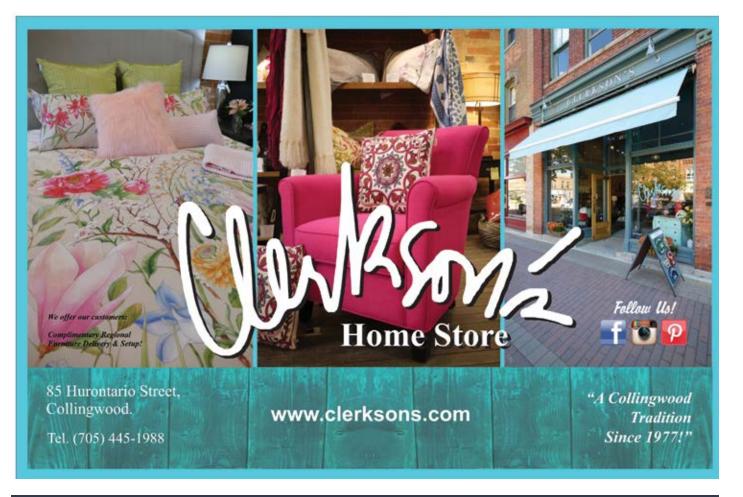
We believe in the Everyday Beautiful.

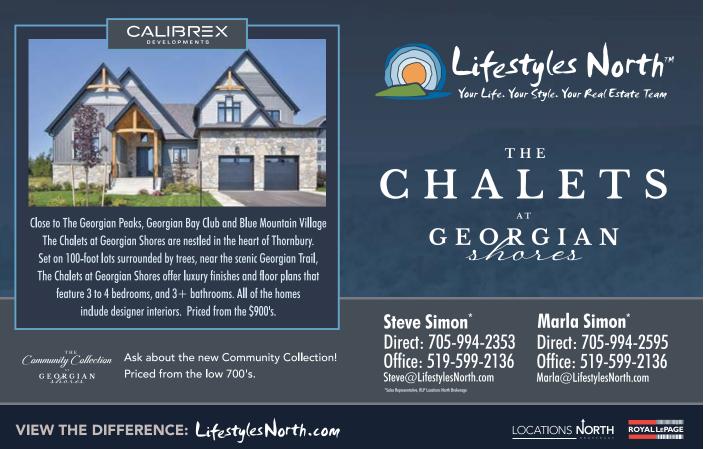


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focus







STORY MEHREEN SHAHID | ILLUSTRATION SHEILA BRITTON

THE DOS AND HOME DON'TS OF HOME INSURANCE

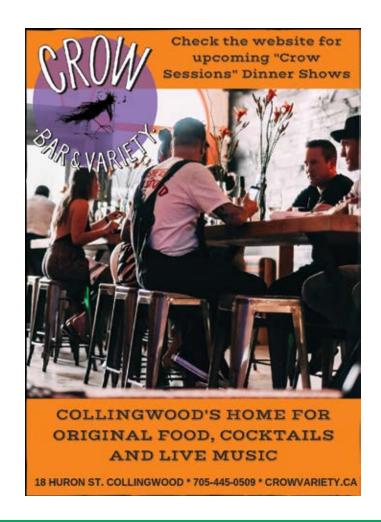
THE CARDINAL RULE OF HOME INSURANCE: BUY IT!

- ✓ Do shop around when getting a new policy, says Pete Karageorgos, Ontario director of consumer and industry relations, Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC). And remember to sit down with your insurance representative for a yearly review of your policy. The reason, Karageorgos says, are the upgrades homeowners do over a number of years.
- "That increases the value of the house," he says. "If you don't tell the insurance company about it, they may say, 'since you weren't paying the premium for that item, we won't pay you the amount to replace it."
- ✓ Do make a list of valuable items you have, Karageorgos says. Documenting assets helps the claims process go smoothly. "Most folks have smartphones with cameras, and it's easy to take photos of your rooms, cupboards, closets and your storage areas," he says. "A lot of times when we're faced with making insurance claims, we may forget what we've had in storage."
- Onn't assume everything you own is automatically covered in your policy. "Most policies will cover a home for fire, wind and theft, but things such as power surges may not be covered," Karageorgos says.
- ✓ Do check to see if you will need an additional personal articles policy. "Understand there may be specific sub-limits for items, such as jewelry, sports equipment or stamps you've collected," he says. "You may want to look into having these covered separately."
- Oo check for specific events for which you're covered when reviewing a policy. "More and more, we're seeing severe weather events in our communities," Karageorgos says, adding that customers calling the IBC's help centre say they are caught offguard when their dwelling is affected by a natural disaster, such as flooding or a storm. "Reality is, we're seeing a shift in weather patterns and we're trying to meet those needs."
- For example, he says, when areas in Calgary were flooded a few years ago, insurance companies weren't paying to cover for the aftermath.
- "Now, they are," he says. "This coverage also applies to septic systems. If those overflow, insurance companies are offering sewer back-up coverage."



- Do look into taking steps to protect the house. For example, insurance companies may determine premiums based on the distance of the dwelling from the shoreline, Karageorgos says.
- "Sometimes the insurance company may ask you if you have a safety measure, such as a sump pump," he says. "Look at what you can do to minimize the risk. Make sure the grading around the property isn't such that water flows into your house, but is pushed away from the house. Make sure there aren't any issues with the foundation. You could (also) look into getting a home alarm system," he adds.
- On repairs regularly, don't think that just because you have insurance that it will act as a maintenance policy. If items that wear and tear and have a specific period of usefulness break down, you may not get the type of claims response you were expecting.
- Oo check that your policy covers additional living expenses, which pays if families are forced to leave their home, due to a fire or another event.
- On't assume your landlord's insurance will cover your valuables, too. Home insurance isn't only for homeowners; renters should also look at buying a policy.
- "As a tenant, you're responsible for covering your own items," he says. "It also helps cover you for liability, in case of a fire or another event," Karageorgos says.
- Liability coverage also protects against being sued by visitors if they are injured on the property.
- ✓ Do review your deductible. "Adjusting your deductible is important; maybe increase it to have a smaller premium," says Karageorgos, adding another insurance do is to look at bundling home insurance with other insurance policies, such as auto and life.

General guidance is available through IBC's help centre, which can be reached at ibc.ca or by calling 1.844.227.5422. OH





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Great Lakes Custom Homes & Renovations



GINGERBREAD LOAF with BROWN BUTTER ORANGE GLAZE

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY JENELLE MCCULLOCH



SPICE UP YOUR NEXT GATHERING WITH THIS WINTER LOAF. WARMING SPICES ARE BAKED INTO THE CAKE AND TOPPED WITH A ZESTY BROWN BUTTER GLAZE.



LOAF

INGREDIENTS

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour

1 tsp nutmeg

2 tsp cinnamon

2 tsp ground ginger

½ cup butter

½ cup brown sugar

1/4 cup molasses

1 egg

2/3 cup milk, warmed

1 tsp baking soda

DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 300°F and line a loaf pan with parchment paper.
- In a medium bowl combine flour, nutmeg, cinnamon and ground ginger and mix well.
- In a small saucepan over low heat, combine butter, brown sugar and molasses until melted. Add to flour mixture and combine until smooth.
- Beat the egg and stir into the batter.
- Combine warm milk and baking soda together and mix into batter until smooth.
- Pour batter into prepared pan and bake for 60-70 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.
- Let cool completely before adding glaze.

GLAZE

INGREDIENTS

1 cup icing sugar

1/4 tsp vanilla

1 Tbsp brown butter

1-2 Tbsp milk

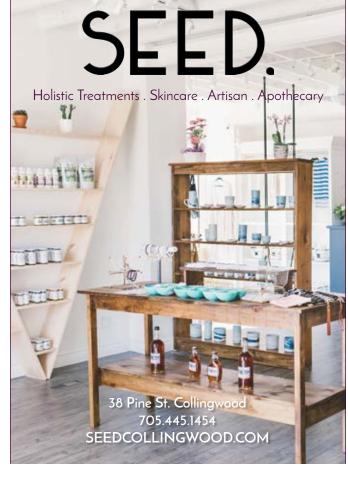
Zest of one orange

DIRECTIONS

- To prepare brown butter, place butter in a saucepan over medium heat and cook until fragrant and golden brown. Remove from heat.
- Combine icing sugar, vanilla, brown butter, 1 Tbsp of milk and orange zest in a medium bowl and mix.
- The glaze needs to be thick and opaque but still pourable. If needed, add more milk to reach desired thickness
- Pour glaze evenly down the centre of cool loaf and let fall down the sides. OH

Get more recipes at ourhomes.ca/mag/cook











DESIGNER TRICIA JEFFERY (DOVETAIL INTERIORS)

HOMEOWNER KAREN WILLISON

SPONSOR KAREN WILLISON (KW COLLABORATIVE REAL ESTATE, **ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH)**

SUPPLIER DOVETAIL INTERIORS

VOLUNTEERS WENDY BOYD, SUSAN CUDA, KATHY FULFORD, BILL **GULOIEN, CASSIDY KENNEDY AND** JACQUELINE LANE

A blazing fire, fur throws, arrangements full of greenery, candles, hot chocolate and popcorn filled this home, inside and out. Tricia Jeffery created an atmosphere that had each visitor wanting to curl up by the fire and open presents on Christmas morning. The stairs at the front entrance leading to the lower level were lined with twinkling light-filled garland. The carpet runner was a tongue-in-cheek salute to Santa's reindeers - helping to amp up the Christmas feel in this Fan Favourite home.

Continued on page 114













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DESIGNERS KRISTEN VERMEULEN
AND TRACEY GERSCHWILER

HOMEOWNERS TRACEY AND ROBERT GERSCHWILER

SPONSOR GERSCHWILER BUILDING INC.

SUPPLIERS KRISTEN VERMEULEN DESIGN, TRACEY GERSCHWILER, STEF RICHARDSON (LOKAL DIGS)

VOLUNTEERS ABBY GERSCHWILER, BROOKE GERSCHWILER, ROBERT GERSCHWILER, STEF RICHARDSON AND MITCH WHITTON

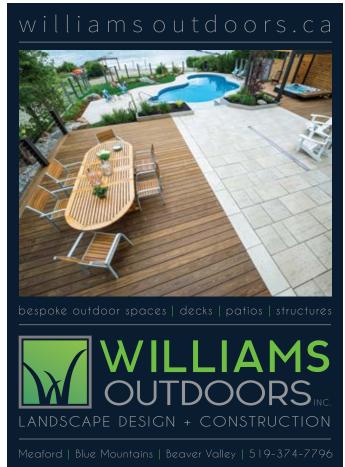
This modern homestead was decorated with unadorned trees covered with white lights. The trees were placed together in groups with fresh evergreens in vintage metal buckets. A distressed harvest table in the kitchen does double duty as a place to prepare the meal and eat. Natural wood trim, concrete heated floors and open space all give this home room for children to play and lots of family to gather for the holidays. Continued on page 116

















DESIGNER CATHERINE STAPLES (CATHERINE STAPLES INTERIORS)

HOMEOWNERS FREDENE PLOUFFE-JOYCE AND ART JOYCE

SPONSORS ROB AND ANGILINE
DUBIEN (ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS
NORTH)

SUPPLIERS CATHERINE STAPLES INTERIORS, STREET'S FLOWER SHOP, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK

VOLUNTEERS KELSEY BULLOCK, STEPHANIE FRYER, GEORGETTE MCCULLOCH AND FREDENE PLOUFFE-JOYCE

The homeowners, friends of Catherine Staples, had no idea Catherine would decorate this home from top to bottom. Catherine brought in truckloads of furniture and accessories to decorate this weekend retreat. The homeowners arrived the night before the Tour and walked into the home of their dreams done in Catherine's signature style. Their only

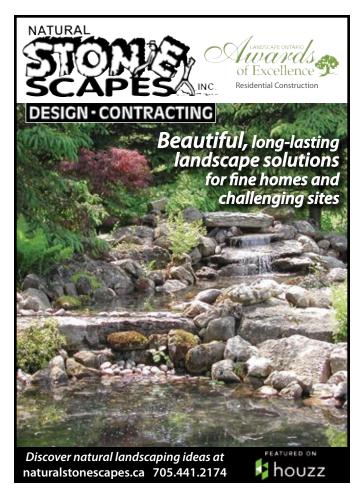


question, after the shock of seeing this gorgeous space, was, does it get to stay like this after the tour?!

















DESIGNER SHARON ALLAN (VAN ALLAN DESIGN CENTRE)

HOMEOWNERS BRONWYN AND LACHLAN MACLEAN

SPONSORS ANITA HEARN AND
DOUG BEAUMONT (HEARN
BEAUMONT GROUP, ROYAL LEPAGE
LOCATIONS NORTH)

SUPPLIER VAN ALLAN DESIGN CENTRE

VOLUNTEERS CASS ALLAN, MICHELE ALLAN-GOLDS, STEPHANIE BERTRAM, LINDI GREEN, BRONWYN MACLEAN AND WHITNEY TURNER

A globetrotting family fell in love with this Collingwood beauty and have been working with Sharon Allan to bring it back to the sophisticated treasure it once was. Sharon created a restrained, laid back holiday feel. The large tree in the living room had a blue colour palette that was drawn from the sofa and the triptych on the wall by Don Kilby. Under the tree are presents wrapped in maps that echo the fragmented map of the world in the dining room. Fresh boughs were carefully placed for a touch of colour. This home was ready for a black tie New Year's party.

Continued on page 120

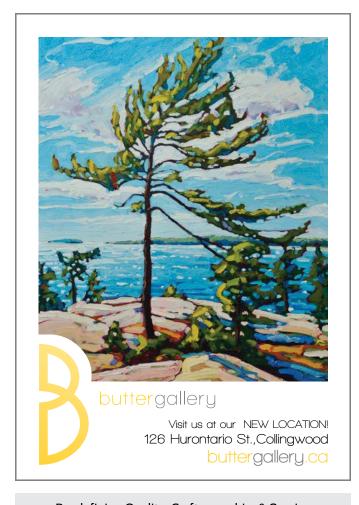












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DESIGNER CINDY MCMULLIN (DÉCOR DESIGN)

HOMEOWNERS VINCE AND JOSIE GRECO

SPONSOR AMP CHAMP, SILKE, CHRISTOF AND WILHELM BOKER

SUPPLIER **DÉCOR DESIGN**

VOLUNTEERS BILL BOKER, CHRISTOF BOKER, SILKE BOKER, SHERRY BROWN AND BRENDA SCOTT

Josie Greco's artwork inspired the decorating by Cindy McMullin of Décor Design. Josie's deer and birch-tree art guided Cindy's choices. Coming through its front door was like a lovely walk in a snow-covered forest. Red was the accent colour used in plaids, flowers, ribbons, blankets and dishes. Continued on page 122





















DESIGNER ELAINE KETTLEWELL (KETTLEWELLS)

HOMEOWNERS KATHERINE AND **MARIO ARCARO**

SUPPLIERS FAD INC., KETTLEWELLS

SPONSOR MARTHA WHITTON (ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH)

VOLUNTEERS FAD INC. STAFF **MEMBERS**

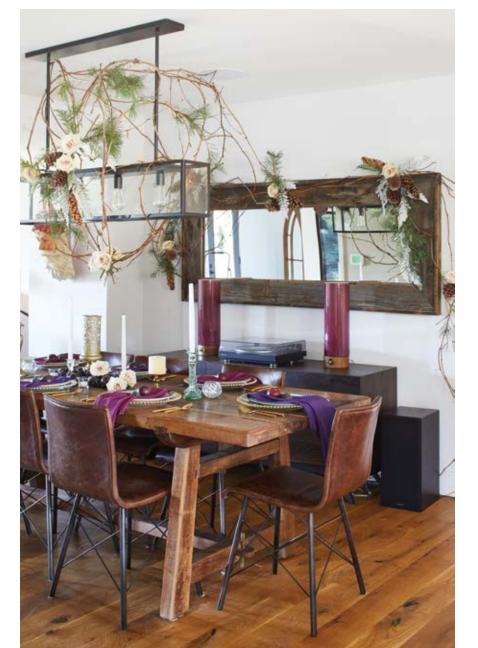
A natural arrangement at the front door of grapevine, greenery and pinecones took your eyes up as it gently twisted and climbed to the roof of the porch. Inside, Katherine's favourite colour, mauve, was used in the holiday decorations. The tree was filled with large mauve Christmas balls, fresh roses, silver poinsettias and pinecones. Another grapevine arrangement twisted its way through the dining room light fixture. Cream roses peeked out and were kept fresh in water-filled vials. These thoughtful arrangements were done by Elaine Kettlewell, who has a fresh approach



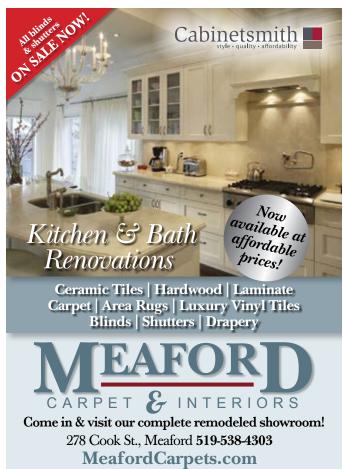
to working with flowers and used her magic to enhance the beautifully decorated nome, owned by FAD Inc. designer Katherine Arcaro.



















Dean Taylor, BA, CPA,CMA Senior Financial Advisor Assante Capital Management Ltd. 16 Huron Street, Unit 1 Collingwood, ON L9Y 1C4 705-444-1457 | dtaylor@assante.com

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DESIGNER LUCIA CRUPI (LUCIA CRUPI DESIGNS)

HOMEOWNER PAT WILLIAMSON (JOSEPH LAWRENCE HOUSE B&B)

SUPPLIERS BLUE MOUNTAIN TEA
COMPANY, COLLINGWOOD HOME
HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE,
GRAPEVINE COTTAGE, LUCIA CRUPI
DESIGNS, TOWN TERRACE

VOLUNTEERS CATHERINE BROWN, ELAINE KELLY, DIANNE POST, ALICIA SCHRADER, TEA VON TEICHMAN AND ANDREA WILSON

The welcome was warm on a chilly day. Cedar swags fastened to the metal fence and a huge wreath signalled the festive season at this historic Victorian brick home, known locally as the Joseph Lawrence House Bed & Breakfast. Everyone who came through the door enjoyed little treats and carols played on the piano before touring each room, beautifully decorated with greenery by Lucia Crupi. OH















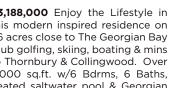


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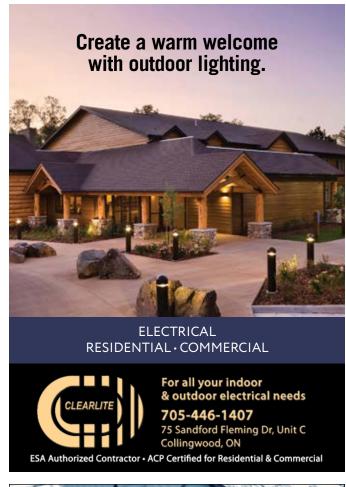
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crafty ideas



NAME TILE PLACE CARD

TOOLS & MATERIALS

Ceramic tiles, your choice (we used a sheet of white arabesque tiles) Permanent marker (we used a gold Sharpie)

DIRECTIONS

Wipe tiles with a damp cloth, removing any oil or film on the surface.

Using permanent marker, write or print name or message.

Let tile sit until completely dry, about 1 hour.

Your place card is ready.





Repurpose holiday lights for a memento that guests can keep.



LIGHT BULB PLACE CARD

TOOLS & MATERIALS

Large holiday string light bulbs Acrylic paint in your choice of colour **Paintbrush**

Sealant (we used Mod Podge) Marker in contrasting colour (we used silver, black and gold)

Waxed paper Twine or ribbon

Tiny trinkets for decoration

DIRECTIONS

Cover workspace with waxed paper. Apply two coats of paint to the glass of each light bulb, allowing to dry between coats. Coat painted area of bulb with sealant.

When dry, write or print names on bulb using marker. Wrap bulb stems with twine or ribbon and glue in place. Decorate with bows and/or trinkets. OH



Choose paint your décor.



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colours to match



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OLIVER WOOD DESIGNS

Marrying form and function with nature's own resources, Oliver **Wood Designs** is the source for authentic organic home accent furniture. Creators Mark and Lori forage fallen trees of the Grey Highlands area, selecting pieces that they will infuse new life and beauty into in their collections of accent furniture. This organic approach to design is inspired by nature in its raw and inherently beautiful form. Equally, it is guided by an eco-conscious mindset to repurpose the fallen trees, and to help usher in new growth once the area is cleared and light can filter in.

By keeping the organic form, they create truly unique and artisan furniture that is constantly evolving with style and finish. Clients can choose from their Colour Collections. or have the opportunity to work with the team to personalize their own piece with size and styling. Clients also have the opportunity to peruse and shop at the boutique studio-gallery. brimming with tantalizing creations ranging from small to large items. The gallery is open all year round by appointment only.

Check out the website for more information at oliverwoodesigns.ca They can also be found on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest and Houzz 226.668.8487 oliverwooddesigns@gmail.com oliverwooddesigns.ca (Please see ad on pg 97)



RED APPLE ELECTRIC

The **Red Apple Electric** company has grown! It was about 15 years ago this journey started. Heather McIlwee graduated in 2003 from the Ontario College of Art and Design, studying Sculpture and Installation, and wouldn't even have a slight inclination she would be a Master Electrician one day. Her Father and Grandfather were electricians, so it was in the cards, a 3rd generation electrician.

After working with her Father for eight years achieving, at that point, her Red Seal and Master designation, she set off to British Columbia. She ran a successful first business Red Fox Electric for four years there, but missed her family and friends. After relocating to Collingwood just over a year ago, Heather started Red Apple Electric. The past year Red Apple Electric has been growing because of the great community support for this small

Heather is available for all your electrical requirements, big or small. Heather is on deck for all your renovation, retrofitting and new construction needs. Red Apple is looking forward to hearing from you soon and shining a new light on your project.

705.716.3738 redappleelectric@gmail.com (Please see ad on pg 43)



MORTGAGE WELLNESS

Gerard Buckley, a local

Mortgage Agent and his wife Mary, are longtime residents of Georgian Bay. He and his family believe in supporting the communities where they live and work. They have been longtime supporters of The Cadet Program in Canada, Theatre Collingwood's Youth Drama Program, Blue Mountain Village Foundation, Collingwood Hospital, etc. Gerard has made a career ensuring that local families are well prepared to fulfill their future dreams, and he and Mary want to continue to build healthy communities with the YMCA. Mary has been an active member of the Y for 35 years and is inspired by the YMCA values of honesty, responsibility, respect, caring and inclusiveness. They have chosen to donate to the YMCA in Simcoe Muskoka to ensure children have access to a memorable Y birthday party experience, regardless of their family's financial circumstances. They believe that by making these celebrations accessible. children can develop a sense of self-worth and confidence. leading to a future where they can better themselves, and their communities.

Gerard, with many years of financing experience, has established offices in Collingwood, Owen Sound and Toronto with **Mortgage Wellness**. He specializes in New Home Construction Financing and Is a Seniors Mortgage Professional. Gerard Buckley | 705.532.1182 g.buckley@jaguarcapital.ca (Please see ad on pg 155)



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- Mould resistant

Thermafiber® UltraBatt™ mineral wool insulation also makes homes energy efficient and Thermafiber® Fire & Sound Guard[™] insulation is designed to provide enhanced acoustical control plus fire resistance all in one product. Ask for these products by name and enjoy the comfort. To learn more about Thermafiber® Mineral Wool Insulation visit thermafiber.ca (Please see ad on pg 7)

Continued on page 134













5 HOSTING TIPS FROM AN AIRBNB EXPERT

1. OFFER SOMETHING

UNIQUE: One of my most successful and well-loved listings has a bathtub in the living room! Go figure. Highlight what makes your home unique.

2. DE-CLUTTER BUT KEEP **PERSONALITY: Remove family** portraits, your shoe collection and clean out your fridge. Keep a curated collection of books and magazines for guests to peruse. Airbnb quests appreciate spaces with character and soul.

3. FOCUS ON PHOTOGRAPHY:

You need to capture your potential quest's attention with bright, attractive images of your home. Invest in professional photography. If you have a BBQ or an outdoor fire pit be sure to capture these features.

4. CONNECT WITH YOUR **GUESTS:** Even if you won't be meeting in person you can still create a personal connection. This begins with warmly written replies to guest inquiries and by leaving a hand written welcome note.

5. ANTICIPATE GUEST NEEDS:

Set the scene for a relaxing weekend by setting out a wellstocked coffee station and a basket of extra throw blankets. Leave items like matches and a corkscrew in plain sight so guests don't need to search for them.

Happy Hosting! Amy 'Chai' Gilbert **Givingtree Hospitality** 705.606.0170 giving treehospitality.com (Please see ad on pg 61)



MAKE WAVES MARKETS

Make Waves Markets is brought to you by two local Collingwood girls – Aysia Garbe and Tamara Hibbard. Making a significant impression is what we stand by We use our markets to create a unique space and vibe for local makers and businesses to come together. There is so much local talent in the Collingwood and surrounding area, it is important to us that our markets encourage the idea of local talent, shopping

local and working together. A part of bringing people together, we believe, is giving back to the community and surrounding areas. We do this by holding clothing drives, food drives and cash donations. With these donations, we are able to help raise awareness and assistance for the non-profits that we team up with each market.

Come Make Waves with us at our upcoming markets. Making nicer days through Music•Friends•Art

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR MARKET: November 10th Toronto Ski Club | Blue Mountain 8am-4pm (ticket holders only) 11-2 (open to public)

THORNBURY CHRISTMAS MARKET: December 1st Beaver Valley Community Centre Thornbury 5:30pm-9:30pm To become a vendor please contact

makewavesmarkets@gmail.com



DISCOUNT GRANITE PLUS: OUR CONCEPT IS SIMPLE

At Discount Granite Plus we offer beautiful stone countertops. Every aspect of your project is customized - our experienced friendly staff will professionally guide you on which Granite, Marble or Quartz will best suit your design needs to create a timeless look that transcends every season.

Over the years, our countless clients have come back for more. Whether you're having your kitchen remodelled or updating your vanity surface, we're here to help you every step of the way. We are trained on the latest modern designs and Euro trends with a price point that will suit every budget. Our services include templating, custom fabrication and installation. We are fabricators which

means that we build your stone project right here at our locally owned South Barrie Location which gives our clients the convenience of choosing their stone in our spacious local showroom and seeing their dream inspiration ideas come

We are stone experts! We can work with You, your Designer, Cabinet Maker, Contractor or Builder to finalize your unique vision and deliver a space that captures your senses.

Come see us at 756 Huronia Rd, Barrie 705.481.1236 discount granite plus.ca (Please see ad on pg 151)



NORTHLAND WOOD PRODUCTS

Northland Wood Products is

a company that was born from the success of its sister company, Northland Custom Flooring and by the innovation and ingenuity of entrepreneur Chris Bickerton.

Chris has been honing his skills within the construction of high end custom-built homes for over 20 years, studying under the mentorship of the premier builders in the industry. For the last 18 years he has focused exclusively on installation and refinishing of flooring. Through his experience and understanding of his clients' needs, he developed an entirely new product that preserves the benefits and eliminates the disadvantages of currently available hardwood flooring options. In an industry where reputation is paramount, Chris's long history of above-and-beyond customer service, his exacting standards and skill in flooring installation and refinishing are well known.

Northland Wood Products produces a prefinished impact oil engineered hardwood product:

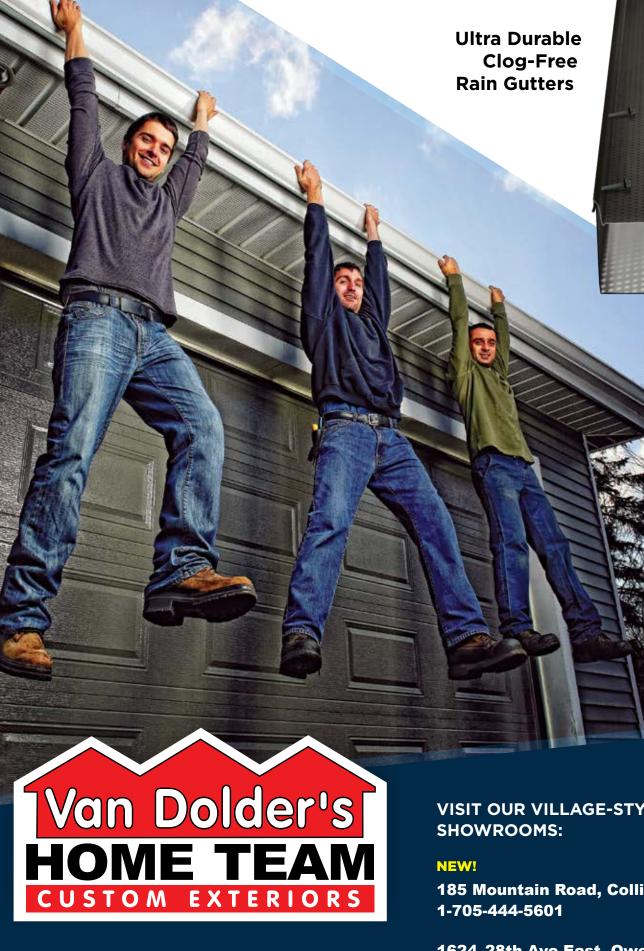
- Offers an excellent resistance against abrasion
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 - Easy spot-repair
- Penetrating capacity, our finish feeds the wood, protects it against water and other stains
- Locally Made & Manufactured 705.333.1509 northlandwoodproducts.ca (Please see ad on pg 119)

vandolders.com Continued on page 136

VISIT OUR VILLAGE-STYLE SHOWROOMS: NEW!

185 Mountain Road, Collingwood

1624-28th Ave East, Owen Sound 1-519-376-1624





7TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR: PRESENTED BY ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH AND OUR HOMES MAGAZINE

The 7th Annual Holiday House **Tour** is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for community members to gain VIP access to beautiful and uniquely decorated homes in the Collingwood, Blue Mountains and Thornbury areas. The homes, which range in size and style, will be decorated for the holiday season by local, professional designers and decorators. The day includes a Vendor Market presented by Make Waves Markets, Silent Auction, Greenery Demo by Green Love and a Fashion Show featuring local area shops.

Kicking off the day is our Celebrity Guest Speaker Jo Alcorn!!!

With over 15 years' experience as a celebrity interior and home, furniture and pet product (PET LOVE 4 CHARITY) designer, expert instructor, corporate ambassador, and TV personality, Jo Alcorn has created a fabulous fan following. She is also a style editor and writer for multiple publications and blogs, a public speaker, and an avid animal and environmental advocate. Jo's passion for design has been showcased on HGTV, Discovery Channel, Marilyn Denis, CBC's Steven and Chris, and many more media outlets.

Jo was the designer face of HGTV's 2014 'Critical Listing' show and is creatively showcasing her abilities on the newest season of HGTV show 'Home to Win' in season 1, 2 and 3.

LocationsNorthHoliday HouseTour.com (Please see ad on pg 77)



TRIPP'S PAINT & DECORATING

Tripp's has long been known as one of the best and certainly most unusual paint and design centres anywhere. Simply walking through the door into over 4,000 square feet of inspiration and colour can be overwhelming but it doesn't have to be.

Tripp's is the source for inspiration, information, know how and honest advice. Jamie and his team have been together for up to 23 years and boast the most experienced team of colour professionals.

Benjamin Moore paint is the anchor of our product line and the anchor of our commitment to quality products that will perform at the highest level consistently.

One of our well known traits is the ability to instill confidence in our customers through training and knowledge. Whether it's a full Revival Furniture, Cottage Paint DIY class or a quick review of how to prepare exterior surfaces for the best possible long lasting result, Tripp's Paint & Revival Furniture is or should be your go-to source for knowledge.

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We are committed to offering our customers not only an experience, but a quality, all-natural candle that is safe to burn and enjoy in your home. We offer an amazing custom candle program as well. Create a photo candle for that special someone or create an entire custom line for retail, client appreciation, special events or to sell as a fundraiser. Blend your signature scent and create a custom label – be YOUnique!

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(Please see ad on pg 77)



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Custom Exteriors invites you to come see their second, family constructed, 18,000 square foot, village-style showroom. Located in Collingwood at 185 Mountain Road, the unique showroom displays allow customers to experience some of the best quality windows, doors, siding, decking, awnings, garage doors, and finishing touches up close, installed, and in use.

For over 50 years, the craftsmen at Van Dolder's Custom Exteriors have helped homeowners update and improve their living space. From custom window, door and siding design to expert installation, the Home Team® strives to exceed expectations.

Andy Van Dolder continues to head the organization with Kris Van Dolder leading the Owen Sound Team and Tim Van Dolder leading the Collingwood Team. Come in and see us today.

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VILLAGE-STYLE SHOWROOMS: 185 Mountain Rd, Collingwood 705.444.5601 1624-28th Ave East, Owen Sound 519.376.1624 vandolders.com (Please see ad on pg 135)

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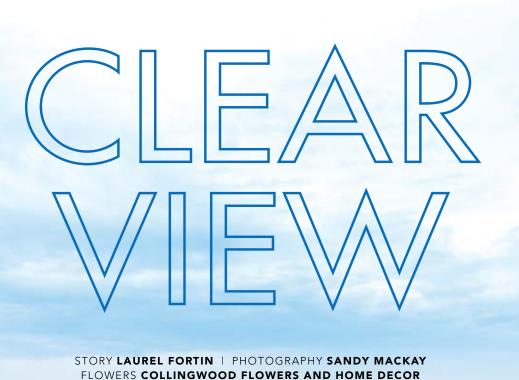


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Despite soaring up Frog's
Hollow Road past the Blue
Mountains-Meaford town line
where the magnificent Georgian
Bay vista exposes its glory, the
view all but disappears once you
turn down the forested lane that
leads to the home of Carole and
Blair Cowper-Smith. Or does it?

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ABOVE: Carole Cowper-Smith welcomes friends and family at the front door. **LEFT:** Just after entering the property, a bend in the driveway reveals what awaits at the home. **BELOW:** The rear facade shows the seamless transition of the new addition on the left side. The mounds on both sides of the lower-level entrance offer shelter from the wind. **OPPOSITE:** Blair and Carole Cowper-Smith toast the fall season and enjoy the spectacular view.







An apple pie is waiting to be served at the dining table. The double height ceiling allows the pendant light to be hung above the top edge of the window and not inhibit the view. Painting is by

A number of homes have been strategically positioned along the few short streets on this stretch of Frog's Hollow Road to take advantage of the outstanding views. Blair and Carole built what might have been the first at the top on a large acreage parcel they were able to secure from a long time local family in the area. The couple's long, secluded laneway opens to a clearing peppered with blue spruce. Scant glimpses of the view elude between the trees. The laneway then dips down a knoll to arrive at the front of their home.

It is only after entering the home, designed and finished to fit the feel of the landscape, and navigating around a wonderful stone partition wall inside the front door that you see it. A wall of windows opens up to a 270-degree view of the Beaver Valley, across to the cliffs of the escarpment and northeast over Georgian Bay to Christian Island. It is an astonishing view.

"We were mindful about where and how we positioned our house," says Blair. "We walked the property and considered the neighbouring farms and forests to figure out not just how to make the most of the view, but how to have the home fit into the area." The design was chosen with that in mind.

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The home is embedded into the hillside so that the overall elevation is not intrusive while the lower level presents an unimpeded view and walkout opportunity. Every bedroom enjoys the view. "We didn't want to reveal the view in any substantial way until you enter the house," says Carole. "It invites you in."

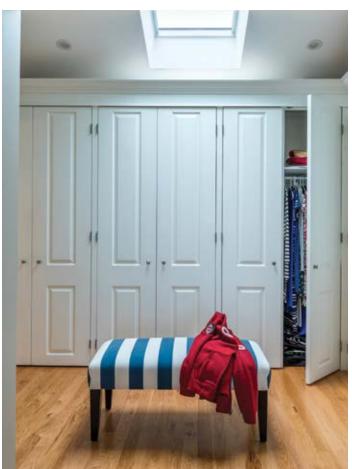
They built the original home in the 1990s as a weekend chalet from their Toronto home so that they and their two sons could ski at The Georgian Peaks Club, which is a clear and visible part of the view. The changes they have made to the property since have been just as mindful and responsive. Carole is an artist and her observations of the landscape inspired a series of paintings of clouds. "We can watch the storms roll in," says Carole. "It is fascinating to see them move up and down the valley with the clouds often close to the ground over Thornbury with us still having a wonderful view above."



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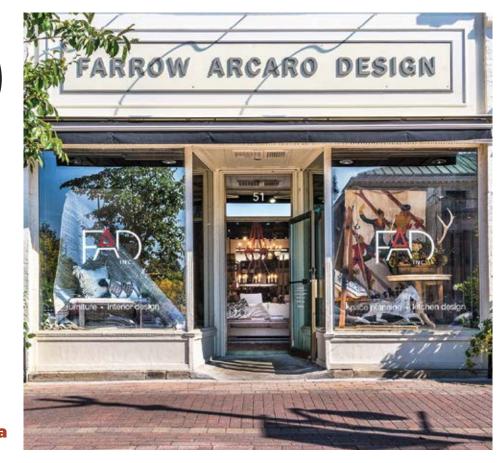
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LEFT: Part of the master suite includes a cosy sitting room that's a perfect spot to curl up and enjoy a book. The painting by Carole above the couch is titled *Tree Line*. **BELOW:** On the upper level, a bedroom awaits visitors. An encaustic on wood, by Carole, hangs by the window. **BOTTOM:** Twin beds and lots of toys are ready for the grandchildren. Blue and touches of red are used throughout the house and unify the whole space.



The need for an art studio led to an addition to the north end of the home a few years ago, along with the two-car garage and a home office for Blair on the lower level, giving the couple an opportunity to spend more time in the Thornbury area skiing, golfing and enjoying the ever-changing valley.

Most recently, needing to replace the deck off the kitchen leading to the pool, the Cowper-Smiths reached out to designer **Johanna Noble** of **NobleCraft Inc.**, recommended by Blair's sister based on the very good design work she had done for her and her husband in the Heathcote area. "We wanted to have the deck and the

house connect to the swimming pool," says Carole. Collaborating with Carole and Blair, Johanna brought forward a design keeping the decking low to the ground, resulting in a waterfall look and feel, and easing the pathway to the pool area.

The landscaping was overseen by **Nevin** and **Peter Metzger**, who made use of rocks hidden in tree lines and a stream bed on the property. A new stone patio integrates with the deck in keeping with the owners' original goals of maintaining consistency with the land and the surroundings.

With their grown children and now grandchildren also enjoying the home, and

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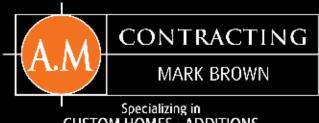
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knowing that kitchens are an increasingly important living space in any house, accordingly, Johanna redesigned the rooms that flow onto the deck. The kitchen and dining room were repositioned to enlarge the view of the bay.

Paul Rogers of Valleyview

Construction and his team signed on for construction and development of the overall project. "This was a great project to work on," says Paul. "Johanna was so accommodating and knowledgeable, and it was so easy to work with both Blair and Carol."

"I have a lot of respect for the work Paul does," says Johanna. "It has turned out very well."

Carole and Blair couldn't agree more.

"The results are stunning," says Blair. The intentional balance of the design, like blending the existing natural pine in part of the house with a more modern feel in other parts gives this home a sense of continuity and past. It reflects the careful approach this couple has taken to create their home and their surroundings.

The kitchen was built by Modern Custom Cabinets from Toronto and cabinets were finished in **Benjamin Moore's** Oxford White while the island is painted in contrasting Charcoal Slate. **Macdonald's Furniture** & Appliances looked after sourcing the appliances. **City Stone** supplied the super white quartzite top on the large kitchen island and Vicostone (Blue Savoy) for the perimeter counters and dry bar area in the dining room. **Jesse Daer** installed the mosaic porcelain tile backsplash.

Underfoot, large-format slate porcelain tile was supplied and installed by Floorcrafters in the kitchen. Northland Custom
Flooring provided and installed hemlock to match the existing hardwood, finishing the entire floor in a matte oil. Ashtons Blinds
Draperies & Shutters worked their magic with window coverings. The new dining room table was provided by Cocoon Furniture with chairs from Wally's Woodwork.

Chantico Fireplace Gallery, using craftsman Niss Schwartz who built the home's original granite fireplace, looked after changes to the fireplace, including a new firebox. Carole sourced new contemporary furniture from Cocoon Furnishings, Restoration Hardware and ELTE. OH



















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For the Birds - Suet



Suet can be moulded into all sorts of shapes, allowing for personal creativity.

Whether your feathered friends are fall migrants or year-round residents, augmenting their diets with high-quality calories found in suet will help them survive and thrive.

Making homemade suet is about as easy as making hummingbird nectar. It's also more rewarding, affordable and often healthier than purchasing commercially made cakes, bells or blocks. Plus, making suet at home allows you to customize the ingredients to appeal to the specific birds in your yard as well as those you wish to attract.

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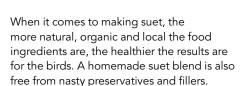


SIMPLE SUET RECIPE

1 cup rendered suet (tallow)

1 cup chunky organic nut or seed butter of choice

> 1/2 cup wheat or quinoa flour



Start by purchasing rendered plain suet cakes or chunks from a wild bird supply store, garden centre, butcher shop or pet store. These cakes can be used as-is or can be melted down and used in more specialized suet recipes. You can also save beef fat left over from cooking to make homemade tallow (rendered suet). Once you have saved enough to make the batch size of your choice, just add a bit of water and let it simmer on the stove for a few hours until it turns a golden brown. Then strain the liquid fat with cheesecloth to remove any contaminants and the resulting liquid will be beef tallow. Use it right away or store in the fridge or freezer.

Suet recipes need not be complicated in order to attract a range of hungry fowl.

- Melt the suet and nut butter together until they are smooth and liquid.
- Add the flour, mixing well. Allow the mixture to cool slightly to thicken, then pour it into moulds, containers, muffin liners, plastic wrap or foil as needed for desired shape.
- Refrigerate or freeze suet until it is firm and ready to use. Extra suet may be kept frozen until needed.



Make It More Tempting

While a simple bird suet recipe is a great starting point, adding other ingredients to the mixture before it cools will make it more tempting to birds. Through experimentation you'll discover what your local birds find the most appetizing. These customizable ingredients include:

- Organic and unsalted/unseasoned/raw chopped nuts of choice
- Sunflower seed chips or other shelled seeds (many birds cannot extract the seeds encased with shells once fat is introduced).
- Organic dried fruit and berries
- Mealworms or crickets (my home bird populace goes crazy for these!)

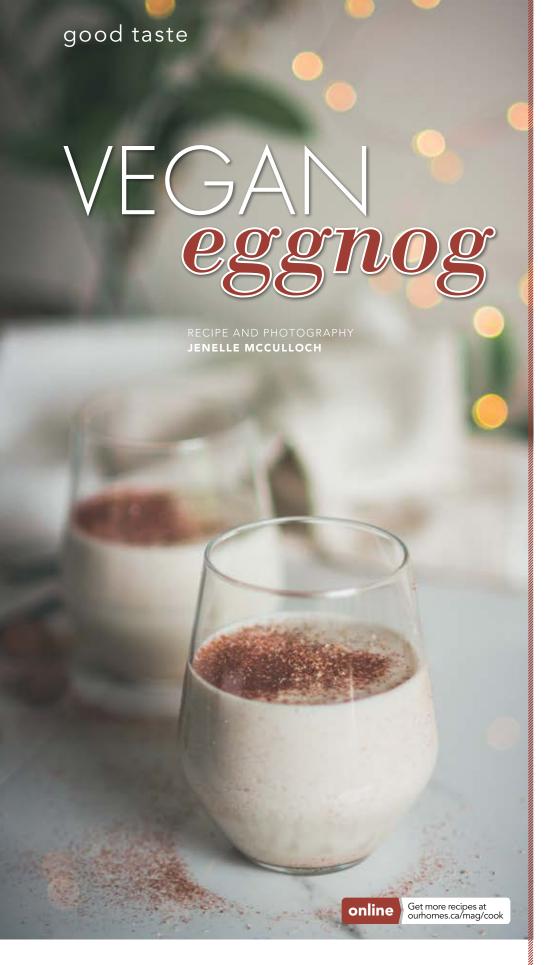
Suet can be moulded into all sorts of interesting shapes leaving lots of room for personal creativity in your own bird buffet offerings. Given my personal affinity toward natural Christmas décor, my favourite way to display suet is by using a large pine cone that I run a stick through the middle of and attach with twine (the stick acts as a perch). I then smush the suet mixture on and into the pine cone and freeze it to set. I add a pretty double twine and ribbon combo to the top of the pine cone for hanging and voila, it's a gorgeous, natural and edible outdoor Christmas ornament. Bring on the birds! OH



TIP: To avoid attracting unwanted rodents, only put out enough suct for birds to consume in one day. This will also help the suct stay fresh







An eggnog everyone can enjoy. This recipe is a play on the classic eggnog – vegan, dairy-free and made with natural sweeteners!

INGREDIENTS Serves 4

2 cups cashew milk, store bought or homemade

1 cup full fat coconut milk

3 pitted dates

1 Tbsp maple syrup

1 vanilla pod or ½ tsp vanilla extract

Nutmeg and cinnamon to garnish

DIRECTIONS

In a blender combine all ingredients. If using fresh vanilla, slice pod lengthwise and scrape out seeds. Blend on high. Strain through a fine mesh strainer. Chill for 1-2 hours before serving. Sprinkle with nutmeg and cinnamon to taste. **OH**



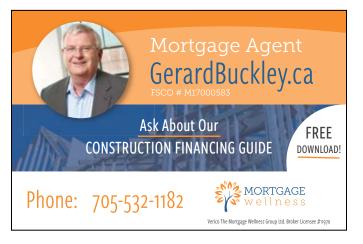








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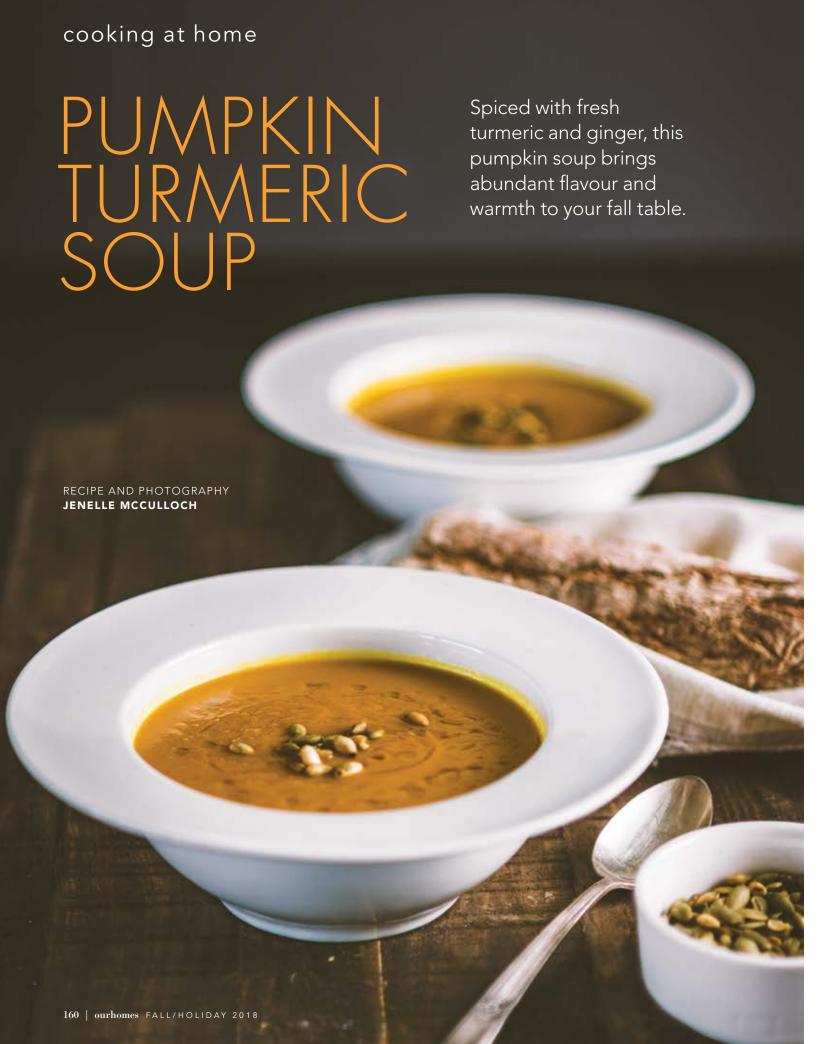
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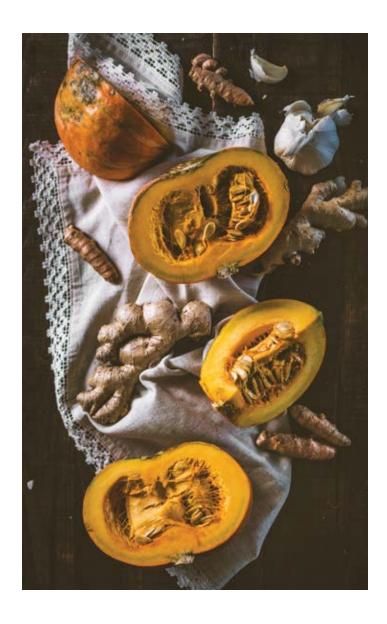


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INGREDIENTS

1 Tbsp coconut oil

1 medium pumpkin, peeled, seeded and cubed

1 medium onion, diced

5 carrots, diced

2-inch piece fresh turmeric, peeled and diced

3-inch piece fresh ginger, peeled and diced

3 cloves garlic, roughly chopped

Chili flakes, to taste

4 cups vegetable stock

Pumpkin seeds to garnish

DIRECTIONS

In a soup pot, melt coconut oil over medium-high heat. Add pumpkin, onion, carrots, turmeric, ginger, garlic and chili flakes. Sauté until pumpkin and

carrots begin to caramelize.

Cover with vegetable stock and simmer for about 30 minutes.

Using a hand blender (or transfer to a food processor or blender), blend until smooth.
Garnish with pumpkin seeds to

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CHEF MARK McEWAN

PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY

Celebrated Canadian Chef Mark McEwan has had a very good year. The visionary behind renowned Toronto restaurants North 44, Bymark and ONE has found new success with Fabbrica, his authentic Italian eatery that recently opened in Thornbury to rave reviews. It's a perfect fit for the Top Chef Canada judge who considers Southern Georgian Bay his second home and the place where he and wife Roxanne plan to retire... just not yet. Mark tells OUR HOMES why his blood pressure goes down when he points north and heads to his cottage on Georgian Bay in Thornbury.

OUR HOMES: What brought you to Southern Georgian Bay?

Mark McEwan: We started skiing as a family 22 years ago. A friend of mine brought us to the Peaks and we became members. One afternoon I was having a terrible

snowboarding lesson. I ski but my kids wanted me to learn how to snowboard. I beat myself pretty seriously so I decided to leave the hill and I drove around and found our property. We tore down what was there and built

a beautiful cottage designed by Architect Jim Ireland and built by Peter Metzger. Twenty years later we love it more than we did the day we moved in. We are up here all the time now. I find it very soothing being here. As a community, Thornbury is just the coolest little town with bright minded, hardworking, smart people from all walks of life.

OH: Tell us about your cottage kitchen.

MM: We did it all with Jenn Air equipment. I designed it as a very sensible kitchen with a six-burner gas stove, convection oven, big refrigerator, marble countertops, big sinks, big island and lots of working space. I have four stools across the front so people can sit while I'm cooking. The kitchen is modest but very well appointed. I can cook for 20 people there lickety split. I also have a great Scotch collection, a wine cellar and I make the best martinis on the street!

OH: Fabbrica has opened to rave reviews. Why did you choose to open in Thornbury?

MM: I said I would never own a restaurant up here, I said that 100 times but when SiSi's became available, I knew our Fabbrica brand was a perfect fit. It's not meant to be fancy - it's meant to be humble, handmade Italian. I'm thrilled with it and it will only get better.



Mark with Julianna Krickhan and Chef Derrek VanMeggelen

OH: Tell us about the menu.

MM: Some highlights include our Brodo, which is a chicken noodle soup, with house-made ricotta cheese tortellini with a tiny bit of lemon, root vegetables with peas and then we do a big, big shaving of reggiano and fleur de sel over top. I guarantee it will soon be a favourite on the menu. We also do an Orata with crispy capers, lemon, herbs and olive oil that is super popular. And Chef Derrek Van Meggelen's Roman pizzas are just outstanding. Julianna Krickhan at the front of the house is amazing and our staff is doing an incredible job.

OH: How do you spend your leisure time here in Southern Georgian Bay.

MM: I spend my time with my wife Roxanne. And I love paddleboarding. I do these long 10-kilometre paddle board rides. We spend a lot of time in Florida in the winter but we're going to start skiing here again. oh







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