

FALL/HOLIDAY 2010

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ourhomes

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Featured Property



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chalet on a double lot has tons of potential
and an unbeatable location!
Also available are the two adjacent building lots.
Unbeatable location for building your dream
Ski-in, Ski-out Chalet!

20105479 Email Chris for details \$899,000



24hr Open House Online!



WASAGA SANDS

Warm beach feel in desirable community,
large lot, 3 bdrm, 3 bath, on the 5th fairway
Email Kevin for details

20102293 \$389,000



IDLEWOOD

Large custom home with high end finishes,
4000 sq ft, 5 bdrm, 3 baths, triple garage
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20105408 \$615,000



MELVILLE

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large lot. Fish and swim in your back yard!
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20104372 \$379,000



CRANBERRY RESORT

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CARMICHAEL CHALET

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20105422 \$899,000



BROPHY'S LANE LOT

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20103184 \$149,000

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DOCKSIDE VILLAGE

Waterfront townhouse condo, 1750 sq ft,
4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, garage, fully upgraded
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20105555 \$299,900



RANKINS LANDING

Best value in Thornbury! 3 level, 1475 sq ft
3+1 bdrm, two f/place, open concept
Email Chris for details

20104554 \$177,500



MONTERRA ESTATES

Beautiful custom home on the 7th fairway!
4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, dble garage, 2600 sq ft
Email Chris for sale details

20102988 \$699,000

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RUSTIC LUXURY

Hand crafted Scandinavian Full Scribe log
home, 5 bdrms, 4 bath, 4500sq ft of luxury
Email Chris for sale details

20102988 \$895,000



GEORGIAN MEADOWS

Almost 3000 sq ft, 4 bdrms, 2 1/2 baths,
3 living rooms, 7 appliances incl.
Email Chris for details

20102988 \$359,900

Real Estate Today

*"..and in my pricing,
I hadn't even
considered the HST.
Now what!?"*

Continued on page 84

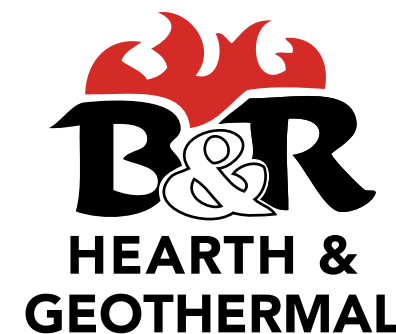
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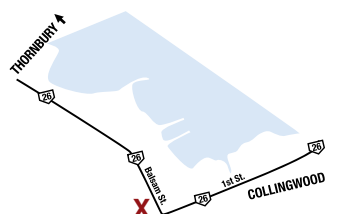
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ONE OF A KIND!

\$3,395,000 Architecturally designed home with 180 degree views of Georgian Bay, Collingwood, Osler Bluff and surrounding countryside. 6 bdrm, 4.5 bath. A must to view to appreciate all the special details. Judy Crompton** 705.444.9312/ Paige Young* 705.241.2433



GREY HIGHLANDS 100 ACRE GEM

\$2,800,000 On a clear day you can see forever from this fabulous family compound with 3 dwellings, 100 acres with tennis court, indoor and outdoor pools, snowshoeing. Sue Mallett** 705.444.7181 <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5210/>



COUNTRY ELEGANCE

\$1,750,000 Dazzling views of Georgian Bay & Beaver Valley on 6 acres. Gourmet kitchen, great rm w/vaulted ceilings, 6 bdrms 5 baths, dining area seats 12, rec room w/wet bar, multiple walkouts, lots of slate, granite, marble, 10 mins to Thornbury. Bill Muns** 705.443.1121 www.billmuns.com



DUNTROON VIEW PROPERTY

\$1,395,000 Charming 4500 sq ft home abundant with country elegance. Proudly sits on 44.28 acres with in ground pool, stunning views, landscaped areas, trails, woods, pasture, ravine, stream, barn. Entertain with flair! John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini** 705.444.4968



DARE TO COMPARE THE BEACH

\$1,375,000 The beach is only the beginning of this 5+1 bdrm, 4 bath, open concept California style waterfront gem w/sauna, hot tub, 2 fireplaces, 135 sq ft beachfront home. Walk to golf & dining. Sue Mallett** 705.444.7181 <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5744/>



LIVE THE WATERFRONT LIFESTYLE

\$1,295,000 Waterfront home or weekend getaway in prestigious Princeton Shores. Bunkie includes 4th bdrm and sauna. Waterfront channel offers boat docking, swimming. Electricity, hydro, patio, fire pit at water's edge. John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini ** 705.444.4968



SPECTACULAR ACREAGE

\$1,250,000 One of a kind views of Georgian Bay and Collingwood from this 97.45 parcel close to all amenities in the Georgian Triangle. Black Ash Creek runs through the property. NEC permit approved for single family home. Judy Crompton** 705.444.9312



CREEMORE HILLS

\$1,240,000 Global TV's Let's Build The Ultimate Country Retreat. Luxurious Timber Frame on 24 private wooded acres. 5 bdrms, main floor master w/en suite, fireplaces, spa baths, family room, workshop & detached double garage w/loft. Cheryl MacLaurin** 705.446.8005



ABSOLUTELY STUNNING

\$1,200,000 In downtown Collingwood, beautiful original woodwork and intricate details. Attached professional offices for home occupation as well as dbl garage w/studio above. Elegant principal rooms with the charm of yesteryear. Sandee Roberts** 705.446.7775



HISTORIC SNOWBRIDGE

\$1,189,000 Gracious living space overlooking spectacular gardens & golf course w/a lush stand of trees in the distance. 6 bdrms, 4 baths, custom coffered ceilings, Brazilian hardwood flooring. Intelligently designed gourmet kitchen. Steps to Intrawest. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225



THORNBURY CENTURY HOME

\$749,000 This 4 bdrm, 3 bath home has most architectural features preserved inc. leaded glass, pocket doors & built-in cabinetry + upgraded modern kitchen, oversized master, 3 fireplaces. Meticulously landscaped 1/2 ac. lot. In-ground pool. Bill Muns** 705.443.1121



CUSTOM LOG HOME

\$995,000 In an area of fine homes 5 mins. to Georgian Bay Golf & Georgian Peaks Ski Clubs. 4,400 sq ft, 7 bdrms & 5 baths, features inc. slate & wood flooring, huge principal rooms, stone double fireplace. 3/4 acre very private estate lot. Bill Muns** 705.443.1121 www.billmuns.com

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PANORAMIC BAY VIEW

\$989,000 Pride of ownership is evident throughout this immaculate 5 bedroom, 4 bath home with views of Georgian Bay and the 18th hole of Raven, Lora Bay. Landscaped gardens and a wonderful community atmosphere await you! Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



97 ACRES IN BEAVER VALLEY

\$875,000 Custom estate built in 1998. 4000 sq ft stone home with cathedral ceilings, cherry floors and gourmet kitchen. Private star gazing observatory & telescope. Gardens, fruit trees, barn & outbuildings. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225 www.shellypaul.com



14 EVERGREEN ROAD

\$879,000 Exquisite home located at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. Attention to detail throughout – oversized double garage, in-floor radiant heat. Engineered hardwood, custom cabinetry, extensive landscaping. 3+1 bdrm, 3+1 baths. Sandee Roberts** 705.446.7775



MINUTES TO GEORGIAN PEAKS

\$849,000 Stunning 5 bedroom custom home on private lot. 5 mins. to Thornbury. Bright, open concept living/dining, kitchen w/cathedral ceiling, granite kitchen counters, single car garage, backing on to enchanting woodland views and green space. Many upgrades. Barb Picot*/Ron Picot* 705.444.3452



TANGLEWOOD TOWNHOME

\$434,000 "Nicklaus" floor plan, 3 bdrms, 2.5 baths, open concept living/dining/kitchen w/cathedral ceiling, granite kitchen counters, single car garage, backing on to enchanting woodland views and green space. Many upgrades. Barb Picot*/Ron Picot* 705.444.3452



MARSH STREET - CLARKSBURG

\$390,000 Beautiful red brick century home in the heart of the Blue Mountains w/a view of Georgian Peaks. 4 bdrms, large principal rooms featuring many original details. Detached garage/barn adding additional charm to the property. Lot is 330 ft deep. Keith Hull** www.keithhull.com



WWW.THEMOVIEGALS.COM

\$389,900 1 ac on Nottawasaga River & surrounded on 3 sides by crown land. Mature trees provide complete privacy. 3 bdrm bungalow, spacious centre hall, light filled rooms w/hardwood floors, eat-in-kitchen, mins. to Wasaga Beach amenities. Anita Lauer*/Barbara Thompson*



WASAGA SANDS

\$389,000 Enjoy over 3400 sq ft of fin space w/a fantastic 92'x282' lot nestled amongst stands of birch, pine & hiking trails. 3 bdrm + den on main flr, spacious hobby room, office, custom kitchen, dbl. garage inside entry. Jen Scholte**/Mike Scholte** 705.444.4949



BEAVER VALLEY LOG HOME

\$819,000 3,720 sq ft Amik Subdivision, 5 bedroom, 4 bath, with Great Views of Old Baldy. Municipal water and sewer. Steam room, 2 fireplaces. Backs onto acres of MNR Lands. Read Hilton* www.readhilton.com 705.351.8100



NEWTON WAY AT OSLER BLUFF

\$798,000 A perfect chalet with 4609 square feet, 4 plus bedrooms, 3 baths, family room, recreation room, play rooms, double car garage with inside entry, 3 fireplaces and ski shuttle at your door. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747 Sue Mallett* 705.444.7181



A RARE FIND!

\$785,000 Renovated chalet w/expansive views of the ski hills. 3 minute walk to Village & chair lifts. Open concept great room w/commanding stone gas fireplace & soaring ceilings. 3 decks, hot tub under enclosed patio. 2 car garage w/workshop/storage. Anthea White** 705.446.8520



4 SEASON "GREEN" PROPERTY

\$775,000 Country home on 49+ acres. 3200 sq ft, 5 bdrms, 3.5 baths, in-ground pool, hot tub, custom built from 150 yr. old reclaimed BC cedar timbers. Geothermal heating/cooling system. 200 amp service. Barb Picot* 705.444.3452 Paige Young* 705.241.2433



VIEWS GALORE

\$385,000 Spectacular views & sunsets from this 3 bdrm, 1315 sq ft condo at Lighthouse Point. \$30,000 worth of upgrades, incl granite kitchen countertops, hardwood flooring, upgraded kitchen cabinets and appliances. John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini** 705.444.4968



KIMBERLEY

\$384,900 Unique field stone 3 bedroom home, 2-4 pc baths, with granny suite. Extremely large sloping back yard, looking up into the beautiful Beaver Valley. Read Hilton* www.readhilton.com 705.351.8100



WALNUT ST. - COLLINGWOOD

\$359,000 Spacious 3 bdrm split level on almost a 1/4 acre. Hardwood flooring, oak kitchen w/Energy Star rated stainless appliances, main floor family rm w/gas fireplace & insulated sunroom off the back overlooking the private fenced backyard. Paige Young* 705.241.2433



HISTORIC SNOWBRIDGE

\$349,900 2 bedroom - 2 bath luxurious condo. One level with ground floor entry. Upgraded unit shows to perfection. Designer décor, stainless steel appliances. Gas fireplace, private patio, jet tub in master ensuite. Ilse Ayers** 705.445.5454



COLLINGWOOD SHIPYARDS

\$669,000 Walk to shops and restaurants from your 2229 sq ft attractively appointed waterfront condo w/panoramic water views, ground floor master suite and second level guest suite. Sue Mallett* 705.444.7181 http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5399/



MULTI-SEASON - PRIME LOCATON!

\$649,600 Walk to chair lifts & Intrawest Village. Stunning views of Blue Mountain! 3694 sq ft, large open concept living, dining, kitchen, wood burning fireplace, great for entertaining. Call for more details. Barb Picot*/Ron Picot* 705.444.3452



LOG HOME - LOCATION PLUS!

\$649,000 Walk to Craigleith Ski hills & Blue Mountain. 3200 sq ft finished living space, in-law capability, 4 bdrms, 3 full baths, custom kitchen w/granite counters, tongue and groove wide plank floors, and so much more! Call for all the details. Barb Picot*/Ron Picot* 705.444.3452



COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST!

\$599,000 On a 5 acre parcel 15 mins to Collingwood. Upgraded & renovated. Pond is spring fed & 15 ft deep - clean & clear! Flagstone walkways, dbl garage, huge family room w/picture windows, master bdrm has great view over Georgian Bay. Sandee Roberts** 705.446.7775



FOR SALE OR RENT

2 CONDOS - RIVERWALK THORNBURY \$359,000 Awesome views from this 1 bdrm + den. Also available for rent. \$339,000 2 bedrooms + den with many upgrades. Stroll to the harbor or downtown. Helen Dixon* 519.599.5891



SITUATED ON THE WATER

\$329,900 Step into your private landscaped garden from this immaculate 2 bdrm, 2 bath condo w/upgrades. Stroll to the main street of Thornbury or walk thru the harbor to the beach. Steps to parking outdoors & underground. 2 entrances for your convenience. Barbara Pugh* 705.444.7181



BAYSIDE VILLAGES - THORNBURY

\$319,000 Opportunity to own an end unit at Bayside Villas. 4 bdrms, 3+1 baths, large deck & gas f/p. Open concept main flr, fin bsmt w/sauna & shower. Almost waterfront w/o the big price! These units don't come available very often. Brendan Thomson* 705.606.1270



BLUE SHORES BEAUTY

\$599,000 Great space, 6 bdrms, 5 1/2 baths, on a Georgian Bay inlet. Steps to marina, tennis, rec centre with indoor and outdoor pools in a gated community, minutes from skiing, golf and shops. Sue Mallett* 705.444.7181



COLLINGWOOD WATERFRONT

\$699,000 Have it all in this 4 bedroom 2-1/2 bath, open concept home w/magnificent water views in a resort lifestyle with boat slips, tennis and year round swimming. Sue Mallett* Direct 705.444.7181 http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5224/



CURB APPEAL PLUS!

\$599,000 Almost new home on Georgian Manor Drive with views of the Bay. Cozy, warm & wonderful. Gourmet kitchen, master with ensuite + fireplace. 3 bdrm, 3 baths, main floor den/office plus 26'x28' garage w/potential for upstairs living. Judy Crompton** 705.444.9312



LIGHTHOUSE WATERFRONT

\$585,000 Year round fun at this 2 bedroom, 2 bath, open concept condo with hardwood floors, elevator and over sized garage on the water offering tennis, indoor/outdoor pools and recreation centre. Sue Mallett* 705.444.7181 http://myhomes.360photo.ca/4830/



BASE OF BLUE MOUNTAIN!

\$574,900 Walk to chair lifts, shops & restaurants at Intrawest Village. Views of Blue Mountain! 2262 sq ft, open concept reverse plan w/3 bdrms, 2.5 baths, in ground pool w/hot tub, wood burning f/p, large rec room. Call for more details. Barb Picot/Ron Picot 705.444.3452



PINE STREET - COLLINGWOOD

\$297,600 Walk to downtown from this renovated turn of the century semi. Large principal rooms with wood floors & restored to original 10 ft. ceilings with decorative medallions & cornice mouldings. 3 bdrm & spa like bath. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



MULTI-LEVEL LIVING

\$289,900 Modern condo at Tanglewood. Perfect for a couple or a family. Lots of room to spread out. Single garage with inside entry, 3 bdrm/4 baths. Living room with a wall of windows, wood flooring & gas fireplace. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



GREAT VALUE AT CREEKSIDE!

\$279,000 Nearly new, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, in a desirable, family oriented neighborhood in Collingwood. Upgraded kitchen w/pantry, hardwood floors, luxurious ensuite, full basement w/rough-in for bath. Inside entry from garage. John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini** 705.444.4968



DOLLAR S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-R!

\$249,900 Enjoy style, quality & value in this 3 bdrm Creekside home. Check out the gazebo w/hot tub, 18x24 cedar deck that is built to allow a possible future sunroom. Insulated garage, fenced yard & separate run for family pet. Charity Lakk* 705.444.9690



MOUNTAIN VIEW ESTATES

\$569,000 5 bdrm, 3 bath home, eat-in kitchen designed for enjoyment. An ideal location with proximity to both Collingwood & Blue Mountain & panoramic views of ski hills. This spacious home offers an abundance of natural light on an estate sized lot. Anthea White** 705.446.8520



BEAVER VALLEY VIEW PROPERTY

\$549,000 Great location, fabulous views, chic interior finishes. Custom kitchen, granite counters, maple hardwood flooring, custom bathrooms, full finished basement! Approx. 10 acres. Expansive deck to enjoy the views! John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini** 705.444.4968



2.57 ACRES - OWEN SOUND

\$528,500 Reminiscent of renaissance revival situated at crest of Escarpment overlooking the city & views of Georgian Bay. 2637 sq ft, 5 bdrms, high ceilings, meticulously restored to appreciate its timeless feature. Barb Picot*/Ron Picot* 705.444.3452



BEAVER VALLEY SKI CLUB

\$498,000 Best location. Ski in-ski out from Lazy Loop. 4 bedrooms, 2 with bunks, sleeps 12. Vaulted ceilings in great room, 2 fireplaces, sauna and ski tuning room. Read Hilton* read@readhilton.com 705.351.8100



WELCOME HOME!

\$239,900 Fantastic value in this 3 bdrm, 2 bath, family home. New shingles 2009, full finished basement w/laminate flooring and gas fireplace. Large fenced yard w/storage shed. Inside entry to double garage, paved driveway. John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini** 705.444.4968



CRANBERRY - IMMACULATE!

\$219,000 Beauty, warmth and value! End unit 1400 sq ft, 3 bdrms, 2.5 baths, gas fireplace, private patio and deck, 5 appliances, too many upgrades done in last year to list. Nothing to do but move in! Call for details. Barb Picot*/Ron Picot* 705.444.3452



GROUND FLOOR - LIGHTHOUSE

\$218,900 End Unit - 2 bedroom, 2 bath corner unit at Lighthouse Point. Enlarged private patio, natural gas, forced heating with A/C, gas fireplace, most furnishings included. Fabulous recreation centre and marina. Barb Picot*/Ron Picot* 705.444.3452



LIGHTHOUSE POINT

\$199,900 Ground floor one level 2 bdrm condo in sought after Lighthouse Point on Georgian Bay. Premier recreation centre, indoor & outdoor pools, tennis courts, 30 ft. boat slip available. Private patio & full crawl space storage. Ilse Ayers** ilseayers@chestnutpark.com



FABULOUS HOME & ADDRESS

\$498,000 Looking to move to one of the favoured tree streets, this is the home for you! Open concept kitchen, dining, living w/wood floors, an office/library & guest rm on main flr. Upper level has 2 bdrms, a den or exercise room. Main floor master w/ensuite. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



CENTRAL COLLINGWOOD

\$497,000 Turn of the century brick 4 bdrm home w/all of the modern conveniences plus detached office/studio. Renovated in 2009, incl new kitchen & dining & landscaping. Open concept main flr with 9 ft ceilings & separate family rm. Paige Young* 705.241.2433



THORNBURY BUNGALOW

\$495,000 Rare find on 1.3 acre nature preserve w/creek, ponds, boardwalk & meticulous landscaping. 3 bdrm 2 bath fully reno'd w/high end finishes, windows & doors, slate flooring, post & beam addition w/view, steam room & outdoor shower. Bill Muns** 705.443.1121 www.billmuns.com



63 BROADVIEW STREET

\$439,000 A stately red brick home on 90'x200' landscaped lot. Features a fully self contained in-law suite in lower level w/3 bdrms. Upper level has 3 bdrms + loft and media room. Multi level deck, 6 person hot tub, fully fenced yard & dbl car garage. Sandee Roberts** 705.446.7775



VIEW OF MARL LAKE

\$174,900 Bright, spacious end unit with an open concept design for easy living. \$199,900 Trendy condo with warmth and style - top floor with numerous upgrades. Jen Scholte**/Mike Scholte** 705.444.4949 www.ScholteHomes.com



FURNISHED AT CRANBERRY

\$165,000 With 1020 sq ft, extreme privacy and deck off great room, this 2 bedroom, 2 bath air conditioned condo is suitable for weekends or permanent residents. Bus service to shops. Sue Mallett* 705.444.7181



COLLINGWOOD TOWNHOME

\$159,000 This 3 bdrm, 3 bath home offers open concept living, dining with gas fireplace & hardwood floors. Master has a walk-in closet & 4 pc. ensuite. Full finished basement. Great space for families or those that entertain. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



THE MEADOWS - CRANBERRY

\$149,900 2 bdrm, 2 bath open concept with cathedral ceilings, lovely new kitchen cupboards & backsplash, wood burning fireplace, sun deck with westerly exposure, numerous exterior upgrades complete. Carol Whyne* 705.441.6709



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Pat MacLeod*
705-444-7471



Chris Keleher*
705-888-4624



WALK TO BLUE MOUNTAIN Gorgeous ski chalet offering 4 bdrms/3 baths, open concept kitchen/dining, separate family room, 3 fireplaces, detached 1.5 car heated garage, 1/3 acre. **\$525,000** Visit: www.128ClaireGlen.com Angiline Dubien 705-888-0021



COUNTRY ESTATE THORNBURY PROPERTY Build your dream home; 6.4 acres on Alfred St. Mainly level property, treed along creek and road frontage. Close to all amenities. **\$349,000** Visit: www.over6AcresonAlfredSt.com Rob Dubien 705-888-0092



CHARMING CRAIGLEITH CHALET Over 1700 sq ft, updated 4 bdrm/3 bath, open concept. Large yard. Deeded access to Georgian Bay. Mins to skiing/village. **\$319,900** Visit: www.148BrophysLane.com Rob Dubien 705-888-0092



3 BEDROOM LIGHTHOUSE POINT CONDO with great view and all the extras plus new kitchen, oak & floors and now only **\$334,900** **MLS#20104497** Marv Cohen 519-223-9900



PRESTIGIOUS GRANDVIEW DRIVE WATERFRONT 98' Georgian Bay waterfront. Beautifully maintained home; upgraded to the finest standards. Beautiful views of both points. Walk to downtown. **\$599,000** Jim Chapman 519-599-3300



THE VIEWS DON'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS! Dramatic views from 2 +/- acres located on paved road 5 mins to Thornbury. Build your dream home. **\$339,000** Jim Chapman 519-599-3300



AWESOME MOUNTAIN VIEWS Show stopper, 100 steps to Blue. 5 bedroom, 3 bath fabulous designer kitchen with island. **\$759,900** **MLS#20104468** Connie Thompson & Bill Thompson 705-888-0808



BEAUTIFUL PRIVATE RIVER full time or part time. 4 bdrms, 2 full baths. Updated kitchen, bath, flooring, decking, fencing. **As is \$309,000** **MLS#20102615** Connie Thompson 705-888-0808



COLLINGWOOD WEST 3 bed, 2-1/2 bath family home, bright main level & family room. Relax & enjoy views of Blue f/large deck w/gazebo. Full lower level. **\$319,000** www.jochivers.ca Call Josephine Chivers 705-441-4893



STUNNING 5 BDRM/3 BATH custom built '09. Breathtaking views of mountain & Georgian Bay. Under 1 km from Georgian Bay Club and the Peaks. Beautifully landscaped. **\$639,900** Michael Kearns 705-888-2888



MAGNIFICENT 50 ACRE ESTATE Stunning views. 950+ ft Beaver River frontage. 4900 sq ft; high quality craftsmanship. Open concept living, geo-thermal, immaculately landscaped, hiking trails. **\$849,000** Michael Kearns 705-888-2888



QUAINT FOUR SEASON COTTAGE on private well treed lot in Thornbury. Easy access to Georgian Bay. Short walk to town. Minutes to fantastic skiing and golf. **\$299,000** Doug Beaumont 705-606-1046



BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED 5 bedroom, 3+1/2 bath, designer kitchen, granite countertops, ceramic & hardwood, pergola patio, finished lower level, fully fenced, upgrades \$60+K! **\$359,900** Call Stan Kukla 446-7976 or Nancy Agnew 705-446-7975



SUPERB 4 bedroom 2+1/2 bath home, prestigious Collingwood central location, walk to schools, spectacular upgraded kitchen, main floor family room gas fireplace, totally renovated. **\$389,000** Call Stan Kukla 446-7976 or Nancy Agnew 705-446-7975



ALTA SKI CHALET Outstanding 4400 sq ft, 5 bdrm, 3 bath, double garage, custom weekend retreat. True ski-in, ski-out rental experience. Available for seasonal or weekly rentals. Visit www.chriskeleher.ca Chris Keleher 705-888-4624



ADMIRALS GATE Luxury waterfront condo, 1922 sq ft, 3 bdrms, 3 ensuites, 2 waterfront decks, mountains views, garage. Visit www.chriskeleher.ca Chris Keleher 705-888-4624



ONE OF A KIND PROPERTY with 2700 sq ft on 1.18 acres across from the Beaver River. Serene private country setting just minutes from Clarksburg and Thornbury. **\$499,900** Doug Beaumont 705-606-1046



NEW PRICE! Situated on what is considered one of the premier streets in Thornbury. 95 feet of the Beaver River/Mill Pond at rear of the property. **\$749,900** Doug Beaumont 705-606-1046



WATERFRONT 107 ft of shoreline, short walk to town, marina & minutes to golf and skiing. 2300 sq ft with open concept and fireplace. **Asking \$995,000** Pat MacLeod 705-444-7471



3 NEW LOTS near north chair at Blue Mountain. Only minutes to the Village, Northwinds Beach, Georgian Trail and golf courses. **Asking \$159,900 - \$175,000** Pat MacLeod 705-444-7471



NEW HOME Central Collingwood/blocks to downtown. Deep lot, single garage, main floor master & great room overlooking rear yard. Choice of interior finishes. Porter Skelton, Builder. **\$405,000** Martha P. Whifton 705-443-9022



INCREDIBLE VALUE! Applejack condo with 2 bdrms/2 baths. Lower level with family room/patio walkout. Main floor with Brazilian hardwood, cathedral ceiling, fireplace and deck. **\$159,900** Martha P. Whifton 705-443-9022



A FANTASTIC GEORGIAN MEADOWS FAMILY HOME with 3800+ square feet of living space, custom kitchen, spectacular fireplace, 4 BR and a huge rec room, all on a private, fully-fenced lot. **\$434,900** Doug Linton 705-444-9643



THE EXCELLENT LOCATION ON A QUIET CUL-DE-SAC highlights this deceptively large 3 + 1 BR home, 2 with ensuite baths, a workshop, office, updated windows, furnace and roof. **\$282,000** Doug Linton 705-444-9643



VIEW PROPERTY Updated bungalow has views across valley, 3+1 bdrm, 1-1/2 baths, recroom w/ custom fireplace and mtce free exterior. Lovely perennial gardens, lots of parking. **\$349,000** www.235140-13greyrd.com Betty Hancey 705-444-4139



CRANBERRY CONDO 2 bed, 2 bath unit may be purchased turnkey. Shows well with quality flooring, tasteful décor and furniture, woodburning fireplace. **\$174,900** www.125fairwaycres.com Betty Hancey 705-444-4139



FULLY EQUIPPED FOR SOMEONE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED 5 bdrm/3 bath raised bungalow Thornbury. **\$369,000** **MLS#20105234** Emily Black 705-441-2473



WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN BUY? 2 bdrm furnished Applejack condo. With 5% down (\$6,995) this unit carries for approx. \$820/mo (PIT) **\$139,900** **MLS#20105028** Lorraine Bull 705-446-5034



SUPERIOR WATERFRONT Custom constructed by prestigious builder. 118+ft waterfront skillfully landscaped. Perfect combination of property & home. <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/3389/> **\$1,495,000** Joe Gardhouse 705-888-1122



BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED Stone farmhouse located on 99.3 acres. Large country kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, attached double garage, barn, drive shed. **\$725,000** **MLS#20104737** Call Wayne Cornfield 705-444-7669



INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY Turn key 2 bdrm, 2 bath condo w/attached garage. One bed & bath can be "locked off" & rented. F/A gas & gas f/p. **\$159,000** **MLS#20105127** Call Wayne Cornfield 705-444-7669

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PANORAMIC VIEWS

5 bdrm, 4 bath prestigious home features 66 acres for outdoor enjoyment.
myhomes.360photo.ca/6184
John Kirby* 705-441-0117

\$949,000



PRESTIGIOUS ALTA

4000 sq ft, 4 bdrms, 3 baths, 2 f/places, gourmet kitchen, h/w floors, fully fin. basement all nestled at the base of Alpine Ski Club.
Tami Smith* 705-734-8603

\$1,295,000



GREAT CURB APPEAL

3+ bdrm open concept home features rear yard w/perennial garden.
myhomes.thevirtualtourcompany.ca/2571
Beverley Harvey-Clark** 705-734-6791

\$474,500



LIVE WORK AND PLAY

2+1 bdrm, 2 bath home in Rankins Landing boasts open concept living area w/f/place, in-ground pool and tennis courts.
Stan Reljic* 705-888-5124

\$193,900



PRICED TO SELL!

2 bdrm bungalow boasts a one bedroom in-law suite. Economical upgrades include windows, doors, siding and more!
Valerie Scott* 705-606-0955

\$189,000



CENTRALLY LOCATED

3 bdrm bungalow is bright and open w/fresh décor, paint and flooring. Economical upgrades incl. windows and gas furnace.
Fran Webster* 705-444-9081

\$212,900



RARE FIND!

3 level, 2 bdrm condo features 16' ceilings, h/w flooring, open concept living areas and oversized pantry off of kitchen.
S. Dale Tkatch*** 705-444-1420

\$219,900



LOCATED IN DESIRABLE AREA

1642 sq ft 3 bdrm link home boasts many upgrades incl. new furnace, A/C, roof, skylight, windows, doors and fenced backyard.
Greg Syrota* 705-446-8082

\$224,999



YOUR OWN PARK

Lovely raised bungalow, open concept living areas. Treed 2.25 acres.
myhomes.thevirtualtourcompany.ca/6009
Cheryl J. Morrison** 705-444-1420

\$389,000



LOCATED ON QUIET COURT

Fully fin. bungalow boasts open concept main level, gas f/place and lrg master w/en suite & walk-in and private deck/yard.
Connie O'Shell** 705-444-3154

\$419,000



PRESTIGIOUS NEIGHBORHOOD

Beautifully finished 3300 sq ft, 4 bdrm home in Georgian Meadows.
www.26MarinaCrescent.com
Sara White* 705-828-6202

\$434,900



HOME HAS IT ALL

4100 sq ft, 6 bdrm home features A/C, central vac, cathedral ceilings & more!
myhomes.thevirtualtourcompany.ca/6150
Dana Calder* 705-441-3607

\$599,000



STEPS TO DOWNTOWN

Multiple rental apartments & single rooms. Potential gross income \$60,000+ Ample parking and alarm throughout.
Rosanna Balloi* 705-606-0267

\$660,000



LUXURIOUS WASAGA SANDS

2600 sq ft home features h/w floors, high end kitchen and 20 ft ceilings.
myhomes.360photo.ca/5932
Larry Reid* 705-443-2351

\$599,900



ESTATE PROPERTY

Well maintained 3000 sq ft 3 bdrm, 1-1/2 bath home set on 6.37 acres and located on the edge of Stayner.
Bart Chapman** 705-428-3349

\$369,900



PERFECT FOR LARGE FAMILY

2 storey, 2 kitchens, 6+2 bdrms, 4 baths & finished bsmt all set on large lot.
www.46Donald.com
Larry Farrall* 705-606-0043

\$335,000



EXCEPTIONALLY RENOVATED

Well maintained home boasts new kitchen, bath, flooring, garage, A/C, plumbing and family room. Close to amenities.
Garry Spencer** 705-444-4601

\$239,900



CLOSE TO SKIING AND BEACHES!

3 bdrm, 2 bath home features good sized bdrms, large kitchens and a deck overlooking great sized backyard.
Bonnie House* 705-444-9323

\$189,900



WELL MAINTAINED

Functional 3 bedroom, 2 storey condo features a large deck for entertaining.
www.304ThomasStreet.ClaireWeston.ca
Claire Weston* 705-446-6133

\$174,900



SPECTACULAR VIEWS

2 bed, 2 bath condo features 2 balconies, gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors and waterfront view of Kempenfelt Bay.
Faith Lupia* 705-229-9413

\$395,000

www.trinity-realty.com



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ROUND LOG CHALET

Walking distance to Blue Mountain Inn and the North Chair. 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, large sundeck, attached garage with inside entry. 3rd floor family room with view of Georgian Bay. Great family chalet in the heart of ski country; close to golfing, biking/hiking and Georgian Bay.

\$839,000

MLS® #20104291



COUNTRY PARADISE

4250 sq ft rambling ranch bungalow on 1.6 acres, designed & renovated with style and comfort in mind. Gourmet kitchen, 5 bedrooms, 2 with ensuites, master also has floor to ceiling F/P & incredible walk-in closet. All tiled floors are heated. Attached 3 car garage & detached 1600 sq ft heated garage/shop.

\$869,000

MLS® #20103029



PREMIER CHALET-SOUTH END OF BLUE

Great views of the mountain & surrounding area from the spacious decks located on all sides of the chalet. 4000 sq ft home with 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms & 2 powder rooms. 2 fireplaces, Bosch appliances, high end European windows & doors. Heated garage, parking for 6.

\$999,000

MLS® #20104858



LORA BAY HARBOUR LOTS

15 fully serviced building lots backing onto green space, trail & golf course at Lora Bay, **ranging from \$189,000 to \$299,000**. Financing available for qualified buyers. 20% down, 2 year mortgage at prime +2% with the 1st year interest free. **BONUS**** First 5 lot purchasers receive a family golf membership at Lora Bay valued at approx. \$25,000.



MEAFORD CENTURY HOME

Beautifully renovated home close to downtown. 2185 sq ft 3 bedroom home. Eat-in kitchen, separate dining area and formal living room with gas fireplace. Private fenced and landscaped yard with covered patio and detached single car garage.

\$367,000

MLS® #20102856



3/4 ACRE ESTATE LOT IN CRAIGLEITH

Custom designed, open concept Craftsman bungalow on professionally landscaped, park like setting with deeded beach access. 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, 3200 sq ft. Comfortable, well laid out home, great for entertaining.

\$849,900

MLS® #20103766



GEORGIAN BAY CLUB

3 locations to choose from. Timber Leif Ridge – ridge lot with views of Georgian Bay & the Escarpment **\$499,000**. Stone Zack Lane – 2 exceptional lots backing onto green space and the 4th fairway. **\$495,000 & \$559,000**. Private community setting nestled between the hills & the water.



SNOWBRIDGE

Newly built custom home/chalet in the fine community of Historical Snowbridge. 3260 sq ft home with 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fully finished lower level. Great views of Blue Mountain, short walk to the Village or use the shuttle service. Enjoy as personal use or income property.

\$799,000

MLS® #20104885



WATERFRONT BUNGALOWS

12 two bedroom bungalows w/optional loft on the Millpond in Thornbury. Attached garages. One-of-a-kind project located 5 minutes' walk to Main St. or Harbour & 5 minute drive to Georgian Peaks Ski Resort & Lora Bay Golf & Country Club. Georgian Bay Trail located outside doorstep.

\$389,000 to \$489,000



NIPISSING RIDGE III

Pre-construction pricing! Newly created subdivision in popular recreational area of Nipissing Ridge. 64 lots in total. Municipal water & sewers. Construction to commence spring 2011; building permits by spring 2012. See L.B.O. for covenants and offer forms.

Prices range from \$209,000 to \$539,000.



ONE OF A KIND

Tuscan style villa on 13.75 acres of rolling hills. Built in 2005, this home is filled with old world charm while taking advantage of the latest technology. 3783 sq ft home with soaring ceilings & an open floor plan. 10 mins to top of Blue Mountain, 15 mins to Georgian Bay Club.

\$2,395,000

MLS® #20103036



PEAKS BAY

Registered waterfront development across from Georgian Peaks Ski Club and surrounded by green space, with great vistas of Georgian Bay & the Escarpment. **Lots range from \$195,000 to \$375,000**. Municipal water and sewer system. Call L.B.O. for more details.



WALK TO THE MOUNTAIN

Completely and tastefully remodeled chalet. Exquisite kitchen, dining room & living area. 3 bedrooms on 2nd level, 1 on lower level, 2-1/2 baths. Excellent location, large outdoor covered hot tub, front & rear decks. Immaculate inside and out.

\$495,000

MLS® #20103990



eleven BAY STREET

Exclusive residential community consisting of 13 townhomes situated just steps from the waterfront. Four models to choose from. Located in the centre of Thornbury, close to shopping, restaurants, and all the recreational pursuits that this area is known for.

\$650,000 to \$1,250,000



AMAZING VIEWS

5500 sq ft timber frame chalet on treed & private lot overlooking Osler Bluff. 6 bedrooms, 4 bath, main floor master, living room with exposed beams, wood burning fireplace & reclaimed plank floors. Full walkout lower level.

\$1,349,000

MLS® #20103338



SILVER GLEN PRESERVE

Newly built community just west of Collingwood & close to Craigeleith. Choose from 2 storey townhomes and loft bungalows & a variety of floor plans. Many Energy Star features included. **Models range from \$247,570 to \$397,500**. See L.B.O. for more details.



60 RIVER AVENUE CRESCENT
WASAGA BEACH, ONTARIO

MLS #: X1931349
\$869,900



234 GOLF COURSE ROAD
WASAGA BEACH, ONTARIO

MLS #: X1919306
\$519,900



60 ROYAL BEACH DRIVE
WASAGA BEACH, ONTARIO

MLS #: X1919368
\$379,900



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Have you ever wondered what it would be like to dust off the hot white sand from your towel, grab your sun glasses and walk home from the worlds largest fresh water beach? Have you ever imagined waking up and peering off into the distance watching the sunrise overlooking a beautiful riverfront view? This is just a start. With an income earning potential of \$100,000 a year, this property couples as a majestic home, and a profitable home business. Owning a beautiful home is one thing, but having it pay for itself is just another reason why this investment is worth every dime. Allow the tourism of Wasaga Beach, and the expertise of the WasagaLife Team make your dreams come true.



After the most peaceful night sleep in your master bedroom, you wake up to rays of sunshine and the sounds of chirping blue jays and cardinals. Pouring yourself a hot cup of coffee in your large open concept kitchen, you reflect on the previous evening, where your guests relaxed in the spacious Jacuzzi. Laughter from your kids that have already been up for hours playing games in the fully finished basement, bring a smile to your face. Your significant other has just opened the doors to your incredibly beautiful double car garage, and prepares your clubs. You quickly realize, that you have just moved into your new home which is steps away from two beautiful golf courses. Not many homes feel like a vacation. Your home can.



Royal Beach is a perfect raised bungalow for a large family as it offers 5 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. The custom kitchen is the focal point of the main floor sharing an open concept to the large dining area and family room. Gorgeous windows allow the sunshine to light up the home, while the garden doors lead you to a large deck perfect for outdoor entertaining. Relaxing on your patio, enjoying a glass of wine, you overlook a beautiful yard full of mature trees and professionally landscaped gardens which make you feel like you are in your own small oasis. The basement offers large windows and a stunning ceiling-to-floor maple fireplace. Don't miss out on this beautiful home close to beach area 1 and shopping.

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CUSTOM WATERFRONT HOME
3000+ sq.ft. \$575,000



GREAT LOT! GREAT LOCATION!
\$339,000



ALPINE SKI CLUB 10,000 sq.ft.
8 bdrm AAA \$3,600,000



MEAFORD ACREAGE IN TOWN
Riverfront \$300,000



UNIQUE YET CASUAL This log home
has it all! \$359,000



1860's FARM HOUSE Great view of
Georgian Bay \$199,900



NEW! BORDERING GOLF COURSE!
Stone exterior, vaulted ceilings, great
design! \$399,000

MEAFORD
A COMMUNITY
THAT HAS IT
ALL!



ATTRACTIVE WELL DESIGNED CONDO
In charming 20 unit complex
\$169,900



STUNNING PRIVATE SETTING
on 88 acres w/scenic views \$459,000



97 ACRE EQUESTRIAN CENTRE
49 Stalls, Arena \$990,000



MEAFORD HOME
3800 sq.ft. on private 2 acres
3 mins from downtown \$468,000



CLEARVIEW GEM
Views to live for 6000 sq.ft.
\$3,500,000



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'TIS THE GIVING SEASON and this issue of OUR HOMES features a precious gift for members of our community who need our help.

An anonymous angel has donated a century home to My Friend's House, a crisis centre serving abused women in the Georgian Triangle. This beautiful home (page 65) has been named Next Door and offers a unique program and a place where women can recover, long-term, from domestic abuse and, with the help of many professionals, discover that life can indeed be good.

I invite OUR HOMES readers to remember Next Door this holiday season. With your help many women who live in our neighbourhoods will receive help and a fresh start.

Our Fall/Holiday issue is bursting with great ideas for your home.

For starters, the ladies at Cherché in Thornbury have turned their beautiful store into a holiday wonderland for our Comfort Zone feature on page 78. I know their impeccable style will inspire your holiday décor.

It was so much fun spending the day with a special lady who just loves everything about Christmas – decorating, baking, shopping, wrapping and entertaining. Meet Vickie Pipher (page 38) and peek into her spectacular home in all its holiday glory.

Our team is also pleased to showcase two additional properties expertly constructed by very talented craftsmen.

The first is located in the valley where the vistas are breathtaking. The owners hired Carter Allen Ltd. to raise a contemporary home they could eventually retire to (page 92). You'll love this sleek home, and the way it was built will surely tickle your imagination.

Craig Macpherson and Valerie Kritsch also know a thing or two about building dreams (page 52). When they moved back home recently from B.C. to raise their family, they decided to take an old, tired century home and bring it back to life. This home has a wonderful story to tell and a bright future thanks to Macpherson Fine Homes.

May your home shine this holiday season.

Sincerely,

Georgette

Georgette McCulloch, Editor-In-Chief
editor@ourhomesmagazine.com

P.S. To make a donation to Next Door, go to www.myfriendshouse.ca or call Brenda at 705.444.2586, ext. 2586.



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MLS# 20103787

\$399,000
Big House - Small Price
3,400 sq ft. 5 bdrms, 3 livingrooms, 3 gas fireplaces, gamesroom, separate workshop, 4 car garage. Would make a great ski chalet for one or two families!
MLS# 20102168

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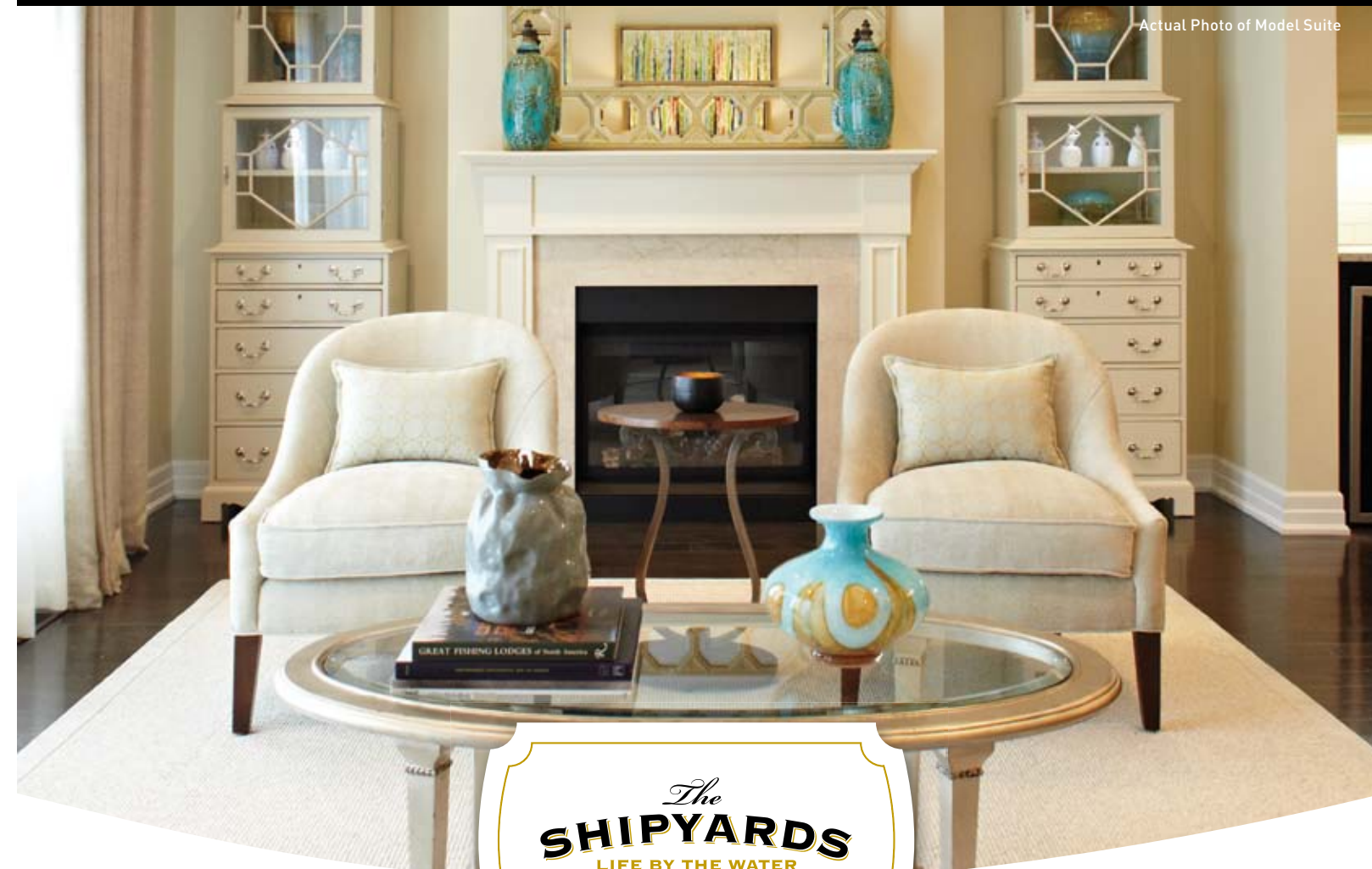
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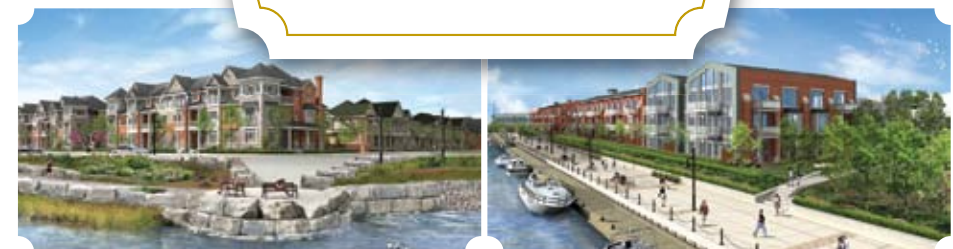
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Actual Photo of Model Suite

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contents *fall/holiday*

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ON THE COVER

Holiday Sparkle.
Story, page 92.
Photography by
Sandy MacKay.

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advice

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answers your questions.

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stephanie@ourhomesmagazine.com

Dear Stephanie

We will be moving into a new home with a recessed fireplace, small mantel and nine-foot ceilings. We want to hang a picture over the mantel. How do you determine what picture fits best? Is there a formula for this task? The room is open concept with a full fireplace wall, one additional wall and two half walls. Should the wall with the fireplace be a different colour to accent this space?

Any help would be most appreciated.

— Sharon McMann

Stephanie Redmond replies:

Given that your ceilings are not high, you want to accent ceiling height but not overpower your mantel. The most fail-proof way to test a piece is to hold existing pieces above the mantel to see how they feel to you. Some frames will be too heavy, some will not accent the mantel, some may appear too small. This becomes your guide.

One rule of thumb (and something that many mantels suffer from) is to hang your art about six to eight inches above your mantel. Start low. The art should come from the mantel, not float in the space above it.

Always keep in mind the style of your mantel. You can't fight with something that is ornate, but you can complement it with a simpler piece. They need to cohabitate without fighting with one another.

Regarding wall colour, it's difficult to pick a point at which to change tones in an open-concept area and an accent wall is a simple way to do this. If you're craving change, then go for it!

Dear Stephanie

I have huge south-facing windows in my living room. I love the view but I am concerned about privacy. What can I cover my windows with that will give me a view from the inside but privacy from the outside?

— Tara C.

Stephanie Redmond replies:

There are many options when it comes to window coverings. Here are a few ideas that will create privacy and not entirely ruin the view:

1. Unlined voile curtains – A curtain on a pole with minimal “fullness” (not too much fabric) will soften the window area and give you a more traditional solution. You can see through finer weaves with minimal obstruction but you can only see shadows and shapes from the outside.

2. Mesh roller blinds – These are used a lot in condos and seem like they may feel too commercial, but they don't. When rolled up into a pocket above the window they literally disappear. (If you are building a new

house, you can build out the crown moulding to create a pocket for the blinds to recess into.) They come in a variety of weaves for light reduction, but you can see through the more open ones. The benefit of these? If you have a lot of windows, you can have them automated.

3. California shades with sheer covering – I have to admit this is not my favourite look, but they are popular and would solve your problem (which I suspect is a common one and attests to their success). These can be fully closed, semi-open with the sheer still giving you privacy or fully retracted which will clear your window except for the stack at the top.

I would suggest visiting a store that specializes in window coverings to see some of your options before making your decision. You say the windows are “huge,” which makes me think these window coverings will play a major role in your living room décor.

Dear Stephanie

Upcycling seems to be the latest trend in home décor. How do I determine if a piece of furniture is worth either refinishing or reupholstering? I have an old sofa and some dining room chairs that I'd love to upcycle, but I don't want to invest in pieces that won't last.

— Jean Marie

Stephanie Redmond replies:

You have to assess upcycling two ways: cost and emotion.

If you like something enough to want to reinvent it (like your dining set), then yes, it can be worth it. However be aware that the cost of repainting, staining, reupholstering and purchasing new fabric may be the same as new chairs. Upcycling is not necessarily the most cost-effective approach.

An old wood chair of quality can generally be re-glued if it has a wobble and re-painted to give it some spark. If done correctly, it should last beautifully. So yes, this is worth it.

Generally older sofas have sturdy frames with webbing and coil springs that can be fixed and re-strung if necessary. The seat cushions often need to be replaced and new fabric purchased, which can add up to more than a new sofa. But if you like the style of your existing sofa, then maybe it's worth it. That assessment can be done by an upholsterer who will tell you if the frame is worth saving.

Upcycling was a trend long before the magazines gave it a catchy name. Not only does it have a positive impact on the environment, it can be easier on the pocketbook. Sometimes we just can't part with that old dilapidated piece of furniture for whatever sentimental reason we may have. And sometimes that's good enough. **OH**

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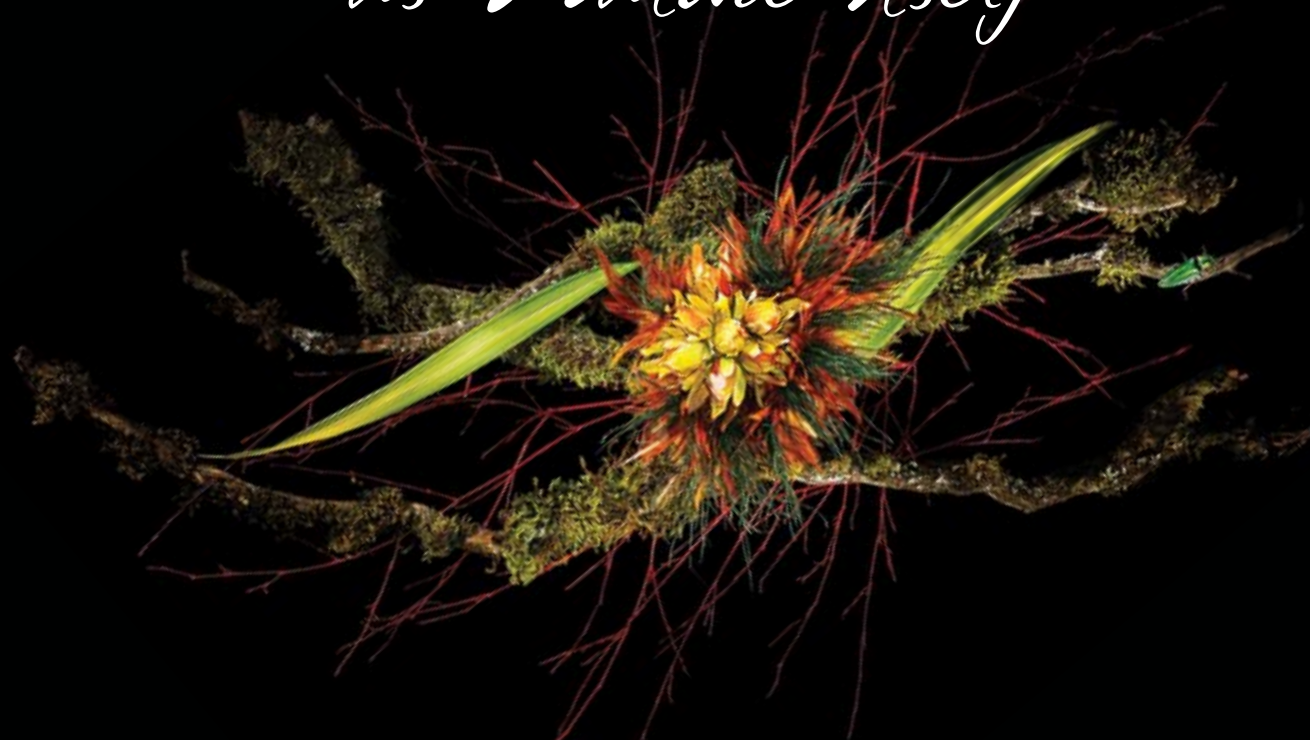
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Continued on page 28



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BY PAUL WILSON

NIGHTMARE ON MAIN: THE RISE OF PSYCHIC HOME INSPECTION



Paul Wilson is a writer, editor, and translator who lives full time in rural Ontario. He can be reached at paul@ourhomesmagazine.com.

If any house is haunted, ours should be. The building is well over 150 years old and has served as a livery stable, a hotel, a photographer's studio, an auto repair shop, a furniture stripping company and an antique store. It's not far from a pioneer cemetery where the original settlers are laid to rest – or so we hope – and our village has enough spooky tales of violence and anguish to fill a house twice the size with tormented spirits.

Before we put in an offer, I asked Patricia – my more sensitive half – if she thought there were “ghosts” in the building. I was partly joking, but I also knew that if she said, “yes,” we’d walk away from it. She said, “Definitely not!”

Fourteen years later, we’ve had our fair share of problems: loud banging noises at night, scurrings in the attic, slamming doors, objects that mysteriously vanish and just as mysteriously turn up somewhere else. But they can all be explained, pretty much: the house is a drafty, wooden structure that creaks and cracks with extremes of temperature; we have bats and who knows what else under the eaves; and as for the missing objects – well, let’s just say I’m a lot more forgetful than I used to be.

But Patricia was essentially right: in all that time, we’ve never seen or sensed anything scarier than our own shadows, or anything more alarming than our aging faces and sagging waistlines in the mirror.

Not so for Barry Lebow and Catherine Fogarty. They have never met, yet they share an interest in haunted houses. Each started out as a skeptic, but each has had a personal experience of “haunting” that inspired them to modify their skepticism in positive, but very different directions.

Lebow, a real estate professional with 42 years’ experience (www.lebow.ca), teaches agents how to handle what he calls “stigmatized” property, property that’s been “tainted” or devalued in buyers’ minds by, say, its proximity to a toxic waste site or a cemetery, or by violent deaths associated with it. He’s been described in the *Toronto Star* as “something of a maven on Toronto’s haunted houses” and he acts as an expert witness when issues of non-disclosure become the subject of litigation.

Lebow’s interest in properties with weird problems began in his 20s, when he bought a house in a Toronto neighbourhood for a song, only to discover later that it had been the scene of a dramatic suicide several years earlier. Lebow renovated the house, then sold it to someone who wasn’t bothered by the building’s tragic past. A decade later, a grisly triple murder occurred in a house on his street. He thought the house would remain empty forever, but it was snapped up almost immediately.

These experiences bolstered his fascination with what makes or breaks a real estate deal, and he eventually developed a course, which he still teaches under the auspices of different real estate boards, called “Selling the Haunted House: The Impact of Stigma on Market Values.”

The “Haunted House” designation draws students in, but the real substance of Lebow’s course isn’t ghosts – which, in his experience, are very rare – but properties haunted by more tangible curses that can make values plummet, such as the presence of urea-formaldehyde insulation or a former marijuana grow-op. By law, the vendor and the agent must disclose any such information to the buyer. But that still leaves a large grey area: should knowledge that a house is “haunted” by unexplained phenomena also require disclosure?

Catherine Fogarty runs a Toronto-based film company, Big Coat Productions (www.bigcoatproductions.com) which is currently shooting a new cable TV reality show that could help clarify that grey area.

She happened on the subject more or less by accident – or was it cosmic design? In any case, four years ago, shortly after she and her young twin boys moved into an old home she’d bought in Toronto, scary things began happening. Doors would open or lock spontaneously; she heard strange sounds at night in her bedroom; she woke up to find both taps on her bathtub running full blast. One day, an aquarium in her kitchen shattered, scattering glass and water across the countertop.

Coincidentally, Fogarty was talking with the HGTV cable channel about developing a new series that might tap into the growing popularity of paranormal subject matter. The mysterious occurrences at her home were her eureka moment. With the cameras running, she brought in two psychics, who both confirmed that there were powerful “presences” in the house. Still somewhat skeptical, she engaged a conventional home inspector. He found natural causes for some, but not all, of the events.

That experience became the pilot episode of a 13-part series called *Paranormal Home Inspection*. What makes it different from other spooky home shows, like VIVA’s *Rescue Mediums*, is its down-to-earth, “multi-platform” approach. Each home – most in Ontario – will be examined by a regular building inspector before bringing in the psychic investigators. If the pilot episode is any indication, *PHI* will be something like *Holmes Inspection* meets *The Blair Witch Project* meets *Ghostbusters*. There’ll be something in it for skeptics and believers alike. (The series begins airing early next year on the HGTV and Mystery TV networks.)

Both Lebow and Fogarty have been changed by their experiences. Lebow, though still a skeptic, doesn’t dismiss psychic phenomenon out of hand. “Perception is reality,” he says. “If the public believes it, it’s a problem, be it ghosts, or urea formaldehyde poisoning.” There may be no absolute proof for either, but they will still affect property values, and that’s real enough for him. And he has a digital-age caveat for his clients: never buy a house you haven’t Googled.

Fogarty hasn’t banished the spirits from her home, but she’s come to believe they’re harmless, and has resigned herself to their existence, just as I have resigned myself to the haunting presence in our home of mice in the basement, bats in the eaves and the ghostly “to do” lists that hover reproachfully in the air, disturbing our sleep. **OH**



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THE HEAT IS ON

BY SAMANTHA MARTIN

Spending a chilly evening in that big comfy chair with a hot drink and a fascinating read is only as inviting as the heat that fills the space. Home heating has evolved from a basic means of keeping warm to a more complex, thought-out process of heating your home at a low cost while leaving as little an ecological footprint as possible.

According to Statistics Canada, in 1947, 83 per cent of households burned solid fuel: coal and wood. By 1965, oil peaked as the dominant source of heat in 60 per cent of homes. And by 2003, electric heat won out at 50 per cent of heating systems installed in homes. In 2007, the majority of Canadian households kept warm with natural gas heat.

It's an evolving world. Caroline Czajko, Manufacturer's Division Manager with the Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute

of Canada (HRAI), says natural gas furnaces are still the most popular form of household heating, but the environmental considerations and the push to replace old furnaces with the now-required high efficiency models are encouraging homeowners toward some of the newer, greener systems such as ground source, or geothermal, heating. "Sales have really skyrocketed for ground-source heat pumps," says Czajko, adding that price and property are still limiting factors. "It's not for everyone."

When choosing how to heat your home, the choices can be overwhelming. After all, your heating system accounts for 60 per cent of your home's energy consumption. Taking note of the pros and cons of each option can help you prioritize your needs and find the solution that will vibe best with your lifestyle.

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PROS:

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- can save money through monitored use
- quicker heating time

CONS:

- environmentally damaging
- non-renewable resource
- requires considerable space
- high maintenance
- potential water contaminant
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- high temperature exhaust
- fluctuating prices

NATURAL GAS

PROS:

- cleaner, odourless heat
- renewable resource
- 95 per cent maximum efficiency
- low temperature exhaust
- useful for kitchen, barbecues and laundry as well

CONS:

- environmentally damaging
- can be pricey
- monthly service fees
- produces carbon monoxide
- potentially explosive

WOOD

PROS:

- can be more affordable
- renewable resource
- creates atmosphere
- no monthly service fees

CONS:

- inconsistent heat
- messy and requires physical work
- creates air pollution
- requires chimney or proper ventilation system
- often requires a complementary heating system
- increases home insurance costs
- requires space for wood storage

SOLAR

PROS:

- no harmful emissions
- significant monthly savings
- highly renewable resource
- low maintenance
- quiet
- flexible

CONS:

- expensive initial investment
- often requires a complementary heating system
- location dependent
- requires considerable space
- dependent on amount of sun

ELECTRICITY

PROS:

- less danger of carbon monoxide
- clean
- lower installation costs
- individually controlled throughout home

CONS:

- expensive to operate long term
- environmentally harmful
- inefficient
- exposed, unattractive heaters

GEOTHERMAL

PROS:

- quiet
- significant monthly savings (sometimes 70 per cent)
- retrofit using existing ductwork
- highly renewable resource
- safe and healthy
- low maintenance
- can be used for hot water purposes throughout the home (ex. bathing, laundry)

CONS:

- expensive initial investment
- requires significant land
- uses refrigerants
- difficult to repair underground piping

It's always best to go straight to the professionals with your questions and concerns. The HRAI consists of 900 member contractors across Canada. Use the contractor locator on their website at <http://www.hrai.ca/contractorlocator.php> to find your match.

If you're still on the fence, visit the Office of Energy Efficiency at www.nrcan.gc.ca for a home heating system cost calculator. Here, you can compare the cost of your current heating system with other options to see if you're getting the most out of your warmth. **OH**

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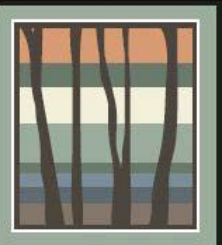
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Christmas is a special time of year at Dan and Vickie's home. It's a wonderful, welcoming place to celebrate the holiday season.

OPPOSITE PAGE:

LEFT: Vickie's gift wrapping station on the lower level. She uses only the best ribbon and paper for all her gift giving.

RIGHT: Beautiful porcelain carollers stand in a window near the tree in the lower level of Dan and Vickie's home.

HOME *for the season*

BY LAUREL FORTIN // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

"We'll sit outside in our snow suits after a walk, with a glass of wine before dinner," says Vickie Pipher. She gestures to the views from the stone patio and terrace of the inviting Lora Bay home she shares with her husband, Dan. After stepping out their front door to cross-country ski for the day along the Georgian Trail, or to walk their handsome German shepherd, Dexter, to the shores of the ice-covered bay, Vickie and Dan catch their breath back at home. The affluent outdoor space designed by **The Landmark Group** includes a pergola, bar, waterfall and limestone fire pit, all used year-round. "They were fabulous to work with," notes Vickie. *Continued on page 40*





With a southern exposure, the house and yard receive generous sunlight. Vickie and Dan might glimpse a white-tailed deer or a flock of wild turkeys nosing the snow for apples cached under the numerous trees that remain of the orchard that formerly occupied the Lora Bay community. Or Dan might light a fire to warm them. An iron gate leads out to the snow-covered green of the 11th hole of **The Raven Golf Club**.

Inside, the rich textures of wood, leather, antique rugs, metal, tree branches, stone, antlers and animal hide come together to enhance the outdoor vista. The accessories that Vickie has thoughtfully gathered, many from her friend Jonna Chalmers' store **Jonna's Rustic Refinement**, give a

lodge-like atmosphere within the post-and-beam construction. The couple have lived in their beautiful 2,900 sq. ft. home since 2007. Walls covered with C2 paint in Tempura create a warm, neutral backdrop. The accent wall in the dining room is in C2's Hot Tamale. It draws out the scarlet red in the great room's area rug and the kitchen's intense burgundy tile backsplash.

The dark solid wood cabinetry of the kitchen, expertly designed and installed by Thornbury craftsman **Bernard Rioux**, brings great pleasure to the Piphers. They love their kitchen. "We actually use it," remarks Vickie. "People say, 'there's only two of you,' but we want to eat! I want to cook and I want to eat," laughs the trim hostess. *Continued on page 44*

Vickie uses chocolate brown and scarlet red throughout. The fine details and accessories make this home spectacular, especially during the holiday season.

TOP RIGHT: The Piphers love the winter season. They cross-country ski and enjoy taking Dexter, their German shepherd, on walks down by the bay.

BOTTOM RIGHT: A view of home, decorated for the holidays, from the balcony above.



feature

Vicki loves to cook and wasn't happy with the original kitchen when they purchased the home. They ripped it out and hired Bernard Rioux to design and build a space they truly enjoy.



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LEFT: Father Christmas greets visitors in the foyer of the Pipher home.

BELOW: Vickie and friend Jonna Chalmers, of Jonna's Rustic Refinement, catch up during a visit.











BOTTOM: The tree in Vickie's basement is decorated for the kids and includes Santa's train chugging down the tracks.



While the home and the couple both have a laid-back presence, when Vickie and Dan know what they want, they are prepared to wait for it. Like for the chocolate and plaid master bedroom drapery fabric that needed to be reordered after arriving with a flaw. They waited eight months for a replacement, rather than selecting a substitution. Or the exquisite feather trim on the guest room window covering. Vickie spotted the style in a décor magazine in Vail, Colorado, and worked with Richmond Hill drapier Roomscapes to have them custom made. Or the breathtaking light fixture adorning the stairwell – Vickie worked with Jonna to commission the fixture from a local artisan. It has whimsical, casual branches cast in metal, and is topped with a story-like setting of evergreen tree cut-outs that are like a secret, visible only to viewers from the second storey. A corresponding smaller version is displayed in the front foyer, and a similar style of fixture illuminates the porch.

Indeed, the Piphers know not to rush a good thing. Their Lora Bay home is a testament to a love that has rekindled after decades of separation. Vickie and Dan were high school sweethearts. They met in a Toronto neighbourhood, dated and had a sweet, but brief, engagement at the age of 16. Each moved on to marry other partners, have children and live rich lives; Vickie spending most of her time in country homes, surrounded by nature and horses, and Dan residing in the city, focused on his career.

Continued on page 46

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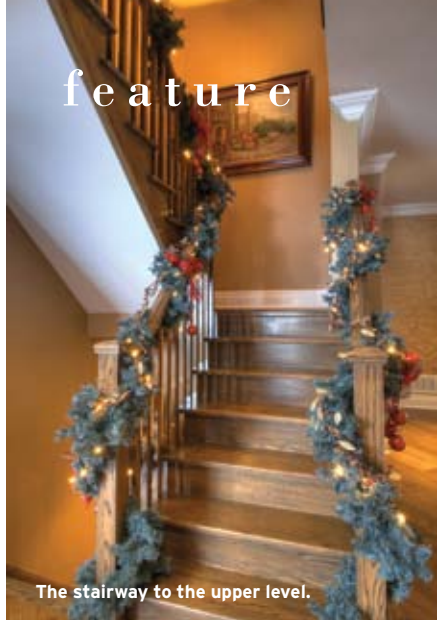
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The stairway to the upper level.



This custom fixture is a favourite and gives the home a special, lodge-like feel.



This bathroom has a fabulous mirror framed with mosaic tiles. No room goes without a festive touch over the holidays.

Six years ago, single at the time, the two met again in Toronto. “After all those years, it was like we were never apart,” blushes Vickie, “we still had all the same interests that we did as kids.”

And while each has family in the Southern Georgian Bay area – Vickie’s sisters have ski chalets near Blue Mountain, and Dan’s parents vacation in Feversham – they found themselves living together in the city.

At the end of the ski season in 2006, after spending winter weekends driving up from Toronto, the couple visited Lora Bay on a whim. “We pulled in and walked into a couple of the model homes and fell in love with it. But, we said, we couldn’t have two homes. We turned around and went back to Toronto,” related Vickie. “About six months later I looked at Dan and said, ‘Could you live there?’”

And so the two began to plan their nest. “If we had waited until we were 60 and fully retired, we wouldn’t have made the move,” says Vickie. “Now we can still take advantage of the mountain biking and skiing; we kayak and canoe.” Dan continues to work in Toronto, commuting to his office, but looks forward to time at home with Vickie.

The couple are well accustomed to taking advantage of all that

Southern Georgian Bay offers, no matter the season. “But winter is my favourite time of year, since I was a kid,” confesses Vickie. You can see it in the artwork featured in the home. A print of Group of Seven artist Frederick Varley shows snow-capped trees. Niagara-on-the-Lake artist Trisha Romance’s watercolours depict Christmas scenes. Art in the guest bedroom features furry huskies in the snow.

The Piphers also collect the work of local artists, such as Thornbury’s **Shelagh Fox** and Clarksburg’s **Debra Lynn Carroll**.

“I tied the colours of chocolate brown and scarlet red through the whole house,” says Vickie, “but I like details. That’s why there are things like fringe on the curtains.” Or painted sinks in the powder room. And visitors remark that each of the lamps and light fixtures in the home are unique, such as the carved wood lamp in the master bedroom featuring a mother and baby bear that the couple had shipped back during a trip to Colorado. The spectacular chandelier that bathes the great room in warm light is constructed of moose antlers, “naturally shed,” confirms Vickie, discovered at Jonna’s Rustic Refinement. The antlers are echoed in a pair of dining room candelabras, and in an upstairs guest room as bedside lamps. *Continued on page 48*



The cosy guest room is dressed for the winter and the holidays. Vickie loves to decorate for the season.

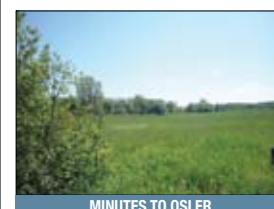
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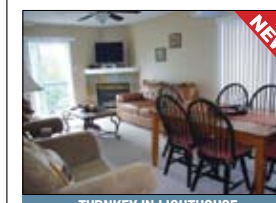
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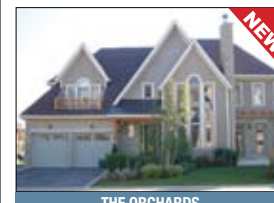
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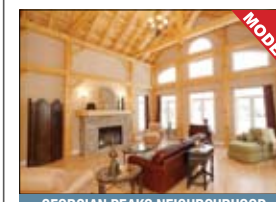
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Vickie carries a palette of deep reds and browns into the master bedroom. Layers of lush, textured fabrics and grand furniture make this a room decadent escape.

LEFT: The gas fireplace, with river rock surround, enhances the relaxed, luxurious feel of the principal bedroom.



The Piphers' home radiates comfort and festivity. Naturally, it's a wonderful space to celebrate the holiday season. Vickie's eye for detail has collected gorgeous holiday accents through the years that she displays throughout November and December. Guests remark on the Fitz and Floyd Santa and reindeer figurines, a vignette of Christmas carollers and an adorable porcelain polar bear that everyone asks to take home.

Storage rooms in the basement are bursting with seasonal decorations, says Vickie. They have staple feature items, like a set of Mikasa Ribbon and Holly holiday china and crystal reindeer, but she loves to add new small items each year, and display new fresh garlands from **Greentree Gardens & Emporium**.

She sources her fresh table centrepiece from **Flowers on Main** in Thornbury, where the florist is "very artsy," finds Vickie. "I don't want nosegays, I want wild, I want twigs, I want berries, I want it natural. At the same time, I think white roses look beautiful in a Christmas centrepiece. Even with twigs it works out great. The greens last for the season, so all you have to do is pull out the flowers and add new ones and you have them right through to the new year. Or I'll put ribbon and balls in."

The holiday tree is a true highlight of the home. "If I work at it all day, I can finish the tree," says Vickie. "By the time I do, there are more decorations inside the tree than out; I go right inside with hundreds of things."

"We try to get things started in November, but you have to wait for the greens to come in first," laughs Vickie. As much as they like winter, Vickie and Dan know that some things are well worth waiting for. **OH**

SOURCE GUIDE

The Landmark Group, Bernard Rioux, City Stone, Jonna's Rustic Refinement, Shelagh Fox, Debora Lynn Carroll, Flowers On Main, Greentree Gardens & Emporium.

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A Treasure RESTORED

BY JUDE WAYLAND // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

You never know what treasures lurk behind the walls of your home, as custom homebuilders and renovators Craig Macpherson and Valerie Kritsch recently discovered while renovating their Century home in the heart of Collingwood.

Continued on page 56



Pocket doors open to the living room, where a super high-efficiency wood stove warms the space.

LEFT: Three-year-old Maiah draws on an easel tucked into the corner of the dining room. The Macpherson home is a family home.

The living room opens up to the dining room, where a restored Maria Theresa chandelier hangs brilliantly over the table. The furniture is a wonderful mix of new and old.

home & builder

On June 27, 1959, a 12-year-old girl secretly slipped a time capsule into the wall of her Collingwood home. It contained a letter, two pocket calendars and a lucky four-leaf clover.

Fifty years to the day the letter was penned, Craig uncovered the time capsule nestled in a wall of their historic home. The couple tracked down the owner, who had been battling cancer for six years. She was delighted to be reunited with her keepsakes, and two days later, a CT scan miraculously revealed no trace of cancer. A twist of fate? Or the remarkable power of a lucky charm?

Craig and Valerie have three young girls of their own. To continue the tradition, the Macpherson girls, with help from Mom, wrote their own letter and, along with a little red shoe once belonging to the twins, tucked a time capsule into the wall of their home. Who knows at what magical moment these treasures will be unearthed?

Such are the unexpected pleasures of renovating an old home. Craig and Valerie, both natives of Ontario, met and started a family in Whistler, B.C., where they operated a successful custom homebuilding business. After selling their energy-efficient, Georgie award-winning home, the search for a new abode proved to be quite the challenge. Surfing online, Craig found a gem of a home... in Collingwood. So, with three babies in tow, the two entrepreneurs returned east. Much to the delight of their families, **Macpherson Fine Homes Inc.** set up shop in Collingwood.

Upon their arrival, the couple tackled the daunting task of revamping their tired old house and restoring its original beauty. "This classic American four-square home was full of potential," says Valerie, "and the vision came to us very quickly."

Typical of century homes, there were too many walls and small rooms on the main floor. The first thing Val and Craig did was open up the space. "The main floor wasn't a total gut as we wanted to preserve some of the original architectural elements of the home," explains Craig. "Even original lathe and plaster walls are beautiful once restored. We did, however, reconfigure many of the walls on both floors and replaced what was necessary."

What was once an outdated, cold and cramped three-storey house is now a bright, spacious 3,650 sq. ft. dwelling showcasing the beauty of the original design.

An Eco-Energy audit was done to identify areas of air leakage and energy efficiency improvements to be made. Remarkably, the original wood-framed, double-hung windows were found to be airtight. Only one window required replacing. The old windows and trim, were, however, rebuilt, rehung, and counterweights restrung to replace broken cords – a labour-intensive undertaking. The audit was useful, and was found to be an economical tool to use. Substantial basement and attic insulation upgrades were done to improve energy efficiency, as was the upgraded boiler unit and fireplace inserts. *Continued on page 58*



ABOVE: A small, dark kitchen has been transformed into a large, open concept living area with Caesarstone countertops and timeless, custom, vanilla cabinetry.

FAR LEFT: Val and Craig have worked tirelessly restoring their century home in Collingwood. They moved back home from British Columbia to raise their family and continue building award-winning homes.

LEFT: The girls have their own table tucked into the corner of the large dining room, just off the kitchen. It's the perfect place to enjoy a snack.

SOURCE GUIDE

McKee Kitchens, Macdonald's Countrywide, Di Pietra Design, Georgian Design Centre, B&R Hearth and Geothermal, Patrick Mahon, Bill Brown Building Supplies, Ashton's.





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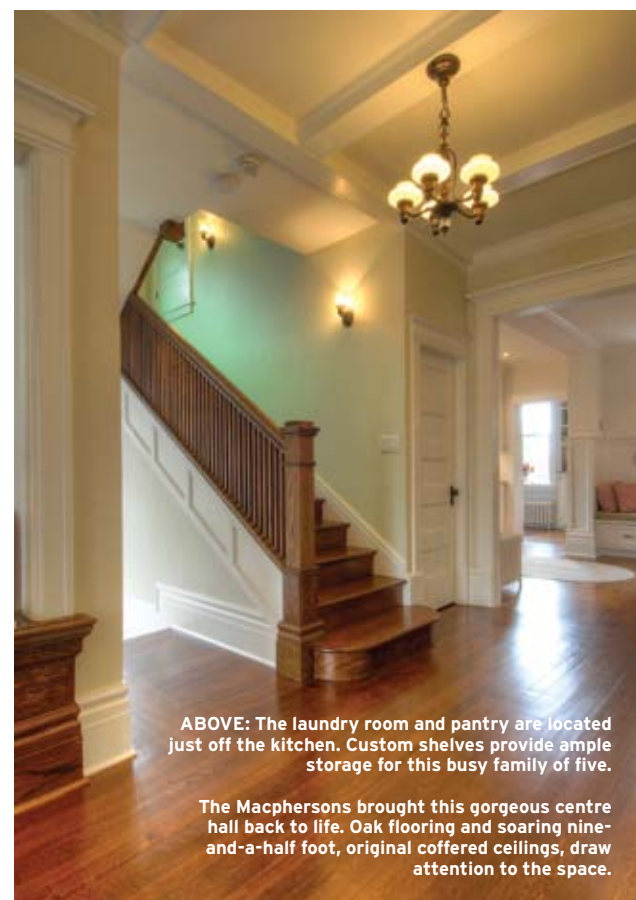
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ABOVE: The laundry room and pantry are located just off the kitchen. Custom shelves provide ample storage for this busy family of five.

The Macphersons brought this gorgeous centre hall back to life. Oak flooring and soaring nine-and-a-half foot, original coffered ceilings, draw attention to the space.

All three fireplaces were in rough shape. **B&R Hearth & Geothermal** installed an airtight, super high efficiency Jotul wood stove insert in the living room and a gas insert in what was once the parlour. A wood-burning fireplace in the master bedroom was rebuilt.

Val replaced timeworn and outdated lighting fixtures with restored antique hanging chandeliers and wall sconces. The dining room showcased a sparkling Maria Theresa chandelier and sconces to match. Furniture is a collection of old pieces with new – some of which have been across the country and back – while others came from local vendors, city shops, antique markets and family. Window coverings and bench seat upholstery in the dining room and kitchen come from **Ashton's** in Thornbury.

Craftsman-style pocket doors lead from the front entrance to the living room, which features maple hardwood flooring, gorgeous stained glass windows, and soaring nine-and-a-half foot ceilings adorned with an original coffered ceiling. A bold painting of a buffalo sits atop a handcrafted mantel by **McKee Kitchens**.

You never know what you will find in a house that dates back to 1903. Craig discovered multiple layers of flooring, from parquet and linoleum, to carpeting and quarter-sawn oak. In one area, the subflooring was an inch higher than elsewhere; it was removed and dropped an inch. “The house underwent about five or six renovations since it was built, making it difficult to know what was done when,” says Craig.

Thanks to Craig's carpentry know-how, the couple preserved the original oak floor in the entryway, laid a herring-boned maple floor in the dining area to match the living room flooring, and created a seamless join with help from Benjamin Moore's Sherwood stain colour. Craig also re-built the crumbling colonnade pillars and wood bases leading into the parlour. Walls were treated using eco-friendly low-VOC paints from Benjamin Moore and C2 with thanks to local painter **Patrick Mahon** and his crew. Stair railings and baseboards were meticulously milled and reproduced by **Bill Brown Building Supplies** and were installed and built by Craig himself. *Continued on page 60*

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The master bedroom has a rebuilt wood-burning fireplace and a walk-in closet leading to the en suite. His-and-her armoires add character to the room.

ABOVE LEFT: The girls, Leah, Maiah and Alexandra, jump on Mom and Dad's bed.

ABOVE RIGHT: Old homes lacked storage. Craig and Val added custom cabinetry in the master en suite, along with a beautiful glass shower.



Back in Whistler-Pemberton, Macpherson Fine Homes specialized in building custom high-end log and timber frame homes. A hands-on carpenter by trade, Craig still spends about 50 per cent of his time wearing a tool belt. Overseeing renovation and custom home projects from start to finish keeps him very busy the rest of his time.

Says Val, "We have a reputation for building green, hiring locally and using local products wherever possible. We offer high quality workmanship and put energy efficiency first."

At the top of their list was the installation of a quiet, environmentally friendly heating system (B&R Hearth & Geothermal), which allows four zones to be set at different temperatures throughout the home. Says Craig, "The gas boiler system has no bulkheads, no ductwork to hide or box in, and it provides clean, even heat. We kept all the old cast iron radi, but replumbed and reconditioned them all down into this new boiling system."

Adds Val: "This system also does our hot water. There's no hot water tank. It's amazing technology. It's clean, it's high-tech, it's efficient. We looked into geothermal, but it wasn't cost effective."

The "green" focus extends to the home's three bathrooms, fitted with low flush toilets and low water usage showerheads and faucets by **Grohe (Georgian Design Centre)**.

A small, dark kitchen is now an open-concept kitchen-dining room, divided by an island featuring a Caesarstone countertop, a manmade product that requires no sealing (**Di Pietra Design**), and a functional, built-in window seat. "Craig and I designed the kitchen, pantry and built-ins with the input from our cabinet maker **Jason McKee** of **McKee Kitchens**. McKee then constructed and installed the finished product," Val says. The LG appliances were purchased at **Macdonald's Countrywide Furniture and Appliances**. A deep, stainless farmhouse sink was sourced in London, Ontario.

The kitchen leads to the practical pantry-laundry room with plenty of storage space, and raised countertops, keeping that elusive candy jar just out of reach.

This enterprising couple is quite the dynamic duo. Not only is Val a fulltime mother of three, she also juggles interior design work, and sources materials and products for Craig's projects, as well as a full-time job overseeing contractors and trades at **The Shipyards**.

Now that Val the visionary and Craig the hands-on builder have lovingly and impeccably restored their stately, four-bedroom century home to its original splendour, chances are that Macpherson Fine Homes will be in great demand for years to come. **OH**

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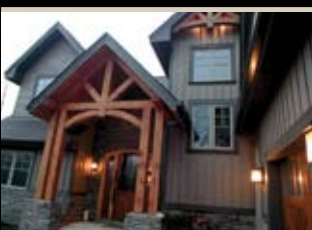
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LOT 22 - WINDROSE VALLEY - \$2,225,000
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LOT 10 - WINDROSE VALLEY - \$995,000

This beautiful chalet has over 3800 sq ft. of finished space! Gorgeous great room w/20ft ceiling, fireplace and beamwork. Beautiful kitchen w/views both front and back. Main floor master. Reclaimed flooring, hand tiling, radiant heat floors, details galore.



LOT 43 - WINDROSE VALLEY - \$875,000

Fabulous opportunity! This wonderful home is on a 1 acre lot! Plenty of space for everyone! Over 3200 sq ft, great room, main floor master plus 4 more beds, gear room, carriage house style garage.



people



Ursula Abbott, Kathy Simpson, Alison FitzGerald and Susan Buleychuk



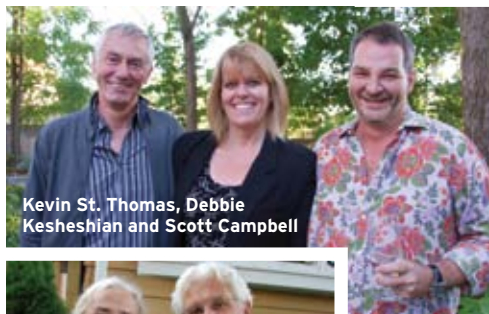
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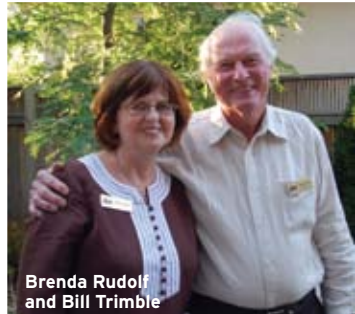
Susan Hanna and David Scott

CELEBRATING "NEXT DOOR"
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

It was a glorious evening and night of celebration at the grand opening of Next Door Transitional Support Program for Women – an eight-bed shelter for women who are victims of domestic violence in Simcoe County. Next Door will provide a safe place in Collingwood for women who wish to establish a life free from abuse in the community. It is the next step for women who seek shelter at My Friend's House – Collingwood Crisis Centre.



Simcoe-Grey MP Helena Guergis and Joan Pajunen



Brenda Rudolf and Bill Trimble



Pam Wilson, Heather Croft and Lynda Muir



The Skylights entertain at the gathering



Steve Beaupre, Kathy Marchand and Christine MacLean



The women at Next Door will keep warm this season by a wood burning fireplace.

RIGHT: This beautiful century home was donated filled with furniture and cosy living spaces to share.

NEXT DOOR

BY SHELBY HILSON // STYLED BY ANDREA RAMACIERI // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

An incredible gift has been given to our community – the gift of safety, support and a second chance. Received in the form of a spectacular home, this gift was given to the women who need it most. *Continued on page 68*





A lovely sitting area off the kitchen is a great space for curling up with a book and cup of tea.

LEFT: A phenomenally restored kitchen is perfectly suited to a full house and boasts a great view of the yard.

BELOW LEFT: Christine MacLean is the Next Door Therapist and will be holding weekly sessions with the women living here.

BELOW RIGHT: Alison FitzGerald and Jennifer Ivans share excitement about the new program that Ivans hopes to benefit from.

For nearly 20 years, **My Friend's House** in Collingwood has helped abused women and their children throughout the Georgian Triangle. Thousands of women have found refuge there, been counseled there and have been given the tools to survive.

What the organization has struggled to provide though, is time to heal – until now.

Welcome to **Next Door**. This unbelievable home with nearly 4,000 sq. ft. of living space was anonymously donated to My Friend's House so supporters could do just that; establish a program that gives abused women the time, support and environment needed to turn their lives around.

When **Alison FitzGerald**, Executive Director at My Friend's House, received the call from the donor asking if they could use the property, she couldn't believe it. When she saw how wonderful the home was – fully restored and renovated – she really couldn't believe it.

As thrilled as she was, she wasn't sure if the organization could afford to support the new program, even with the donation of the house.

Then, Status of Women Canada came through with a grant of more than \$200,000 over three years, and the program came to life.

"There is a group of women who truly don't believe that a better life is possible because of the abuse and trauma in their lives," said FitzGerald in her speech at the open house. "We believed this gift was an opportunity for My Friend's House to create a space where women could truly be given time to heal."

When asked the reasons for donating the home, the donor says, "I just thought it would be good for the community and I've been pretty lucky so I wanted to give back."

The donor has always supported My Friend's House, originally donating money for sheltered women to buy Christmas gifts for their children.

"I hope it [the property] helps some of the women who suffer long term from abuse," he says. "It would be great if some of those women could be rehabilitated."

Continued on page 70



people

RIGHT: With lots of country charm, a beautiful washroom with soaker tub adds to the home's relaxing environment.

BELOW: One of eight cosy bedrooms at Next Door. Art by Bonnie Fox.

Nobody has higher hopes than **Jennifer Ivans** though. She is not only the first woman selected to benefit from the new program and move into the home, but she is much of the inspiration behind the program as well.

Ivans spent most of her childhood in foster homes after being removed from her abusive father's care. Since then, she has encountered physical, sexual and emotional abuse in relationships with both foster families and men. She first went to My Friend's House in 2008 and then again a year later after struggling through another abusive relationship.

For Ivans, this is a once in a lifetime chance to change her life for the better.

"My hope is to heal," she says. "To learn how to go on with my life the way it's meant to be, to get out on my own, to take responsibility for myself and love myself."

Like all women who participate in the Next Door program, Ivans can stay in the home for three months up to a full year. She is counting on the weekly therapy sessions and lessons on living with others to help her work through her past so she can create a better future for herself; perhaps as a support worker for women like herself one day. *Continued on page 72*



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An outdoor oasis where Jennifer Ivans plans to spend lots of time reflecting and journaling.

TOP RIGHT: Program Director Kathy Marchand will provide daily support and conflict resolution to the women at Next Door.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Contractor Rick Fuhre brought both buildings up to code and was very generous with his time.

From the moment she stepped through the door of her new home, Ivans knew it was right. “It feels like when you’re a kid,” she says. “Like coming in from playing in the snow all day and putting on flannel pyjamas and a warm blanket.”

Though the home was donated in immaculate shape, a few things needed to be done to bring it up to code, which was made possible with funding from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and **Rick Fuhre** of **Fuhre Construction**. Rick worked with Doug Plummer at **Service One** to get rid of some mould in both the home and the coach house, and Robert Steller at **Breathing Easy** to improve overall air quality. **CS Energy & Mechanical** did the HVAC work and **Lorne Bunn Electric** completed the electrical.

Rick and his team divided the upper floor into two bedrooms and worked with **C.C. Tatham & Associates** and **Blue Mountain Welding**

& **Machine Shop** to design and install a fire escape. He also put a new roof on the coach house and coordinated the alarm system (**Huronia Alarms**).

Between the two buildings, Next Door is able to house and support up to eight women at once with eight bedrooms, two full kitchens, a handful of living spaces and washrooms, and a spacious yard gorgeously landscaped with a large pond, courtyard and plenty of privacy.

FitzGerald couldn’t be happier with Fuhre Construction’s work and their generosity with their time.

“I wanted to help out here,” says Rick “I always like to help community efforts and this is a good cause.”

Kathy Marchand, Next Door’s Program Coordinator, will be the staff member spending the most time in the house at three days per week. “It’s exciting to be a part of this,” she says as she explains that there is not another program like it in the province. *Continued on page 74*



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people

Kathy has spent most of her adult life working in shelters in Simcoe County, but has never been a part of something quite like this. “It’s just amazing that we’ve been given the opportunity to run this program,” she says.

Ursula Abbott couldn’t agree more. As the Chair of My Friend’s House Fundraising Committee, she is responsible for reaching out to the several communities the organization serves and for raising \$180,000 a year to help maintain the support services they offer.

“We’re hoping that the members of communities served will see what a great program this is and will find it in their hearts to donate.”

Visit <http://myfriendshouse.ca> to contribute to My Friend’s House and the Next Door program. **OH**

OUR HOMES and Next Door would like to extend our thanks to Smarts Flowers for providing beautiful arrangements for our photo shoot. Eclectika Galerie-Boutique (705.812.0627) provided original art for the walls. If you see a piece of artwork in this feature that you love, a portion of the sale will be donated to Next Door.



LEFT: The living room in the coach house offers yet another warm, relaxing space to enjoy.

TOP: A second kitchen in the coach house is a great space for women to gather and prepare meals.

ABOVE: Board member Ursula Abbott is proud of the community’s support for Next Door and hopes they continue to donate to such a great cause.



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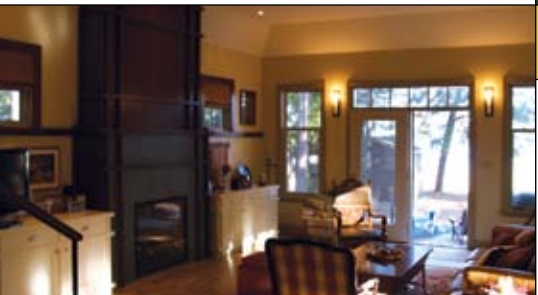
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LOOKING GOOD

BY JIM FOX // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

THE PLACE: Cherché House of Design in Thornbury is known for its sophisticated, casual style. Owners Mary Norris and Colleen Wittlin, qualified designers both, offer in-home design consultations and help homeowners with their decorating dilemmas. Norris and Wittlin offer wise advice and help clients

uncover their own personal style. The two met while working in another shop and decided to open their own design space. Both enjoy their partnership. Together, they have created a comfortable family atmosphere, which is apparent to everyone who walks through the doors of Cherché. *Continued on page 80*

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THE STYLE: Cherché's style is beautiful, eclectic and transitional. "People are getting away from doing homes in a single, particular style," says Wittlin. "People are opting for what I call, 'laid-back elegance.'" Norris elaborates, "These days people are mixing the city and the country look. So we cater to those retirees and younger people looking for that comfortable combination of styles." Their accessible approach is seen in the shop's selection of exceptional furniture, fabrics, wallpaper, lighting, accessories, prints and paintings.

WHAT'S HOT: Grey is a hot colour right now and Cherché highlights the current trend, which also includes silver and gold. The designers suggest clients begin with a neutral palette and select a soft-toned upholstery fabric. They have plenty of samples. This design philosophy makes it easier for homeowners to add a punch of colour with cushions and other accessories. "If people begin with a neutral palette they can be selective about the mementos they discover on their holidays abroad," Norris says.

SEASONAL: "People look for our tree in the window, which is decorated differently every year, according to the latest trends,"

Norris says. Wittlin emphasizes the festive atmosphere the co-owners strive to create all year long. "We genuinely enjoy meeting and working with people," she says. "No matter the time of year, we want clients to know that we enjoy what we're doing. We still love to share in the excitement and joy they get when they first see a new piece that's perfect for their home."

FAVOURITES: Clients love everything in the store. The partners attribute their success to the joy both find in meeting customers' design needs, be they big or small. In Wittlin's words, "We still enjoy each other. We're still laughing! That's a good sign." They acknowledge that store manager Gillian Penketh and their supportive husbands are wonderful assets, allowing Norris and Wittlin more time to work on design projects that will enhance their customers' homes. "When people come to our shop, they're given time and space to browse, and they like that," Norris says. "You can see them relax the longer they stay because of our casual approach."

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(Please see ad on page 103)



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Continued on page 86

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MARKETS

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Continued on page 88

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ART SHOW & SALE

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The Marsh Street Community Centre in Clarksburg, Ontario, is holding an art show and sale, featuring art donated by local artists and members of the community. The art preview show

ART+SHOW=SALE

and sale by silent auction will be held on Friday, November 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Marsh Street Community Centre. On Saturday, November 20th, the art preview show and sale will continue at 11:00 a.m. and will conclude with a Reception from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., during which the silent auction bidding will close at announced times. Come out and support the Marsh Street Community Centre.

All proceeds from the ART+SHOW=SALE will go to improving and maintaining the Marsh Street Community Centre - the heart of the Community.

Marsh Street Community Centre

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(Please see ad on page 82 & 88)

November 19th & 20th 2010

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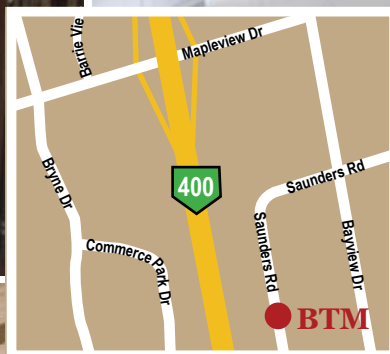
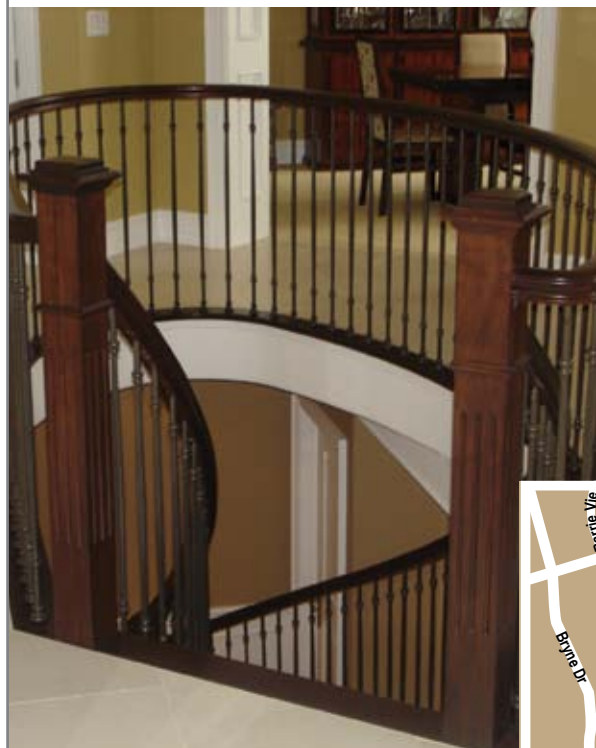
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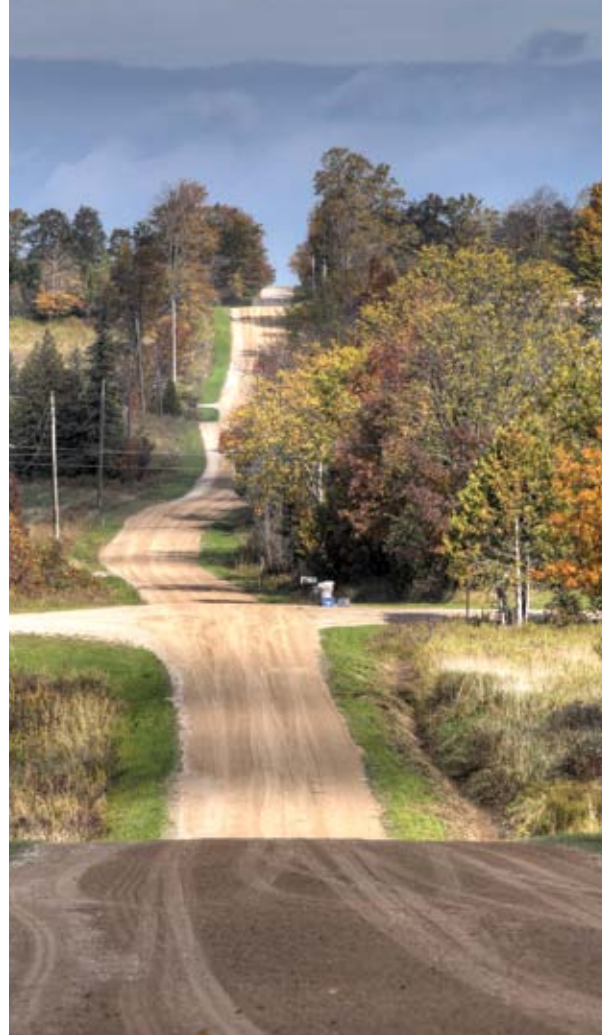
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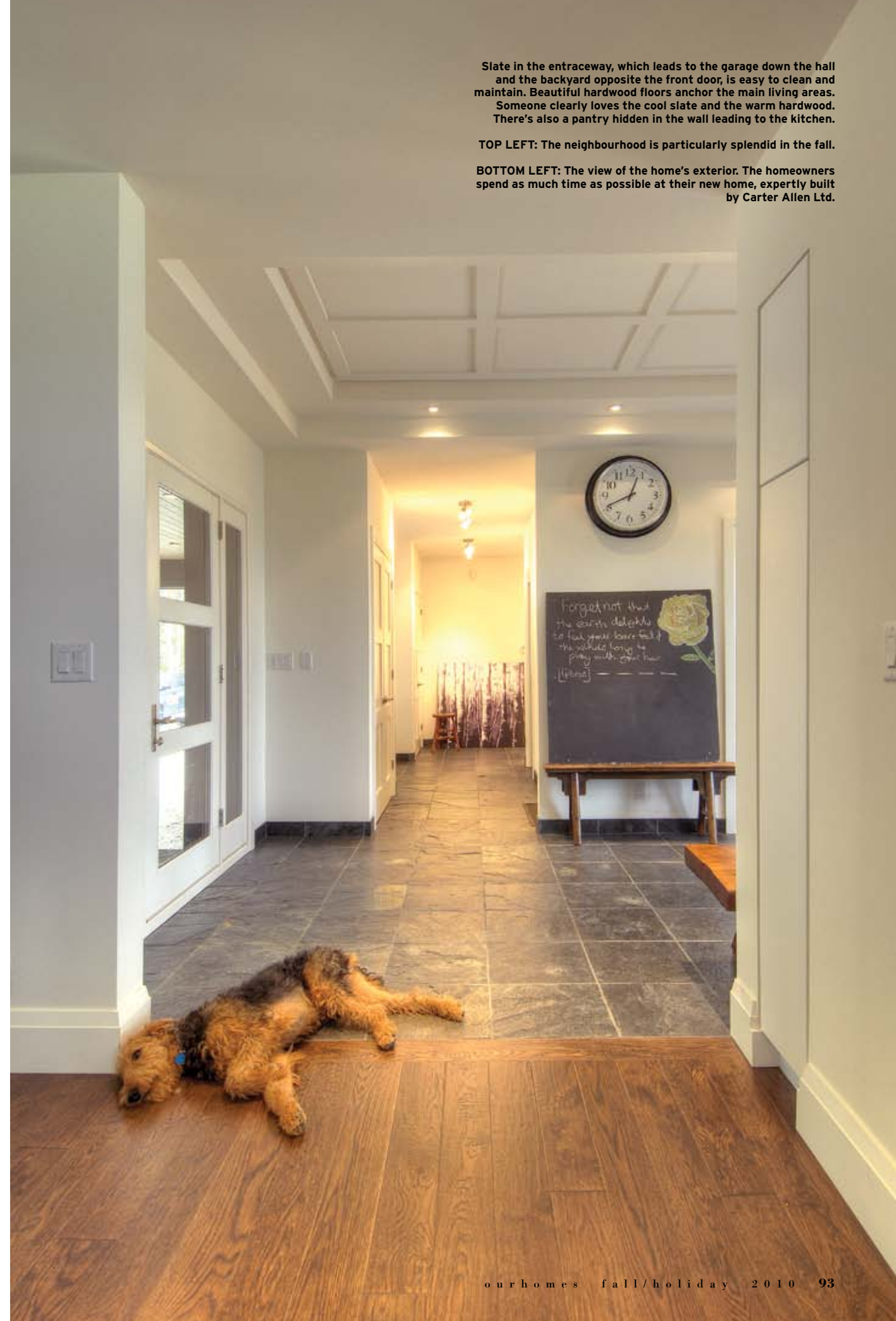
Topographical maps show this country home is located at the highest point in the Town of Blue Mountains. The 270-degree panoramic view from the residence's ample windows is second to none, stretching over vast farmlands to the Beaver Valley beyond. On a clear day you can see the distant waters of Georgian Bay. *Continued on page 94*



Slate in the entranceway, which leads to the garage down the hall and the backyard opposite the front door, is easy to clean and maintain. Beautiful hardwood floors anchor the main living areas. Someone clearly loves the cool slate and the warm hardwood. There's also a pantry hidden in the wall leading to the kitchen.

TOP LEFT: The neighbourhood is particularly splendid in the fall.

BOTTOM LEFT: The view of the home's exterior. The homeowners spend as much time as possible at their new home, expertly built by Carter Allen Ltd.



home & builder

The homeowners, Kim and Jim, familiar from their youth with the variety of outdoor activities offered in the region, purchased a two-acre parcel severed from a local farm as the site of their permanent dream home.

The setting suited them perfectly. “Having lived here in the late ’80s I knew one day we’d move back,” Jim says. “We wanted a property that had views with a sense of openness over farmland and trees. What we notice in the country is the quiet. It’s so quiet, all we hear are cows, horses and the wind. We’re seven minutes from the ski hills and with Kolapore and the Bruce Trail nearby we’re close to cycling and cross-country trails. This area is one of the most scenic in the world for cycling and running.”

After interviewing a number of local builders, **Carter Allen Ltd.** was enlisted to make the couple’s wish for a sleek, modern home a reality. This partnership turned out to be a marriage made in heaven.

The couple enjoyed the collaborative relationship established with builders **Scott Carter** and **Chris Allen**, who went the extra mile to ensure their clients’ dreams would come true. In Kim’s words, “we liked Scott and Chris’ presentation. We liked their enthusiasm and energy. We just clicked.”

Jim elaborates. “On our sloped lot it was difficult to imagine what the final views from the main floor would look like. The builders set up 50 sections

of scaffolding to recreate the elevations so that we could get a real sense of what it would be like. That was very, very helpful. That kind of collaboration continued with daily photos and emails as construction progressed.”

The couple skillfully blended their different visions in the final design of the home. Kim liked clean modern lines, while her husband tended toward the more traditional. The result: a tasteful combination of both modern and traditional elements. Traditional slate, stone and dark wood complement contemporary open-concept spaces bathed in natural light from floor-to-ceiling windows.

Both agreed they wanted their new home to employ green innovations and be as maintenance-free as possible. With lots of active family, friends and dogs visiting, another major priority was functionality.

They worked closely with house designer **Doug Plumb**, of **Plumb Designs**, Midland, to create a design that suited their needs. Plumb’s practical background as a builder helped immensely in the design stage.

Everyone involved agrees that the actual construction phase was made easier by the collaborative preplanning of clients and builders alike. In Kim’s words, “I thought we’d dread the process of building a home on our own. It turned out to be not bad at all. If there was stress, it was always a good stress. In all, I’d call the process fun.” *Continued on page 98*

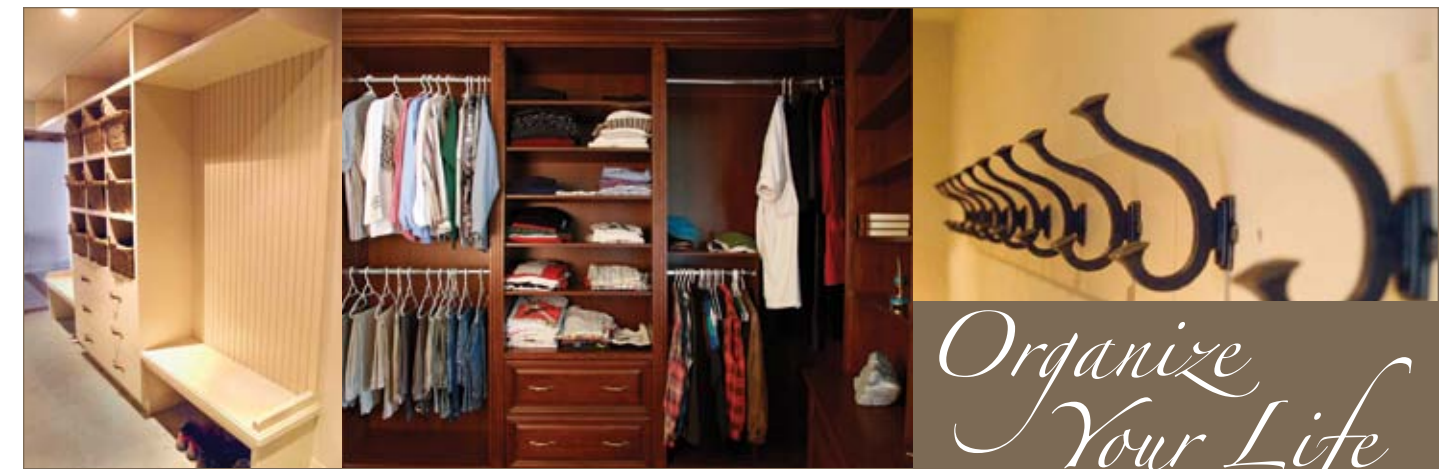
RIGHT: The dining area is separated from the living room by a Chantico double-sided fireplace. The festive table setting includes tableware from Grelik’s Reliks in Meaford. A painting by Jenn Wilkins is featured prominently between the two rooms.

BELOW: Kim wanted clean, modern lines throughout her home. The all-white kitchen by Highland Interiors has lots of storage and beautiful Caesarstone quartz countertops.



The living room is all about the view. Floor-to-ceiling windows bring the outside in. A view of every season in all its glory makes this cleverly constructed home a gem.

BELOW: Designer Andrea Rinaldo helped stage the home for this issue.



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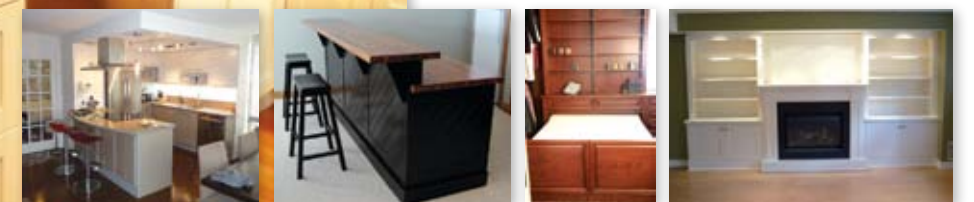


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Scott Carter and Chris Allen, of Carter Allen Ltd., worked with the homeowners to build a beautiful, contemporary home with green technology that is virtually maintenance-free.

BELOW: Carter and Allen are photographed against a painting by artist Jason Alexander.

Scott Carter mirrors his clients' enthusiasm for the six-month building process: "We couldn't ask for better people to work with. When time and care is put into the front-end of the project, the results are always satisfying." Carter expands on his company's approach to construction. "Chris and I travelled to international builder trade shows in Germany to keep up with the latest advancements in techniques and materials. We're constantly looking for new and better ways of refining a project. We consistently strive to build to a high standard using preferred building practices."

Technological and design innovations that enhance the functionality of this home include: steel stairs to and from the garage to reduce maintenance, use of solar tubes to curb electricity use, ample pocket doors to minimize clutter, in-floor radiant heating throughout, on-demand propane heating, and adjustable well water pressure.

Chris Allen readily admits that he and Carter, who first met as teenagers at a summer camp on Beausoleil Island, bring different strengths to their building partnership. This team approach works well. Chris focuses more on practical jobsite issues while Scott's expertise lies with elevations and materials.

Allen emphasizes the firm's concern for quality. "You can never skip on the skeleton of a home – the insulation, framing and foundation." He continues, "On the job we're only as good as our weakest person. That's why we network with local trades like **Grey Bruce Construction Ltd.**, **GWT Trenching & Excavation**, and **Bear Electric** to ensure we get the best quality work and maintain a clean, safe worksite."

This exquisite hilltop home is testimony to the thorough care and consideration taken by homeowners and builders alike, whose individual gifts are reflected in the finished product. *Continued on page 100*



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Past the dark siding and natural stone of the home's exterior, visitors ascend a broad rock stairway into a large entranceway that provides an instant view of the rolling farmlands beyond. Here, you sense that nature and home design are one. It's the exact feeling the homeowners want to elicit.

To the left of the entrance there's ample closet space, a laundry room, a powder room and access to the large two-car garage. To the right is a spacious kitchen sporting a large island which opens to a dining area and a roomy family gathering space. All three areas are visually linked by a **Chantico** freestanding, double-sided wood fireplace, in the centre, that anchors the main floor, lending it a relaxed, comfortable feel.

The crisp, white kitchen cabinetry with nickel hardware by **Highland Interiors** speaks of modern functionality as does the gleaming Caesarstone quartz countertops. Natural warmth is added by **Vintage Flooring's** hand-scraped, engineered floors with a medium brown matte finish.

Steps from the kitchen, an elegant wooden staircase leads to the lower level where three large guest bedrooms and a bathroom as well as a vast family/recreation area accommodate weekend visitors in comfort.

On the main floor, a stunning panoramic view of the surrounding natural setting is provided by floor-to-ceiling windows, which stretch all the way from the cosy kitchen nook to encompass three sides of the family room. In this house nature becomes an integral feature of the home's design.

When Scott Carter ponders the joy he and his partner Chris Allen get from completing a job well done, Carter likens it to leading camping expeditions in their youth. "Out-tripping is challenging, but when it's over, the exhilarating feeling is that everyone did a good job."

Allen agrees. "I'm more than satisfied when a client, who trusts you, cries and hugs you out of joy when the job is complete and their dream has come true." **OH**

The master bedroom is tucked away on the main floor with a beautiful view of the surrounding forest.

RIGHT: The bright master bath. The dark his-and-her vanity is a delightful addition.

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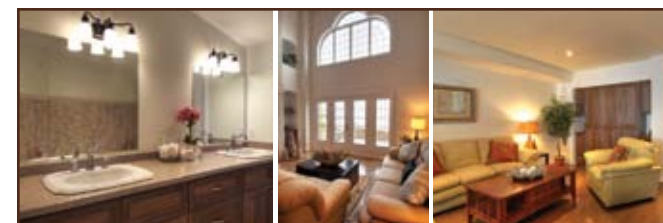
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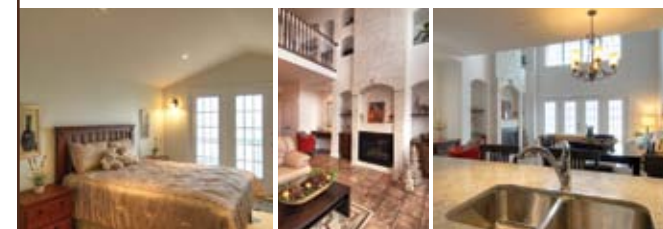
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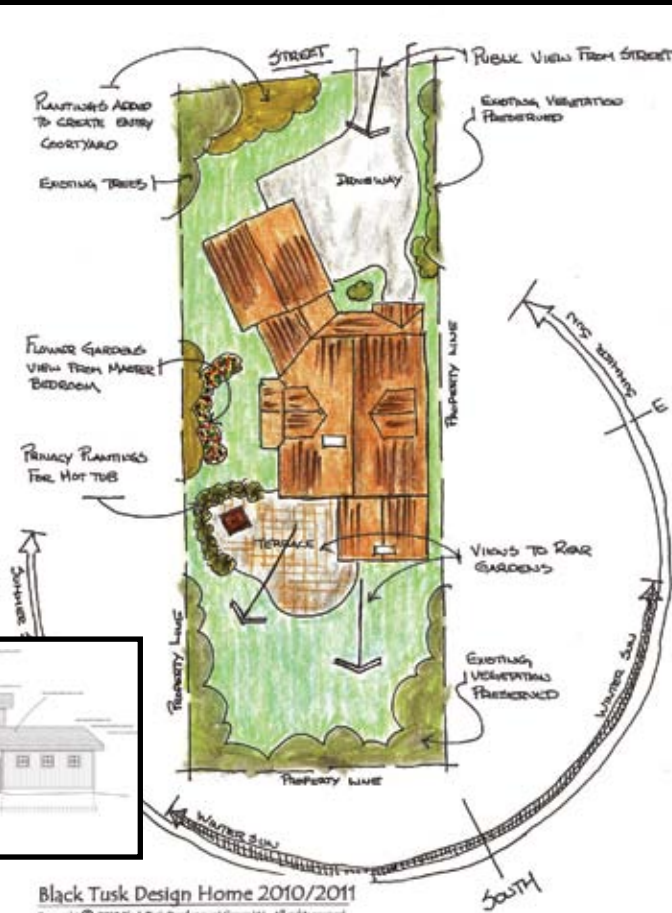
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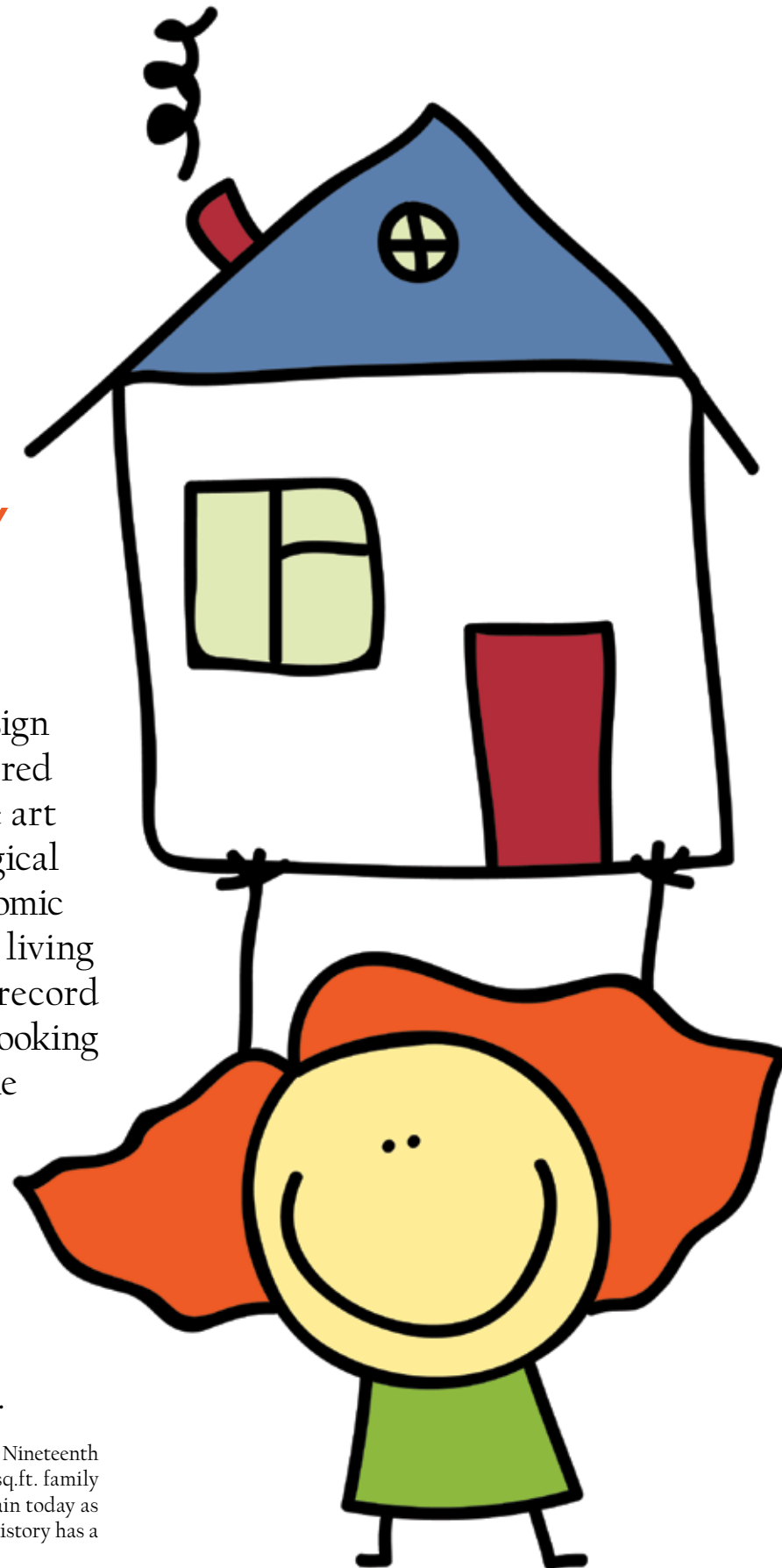


SMALL BUT MIGHTY

BY IRENE TURNBULL

There's hardly a major interior design magazine today that hasn't featured some sort of recent article on the art of decorating "small spaces" – a logical reflection of our current socio-economic demands for "affordably efficient" living accommodation. The impact of record numbers of retiring baby-boomers looking for a break from burdensome home maintenance and soaring upkeep costs, combined with expensive land and development costs, has certainly spearheaded the trend to multi-unit dwellings and efficient use of available amenities.

However, the concept of scaled-down housing is not new. Nineteenth and early 20th century row housing and pockets of 900 sq.ft. family homes that sprang up in the late 1940s and early 50s remain today as visual reminders that, while disguised in modern clothes, history has a way of repeating itself. *Continued on page 110*



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decorating

The good news is that whatever stage of life you are at, whether you are “resizing” or simply starting from scratch, there are numerous ways to capitalize on time-tested strategies for living comfortably when space is at a premium. Naturally, personal style and budget will impact choice, but here are some concepts beyond the obvious need to make do with less, that have remained solid over the years.

Lighting – essential to comfort and well-being, good overhead and ambient lighting is a priority; brightness influences the feeling of spaciousness. Bedside wall mounts conserve side table space. Avoiding chandeliers in open concept areas allows easier multi-functional use and table expansion. Get a qualified expert to help you get this right!

Reclaim storage space from: (a) attics – by adding flooring support to hold seasonal items with access either by portable or drop down ladder. (b) under staircases with closets or cabinetry. (c) false bulkheads with ceiling height cabinets.



Rework inefficient clothes closets by eliminating doors and adding ceiling height built-ins to meet wardrobe requirements. Eliminate inefficient overhead shelves and double rack clothes.

Consider pocket doors to avoid losing space for the door turning radius on interior doors.

Use architectural detail with millwork – crown and wall mouldings etc., to define space and add interest without bulk.

Use built-ins to capitalize on drywall build-outs that create odd corners. By keeping tops narrower than the bottom portion, you provide depth perception and countertop “landing” space can double as a server. Avoid room-blocking squared sides by adding finished corner sections on cabinetry.



Passthroughs and open spaces between dining tables and kitchens create depth perception; while allowing counterspace for serving.

“Steal” space for inset cabinetry – desks or display niches from the back of closets in adjoining rooms.



Consider hiding a space-saving “Murphy bed” in a wall unit for guest accommodation in a dual functioning room. It will take up less depth than any other solution and can be “made up” in its stored position.

Multi-functional furniture such as “gate legged” tables, which fold down to side tables; coffee tables with built-in storage (blanket boxes) and secretary-style desks with drop-down writing tables, used in days gone by, are commonly replicated in modern styles for those who prefer new to old.

Keep balance and scale in proportion to room size, but vary shapes and sizes of individual pieces.

A round table

will seat more people and soften the impact of a dining room table. Dining chairs upholstered in different fabrics can add interest and be used for additional seating in living rooms.

Age does make a difference... storage solutions should be easy to access; beds made too high or too low to accommodate storage don't work for seniors, nor do TVs placed too high on walls or too low or microwaves too high to remove hot dishes safely.

Remember the art of illusion – mirrors reflect light and expand space but be aware of what you are reflecting. Glass front doors and tabletops also reflect light and add to depth perception. **OH**





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decorating

Painted pieces


Bring your old, worn furniture back to life with little more than a splash of paint. Designer, Andrea Ramacieri, has taken three less than gorgeous garage sale finds and turned them into practical pieces to be proud of.

DESIGNED BY ANDREA RAMACIERI
WRITTEN BY SHELBY HILSON
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX



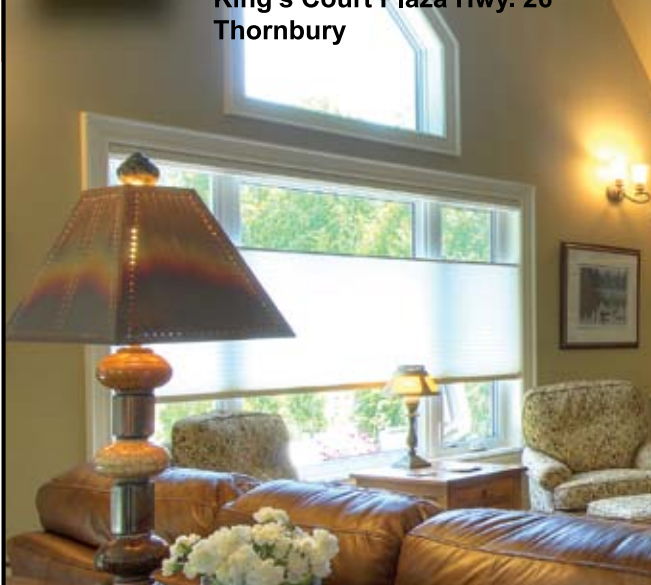

BAR CART:

Who would have guessed this old, rusty brass teacart could be transformed into a stylish bar cart so easily? Its timeless appeal makes it a lovely addition to any entertaining space and it's easy to move from room to room. For this piece, Andrea used a spray paint primer and a Tremclad Hammered finish spray in Charcoal Grey. Be sure to remove the glass before painting and don't replace it until dry. *Continued on page 114*



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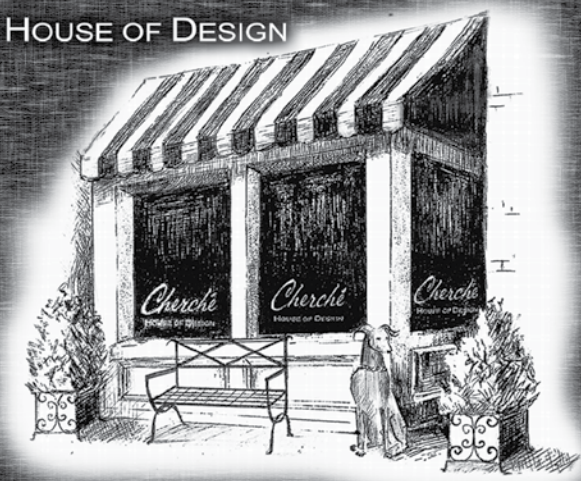
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*Shabby side table
+ paint & sandpaper
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*Dingy dresser
+ paint & sandpaper
= country chic*


SIDE TABLE:

An everyday side table, which you can often find for a couple of dollars at a garage sale, is given a polished look to suit a contemporary style. The curvy shape of this find will add character to any living space. With a light sand, some primer and a couple of coats of a finish paint, your side table will look as good as new – or even better! The colour seen here is Grand Piano by Benjamin Moore kitchen and bath paints.



BEDSIDE TABLE:

We've all seen this old French Provincial furniture in white with gold accents. It's not a unique piece. At least it wasn't until given new country charm in Aspen Leaf (ICI Paints kitchen and bath). To achieve this look, simply give the table a light sanding, a couple of coats of primer and two or three coats of a colour that brightens your bedroom best. Save even more by dry brushing the handles to match, instead of buying new ones. **OH**

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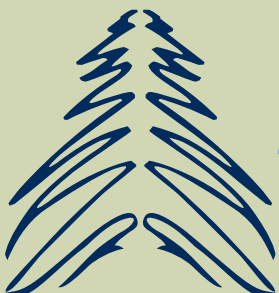
Everyone has that hard-to-buy-for person on their list. Here's a simple and wonderful solution – make a donation on their behalf to the Collingwood G&M Hospital Foundation's Tree of Life Campaign.

It's the perfect gift for a friend, family member or business associate, or as a way to honour someone in memoriam.


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ALMOND CRESCENT COOKIES

BY MARIA DASILVA // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT HUNTER

I don't consider myself a sweet tooth. I'm more of a salty snack kind of girl. But when the holidays roll around, everything changes! Starting in November, I scour through holiday magazines, search my favourite food websites and flip through cookbooks to come up with this year's baking list. The list gets written and re-written. Shopping lists are created and re-created. Finally, cuts are made and decisions are final. By early December, the baking has begun.

For this year's baking, I have been looking at old traditions and thinking about creating new ones. That's why almond crescent cookies are at the top of my baking list this year. These simple, yet elegant, melt-in-your mouth cookies have roots in Eastern European history and were a staple on my Hungarian grandmother's table during the holidays. Even more than shortbread or gingerbread, these are the cookies of the holidays to me.

So as you start to consider your own baking list for this year, consider family traditions, especially the ones dearest to your heart. And add some new ones, like almond crescents!

Happy holidays.

ALMOND CRESCENT COOKIES

Makes about 36

1 cup unsalted butter, softened

¼ cup icing sugar

¼ tsp almond extract

Pinch salt

1 cup ground almonds

1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour

Extra icing sugar for dusting

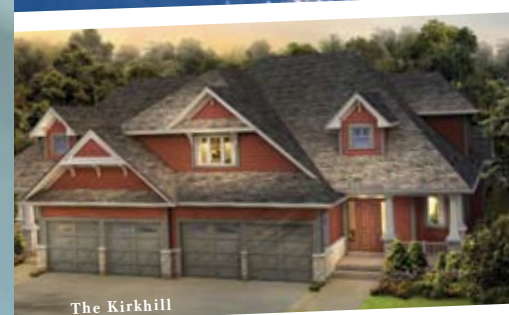
- Beat butter with icing sugar, almond extract and salt. Stir in ground almonds until well combined. Stir in flour until well combined. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour.
- Shape, by scant 1 tablespoonful, into about 2½-inch logs, tapering ends. Shape logs into crescents and place on parchment paper-lined baking sheet.
- Bake in 325°F oven until bottoms and edges are golden, 18 to 20 minutes. Let cool on pan for 10 minutes. Sprinkle with icing sugar.
- Transfer to rack and let cool. Sprinkle with additional icing sugar before serving. **OH**

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BY TARA CHATTELL // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SAMANTHA MARTIN

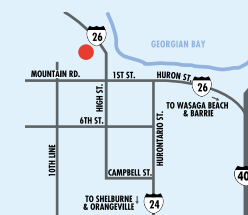
Bath bombs and fizzies are easy to make and fun to use. With the giving season is upon us, they make the perfect girly gift. Or, gather your friends and have a make-and-take party. OUR HOMES used fall-inspired scents. But you can use your imagination. Continued on page 120



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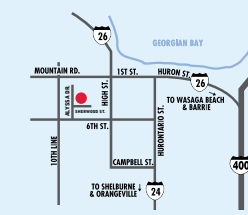
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BATH FIZZIES

TOOLS:

Small spray bottle, plastic droppers (pipettes), silicone ice-cube trays, sifter, metal spoon and mixing bowl.

INGREDIENTS:

(makes about 24 cubes)

Eucalyptus Lemon

7 drops of eucalyptus essential oil
7 drops of lemon essential oil
About 10 drops of green food colouring (more if desired)
1 tsp matcha tea powder (optional)
½ cup citric acid
1 cup baking soda
¾ cup cornstarch
¼ cup organic cane sugar

Vanilla Orange

10 drops vanilla essential oil
5 drops orange fragrance oil
About 10 drops of red and yellow food colouring (more if desired)
½ cup citric acid
1 cup baking soda
¾ cup cornstarch
¼ cup organic cane sugar

DIRECTIONS:

- Sift together citric acid, baking soda, cornstarch and matcha tea powder (optional for eucalyptus fizzies) into a mixing bowl. Stir in cane sugar.
- Using pipette, add oil, one drop at a time, until desired scent strength is reached.
- Fill spray bottle with water and add food colouring. Spray mixture lightly, stirring constantly, until mixture becomes damp enough to pack with your hand and colour is even throughout. Do not over spray or mixture will start to fizz.
- Spoon mixture into ice-cube trays and press down firmly.
- Allow to dry in trays, at room temperature, for 24 hours.
- Carefully pop individual cubes out of tray by pushing up from bottom.
- Allow cubes to dry exposed for another 24 hours before transferring to containers.

TIP: Use matcha tea with scents that are strong enough to mask the scent of the tea and when the green colour of the tea is beneficial to the final colour you would like to achieve.



BATH BOMBS

TOOLS:

Plastic pipettes, large or small round moulds (we've used plastic ornament balls), metal spoon and mixing bowl.

INGREDIENTS:

(makes 2 large or 4 small)

Candy Apple

6 drops apple fragrance oil
1 drop orange fragrance oil
3 drops vanilla essential oil
About 5 drops red and 3 drops yellow food colouring
2 ½ cups epsom salts
2 tbsp water

Orange Marmalade

5 drops orange fragrance oil
2 drops lemon essential oil
3 drops vanilla essential oil
About 5 drops yellow and 2 drops red food colouring
2 ½ cups epsom salts
2 tbsp water

DIRECTIONS:

- Stir together epsom salts and water in mixing bowl.
- Using pipette, add oil, 1 drop at a time, until desired scent strength is reached.
- Spoon mixture into both halves of moulds and pack firmly. Press both halves together until they connect. Carefully remove top half of mould.
- Let ball stand, mould side down, for 24 hours.
- Once exposed side is completely dry hold the ball in your hand, exposed side down, and very carefully remove mould. Set ball on dry side and allow to completely dry out, approximately 3-4 days before transferring to containers.

TIPS: Set balls on upside-down bottle caps while drying to stop them from rolling. Allow larger balls to dry a little longer before transferring to containers, to avoid crumbling.

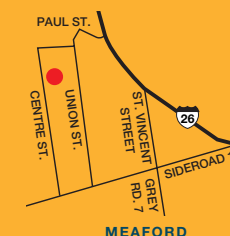
Remember: You can find the ingredients at your local bulk-food store, craft outlet or health-food provider. **OH**

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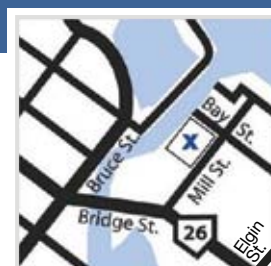
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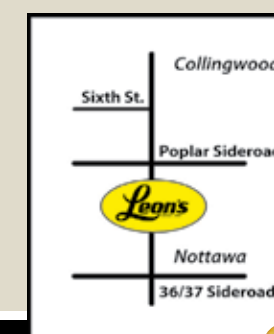
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